

Membership

A membership model that reflects today's Emerald Lakers

Membership is one of the most significant areas updated in the proposed Constitution.

The existing Constitution was written at a time when community sport operated very differently. Today, Emerald Lakers has players, parents, coaches, volunteers, committee members and community supporters who all contribute to the success of the Club in different ways.

The proposed membership model recognises these different forms of participation while providing clearer eligibility for membership and voting.

Key membership changes

Rule 10 – Membership categories

The proposed Constitution introduces three membership categories.

Registered Members. Players aged 18 and over, junior players under 18, and the parent or legal guardian authorised to exercise a junior player's vote.

Associate Members. Adults who contribute to the Club through a role or support rather than as a registered player. This includes coaches, team managers and Committee members, as well as approved supporters such as sponsors, long-term contributors and family members who assist the Club. Associate membership either follows from a coaching, team manager or Committee position, or is applied for and approved by the Committee.

Life Members. Members recognised for outstanding service to Emerald Lakers.

Rules 11 to 14 – Becoming a member

The Constitution provides a clearer process for becoming a member.

Registered membership follows automatically from seasonal registration, while Associate Member applications are considered and approved by the Committee. This gives the Club a consistent process and keeps membership records accurate.

Rules 15 to 19 – Membership period

The proposed Constitution clearly defines:

- when membership begins
- how long membership continues
- when membership ends

- how seasonal registrations affect membership.

This reflects the Club's existing registration processes and removes uncertainty about membership status between seasons.