We want to change our constitution



People with Disability Australia



About this book



This book has some hard words.

The hard words are **bold**.



We write what the hard words mean.

This book is from People with Disability Australia.

We say PWDA for short.



We help people with disability in Australia.



This book is about how we want to change our **constitution**.



Our constitution is about

- our work



- our rules.



Our constitution is also about our member **rights**.



Rights are things that everyone should be able to

- get



- have



- do.



For example, our members have the right to understand information.

Who must follow our rules?



You must follow our rules if you are

- a PWDA member



- a **board director**.



A board director is a person who helps make important decisions about PWDA.



Board directors help make sure PWDA

- is well run



- stays focused on its purpose.

How can we change the constitution?



We will ask our members to vote.



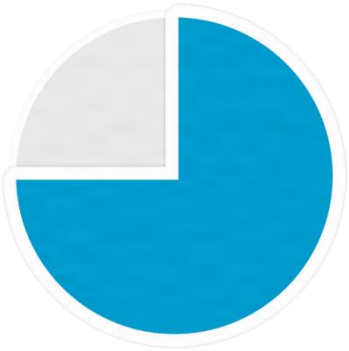
You can vote at our **AGM**.

AGM means Annual General Meeting.



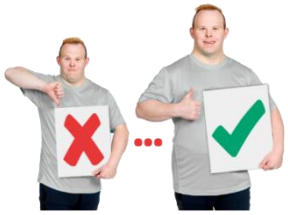
Our Annual General Meeting is on

12 November 2026.



We will have a **special resolution**.

A special resolution means we need at least 75 percent of votes to change the constitution.



We want to make 2 changes.



Members will vote on both changes together.

There will be 1 vote for both changes.



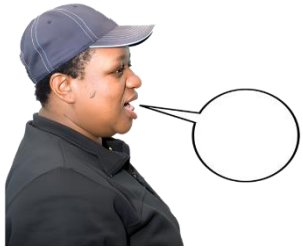
The board recommend people vote yes to these changes.

What do we do when you do not follow our rules?



We want to change rule 5.4.

Rule 5.4 is about what the Board can do when there are concerns about a member's **behaviour**.



Behaviour means what you

- say



- do.



We want to make sure you can **respond** to a complaint about you.

Respond means you

- read the complaint



- tell us what you think.



You can respond before we decide what to do.



To respond you can

- talk to us



- write to us.



If you write to us you must do this 3 days before the board meeting about your behaviour.



We will tell you when the meeting is.



We want the constitution to say what the board can do when you do not follow the rules.

What do we do when a director does not follow our rules?



Rule 5.4 will also say what we do when we get a complaint about a director.



We want the constitution to say that if a director is involved in a complaint they cannot

- be in meetings about the complaint



- vote on what the board decides to do.



We want to change rule 5.4 to make sure everyone is safe.



We will make a **code of conduct**.

A code of conduct is a list of rules.



A code of conduct is about what you

- must do



- must not do.



We will tell everyone about the code of conduct.



The Board can take action if you do not follow our

- code of conduct



- **social responsibility statement**.



Our social responsibility statement says

- how you must treat us

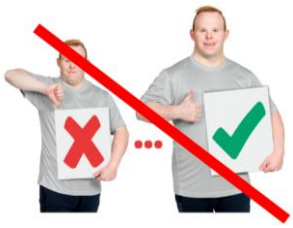


- how we must treat you.



You have the right to **appeal** if the board says you can no longer be a PWDA member.

Appeal means you ask us to look at the decision again.



We will not change your right to appeal.

Who can be on our board?



We want to change rule 8.6.

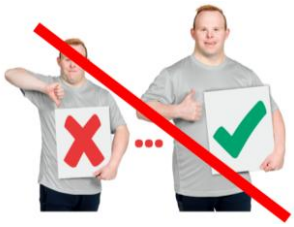
Rule 8.6 is about what happens when someone must leave our board.



We want the constitution to make it clear that only members can be on our board.



You cannot be on our board if you stop being a PWDA member.



We do not want to make any other changes to rule 8.6

We talked to a lawyer



The lawyer told us to **review** our constitution.

Review means we think about how we can make the constitution better.



We want to be fair.



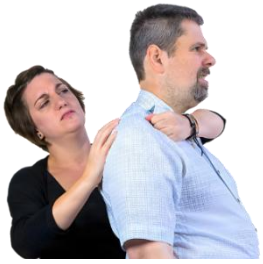
We want to show everyone **respect**.

Respect means we

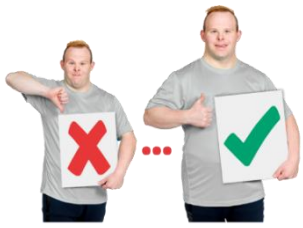
- listen



- are kind



- do not hurt you.



We might change the constitution again.



We will ask you to vote when we want to change the constitution again.

More information

You can contact

People with Disability Australia.



Website [pwd.org.au](pwd.org.au)



Email pwd@pwd.org.au



Call 1800 422 015

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