

Future of The League

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE THE STATE CONGRESS DATES?

RSL Queensland's 2022 State Congress will be held 25-26 June at the Royal International Convention Centre in Brisbane.

WHY WASN'T THE CONSTITUTION AMENDED AT THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)?

At the last AGM (in December 2021), RSL Queensland Members voted against the proposed reforms to the constitution. Many found the proposed changes complex and confusing.

IS CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM NECESSARY?

The short answer is yes. We need to change how our Board is elected to ensure that RSL Queensland is governed correctly. Our current model, known as a representative model, is no longer suited to meet the challenges of an organisation as large and complex as RSL Queensland.

WHY IS OUR “REPRESENTATIVE” MODEL SEEN AS UNSUITABLE?

As we grow there is a need to change. Our organisation requires a balance of skills to be effectively governed.

Our current constitution says that when someone is elected as a District President they automatically become a State Board Director and historically, they were elected based on their ability to lead their District.

An independent analysis recently identified; the collective talents of our Board showed strength in some areas but gaps in others.

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

The adoption of a Member elected Board made up of Veterans with the necessary skills and experience required to lead our organisation, as outlined in the proposed board-skills matrix.

The new model will keep some elements of our current model and introduce new ones.

What is not changing?

1. State President, Deputy President and Vice President will be Directors with the State President being the Chair of the Board.
2. Ability to appoint optional Directors to fill skills gaps is retained, however under the new model the Board may only appoint up to two optional Directors instead of three.

What is new?

1. Four skills-based Directors would be elected to the Board. They would:
 - be RSL Queensland Service or Life Members,
 - be nominated based on alignment with board endorsed skills matrix,
 - be elected by Delegates at a State AGM, and
 - have three-year terms.
2. One of the 10 District Presidents will be on the Board. The Chair of the State Council of District Presidents is elected by the other District Presidents to fill that role.
3. The total number of people on the Board would be reduced.

The Board endorsed Skills Matrix identifies the essential skills and experience required to direct the operations of RSL Queensland.

Skill	Skill Rating
Defence Force and Veteran Affairs Knowledge	Essential
Volunteering	Essential
Large scale business operations	Desirable
Experience serving on other Boards previously, particularly Not for Profits (NFPs)	Desirable
Strategy development	Essential
Accounting, finance and investing	Essential
Legal, governance, compliance, and risk management	Essential
External influence and advocacy	Essential
People and culture	Desirable
Brand and marketing	Desirable
Transformation and change management	Desirable
Technology and cyber security	Desirable

ARE THE CHANGES NECESSARY?

Yes. In 2017, we made a commitment to our regulator, the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC), to engage with members with a view to achieving a skills-based board model. Only skilled Members/Veterans can provide our organisation with the competencies needed for the challenges and complexity of governance today.

DO ANY OTHER STATE RSLs HAVE A SKILLS-BASED MODEL?

Yes. RSL NSW has a skills-based model.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS IF THE RESOLUTION SUCCEEDS?

The Transitional Election Process is a one-off process to facilitate RSL Queensland's transition to a skills-based board.

- [Transitional Election Process](#)
 1. Nominations will be called Friday 1st July and be open for six (6) weeks.
 2. After nominations close, there will be a two (2) week period where the Nominations will be reviewed by the Nominations and Remuneration committee to identify eligible candidates, and recommendations will then be made to the board.
 3. If there is more than one candidate for a director position an electronic ballot will be called by the Board, candidate profiles will be published on the RSL Queensland website.
 4. Ballots will be provided to each District Branch and Sub Branch, each Branch will have one vote on each position. Delegates will cast the votes.
 5. There will be a 28-day window for Delegates to cast votes on behalf of their Branches.
 6. Once the ballot is complete, Directors are appointed and the current Board is discharged.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the proposed changes, and to review the 2022 Draft Constitution, visit the 2022 Draft Constitution webpage.

www.rslqld.org/constitution2022

MEMBER FEEDBACK

Members are invited to submit questions and feedback via email to constitution@rslqld.org