



**STANDARD CONSTITUTION OF AUSTRALIAN PROBUS CLUBS ACCREDITED  
BY THE PROBUS CENTRE – SOUTH PACIFIC INC.**

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE**

# *Melbourne Sunrise Probus Club*

### **PREAMBLE**

The PROBUS name and emblem are registered under the Australian and New Zealand Trade Marks Acts. They may be used only by Probus clubs, Probus Associations and other bodies accredited by the Probus Centre – South Pacific Incorporated and they may not be used for any commercial purpose without the written approval of the Probus Centre –South Pacific Inc. To hold accreditation a Probus club must have been sponsored by a Rotary club and must adopt and comply with this Constitution.

### **ARTICLE 1 – NAME**

The name of this club shall be *the Melbourne Sunrise Probus Club*

### **ARTICLE II – AIMS AND OBJECTS**

- (a) The purpose of this club shall be to advance intellectual and cultural interests among adult persons who have retired or are semi-retired from their former occupations.
- (b) It will hold regular meetings and arrange activities to provide opportunities for fellowship, the development of acquaintance and social interaction.
- (c) It shall strive to be seen as a worthwhile organisation by the local community.
- (d) It shall be non-political and non-sectarian. It shall not endorse any candidate for public office and shall not take corporate action at any meeting with the intention of influencing the policies or decisions of governments; however the merits of any public question may be a subject of fair and intelligent study or discussion at a club meeting for the information of members.
- (e) It shall not be, or be seen to be, a fundraising body. The club by a majority decision of its members may engage in corporate projects for social benefit provided that any such activity shall not involve the raising of funds and provided that individual participation in any such project shall be entirely voluntary.

### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

- (a) Membership of this club shall be open to retired and semi-retired professional and business people and others from any worthy vocation and who appreciate and value opportunities for social contact with others in similar circumstances.
- (b) Applicants for membership, with the exception of the foundation members, must be sponsored by two members of the club and approved by the Management Committee.
- (c) No person shall be denied membership of the club for reasons of race, religion or political persuasion

### **ARTICLE IV – MANAGEMENT**

- (a) The club shall be managed by a Management Committee comprising a president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and committee members as provided in the by-laws.
- (b) Officers and committee members shall be elected annually in accordance with the by-laws. The term of office of the president shall be one year, which may be extended to not more than two consecutive years if required due to

special circumstances. The foundation president may serve two successive terms if the club has been formed less than nine months before the first Annual General Meeting.

(c) The club shall keep a register of members in which shall be recorded their names, addresses, telephone numbers and such other information as the club may require.

## **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

(a) The general meetings and the annual general meeting of the club shall be held as provided in the by-laws.

(b) An annual general meeting for the election of officers shall be held before March 31 of each year.

(c) Newly elected officers shall take office from April 1 each year.

## **ARTICLE VI – INFORMATION**

(a) On formation and thereafter each year, the club shall provide the information required by the Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc. concerning membership, meeting arrangements and officers for the ensuing year.

(b) The club shall provide information on other matters as and when required by the Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc.

## **ARTICLE VII – SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Members of the club shall pay an annual subscription as provided in the by-laws. The subscription shall include such capitation and insurance fees as may be required by the Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc.

## **ARTICLE VIII – NON-PROFITABILITY**

The income and property of the club howsoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives of the club and no portion thereof shall be paid to or transferred directly or indirectly to the members of the club provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer or member of the club for any services actually rendered to the club.

## **ARTICLE IX – WINDING UP**

On winding up, the funds of the club shall not be distributed to members but shall be donated to a charitable organisation which prohibits distribution of its funds to members.

## **ARTICLE X – BY-LAWS**

The club shall adopt by-laws not inconsistent with this constitution, embodying additional provisions for the management of this club. Such by-laws shall be amended from time to time as provided therein.

## **ARTICLE XI – INCORPORATION**

The club, by resolution of its members, may become an incorporated body under the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act of this country, state or territory provided that all the provisions of this Constitution are embodied in the rules adopted for incorporation.

## **ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENT**

(a) Except as provided in this Article (b), this Constitution may be amended only by the Probus Centre – South Pacific Incorporated.

(b) Article 1 (Name) of this constitution may be amended at any general meeting of this club, a quorum being present, by the affirmative vote of not less than three-quarters of the members present and voting, notice of such proposed amendment having been published to all members at least 21 days before such meeting.

### ***Melbourne Sunrise Probus Club***

**Note: Adoption of the *Standard Probus Club Constitution* is necessary for accreditation as a Probus Club by the Probus Centre – South Pacific Inc.**

**Clubs seeking incorporation will need to adopt additional rules in accordance with the requirements of their respective countries, states or territories under their Associations Incorporation Acts. (A recommended Constitution is available from PCSP.)**