

# RBYC Proposed Rule Amendments March 2026

RBYC Rules, grouped into the two stated categories:

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## Motion 1. Streamlining Membership Categories

The proposed changes significantly simplify the Club's membership structure by reducing the number of categories from 21 to 10.

- A new “**General Member**” category will be introduced, combining the existing **Crew** and **Aquatic** memberships into a single, broader entry-level classification.
  - Importantly, the changes are designed to **preserve the privileges of Senior Members**, particularly access (members car park, gym, hardstand and/or marina storage).
  - The outcome is a **more cohesive membership structure**, particularly strengthening alignment for aquatic members who joined over 25 years ago and encouraging their participation in all of the Club's recreational activities, including sailing.
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## Motion 2. Updating Legacy Changes

A comprehensive cleanup of the Rules has been undertaken to address inconsistencies and improve usability.

- Historical amendments and layered changes have been **reviewed, consolidated, and clarified** to remove ambiguity.
- Outdated or redundant provisions have been **removed or rewritten** to better reflect how the Club currently operates.
- Language and structure have been improved to make the Rules **clearer, more consistent, and easier for members to navigate**.
- Adjustments aim to ensure **fairness across membership categories**, particularly in relation to rights, obligations, and access.
- The outcome is a more **coherent and practical rule set**, reducing interpretation issues and administrative complexity.

DETAILS OF CHANGES TO THE RULES – PRESENTATION FORMAT PROPOSED - MARKED-UP / RATIONAL

MOTION	RULE	PROPOSED CHANGE	RATIONAL
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p>Rule 7. (2)</p>	<p>If the number of Senior Members falls below 60% of the total Membership of the Club, excluding temporary or Honorary Members who are Members only by reason of reciprocal arrangements with another Club then one or more of the following classes of Members shall successively in the priority listed below be added as Members entitled to vote until the number of Members entitled to vote for the election of the Committee is not less than 60% of the total membership. Classes of Members: 1. —Crew Members 2. Intermediate Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simplifies the RBYC membership structure.</li> <li>• This applies to Aquatic members (Iceberger) who have been with the Club now for 25 years and it is appropriate to revisit the previous restrictions on their participation rights as a group.</li> <li>• Provides ability to streamline fee structure for General Members.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p>Rule 8. (2) (b)</p>	<p><b>General Crew Members</b> (i) <b>General Crew</b> Members are Members who are 30 years of age and over, who elect not to apply to be Senior Members, <b>or who joined the Club to participate in the aquatic recreational activities of the Club.</b> (ii) <b>General Crew</b> Members may keep off-the-beach boats at the Club. (iii) <b>Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained or implied, General Members shall:</b> (a) <b>not be eligible for any office or as a Member of Committee</b> (b) <b>not be entitled to propose or second a candidate for membership.</b> (iv) <del>Shall be eligible to vote in elections for the Committee in the circumstances set out in sub-rule 7(2).</del></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voting for the election of the Committee is a key right of members and should be representative of a broader cross section of the membership base.</li> <li>• Accordingly, the proposal is to include both Senior Members and General Members in the 60% threshold and that “Intermediate Members” would be added if the total of the expanded membership count is triggered.</li> <li>• Note that “Crew Members” are included in the definition of “General Members”.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p>Rule 8. (3) (b)</p>	<p><b>Aquatic Members</b> (i) <del>An Aquatic Member is a person who has joined the Club to participate in the swimming recreational activities of the Club.</del> (ii) <del>Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained or implied, Aquatic Members shall:</del> (A) <del>not be eligible for any office or as a Member of Committee</del> (B) <del>not be entitled to propose or second a candidate for membership.</del></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drafting change to support the concept of “General Member”.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p>Rule 34. (2) (h)</p>	<p><b>General Members</b> <del>Those Members eligible to vote under Rule 7(2) for the election of the Committee, are not otherwise eligible to vote at a General Meeting.</del></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drafting change to support the concept of “General Member”.</li> </ul>

DETAILS OF CHANGES TO THE RULES – PRESENTATION FORMAT PROPOSED - MARKED-UP / RATIONAL

MOTION	RULE	PROPOSED CHANGE	RATIONAL
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	<b>Rule 8. (2) (f)</b>	<p>Senior Family Members</p> <p>(i) Senior Family Membership consists of either two Senior Members who are lawfully married to each other or are domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic) and the children of either of them who are under the age of <del>18</del><sup>21</sup> years, or a single Senior Member and his or her children who are under the age of <del>18</del><sup>21</sup> years.</p> <p>(ii) Each parent in the Family Membership has the rights of a Senior Member. <del>Each child in the Family Membership aged under 18 years old has the rights of a Youth Member. Each child in the Family Membership aged between 18 years and under 21 years old has the rights of an Intermediate Member.</del></p> <p>(iii)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brings into line age group of Intermediate to that of the definition.</li> </ul>
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	<b>Rule 12. (2) (a)</b>	<p>Annual Subscription shall be set as follows:</p> <p><del>(a)</del> The annual subscription for each category of Member is the amount fixed prior to the commencement of the Club year by the Committee <del>and recorded in the By-laws.</del></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove the requirement to update By-laws annually due Subscription price change.</li> </ul>
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	<b>Rule 12. (3) (g)</b>	<p>Partners of Senior Members</p> <p>A partner of a Senior Member is entitled to <del>the equivalent privileges as</del> apply for Social Membership and <del>if granted</del> shall pay no <del>subscription membership</del> fee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a Privilege attached to Senior Members and not a member.</li> </ul>
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	<b>Rule 54.</b>	<p>Term of office</p> <p>The Committee shall be elected annually prior to the Annual General Meeting held in September of each year and shall hold Office for a period of 12 months commencing at the declaration of the poll at the Annual General Meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aligns Committee terms with the AGM schedule, removing ambiguity and improving governance transparency.</li> </ul>

DETAILS OF CHANGES TO THE RULES – PRESENTATION FORMAT - OLD RULE to NEW RULE

MOTION	RULE	CURRENT RULE WORDING	PROPOSED RULE WORDING
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p><b>Rule 7. (2)</b></p>	<p>If the number of Senior Members falls below 60% of the total Membership of the Club, excluding temporary or Honorary Members who are Members only by reason of reciprocal arrangements with another Club then one or more of the following classes of Members shall successively in the priority listed below be added as Members entitled to vote until the number of Members entitled to vote for the election of the Committee is not less than 60% of the total membership.</p> <p>Classes of Members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crew Members</li> <li>2. Intermediate Members</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p><b>Rule 8. (2) (b)</b></p>	<p>Crew Members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Crew Members are Members who are 30 years of age and over, who elect not to apply to be Senior Members.</li> <li>(ii) Crew Members may keep off-the-beach boats at the Club.</li> <li>(iii) Shall be eligible to vote in elections for the Committee in the circumstances set out in sub-rule 7(2).</li> <li>(iv) Shall be eligible to vote in elections for the Committee in the circumstances set out in sub-rule 7(2).</li> </ol>	<p>General Members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) General Members are Members who are 30 years of age and over, who elect not to apply to be Senior Members, or who joined the Club to participate in the aquatic recreational activities of the Club.</li> <li>(ii) General Members may keep off-the-beach boats at the Club.</li> <li>(iii) Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained or implied, General Members shall:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) not be eligible for any office or as a Member of Committee</li> <li>(b) not be entitled to propose or second a candidate for membership.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p><b>Rule 8. (3) (b)</b></p>	<p>Aquatic Members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) An Aquatic Member is a person who has joined the Club to participate in the swimming recreational activities of the Club.</li> <li>(ii) Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained or implied, Aquatic Members shall:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) not be eligible for any office or as a Member of Committee.</li> <li>(b) not be entitled to propose or second a candidate for membership.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	

DETAILS OF CHANGES TO THE RULES – PRESENTATION FORMAT - OLD RULE to NEW RULE

<p><b>Motion 1:</b> Streamlining Membership Categories</p>	<p><b>Rule 34. (2) (h)</b></p>	<p>(2) Members of the following classes of Membership have a voting right for both the election of the Committee and for the passing of ordinary and special resolutions at a General Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Senior Members and Senior Family Members who are spouses or domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic)</li> <li>(b) Senior Special Members</li> <li>(c) 40 Year Members</li> <li>(d) 50 Year Members</li> <li>(e) Honorary Life Members.</li> <li>(f) Country Members</li> <li>(g) Absentee Members</li> </ul> <p>Those Members eligible to vote under Rule 7(2) for the election of the Committee, are not otherwise eligible to vote at a General Meeting.</p>	<p>(2) Members of the following classes of Membership have a voting right for both the election of the Committee and for the passing of ordinary and special resolutions at a General Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Senior Members and Senior Family Members who are spouses or domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic)</li> <li>(b) Senior Special Members</li> <li>(c) 40 Year Members</li> <li>(d) 50 Year Members</li> <li>(e) Honorary Life Members.</li> <li>(f) Country Members</li> <li>(g) Absentee Members</li> <li>(h) General Members</li> </ul>
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DETAILS OF CHANGES TO THE RULES – PRESENTATION FORMAT - OLD RULE to NEW RULE

MOTION	RULE	CURRENT RULE WORDING	PROPOSED RULE WORDING
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	Rule 8. (2) (f)	<p>Senior Family Members</p> <p>(i) Senior Family Membership consists of either two Senior Members who are lawfully married to each other or are domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic) and the children of either of them who are under the age of 21 years, or a single Senior Member and his or her children who are under the age of 21 years.</p> <p>(ii) Each parent in the Family Membership has the rights of a Senior Member. Each child in the Family Membership aged under 18 years old has the rights of a Youth Member. Each child in the Family Membership aged between 18 years and under 21 years old has the rights of an Intermediate Member.</p>	<p>Senior Family Members</p> <p>(i) Senior Family Membership consists of either two Senior Members who are lawfully married to each other or are domestic partners (as defined in the Relationships Act 2008 (Vic) and the children of either of them who are under the age of 18 years, or a single Senior Member and his or her children who are under the age of 18 years.</p> <p>(ii) Each parent in the Family Membership has the rights of a Senior Member.</p>
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	Rule 12. (2) (a)	<p>Annual Subscription shall be set as follows:</p> <p>(a) The annual subscription for each category of Member is the amount fixed prior to the commencement of the Club year by the Committee and recorded in the By-laws.</p>	<p>Annual Subscription shall be set as follows:</p> <p>(a) The annual subscription for each category of Member is the amount fixed prior to the commencement of the Club year by the Committee.</p>
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	Rule 12. (3) (g)	<p>Partners of Senior Members</p> <p>A partner of a Senior Member is entitled to apply for Social Membership and if granted, shall pay no membership fee.</p>	<p>Partners of Senior Members</p> <p>A partner of a Senior Member is entitled to the equivalent privileges as applying for Social Membership and shall pay no subscription fee.</p>
<b>Motion 2:</b> Updating Legacy Changes	Rule 54.	<p>Term of office</p> <p>The Committee shall be elected annually prior to the Annual General Meeting held in September of each year and shall hold Office for a period of 12 months commencing at the declaration of the poll at the Annual General Meeting.</p>	<p>Term of office</p> <p>The Committee shall be elected annually prior to the Annual General Meeting held in September of each year and shall hold Office for a period of 12 months commencing at the Annual General Meeting.</p>