

NZVA Constitution Changes June 2021

Rationale

Clause 5.6.2, 8.1, 20, Appendix 2 (10.4.4).

All instances of his/her and he/she have been changed to their/they are.

Composition of Board - Clause 7.1.3

The Board wish to amend this clause so **Appointed Board Members** do not have their term finishing at the same time as the **Elected Board Members**. This will reduce the risk of institutional knowledge loss by a maximum of up to three new Board members at any one time. **Appointed Board Members** will have their own anniversary date where their appointment will be reviewed.

Vacancies on the Board – Clause 10

As per clause 7.1.3 this will reduce the risk of having too many new Board members at one time.

Member Advisory Group – Clause 21

Clause 21.2

The MAG Board Member is appointed by the MAG not elected. This change is to avoid any confusion differentiating the MAG Board Member and Elected Board Members.

Clause 21.3.1, 21.3.2, 21.5

The Member Advisory Group (MAG) was established in November 2019 following a change in constitution change in August 2019. The primary function of the MAG is to represent members interests to the NZVA Board.

The Board and MAG have reviewed the functionality of the committee since its conception. Whilst feedback from members has been sought from the three MAG regional representatives, the response rate has been extremely low.

The Board and MAG have discussed how to gain more feedback from members. They have agreed that as most issues are species or industry related, that the SiB representation on the MAG should be increased to ensure effective feedback channels. This would necessitate removing the MAG regional representatives.

The proposed changes will see confirmed representation on the MAG from; EFAB (currently the third largest SiB), Industry Branch and the Veterinary Business Branch. Two of the remaining SiBs; Camelid, Club Practitioners, Complimentary Medicine, Pig and Wildlife, will also be represented.

Regional Networks will still continue to act as networking groups with the aim to support collegiality and keep the regions vibrant. These networks will receive administrative support through the NZVA national office as required.

It is reiterated that any NZVA member is still able to provide feedback on Association business via the MAG or Board Chair.

Clause 21.4

Change the wording from elected to appointed to avoid any confusion.

Clause 21.6

In the current constitution it is not clear when the MAG member terms begin. The proposed addition will confirm when each term begins and ends.

Clause 21.7

The Board needs to approve the MAG appointments, this should be done at the first Board meeting after the NZVA Annual General Meeting.

Appendix One – Standard rules for operation of a Regional Network

Clause 2.4, 4.7, 4.8

If the proposed changes to the MAG are adopted, these clauses will need to be removed.