



# Rover Scouts

## AUSTRALIA

### National Rover Council

#### Remote Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 17 November 2022

## 1. Procedural Items

### 1.1 Meeting Open

Meeting opened 8.15pm AEST.

As Scouts of Australia, we acknowledge Australia's First Nations Peoples, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We are grateful to do our Scouting in this country; we commit to use its resources wisely and develop our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

We also acknowledge any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scouts who are part of our movement today.

### 1.2 Attendance

Eleanor Hewitt (National)  
Toby Blyth (National)  
Liam Brown (National)  
Meghann Gallagher  
(National)  
Patrick McCormick  
(National)  
Thomas Milham  
(National)

Samantha Wells  
(National)  
Hamish McNeice (ACT)  
Sam de Rota (ACT)  
Jonno Thornton (ACT)  
Sara Taylor (ACT)  
Calista Beck (ACT)  
Hugh Crawford (NSW)  
Lizzie Fogarty (NT)  
Jake Goodall (Qld)

Paul Lappin (Qld)  
Daniel Boyd (Qld)  
Adam Simpson (SA)  
Brad Thompson (Tas)  
Catherine Marley (Vic)  
Izaak Kitching (Vic)  
Jordan Phillips (WA)  
Karen McNamara (SA)  
Alison Maynard (NSW)

### 1.3 Apologies

Dylan Hannan (National)  
Steph Cowling (National)  
Bryn Catlin (National)

Jesse Carter (Vic)  
Tom Brazier (SA)  
Isaac Beswick (Tas)

Peter Wotherspoon (Vic)

### 1.4 NRC Procedure

E. Hewitt outlined procedure for NRC Remote Meetings due to a large number of new attendees, including voting by dissent, rules of debate, and seconding.

An “NRC Induction” workshop will be held between this meeting and Conference in order to provide more information about the processes of the NRC. More details surrounding this workshop will be distributed shortly.

## 2. Past Minutes and Matters Arising

### 2.1 Minutes of the previous NRC Meeting

The minutes from the September Remote meeting were presented as previously circulated.

#### MOTION

That the National Rover Council confirms the minutes as a true and accurate record of the NRC’s September 2022 meeting.

**Moved: NRC Exec**

**Seconded: Tasmania**

**For:** ACT, NSW, NT, Qld, SA, Tas

**Against:** Nil

**Abstain:** WA

**CARRIED**

## 3. Standing Items

### 3.1 Child Safe Issues

NIL

### 3.2 WHS Issues

NIL

### 3.3 Conflicts of Interest

J. Goodall declared a perceived conflict of interest regarding item 10.3, having been involved in the creation of the payment plan.

## 4. NRC Team Report

### 4.1 NRC Team Report.

A verbal report was given by the NRC Team.

E. Hewitt mentioned her time on the Dick & Pip Smith Leadership Through Adventure Fund selection panel, and highlighted that there is over \$1 million available in grants for Rovers to access, and encouraged BRCs to share this opportunity with their members –

applications require Branch approval, a risk assessment, and a brief budget. She also discussed how she is looking forward to working with the new Chair in handover, and is wrapping up some last tasks and preparing a comprehensive handover guide. Finally, E. Hewitt discussed her time on the World Scout Constitution Committee, including working to develop a youth quota for Regional conferences, and detailed the NRC Induction.

T. Blyth discussed that he has been finalising the strategic plan, and creating the NRC Operational Plan. Met with the National Adults in Scouting Committee a few months ago, however most of what was discussed there was Group Leader filtered. He also mentioned that the final Moot Buddies payments have been distributed to the Moot team for the benefit of recipients.

L. Brown noted the current balance of the operational account is \$97,544.29. Since the last meeting, all the Moot Buddies grants have been cleared; this was a longer process than anticipated – and if any Moot Buddies recipients haven't received their funds, please contact the Moot Organising Committee to resolve the issues. He additionally mentioned a Rover Challenge Grant has been cleared, he will be streamlining the process in the future. Over the last 6 weeks, L. Brown has spent some time chasing up unpaid levy amounts, and finalising financial accounts which will be delivered by Conference, he is working with the Chair of the National Finance Committee to support the RDF.

M. Gallagher mentioned that the OneDrive has been having some technical errors, she and P. McCormick will be resolving this over the coming weeks, Additionally, if there are any requests for access, or updated contacts from recent elections, please contact again, these will be able to be sorted out promptly. E. Hewitt additionally requested that access issues be flagged promptly, as it is difficult to resolve when they come in at short notice before the meeting.

S. Wells provided an update for PR and Marketing – current focusses are on the Rover Blood Challenge, and will be moving forward advertising the NRC Team elections shortly.

T. Milham provided an update for Training & Development. He mentioned that he has attended some meetings within this portfolio including the National Training meeting in Sydney, and things seem to be on a good track where Rover Scouts are included very well in considerations. He mentioned the paper tabled for tonight will be moved instead to Conference.

T. Blyth provided an update for Diversity & Inclusion on behalf of D. Hannan – there has not been a lot of work with the national D&I committee recently, however have been working with the Victorian D&I committee and hopes to move some of these projects to a national focus.

No update was provided from the Environment & Sustainability portfolio.

P. McCormick announced there has been a nomination for the NRC Chair, as well as mentioned there is still a bit more preparation to be done for face-to-face Conference.

## **MOTION**

That the report be noted.

**Moved through the Chairperson.**

**CARRIED**

## **5. Apple Isle Moot: 22nd Australian Rover Moot Report**

### **5.1 Apple Isle Moot: 22nd Australian Rover Moot Report.**

B. Thompson gave an update regarding AIM. Registrations have recently been closed – there are currently 521 paid participants, 38 service team, and 45 expedition and site team leaders. Final site visits have been happening and have been sorting out last few details, and final budget and plans have been approved by Tas BRC. Shop is now open to purchase AIM merch. Request was made to BRCs to work with contingent leaders to sort outstanding fees. For any further questions, contact [moc@moot2023.com.au](mailto:moc@moot2023.com.au)

## **6. World Scout Moot 2033 Bid**

### **6.1 World Scout Moot 2029 Bid Team Report**

No one present at the meeting to speak to this, will be followed up.

## **7. Branch reports**

Branch reports were received by ACT, Qld, and WA and are available in the OneDrive.

### **ACT**

Star: Unit of the Month worked really well over the past year engaging Units with each other

Star: AIM is coming up, and half of ACT Rovers will be going

Wish: For the rain and cold weather to have some good camps and hiking over the summer

### **NSW**

Star: Reinstated a new role on the executive, PR Officer, and there are already people interested in running for this role

Star: Have run successful Branch Moot and Bush Dance, and have tenders for a Rover Ball, as well as interest in organising a Snow Camp

Wish: Had more roles on the Executive filled to support the Regions in certain areas such as PR and Training

### **NT**

Star: Good size contingent going to AIM

Star: One of the NT Units has been gaining numbers and will hopefully be keeping NT Rovering strong

Wish: One of the Rover Units has had to close due to low numbers

## **Qld**

Star: Last meeting before Qld Rovers Centenary coming up next year, there will be some big events upcoming

Star: Quite a few Rover Scouts have been appointed to Branch Councils by the Chief Commissioner to provide youth representation

Wish: That everyone has a safe and happy holiday period

## **SA**

Star: BRC elections have recently been undertaken and all Executive positions have been filled, despite not receiving any nominations before the meeting

Star: Last month held a state camp which had some great attendance, and have a large contingent going to AIM

Wish: That the new exec have a great handover and year next year

## **Tas**

Star: Recently booted three members after a year (due to unexpected lockdowns) – this event got some really good turnout and engagement

Star: Branch is undertaking a restructure, and bringing in opportunities for under 30s to take up Commissioner roles, so hopefully some Rover Scouts will be taking some of these roles

Wish: Due to commitments with AIM, TBRC has taken a backseat, so haven't had many meetings in a while – this should be back on track after AIM

## **Vic**

Star: Managed to put together the first of two Mental Health First Aid courses

Star: After five months of searching, have found three potential candidates for Assistant Chair, will be doing interviews shortly to fill the role

Wish: Have had some flood damage, so will need to do some flood recovery efforts

## **WA**

Star: Successfully ran Rover Personal Development Course, and are looking forward to sharing that at Conference

Star: Held BRC elections, have re-elected three roles and filled Program and PR Officer

Wish: To fill the remaining vacant roles on the Exec at the upcoming AGM

## **8. APR Regional Youth Representative**

No report submitted

## **10. Information and Late Papers**

### **10.3 – Victoria Levy Waiver**

In the interests of time and based on the content of the paper, E. Hewitt moved item 10.3 before the remainder of the voting items as the outcome would affect Victoria's status as a voting member of the NRC regarding the Chair elections.

C. Marley spoke to the paper that was tabled in the OneDrive. The key goal of the paper was to waive the Q4 invoice for 2022, and thus reinstate Victoria's voting rights. This invoice was initially not paid due to a perceived 'lack of value for money', which was voted on by VBRC. The other three invoices from the 2022 payment plan had been paid, and the 2023 invoice has since been paid (Moot Buddies levy).

C. Marley stated that Victoria does not intend to pay the outstanding 2022 invoice as the money has been redistributed to fully subsidise two Mental Health First Aid Courses, which were highlighted as important due to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. These courses are \$1000 each. C. Marley highlighted that the NRC agreed to waive the 2023 NRC Levy due to its surplus, and also mentioned that as VBRC lost their voting rights for Q4 of 2022, they believe the invoice should not have to be paid as they have 'suffered the consequences of not paying and have a better use of the money'. E. Hewitt clarified that there is no part of the NRC By-Laws that indicate the NRC is a subscription service.

H. Crawford noted the short notice provided to Victoria to produce the paper, and noted that a MHFA course is a commendable project. H. Crawford asked the following questions of Victoria:

1. Was VBRC under the impression that they were able to skip a payment at the cost of only losing voting rights for that period with no other questions

- C. Marley responded that VBRC was under the impression that not paying the invoice would cause a loss of voting rights, that would be restored upon payment of the 2023 invoice.
- E. Hewitt clarified that at no time did the NRC Exec have any contact from VBRC asking about receipt of payment

2. Do VBRC intend to pay the outstanding invoice when reasonably able to in order to maintain voting rights?

- C. Marley stated that Victoria is not interested in paying the outstanding debt.

D. Boyd expressed concern from QBRC that something cannot simply be refunded if it is not approved initially, as this is a situation where levies not being paid is attempting to be justified through other projects.

- C. Marley responded by clarifying VBRC are not looking for a refund they are looking to waive the fee as it has not been paid. It had been communicated to VBRC by E. Hewitt that this debt could only be waived by a vote of the NRC. Rover Challenge Grant or Rover Development Fund funding were not applied for to fund these courses as own BRC funds were used as the budget was examined for where money was "lying around", such as that allocated to the unpaid invoice

A. Simpson asked what precedent this would set for other Branches requested that their invoices be waived.

- C. Marley responded that VBRC are not intending to set a precedent of "not paying invoices when [Branches] don't feel like it". She suggested it would be useful to have a system in place where a Branch can be non-financial where a Branch cannot pay.

- L. Brown provided some context regarding the debt, as sitting at \$2580.93. When 2023 invoices were sent out, it was highlighted that under a number of policies within P&R, while a Branch is a Branch of Scouts Australia, the Rover Scouts Section is a member of the NRC, and By-Laws have a mechanism to charge levies. There is no mechanism for a BRC to refuse to pay a levy, and the By-Laws characterises what non-financial membership of the NRC entails. This refers to any time a BRC is in debt to the NRC, and as discussed, the NRC is not a subscription service, it is more analogous to a utility bill where service is cut off until all outstanding debts are paid. He encouraged BRCs to consider the precedent such a paper would set, insofar that merely choosing to not pay a levy and allocating money elsewhere, despite overarching obligations from Scouts P&R and By-Laws to pay the levies, particularly when the non-payment was due to a choice, and not financial hardship further discussed since the creation of the payment plan.

B. Thompson mentioned that TBRC have a system where individual Rovers pay their own fees that are then passed on to fund the payment of the NRC Levy, and highlighted that if this paper were passed it could be upsetting to the members who have paid these fees if they see another Branch is simply not choosing to pay, and set the precedent that they also should not need to pay their levies.

- C. Marley further reiterated that they did not intend to set a precedent, and would need to create a mechanism to deal with the situation where Branches can't pay

S. de Rota stated that the discussion boils down to whether VBRC wants to vote at NRC or not, and mentioned that there has not been precedent of choosing not to pay a levy and retaining voting rights, and questioned how asking for both these things is fair for every other Branch that has paid their levies facing similar financial hardships. He also asked whether there were any specific voting issues VBRC were interested that may be arising that are the motivation for VBRC wanting their voting rights reinstated, noting that the paper was submitted mere hours before the start of the meeting and as a late paper would originally have been discussed after the Chair elections. He also highlighted that if a late paper is submitted less than 48 hours before the start of the meeting it must be "urgent and necessary as determined by the Chairman"<sup>1</sup>. He further highlighted that the non-payment had come from ill-advised, rushed financial decisions that were being moved through the NRC, and expressed concerns Victoria are treating the NRC like a subscription service, and highlighted that alternative sources for the MHFA course could have been found.

- C. Marley responded that they are not trying to get their vote back purely for one particular cause (such as Chair elections), rather VBRC would like to restore their vote generally to be able to table papers, and be involved in the NRC.
- C. Marley acknowledged the timing of the paper was very late before the meeting, and stated that it had been written responding to NRC Executive correspondence
- L. Brown clarified that this invoice was due on 30/06/2022
- In the second round of comments, S. de Rota stated understanding wanting to get value for money from the NRC, but highlighted that unless VBRC is willing to pay their levies, it's not fair on the rest of Branches to expect the benefits of 'value for

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<sup>1</sup> Find the part of the Bylaws this is from

money’ – which implies money is being spent. Furthermore, in response to the aim to submit and table paper, he mentioned that the precedent of the present paper being submitted and discussed sets the tone that as long as seconders can be found papers can still be submitted. C. Marley had no response to these statements

D. Boyd highlighted that VBRC financials state they have \$1.2 million in assets, including \$680,000 in cash, and expressed disbelief that VBRC would be unable to pay an NRC levy.

- C. Marley clarified that at the time the payment was due income was significantly reduced due to the coronavirus pandemic. The aforementioned assets are also not able to be easily liquidated, and resources often is allocated to maintaining these assets so they remain profitable.

H. Crawford mentioned that a mechanism to address Branches who are unable to pay levies does exist through the existence of payment plans and the removal of voting rights in the current By-Laws. He also mentioned that while NSW do not believe the levy should be waived, they believe it is fundamentally unfair that they should not get a vote in elections, and requested to propose an amendment that Victoria be able to vote in the NRC Chair election tonight to most accurately simulate preferential voting.

- E. Hewitt noted that as this is not an amendment to the paper, it relates to a suspension of the By-Laws, it would be more appropriate to move a motion at the completion of this paper rather than concurrently, as the present paper is not proposing an amendment or suspension of the By-Laws.

E. Hewitt clarified that, like BRCs, the NRC is not a separate incorporated body – it is part of Scouts Australia. Under P&R and the NRC By-Laws, the NRC has the authority to charge levies. Thus at its most basic form, Scouts Victoria is in debt to Scouts Australia, which has broader consequences than merely putting forward papers at the NRC.

## **MOTION**

That the NRC waive the FY22 Q4 invoice and reinstate VBRC’s voting rights until the end of FY23.

**Moved: VIC**

**Seconded: NSW**

**For: Nil**

**Against: ACT (2), Qld (2), SA (2), Tas (2), WA**

**Abstain: NSW, NT**

**MOTION FAILED**



NSW moved a motion to suspend Article 4.2 of the NRC By-Laws<sup>2</sup> specifically for the election of the NRC Chair, for the present meeting only.

S. de Rota commented that this again sets a dangerous precedent moving forwards, as discussed above, and reiterated that VBRC knew the election was coming at this meeting as per the By-Laws, and if it weren't for their financial mismanagement they could have had the opportunity to vote. D. Boyd and A. Simpson agreed with this statement

C. Marley noted that Victoria were aware of the fact they may lose their voting rights in this context, and appreciates NSW attempt to gain these rights back, however acknowledged it was understandable if the motion was voted against.

## **MOTION**

That Article 4.2 of the NRC By-Laws be suspended for the rest of the meeting, specifically to allow Victoria to vote in the election of the NRC Chair.

**Moved: NSW**

**Seconded: WA**

**For: NSW (2)**

**Against: ACT (2), Qld (2), SA (2), Tas (2), WA**

**Abstain: NT**

**MOTION FAILED**

## **9. Voting Items**

### **9.1 – NRC Chairman Voting**

P. McCormick, as NRC Returning Officer, declared that nominations for NRC Chair 2023-2024 had now closed. One nominee, Shaylah McClymont (ACT) had been submitted for the role, had received the support of ACT BRC, and had provided evidence of eligibility of ability to stand as Chair.

Shaylah's pre-recorded speech was played, and the NRC was then invited to ask reasonable questions of her.

The election was then held, as only one nomination had been received for the position, a vote of confidence was held.

Shaylah McClymont was declared elected as NRC Chair for a 24 month term, commencing at the NRC Conference 2023 until the end of NRC Conference 2025.

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<sup>2</sup> "No Branch shall be allowed to participate in voting if they are not currently financial with the NRC unless the Branch is able to come to an agreed payment plan with whom they are in debt to"

## 9.2 – NRC Policy Hierarchy Paper

E. Hewitt spoke to the paper saved in the Drive. Key points involved that the NRC By-Laws had been identified as an area that needed review as they are long and overly complicated in parts, reducing accessibility for Rover Scouts. National have also been undertaking a review of policy hierarchy for Scouts Australia.

E. Hewitt emphasised that this current endorsement of the National policy hierarchy is only in principle, and may be amended or changed when practically applied. These By-Laws will be discussed in working groups at 2023 NRC Conference.

S. De Rota noted the importance of taking feedback and consultation on board in initiating these changes, and offered to assist where needed.

### MOTION

That the National Rover Council endorse **in principle** the suggested policy hierarchy for the redesign of the NRC's By-Laws, endorse the suggested change structure, and agree to contribute to working groups during the 2023 NRC Conference.

**Moved: NRC Exec**

**Seconded: NSW**

**For:** ACT (2), NSW(2), NT Qld (2), SA (2), Tas, WA

**Against:** Nil

**Abstain:** Nil

**MOTION CARRIED**

## 10. Information and Late Papers

### 10.1 – Rover Event Management Course 2023

This matter has been tabled for the 2023 NRC Conference

### 10.2 – NRC Conference Update

M. Gallagher provided an update regarding the 2023 NRC Conference on behalf of B. Catlin. OLEMS registration and Conference info pack will be distributed soon. Contact has been made with VBRC regarding getting local Rover Units involved in delivery of conference and providing some assistance in areas of catering and transport. The VBRC have also made some recommendations for online delivery in line with their NRC-agreed proposals from earlier in 2022, and will be looking to incorporate these for those who cannot attend in person.

If there are any questions about Conference, please contact Bryn  
([bryn.catlin@nsw.scouts.com.au](mailto:bryn.catlin@nsw.scouts.com.au))

## **11. General Business**

Nil

## **12. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the NRC will be the 2023 Conference from 19-22 January 2023

### **Meeting close**

Meeting closed at 10.04pm AEDT



## SCOUTS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL

NRC Remote Meeting  
17 November 2022

<b>Item Title</b>	10.3 - Victorian BRC Voting Rights
<b>Information</b>	
<b>X Decision</b>	
<b>Document Author</b>	Catherine Marley - Victorian BRC Chair
<b>Strategic Alignment</b>	Involvement 3.3 Advocate for Rover Scout representation in decision-making across the Movement.
<b>Consultation</b>	National Rover Council Executive Team
<b>Implementation period</b>	November 2022 - June 2023

### KEY POINTS

- Proposal to waive the FY22 invoice for Q4 and grant the Victorian Branch Rover (VBRC) Council voting rights until the end of FY23.

### BACKGROUND

- In FY22, the VBRC requested a payment plan due to reduced income caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and a perceived lack of 'value for money'.
- The VBRC paid the invoices for Q1, Q2 and Q3 and declined to pay the Q4 invoice due to continued perceptions of lack of 'value for money' coming from NRC. This removed VBRC's voting rights for Q4, including at the July Remote NRC Meeting.
- The NRC levy was reduced from \$7.69 to \$5.30 per Rover at the 2022 NRC Conference. This is effective from FY23.
- The NRC levy for FY23 has been waived due to surplus funds, with the Moot Buddies contributions being the only cost invoiced.
- The VBRC paid the FY23 invoice with the understanding that this would reinstate VBRC's voting rights. This was payment was processed on the evening of the September Remote meeting and voting rights were temporarily granted for that meeting due to the payment still being processed.
- It was reported in the October VBRC minutes that the Q4 NRC Invoice has been redistributed to fund two Mental Health First Aid Courses for Rovers.
- Victoria was the State hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic, with extended lockdowns which were the most severe in the country and directly affected mental health, especially in young people. We saw a direct effect from this on the wellbeing of Rovers throughout the

State. We have identified a need to have a welfare team at events to support youth members. Every Rover that completes a Mental Health First Aid course under this initiative will be invited to join our growing welfare team to provide assistance at events alongside trained medical professionals.

- The NRC Executive followed up the Q4 invoice via email on the 29th of October, which was responded to on the 30th of October. Nothing was heard from NRC until a reply on the 14th of November stating Victoria will not have voting rights at the NRC Chair Election on the 16th of November.

- Communication from the NRC Chair on 14/11/22 reads:  
*"The NRC By-Laws state: No Branch shall be allowed to participate in voting if they are not currently financial with the NRC, unless the Branch is able to come to an agreed payment plan with whom they are in debt to (Part I, 4.2)."*

Rover Scouts Victoria remains in debt to the NRC as you have failed to pay the final installment of the payment plan that was agreed to last year. This debt cannot be waived by the NRC Executive and could **only be waived by a vote of the NRC.**

#### **ACTION REQUESTED**

- The Council waive the FY22 Q4 invoice and reinstate VBRC's voting rights until the end of FY23.

#### **FINANCE**

- The FY23 NRC Levy has been waived due to surplus.
- The unpaid VBRC FY22 Q4 invoice is a total cost of \$2580.93.
- All NRC invoices for FY22 total 62% of the VBRC operating costs for the year.
- The amount paid in FY22 is comparable to the expected levy for FY23 before the levy was waived. VBRC paid a total of \$7742.79 for FY22 and the expected levy for FY23 is \$8397. The FY23 invoice was based on the FY22 Census figure, which is higher than our FY23 census figure from 31/3/22.
- This money has been redistributed by VBRC to fund two Mental Health First Aid courses for 20 participants each. This totals \$1000 per course, plus additional venue and catering costs. 0



## SCOUTS AUSTRALIA NATIONAL ROVER COUNCIL

NRC Remote Meeting

17 November 2022

<b>Item Title</b>	<i>9.2 - NRC Policy Hierarchy</i>
<b>Information</b>	
<b>X Decision</b>	
<b>Document Author</b>	<i>Eleanor Hewitt – NRC Chair</i>
<b>Strategic Alignment</b>	<i>Governance</i>
<b>Consultation</b>	<i>NEC Policy and Rules Redesign Sub Committee</i>
<b>Implementation period</b>	<i>Endorsed in principle – November 2022 Amendments made – NRC Conference</i>

### • KEY POINTS

- The NRC Executive has actively been reviewing the NRC By-Laws as they currently stand since the start of this year.
- During this process, Scouts Australia has reviewed its own document hierarchy and the NEC has since approved it.
- The completed draft guidelines can be viewed in full [here](#).
- In summary, the three levels of document hierarchy are as follows:
  1. Policies – Concise statements of principle or position (changes approved by either NOC or NEC).
  2. Standard or Procedure – explain something specific and sometimes explicit requirements that must be met (changes approved by the relevant National committee – in our case, the NRC).
  3. Guidelines – explain how to do something in a way that is consistent with the policies and standards/procedures (changes also approved by the relevant National Committee).
- As the NRC By-Laws currently stand, they do not fit neatly into this new hierarchy and the NRC should embrace this opportunity to implement the new hierarchy which will allow us to simplify our current documents.
- Additionally, the NRC should use this as an opportunity to update the section of the current By-Laws that will form the NRC's new procedures.
- The upcoming NRC Conference provides an important opportunity for the NRC collaboratively work to update its procedures to advance both the new document hierarchy and the strategic direction of the NRC.

## BACKGROUND

- The NEC Policy and Rules Redesign Sub Committee was formed last year. The hierarchy is stage one of their project.
- In creating this hierarchy, the group actively consulted with stakeholders across Scouts Australia.
- The Scouts Australia Policy Hierarchy Policy matches aspects of the feedback the NRC Exec received regarding the NRC's current By-Laws – essentially divide the By-Laws into two – Meeting/ Governance Procedures (voting, position descriptions, finances) and Operational Guidelines (Moot Buddies, Conference procedures, Rover Challenge etc.).

## ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the National Rover Council:

- Endorse in principle the below policy hierarchy for the redesign of the NRC's By – Laws:

### DRAFT NRC POLICY HIERACHY

1. Policy: The NRC's Purpose: Part 1: NRC Standing Orders -Article 1 NRC By-Laws (already can only be changed by a vote of the NOC)
  2. Standards / Procedures: Remaining articles under Part 1: NRC Standing Orders, all articles under Part 2 – Section 1: NRC Terms of Reference + NRC Rules of Debate – Part 2 – Section 5.
  3. Guidelines: All remaining articles of the NRC By-Laws
- Endorse in principle the below change structure:

### DRAFT NRC POLICY HIERACHY CHANGE STRUCTURE

1. Policy – Endorsed by 2/3 majority vote of the NRC, Approved by NOC.
  2. Standards/ Procedures: Approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the NRC.
  3. Guidelines: Approved by a majority vote of the NRC.
- Agree to contribute to working groups during the 2023 NRC Conference

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN –

<b>Lead</b>	NRC Chair and Incoming NRC Chair
<b>Assists</b>	NRC Executive, NRC Project Officers
<b>Cost</b>	Nil
<b>Risks</b>	1. The NRC's policy structure creates too many separate documents and the structure and changes are unclear.

	<p>This risk will be mitigated through good governance practices and by following the change guidelines suggested by the subcommittee. Additionally, working group resources will be created to assist groups in using the correct language, and structure.</p> <p>2. The NRC is unable to secure approval for changes to its policy. This risk will be mitigated by the NRC Chair maintain good relations with the NOC and ensuring that Scouts Australia Policy and Rules continues to stipulate that the NRC is responsible for determining its purpose and it is for the NOC to approve any changes in recognition of the youth led nature of the Rover Scout section.</p>
<b>Milestones</b>	End of NRC Conference – a new NRC Policy Hierarchy that both delivers to enable the strategic direction of the NRC and compiles with the Scouts Australia policy.
<b>Outcomes</b>	A clear and easily understandable set of documents that document all aspects of the NRC – from its purpose to its operations.

## AMENDMENTS

-