



*Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) (Act).*

# **International Federation of Karate Australia Incorporated**

February 2019



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**ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT 2009 (NSW)**

**CONSTITUTION**

# **International Federation of Karate Australia Incorporated**

## **1. NAME OF ASSOCIATION**

The name of the Association is the **International Federation of Karate Australia Incorporated** (herein referred to as **IFK Australia** or the **Association**).

## **2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

### **2.1 Definitions**

In this Constitution unless the contrary intention appears:

**“Act”** means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW)*.

**“Appointed Director”** means a Director appointed under **clause 16**.

**“Board”** means the body managing IFK Australia and consisting of the directors.

**“Constitution”** means this Constitution of the Association.

**“Director”** means a Member of the Board and includes any person acting in that capacity from time to time appointed in accordance with this Constitution but does not include the Executive Director.

**“Elected Director”** means a Director elected under **clause 15**.

**Financial Year** means the year commencing 1 July and ending on the last day of June each year.

**“General Meeting”** means the annual or any special general meeting of IFK Australia.

**“Full Member”** means a registered, financial Member of IFK Australia who is at least 18 years of age and holds a grade of 4<sup>th</sup> kyu or higher under the syllabus grading guidelines of IFK Australia.

**“Intellectual Property”** means all rights subsisting in copyright, business names, names, trade marks (or signs), logos, designs, equipment including computer software, images (including photographs, videos or films) or service marks relating to the Association or any activity of or conducted, promoted or administered by the Association in New South Wales.

**“Life Member”** means an Individual appointed as a Life Member of IFK Australia under **clause 5.2**.

**“Martial Arts”** is a codified set of systems and traditions of combat practices, which are practiced for a variety of reasons: self-defence, competition, physical health and fitness, entertainment, as well as mental, physical, and spiritual development.

**“Member”** means a registered, financial Member of IFK Australia who is under 18 years of age or holds a grade of 5<sup>th</sup> kyu or lower under the syllabus grading guidelines of IFK Australia.

**“Dojo Operator Member”** means a Member who currently operates a Karate School under the guidelines of IFK Australia.

**“Objects”** means the Objects of IFK Australia in **clause 3**.

**“Public Officer”** means the person appointed to be the public officer of the Association in accordance with the Act.

**“Probationary Full Member”** means a registered, financial Member of IFK Australia who is at least 18 years of age and holds a grade of 4th kyu or higher from an external organisation that complies with the IFK/IFK Australia rules of grade recognition and who has joined IFK Australia after attaining that grade. The probationary period will be a minimum of 18 months or as determined by the Executive committee from time to time.

**“Probationary Dojo Operator Member”** means a Probationary Full Member who currently operates a Karate School under the guidelines of IFK Australia, or a current Full Member who has started to operate a dojo. The probationary period will be a minimum of 18 months or as determined by the Executive committee from time to time.

**“Register”** means a register of Members kept and maintained in accordance with **clause 7**.

**“Seal”** means the common Seal of IFK Australia.

**“Special Resolution”** means a Special Resolution defined in the Act.

## **2.2 Interpretation**

In this Constitution:

- (a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty;
- (b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, where the function is a power, authority or duty, a reference to the exercise of the power or authority of the performance of the duty;
- (c) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (d) words importing any gender include the other genders;
- (e) references to persons include corporations and bodies politic;
- (f) references to a person include the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of that person;
- (g) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes Regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them (whether of the same or any legislative authority having jurisdiction); and

- (h) a reference to "writing" shall unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form, including messages sent by electronic means, including but not limited to electronic mail and social media.

## **2.3 Severance**

If any provision of this Constitution or any phrase contained in it is invalid or unenforceable, the phrase or provision is to be read down if possible, so as to be valid and enforceable, and otherwise shall be severed to the extent of the invalidity or unenforceability, without affecting the remaining provisions of this Constitution.

## **2.4 The Act**

Except where the contrary intention appears, in this Constitution, an expression that deals with a matter under the Act has the same meaning as that provision of the Act. Model rules under the Act are expressly displaced by this Constitution.

## **3. OBJECTS OF IFK AUSTRALIA**

IFK Australia is established solely for the Objects. The Objects of IFK Australia are established to:

- (a) conduct, encourage, promote, advance and administer Martial Arts;
- (b) act, at all times, on behalf of and in the interest of the Members;
- (c) affiliate and otherwise liaise with the International Federation of Karate (IFK) the international organisation of which IFK Australia and its members are members of and adopt their rule and policy frameworks to further these Objects;
- (d) abide by, promote, enforce and secure uniformity in the application of the rules of IFK Australia as may be determined from time to time by the IFK and as may be necessary for the management and control of Martial Arts and related activities in the states and territories of Australia;
- (e) advance the operations and activities of IFK Australia, Dojo Operator Members, and Members throughout their respective areas
- (f) use and protect the Intellectual Property;
- (g) at all times promote mutual trust and confidence between IFK Australia and the Members in pursuit of these Objects;
- (h) apply the property and capacity of IFK Australia towards the fulfilment and achievement of these Objects;
- (i) have regard to the public interest in its operations;

- (j) do all that is reasonably necessary to enable these Objects to be achieved and enable Members to receive the benefits which these Objects are intended to achieve; and
- (k) undertake and or do all such things or activities which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the advancement of these Objects.

#### **4. POWERS OF IFK AUSTRALIA**

Solely for furthering the Objects, IFK Australia has, in addition to the rights, powers and privileges conferred on it under section 19 of the Act, the legal capacity and powers of a company as set out under section 124 of the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*.

#### **5. MEMBERS**

##### **5.1 Members**

The Members of IFK Australia shall consist of:

- (a) Life Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present, to debate and to vote at General Meetings;
- (b) Dojo Operator Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present, to debate and to vote at General meetings;
- (c) Full Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present, to debate and to vote at General Meetings;
- (d) Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and the right to be present or debate but no right to vote at General Meetings
- (e) Probationary Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and the right to be present or debate but no right to vote at General Meetings; and
- (f) Probationary Dojo Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and the right to be present or debate but no right to vote at General Meetings;

##### **5.2 Life Members**

- (a) The Board may recommend to the Annual General Meeting that any natural person who has rendered distinguished service to IFK Australia be appointed as a Life Member.
- (b) A resolution of the Annual General Meeting to confer life membership (subject to **clause 5.2(c)**) on the recommendation of the Board must be a Special Resolution.



- (c) A person must accept or reject IFK Australia's resolution to confer life membership in writing. Upon written acceptance, the person's details shall be entered upon the Register, and from the time of entry on the Register the person shall be a Life Member.

### **5.3 Dojo Operator Members**

- (a) An eligible person may apply to become a Dojo Operator Member of IFK Australia, the application must be in writing in a form prescribed by the Board from time to time, and be delivered in person, by post, or email to the Secretary of IFK Australia.
- (b) The board may upon receipt of an application for Dojo Operator Member status may accept or deny the application based on the applicant meeting the minimum requirements set for a Dojo Operator Member by the board, which may change from time to time. This may include but not limited to recognised martial arts qualification/s and background, general good character, and be a current Individual Full Member of IFK Australia.
- (c) The Dojo Operator Member may open and operate a school under the direction of IFK Australia, teaching IFK Australia martial arts syllabus, conducting his/her school in line with IFK Australia general principles and ethos as set down by the Board and may change from time to time.

## **6. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

### **6.1 Application for Membership and Full Membership**

An application for membership must be:

- (a) in writing on the form prescribed from time to time by the Board (if any), from the applicant or its nominated representative and lodged with IFK Australia; and
- (b) accompanied by the appropriate fee (if any).

### **6.2 Discretion to Accept or Reject Application**

- (a) IFK Australia may accept or reject an application whether the applicant has complied with the requirements in **clause 6.1** or not. IFK Australia shall not be required or compelled to provide any reason for such acceptance or rejection.
- (b) Where IFK Australia accepts an application, the applicant shall become a Member. Membership shall be deemed to commence upon acceptance of the application by IFK Australia. The Register shall be amended accordingly as soon as practicable.
- (c) Where IFK Australia rejects an application, it shall refund any fees forwarded with the application and the application shall be deemed rejected by IFK Australia.

### **6.3 Renewal**

Members (other than Life Members) must renew their membership annually in accordance with the procedures set down by IFK Australia in Regulations from time to time.

### **6.4 Deemed Membership**

- (a) All persons who are, prior to the approval of this Constitution under the Act, Members of IFK Australia shall be deemed Members from the time of approval of this Constitution under the Act.
- (b) Any Members of IFK Australia, prior to approval of this Constitution under the Act, who are not deemed Members under **clause 6.4(a)** shall be entitled to carry on such functions analogous to their previous functions as are provided for under this Constitution.

## **7. REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

### **7.1 IFK Australia to Keep Register**

IFK Australia shall keep and maintain a Register in which shall be entered (as a minimum):

- (a) the full name, address and date of entry of each Member; and
- (b) where applicable, the date of termination of membership of any Member.

Members shall provide notice of any change and required details to IFK Australia within one month of such change.

### **7.2 Inspection of Register**

Having regard to the Act, confidentiality considerations and privacy laws, an extract of the Register, excluding the address or other direct contact details of any Member, shall be available for inspection (but not copying) by Members, upon reasonable request.

### **7.3 Use of Register**

Subject to the Act, confidentiality considerations and privacy laws, the Register may be used to further the Objects, in such manner as the Board considers appropriate.

## **8. EFFECT OF MEMBERSHIP**

Members acknowledge and agree that:

- (a) this Constitution forms a contract between each of them and IFK Australia and that they are bound by this Constitution and the Regulations.

- (b) they shall comply with and observe this Constitution and the Regulations and any determination, resolution or policy which may be made or passed by the Board or other entity with delegated authority;
- (c) by submitting to this Constitution and Regulations they are subject to the jurisdiction of IFK Australia.
- (d) the Constitution and Regulations are necessary and reasonable for promoting the Objects and particularly the advancement and protection of Martial Arts as taught under the guidelines of IFK Australia; and
- (e) they are entitled to all benefits, advantages, privileges and services of IFK Australia membership as determined by the Board from time to time.

## **9. DISCONTINUANCE OF MEMBERSHIP**

### **9.1 Notice of Resignation**

- (a) A Member who has paid all arrears of fees payable to IFK Australia may resign or withdraw from membership of IFK Australia by giving one month's notice in writing to IFK Australia.
- (b) Once IFK Australia receives a notice of resignation of membership given under **clause 9.1(a)**, it must make an entry in the Register that records the date on which the Member ceased to be a Member.

### **9.2 Discontinuance for Breach**

- (a) Membership of IFK Australia may be discontinued by the Board upon breach of any clause of this Constitution or the Regulations, including, but not limited to, the failure to pay any monies owed to IFK Australia, failure to comply with the Regulations or any resolutions or determinations made or passed by the Board or any duly authorised committee.
- (b) Membership shall not be discontinued by the Board under **clause 9.2(a)** without the Board first giving the accused Member the opportunity to explain the breach and/or remedy the breach.
- (c) Where a Member fails, in the Board's view to adequately explain the breach, that Member's membership shall be discontinued under **clause 9.2(a)** by IFK Australia giving written notice of the discontinuance to the Member. The Register shall be amended to reflect any discontinuance of membership under this **clause 9.2** as soon as practicable.

### **9.3 Member to Re-Apply**

A Member whose membership has been discontinued under clauses 9.1 or 9.2:

- (a) must seek renewal or re-apply for membership in accordance with this Constitution; and

- (b) may be re-admitted at the discretion of the Board.

#### **9.4 Forfeiture of Rights**

A Member who ceases to be a Member, for whatever reason, shall forfeit all rights in and claims upon IFK Australia and its property and shall not use any property of IFK Australia including Intellectual Property. Any IFK Australia documents, records or other property in the possession, custody or control of that Member shall be returned to IFK Australia immediately.

#### **9.5 Membership may be Reinstated**

Membership which has been discontinued under this clause 9 may be reinstated at the discretion of the Board, with such conditions as it deems appropriate.

#### **9.6 Refund of Membership Fees**

Membership fees or subscriptions paid by the discontinued Member may be refunded on a pro-rata basis to the Member upon discontinuance.

### **10. DISCIPLINE**

- (a) The Board may commence or cause to be commenced disciplinary proceedings against a Member who has allegedly:
  - (i) breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of this Constitution, the Regulations or any resolution or determination of the Board or any duly authorised committee;
  - (ii) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member, or prejudicial to the purposes and interests of IFK Australia and/or the Martial Arts Community; or
  - (iii) brought IFK Australia, any other Member into disrepute.

That Member will be subject to and will submit unreservedly to the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties and the appeal mechanisms of IFK Australia set out in the Regulations.

- (b) The Board may appoint a Judiciary Committee to deal with any disciplinary matter referred to it. Such a Judiciary Committee shall operate in accordance with the procedures expressed in the Regulations but is subject always to the Act.

### **11. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES**

- (a) The annual membership subscription and any fees or other levies payable by Members to IFK Australia and the time for and manner of payment shall be as determined by the Board.
- (b) Any Member which or who has not paid all monies due and payable by that Member to IFK Australia shall (subject to the Board's discretion) have all rights under this Constitution immediately suspended from the expiry of the time prescribed for payment of those monies. Such rights

will be suspended until such time as the monies are fully paid or otherwise in the Board's discretion. In the meantime, the Member shall have no automatic right to resign from the Association, and shall be dealt with in the Board's discretion, which includes the right to expel, suspend, disqualify, fine, discipline or retain that Member as a Member, or impose such other conditions or requirements as the Board considers appropriate.

## **12. EXISTING DIRECTORS**

The Members of the administrative or governing body (by whatever name called) of IFK Australia in office immediately prior to approval of this Constitution under the Act shall continue in those positions until the next annual general meeting following such adoption of this Constitution. After this General Meeting the positions of Directors shall be filled, vacated and otherwise dealt with in accordance with this Constitution.

## **13. POWERS OF THE BOARD**

- (a) The affairs of IFK Australia shall be managed by the Board constituted under clause 14.1.
- (b) Subject to this Constitution and the Act, the Board:
  - (i) shall control and manage the business and affairs of IFK Australia;
  - (ii) may exercise all such powers and functions as may be exercised by IFK Australia other than those powers and functions that are required by this Constitution to be exercised by the members in General Meeting;
  - (iii) has power to perform all such acts and things as appear to the Board to be essential for the proper management of the business and affairs of IFK Australia; and
  - (iv) in particular, the Board as the controlling authority of IFK Australia shall be responsible for acting on all issues in accordance with the Objects and shall operate for the collective and mutual benefit of IFK Australia and the Members.

## **14. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD**

### **14.1 Composition of the Board**

The Board shall comprise:

- (a) Three elected Directors, who must all be Individual Full Members and who shall be elected under **clause 15**;
- (b) Up to three Dojo Operator Directors, who must be Dojo Operator Members and who shall be elected under **clause 15**; and
- (c) up to two Appointed Directors who need not be Members and who may be appointed by the Directors in accordance with **clause 16**. For the

avoidance of doubt, Appointed Directors are eligible to vote on Board matters, but may not vote at AGM's unless they are also members of IFK Australia.

## **14.2 Election and Appointment of Directors**

- (a) The Elected Directors shall be elected under **clause 15**.
- (b) The Appointed Directors may be appointed under **clause 16**.

## **14.3 Portfolios**

The Board may allocate portfolios to directors.

## **15. ELECTED DIRECTORS**

### **15.1 Nomination for Board**

- (a) Nominations for Elected Director and Dojo Operator Director positions shall be called for forty-eight (48) days prior to the annual general meeting. When calling for nominations, details of the necessary qualifications and job descriptions for the positions shall also be provided. Qualifications and job descriptions shall be determined by the Board from time to time.

### **15.2 Form of Nomination**

Nominations must be:

- (a) in writing;
- (b) on the prescribed form (if any) provided for that purpose;
- (c) signed by two Individual Full Members or Dojo Operator Members;
- (d) certified by the nominee expressing his willingness to accept the position for which he is nominated; and
- (e) delivered to IFK Australia not less than thirty-five (35) days before the date fixed for the annual general meeting.

### **15.3 Elections**

- (a) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled or if there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Board, then those nominated shall be declared elected only if approved by the majority of Members entitled to vote.
- (b) If there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Board, or if a person is not approved by the majority of Members under **clause 15.3(a)**, the positions will be deemed casual vacancies under **clause 17.1**.

- (c) If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, voting papers shall be prepared containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order for each vacancy on the Board.
- (d) Voting shall be conducted in such a manner and by such a method as determined by the Board from time to time.

#### **15.4 Term of Appointment for Elected Directors and Dojo Operator Directors**

- (a) Directors elected under **clause 15** shall be elected for a term of two years. Subject to provisions in this Constitution relating to early retirement or removal of Directors, elected Directors shall remain in office from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which the election occurred until the conclusion of the second Annual General Meeting following.
- (b) Three (3) elected Directors shall retire in each odd year and three (3) Dojo Operator Directors shall retire in each even year and so on and so forth.
- (c) Should any adjustment to the term of Elected Directors or Dojo Operator Directors elected under this Constitution be necessary to ensure rotational terms in accordance with this Constitution, this shall be determined by the Board (and if the Board cannot agree it will be determined by lot). Elections to subsequent Boards shall then proceed in accordance with the procedures in this Constitution.
- (d) Following the adoption of this Constitution, no person who has served as an Elected Director or Dojo Operator Director for a period of three (3) consecutive full terms shall be eligible for election as a Director until the next annual general meeting following the date of conclusion of his last term as a Director.
- (e) Subsection (d) of this section does not apply if there is no other person standing for that position.

### **16. APPOINTED DIRECTORS**

#### **16.1 Appointment of Appointed Directors**

The elected Directors may appoint up to two (2) Appointed Directors.

#### **16.2 Qualifications for Appointed Directors**

The Appointed Directors may have specific skills in commerce, finance, marketing, law or business generally or any other such skills which complement the Board composition. They do not need to be Members.

#### **16.3 Term of Appointment**

- (a) Appointed Directors may be appointed by the Elected Directors under this Constitution for a term of up to two years, which shall commence

from the first Board meeting after the annual general meeting until after the conclusion of the second annual general meeting that follows.

- (b) Appointed Directors may be appointed to ensure rotational terms that coincide with the elected Directors' rotational terms.
- (c) Any adjustment to the term of appointed Directors appointed under this Constitution necessary to ensure rotational terms under this Constitution shall be determined by the Board.
- (d) Following the adoption of this Constitution, no person who has served as an Appointed Director for a period of three (3) consecutive full terms shall be eligible for appointment as an Appointed Director until the next annual general meeting following the date of conclusion of his last term as an Appointed Director.
- (e) Subsection (d) of this section does not apply if the Board acting reasonably are unable to fill an Appointed Director position.

## **17. VACANCIES ON THE BOARD**

### **17.1 Casual Vacancies**

Any casual vacancy occurring in the position of Director may be filled by the remaining Directors from among appropriately qualified persons. Any casual vacancy may only be filled for the remainder of the Director's term under this Constitution.

### **17.2 Grounds for Termination of Director**

In addition to the circumstances in which the office of a Director becomes vacant by virtue of the Act, the office of a Director becomes vacant if the Director:

- (a) dies;
- (b) becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
- (c) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in anyway under the law relating to mental health;
- (d) resigns his office in writing to IFK Australia;
- (e) fails to fulfil the minimum requirements of a Board member, as determined by the Board;
- (f) is absent without the consent of the Board from meetings of the Board held during a period of six months;
- (g) holds any office of employment with IFK Australia without the approval of the Board;
- (h) is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with IFK Australia and fails to declare the nature of that interest;



- (i) in the opinion of the Board (but subject always to this Constitution):
  - (i) has acted in a manner unbecoming or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of IFK Australia;
  - (ii) has brought IFK Australia or themselves into disrepute;
- (j) is removed by Special Resolution; or
- (k) would otherwise be prohibited from being a director of a corporation under the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth.)*.

### **17.3 Board May Act**

In the event of a casual vacancy or vacancies in the office of a Director or Directors, the remaining Directors may act. However, if the number of remaining Directors is not sufficient to constitute a quorum at a meeting of the Board, they may act only for the purpose of increasing the number of Director to a number sufficient to constitute a quorum.

## **18. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD**

### **18.1 Board to Meet**

The Board shall meet as often as is deemed necessary in every calendar year for the dispatch of business (and shall be at least as often as is required under the Act). Subject to this Constitution, it may adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. A director may at any time convene a meeting of the Board within reasonable time.

### **18.2 Decisions of Board**

Subject to this Constitution, questions arising at any meeting of the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes and a determination of a majority of directors shall for all purposes be deemed a determination of the Board. All directors shall have one vote on any question. Where voting is equal, the chairperson may exercise a casting vote. If the chairperson does not exercise a casting vote, the motion will be lost.

### **18.3 Resolutions Not in Meeting**

- (a) A resolution in writing that has been signed or assented to by telegram, cablegram, radiogram, facsimile, telex or other form of visible or other electronic communication by all the directors for the time being present in Australia shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of directors duly convened and held. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more of the directors.
- (b) Without limiting the power of the Board to regulate its meetings as it thinks fit, a meeting of the Board may be held where one or more of the directors is not physically present at the meeting, provided that:

- (i) All persons participating in the meeting are able to communicate with each other effectively, simultaneously and instantaneously whether by means of telephone or other form of communication.
- (ii) Notice of the meeting is given to all the directors entitled to notice in accordance with the usual procedures agreed upon or laid down from time to time by the Board or this Constitution. The notice will specify that directors are not required to be present in person.
- (iii) If a failure in communications prevents **clause 18.3(b)(i)** from being satisfied by the number of directors which constitutes a quorum, and none of such directors are present at the place where the meeting is deemed by virtue of the further provisions of this rule to be held, then the meeting shall be suspended until **clause 18.3(b)(i)** is satisfied again. If such condition is not satisfied within fifteen minutes from the interruption, the meeting shall be deemed to have been terminated or adjourned.
- (iv) Any meeting held where one or more of the directors is not physically present shall be deemed to be held at the place specified in the notice of the meeting, provided a director is there present. If no director is there present, the meeting shall be deemed to be held at the place where the chairperson of the meeting is located.

#### **18.4 Quorum**

At meetings of the Board the number of Directors whose presence is required to constitute a quorum is three (3).

#### **18.5 Notice of Board Meetings**

Unless all Directors agree to hold a meeting at shorter notice (which agreement shall be sufficiently evidenced by their apology or presence) not less than fourteen (14) days written notice of the meeting of the Board shall be given to each Director. The agenda shall be forwarded to each Director not less than four (4) days prior to such meeting.

#### **18.6 Chairperson**

The Board shall appoint a chairperson from among its number. The chairperson shall be the nominal head of IFK Australia and will act as chair of any Board meeting or General Meeting at which he is present. If the chairperson is not present or is unwilling or unable to preside at a Board meeting, the remaining Directors shall appoint another Director to preside as chair for that meeting only.

#### **18.7 Conflict of Interest**

A Director shall declare his interest in any contractual, selection, disciplinary, or financial matter in which a conflict of interest arises or may arise. He shall, unless otherwise determined by the Board, absent himself from discussions of such matters and shall not be entitled to vote in respect of such matters. If the director casts a vote, the vote shall not be counted. In the event of any uncertainty as to whether it is

necessary for a Director to absent himself from discussions and refrain from voting, the issue should be immediately determined by vote of the Board. If this is not possible, the matter shall be adjourned or deferred.

### **18.8 Disclosure of Interests**

- (a) The nature of the interest of a director must be declared at the meeting of the Board at which the relevant matter is first taken into consideration, if the interest then exists. In any other case, the interest should be revealed to the Board at the next meeting of the Board. If a director becomes interested in a matter after it is made or entered into, the declaration of the interest must be made at the first meeting of the Board held after the director becomes interested.
- (b) All disclosed interests must also be disclosed to each annual general meeting in accordance with the Act.

### **18.9 General Disclosure**

A general notice stating that a director is a Member of any specified firm or company and that he is 'interested' in all transactions with that firm or company is sufficient declaration under **clause 18.8**. After the distribution of the general notice, it is not necessary for the director to give a special notice regarding any particular transaction with that firm or company.

### **18.10 Recording Disclosures**

Any declaration made, any disclosure or any general notice given by a director in accordance with **clauses 18.7, 18.8 and/or 18.9** must be recorded in the minutes of the relevant meeting.

## **19. DELEGATIONS**

### **19.1 Board May Delegate Functions**

The Board may, by instrument in writing, create, establish or appoint special committees, Individual officers and consultants to carry out specific duties and functions.

It will determine what powers these committees are given. In exercising its power under this clause, the Board must take into account broad stakeholder involvement.

### **19.2 Delegation by Instrument**

In the establishing instrument, the Board may delegate such functions as are specified in the instrument, other than:

- (a) this power of delegation; and
- (b) a function imposed on the Board or the executive officer by the Act, any other law, this Constitution, or by resolution of IFK Australia in a General Meeting.

### **19.3 Delegated Function Exercised in Accordance with Terms**

A function, the exercise of which has been delegated under this clause, may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised from time to time in accordance with the terms of the delegation.

### **19.4 Procedure of Delegated Entity**

The procedures for any entity exercising delegated power shall, subject to this Constitution and with any necessary or incidental amendment, be the same as that applicable to meetings of the Board under **clause 18**. The entity exercising delegated powers shall make decisions in accordance with the Objects, and it shall promptly provide the Board with details of all material decisions. The entity shall also provide any other reports, minutes and information required by the Board.

### **19.5 Delegation May Be Conditional**

A delegation under this clause may be made subject to certain conditions or limitations regarding the exercise of any function. These may be specified in the delegation.

### **19.6 Revocation of Delegation**

At any time the Board may, by instrument in writing, revoke wholly or in part any delegation made under this clause. It may amend or repeal any decision made by a body or person under this clause.

## **20. SEAL**

- (a) IFK Australia may have a Seal upon which its corporate name shall appear in legible characters.
- (b) The Seal shall not be used without the express authorisation of the Board. Every use of the Seal shall be recorded in IFK Australia's minute book. Two directors must witness every use of the Seal, unless the Board determines otherwise.

## **21. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- (a) IFK Australia's annual general meeting shall be held in accordance with the Act and this Constitution. It should be held on a date and at a venue determined by the Board.
- (b) All General Meetings other than the annual general meeting shall be special General Meetings and shall be held in accordance with this Constitution.

## **22. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **22.1 Special General Meetings May be Held**

The Board may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting. When, but for this clause, more than fifteen months elapses between annual general meetings,

the Board shall convene a special general meeting before the expiration of that period.

## **22.2 Requisition of Special General Meetings**

- (a) The secretary will convene a special general meeting when five per cent of Members (no less) submit a requisition in writing.
- (b) The requisition for a special general meeting shall state the object(s) of the meeting, be signed by the Members making the requisition and be sent to IFK Australia. The requisition may consist of several documents in a like form, each signed by one or more of the Members making the requisition.
- (c) If the Board does not cause a special general meeting to be held one month after the date in which the requisition is sent to IFK Australia, the Members making the requisition, or any of them, may convene a special general meeting to be held no later than three months after that date.
- (d) A special general meeting convened by Members under this Constitution shall be convened in the same manner, or as close as possible, as those convened by the Board.

## **23. NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING**

- (a) Notice of every General Meeting shall be given to every Life Member, Full Member, Dojo Operator Member, and Member entitled to receive notice. Notices shall be sent to the addresses appearing in IFK Australia's Register. The auditor and Directors shall also be entitled to receive notice of every General Meeting. This will be sent to the auditor's last known address. No other person shall be entitled, as of right, to receive notices of General Meetings.
- (b) A notice of a General Meeting shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting and shall state the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- (c) At least twenty-one (21) days' notice of a General Meeting shall be given to those Members entitled to receive notice, together with:
  - (i) the agenda for the meeting; and
  - (ii) any notice of motion received from Members entitled to vote.
- (d) Notice of every general meeting shall be given in the manner authorised in **clause 37**.

## **24. BUSINESS**

- (a) The business to be transacted at the annual general meeting includes the consideration of accounts and the reports of the Board and auditors, the election of directors under this Constitution and the appointment of the auditors.

- (b) All business that is transacted at a general meeting and at an annual general meeting, with the exception of those matters set down in **clause 24(a)**, shall be special business.
- (c) No business other than that stated on the notice for a general meeting shall be transacted at that meeting.

## **25. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Members entitled to vote may submit notices of motion for inclusion as special business at a general meeting. All notices of motion must be submitted in writing to IFK Australia no less than thirty-five days (excluding receiving date and meeting date) prior to the general meeting.

## **26. PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **26.1 Quorum**

No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. A quorum for General Meetings of IFK Australia shall be 50% of the eligible voting member base.

### **26.2 Chairperson to Preside**

The chairperson of the Board shall, subject to this Constitution, preside as chair at every general meeting except:

- (a) in relation to any election for which the chairperson is a nominee; or
- (b) where a conflict of interest exists.

If the chairperson is not present, or is unwilling or unable to preside, the delegates present shall appoint another director to preside as chairperson for that meeting only.

### **26.3 Adjournment of Meeting**

- (a) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned until the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to a date, time or place determined by the chairperson. If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting will lapse.
- (b) The chairperson may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place. No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
- (c) When a meeting is adjourned for thirty days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of an original meeting.

- (d) Except as provided in **clause 26.3(c)** it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

## **26.4 Voting Procedure**

At any meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded by:

- (a) the chairperson; or
- (b) a simple majority of the Members.

## **26.5 Recording of Determinations**

Unless a poll is demanded under **clause 26.4**, the chairperson's declaration shall be conclusive evidence of the result of a resolution decided by a show of hands. The declaration does not need to record the number of votes in favour of or against the resolution; the result of the resolution must be recorded in IFK Australia's book of proceedings.

## **26.6 Where Poll Demanded**

If a poll is duly demanded under **clause 26.4** it shall be taken in such a manner and either at once or after an interval or adjournment or otherwise as the chairperson directs. The result of the poll shall be the resolution of the meeting.

# **27. VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

## **27.1 Members Entitled to Vote**

Each Full Member, Life Member, and the Dojo Operator Member shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings. No other Member shall be entitled to vote but shall, subject to this Constitution, have and be entitled to exercise those rights set out in **clause 5.1**.

## **27.2 Chairperson May Exercise Casting Vote**

Where voting at General Meetings is equal, the chairperson may exercise a casting vote. If the chairperson does not exercise a casting vote the motion will be lost.

## **27.3 Proxy Voting**

Proxy voting shall not be permitted at all General Meetings.

## **27.4 Postal Voting**

No motion shall be determined by a postal ballot unless determined by the Board. If the Board so determines, the postal ballot shall be conducted under the procedures set by the Board from time to time.

## **28. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

- (a) The grievance procedure set out in this rule applies to disputes under these rules between a Member and:
  - (i) another Member; or
  - (ii) IFK Australia.
- (b) The parties to the dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute within fourteen days after the dispute comes to the attention of all parties.
- (c) If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting or if a party fails to attend that meeting, then the parties must, within ten (10) days, refer the dispute for resolution to an independent arbitrator and suitably qualified as nominated by the board.
- (d) The Board may prescribe additional grievance procedures in the Regulations consistent with this **clause 27.4**.

## **29. RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS**

### **29.1 Records**

IFK Australia shall establish and maintain proper records and minutes concerning all of its transactions, business, meetings and dealings (including those of IFK Australia and the Board). It shall produce these as appropriate at each Board or general meeting.

### **29.2 Records Kept in Accordance with the Act**

Proper accounting and other records shall be kept in accordance with the Act. The books of account shall be kept in the care and control of the Secretary.

### **29.3 Board to Submit Accounts**

The Board shall submit IFK Australia's statements of account to the Members at the annual general meeting in accordance with this Constitution and the Act.

### **29.4 Accounts Conclusive**

The statements of account, when approved or adopted by an annual general meeting, shall be conclusive except when errors have been discovered within three months after such approval or adoption.

### **29.5 Accounts to be Sent to Members**

The Secretary shall cause to be sent to all persons entitled to receive notice of annual general meetings in accordance with this Constitution, a copy of the statements of account, the Board's report, the auditor's report and every other document required under the Act (if any).



## **29.6 Negotiable Instruments**

All cheques, promissory notes, bankers, drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments, and all receipts for money paid to IFK Australia, shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed, as the case may be, by any two duly authorised directors or in such other manner as the Board determines.

## **29.7 Inspection of Records**

- (a) Members may on request inspect free of charge -
  - (i) The minutes of general meetings;
  - (ii) Subject to Rule 29.7(b), the financial records, books, securities and any other relevant document of the Association.
- (b) The Board may refuse to permit a member to inspect records of the Association that relate to confidential, personal, employment, commercial or legal matters or where to do so may be prejudicial to the interests of the Association.
- (c) The Board must on request make copies of these rules available to members and applicants for membership free of charge.
- (d) Subject to Rule 29.7(b), a member may make a copy of any of the other records of the Association referred to in this rule and the Association may charge a reasonable fee for provision of a copy of such a record.
- (e) For the purposes of this rule -

relevant documents means the records and other documents, however compiled, recorded or stored, that relate to the incorporation and management of the Association and includes the following:

  - (i) its financial statements;
  - (ii) its financial records;
  - (iii) records and documents relating to transactions, dealings, business or property of the Association.

## **30. AUDITOR**

- (a) A properly qualified auditor or auditors shall be appointed by IFK Australia in a general meeting if required under the Act. The auditor's duties shall be regulated in accordance with the Act. If no relevant provisions exist under the Act the duties shall be regulated in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth.)* and generally accepted principles and/or any applicable code of conduct. The auditor may be removed by IFK Australia in a general meeting.
- (b) The accounts of IFK Australia shall be examined and the correctness of the profit and loss accounts and balance sheets ascertained by an

auditor or auditors at the conclusion of each financial year if required by the Act.

### **31. SOURCES OF FUNDS AND INCOME**

- (a) The funds of the Association may be derived from annual membership subscriptions, fees and levies payable by Members, donations, grants, sponsorships and such other sources as the Board determines from time to time.
- (b) The income and property of IFK Australia shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.
- (c) Except as prescribed in this Constitution or the Act:
  - (i) no portion of the income or property of IFK Australia shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to any Member
  - (ii) no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be paid or given by IFK Australia to any Member who holds any office of IFK Australia.
- (d) Payment in good faith of or to any Member can be made for:
  - (i) any services actually rendered to IFK Australia whether as an employee, director or otherwise
  - (ii) goods supplied to IFK Australia in the ordinary and usual course of operation
  - (iii) interest on money borrowed from any Member
  - (iv) rent for premises demised or let by any Member to IFK Australia; or
  - (v) any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by a Member on behalf of IFK Australia.

Nothing in **clauses (b) or (c)** preclude such payments provided they do not exceed the amount ordinarily payable between ordinary commercial parties dealing at arm's length in a similar transaction.

### **32. WINDING UP**

- (a) Subject to this Constitution IFK Australia may be wound up in accordance with the Act.
- (b) The liability of the Members of IFK Australia is limited.
- (c) Every Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of IFK Australia in the event of it being wound up while a Member, or within one year after ceasing to be a Member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of IFK Australia contracted before the time at which they ceased to be a

Member and towards the costs, charges and expenses of winding up IFK Australia, such an amount not exceeding one dollar (\$1.00).

### **33. DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY ON WINDING UP**

If upon winding up or dissolution of IFK Australia there remains, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any assets or property, they shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members. Instead, the assets or property shall be given or transferred to another organisation(s) that has Objects similar to those of IFK Australia. The organisation(s) must prohibit the distribution of its income and property among its Members to an extent at least as great as that imposed on IFK Australia by this Constitution. The organisation(s) is to be determined by the Members in a general meeting at or before the time of dissolution. If this does not occur, the decision is to be made by a judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales or other court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

### **34. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution shall not be altered except by Special Resolution.

### **35. REGULATIONS**

#### **35.1 Board to Formulate Regulations**

The Board may formulate, issue, adopt, interpret and amend Regulations for the proper advancement, management and administration of IFK Australia, the advancement of the purposes of IFK Australia and Martial Arts in the local area. Such Regulations must be consistent with the Constitution and any policy directives of the Board.

#### **35.2 Regulations Binding**

All Regulations are binding on IFK Australia and all Members.

#### **35.3 Regulations Deemed Applicable**

All clauses, rules, by-laws and regulations of IFK Australia in force at the date of the approval of this Constitution (as long as such clauses, rules, by-laws and regulations are not inconsistent with or have been replaced by, this Constitution) shall be deemed to be Regulations and shall continue to apply.

#### **35.4 Bulletins Binding on Members**

Amendments, alterations, interpretations or other changes to Regulations shall be advised to Members by means of bulletins approved by the Board and prepared and issued by IFK Australia. IFK Australia shall take reasonable steps to distribute information in the bulletins to Members. The matters in the bulletins are binding on all Members.

## **36. STATUS AND COMPLIANCE OF IFK AUSTRALIA**

### **36.1 Recognition of IFK AUSTRALIA**

IFK Australia is a Member of the International Federation of Karate (IFK) and is recognised by this body as the entity responsible for the delivery of the Karate syllabus and guidelines as determined by the International Federation of Karate (IFK) in Australia and its territories in Australia and is subject to compliance with this Constitution.

### **36.2 Constitution of IFK Australia**

This Constitution will clearly reflect the Objects of IFK Australia and the IFK subject always to the Act.

## **37. NOTICE**

- (a) Notices may be given by IFK Australia to any person entitled under this Constitution to receive any notice. The notice can be sent by pre-paid post or facsimile transmission or, where available, by electronic mail to the Member's registered address or facsimile number or electronic mail address. In the case of a delegate, the notice can be sent to the last recorded address, facsimile number or electronic mail address.
- (b) Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting the notice. Service of the notice is deemed to have been effected three days after posting.
- (c) Where a notice is sent by facsimile transmission, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected upon receipt of a confirmation report confirming the facsimile was sent to/or received at the facsimile number to which it was sent.
- (d) Where a notice is sent by electronic mail, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected the next business day after it was sent.

## **38. INDEMNITY**

- (a) Every director and employee of IFK Australia will be indemnified out of the property and assets of IFK Australia against any liability incurred by them in their capacity as director or employee in defending any proceedings, civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in their favour or in which they are acquitted or connected with any application in relation to any such proceedings in which relief is granted by the Court.
- (b) IFK Australia shall indemnify its directors and employees against all damages and losses (including legal costs) for which any such director or employee may be or become liable to any third party in consequence of any act or omission, except wilful misconduct:

- (i) in the case of a director, performed or made while acting on behalf of and with the authority, express or implied, of IFK Australia; or
- (ii) in the case of an employee, performed or made in the course of, and within the scope of, their employment by IFK Australia.