

SCIO-ESBA Office-bearers

Under the old constitution ESBA had a committee with specified office-bearers who were confirmed at an AGM and who all generally held office for a period of three years. The office-bearer positions were:- President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Education convenor, DFFF show convenor and Apiary manager. The president vacated that position after three years to be replaced by the vice-president.

Now that we are a SCIO, a few things have had to change, and they are summarised here together with some information for members who wish to consider being a trustee. A new board of trustees has been appointed by the members in 2022. A chair and vice-chair were subsequently agreed by the board together with the other office-bearers. The conditions pertaining to trustees are given within the ESBA constitution under clauses 53 to 66. Trustees are elected for a term of up to three years; there is a maximum of 14 trustees and this can include two who are co-opted. At the AGM, a third of the existing board must stand down. This condition means that in a three-year period the entire board have the opportunity to stand down. Note, those that stand down can be re-elected. Every year, after the AGM, the new board must elect a chair and vice-chair and if any office-bearers stand down and they are re-elected then the board can re-instate them as an office-bearer. A period of greater than one year is deemed beneficial to serve as an office-bearer as the individual learns about the position and we get a period of continuity on the board.

The balancing act to be performed is to ensure that experience gained by office-bearers is used over a period of years to help the efficient running of the Association whilst renewing the ESBA trustees/board, managing a healthy turnover and in so doing remain viable for the future, connected to and representative of the membership.

We recognize that personal circumstances might change, and a period of three years might not always be possible but also, that in some cases holding office for a period exceeding three years would be desirable. The message to members is that if you are considering putting yourself forward as a trustee, please think about making a commitment of at least three years.

Prepared 15 February 2023