

PROPOSED - AMC OBJECTS and Code of Conduct – proposed 8 January 2025

OBJECTS


Objects are a legal requirement under the Act, Regs and Constitution – basically they are why there is an Association

Proposed	Current	Key Points
<p>Australian Marriage Celebrants Inc is a leading not-for-profit organisation that supports and promotes its Members through lobbying, education, resources and timely actions. It recognises that Australian Celebrants are a vital part of Australia’s small business community and provide a unique service to Australian and international couples through the ritual of marriage ceremony.</p> <p>AMC supports its Members by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing professional development, networking and other relevant resources for the advancement of its Celebrant Members ○ providing business tools and protections such as copyright licences, public liability and professional indemnity insurances ○ circulating relevant, accurate and timely information for business growth and ongoing compliance with all relevant Australian laws • proactively lobbying governments and policy makers to ensure Australia remains a leading country for delivery of the ritual of marriage by professional Celebrants • promoting the ritual of marriage ceremony in Australia, to the world ○ actively promoting its Celebrant Members as leading providers of celebrant services in Australia and ○ growing AMC membership to continue to provide strong leadership in the Marriage Celebrancy industry 	<p>Objects and Purpose - current</p> <p>1) To create a community of professional marriage celebrants to promote and advance the profession through various means including meetings, events, ongoing education, personal development and access to a variety of business tools and resources.</p> <p>To promote the best interests of its Members at all times by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing a conduit between its Members and members of the public who are interested in engaging its Members. - providing opportunity for Members to promote their business and offer their service to the public. - making available business tools and resources to its Members for their use. - providing continuous support to Members either by direct telephone or email contact or through web forums or the holding of regional meetings. - providing access to a variety of information, documents and forms at any time. - making available group discounts for different business requirements and protection such as business insurance and Copyright protection, and - ensuring Members have access to suitable public liability and professional indemnity insurance. <p>(2) To liaise with Members of AMC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To encourage a high level of professionalism among Members. (b) To offer opportunities for further education and/or training to Members, including, but not limited to, required Ongoing Professional Development. (c) To offer opportunities for Members to network. (d) To communicate to/with Members by regular meetings, newsletters and conferences. (e) To promote good fellowship amongst Members. <p>(3) To liaise with the members of the general public and media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To promote awareness and understanding of the role of Authorised Marriage Celebrants. (b) To promote awareness and understanding of the nature of civil marriage ceremonies. (c) To promote what may be reasonably expected of a professional celebrant. (d) To encourage members of the public to associate high professional standards with AMC Members. (e) To devise and implement marketing strategies to promote the AMC and its Members. <p>(4) to liaise with government either directly or via any nationally recognised body approved by the government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To represent the best interests and concerns of Members to the relevant authorities/policymakers in government. (b) To inform Members of any new or amended government policies/decisions, and to interpret them in a clear and comprehensible way so that Members are aware of how such policies/decisions affect them as celebrants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State upfront we are a not-for-profit organisation (to allow application for grants and discounts eg <i>Microsoft, accounting software</i>) - State we are part of Australian small business community (large employer) and in UNIQUE business - Promote the ritual of marriage ceremony to the world – Australia is a great destination for weddings and it is easier to get married here than other destination wedding countries

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CODE OF CONDUCT

The AMC Code of Conduct must be approved by Members

Proposed	Current	Key Points
<p>As an AMC Celebrant Member, I agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • act honestly and with professional integrity always • comply with all Australian laws in my Celebrant business including privacy, confidentiality and discrimination • be dedicated and deliver the highest standards of Celebrant performance and service to clients • always act professionally with Celebrant clients, guests and associated service providers • continually seek new ideas and improve my Celebrant services • ensure all my Celebrant related website/s, internet listings, social media posts and other Celebrant communications and information is professional and factual • faithfully and professionally communicate with the AMC and its Members and • always uphold the good name and reputation of the AMC and the Australian Marriage Celebrant industry. 	<p>Australian Marriage Celebrants Incorporated (AMC) holds its Members to the highest standards of personal and professional conduct and performance. Members must recognise that they hold a position of great trust and responsibility in the community, and that their personal and professional conduct should be worthy of that trust. A commitment to abide by the principles of this Code of Conduct will be a prerequisite of membership. Members will be expected at all times to adhere to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Member’s personal and professional conduct should at all times embody: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honesty and personal integrity in all actions. • Tolerance of race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, religious, moral or social beliefs of Members and clients. • Professional integrity – in particular, to be fully conversant with, and adhere strictly to, the Code of Practice for marriage celebrants as set out in Schedule 1A (regulation 37L) in the Marriage Regulations 1963, and the Privacy Act. • Dedication to the highest standards of performance and service to clients. • Respect for other Members, including courteous dealings with other Members in person, at AMC meetings and on the AMC Forums. • Complying with all legislation and regulations applicable to conducting business in Australia. • Careful attention to all aspects of personal presentation in order to reflect the highest levels of professional excellence. 2. Websites and Social Media sites. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As Members’ websites and social media sites are linked to the AMC website, and will display the logo of AMC, all information contained therein must be factual, accurate and of an appropriate professional standard. • Members may only display the AMC logo which includes the words ‘Member of....’ as approved by AMC. • Members will respect the integrity of other celebrants’ websites and intellectual property. Plagiarising of other Members’ materials and resources will at all times be deemed unacceptable. • Members Websites and Social Media sites linked to the AMC Website must only be for, and in the name of, their personal celebrancy business. If there is any dispute or debate over the use of a Website and Social Media site linked to the member’s profile on the AMC Website, AMC reserves the right to seek proof that the Website and/or Social Media sites are used predominantly for their personal Marriage Celebrancy business. Any decision by the AMC Executive Committee will be final. 3. Members shall not engage in any conduct which would bring AMC and its Members into disrepute. 4. Members Profiles must not be used to promote other businesses which a member may be involved in, even if it is celebrancy or marriage related. If there is any debate over the use of a business name in the member’s profile, AMC reserves the right to seek proof that the business name is used only for that celebrant’s personal Marriage Celebrancy business. Any decision by the AMC Executive Committee will be final. 5. As a minimum standard, Members shall complete all Ongoing Professional Development training according to the requirements of the Australian Attorney-General’s Department. Members should endeavour to regularly seek additional personal and professional improvement through training, study and attendance at celebrant workshops, AMC regional meetings, conferences and discussion groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current one is very wordy - Simplify, modernise <p>Prepare final version as a PDF for Members and/or include on annual Membership certificate for promotion (need professional design)</p> <div align="center">  <p>AMC AUSTRALIAN MARRIAGE CELEBRANTS INCORPORATED</p> <p>CODE OF CONDUCT</p> <p><small>As an AMC Celebrant Member I agree to:</small></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • act honestly and with professional integrity always • comply with all Australian laws in my Celebrant business including privacy, confidentiality and discrimination • be dedicated and deliver the highest standards of Celebrant performance and service to clients • always act professionally with Celebrant clients, guests and associated service providers • continually seek new ideas and improve my Celebrant services • ensure all my Celebrant related website/s, internet listings, social media posts and other Celebrant communications and information is professional and factual • faithfully and professionally communicate with the AMC and its Members • uphold the AMC’s good name and do not bring the AMC, its Members or the celebrant industry into disrepute. </div>