

Governing Document

Statement of Purpose and Rules of Association for Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Background

A community group called the **Hamilton Field Naturalists Club** was formed in 1958 out of interest in natural history by members of the Hamilton community in Victoria, and because of their concern for the conservation of unalienated Crown land in the district. They saw that unless action was taken, most of the remnant native vegetation, wetlands, ancient landscapes and associated fauna would be lost, due to pre-emptive action for farming, plantation forestry and other uses.

The Hamilton Field Naturalists Club is a member group of **Landcare Victoria Inc.** from 2004.

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc was registered as an incorporated association in 2024.

In Feb. 2021 the HFNC was registered as a charity with the **Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)**.

Charitable Purpose

The charitable purpose or mission of the **Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.** is to advance the natural environment by:

- Organising regular excursions to areas of natural interest including flora and fauna reserves, geological landscape features and wetlands.
- Organising regular evening presentations with guest speakers on aspects of the natural environment.
- Recording of flora and fauna in our native forests, woodlands, grasslands, wetlands and other significant landscapes.
- Publication of natural environment information, data and reports on a website.
- Improving the knowledge of the principles and practice of environmental management, including the use of fire, control of pathogens and pest plants and animals.
- Restoring degraded natural areas through appropriate revegetation, control of pest plants and animals, or restoration of water regimes in wetlands.
- Advocating the natural environment by means of publications, articles in local media, long-term legislative protection of significant natural areas and conducting regular excursions.
- Providing advice and comment on the natural environment to committees of management, government committees, schools and other groups.

Governing Body, Rules and Processes for governing

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. was registered as an incorporated association on 28-Oct-2024 in the state of Victoria with Consumer Affairs Victoria; Registration number A0125205S.

The Model Rules for an incorporated association were adopted by Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. as the rules of association.

For the model rules, refer to <https://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-fundraising/incorporated-associations/running-an-incorporated-association/rules>

The Model Rules are entitled

CONSUMER AFFAIRS VICTORIA Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012
MODEL RULES For an INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION
Associations Incorporation Reform Regulations 2023

The name of the incorporated association is **Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.**

The **Australian Business Number** (ABN) is 21 482 069 281

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. has a committee of four. The committee consists of a President, Vice-President, Secretary & Treasurer. These committee positions are filled by four responsible people.

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. has six committee meetings and one annual general meeting each calendar year to conduct business.

Model Rules PART 4 – GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION and PART 5 – COMMITTEE Division 4 refer to the meeting procedures and requirements for Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Duties and Responsibilities of Responsible People and members

Model Rules PART 5 – COMMITTEE, Division 2 refers to the composition, duties and responsibilities of the committee and members of Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. is a **member group of Landcare Victoria Inc.** and is aware of applicable of Landcare Victoria Inc policies and procedures.

Not-for-Profit Operating Basis

The assets and income of Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. shall be applied solely to further its objects, and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. except as genuine compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation in accordance with Model Rules PART 2 – POWERS OF ASSOCIATION Clause 6.

Winding up and Dissolution

In the event of Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc. being dissolved, all assets that remain after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes, which is charitable at law and which has rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and income to its members.

Model Rules PART 7 – GENERAL MATTERS: Clause 76 refers to the winding up and cancellation of Hamilton Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Dated 17 April 2025