

TE TĒNEHI MĀORI KI AOTEAROA MANATŌPŪ

CONSTITUTION

AOTEAROA MĀORI TENNIS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**AOTEAROA MĀORI TENNIS
ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED /**

***TE TĒNEHI MĀORI KI
AOTEAROA MANATŌPŪ***

Incorporated Society No.

Constitution

Adopted at a **Special** General
Meeting held on **[date]**

Commencement Date: **XXX**

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AOTEAROA MĀORI TENNIS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

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CONSTITUTION

1. Association Details

- 1.1 **Name:** The name of the society is Aotearoa Māori Tennis Association Incorporated/*Te Tēnehi Māori ki Aotearoa Manatōpū* hereinafter referred to as “the Association” or “AMTA”.
- 1.2 **Contact Person:** At its first meeting following each Annual General Meeting (**AGM**), the Committee shall appoint or reappoint at least one (1), and a maximum of three (3), people to be the Association’s contact person(s), under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 (the Act).

2. Purpose, Capacity and Powers

- 2.1 **Purpose:** The purposes of the Association are to administer, promote, develop, protect and deliver the sport of Tennis mainly as an amateur sport for the recreation and entertainment to Māori throughout Aotearoa by:
- a. encouraging and promoting Māori participation and tikanga in Tennis throughout Aotearoa and to provide a supporting role to other Tennis Organisations whose primary purpose is the same.
 - b. The Association will have an enduring rangapū/relationship with, and remain a member of Tennis NZ, unless it’s membership is terminated in accordance with the Constitution for Tennis NZ. The Association's special status requires Tennis NZ to have a written agreement with the Association describing their enduring rangapū/relationship and commitments.
 - c. delivering Services and Programmes, competitions, tournaments and other Tennis events to Māori where applicable;
 - d. leading, promoting and enabling an inclusive environment for participation in all aspects of the Association in accordance with Rule 2.1(a);
 - e. protecting and promoting the safety and wellbeing of participants; promoting integrity including high standards of conduct; and respecting the principles of fair play.
- 2.2 **Capacity and Powers:** The Association has full capacity, rights, powers and privileges to carry out or undertake any activity, to do any act or enter into any transaction, subject to this Constitution, the Act, any other legislation and the general law.

3. Members

- 3.1 **Categories of Members:** The Members of the Association shall comprise of the following categories:

Voting members:

- a. The following members can vote at any General Meeting for the Association:

- i. Those persons who whakapapa Māori (are of Māori descent) aged 18 years and over and have entered into the annual Association tournament or any other Association event and have consented to be members on entry
- ii. Those persons who whakapapa Māori (are of Māori descent) aged 16 years and over and have entered into the annual Association tournament or any other Association event whose parent, guardian or lawful caregiver (who is over the age of 18 years) has consented to the young person to be a member of the Association; and
- iii. Those persons who whakapapa Māori (are of Māori descent) and have applied to be a supporting member of the Association and is aged 18 years or older.
- iv. Any Life member of the Association.
- v. Those persons who whakapapa Māori (are of Māori descent) and are members of the Association committee.

Non-Voting Members.

b. The following members cannot vote at a General Meeting for the Association:

- i. Those persons who do not whakapapa Māori (not of Māori descent) but qualify to enter the Annual tournament by special conditions as set down by the tournament rules and have duly consented to be members of the Association; and
- ii. The Patron or Patroness for the Association; and
- iii. A young person or child aged under 16 years and whakapapa Māori (is of Māori descent) and have entered into the Association's annual tournament or other Association event and whose parent, guardian or lawful caregiver (being a person who is over the age of 18 years) has consented to the young person or child to be a member of the Association.

3.3 **Process for Application:** An application to become a Member (or renew Membership) of the Association shall be made using an approved Member Management System.

3.4 **Consent:** By making an application for Membership an individual consents to becoming a Member of the Association and Tennis NZ. In regard to an individual under the age of 18 years, a parent, guardian or lawful caregiver (being a person over the age of 18 years) consents to that individual to be a member of the Association and Tennis NZ by making an application for Membership on that individual's behalf.

3.5 **Admission as a Member:** An individual who has applied for Membership will be admitted to Membership of the Association and Tennis NZ as follows:

- a. upon completing, and signing or submitting an application using the Member Management System;
- b. if the individual is under 18 years of age on the date of application, a parent or guardian or lawful caregiver (being a person aged 18 years or older) of that individual:
 - i. completing and signing or submitting the application using the Member Management System for that individual to be a Member; ; and
 - ii. completing and signing or submitting the application to be a member of the Association on behalf of that individual;
- c. upon the individual receiving confirmation of their application from the Member Management System or approval of the application by the Committee; and

d. payment of the applicable Membership Fee(s).

3.6 **Duration of Membership:** Membership of the Association commences upon admission as a Member under Rule 3.5 and continues for the period specified in the category of membership (Rule 3) in which they are admitted as a Member (unless they cease to be a Member under Rule 3.11).

3.7 **Renewal of Membership:** Except for Patronage or Life Members, to continue as a Member, each Member shall renew their Membership in the same manner as an application for Membership under Rules 3.3 and 3.5, by the date specified by the Committee.

3.8 **Members' Rights and Obligations:** Each Member acknowledges and agrees that:

- a. they are entitled to have access to any Tennis courts and associated facilities to play, coach, train, be coached, officiate, administer, or otherwise be involved in, Services and Programmes held at, or by, or otherwise under the control of, the Association, in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions of their Membership;
- b. they are entitled to all the rights and entitlements granted by this Constitution and any Association Regulations and the constitutions and regulations of any other Applicable Member Organisation and any other rights and benefits decided by the Committee and the Boards of those Applicable Member Organisations from time to time;
- c. they are bound by, and shall comply with this Constitution, any Association Regulations; the constitutions and regulations of any Applicable Member Organisation, and all Rules made by the Committee and the Boards of those Applicable Member Organisations;
- d. they are bound by and shall comply with the terms and conditions of Membership; the terms and conditions of participation in any Services and Programmes delivered by the Association and the Rules of Tennis;
- e. they shall use reasonable efforts to assist any individual they wish to play, coach, or train with or otherwise have access to the Association to become a Member where practicable;
- f. they are subject to the jurisdiction of the Association and any other Applicable Member Organisations including their respective disputes and disciplinary procedures; and
- g. they do not have any rights of ownership of, or the right to use, the property of the Association or any other Applicable Member Organisation.

3.9 **Membership and Other Fees:**

At each AGM the Voting Members shall approve the Membership Fee payable by Members and the payment terms for the next Financial Year. In doing so, they will have regard to any recommendation of the Committee. The Committee may set other fees payable to the Association by any of its Members and other participants in Services and Programmes held by or under control of the Association.

3.10 **Register of Members:** The Association's register of Members shall be digitally connected to the National Database. The Association Administrator shall ensure that the required information of all Members is provided to the National Database in accordance with the TNZ Constitution and TNZ Regulations. All Members shall promptly update any changes to their Membership details using the Member Management System or by notifying the Association Administrator in writing.

3.11 Cessation of Membership: A Member ceases to be a Member:

- a. if any Membership Fee or other fees are not paid to the Association by the due date or in accordance with any payment plan which is agreed between a Member and the Committee;
- b. by giving notice of their resignation from Membership to the Association Administrator in writing;
- c. if their Membership is terminated under Rule 16;
- d. if their Membership is terminated following a dispute resolution or disciplinary process or other process specified in the constitutions or regulations of the Association or the Applicable Member Organisations;
- e. for Individual Casual Members, 12 months after their last casual booking;
- f. upon their death; or
- g. if, for any other reason, their Membership ends or ceases in accordance with this Constitution.

4. Officers

4.1 Qualification: Every Committee Member must, in writing:

- a. consent to be a Committee Member; and
- b. certify that they are not disqualified from being elected or holding office as a Committee Member by this Constitution or under section 47 of the Act.

4.2 Officer's Duties: Officers shall comply with their duties under the Act.

4.3 Disqualification: The following individuals are disqualified from being elected or to otherwise hold or remain in office, as a Committee Member:

- a. the qualification requirements of being an Officer under Rule 4.1 are not met;
- b. an individual who is a paid employee of, or a contractor in an equivalent position to, the Association; or
- c. an individual who has been removed as a Committee Member in accordance with this Constitution.

If any of the circumstances in Rule 4.3 occur to a Committee Member while they are in office, they will be automatically deemed to have vacated their office as a Committee Member upon the occurrence of the circumstance.

4.4 Cessation from Office: An individual ceases to be an Officer, if the individual:

- a. resigns as an Officer in accordance with the Act;
- b. becomes disqualified from being an Officer under the Act;
- c. is a Committee Member and is removed from office in accordance with Rule 17.2;
- d. ceases to be a Member;

- e. dies; or
- f. otherwise vacates their office.

5. Committee Role and Powers

- 5.1 **Role and powers:** Except as specified otherwise in the Act or in this Constitution, the Committee is responsible for governing, managing and directing the operation and affairs of the Association and has all the powers necessary to carry out its role, including the establishment of sub-committees. Except to the extent specified otherwise in the Act or this Constitution, the Committee has the powers to do all things that are not expressly required to be undertaken at a General Meeting under this Constitution.
- 5.2 **Composition:** The Committee consists of the President, the Association Administrator, the Treasurer, the Cultural Adviser and up to eight (8) other individuals elected at the AGM (**Committee Members**).
- 5.3 **Role of President:** The President is the chair of the Committee and presides at Association events including General Meetings. The President represents the Association and will engage in activities agreed by the Committee which may include activities to promote the Association, good relations, communications between Members, and the reputation and best interests of the Association.
- 5.4 **Role of Association Administrator:** The Association Administrator will:
 - a. attend to all correspondence and keep minutes of General Meetings and Committee meetings; and
 - b. keep all records and generally perform all the secretarial work of the Association. With the written approval of the Committee these tasks may be varied or delegated but the Association Administrator remains responsible for their performance.
- 5.5 **Role of Treasurer:** The Treasurer will:
 - a. receipt all money paid to or received by the Association and pay all accounts approved by the Committee. The Committee may delegate levels of payment to the Treasurer by written authority;
 - b. invest all funds of the Association in the manner directed by the Committee; and
 - c. keep the Association's financial accounts, present the financial statements at the AGM and undertake other tasks required by the Committee.
- 5.6 **Term of office:** The term of office for all Committee Members will expire at the next AGM.
- 5.7 **Election of Committee Members:** Committee Members are elected by the following process:
 - a. the Committee shall call for nominations for all Committee Member positions not less than thirty (30) Days before the AGM as all positions are to be considered vacated at that AGM;
 - b. nominations shall be made in the form decided by the Committee and shall be received by the date set by the Committee, which shall be not less than fourteen (14) days before the AGM;

- c. the Committee must give notice to all Members of the nominations received at least seven (7) days before the AGM;
- d. if there is only one nominee for a vacant position, that individual is declared to be elected without the need for a vote.
- e. at the AGM, if there are more nominees than number of positions available, the election is by secret ballot, unless otherwise decided by the Chair of the General Meeting and approved by a Special Majority. If a secret ballot is held, two Scrutineers must be appointed at the General Meeting to count the votes;
- f. those nominees who have the highest number of votes in their favour for the number of vacant positions shall be declared elected; and
- g. if votes are tied for a Committee Member position between the highest polling nominees, a second round of voting between those tied nominees shall be undertaken, to find the nominee with the highest number of votes and if votes are tied after that second round of voting, the Chair shall decide which of those tied nominees will be elected.

6. Committee Meetings and Procedures

- 6.1 **Calling and Notice of Meetings:** Committee meetings may be called on reasonable notice at any time by the President or by at least three (3) Committee Members, with notice generally being not less than four (4) days where possible depending on the urgency but generally the Committee should meet at least every two months.
- 6.2 **Procedure:** Except to the extent specified in this Constitution and any Association Regulations, the Committee may regulate its own procedure and assign particular portfolios to a particular committee member.
- 6.3 **Resolutions Outside of Meetings:** A resolution in writing, signed or consented to by email or other form of visible or other electronic communication, by approval of a Majority of the Committee will be valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Committee.
- 6.4 **Quorum:** For a Committee meeting, or a Committee resolution outside of a meeting, the quorum is fifty percent (50%), (rounded up to the nearest whole number) of the total number of Committee Members. Any Committee Member may be counted for the purposes of a quorum and participate in any meeting and vote on any proposed resolution at a Committee meeting without being physically present. This may only occur at Committee meetings held by audio or audio-visual link or other electronic means provided that all individuals participating in the Committee meeting can hear and communicate with each other effectively and simultaneously.
- 6.5 **Chair:** The President will chair all Committee meetings. If the President is unavailable, another Committee Member shall be appointed by the Committee to undertake the Chair's role during the period of unavailability.
- 6.6 **Voting:** Each Committee Member is entitled to one vote at any Committee meeting or on any Committee resolution outside of a meeting. Voting at Committee meetings is by voice, show of hands or, if requested by any Committee Member, secret ballot. Proxy voting is not permitted at Committee meetings. If a vote is tied, the Chair of the meeting is entitled to a casting vote.
- 6.7 **Majority:** Unless specified otherwise in this Constitution, a motion or resolution of the Committee shall be approved if a majority of Committee Members are in favour of it.

7. Interests and Conflicts of Interest

- 7.1 **Register of interests:** The Committee must keep a register of interest disclosures made by Officers.
- 7.2 **Duty to disclose interest:** An Officer who is interested in a matter (as defined in the Act) relating to the Association must disclose details of the nature and extent of the interest (including any monetary value of the interest if it can be quantified) to the Committee, as soon as practicable after the Officer becomes aware that they are interested in the Matter and include it in the register of interests.
- 7.3 **Consequences of being interested:** An Officer who is a Committee Member and Interested in a Matter:
- a. must not vote or take part in a decision of the Committee relating to the Matter, unless all non-interested Committee Members consent;
 - b. must not sign any document relating to the entry into a transaction or the initiation of the Matter, unless all non-interested Committee Members consent;
 - c. must not take part in any Committee discussion relating to the Matter or be present at the time of the Committee decision, unless all non-interested Committee Members consent; and
 - d. may be counted for the purpose of determining whether there is a quorum at any meeting at which the Matter is considered.
- 7.4 **Notice of failure to comply:** The Committee must notify Members of a failure to comply with section 63 or 64 of the Act, and of any transactions affected, as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the failure.

8. Patronage of the Association

- 8.1 Purpose and Role
- The Patron or Patroness is an honorary position bestowed upon a person of mana and standing who supports the kaupapa and aspirations of the Association
 - The Patron or Patroness shall act as a kaitiaki (guardian) and ambassador, upholding the Association's values, promoting its activities, and fostering community and cultural relationships.
- 8.2. Appointment and Term
- The Patron or Patroness shall be the reigning Te Arikiniui o Aotearoa and remains in that position for the life of the Patron or Patroness subject to Rule 8.4 (Resignation or Removal of a Patron or Patroness).
- 8.3. Rights and Privileges
- The Patron or Patroness may attend General Meetings and Committee Meetings in a non-voting capacity.

- The Patron or Patroness may be invited to speak at Association events, represent the Association at public functions, and provide guidance on matters of tikanga, community engagement, or strategic direction.

8.4. Resignation or Removal of a Patron or Patroness

- The Patron or Patroness may resign by written notice to the Committee.
- The Committee may recommend removal of the Patron or Patroness for reasons deemed in the best interests of the Association.

8.5. Limitations

- The Patron or Patroness shall not be involved in the governance or management of the Association and does not have voting authority at any Association meeting.

9. Life Member

9.1 **Life Membership** may be awarded to individuals who have rendered exceptional service to the Association or demonstrated leadership and upheld the values of the Association over an extended period of time.

9.2. Nomination and Approval Process

- Nominated by at least two current AMTA voting members.
- Endorsed by the AMTA Executive Committee.
- Confirmed by a special majority vote at the Annual General Meeting or Hui-ā-Tau.

9.3. Cessation of Life Membership

- Cessation of Life Membership can occur if any one of the clauses in Rule 3.11 (Cessation of Membership) applies.

10. Meetings of Members

10.1 **Annual General Meeting (AGM):** The Association shall hold an AGM not later than six (6) months after the end of each Financial Year and not later than fifteen (15) months after the previous AGM, at a date, time and place decided by the Committee.

10.2 **Special General Meeting (SGM):** Any other General Meeting of the Members is an SGM.

10.3 **Method of General Meeting:** A General Meeting may be held by a quorum of Members (Rule 10.11), by any of the following methods (as decided by the Committee):

- a. being physically present together at the appointed time and place for the meeting;
- b. participating via audio link, audio-visual link or other electronic means; or
- c. by a combination of both methods above.

Participation by any of these methods will count as the presence of that individual at the meeting for the purposes of this Constitution.

10.4 **Notice of AGM:** The Association Administrator shall give not less than 30 days written notice of an AGM to the Officers, Committee, and all the Members. Notice to Members of an AGM may be given by posting it on the Association's website, as decided by the Committee. The notice shall specify:

- a. the date, time, and place and/or the method by which the AGM is to be held;
- b. the process and closing date(s) for Voting Members to submit (in writing):
 - i. proposed motions or resolutions (including amendments to the Constitution);
 - ii. nominations for President, Association Administrator, Treasurer, Cultural Adviser and the other Committee Member positions;
 - iii. nominations for Life Members; and
 - iv. any items of business expressly permitted by, and properly notified under, this Constitution to be decided at a General Meeting.

10.5 **AGM Agenda:**

- a. Not less than seven (7) Days' written notice of the agenda for each AGM shall be given by the Association Administrator to the Officers, Committee and all the Members and may be notified by posting it on the Association's website. The agenda shall set out the business to be discussed at the AGM in accordance with Rule 10.6. All relevant information required to inform the business set out in Rule 10.6 shall be provided to Members with the agenda.
- b. Additional items of business not listed on the agenda cannot be voted on at the AGM but may be discussed if a Majority of the Voting Members agree to do so at the meeting.

10.6 **Business of AGM:** The following business shall be considered at each AGM in the order decided by the Chair:

- a. approval of the minutes of the previous AGM and any SGMs held since the previous AGM;
- b. presentation on the previous Financial Year of:
 - i. the annual report by the Committee of the activities of the Association for the preceding Financial Year;
 - ii. a review of annual financial statements;
 - iii. the Reviewer's report on the annual financial statements;
 - iv. disclosures of any conflicts of interests made by Association Officers;
- c. approval of any Major Transactions recommended by the Committee;
- d. election for all Committee Member positions;
- e. approval of the Reviewer for the next Financial Year;
- f. election, if required, of the Patron or Patroness for the Association subject to Rule 8.2 and 8.4;
- g. appointment of any Life Members recommended by the Committee;
- h. approval of the Membership Fee in accordance with Rule 3.9;

- i. any motion or resolution(s) proposing to amend this Constitution; and
 - j. any other items of business that have been properly submitted for consideration.
- 10.7 **Calling an SGM:** The Association Administrator shall call an SGM as soon as reasonably practicable after receiving a written request from the Committee or a written request that has been supported by fifteen (15) or more Voting Members entitled to vote. This request shall state the purpose for which the SGM is being requested and include the proposed motion(s) or resolution(s) to be voted on.
- 10.8 **Notice of SGM:** Not less than seven (7) Days' written notice of a SGM shall be given by the Association Administrator to the Association Committee, and all the Members, unless the purpose of the SGM is to propose amendments to this Constitution, in which case not less than 14 Days notice must be given. This notice may be given by posting it on the Association's website. It shall only deal with the business for which the SGM is requested and shall include:
- a. the date, time, and place and/or the method by which the meeting is to be held (as decided by the Committee); and
 - b. the proposed motion(s) or resolution(s) that are permitted and properly submitted for consideration.
- 10.9 **Attendees at General Meetings:** Voting Members are entitled to attend, speak and vote (if they are Financially Current (under Rule 10.10)) at General Meetings. Non-Voting Members and any other individuals invited by the Committee, including employees of the Association may attend General Meetings, however they may speak only if invited to do so by the Chair of the General Meeting and are not entitled to move or second motions or resolutions or to vote,
- 10.10 **Not Financially Current:** A Member who is not Financially Current may attend General Meetings and receive notice of and vote on Resolutions Outside of Meetings but is not entitled to any other rights they would otherwise be entitled to, including to speak, move or second motions or resolutions or vote.
- 10.11 **Quorum:** The quorum for a General Meeting is twenty (20) Voting Members, including Voting Members present by casting votes by electronic means. No business may be conducted if a quorum is not present at the time the meeting was notified to commence, and at all times during the meeting. If a quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled commencement time:
- a. the General Meeting is adjourned to another time on the same day as decided by the Committee;
 - b. if at the subsequent General Meeting, a quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes of its scheduled commencement time; then the General Meeting shall be adjourned to another day (not less than thirty (30) Days later) at a time, and place as decided by the Committee;
 - c. if a quorum is not reached within thirty (30) minutes of its scheduled commencement time at the third General Meeting, the Voting Members present will be deemed to constitute a valid quorum.
- 10.12 **Chair of Meeting:** The President will chair all General Meetings. If they are unavailable, or a motion or resolution directly concerns them, a Committee Member appointed by the Committee will chair the meeting, while the President is unavailable.

- 10.13 **Errors:** Any irregularity, error or omission in notices, agendas or papers for a General Meeting will not invalidate the meeting nor prevent the meeting from considering the business of the meeting provided that:
- a. the Chair, in their discretion decides it is appropriate for the meeting to proceed despite the irregularity, error or omission; and
 - b. a motion or resolution to proceed is approved by Special Majority.
- 10.14 **Minutes:** Minutes of all General Meetings shall be kept and communicated to Members. Minutes may be posted on the Association’s website. They shall also be available upon request by any Member in accordance with the Act.
- 10.15 **Regulation of Procedure:** The Chair regulates the proceedings at each General Meeting and makes any decisions on the procedure of the meeting, subject to this Constitution and any Association Regulations.
- 10.16 **Vote:** Each Voting Member is entitled to one (1) vote on each motion or resolution, in person (under rule 10.20) at a General Meeting or Resolutions Outside of a Meeting. While an individual may be entitled to be, or is, a Member under more than one category of membership (as specified in Rule 3) they are only entitled to one (1) vote on each motion or resolution, in person or by approved electronic means (under Rule 10.20) at a General Meeting or Resolutions Outside of a Meeting.
- 10.17 **Decisions by Majority:** Unless specified otherwise in this Constitution, all motions and resolutions proposed at a General Meeting will be adopted if there is a Majority in favour.
- 10.18 **Decisions by Special Majority:**
- a. Any motions or resolutions of the nature described in Rule 10.18b shall be proposed at a General Meeting or a Resolution Outside of a Meeting and will only be adopted if there is a Special Majority in favour of the motion or resolution.
 - b. The matters for which a Special Majority is required are those proposing:
 - i. any amendment to this Constitution in accordance with Rule 12;
 - ii. a Major Transaction; or
 - iii. any other matter stated in this Constitution which specifies that a Special Majority is required at a General Meeting.
- 10.19 **No Casting Vote:** If votes are tied at a General Meeting or in a Resolution Outside of a Meeting, the Chair or their nominee, is not entitled to have a casting vote and the motion or resolution will fail.
- 10.20 **Method of Voting:** Voting at General Meetings shall be conducted by voices, a show of hands, or ballot as decided by the Chair, or by secret ballot as specified in this Constitution, (including using electronic voting made by email or an online or electronic process, in the manner, decided by the Committee, and received by the Scrutineers by email, online or electronically at the specified address). Voting by secret ballot shall apply for elections of Committee Members where there are more nominees than positions available or for any motion or resolution if requested by at least three (3) Voting Members present at the meeting and approved by a Majority.

- 10.21 **Proxies:** Proxy voting by Voting Members is not permitted.
- 10.22 **Scrutineers:** If required for a secret ballot, two scrutineers must be appointed at the General Meeting to count the votes.
- 10.23 **Chairperson's Declaration:** The Chair shall declare the result of each vote (including the number of votes in favour, against or that abstained) once voting is complete.
- 10.24 **Resolutions Outside of Meetings:** A resolution in writing signed or consented to by email or other electronic means by a 75% majority of Voting Members who have responded is valid as if it had been passed at a General Meeting provided the requirements under sections 89 to 92 of the Act are complied with. Any resolution may consist of several documents in the same form each signed by one or more Members.

11. Financial Matters

- 11.1 **Application of Income:** The funds and property of the Association shall be controlled, managed, invested and disposed of by the Committee, subject to this Constitution and devoted solely to the promotion of the purposes of the Association set out in Rule 2.1.
- 11.2 **Financial Year:** The financial year of the Association will commence on 1st July and end on 30th June the following year, unless decided otherwise by the Committee from time to time (Financial Year).
- 11.3 **Review of Financial Statements:** The Association's financial statements must be reviewed each year and the reviewed financial statements must be submitted to the AGM. The Committee will recommend the Reviewer to be approved by Members at the AGM.
- 11.4 **No personal benefit:** The Association Officers and Members shall not receive any distributions of profit or income from the Association. This does not prevent Association Officers or Members receiving reimbursement of actual and reasonable expenses incurred; or entering into any arms' length transactions with the Association for goods or services supplied to or from them. No Association Officer or Member may influence any such decision made by the Association in respect of payments or transactions between it and them, their direct family or any associated entity.
- 11.5 **Indemnity and insurance:** The Association is authorised to indemnify an Officer under the Act or effect insurance for an Officer under the Act for the following matters:
- a. liability (other than criminal liability) for a failure to comply with a duty under sections 54 to 61 of the Act or any other duty imposed on the Officer in their capacity as an Officer; and
 - b. costs incurred by the Officer for any claim or proceeding relating to that liability.
- 11.6 **The Association Administrator** may effect insurance for its current and former Officers, Members and employees as permitted by the Act, if approved by the Committee.

12. Amendments to the Constitution

- 12.1 Subject to Rule 12.4, this Constitution may only be amended, added to, or repealed by Special Majority at a General Meeting or a Resolution Outside of a Meeting.
- 12.2 Notice of an intention to amend this Constitution shall be given to the Association Administrator:
- a. by a Voting Member entitled to vote or the Committee, no later than thirty days (30) Days prior to a General Meeting; or
 - b. by the Committee, no later than seven (7) Days prior to a Resolution Outside of a Meeting.
- 12.3 No addition to, deletion from or amendment to this Constitution may be made which would allow personal pecuniary profits to any individuals.
- 12.4 If an amendment to this Constitution would have no more than a minor effect or is to correct errors or makes similar technical alterations, the Committee may give notice of the amendment to every Member stating the text of the amendment and the right of Members to object to the amendment. If the Committee does not receive any objections from Members within twenty (28) Days after the date on which the notice is sent, or any longer period that the Committee decides, the Committee may make that amendment. If it does receive an objection, the Committee may not make the amendment.

13. Regulations

- 13.1 The Committee may make, amend or repeal Association Regulations as it considers necessary or desirable, provided they are consistent with the Association's purposes set out in Rule 2.1, the Act and any other laws.
- 13.2 All Association Regulations and any amendments to them, shall be notified to all Members and published on the Association's website. All Association Regulations are binding on the Association, Association Officers, and all Members, unless expressly stated otherwise.
- 13.3 The making, amendment, revocation, or replacement of an Association Regulation is not an amendment of this Constitution.
- 13.4 An Association Regulation may, in whole or in part, be amended or revoked by Special Majority at an SGM, if a motion or resolution proposing it is notified in accordance with Rule 10.6. Unless the motion or resolution provides otherwise, any such amendment or revocation shall take immediate effect but cannot be applied retrospectively.

14. Liquidation or Dissolution

- 14.1 **Notice:** The Committee shall give not less than twenty (28) Days' notice to all Members of a proposed motion or resolution to be voted on at a General Meeting:
- a. to appoint a liquidator;
 - b. to remove the Association from the Register of Incorporated Societies; or
 - c. for the distribution of the Association's surplus assets.
- 14.2 **Majority Required:** for a motion or resolution proposed under Rule 14.1 to be carried, it requires a seventy-five percent (75%) majority of votes in favour from the Voting Members present and entitled to vote.
- 14.3 **Surplus Assets:** The surplus assets of the Association after the payment of all costs, debts, and liabilities, shall be given or transferred to Te Tohu Taakaro o Aotearoa Charitable Trust or any other not-for-profit entity that shares similar purposes to the Association. Any conflicts of interest with any of the entities to whom this rule applies must be recorded in the conflicts register in accordance with Rule 7 of this Constitution.

15. Complaints and Disputes

- 15.1 In this Rule 15:
- a. **Dispute** means a disagreement or conflict between and among any one or more Members, or any one or more Association Officers and the Association, that relates to an allegation that:
 - i. a Member or an Association Officer has engaged in Misconduct;
 - ii. a Member or a Association Officer has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under this Constitution or the Act;
 - iii. the Association has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under this Constitution or the Act; or
 - iv. a Member's rights or interests as a Member have been damaged or Members' rights or interests generally have been damaged; and
 - b. **Disputes Procedure** means the procedure for resolving a Dispute specified in Rule 15.5 and Rule 15.6.
 - c. a **Member** is a reference to a Member acting in their capacity as a Member; and
 - d. a **Association Officer** is a reference to an Officer acting in their capacity as an Officer.
- 15.2 **Application of legislation to a Dispute:** The Disputes Procedure will not apply to a Dispute to the extent that legislation requires the Dispute to be dealt with in a different way.
- 15.3 **Application of Other Procedures:** If the Dispute is dealt with by another procedure under an Applicable Member Organisation's constitution or regulations, this Constitution or a Association Regulation (**Other Procedure**), that Other Procedure applies to the exclusion of the Disputes Procedure.

15.4 **Application of the Disputes Procedure:** If the Dispute is not required by legislation to be dealt with in a different way or it is not dealt with by any Other Procedure, the Disputes Procedure in Rule 15.5 and Rule 15.6 shall apply to the Dispute.

15.5 **Disputes Procedure - Raising a Complaint**

- a. A Member or an Association Officer may commence the Disputes Procedure by giving written notice (a **Complaint**) to the Committee setting out:
 - i. the allegation relating to the Dispute and who the allegation is against; and
 - ii. any other information reasonably required by the Committee.
- b. The Association may make a Complaint involving an allegation of a Dispute against a Member or an Association Officer by giving notice to the Member or Association Officer concerned setting out the allegation to which the Complaint relates.
- c. The information given shall be enough to ensure an individual or the Association against whom the Complaint is made is fairly advised of the allegation concerning them, with sufficient details to enable them to prepare a response.

15.6 **Disputes Procedure - Investigating and Resolving Disputes**

- a. Unless otherwise provided, the Committee shall as soon as reasonably practicable after receiving or becoming aware of a Complaint, ensure the Dispute is investigated and resolved.
- b. Disputes shall be dealt with in a fair, efficient and effective manner.
- c. The Committee may decide not to proceed with a Dispute if:
 - i. it is not a Dispute as defined in Rule 15.1 and therefore is not within the jurisdiction of the Association under this Constitution;
 - ii. the Complaint is trivial or appears to be without foundation or there is no apparent evidence to support it;
 - iii. the individual who makes the Complaint has an insignificant interest in the matter;
 - iv. the issue giving rise to the Dispute has already been investigated and dealt with under this Constitution or Other Procedure; or
 - v. there has been an undue delay in making the Complaint.
- d. The Committee may refer a Dispute to:
 - i. a hearing body or individual authorised, delegated or appointed by the Committee to hear and resolve Disputes, and includes an arbitral tribunal (**Hearing Body**);
 - ii. any type of consensual dispute resolution with the consent of all parties to the Dispute including mediation; or
 - iii. a subcommittee of the Committee or an external individual to investigate and report to the Committee, following which, the Committee may refer the matter to consensual dispute resolution or to a Hearing Body or decide the outcome of the Dispute itself.

- e. The Committee may determine the composition, jurisdiction, functions and procedures of, and any sanctions which may be imposed by, any Hearing Body. Each Hearing Body has delegated authority by the Committee to resolve, or assist to resolve, Disputes.
- f. An individual may not be a Member of a Hearing Body in relation to a Dispute if the Committee or the Hearing Body considers there are reasonable grounds to believe that the individual may not be impartial or able to consider the matter without a predetermined view.
- g. The Member or Association Officer who, or the Association which, made the Complaint (**Complainant**), shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard (orally or in writing as determined by the Hearing Body) before the Dispute is resolved or any outcome is determined.
- h. The Member or Association Officer who, or Association which, is the subject of the Complaint (**Respondent**) shall also be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard (orally or in writing as determined by the Hearing Body) before the Dispute is resolved or any outcome is determined.

15.7 **Appeals:** Unless an Applicable Member Organisations Constitution or Regulations, this Constitution or any Association Regulation provides otherwise, there is no right of appeal or right of review of a decision about a Dispute.

15.8 **Decisions Binding:** Decisions and awards by the Association's Committee and/or Hearing Body and any hearing bodies, international Tennis bodies and CAS as referred to in the Applicable Member Organisation's constitutions, are binding on the Association and all Members.

16. Suspension, Sanctions and Termination of Membership

16.1 A Member may be suspended or terminated from Membership of the Association and the Applicable Member Organisations or have sanctions imposed, if the Member:

- a. is suspended or terminated by the Committee, or has sanctions imposed under this Rule.
- a. is suspended or terminated by any Applicable Member Organisation, or has sanctions imposed on them, in accordance with its constitutions and regulations; or
- b. a Hearing Body, the Sports Tribunal, CAS or any other body having jurisdiction over a Member recommends such action or imposes a sanction.

16.2 **Suspension, Sanctions or Termination by the Committee:**

- a. A Member may be suspended for up to twelve (12) months, have other sanctions imposed or their Membership terminated if:
 - i. the Committee or any individual(s) appointed by it, considers after reasonable enquiry, that the Member did not comply with this Constitution, Association Regulation or any rule, code, standard, resolution, decision, policy, or procedure decided by the Committee or at a General Meeting; or
 - ii. where the Member is no longer Eligible to be a Member.
- b. Before any suspension, sanction or termination is imposed by the Committee on a Member:

- i. they shall be given twenty-one (21) Days' written notice of the proposal to suspend, impose a sanction or terminate the Member, unless the proposal arises from the Member's failure to comply with any one or more of the applicable Membership criteria under this Constitution, in which case three (3) months written notice will be given; and
 - ii. has the right to be present, make submissions and be heard on the proposal to suspend, impose any sanction or to terminate the Member.
- c. A decision by the Committee to suspend or impose a sanction on a Member is final and there is no right of appeal. A decision by the Committee to terminate Membership may be appealed to a SGM called for that purpose in accordance with Rule 10.7 and may only be overturned by a Special Majority in favour of the motion at the SGM.

16.3 Reinstatement: Membership that has been terminated under this Constitution may be reinstated at the discretion of the Committee, within such period as it considers appropriate, provided that any payments owing to the Association, any TNZ Member Organisation or TNZ, have been fully repaid. In deciding whether to reinstate a Member, the Committee may take into account whether the matter giving rise to the termination has been rectified or remedied, or whether any sanction imposed has been served.

16.4 Consequences of Suspension or Termination of Membership: Where any Member's Membership is suspended or terminated by the Association, a TNZ Member Organisation or TNZ, the following consequences apply to the Member for the period of the suspension, or indefinitely if terminated:

- a. the suspension or termination applies to the Member's Membership of all the Applicable Member Organisations;
- b. if the Member is suspended, they continue to be bound by this Constitution and the Association Regulations and the Applicable Member Organisations' constitutions and regulations including all of their obligations during the period of suspension;
- c. the Member forfeits all rights and entitlements it has as a Member under this Constitution, Association Regulations and the Applicable Member Organisations constitutions and regulations and is not entitled to participate in any activity of, or held on behalf of, the Association, any TNZ Member Organisation or TNZ; and
- d. the Member shall have no claim upon the Association or any Applicable Member Organisation., and their property, and shall not use any their property.

17. Suspension and Removal of Committee Members

17.1 Suspension of Committee Member: If a Committee Member is alleged to have, given notice of, or charged with any of the circumstances described under Rule 4.3 or any circumstances arise in relation to a Committee Member which are or may be of concern to the Committee, the remaining Committee Members may by a Special Majority suspend them from the Committee, pending the determination of the allegation, notice or charge. A suspension may only be imposed following reasonable enquiries by the Committee and giving the Committee Member concerned a right to be heard by the Committee.

17.2 Removal of Committee Member:

- a. A Committee Member may be removed from the Committee before the expiration of their term of office if the Committee considers, by Special Majority, that the Committee Member:
 - i. has materially breached any of their duties under this Constitution or the Act; or
 - ii. did not, or is unable to, materially comply with this Constitution, the Association Regulations or any Rule of the Association;
 - iii. has engaged in Misconduct or acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Purposes and interests of the Association;
 - iv. has brought the Association into disrepute; or
 - v. has been suspended or terminated as a Member, or had a sanction imposed, by a TNZ Member Organisation.
- b. The Committee Member who is the subject of the motion to be removed is counted for the purpose of reaching a quorum but shall not participate in the vote on the motion.
- c. Before any decision for removal is made by the Committee, the Committee Member concerned:
 - i. shall be given no less than fourteen (14) Days' written notice by the Committee of the proposal to remove them;
 - ii. has the right to make written submissions in advance of the decision; and
 - iii. has the right to be present, make submissions and be heard by the Committee.

18. Matters Not Provided For

If any matters arise that the Committee considers are not provided for in this Constitution or in the Association Regulations, or if any dispute arises out of the interpretation of this Constitution or the Association Regulations, the matter or dispute will be decided by the Committee as it sees fit.

19. Transition

19.1 **Existing Patronage:** The Patron or Patroness under the previous Constitution will continue to remain in that position under this Constitution.

19.2 **Existing Life Members:** Individuals who were granted Life Membership of the Association prior to the Commencement Date will remain as Life Members, subject to this Constitution.

19.2 **Existing Members:** Members of the Association, at the Commencement Date, will remain as Members of the Association and of Tennis NZ but shall reapply to the Association for Membership of it and Tennis NZ in the relevant Category of Membership within the period specified in Rule .

19.3 **Transition of Committee Members:**

The committee members under the previous Constitution continue in their positions until the next AGM.

20. Definitions and Interpretation

20.1 **Definitions:** The capitalised words and phrases used in this Constitution shall mean as follows:

Anti-Doping Violation means an anti-doping violation as defined in the World Anti-Doping Code issued by the World Anti-Doping Agency, or any other rules made pursuant to that Code, including the Sports Anti-Doping Rules issued by the Integrity Commission for Sport and Recreation or its predecessor Drug Free Sport New Zealand.

Applicable Member Organisations means all the TNZ Member Organisations which are members of TNZ which includes the Association, RTO's, LTP's and other tennis associations that are affiliated to TNZ.

Auditor means an individual, independent of the Association, who is a qualified auditor under the Financial Reporting Act 2013.

CAS means the Court of Arbitration for Sport. This is an institution independent of any sports organization which provides for services in order to facilitate the settlement of sports-related disputes through arbitration or mediation by means of procedural rules adapted to the specific needs of the sports world.

Casual Vacancy is a vacancy which arises when a Committee Member does not serve their full term of office.

Committee means the Committee of the Association as described in Rule 5.2, and for the period specified, the Committee in transition under Rule 19.3, unless specified otherwise.

Constitution means this constitution, including any amendments unless stated otherwise.

Contact Details means a physical or electronic address and a telephone number.

Day means any day of the week (including a Saturday, Sunday, and a public holiday).

Financially Current means the Member has fully paid its Membership Fees and other fees to the Association by the due dates or in accordance with any agreed payment plan.

General Meeting means an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Special General Meeting (SGM) of the Association.

Life Member means a person who has been granted life or honorary membership (or the equivalent) of the Association.

Major Transaction has the same meaning as this term is given in sections 129(2) to (3) of the Companies Act 1993, where the reference to a company means the Association.

Majority means a majority (50% +1) of the votes properly cast by those entitled to be, and who are present (in accordance with this Constitution) and entitled to vote.

Member means an individual who is a member of the Association under Rule 3.

Membership means being a Member of the Association and thereby being a member of Tennis NZ.

Member Management System means an online or electronic system into which Membership and personal information is collected by the Association (in accordance with this Constitution) for membership purposes and used to provide required information to the National Database.

Misconduct includes, but is not limited to, conduct (whether in person, online or otherwise) by an individual who:

- a. uses any profane, indecent or improper language at any event, function or activity of the Association or any Applicable Member Organisation, or whilst on the property of the Association or any Applicable Member Organisation;
- b. engages in offensive or insulting behaviour towards the Association or any Applicable Member Organisation, or any individual acting for or on behalf of the Association, at any time or place;
- c. has breached any Rule or provision of any applicable Constitution, Regulation etc. , or reasonable direction, or any applicable decision of any body with proper jurisdiction:
- d. has acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member, or which has brought or could bring the Association into disrepute, or has damaged the rights or interests of the Association and its Members

National Database means the online database management system established by TNZ which holds Membership and personal information about Members of, and other individuals involved or connected with, TNZ and its Member Organisations,

Officers and **Association Officer** means the President, Committee Members, and **Officer** means any one of the Officers.

Resolution Outside of a Meeting means a decision of the Voting Members made in the manner described in Rule 10.24 and **Resolutions Outside of Meetings** has the same meaning.

Reviewer means a person independent of the Association who is a qualified auditor under the Financial Reporting Act 2013.

Rules means any rules, codes, standards, resolutions, decisions, policies and procedures made by the Committee and the Boards of the Applicable Member Organisations as applicable.

Rules of Tennis means the rules of Tennis as approved by the International Tennis Federation, as amended from time to time.

Special Majority means a motion or resolution passed by two-thirds (2/3rd) (rounded up to the nearest whole number) of the votes properly cast by Voting Members present and entitled to vote at a General Meeting, or Committee Members at a Committee meeting, (as applicable).

Sports Tribunal means the Sports Tribunal of New Zealand established by Sport NZ and continued under the Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006.

Tennis means the racket sport played either individually against a single opponent (singles) or between two (2) teams of two (2) players each (doubles) on a court, as defined in the rules of Tennis. It may also include any complementary formats of tennis such as pickle ball, Padel, beach tennis, e-sports as decided by TNZ.

Tennis NZ also known as TNZ means Tennis New Zealand Incorporated (# 215373) and, where relevant, includes its officers, board members, employees, contractors and agents.

TNZ Constitution means the constitution of TNZ (including any amendments made from time to time).

TNZ Member Organisation means any member organisation that is a member of TNZ as defined in the TNZ Constitution.

TNZ Regulations means the regulations of Tennis NZ (including any amendments made from time to time) as defined in the Tennis NZ Constitution.

20.2 Interpretation: In this Constitution:

- a. words using the singular includes the plural and vice-versa;
- b. any reference to legislation includes any secondary legislation, statutory regulations, rules, orders or instruments made or issued pursuant to that legislation and any amendment to, re-enactment of, or replacement of that legislation;
- c. any agreement includes that agreement as modified, supplemented, novated or substituted from time to time;
- d. any obligation not to do something includes an obligation not to suffer, permit, or cause that thing to be done;
- e. a reference to an individual means a natural person and includes the legal and personal representatives, successors and permitted assignees of that person;
- f. a reference to a person includes bodies corporate, unless stated otherwise;
- g. references to periods of time or notices, exclude the days on which they are given;
- h. headings and the contents page are for reference only and are to be ignored in interpreting this Constitution; and
- i. a reference to “in writing” includes words visibly represented, copied or reproduced including by email or online.

20.3 Notices:

- a. Subject to any other notice provision in this Constitution, any notice or other communication required to be given under this Constitution shall be in writing and will be given:
 - i. if to a Member, to the address (which may include physical, email or other address) specified in their Contact Details;
 - ii. if to the Association, to DickG@maorisportsawards.co.nz or by post to the Association’s registered office set out on the Register of Incorporated Societies.

- b. A notice is deemed to have been received:
- i. if given by post, when left at the address of an individual or five (5) working Days (as defined in the Legislation Act 2019) after being put in the post;
 - ii. if given by email upon production of a physical copy of the email detailing the time and the date the email was sent (provided that the sender does not receive any "out of office" auto-reply or other indication of non-receipt); or
 - iii. if posted on the Association's website; at the date and time it is posted;

provided that any notice or communication received, deemed received or posted after 5pm on a working Day, or on a day which is not a working Day, will be deemed not to have been received until the next working Day.