



CANTERBURY LEAGUE CLUB LIMITED

2026 ELECTION BY-LAWS

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CANTERBURY LEAGUE CLUB LIMITED

2026 ELECTION BY-LAWS

APPLICATION

1. These By-Laws:
 - (i) apply to the 2026 Election of Directors of Canterbury League Club (the Club); and
 - (ii) are prescribed by the Board pursuant to the powers conferred by Rules 56(a) and 59 of the Constitution; and
 - (iii) may be amended or waived in whole or in part by a resolution of the Board.
2. The Constitution shall prevail in any conflict between these By-Laws and the Constitution of the Club.
3. A breach of these By-Laws shall not affect the validity of the result of the ballot for the election of Directors unless there is also a breach of the Constitution, the Corporations Act or the Registered Clubs Act.
4. Any breach of these rules will be the subject of a disciplinary complaint.

INTERPRETATION

5. In the interpretation of these By-Laws, unless inconsistent with the context:
 - a) "Election of the Directors of the Club" means the election of the directors of the Club which will be held in conjunction with the 2026 Biennial General Meeting of the Club;
 - b) "Biennial General Meeting" means the Biennial General Meeting of the Club which will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 25 March 2026;
 - c) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Club;
 - d) "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Biennial General Meeting and includes President;
 - e) "Chief Executive Officer" includes Secretary;
 - f) "Club" means Canterbury League Club Limited;
 - g) "Club premises" means the licensed premises of the Club at Belmore, Lakemba and Punchbowl;
 - h) "Constitution" means the constitution of the Club as amended;
 - i) "Corporations Act" means Corporations Act 2001 as amended;
 - j) "Endorsed Football Club Candidate" means a candidate for election as a director of the Club who:
 - (i) has been nominated for election as a director; and
 - (ii) has been endorsed for office pursuant to a resolution of the Board of the Football Club; and
 - (iii) the Secretary of the Football Club has delivered to the Secretary of the Club by the close of nominations a letter stating that the person has been so endorsed by the Board of the Football Club.
 - k) "Full Members", "Junior Members", "Life Members", "Provisional Members", "Honorary Members" and "Temporary Members" have the meaning prescribed to such words by the Constitution;
 - l) "First Past the Post" means A voting system where the candidate with the most votes is elected – whether or not that candidate has attained an absolute majority i.e. 50% of the formal votes plus one. The system may be applied to elect one or more positions;
 - m) "Football Club" means Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs Rugby League Club Limited;
 - n) "President" means the President of the Club or his delegate representative;
 - o) "Registered Clubs Act" means the Registered Clubs Act 1976 as amended;
 - p) "Returning Officer" is the person appointed by Board to conduct the election of directors and includes the Assistant Returning Officer;
 - q) "Rule" means a Rule of the Constitution;
 - r) Words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender and vice versa.

6. Any question relating to the interpretation of any of these By-Laws shall be referred to the Returning Officer who has authority delegated by the Board to decide the question and whose decision shall be final.

NOMINATIONS

7. It will be the candidate's responsibility to lodge a correctly completed nomination form with the Returning Officer.
- a) Incorrect/Incomplete forms that are not corrected by the close of nominations will be declared invalid;
 - b) The Returning Officer will notify the candidate that their nomination has been accepted.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

8. The Secretary shall provide a copy of these by laws with each nomination form.

CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS

9. Nominations for the 2026 election will close at 7:00pm on 11 March 2026.
Following the close of nominations;

The Returning Officer shall:

- a) declare which candidates have been nominated in accordance with the Constitution; and
- b) declare which Endorsed Football Club Candidates have been nominated in accordance with the Constitution; and
- c) determine by lot the order in which the names of the candidates shall appear on the ballot paper.

The Secretary shall place a list of the names of the candidates and their proposers on the Club notice board.

ENTITLEMENT TO VOTE

10. Members entitled to vote:
- a) Life Members;
 - b) Full Members with 3 consecutive years of membership.
11. Members not entitled to vote:
- a) Junior Members;
 - b) Provisional Members;
 - c) Honorary Members;
 - d) Temporary Members;
 - e) Employees;
 - f) Suspended or expelled members; and
 - g) Unfinancial members.

VOTING METHOD & BALLOT PAPERS

12. If there are more than the required number of candidates an election by secret ballot shall take place.
13. The ballot shall be counted on a first-past-the-post-system.
14. The ballot papers shall indicate which candidates are:
- a) Current Directors of the Club;
 - b) Life Members of the Club;
 - c) Life Members of the Football Club; and
 - d) Endorsed Football Club Candidates.

15. All ballot papers shall be produced using uniquely identifiable paper stock.
16. Members shall record their votes by marking the boxes of not more nor less than 7 of the candidates.
17. Members shall place their ballot papers in the ballot box provided at the Club.

CONDUCT OF BALLOT

18. The Board shall appoint a Returning Officer to take charge of the ballot for the election of the directors. The Returning Officer may appoint an Assistant Returning Officer to assist with the ballot.
19. A candidate or a proposer or seconder of a candidate shall not be appointed as the Returning Officer or Assistant Returning Officer.
20. The Returning Officer will supervise:
 - a) the acceptance of nominations;
 - b) the preparation of the ballot papers;
 - c) the issue of the ballot papers;
 - d) the safe custody of all ballot papers; Ballot papers must at all times be kept in safe custody at the Club.
 - e) the examination of the ballot papers;
 - f) the counting of votes.
21. The ballot shall be conducted at the following times:
 - a) Friday 20 March 2026 between 11 am to 8 pm; and
 - b) Saturday 21 March 2026 between 11 am to 8 pm.
22. Prior to the commencement of the ballot the Secretary shall deliver to the Returning Officer:
 - a) a list of members who are entitled to vote;
 - b) a list of members who are not entitled to vote because they are:
 - (i) employees of the Club;
 - (ii) persons who have been expelled from the Club during the year preceding the date of the commencement of the ballot; and
 - (iii) members who are or will be under suspension during the period that the ballot for the election of directors is to be conducted.

The Secretary shall keep such lists up-to-date until the ballot for the election of directors has been completed.

23. The decision of the Returning Officer as to the formality or informality of any vote shall be final.
24. The Returning Officer shall report the result of the ballot to the General Meeting of Members.

VOTING AREA

25. The ballot shall be conducted in such areas of the Club premises designated by the Returning Officer ("Voting Area").
26. The Voting Area will be clearly marked by the Returning Officer.
27. During the conduct of the ballot, no candidate, scrutineer, or member shall be permitted to:
 - a) enter the Voting Area (except for the purpose of completing his own ballot paper); or

- b) sit, stand, or loiter in or near the Voting Area or any of the circulation areas of the Club such as the foyer;
or
- c) remove personal details statements and how to vote tickets from the Voting Area.

28. The Returning Officer will engage security to enforce these By-Laws, including removal of loiterers from the premises.

29. The returning officer will report any breach of this by-law to the Secretary, or his delegate representative.

COUNTING OF VOTES & TALLY ROOM

30. The counting of votes shall take place at the Club premises at Belmore as determined by the Returning Officer and commence following the close of the ballot.

DETERMINATION OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

31. Upon completion of the ballot for the election of the directors, the Returning Officer shall prepare a list in numerical order of the result of the ballot, with the candidate at the top of the list who has received the most votes and shall draw a line underneath the seventh candidate on the list. If there are four Endorsed Football Club Candidates amongst the seven candidates above the line, then those candidates will be declared elected. If there are not four Endorsed Football Club Candidates amongst the seven candidates above the line, the candidate with the lowest number of votes above the line who is not an Endorsed Football Club Candidate shall be moved to the eighth position below the line and the Endorsed Football Club Candidate with the highest number of votes below the line shall be moved to the seventh position above the line. If there is still not four Endorsed Football Club Candidates amongst the seven candidates above the line, this procedure shall be repeated until there are four Endorsed Football Club Candidates amongst the seven candidates above the line.

32. In the event of an equality of votes between two or more candidates, the Returning Officer shall determine who is the successful candidate or candidates by drawing their names out of a hat.

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF BALLOT

33. The Returning Officer shall report the result of the ballot, including those elected to the Board to the Biennial General Meeting.

SCRUTINEERS

34. Each candidate shall have the right to appoint one scrutineer for the counting of the ballot.

35. Scrutineers shall be entitled:

- a) to be present and scrutinise the counting of the ballot;
- b) to inspect the ballot papers which are declared invalid by the Returning Officer during the course of the counting of the votes; and
- c) to ask questions and to make submissions to the Returning Officer relating to the validity or invalidity of any ballot paper.

36. Scrutineers are not entitled to touch any ballot papers without the prior express approval of the Returning Officer.

37. Scrutineers will not convey any results or images whilst the count is in progress. Scrutineers are prohibited from photographing or videoing ballot papers.

DISPUTED VOTES

38. If a person maintains that he is entitled to vote in the ballot for the election of directors but in the opinion of the Returning Officer such person is not entitled to do so on the basis of the information before him, the Returning Officer shall at the request of such person or of his own volition, issue such person with a ballot paper on the following basis:

- a) the ballot paper shall upon completion be placed in a sealed envelope before placing it in the ballot box;
- b) the following information is written on the front of the sealed envelope:
 - (i) the name of such person;
 - (ii) the date of birth of such person;
 - (iii) the signature of such person;
 - (iv) the name of any member identifying such person;
 - (v) the signature of Returning Officer; the reason given as to why such person claims to be entitled to vote; and
- c) the ballot paper shall not be taken into consideration by the Returning Officer unless the Returning Officer subsequently makes a ruling:
 - (i) that the ballot paper could have an effect upon the outcome of the ballot for the election of the directors; and
 - (ii) that on the basis of the evidence supplied to him, he is of the opinion that the member concerned was entitled at the relevant time to vote in the ballot for the election of directors.

RULINGS AND POLICY

- 39. Subject to By-Law 41, a ballot paper shall not be accepted as a valid vote by the Returning Officer unless the member marks his ballot paper by numbering 1 to 7 in the boxes opposite the names of 7 candidates.
- 40. The Returning Officer shall accept a ballot paper as being valid if the member has marked his ballot paper with additional markings on the ballot paper provided in the opinion of the Returning Officer there is absolutely no doubt about which 7 candidates that the member intended to have elected as the directors of the Club. For example, the Returning Officer shall not be prevented from accepting a ballot paper as a valid vote where the member has placed the numbers 1 to 7 against the names of 7 candidates and has also:
 - a) placed any numbers other than the numbers 1 to 7 against the whole or some of the names of the remaining candidates; or
 - b) placed a tick against the name of one or more of the candidates against whose names he has placed the numbers 1 to 7; or
 - c) crossed out the name of any one or more candidates apart from the names of the candidates against which he has placed the numbers 1 to 7; or
 - d) reinstated the name of a candidate which he had originally crossed out.

WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATION

- 41. A nomination may be withdrawn provided notice of the withdrawal is given to the Returning Officer at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to commencement of the ballot.
- 42. The Returning Officer shall delete the name of a withdrawn candidate from all ballot papers.
- 43. The Returning Officer shall promptly notify all candidates by email or telephone of the name of any candidate who has withdrawn from the election.
- 44. Any nomination shall not be affected in any way by the subsequent withdrawal of support for such nomination by one or both of the members who nominated such candidate.

DESTRUCTION OF BALLOT PAPERS

- 45. Unless otherwise resolved at the Biennial General Meeting of the Club, the ballot papers for the election of directors shall be destroyed at the expiration of 2 months following the day of the Annual General Meeting.

ELECTION MATERIAL

46. No member shall advertise, circulate or distribute or cause to be advertised, circulated or distributed any "How-to-Vote" or other election material, whether printed or online or in any electronic or other format upon Club premises or in the vicinity of the Club premises except pursuant to the provisions of these By-Laws. Restrictions apply to online and social media electioneering to prevent members being bombarded at home.
47. A table will be provided in the Voting Area on which authorized How-to-Vote material shall be placed. This will be the only authorized area for members to access How-to-Vote material.
48. No person shall wear any clothing or carry any object in the Club premises or in the vicinity of the Club premises that refers to the name of any candidates for election as a director of the Club.
49. Each candidate shall be entitled, subject to By-Law 50, to have the personal details of the applicant complying with this By-Law ("Personal Details Statement") placed on a notice board in the Voting Area.
- a) The Personal Details Statement shall include:
- (i) the date upon which the candidate joined the Club, if he joined the Club within the previous five (5) years; and
 - (ii) the current employment or business position of the candidate or that the candidate is currently unemployed or that the candidate has retired from a particular occupation or position; and
 - (iii) a current photograph of the candidate.
- b) The Personal Details Statement may include the following details of the candidate:
- (i) age and marital status; and
 - (ii) education and qualifications; and
 - (iii) Club association and involvement including positions held at any time in the Club, the Football Club and Clubs within or associated with the Club
- c) The Personal Details Statement:
- (i) shall not exceed an area (including the photograph of the candidate) in excess of the dimensions of one A4 sheet;
 - (ii) shall not be or include a How-to-Vote ticket;
 - (iii) shall not contain any policy proposals;
 - (iv) shall be signed at the foot by the candidate; and
 - (v) shall be placed upon the notice board in the Voting Area authorised by the Returning Officer provided it complies with the provisions of these By-Laws.
50. How to Vote material will only be authorised for:
- a) a candidate;
 - b) a group of 2 or more candidates;
 - c) the current Board of Directors of the Club;
 - d) the Board of the Football Club.
51. How-to-Vote Ticket must comply with the following requirements:
- a) shall be on a single-sided one-page document of A5 size or less;
 - b) the name of the candidate or candidates who authorised the issue of the How to Vote Ticket shall be clearly stated;
 - c) the names of all candidates who are standing for election are set out in the correct order in which they are to appear on the ballot paper;

- d) the manner in which members are required to record their votes on the ballot paper is clearly and correctly stated; and
 - e) it is clearly indicated which candidates are:
 - (i) Current directors of the Club;
 - (ii) Life Members of the Club;
 - (iii) Life Members of the Football Club; and
 - (iv) Endorsed Football Club Candidates.
52. The How-to-Vote ticket may contain:
- a) any of the details which can be included in the Personal Detail Statements of candidates; and
 - b) policy statements.
53. A How-to-Vote ticket must not state that it is the How-to-Vote ticket of a group of candidates or words to a similar effect unless the How-to-Vote ticket lists at the bottom of the ticket the names of all candidates authorising the issue of the How-to-Vote ticket.
54. A How-to-Vote ticket must not state or otherwise imply that it is the How-to-Vote ticket of the current Board of Directors of the Club or words to that effect unless each of the directors holding office immediately before the commencement of the ballot authorise the ticket.
55. A How-to-Vote ticket must not state or otherwise imply that it is the How-to-Vote ticket of the Board of the Football Club or words to similar effect unless the How-to-Vote ticket states at the bottom that it has been authorised by the candidates who have been endorsed by the football Club.
56. No candidate shall authorise the issue of more than one How-to-Vote ticket. As such:
- a) A candidate who authorises the issue of a How-to-Vote ticket solely in his name shall not also authorise the issue of a How-to-Vote ticket on behalf of a group of candidates;
 - b) A candidate who authorises the issue of a How-to-Vote ticket on behalf of a group of candidates shall not also authorise the issue of a How-to-Vote ticket solely in his name;
 - c) If a How-to-Vote ticket is issued on behalf of the current Board of Directors of the Club (By-Law 46), none of the current directors of the Club who are standing for re-election can also authorise the issue of a How-to-Vote ticket on behalf of a group of candidates or a How-to-Vote ticket solely in his name.
57. A copy of each Personal Details Statement and each How-to-Vote ticket shall be delivered to the Returning Officer by 10 am on Monday 16 March 2026 so the Returning Officer can determine whether the Personal Details Statements and How-to-Vote tickets comply with the provisions of these By-Laws. The Returning Officer shall advise any candidate by telephone or email by 10am Tuesday March if a proposed Personal Details Statement or How-to-Vote ticket does not comply with these By-Laws.
58. The Returning Officer shall be entitled:
- a) to require a candidate to produce evidence to support any claim made in a Personal Details Statement or How-to-Vote ticket, and
 - b) to require the addition or removal of any statement in a Personal Details Statement or How-to-Vote ticket that the club reasonably considers to be untrue, defamatory, misleading, or lacking substantiation.
59. Each candidate shall deliver to the Chief Executive Officer by 10 am on Wednesday 18 March 2026:
- a) 3 copies of the Signed Personal Details Statement; and
 - b) Not more than 500 A5 size copies of each How-to-Vote ticket.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS

- 60. Each candidate may exercise their right under section 173 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) to request a copy of the Club’s membership register from the Club.
 - a) The Club’s membership register will contain only the information required under section 169 of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), section 31(1)(a) of the Registered Clubs Act 1976 (NSW) and Rule 35 of the Club’s Constitution, being the following information about each member:
 - (i) the member's name, address and occupation;
 - (ii) the date on which the entry of the member's name in the register is made; and
 - (iii) the date on which that member last paid the annual fee for membership of the Club.
 - b) Each candidate must comply with all applicable laws, including section 177 of the Corporations Act, when using any information contained in the Club’s membership register.
 - c) The Club’s membership register will not contain, and the Club will not provide, the email address of any member.

DISTRIBUTION

- 61. A copy of this By-Law is to be posted on the notice board at the premises where voting is conducted, for one week prior to the commencement of the ballot, and is to remain in place for the duration of the ballot.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Returning Officer:



Australian Election Company
Freecall: 1800 224 420
Email: bfarr@austelect.com

Gregory Pickering
Chief Executive Officer
Date 2 February 2026

Date affixed to notice board:.....

By:.....