

ABOLISH PSYCHIATRY

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION



Raison d'être –

*To abolish all forms of psychiatry in Australia
& all forced/ coerced Mental Health products, procedures & programs.*

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1.0 PARTY NAME AND CONSTITUTIONAL ORGANISATIONAL ROLE

- 1.1 This is the Constitution for the Abolish Psychiatry, hereinafter called “**the Party**”.
- 1.2 The Abolish Psychiatry party is the National Organisation of the Abolish Psychiatry Political Party (“**the National Organization**”).
 - 1.2.1 The Party is subject to all of the National Organisation rules outlined in the National Constitution applying to the Party.
- 1.3 If any provision or provisions of this National constitution are deemed invalid or unenforceable, then the remaining provisions of this document shall remain in full force and effect and this document shall be deemed to have been amended by the National Organisation to remove-amend such invalid provision or provisions.

2.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTY

- 2.1 To achieve the aims and political objectives of Abolish Psychiatry Political Party as described by the National Constitution and shown as the Raison d'être: – to abolish all forms of the destructive, fraudulent psychiatry exploitation racket in Australia & all of its fraudulent forced & coerced Mental Health products, procedures & programs.
- 2.2 The selection of endorsed candidates for election to the Australian House of Representatives or Senate.
- 2.3 To drive membership and fundraising activities in support of the Party's aims and objectives.

3.0 THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

The structure of the National Party under this Constitution, is to manage the National organisation on the following principles, rules and objectives:

- 3.1 The National Executive is the ultimate rule, policy and decision making Organisation of the Party and is empowered, subject to any contrary provisions contained in this Constitution, to manage and make decision in relation to all affairs of the Party.
- 3.2 The National Executive must not consist of less than four positions filled.
- 3.3 At a minimum, the positions of:
 - 3.3.1 National President
 - 3.3.2 National Director



3.3.3 National Treasurer

3.3.4 National Secretary

shall be filled and two persons minimum are permitted whereby each may fill two positions to form the ruling National executive. No person shall fill the two positions of National Treasurer and National Secretary.

3.4 The National Treasurer shall have the responsibilities of:

3.4.1 Managing and maintaining absolute accurateness of the Party's financial records;

3.4.2 Ensuring the Party complies with any financial obligations imposed upon it by law or the National Organisation;

3.4.3 Liaising with, and reporting to, the National Secretary on the financial activities and position of the Party.

3.5 The National Secretary shall have the responsibilities of:

3.5.1 Managing the day to day official correspondence of the Party;

3.5.2 Recording the minutes of National Executive meetings;

3.5.3 Ensuring that any required records in relation to the functioning of the Party are kept in an orderly and accurate manner.

3.6 The National Executive may meet as often as it deems necessary but must meet at least bi-monthly.

3.6.1 A meeting may take place in person, via teleconference, conference call or any other electronic or physical methods or combination of methods whereby the National Executive members in attendance may all be heard and which the National Executive believes will not compromise the confidentiality of the meeting.

3.6.2 A quorum of the National Executive is achieved when 75% or greater of the members of the National Executive are in attendance.

3.6.3 A simple majority shall review, discuss and then decide on all matters before the National Executive for consideration at that time.



3.6.3.1 The National Executive has the option to defer deciding on any matter presented at a meeting

The National Executive shall be recognised as the National Executive as

the overriding Organisation of the Party.

3.6.4 This means that the National Executive shall, if necessary, have the power to intervene or overrule decisions of any subsequent State Executive for the protection of the Party and National Organisation.

3.6.5 The State Executive will be obliged to follow all instructions from the National Executive in relation to carrying out the business of the Party.

3.7 Members may resign from the State Executive by providing written notice to the National Secretary.

3.8 Members may be appointed to the State Executive by:

3.8.1 nominees for appointment being submitted to the National Executive for approval; and

3.8.2 a majority vote by the National Executive approved nominees.

3.10.1 Notice of the appointment of new members to any future State Executive must be forwarded to the National Executive immediately on the member's appointment.

3.10.2 Members may also be removed from the State Executive by a majority decision of the National Executive

4.0 MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership is open to any individual who:

4.1.1 Is over 18 years of age and agrees to the aims and objectives of the Party;

4.1.2 Has paid the membership fee to the National Organisation;

4.1.3 Agrees to uphold this Constitution and the National



Constitution;

- 4.1.4 Agrees to not bring the Party into disrepute either through their reckless conduct or duty of care;
- 4.1.5 Has not been convicted of a disqualifying electoral offence in the 10 years prior to their application to become a member.
- 4.1.6 No Member who is convicted of a disqualifying electoral offence may continue to be a member. Their membership will be deemed to have immediately ceased upon conviction.
- 4.1.7 Has submitted a completed application form to the Party providing, in it, the required Information.
 - 4.1.7.1 The form may be digital or physical
 - 4.1.7.2 The required Information for a membership application shall be determined by the National Executive from time to time but in an absence of such determination the minimum required Information will be the applicant's:
 - 4.1.7.2.1 Full Name;
 - 4.1.7.2.2 Date of Birth;
 - 4.1.7.2.3 Residential Address.
- 4.2** The Party may, for its own protection, at the State Executive's or National Executive's discretion reject any application for membership to the Party
- 4.3** Membership is taken to be accepted once the above requirements are met and the application is processed into the relevant membership database.
- 4.4** Only current financial, unimpeded members of the Party shall be eligible to:
 - 4.4.1 Be considered for candidature for the Party;
 - 4.4.2 Vote on relevant Party matters as determined by a State or National Executive.
 - 4.4.3 Members may only be eligible to vote on such matters after being a member for more than three months
- 4.5** Members may resign by submitting notice to the Party.



- 4.5.1 The notice must provide a reason for the resignation.
 - 4.5.2 The notice may be communicated over the phone, in person, in writing or electronically.
 - 4.5.3 If notice is not communicated in person, it must be communicated via the address the Party holds on its relevant membership database for that respective communication medium.
- 4.6** The relevant membership database shall be prescribed by the National Organisation.
- 4.6.1 The Party shall not maintain a database of members other than the system prescribed by the National Organisation.
- 4.7** Membership is still valid until thirty days after the expiry date if no renewal is received before then.
- 4.7.1 If no payment is received before thirty days after the expiry date the member will be deemed to have lapsed in membership and any renewal beyond this point is to be treated as a new membership application.
 - 4.7.2 The expiry date shall be 12 months from the date of processing.
 - 4.7.3 The expiry date will be recorded in the relevant membership database.
- 4.8** As a state subsidiary Organisation of the National Organisation, any member of the Party is a member of the National Organisation. While used by the Party from time to time, the member's information shall be owned by and subject to the control of the National Organisation.
- 4.9** The President of the National Executive may, in exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the National Executive, approve the membership of any person who may otherwise be prohibited from membership.

5.0 SELECTION OF CANDIDATES

- 5.1 The National Executive shall, by majority vote, endorse



candidates to promote for election to the House of Representatives or Senate.

- 5.2** The State Executive must ensure that best practises in relation to vetting of Candidates is conducted as per instruction from the National Executive which may vary and change from time to time as deemed necessary in the best interests of the Party.
- 5.3** Any preselection of ballots for the selection of candidates must satisfy the general principles of free and democratic elections.

6.0 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- 6.1** Any proposals to change this constitution must be approved by the National Executive and submitted to the National Executive for approval.
 - 6.1.1 The National Executive shall have an absolute veto power over any proposed changes to this constitution.
- 6.2** Any proposals for this constitution to be repealed, added or amended may only be approved by either:
 - 6.2.1 a vote at a State Member Conference by a seventy-five percent in favour vote of current Members in attendance at the conference; or
 - 6.2.2 by a vote in a postal ballot in excess of 50% with at least 50% of all current members returning a vote.
- 6.3** This Constitution has been ratified for presentation as a new Constitution for Abolish Psychiatry Party at the 2019 Annual General Meeting on 24 August 2019.
 - 6.3.1 This Constitution will come into effect immediately upon a majority vote by members at the 2019 Annual General Meeting.



7.0 STATE MEMBER CONFERENCES

- 7.1 A State Member Conference may be called at any time by resolution of the State Executive.
- 7.2 The State Member Conference must be held at least once every three years.

8.0 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 8.1 Any disputes in relation to the affairs of the Party will, upon referral by the State Executive, be mediated, conciliated, arbitrated or otherwise heard and determined by the Dispute Committee in the manner it considers appropriate in the relevant circumstances.
- 8.2 The Dispute Committee will be comprised of three (3) members who will be appointed and removed from time-to-time by the National Executive at its absolute discretion. To avoid any doubt, a member of the National Executive can also be appointed to the Dispute Committee.

