

# GETTING TO KNOW THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RSL QUEENSLAND CONSTITUTION

The changes proposed for the 2022 State Congress have a single focus; a Member elected board made up of Veterans with a range of skills and experience to ensure that RSL Queensland is appropriately governed. RSL Queensland must evolve to adapt to an ever changing and complex operating environment. An essential first step in this process is the modernisation of our board structure, to support members today and into the future.



*RSL Queensland's Board of Directors have agreed this structure is the most appropriate for today and into the future.*

## PROPOSED BOARD STRUCTURE

- State President (Chair)
- Deputy President (Deputy Chair)
- Vice President (Vice Chair)
- Chair of State Council of District Presidents
- Directors (four positions)
- Optional Directors (two positions)

## THE NEW STRUCTURE IS UNDERPINNED BY THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- The elected directors are to be drawn from membership, with a strong preference for Veterans in any optional positions
- The board is to be an effective size and representative of the Members

- The structure should comply with our regulator's requirements and have the right skills and experience.

There is an emphasis on member representation, with seven positions elected by Delegates, and the Chair of the State Council of District Presidents also representing the voice of members.

The four Director positions will be nominated for election based on assessment of their skills and experience, with the board as a whole meeting the requirements of the skills matrix. These positions must be current Service Members. There are also two Optional Director positions available should the elected directors not sufficiently meet the organisation's needs. Preference will be given to Sub Branch Service Members for these roles, with a first call for nominations being exclusively to membership.

The State Council of District Presidents will enable District Presidents to focus on Member needs. District, Sub Branch, Member issues, and League matters will be addressed through the State Council, and escalated to the RSL Queensland Board. The process for members to vote for their District President at their District AGM will remain unchanged. The State Council of District Presidents will elect a representative as Chair to sit on the RSL Queensland Board. The selection of this Board member will be managed within the Council. RSL Queensland Board Members will not directly select this position to sit on the Board.

## **REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS**

Our regulator, the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC), has intervened with other RSL organisations in recent years to address governance failings. In each case, mandates were issued to acquire skilled, independent, Directors. Consequently, those organisations now have independent, non-Veteran, Directors included on their boards.

RSL Queensland's regulatory responsibilities are complex. The ACNC agrees and has been encouraging us for some years to modernise our board structure. We now have the opportunity to choose our own board structure and remove the risk of one being chosen for the organisation.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

Send your questions and feedback to [constitution@rslqld.org](mailto:constitution@rslqld.org).