



**Tall Ships Australia and New Zealand**

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Patron

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## **Proposal to Amend the Constitution – 2020**

Notice is hereby given of a proposal to amend the Tall Ships Australia and New Zealand Constitution via a Special Resolution. The proposed amendment is to section 14(5) of the Constitution, related to composition and membership of the committee. The proposed amendment is:

**14(5) There is no maximum number of consecutive terms for which a committee member may hold office.**

The wording of this amendment is taken from the Model Constitution made available by NSW Fair Trading for use by associations. The Tall Ships Australia and New Zealand Constitution is based on this Model Constitution, however currently states that the maximum number of consecutive terms for which a committee member may hold office is five – a limit which was added to the Constitution in 2017.

The Committee respects the intent of the membership in limiting the number of consecutive terms for which a committee member may hold office. However, taking into consideration the following points, recommends that a clause limiting terms is not appropriate for the tall ships industry in Australia and New Zealand:

- In a small industry, with a small pool of Operators and individual members from which to draw nominations, there is limited capacity for Committee renewal;
- For each of the Committee elections held during the subsequent three Annual General Meetings, only one more nomination was received than Committee positions available, and no office bearer positions were contested;
- There is a risk of significant loss of corporate knowledge and oversight of the assets of the organisation should the majority of the Committee be required to stand down simultaneously in the coming years.

*Supporting personal development through tall ship experiences.*

Tall Ships Australia and New Zealand continues to play a valuable role in the industry. The current Committee does not wish to defer matters related to succession planning indefinitely, and strongly encourages members and Operator representatives to nominate for the Committee to diversify the perspectives brought to Committee deliberations, enable succession planning, and secure organisational continuity.

Current Committee members have also undertaken to mentor and develop new Committee members, with the intent that those individuals nominate for election as office bearers in the medium to long term.

In order to pass, **at least three-quarters of the votes cast must be in favour of the amendment.** To provide all members the opportunity to vote, the proposal will be put to the membership via an electronic ballot. An email containing a link to the ballot will be forwarded during the week prior to the Annual General Meeting. The ballot will close on 4 September 2020.

**The Secretary**

Tall Ships Australia and New Zealand

10 August 2020