

# **Information to Members to open our Membership for Immediate Family Members of Veterans to be eligible to join.**

The National Board, which includes representatives from all state branches, voted unanimously at the May National Conference to ask members to vote on the national proposal to open the membership of the Association to include Immediate Family Members of past and present Veterans of the Australian Defence Force and its Allies, as Associate members.

Associate members shall pay the same membership fees as ordinary members, but will be unable to vote on changes to the National Constitution.

Associate members will not be eligible to be appointed to the National board of management, but would be eligible to be co-opted to National sub-committees or forums.

## **Rationale**

This has been a decision that the National Board thought long and hard about mainly due to the constant referral by government of the “support” for Families of Veterans. Our Association believes there is very little support for those mothers, siblings and close relatives caring for current or ex-serving members of the ADF. We believe our Association would be in an ideal position to provide that support.

## **Changes to the Constitution**

If the majority of members who vote agree to widen the membership, the national board would then prepare relevant changes to the national constitution prior to holding a Special General Meeting to vote on those changes. Following a successful vote on the changes to the national constitution, state branches would then be required to update their own constitutions to reflect those changes.

A voting section is below which we ask that you cut out and after voting place in the enclosed envelope and return to us by 31 August 2019. Members must be financial at the time of voting.

Thank you members,

Heather Evans

President