



# FRIENDS OF GRASSLANDS

*supporting native grassy ecosystems*

PO Box 440, Jamison Centre, ACT 2614

## MEETING NOTICE

**Members are requested to attend the 2014 Annual General Meeting of FOG, to commence at 6:00pm Tuesday March 18 at the Lena Karmel Lodge, 26 Barry Drive, Acton ACT**

## AGENDA

1. Attendance and apologies
2. Minutes of 2013 AGM
3. Matters arising out of these minutes
4. Treasurer's report and presentation of audited accounts
5. Reports from groups and projects (to be circulated)
6. President's report (to be circulated)
7. Proposed changes to the FOG constitution (see Special Resolution information below)
8. Annual elections
  - a. Appointment of returning officer
  - b. Election of FOG President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee
9. Appointment of Public Officer
10. Other motions with notice. (FOG members may introduce a business item at a FOG AGM. However, the item must be received in writing, one week in advance, by FOG's secretary [email: kris.nash@fog.org.au] - the member must attend the AGM to discuss that motion)

### AGM AGENDA ITEM 7:

**Special Resolution - Changes to FOG Rules as listed below.** It is a formal requirement that, to accept the proposed changes, at least three-quarters of members at the meeting have to vote in favour of the resolution.

### Summary of proposals in the Special Resolution :-

- (a) Life Membership - adjustment to one rule created in July 2013
- (b) Changes that would allow FOG to be accepted as a Registered Environmental Organisation and ultimately able to accept donations that are tax-deductible to the donor.

**Details of proposed changes - proposed deletions are struck through and proposed insertions italicised in boldface.** If these changes are agreed, clauses in the Rules will be renumbered accordingly. A full copy of current FOG Rules can be downloaded via [www.fog.org.au/statement.htm](http://www.fog.org.au/statement.htm)

**Statement of the values, principles, functions and objectives of Friends of Grasslands Inc  
18 Mar 2014**

**DECLARATION**

*Friends of Grasslands operates wholly as a not-for-profit association. Funds of the association are used solely in promotion of the association's objectives and none is distributed, paid or transferred directly or indirectly as dividend, bonus or profit to members of the association.*

**PART II—MEMBERSHIP**

12 (d) ~~only one~~ **a maximum of two** new honorary life ~~member will~~ **members can** be recognised in any calendar year;

**33A. RULES FOR THE PUBLIC FUND as required by the Register of Environmental Organisations and Taxation Ruling 95/27:**

- (1) The association will maintain a Public Fund called the "Friends of Grasslands' Public Fund".*
- (2) This Public Fund is operated solely to support the values, principles and objectives of the association.*
- (3) Members of the public are to be invited to donate to the Public Fund for the purposes of the association. Donations are gifts made unconditionally.*
- (4) Money from interest on donations is to be deposited into the Public Fund.*
- (5) A separate bank account will hold all money donated to the Public Fund, including interest accruing thereon, but no other moneys of the association.*
- (6) Receipts for gifts are to be issued in the name of the Friends of Grasslands' Public Fund and proper accounting records and procedures are to be kept and used for the Public Fund.*
- (7) The Public Fund will be not-for-profit in accordance with clause B(3).*
- (8) A committee of management of no fewer than three persons will administer the Public Fund. This committee's membership will be an item for each Annual General meeting of the Association. A majority of the members of the Public Fund committee are required to be 'responsible persons' as defined by the Guidelines to the Register of Environmental Organisations.*

**33B. MANAGEMENT OF THE PUBLIC FUND:**

- (1) Requirements of the Public Fund: The association must inform the Department responsible for the Environment as soon as possible if (a) there is any change to the association's name or that of its Public Fund; or, (b) there is any change to the membership of the management committee of the Public Fund; or, (c) there is any departure from the model rules for public funds set out in the 'Guidelines to the Register of Environmental Organisations'.*
- (2) Ministerial Rules. The association agrees to comply with any rules that the Treasurer and the Minister with responsibility for the Environment may make to ensure that the gifts made to the Public Fund are only used for its principal purpose.*
- (3) Not-for-Profit. The income of the association's Public Fund shall be used and applied solely in promotion of the association's objectives and no portion shall be distributed, paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or by way of profit to members of the association.*
- (4) Conduit Policy. Any allocation of funds to other persons or organisations will be made in accordance with the established purposes of the association's Public Fund and will not be influenced by the preference of any donor.*
- (5) Winding up. In the case of the winding-up of the Public Fund, any surplus assets are to be transferred to another fund with similar objectives that is on the Register of Environmental Organisations.*
- (6) Statistical Information (a) Statistical information requested by the Department on donations to the Public Fund will be provided within four months of the end of each financial year (31 December). (b) An audited financial statement for the association and its Public Fund will be supplied with the annual statistical return. The statement will provide information on the expenditure of Public Fund monies and the management of Public Fund assets.*