



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

5 Doon Avenue, Syndal, 3150
Email: stctennisclub@gmail.com

CONSTITUTION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

1) The name of the Club shall be St. Christopher's Tennis Club.

2) OBJECTIVES

The objectives of St Christopher's Tennis Club shall be:

- a) to provide opportunities for members of St Christopher's Parish and School communities, members of the communities of neighbouring parishes, especially those without their own tennis facilities, and all other people considered suitable by the Tennis Club Committee in the light of relevant policies and standards to participate in all appropriate forms of tennis activity (including but not limited to social, competitive and coaching);
- b) to provide opportunities for members and others to participate in complementary or compatible social, sporting or other suitable activities; and
- c) to support the broader objectives of St Christopher's Parish as may be appropriate from time to time, recognising the status of St Christopher's Tennis Club as a Ministry and an agency of St Christopher's Parish which is under the authority of the Parish Priest, and acknowledging and respecting that the Parish Priest's authority in respect of the Parish is vested in him through the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

3) MEMBERSHIP

- a) Every application for membership must be on the Club's official application form, whether in hard copy or electronically, and must be lodged with the Secretary for consideration by the Committee.
- b) Applicants for membership of the Club may be:
 - i. A parishioner of St. Christopher's Parish, or
 - ii. The spouse of a parishioner of St. Christopher's Parish.
 - iii. A parishioner or spouse of a parishioner of a neighbouring parish which does not have its own parish tennis club, or
 - iv. A person whom the Committee has agreed to consider for membership.
- c) A General Meeting of the Club may elect as an Honorary Member any person who is deemed either through length of service or by exceptional effort to have contributed to the wellbeing and development of the Club.
- d) Membership classifications may be defined and varied from time to time by the Committee.
- e) Fees are to be determined by the Committee. Pro rata or reduced fees may be charged for Members joining part way through the financial year.
- f) The financial year shall begin on the first day of July each year.
- g) Two month's grace from the first of July or such time as the Committee may decide, may be allowed Members, who are financial in respect of the previous year, to pay their Annual subscriptions and during which time they shall be deemed financial.



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

5 Doon Avenue, Syndal, 3150
Email: stctennisclub@gmail.com

- h) After the expiration of the period of grace as provided in paragraph (g) of this rule, unfinancial members may be debarred from the Club and from the privileges of the Club.
- i) After the expiration of the period of grace as provided in paragraph (e) of this rule, the Secretary must keep posted on the Club's notice board at all times a list of Financial Members.
- j) Any person who is an unfinancial member for the period of more than 2 months shall cease to be a member of the Club and shall not be entitled to membership until formally readmitted in accordance with the Constitution. The Committee may refuse to readmit a former member until all arrears are paid, however special consideration may be extended to unfinancial members in the case of financial hardship.
- k) Any person may at any time by giving notice in writing to the Secretary, resign membership of the Club, but shall continue to be liable for any subscription due and unpaid at the time of his resignation.

4) MANAGEMENT

- a) The management of the Club must be vested in a Committee comprised of Senior Members elected at the Annual General Meeting and that Committee must consist of a Parish Priest, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to seven others.
- b) The Parish Priest may appoint a nominee(s) to sit on the Committee on his behalf. Such nominee may be an elected Committee member or may be additional to the elected Committee.
- c) Where voting on any matter is equal, the Chairman may use his casting vote.
- d) The Committee has the power to fill any vacancy of the Committee for the remainder of the financial year.
- e) The Committee must meet at least four times in every financial year. It may transact business and make decisions out of session though the appropriate use of electronic media provided that the procedures followed comply with the principles enshrined in this Constitution.
- f) The Committee has the power to make any rule not inconsistent with this Constitution for the peace, order and good government of the Club, and in particular and without limitation of this power, to make any laws for regulating the use of the courts, to appoint sub-committees to arrange social functions, matches and tournaments, to appoint delegates or selectors for any purpose, to consider charges against members and to expel any member for such period as the Committee may think fit, to pass monies for payment, to make levies, promote or join any scheme which has as an object, the betterment of the financial or social interests of the Club.
- g) On behalf of St Christopher's Tennis Club, the Committee must make all necessary arrangements for the management, maintenance and security of the land and facilities identified as St Christopher's Tennis Club land on the plan forming Attachment A to this Constitution.



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

5 Doon Avenue, Syndal, 3150
Email: stctennisclub@gmail.com

- h) St Christopher's Tennis Club acknowledges that the land identified in Attachment A is vested with the Roman Catholic Trusts Corporation for the Diocese of Melbourne for and on behalf of St Christopher's Parish.
- i) The Committee shall annually seek written confirmation from St Christopher's Parish Finance and Administration Committee that appropriate insurance coverage is in place against fire and destruction of assets together with public liability and contents, with respect to St Christopher's Tennis Club land as shown on Attachment A and the actions of its Committee under this Constitution.
- j) The Club must maintain a bank account and administer the Club's funds in accordance with this Constitution and in accordance with management and operational principles agreed with the Parish Finance and Administration Committee.
- k) The assets and income of the Club must be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned Objectives, and no portion may be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Club except as *bona fide* compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Club.
- l) In the event of the Club being dissolved, the amount which remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities must be transferred to the Parish.
- m) The Committee must appoint an Auditor, and such Auditor must not be a Member of the Committee.
- n) The Committee has the power to accept, withhold or reject the application for membership of any persons, incur liabilities in the name of the Club, and to authorise capital improvements to Club premises or property, subject to the Objectives stated in this Constitution.
- o) The Club adopts the Tennis Australia Member Protection By-law as the By-law of St. Christopher's Tennis Club, with any amendments made from time to time.
- p) Recognising the status of St Christopher's Tennis Club as a ministry, the Parish Priest reserves the right to veto over any decision(s) made by the Committee, to ensure the stable patrimony of the Parish.

5) POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICE BEARERS

- a) President: Must preside if possible at all General meetings and Committee meetings of the Club and shall be responsible for the direction of the Club and the furnishing of an Annual Report to Members.
- b) Secretary: Must attend to all duties delegated by the President, keep minutes of all Committee and General meetings, deal with correspondence and maintain a list of all Members and a list of those waiting to become Members.
- c) Treasurer: Must receive all monies of the Club and should pay all monies to the Club's bankers within seven days of receipt. Books of account must be kept and they must be open for inspection at all reasonable times by the Committee and/ or the Auditor. At the conclusion of the Club's financial year, a statement of income and expenditure for the



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

5 Doon Avenue, Syndal, 3150
Email: stctennisclub@gmail.com

year must be prepared as well as a balance sheet and these must be presented to the Annual General Meeting, attaching the Auditor's report thereto.

6) ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

- a) The Annual General Meeting must be held during the month of July each year.
- b) A special General Meeting may be called by the President or the Secretary with the approval of the Committee, or by the Secretary at the written request of or petition signed by fifteen financial senior members of the Club, and such request must state clearly the objects of the meeting.
- c) The Secretary must notify all members of any General Meeting.
- d) The business of the Annual General Meeting must be dealt with as follows:
 - i) The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and any special intermediate General Meetings.
 - ii) The reception of the President's Annual Report.
 - iii) The acceptance of the Treasurer's Report.
 - iv) The consideration of business introduced by the Secretary.
 - v) Election of the Committee
 - vi) General Business.
- e) Copies of the President's Annual Report and the Treasurer's Report must be provided to the Parish Priest at, or as soon as practicable after, the Annual General Meeting.
- f) At any General Meeting of the club only financial Senior Members of the current year may be eligible to vote on any motion.
- g) This Constitution may be amended or repealed only at a General Meeting. Proposals to amend the Constitution must be in writing and addressed to the Secretary or President. The Committee will consider the amendment and a notice of change will be placed on the notice board in the Clubhouse. The notice will fully set out the petition and indicate the date of the General Meeting at which the amendment will be debated. After appropriate discussion a vote will be taken on the amendment and a two-third majority of all eligible Senior Members in attendance will enable the Constitution to be formally amended in principle. The amendment will take effect when ratified in writing by the Parish Priest.

July 2017