

# Bylaws of the Rotary Club of Taree on Manning Inc. (2001)

## Article I Election of Directors and Officers

**Section 1** - At a regular meeting one month prior to the meeting for election of officers, the presiding officer shall ask for nominations by members of the club for president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and four(4) members of the board of directors. The nominations may be presented by a nominating committee or by members from the floor, by either or by both as the club may determine. If it is determined to have a nominating committee, such committee shall be appointed as the club may determine. The nominations duly made shall be placed on a ballot in alphabetical order under each office and shall be voted for at the annual meeting. The candidates for president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer receiving a majority of the votes shall be declared elected to their respective offices. The four(4) candidates for director receiving a majority of the votes shall be declared elected as directors. The president elected in such balloting shall serve as a member of the board as president-elect for the year commencing on the first day of July next following the election, and shall assume office as president on the first day of July immediately following the year of service on the board as president-elect.

**Section 2** - The officers and directors so elected, together with the immediate past president shall constitute the board of directors. Within one week after their election, the board of directors-elect shall meet and elect some member of the club to act as sergeant-at-arms.

**Section 3** - A vacancy in the board of directors or any office shall be filled by action of the remaining members of the board.

**Section 4** - A vacancy in the position of any officer-elect or director-elect shall be filled by action of the remaining members of the board of directors-elect.

## Article II Board of Directors

The governing body of this club shall be the board of directors consisting of four(4) directors elected in accordance with article I, section 1, of these bylaws, the president, vice-president/president-elect, secretary, treasurer, and the immediate past president.

## Article III Duties of Officers

**Section 1 - *President***. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at meetings of the club and board and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of president.

**Section 2 - *President-elect/Vice-President***. It shall be the duty of the president-elect/vice-president to serve as a member of the board of directors of the club and to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the president or the board and to preside at meetings of the club and board in the absence of the president and to perform such other duties as ordinarily pertain to the office of vice-president.

**Section 3 - Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the records of membership, record the attendance at meetings, send out notices of meetings of the club, board and committees, record and preserve the minutes of such meetings, make the required reports to RI, including the semiannual reports of membership, which shall be made to the general secretary of RI on 1 January and 1 July of each year, and including prorated reports to the general secretary on 1 October and 1 April of each active member who has been elected to membership in the club since the start of the July or January semiannual reporting period, the report of changes in membership, which shall be made to the general secretary of RI, the monthly report of attendance at the club meetings, which shall be made to the district governor within 15 days of the last meeting of the month, collect and remit to RI subscriptions to ROTARY DOWN UNDER, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office of secretary.

**Section 4 - Treasurer.** It shall be the duty of the treasurer to have custody of all funds, accounting for same to the club annually and at any other time upon demand by the board and to perform such other duties as pertain to the office of treasurer. Upon retirement from office, the treasurer shall turn over to the incoming treasurer or to the president all funds, books of accounts or any other club property.

**Section 5 - Sergeant-at-Arms.** The duties of the sergeant-at-arms shall be such as are usually prescribed for such office and such other duties as may be prescribed by the president or the board.

#### **Article IV Meetings**

##### **Section 1 - Annual General Meeting.**

**(a) When held.** An annual meeting of this club shall be held on the last Wednesday in November (or on such other date as the board of directors may determine) in each year, at which time the election of officers and directors to serve for the ensuing year shall take place.

##### **(b) Business at Annual General Meetings:**

In addition to any other business which may be transacted at an annual general meeting, the business of such shall be:

- (a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting and to deal with business arising;
- (b) to receive and consider the financial statement of the club during the preceding financial year;
- (c) to receive from the board reports upon the activity of the club during the current financial year;
- (d) to elect officers and directors of the club in accordance with Article 1 of these By-laws;
- (e) to receive and consider the statement which is required to be submitted to members pursuant to Section 26(6) of the Associations Incorporations Act 1984;
- (f) to receive and consider any general business.

**Section 2 - Regular Meetings**

The regular weekly meetings of this club shall be held each Wednesday at 12.30pm. Due notice of any changes in or canceling of the regular meeting shall be given to all members of the club. All members excepting an honorary member (or member excused by the board of directors of this club, pursuant to article VIII, section 2(b) of the standard Rotary club constitution) in good standing in this club, on the day of the regular meeting, must be counted as present or absent, and attendance must be evidenced by the member's being present for at least sixty (60) percent of the time devoted to the regular meeting, either at this club or at any other Rotary club, or as otherwise provided in the standard Rotary club constitution, article VIII, section 1.

**Section 3 - Quorum at annual & regular meetings**

One-third of the membership shall constitute a quorum at the annual and regular meetings of this club, except as provided in subsection 2.020.4. of the RI bylaws.

**Section 4 - Regular & Special Meetings - when held**

Regular meetings of the board shall be monthly on the dates determined from time to time by the president. Special meetings of the board shall be called by the president, whenever deemed necessary, or upon the request of two (2) members of the board, due notice having been given.

**Section 5 - Quorum for Board meetings**

A majority of the board members shall constitute a quorum of the board.

**Section 6 - Procedures at meetings**

Standing orders as referred to in Appendix 1 shall be applicable to all meetings. In all Rotary meetings, matters of procedure not specifically covered by Rotary International Constitution and By-laws, or the club constitution and by-laws, shall be decided by the chairman upon consideration of basic fairness, subject to the right of appeal against the chairman's ruling.

**Article V Fees and Dues**

**Section 1** - The admission fee shall be such amount as is determined from time to time by the Board of Directors and are to be paid before the applicant can qualify as a member.

**Section 2** - The membership dues shall be such amount as is determined from time to time by the Board of Directors, payable semiannually on the first day of July and of January, with the understanding that a proportion thereof of each semiannual payment shall be applied to each member's subscription to ROTARY DOWN UNDER magazine.

**Article VI Method of Voting**

The business of this club shall be transacted by viva voce vote except the election of officers and directors, which shall be by ballot. No proxy voting shall be allowed.

**Article VII Committees**

**Section 1** -

(a) The president shall, subject to the approval of the board, appoint the following standing committees:

Club Service committee  
Vocational Service committee  
Community Service committee  
International Service committee

(b) The president may, subject to the approval of the board, also appoint such committees on particular phases of club service, vocational service, community service and international service as deemed necessary.

(c) The club service committee, vocational service committee, community service committee, and international service committee shall each consist of a chairman, who shall be named by the president from the membership of the board, and not less than two (2) other members.

(d) The president shall be ex-officio a member of all committees and, as such, shall have all the privileges of membership thereon.

(e) Each committee shall transact such business as is delegated to it in the bylaws and such additional business as may be referred to it by the president or the board. Except where special authority is given by the board, such committees shall not take action until a report has been made to the board and approved by the board.

(f) The president may appoint one or more committees dealing with various aspects of youth activities, which, depending on their respective responsibilities, may be under any, or all, of the vocational service, community service, or international service committees. Where feasible and practicable in the appointment of such committees, there should be provision for continuity of membership, either by appointing one or more members for a second term or by appointing one or more members to a two-year term.

## **Section 2 - Club Service Committee.**

(a) The chairman of the club service committee shall be responsible for all club service activities and shall supervise and coordinate the work of all committees appointed on particular phases of club service.

(b) The club service committee shall consist of the chairman of the club service committee and the chairmen of all committees appointed on particular phases of club service.

(c) The president may, subject to the approval of the board, appoint the following committees (or such other committees as shall so be determined from time to time) on particular phases of club service:

Attendance committee  
Club bulletin committee  
Fellowship committee  
Magazine committee  
Membership development & classification committee  
Program committee  
Public relations committee  
Rotary information committee

(d) Where feasible and practicable in the appointment of club committees, there should be provision for continuity of membership, either by appointing one or more members for a second term or by appointing one or more members to a two-year term.

**Section 3 - Community Service Committee.**

(a) The chairman of the community service committee shall be responsible for all community service activities and shall supervise and coordinate the work of all committees appointed on particular phases of community service.

(b) The community service committee shall consist of the chairman of the community service committee and the chairmen of all committees appointed on particular phases of community service.

(c) The president may, subject to the approval of the board, appoint the following committees (or such other committees as shall so be determined from time to time) on particular phases of community service:

Human development committee  
Community development committee  
Environmental protection committee  
Partners in service committee

**Article VIII Duties of Committees**

**Section 1 - Club Service Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in matters relating to club service. The chairman of the club service committee shall be responsible for regular meetings of the committee and shall report to the board on all club service activities.

**(a) Attendance Committee.** This committee shall devise means for encouraging attendance at all Rotary meetings - including attendance at district conferences, inter-city meetings, regional conferences, and international conventions by all club members. This committee shall especially encourage attendance at regular meetings of this club and attendance at regular meetings of other clubs when unable to attend meetings of this club; keep all members informed on attendance requirements; promote better incentives for good attendance; and seek to ascertain and remove the conditions that contribute to unsatisfactory attendance.

**(b) Classifications Committee.** This committee shall as early as possible, but no later than 31 August of each year, make a classification survey of the community; shall compile from the survey a roster of filled and unfilled classifications, applying the classification principle; shall review, where necessary, existing classifications represented in the club; and shall counsel with the board on all classification problems.

**(c) Club Bulletin Committee.** This committee shall endeavor, through the publishing of a weekly club bulletin, to stimulate interest and improve attendance, announce the program of the forthcoming meeting, relate highlights of the previous meeting, promote fellowship, contribute to the Rotary education of all members, and report news of the club, of its members and of the world-wide Rotary program.

**(d) Fellowship Activities Committee.** This committee shall promote acquaintance and friendship among the members, promote participation by members in organised Rotary recreational and social activities, and do such work in pursuance of the general object of the club as may be assigned by the president or the board.

**(e) Magazine Committee.** This committee shall stimulate reader interest in Rotary Down Under; sponsor a magazine month; arrange for brief monthly reviews of the magazine on regular club programs; encourage the use of the magazine in the induction of new members; provide a copy of the magazine for non-Rotarian speakers; secure international service and other special subscriptions for libraries, hospitals, schools and other reading rooms; send news items and photographs to the editor of the magazine and in other ways make the magazine of service to the club members and non-Rotarians.

**(f) Membership Committee.** This committee shall consider all proposals for membership from the personal side and shall investigate the character, business, social and community standing, and general eligibility of all persons proposed for membership and shall report their decisions on all applications to the board.

**(g) Membership Development Committee.** This committee shall review continually the club roster of filled and unfilled classifications and shall take positive action to initiate and present to the board the names of suitable persons to fill unfilled classifications.

**(h) Program Committee.** This committee shall prepare and arrange the programs for the regular and special meetings of the club.

**(i) Public Relations Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect, plans (1) to give the public general information about Rotary, its history, object, and scope; and (2) to secure proper publicity for the club.

**(j) Rotary Information Committee.** This committee shall inform prospective members about the privileges and responsibilities of Rotary club membership; keep members informed about the history, object, and activities of Rotary at all levels; and oversee the orientation of new members during their first year in the club.

**(k) Welfare Committee:** This committee shall be concerned with the health and wellbeing of each Rotary member and keeping the club informed where appropriate.

**Section 2 - Vocational Service Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in their vocational relationships and in improving the general standards of practice in their respective vocations. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the vocational service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committees that may be appointed on particular phases of vocational service.

**Section 3 - Community Service Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in their community relationships. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the community service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committees that may be appointed on particular phases of community service.

**(a) Human Development Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in dealing within the community with the welfare of human beings of all kinds throughout the whole span of life by providing assistance and support to those in need.

**(b) Community Development Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in working to make the community a better place to live by improving the physical condition of the community

and its facilities.

**(c) *Environmental Protection Committee.*** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in monitoring and improving the quality of the community's environment.

**(d) *Partners in Service Committee.*** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in building relationships with other Rotary-sponsored organizations within the community and in co-operating with them in service.

**Section 4 - International Service Committee.** This committee shall devise and carry into effect plans which will guide and assist the members of this club in discharging their responsibilities in matters relating to international service. The chairman of this committee shall be responsible for the international service activities of the club and shall supervise and coordinate the work of any committees that may be appointed on particular phases of international service.

#### **Article IX Leave of Absence**

Upon written application to the board, setting forth good and sufficient cause, leave of absence may be granted excusing a member from attending the meetings of the club for a specified length of time.

#### **Article X Finances**

**Section 1** - The treasurer shall deposit all funds of the club in some bank to be named by the board.

**Section 2** - All accounts shall be paid only by cheques signed by the treasurer upon vouchers signed by any two officers. A thorough audit by a certified public accountant or other qualified person shall be made once each year of all the club's financial transactions.

**Section 3** - Officers having charge or control of funds shall give bond as may be required by the board for the safe custody of the funds of the club, cost of bond to be borne by the club.

**Section 4** - The fiscal year of this club shall extend from July 1st to June 30th, and for the collection of members' dues shall be divided into two (2) semiannual periods extending from July 1st to December 31st, and from January 1st to June 30th.

The payment of per capita dues and any magazine subscriptions to RI shall be made as at July 1st and January 1st of each year on the basis of the membership of the club on those dates.

**Section 5** - At the beginning of each fiscal year the board shall prepare or cause to be prepared a budget of estimated income and estimated expenditures for the year, which, having been agreed to by the board, shall stand as the limit of expenditures for the respective purposes unless otherwise ordered by action of the board.

#### **Article XI Method of Electing Members**

**Section 1** - Until all items under Section 1-6 have been satisfied no member is to canvass

the interest of a person to become a member. This does not, however, restrict members from inviting guests to attend meetings.

**Section 2** - The name of a prospective member, proposed by an active member of the club, shall be submitted to the board in writing, through the club secretary. A transferring or former member of another club may be proposed to active membership by the former club. The proposal for the time being shall be kept confidential except as otherwise provided in this procedure.

**Section 3** - The board shall ensure that the proposal meets all the classification and membership requirements of the club constitution.

**Section 4** - The board shall approve or disapprove the proposal within 30 days of its submission, and shall notify the proposer, through the club secretary, of its decision.

**Section 5** - If the decision of the board is unfavourable, the proposal for membership is withdrawn. If the decision of the board is favourable, the prospective member is invited to a general meeting as a guest of the proposer.

**Section 6** - Any active member shall then have the opportunity to advise the proposer and the president of any objection to the guest becoming a member of the club, **after fair and reasonable consideration, and within 7 days.**

**Section 7** - If such an objection is substantiated then the proposal for membership is withdrawn and the president shall notify the board. If no objection is received at this time the prospective member shall now be formally invited to join the club; be informed of the purposes of Rotary and of the privileges and responsibilities of membership, following which the prospective member shall be requested to sign the membership proposal form, attend 2 general meetings for further acquaintance and consider membership to the club.

**Section 8** - The prospective member shall advise the president of their intention to either join or decline membership of the club within 2 weeks of the formal invitation. If the prospective member's intention is to join the club, they will be required to complete the membership application and make payment of the admission fee (if not honorary membership), as prescribed by these bylaws, and shall be deemed to be elected to membership.

**Section 9** - Following the determination, the president shall arrange for the induction of the new member; the club secretary shall report the new member to RI and arrange the new member kit and relevant dinner badges; and the treasurer shall collect any annual membership fee.

#### **Article XII Resolutions**

No resolution or motion to commit this club on any matter shall be considered by the club until it has been considered by the board. Such resolutions or motions, if offered at a club meeting, shall be referred to the board without discussion.

#### **Article XIII Order of Business**

Meeting called to order.

Introduction of visiting Rotarians.

Correspondence and announcements.

Committee reports if any.

Any unfinished business.  
Any new business.  
Address or other program features.  
Adjournment.

#### **Article XIV Amendments to By-laws**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting, a quorum being present, by a two-thirds vote of all members who, being entitled under these by-laws so to do, actually vote in person at such meeting, provided the proposal is sent to each member at least 10 days before such meeting. No amendment or addition to these by-laws can be made which is not in harmony with the club constitution and with the Constitution and By-laws of Rotary International. Any such proposal for amendment must first be submitted to the Board of Directors through the Secretary. The Board of Directors must submit such proposal to a general meeting as soon as practicable.

#### **Article XV- Register of Members**

**Section 1** - The Secretary of this club shall establish and maintain a register of members of this club specifying the name and address of each person who is a member of this club together with the date on which the person became a member.

**Section 2** - The register of members shall be kept at the principal place of administration of this club and shall be open for inspection, free of charge, to any member of this club at any reasonable hour.

#### **Article XVI - Members' Liabilities**

The liabilities of a member of this club to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of this club or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of this club is limited to the amount, if any unpaid by the member in respect of membership of this club as required by Article 5 of these by-laws.

#### **Article XVII - Procedure for meetings of Board of Directors**

**Section 1** - Oral or written notice of a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given by the Secretary to each member of the board at least 48 hours (or such other period as may be unanimously agreed upon by the members of the board) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.

**Section 2** - Regular Meetings of the Board shall be held each month at a time and place determined from time to time by the president. Special meetings of the board shall be called by the president, whenever deemed necessary, or upon the request of two (2) members of the board, due notice having been given.

**Section 3** - A majority of the board members shall constitute a quorum of the board.

**Section 4** - No business shall be transacted by the board unless a quorum is present in accordance with Article IV, Section 5 of these by-laws and if within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present the meeting shall stand adjourned to a place nominated by the President and held within 2 weeks.

**Section 5** - If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

**Section 6** - At a meeting of the board -

- (a) the president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president shall preside; or
- (b) if the president and the vice president are absent or unwilling to act such one of the remaining members of the board as may be chosen by the members present at the meeting shall preside.
- (c) Questions arising at a meeting of the board or of any committee appointed by the president in accordance with Article VII of these by-laws shall be determined by a majority of the votes of members of the board or of any such committee present at the meeting.
- (d) Each member present at a meeting of the board or of any such committee (including the person presiding at the meeting) is entitled to one vote but, in the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote which can only be a vote against the motion.
- (e) Subject to a quorum being present, the board may act notwithstanding any vacancy on the board.
- (f) Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the board or by such a committee, is valid and effectual notwithstanding any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the board or of such a committee.

#### **Article XVIII - Public Officer and Common Seal**

**Section 1** - For the purpose of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 the board can from time to time appoint and alter the appointment of the Public Officer.

**Section 2** - The common seal of the club shall be kept in the custody of the Public Officer.

**Section 3** - The common seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the board and the affixing of the common seal shall be attested by the signature of any two members of the board.

#### **Article XIX - Custody & Inspection of Books**

**Section 1** - Except as otherwise provided by these by-laws, the public officer shall keep in his custody or under his control all records, books and other documents relating to the club.

**Section 2** - The records, books and other documents of the club shall be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the club at any reasonable hour.

#### **Article XX - Insurance**

**Section 1** - The club shall effect and maintain insurance pursuant to section 44 of the

Associations Incorporation Act 1984.

**Section 2** - In addition to the insurance required under Section 1 of this Rule, the club may effect and maintain other insurance.

#### **Article XXI - Charitable Fundraising Act 1991**

**Section 1** - This Rule applies whilst the club is registered under or is exempted from registration by or under the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991.

**Section 2** - A member of the board shall not be appointed to any salaried office of the club or any office of the club paid by fees, and no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be given by the club to any member of the board except:

(a) repayment of out-of-pocket expenses; and

(b) interest at a rate not exceeding interest at the rate for the time being which is or would be charged by the club's bankers for money lent to the club;

**Section 3** - Without limiting the operation of any of the provisions of the Constitution of the club or any of the other provisions of these by-laws, the office of a member of the board shall become vacant if:

(a) the member holds an office of profit in the club; or

(b) the member is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with the club.

**Section 4** - A proposed alteration of the Constitution or By-laws of the club shall be notified to the Minister administering the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, in the manner required by the regulations under that Act.

**Section 5** - The club shall comply with such of the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, and the regulations thereunder as are applicable to it.

#### **Article XXII - Complaint by Third Party**

Any complaint or grievance whatsoever made by any member of the public or any employee of the Club shall be conveyed forthwith to any member of the Board and shall be dealt with at the next available meeting of the Board. Should the Board so decide, the person making the complaint or having the grievance shall be given the opportunity to appear in person at the next available meeting of the Board.

Where the Board and the complainant cannot reach a satisfactory resolution of the complaint the parties shall submit the complaint or grievance to an independent person to be agreed upon or in the absence of agreement to be nominated by the President of the Law Society of New South Wales. The decision of the independent person so agreed upon or appointed shall be final and binding upon the parties. Each party shall bear its own costs.

### Article XXIII - Amendments to Constitution

Following receipt by the Club of advice from Rotary International that the Constitution has been amended, such amendment shall be advised to any regular meeting of the Club as may be determined by the Board, following which such amendments shall be notified forthwith by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act 1984.

Appendix I

## **STANDING ORDERS**

1. Meetings shall, subject to the presence of a quorum, start at the time set out on the notice, and shall, subject to the discretion of the meeting, continue until all business on the agenda is concluded.
2. Any member desiring to speak at general meetings shall rise in his place and when called upon by the Chair shall address the Chair. If two or more members rise simultaneously, the Chair shall call upon the member who first caught the eye of the Chair.
3. When the Chair rises to speak any member standing shall sit down.
4. No member other than the proposer of a motion or an amendment shall speak to it until it has been seconded. A motion or amendment lapsing for want of a seconder shall not be recorded in the minutes.
5. A motion or amendment before the Chair shall not be withdrawn except by its mover and by leave of the Chairman. No motion shall be withdrawn while any amendment is under discussion or after any amendment has been adopted.
6. If required to do so by the Chair, the proposer of any motion or amendment shall submit it in writing.
7. A motion or amendment before the Chair may be reworded by the mover subject to leave of the Chair.
8. No member shall speak more than once to any motion or amendment, except that the mover of a motion (but not of an amendment) shall have a right of reply, which reply shall close the debate. An amendment shall constitute a separate question from the original motion and from any other amendment.
9. A member moving a motion or amendment shall be deemed to have spoken to it. A member seconding a motion or amendment without speaking to it may reserve the right to speak to it subsequently.
10. When an amendment is before the chair, discussion shall be confined to that amendment. No further amendment shall be proposed until the amendment before the Chair has been disposed of.
11. The Chair shall, as far as practicable, call on speakers for and against a motion or

amendment alternately, subject to the right of the seconder to speak immediately after the mover. If two consecutive speakers have both argued for or against a motion or amendment, and there is no member wishing to argue the opposite view, or in the case of a motion, to move an amendment, the motion or the amendment shall (subject in the case of a motion, to the mover's right of reply) be put without further debate.

12. Any member may raise a point of order, which shall take precedence over all other business, and which shall be open to discussion. The point must be raised at the time the alleged irregularity occurred. An explanation or contradiction shall not constitute a point of order.

13. Any member disagreeing with the Chair's ruling on a point of order may move dissent. The Chair shall then put such dissent motion forthwith without debate to the meeting.

14. Simple majority voting shall apply. Abstinance from voting shall not be considered a vote in favour or against any motion or amendment. On an equality of voting, the Chair shall be entitled to a second or casting vote which can only be a vote against the motion.

15. A member who has not already participated in the debate may at any time, whether another speaker has the floor or not, move "That the question be now put", which motion, if accepted by the Chair, shall be put without amendment or debate. The Chair shall have absolute discretion to accept or refuse the motion. The Chair may also personally put the question if the Chair feels that adequate discussion has taken place. In either case the mover of a motion shall retain the right of reply. If an amendment is before the Chair, the closure motion shall be deemed to close the debate on the amendment only.

