

APPENDIX E – Constitution and By-Laws Submarines
Association Australia - NOTICE OF MOTION

NOTICE OF MOTION

I, David Strangward of the ACT Branch

Submit the following Motion to be included in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the SAA

I move that the constitution be amended to reflect that the annual Submariners Conference (SUBCON) be conducted every two (2) years. .

Supporting argument: For many years SUBCON has been a great event that meets one of our prime objections by bringing the National SAA community together in a social setting. However, in recent years the member attendance numbers have dwindled to barely that of an AGM quorum. The main drivers of this downward trend are an aging membership and cost. The average age of an SAA Member estimated to be around 70 with many members in their 80s. At this age members are less inclined to travel long distances annually to attend and participate in SUBCON events. Additionally, the cost of attending SUBCON has increased greatly in recent years and members have complained that SUBCON is too expensive for them to attend, particularly with the exploding cost of air travel and accommodation.

The SUBCON organisation factors. In recent years a number of state branches have indicated that due to a lack of committee power and assistance from volunteers they are no longer able to commit to running a SUBCON. As a matter of fact, that's why we are in Wollongong this year and not elsewhere. This means that only WA, QLD, NSW, VIC and ACT may be available to host future annual SUBCONs. We are now down to a 1 in every 5-year SUBCON roster. At the current rate of decline in active participation it is probable that other states and a territory will also fall by the wayside with ever decreasing numbers of member participation at the branch level.

SUBCON Funding. The cost of organising a SUBCON has skyrocketed in recent years. To counter this; branches are now hosting SUBCON in regional towns although this invariably increases attendee travel costs. Branches once relied on Sponsorship to subsidise events however, this too has dried up recently. Without adequate and ongoing financial sponsorship host branches have to work harder to raise funds themselves. With rising costs and limited funding, the SUBCON ticket price will continue to rise sharply. Luckily, this SUBCON is partially subsidised by residual sponsorship money raised in the COVID years and possibly a loan from National SAA funds under By-Law Number 5 of the Constitution.

Bottom line. We're getting older, our numbers are dwindling, it costs a lot, it's getting harder for us to organise SUBCON and it's getting harder for us to attend SUBCON on a yearly basis. It's a huge effort to organise a SUBCON/AGM and then barely get a quorum of 50 financial members to attend.

Moving the SUBCON to a biennial event would allow the host branches more time to plan, raise funds and coordinate venues etc. A 2-yearly event would likely increase the number of attendees due to less frequent SUBCONs. Additionally, SUBCON event formats should be not be hard and fast, but rather, flexible to ensure costs are more affordable for the average member as we have seen in recent years.

Agreement to moving the SUBCON to every 2 years will also drive a change as to the way the AGM is conducted in the 'SUBCON gap year'. It would seem that the most practical option would be to conduct the AGM via an online medium such as Zoom. Additionally, the constitution could be amended to reflect that the National Committee be responsible for coordinating the AGM as they see fit to enable maximum attendance, noting that the AGM will always be held in conjunction with the SUBCON.

Proposed SAA Constitution amendments

Amend paragraph 6.1(i) as follows:

(The Annual General Meeting;)

(i) Will be held annually as coordinated by the National Committee (NC).

Insert 6.1(ii) as follows:

(ii) In a SUBCON year the AGM will be held as part of the National Conference known as SUBCON, on the Sunday

Amend paragraph 6.1 footnote as follows:

Current: Once the date of the **SUBCON** is confirmed the National Secretary is responsible for promulgating AGM milestone dates iaw the table at APPENDIX G."

Proposed: Once the date of the **AGM** is confirmed the National Secretary is responsible for promulgating AGM milestone dates iaw the table at APPENDIX G."



Proposer Signature
Dated 16 August, 2025

Seconded: PETER JAMES NIMMO (A.C.T BRANCH)



Signature:
Dated 16 August, 2025

NOTICE OF MOTION

I, Anthony John Vine

Of the; SAA National Executive and the NSW Branch

Submit the following Motion to be included in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the SAA

Motion: Establishing a Policy for the Commemoration of SAA Life Members

I MOVE THAT the Submarines Association Australia (SAA) adopt a policy and approve ongoing funding to ensure the following:

1. Upon the passing of an SAA Life Member, the SAA National Executive shall fund a memorial plaque to be placed on the Submariners' Walk Heritage Trail Memorial Wall, Teneriffe, Brisbane. This will serve as a lasting tribute to their contributions to the association. Implementation of this initiative will be subject to the concurrence of the member's next of kin.
2. The attached policy document shall be formally accepted and promulgated.

Supporting arguments

Life Membership is the highest honour bestowed upon a Submarines Association Australia (SAA) member during their lifetime, signifying outstanding dedication and service. These distinguished members are easily identified at SAA events by their unique Life Membership Badge, symbolizing their invaluable contributions to the association. Further recognition is granted through exemption from membership dues – an acknowledgment of their ongoing commitment.

However, upon their passing, their legacy fades into a mere mention on the SAA Facebook page, with no lasting tribute to honour their service. This proposal seeks to rectify that by ensuring Life Members receive enduring recognition. By affording them a commemorative plaque on Submariners' Walk Memorial Wall, we provide a tangible and permanent tribute to their contributions.

The Submariners' Walk Heritage Memorial Wall stands as a place of reflection, remembrance, and pride, honouring those who have served in the submarine force. It is fitting that the esteemed Life Members of the SAA – who have dedicated themselves to preserving the spirit and camaraderie of submariners – be granted a place among these tributes. This initiative not only acknowledges their service but ensures their legacy lives on for future generations to appreciate.

Annexes:

A. Proposed policy on Commemoration of Deceased Life Members.

Proposer Signature  Date 7 June 2025

Seconded:
.....

Signature  (Full Name) 31 Jul Date
.....



SAA POLICY

COMMEMORATION OF SAA LIFE MEMBERS ON THE SUBMARINERS WALK HERITAGE TRAIL MEMORIAL.

Purpose

Upon the passing of an SAA Life Member, the SAA National Executive shall fund a memorial plaque to be placed on the Submariners Walk Heritage Trail Memorial at Teneriffe, Brisbane. This initiative ensures a lasting tribute to their contributions to the association.

Process

1. Notification & Offer to Next of Kin:

- When informed of the passing of an SAA Life Member, the SAA National Secretary shall write to the member's Next of Kin on behalf of the Association.
- The Secretary shall offer the family the opportunity to honour their loved one by having the SAA fund a memorial plaque at the Submariners Walk Memorial in New Farm, Brisbane.

2. Approval & Coordination:

- If the Next of Kin accepts the offer, the SAA QLD Branch, as custodian of the memorial, shall be advised that the National Executive will fund the plaque.

3. Plaque Design & Verification:

- The SAA QLD Branch shall liaise with the Next of Kin to confirm the plaque's wording, ensuring accuracy in detail such as:
 - Date of death
 - Name
 - Rank
 - Official number
 - Epitaph
- The plaque shall also prominently include the words **"SAA Life Member."**

4. Funding & Reimbursement:

- The SAA QLD Branch shall notify the National Secretary of the plaque's cost.

- The National Treasurer shall reimburse the expense without requiring additional approval from the National Executive.

Implementation

- The SAA QLD Branch shall coordinate with the Life Member's Next of Kin regarding the plaque dedication ceremony.
- Where possible, a report of the ceremony shall be submitted to the SAA Webmaster for publication on the SAA website, ensuring the commemoration is acknowledged within the broader community.

Policy Version 1

Issued: XX 20XX

Reviewed: XXX

Issued: XXX

DRAFT

NOTICE OF MOTION

I, Anthony John Vine

Of the; SAA National Executive and the NSW Branch

Submit the following Motion to be included in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the SAA

Motion: The removal of the mandatory requirement that the publication "Law and Management Meetings " by P Joske (Hereafter referred to as "Joske") be used at all levels of the SAA.

I MOVE THAT the Submarines Association Australia (SAA) amends By-Law #2 of the SAA Constitution which mandates the use of Joske at all National and Branch Meetings to allow each branch to adopt business rules that meets the requirements of their jurisdiction.

1. Delete the entire head paragraph of By-Law #2 beginning with:

"The conduct of meetings at every level of Association..."

2. Insert New head Paragraph.

"All meetings conducted at all levels of the Association, are to be conducted with procedural fairness, in an ethical and respectful manner and such that they meet the legal requirement of the jurisdiction they are held in. The management be consistent with these rules and standing orders;

Existing subparagraphs i. – xix. To remain unchanged.

.....

Supporting arguments

The National SAA is an unincorporated body, therefore there is no legal requirement that proscribes the use of Joske, or any other set of business management rules.

The majority of SAA Branches are incorporated in their respective jurisdictions and are subject to the laws and regulations of their jurisdictions. The mandating of a proscriptive management system by the National Constitution is inappropriate and may place a branch in conflict with local legal requirements.

Few, if any of the SAA branches follow or use Joske in a proscriptive manner, therefore the constitution is out of step with reality.

A E subscription to Joske costs \$195. As the National SAA and each individual branch are separate legal identities, they would have to individually subscribe to Joske, and buy a new subscription each time the book is amended.

Proposer Signature  Date 14 August 2025

Seconded:
.....

(Full Name)

Signature  Date 14 Aug 2025
.....

DRAFT

APPENDIX E

NOTICE OF MOTION

I, KEVIN HAYTON
(Full Name)

Of New South Wales Branch

Submit the following Motion to be included in the Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the SAA

I MOVE THAT

THE SUBMARINE ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA 'SAA WEBSITE' INCLUDE A 'MEMBERS ONLY' PAGE

SUPPORTING ARGUMENT

Page 16 of the SAA constitution states;

Appendix B 'Application for Membership'
"I consent to the following being posted on the SAA web site"
Name yes/no, Address yes/no, Email yes/no, Phone No's yes/no
Contact details to SAA members on request

Despite this no such page exists. The 'members only' page disappeared around 2022/3 when the SAA was in the process of upgrading the site.

The intent of this motion is to reinstate the 'members only' page as to help members keep in contact.

At the moment, it appears the only form of communication among members is on varying face book pages. Whilst these sites are great for showing photos of submarines, a stocker in the 'donk shop' or a BBQ on the casing and other forms of trivia. They do help individual communication.

When someone comments that an 'old mate' not travelling too well, no contact details can be given for privacy reasons, which should be the case, and for that reason and that reason alone a 'members only' page must be available to members. Nothing is more frustrating than the only way to contact 'old mate' is to post an emoji and say 'I hope your OK'.

Not only will a 'members only' page help 'old mates' to stay in touch, it might encourage the changing generations of submariners to join the association. It's not a secret that we struggle to attract new members and are finding it difficult to retain the aging members. Reasons given for not joining the association range from 'depends on era you served', 'the move from Platypus to Stirling', 'the class of boat you served in' and some 'not interested'. Whatever the reason, I believe the main reason is the lack of communication.

In 2003 a 'members only' page was added the SAA website, in the following years the minutes of the 2001 and 2003 AGM's show that the 'members only' page, had been a major influence on the increase of membership.

For the advancement of the association, communication between members will play a major roll. I therefore ask that you support this motion.

Proposer Signature  Date 16 August 2025

Seconded ALEX PATON
(Full Name)

Seconded Signature  Date 16 August 2025

Notices of motion for inclusion in the agenda of the Annual General Meeting shall be in the hands of the Secretary no later than Ten (10) weeks before the AGM.