



Constitution Review 2023

[as a result of the 2022 AGM when the following was passed]

Special motion: Shelley moved that we gather a group to review our constitution to strengthen the appointment of candidates and bring recommendations to the 2023 AGM. This was seconded by Gary Grut (Glen Eden) and passed.

Initial Process

- Review the constitutions of the other regional associations, some of which have been reviewed and amended more recently.
- Find areas of commonality that reflect reasonable practice.
- Discern appropriateness for the NBA.
- Incorporate into a draft constitution.
- Provide a recommendation at the 2023 AGM.

Summary Findings

A	B	C	D	E	F
	Northern	Waikato/BOP	Lower North Island	Upper South	Otago & Southland
Notification of AGM	2 months	42 days	2 months	42 days	2 months
Nominations for board positions	Not listed	21 days before AGM	3 weeks before AGM	21 days before AGM	4 weeks before AGM
Agenda items to board	Not listed	21 days before AGM	Not listed	21 days before AGM	One month before AGM
All information to churches	Not listed	14 days before AGM	Not listed	14 days before AGM	Two weeks before AGM

It was determined that the constitutions of both Waikato/BOP and Upper South had useful clauses that were both suitable for the NBA and would bring consistency to three associations.

Suggested Amendments

5. Annual Meetings

Current:

- a. The Annual Meeting of the Association shall normally be held in November or at such time and place as the Regional Board may determine. The Association Administrator will notify Church members by post or email of the time and venue for the Annual Meeting. Notification of the meeting shall be given at least 2 months prior to the date of the Annual Meeting.

Change to:

- a. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held each year at such time as the Board may determine. The Association Administrator will notify all Association churches by post or email of the time and venue for the Meeting, giving a minimum of 42 days' notice.

Suggested Amendments

Add the following clauses:

5. Annual Meetings

- b. Annual General Meeting agenda items shall be submitted to the Board for approval no later than 21 days before the Meeting.
- c. All documents related to the Annual General Meeting will be disseminated no later than 14 days prior to the Meeting (with the exception of any changes to the Constitution – the requirements of Clause 12 apply).

Suggested Amendments

Delete this clause (it's out of place within the flow of the Constitution):

5. Annual Meetings

- e. Nominations for the position of Regional Board member require the signature of two members of different Baptist fellowships or churches. A positive vote of 75% of officially designated members in attendance is required for election to the Regional Board.

Add this clause:

6. Regional Board

- b. Nominations for board members must be submitted to the Chairperson, with written approval from the nominee's church leadership, no less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting. Nominees for board membership will be announced to the Association no less than 14 days before the Meeting.

Next Steps

- Send suggested amended Constitution to all churches, using the proposed timelines as a guide.
- Ratify at the NBA's AGM at the National Hui in Manukau [Friday 3rd November].
- New constitution effective from 1st January 2024.
- Stage 2, which is a wider scope of the entire constitution, to be considered in 2024.