

Changes to the Club Rules 2023

The Club Rules were initially written in 1904 and were first reviewed in 1971. When the club was incorporated in 1991, they were modified again.

The June 2023 meeting of the TFNC Committee considered necessary changes to the Club Rules and decided to take them for endorsement to the TFNC General Meeting of 6th July 2023.

The changes in the club rules were to achieve the following:

- Allow electronic banking.
- Incorporate electronic media into the definition of writing, especially the use of email and websites.
- Update the postal address.
- Better represent how the club functions.
- Clarify the current roles undertaken by the secretary, treasurer, and public officer.
- Delete details which were relevant only to the original incorporation of TFNC.
- Following the June General Meeting's decision to disband the library, replace the Librarian position with a Communications Officer.

The committee tried to minimize the number of changes. The changes did not address things such as current standards of punctuation, spelling, and expression but address the important issues of the impact of electronic media and payments and how roles and responsibilities have evolved over time. The changes proposed were consistent with the Tasmanian Government's *Associations Incorporations (Model Rules) Regulations 2017*.

Club Rules state that changes needed to be done through a 'Special Resolution' and at least three quarters of members at a General Meeting need to agree to the changes.

The Special Resolution was:

That the 6th July 2023 General Meeting of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc. endorses the proposed changes to the club rules to come into effect from the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

The Special Resolution had been moved by Anna McEldowney and seconded by Annabel Carle.

Club Rules state that for any special resolution to be carried, at least 75% of members present at the General Meeting must vote in favor. The TFNC General Meeting of 6th July had 26 members present and 24 voted in favor of the special resolution. The meeting declared the Special Resolution as carried.

The new rules will come into effect from the next Annual General Meeting, due in March 2024.

The amended rules are now available from the TFNC website.