



Notice of Proposed Constitution Update – Member Consultation

Dear Members,

The Eltham RUFC Committee has undertaken a thorough review of our Club's Constitution, which dates back to 2007. In line with updates to Victorian legislation and modern governance practices, we are proposing the adoption of a new Constitution at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Why are we updating the Constitution?

Legal Compliance: Our current Constitution refers to outdated legislation (Associations Incorporation Act 1981). We must now align with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic).

Operational Clarity: The old Constitution lacks definitions and procedures for life membership, grievance handling, committee structure, and more.

Inclusive Governance: We now formally recognise roles such as Junior Coordinators as full committee members, ensuring all levels of the club are represented.

Modernisation: It references physical mail, omits current technologies, and does not reflect current Rugby Australia and Rugby Victoria frameworks.

Membership Types: We've clarified voting rights for all classes of membership, specifically Junior Members (via a guardian) and recognised volunteers and their vital role.

Basis for the New Constitution

We have used the **Consumer Affairs Victoria Model Rules for Incorporated Associations** as our base and adapted it to reflect:

- The current structure of ERUFC
- Rugby Victoria & Rugby Australia compliance requirements
- Our club's growth and commitment to transparency and community inclusion



Summary of Key Changes

Area	Key Update
Governing Act	Updated to reference current legislation
Membership	Defines Ordinary, Junior, Club Associate & Life categories
Voting Rights	Clarifies how junior memberships are represented
Life Membership	Formalised nomination and voting process embedded
Committee Structure	Distinguishes between Executive and General roles
Grievances & Discipline	Aligned with Rugby Australia Integrity Framework
Meetings & Notices	Uses email and website; removes reliance on post
Financial Oversight	Enhances transparency and budgeting obligations
Policy Framework	Mandates committee-endorsed club policies
Winding Up	Clear requirement to notify Rugby Victoria

What happens next?

The draft Constitution is now available for member feedback. A copy of the draft constitution can be found at <https://eltham.rugby/who-we-are/club-documents/draft-constitution-and-member-update/>. Please email feedback to the Secretary by emailing secretary@eltham.rugby. **Please provide feedback by the 28th October 2025.** Feedback will be reviewed and consolidated.

Upcoming Vote at the AGM

The proposed Constitution will be voted on at the **2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is scheduled for November 22, 2025**. Formal notice of the meeting, including time, location, and the text of the proposed special resolution, will be sent at least 21 days prior.



To adopt the Constitution, we require approval via **Special Resolution**, meaning:

- At least 75% of members present and voting must support the change.
- Once passed, we will lodge the updated Constitution with Consumer Affairs Victoria within 28 days via the myCAV portal.

If you'd like to speak with someone directly, feel free to contact me at **president@eltham.rugby**.

Thank you for being part of this important step forward for our Club.

Warm regards,

Tim Adams

President, Eltham RUFC

president@eltham.rugby