



MUDGEES BEE GROUP

CHARTER

1 February 2017

Objectives

The objectives of the Mudgee Bee Group (MBG) are:

- 1) To facilitate a social group that is open and inclusive and which demonstrates the positive things that bee keeping can bring to a community.
- 2) To support members of the group in beekeeping through education, mentoring, group buying and sharing of equipment.
- 3) To promote safe and environmentally responsible beekeeping.
- 4) To promote and support beekeeping legislative and regulatory requirements.
- 5) To promote and support bio-security regulations and requirements.
- 6) To educate the general community, government and commercial interests with regard to the pollination service that bees provide and its importance to sustainable food production where appropriate.
- 7) To build awareness and knowledge of pollinators and flora within our landscape.
- 8) To ensure all activities of the group take place in a safe, supportive and caring environment.
- 9) To manage and maintain the community hives of the group and all equipment of the group.
- 10) To partner with like-minded organisations to achieve the above objectives.

Structure

- 1) The MBG is a Community of Practise group, operating within Watershed Landcare Inc and is an affiliate group of the Amateur Beekeeper Association NSW.
- 2) The MBG operates with an Executive Committee comprised of; a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and two Ordinary members. The function of the Committee is to oversee and organise events and activities of the MBG consistent with and in pursuance of the objectives of the MBG and consistent with the policies, procedures and constitution of Watershed Landcare Inc.
- 3) Any three members of the Committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Committee.
- 4) The MBG will meet at least four times per year to be deemed and active group. The Committee will determine meeting dates.
- 5) The Memorandum of Understanding with Watershed Landcare Incorporated document dated 1 February 2017, sits along-side this Charter and sets out the terms for support by Watershed Landcare Inc and the obligations of the MBG.



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Membership

- 1) MBG Membership shall include membership of both WLI and the Amateur Beekeepers Association NSW (ABA). WLI shall pass on the member details and fee to ABA on behalf of the member.
- 2) An application for membership must be made on-line or by completing the membership form determined by WLI and the membership fee must be paid.
- 3) Guests are able to attend 2 meetings/activities before they are required to become a financial member.
- 4) Membership is for up to 3 members of a household although only the primary person will be listed for the ABA membership.
- 5) Membership will be for the calendar year and is payable by the 15th November each year.
- 6) The WLI coordinator will maintain the membership database.

Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members

- 1) The Executive Committee will be elected at the Annual Meeting of the MBG, which will be held in July each year.
- 2) Nominations can be given to the WLI Coordinator prior to the Annual Meeting date or at the commencement of the meeting.
- 3) If only one nomination is received to fill any one vacancy on the Committee, the member nominated will be taken to be elected unless there is an objection from the floor at the Annual Meeting, in which case the matter will be put to a ballot to determine whether or not the person nominated should be elected or whether there should be a call for further nominations.
- 4) If more than one nomination is received to fill any one vacancy on the committee a ballot is to be held.
- 5) If there are no nominations to fill any one vacancy on the committee then there will be a call for nominations for that vacancy at the Annual Meeting.
- 6) The ballot for the election of office-bearers and ordinary committee members is to be conducted at the Annual meeting by a show of hands unless there is a call for a secret ballot.
- 7) Persons nominating for election to the Committee must be 18 years of age or more and be a current financial member.
- 8) Persons nominating for election to the Committee must agree to disclose interests, if elected, and to sign an agreement to this effect if requested.