

## TasTESOL CONSTITUTION

### Name

The Association shall be the **Tasmanian Association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages** (TasTESOL when abbreviated).

### Objective

The primary objective of TasTESOL is to provide professional support for teachers of English as a Second Language and teachers of ESL students.

### Not-for-profit Status

The Association is a not-for-profit organisation. Its assets and income shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned objective and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organisation except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation.

### Membership

All persons engaged in teaching English or other subjects to speakers of other languages or any teacher concerned with multicultural education shall be eligible to join.

1. Full membership
2. Student membership

All members shall have one vote. Membership shall cease if their subscription is not renewed within three (3) months of the due date.

Any member may be expelled or suspended from membership at the discretion of the committee provided that such member shall have the right to appeal to a general meeting.

The committee may accord life membership in the Association to a person for outstanding service to the Association.

### Fees

The fees payable by members shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November each year.

### Committee

There shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer plus three (3) committee members, all of whom shall be honorary and each of whom shall be elected for a year by the Association at the Annual General Meeting.

The committee may co-opt other members.

If a committee member is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without apology, the position shall fall vacant.

The tenure of any office shall be limited to three (3) consecutive years.

The committee shall be responsible for conducting the business of the Association.

Any decision taken by the committee may be overruled by a general meeting.

Members of the committee must hold full membership.

On the resignation of an office bearer during his/her term of office, the committee shall have the power to appoint one of its members to fill the vacant position.

### Branches

Members may form branches within the state of Tasmania to further objectives of the Association.

### **Meetings**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held within the first five (5) months of the year at a place and time to be determined by the committee. Other general meetings may be called by the committee or by a petition as set out hereinafter.

All members shall be notified of the business, time and venue of the general and annual meetings at least fourteen (14) days before they are held. Committee members shall be notified of the business, time and venue of committee meetings seven (7) days before they are held.

At general and committee meetings the President (or in the absence of the President, the committee's appointee) shall be the chair. The chair shall have a deliberative and casting vote.

### **Decision-making**

Decisions at all meetings (including committee meetings) of the Association shall be by majority of members present.

### **Elections**

Election of officers shall be by secret ballot.

In the event of a tied vote, the chair of the AGM shall have the casting vote.

### **Quorum**

The quorum for the committee shall be four (4), including two (2) office bearers and the chair shall have the casting vote.

The quorum for any general meeting shall be nine (9).

### **Constitution**

The Constitution may be amended at an Annual General Meeting or a general meeting by a motion passed by a simple majority of the members present.

Members must be notified of the proposed motions to alter the Constitution at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting.

### **Financial Administration**

All monies received by the committee shall be deposited as soon as practicable in the bank account of the Association.

All cheques drawn on the bank account of the committee shall be signed by any two (2) of the office bearers: President, Secretary, Treasurer.

The books of account of the Association shall be audited for the Annual General Meeting.

### **Dissolution**

If the Association should be dissolved, any assets remaining on the dissolution shall be given or transferred to an organization having aims similar to the aims of the Association and whose activities are not carried out for the profit or gain of its individual members.

### **Petitions**

Upon receipt of a written petition from five (5) members, the President shall call a general meeting to be held within one month of such receipt.

The petition shall set out the business which is to be the subject of the meeting.