



EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE 2020 BHA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion 6: Election of Councillors

For those Councillor positions where there is only one nominee, the nominees will be declared elected unopposed.

Nominees:

Secretary	Rob Lee
VP Membership	Paul Adams

There are no nominations for the positions of VP Music and VP Youth. These vacancies will be filled by appointment by the National Council.

Motions 7, 8, 9, and 10:

During 2020 all members have had an opportunity to have their say about future directions for BHA. The following key themes were identified:

- a. The majority support the move to an inclusive membership association.
- b. Clubs must have a choice to determine what groups they wish to facilitate.
- c. Members should have equal voting rights.
- d. Governance should remain as "One Council for All".
- e. At this time, traditional gender groupings are strongly supported.
- f. "Open" is both a fully inclusive grouping and a category of sub-groupings.
- g. Competitions with full sub-categories are supported for all gender mixes.
- h. Attracting Youth is critical.
- i. Encouraging men to sing is still a thing, regardless of the membership.

At this Annual General Meeting, the BHA Council wishes to test that these themes are well supported by members. It has put forward motions 7, 8, 9, and 10. These motions focus on membership, inclusion, voting rights, and competition. These results are not binding; they will only give BHA Council and indication of support.

Motion 7. "That this meeting supports, in principle, BHA moving towards full membership for all people."

Motion 8. "That this meeting supports, in principle, moving towards all members having equal voting rights."

Motion 9. "That this meeting affirms that, in principle, this Association should continue with the principle of governance remaining as "One Council for All".

Motion 10. "That this meeting supports, in principle, a change of the legal name of the Association from Australian Association of Men Barbershop Singers, to Barbershop Harmony Australia."

If motions 7, 8, 9, 10 receive positive support, the National Council will investigate changes to implement them, as per the following motion.

Motion 11. "That this meeting supports, in principle, that the National Council moves forward to develop constitutional, standing order and policy modifications to facilitate changes to membership, inclusion, voting rights and competition changes consistent with motions 7, 8, 9 and 10, noting that any proposed constitutional changes will be presented to a Special General Meeting in 2021."

Special Resolution:

GIFT FUND

The Register of Cultural Organisations (ROCO) is administered by Australian Government Department of Communications and the Arts.

To be eligible for entry on the ROCO an organisation must meet all the criteria of section 30-300 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act (1997)*.

Organisations entered on the ROCO are endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient and are eligible to receive tax deductible donations in accordance with the Act.

The following constitutional changes are required to meet our legal obligations in conducting a Gift Fund. All proposed changes to the Constitution are highlighted in italics.

Motion 12. "That this meeting supports the following changes to our Constitution:

18. GIFT FUND

18.1 (a) The Association may establish a Gift Fund for the purpose of supporting its *principal* Objects:

18.2 (c) becomes 18.3

Add

18.3 (xiii): "at all times ensure it complies with all laws and rules that the Treasurer and the Arts Minister make to ensure that gifts made to the fund are only used for its principal purpose."

Add

18.3 (xiv): "give the Arts Secretary at intervals of 6 months, statistical information about gifts made to the gift fund during the last 6 months."

18.2 (d) becomes 18.4 (a)

18.2 (e) becomes 18.4 (b)"

Special Resolution: The following constitutional change takes account of the tiered reporting system for incorporated associations. The financial reporting responsibilities of an incorporated association depend on the tier that it falls into. The purpose of this system is to minimise the reporting burden for small associations. The proposed change to the Constitution is highlighted in italics.

Motion 13. "That this meeting supports the following change to our Constitution.

12. FINANCE

(f) An auditor, independent of the National Council, shall be appointed by the Council to audit the financial records of the Association for each financial year *as and when required by the Act.*"