

# Yarra Park Association

## Governing Principles

### Preamble

Yarra Park was set aside by the founders of Melbourne as a place of open parkland for the recreation of the people of Victoria.

The significance of this land to the Aboriginal Australians of this area is also respectfully acknowledged.

The Yarra Park Association affirms that the maintenance and development of Yarra Park as free and open parkland is vital to twenty-first century Melbourne and must be promoted and guarded for future generations of Victorians.

### 1 Objects of the Yarra Park Association

The Yarra Park Association (YPA) is a non-profit community service association established to promote the maintenance and development of Yarra Park as a community resource for recreation for the benefit of the people of Victoria and a resource to improve the recreational and environmental well-being of the inner Melbourne area.

More particularly, the YPA aims to promote the environmental and horticultural health of Yarra Park and to discourage any actions that degrade or have the potential to degrade the environmental and horticultural health of Yarra Park or reduce its effectiveness or amenity as a community resource for recreation.

### 2 YPA is a Non-Profit Association

The assets and income of the YPA shall be applied solely in furtherance of its objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the YPA except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the YPA.

### 3 Open Membership

Membership of the YPA is open to any person who enrolls by providing a valid email address through the YPA website, or in writing addressed to:

The Secretary, Yarra Park Association, Level 6, 165 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000.

#### 4 General Meetings of YPA Members

General meetings of members shall be convened as required by the office bearers. One week's notice of a general meeting of members will be provided where practicable. When requested by three or more members the office bearers must convene a general meeting of members. General meetings of members should be chaired by the President.

Once each calendar year an annual general meeting of members shall elect or re-elect office bearers, and may appoint members of a management committee, all of whom hold office until the conclusion of the next annual general meeting.

Each annual general meeting of members must appoint an auditor or audit committee.

A general meeting may set a membership fee for members of the YPA.

Each member of the Association shall have one vote at a general meeting of members and all matters shall be decided by a simple majority of votes of members present. The President shall have a second or casting vote should there be an equal number of votes on any matter to be decided by a general meeting of members.

#### 5 YPA Office Bearers

The office bearers of the YPA shall be a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All office bearers shall act in an honorary capacity.

#### 6 Management Committee

The YPA may elect a management committee to manage the day-to-day activities of the YPA. A management committee will have only the powers delegated to it by a general meeting of members.

The office bearers must be ex officio members of the management committee and the President should chair management committee meetings. Management committee members shall act in an honorary capacity.

## 7 Financial Management

The Treasurer shall manage the finances of the YPA and keep accurate financial records. The Treasurer will report regularly on the financial management of the YPA.

## 8 Communications

The business of the YPA shall be conducted electronically as far as is practicable. An important means of communication for the YPA is its website <<http://www.yarrapark.org/>> which the office bearers will endeavour to maintain in an up-to-date condition.

## 9 Liaison with Organisations and Individuals

The YPA must liaise with organisations and individuals as it sees fit to further its objects. "Organisations" include, but are not limited to, commonwealth, state and local governments, other community-based organisations and commercial organisations.

## 10 Procedure

Subject to these governing principles, the YPA should manage its own procedures on the basis of usual practice and common sense.

## 11 Dissolution

In the event of the YPA being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.

## 12 Adoption of Governing Principles

These governing principles were adopted at a general meeting of the members of the Yarra Park Association held on 4 May 2009 at 12 Powlett Street, East Melbourne. These governing principles may be amended by a general meeting of members on at least one week's notice.