

Constitution

COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY OF AUSTRALIA



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Communist Workers Party of Australia

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Section A: Name and Purpose:

1. The name of the Party shall be the Communist Workers Party of Australia. The purpose is to change our Social Economic system from a Capitalist based system to a Socialist system. The immediate aims and objectives are as set out in the Communist Workers Party of Australia Program and Political Resolutions.

Section B: Organisational Principles;

2. The Communist Workers Party of Australia is a party of the working class dedicated to replacing the Capitalist Socio-economic system with a Socialist, worker controlled, System. It is a voluntary organization of like-minded people who strive to unite in its ranks the most politically advanced and active members of the working class and other sections of the people, exploited by monopoly, who are prepared to work for the achievement of working class state power and the building of a Socialist Australia.
3. The Communist Workers Party of Australia has no interests separate and apart from those of the working class.
4. The Communist Workers Party of Australia is guided by the theory of Marxism-Leninism. The Communist Workers Party of Australia upholds the principle of working-class internationalism. It develops fraternal ties with Communist and Workers' Parties of other countries for the victory of the common aims of the working class.
5. The organizational principles of the Communist Workers Party of Australia are determined by its political aims and are guided by Marxist-Leninist theory and practice. In order to lead the working class, the Party must be founded on firm ideological, political and organizational unity, based on Marxism-Leninism and on the continuous organized activity of its members in close connection with the working people and the disenfranchised working class, the unemployed workers, underemployed workers and our first peoples.

6. Democratic Centralism is the organizational principle which ensures this. Democratic centralism combines the maximum of democratic discussion and participation of the membership in Party life, with the obligation to carry out majority decisions and execution of these decisions. It includes full discussion, by the entire membership, of the policies necessary to advance the aims of the Party's program. Decisions as to what these policies must be are made by majority votes which are then binding on all members. This enables the Party to act as a united whole in all conditions of the struggle.
7. Unity derives from agreement on Party Program and Constitution of the Party and the recognition that while differences may arise, as to how best to advance the aims of the program under changing circumstances, there must be unity of action in executing decisions once they are made by majority vote. All Party members must carry out Party decisions, the minority must abide by majority decisions, and lower organizations must carry out decisions of higher organizations.
8. Discussion regarding Party Policy must always be encouraged. Principled criticism and self-criticism carried out in a comradely and objective manner consolidate the solidarity and unity of the Party and enables it to strengthen its ties with the working class. Any tendency to suppress or evade principled criticism is detrimental to the Party and must be constantly opposed.
9. The basic organization of the Communist Workers Party of Australia is the Party branch. It should educate, encourage and in all ways develop each Party member to become an active worker for the Party's program and policies among their fellow workers.

Section C: Party Program, Political Resolution and Party Constitution;

10. The Party constitution sets out the rules, rights of members, procedures and general nature of the Party. The Party program includes the work of the party, the Marxist-Leninist ideological basis of the party and the long term goals of the party. The political Resolution describes the international and national socio-economic situation and the immediate goals of the party.

11. The Party Program and Constitution may be amended at any Party Congress however, it is not necessary to amend these documents if the membership feels that they continue to be relevant to the current situation and no party delegate has proposed any amendments. The Party Program and Constitution must be reviewed by Party Congress at least every four years. The Political Resolution is re-written, amended and voted on at every Congress.

Section D: Party Emblem:

12. The emblem of the Party shall be the hammer and sickle on a red background with CWPA in gold.

Section E: Membership

13. Any resident of Australia sixteen years of age or older, who subscribes to the provisions of the constitution, agrees with the basic principles of the Party Program and agrees to work towards the change of the Capitalist system to a Socialist one, shall be eligible for membership.

14. All interested persons can attend the meetings as observers or Party Supporters with the specific agreement of the meeting.

15. A Party member is one who accepts and works to carry out the CWPA Party Program and policies of the Party as determined by this constitution and by the Congress. A Party member carries out Party decisions, belongs to a branch and pays dues.

16. Party members should constantly endeavor to deepen their political knowledge and understanding through systematic study of Marxism-Leninism.

17. Party members support policies and progress that are positive for the working class and oppose everything detrimental to the working class.

18. Party members should study and explain to potential members and supporters the program and policies of the Party in order to win them for these aims and to build the Party. It is the duty of every Party member to defend and strengthen Party unity.

19. A Member can't have membership in another political party organization.
20. All potential members will initially be attached to a branch as a Party Supporter member for a period of 4 months prior to applying for full membership. This period of time allows for the potential member to learn the very basics about Marxism-Leninism, to be able to understand the structure of the party, to allow time to understand the organization they are joining and to become an integral part of the party branch. Some people may decide to remain a Party Supporter. The Communist Workers Party of Australia undertakes to attract the most active and advanced sections of the Working Class into their full active membership ranks.
21. All applications for membership shall be subject to discussion and decision by a majority vote of the branch. Once accepted the member, or, members shall be invited, at that party meeting or the following, to make a statement if they wish, will receive their first party card and receive a copy of the Constitution and Party program. All new recruits shall be reported by the branch to the next higher body of the Party. Where an application is rejected, even if the branch has forestalled the admission for some reason, the branch shall notify such rejections to the next higher body which shall review the case.
22. In areas where no branch organization exists, membership can be granted only by the District Committee or if no District Committee exists, by the State Committee. Only where no District or State Committee exists the Central Committee can grant membership. These members will report direct to the District or State Committee and only if neither of these exist to the Central Committee directly. Members in isolated areas shall pay the regular dues and report direct to the office to which they are attached.
23. There could be a variety of personal reasons why someone might want to remain a Party supporter. All Party Supporters are eligible to apply for full Party Membership whenever they wish after the initial four month period. Our organization only asks participation to the best of his or her ability.

24. The Party Supporter member should not be seen as second class membership but as potential full members at all times. The Party Supporter can participate in all areas of Party life except for the voting at the Party Conferences or Congress, to vote for the executive of a Party branch or State or District Committees. A Party Supporter can express an opinion and take on responsibility of the branches to the best of his or her ability. Any Party supporter can apply, at any time, to become a full member of the Party after the initial four month period. Any full Party member may apply to become a Party Supporter at any time. A member can after becoming a Party Supporter, reapply to become a full member again at any time.
25. All persons under the age of sixteen years old may join the Eureka Youth league that will have solidarity with the workers and to have social activities however, will be under the guidance of the party and will have no political decision making process. Younger people may be allowed to attend CWPA meetings and activities as observers or supporters.
26. Younger members of the party are actively encouraged to participate in a Youth Committee in order to guide youth activity. We recognize that we should not patronize our youth by withholding them from full party participation and participation in leading workers to their Socialist future. Younger members may participate in the youth committee until the age of twenty five years.

Section F: Rights of Members

27. Every member of the Communist Workers Party of Australia, in good standing, has the right and duty to participate in formulating and carrying out the policies of the Party, including the right and duty to discuss any and all policies and tactics within the Party organization and in designated Party publications, the right to reserve their opinion in the event of disagreement with a decision or submit it to a leading committee, including the Central Committee at the same time unconditionally carrying out of decisions properly made by party branches, party committees or Party Conference. Every Party member has the right and duty to discuss within the party any decision, including any decision made by the Central Committee, the Party Program, the Constitution and the Political Resolution or any other party document.
28. Every Party member in good standing has the right to elect the Party's leading committees and to constructively criticize their work and composition. Every Party member in good standing has the right to be nominated and elected to all offices and committees as provided for by the Constitution.
29. A Party member has the right to be present, and shall be invited to be present, whenever decisions are taken regarding his or her individual activity or conduct, and the right to address any question or statement to any Party body, including the Central Committee and receive full information pertaining to the question, discussion or allegation.

30. A Party member, branch or committee, disagreeing with a decision properly made by a branch, District, State or Central Committee has the right to appeal that decision to the next higher body and may carry the appeal to the highest body of the Party, its Central Committee and the Congress. While such an appeal is pending the individual member, branch or committee appealing such a decision must abide by the decision already rendered. If a member, branch or Committee has proof that a decision has not been properly made, by an appropriate party body, then the member, branch or committee can abstain from the activity until the decision can be reviewed by the next highest party body until it can be established if it was appropriately made and a review of the decision can take place.
31. All appeals shall be tabled by the respective committees at the next meeting and dealt with, within the next two meetings or 90 days, whichever comes earlier.
32. Any individual member or branch or committee has the right to write to or email the District, State or Central Committees. Letters/formal emails to these Committees must be tabled at the following meeting after receiving the correspondence. The individual member or branch or committee will be informed immediately when the letter/email is received and when they can expect the matter is to be dealt with. The Secretary of the Committees are responsible for ensuring that this correspondence is tabled and that the branch/individual is informed when it is to be dealt with. The Secretaries are responsible for ensuring that an appropriate response is sent to the individual/branch/committee. Members can request support in formulating a response and this assistance is carried out with impunity, in other words free from any form of recrimination, blame or consequence for the member/s giving such assistance.
33. Questions raised with a higher Party Committee, as a result of disagreement with a majority decision, in addition to being considered by the committee to which the appeal is made, may be made the subject of special organized discussion for a specified period within the Party organization by a majority vote of the Central Committee or its Executive.

34. All members have the right to be treated with respect and shown respect at all times. Allegations may not be made in writing and circulated around official committees or internet sites or via any other communication means regarding any party member outside of proper meeting/party processes. If any allegation is made, about any other individual party member, at any level of the party then the member who the allegation is made about must be sent a copy of the allegation and be permitted to make a formal reply. This applies to all levels and bodies of the party including higher party committees.

35. All members have the right to put forward their arguments uninterrupted from anyone who disagrees with their argument or proposal. Other members will not display any form of unacceptable behavior such as shouting down a person, or shouting so the person will not be heard, attacking a person at a personal level or by personal insults, or laughing at a person in a cynical manner or pulling faces or making rude/distracting gestures whilst someone is talking. If anyone at any meeting displays such boorish behavior the chairperson is to immediately request that they leave the meeting. After ten minutes the person may return to the meeting upon apologizing to the comrade whom was the target of the offence. If the member repeats the poor behavior they can be asked to leave the meeting completely. If a member repeats the behavior at two consecutive meetings they are immediately placed on stage one disciplinary action. If the chairperson does not take any action any other member can call a point of order and request that the chair follow the constitution and have the person removed. Anyone who behaves this inappropriate way at a Congress or Whole Party Conference will be warned once by the chair and then on the second incident their right to be a delegate at Congress/conference will be rescinded, in other words their right to be a delegate will be removed.

36. Any member who has been subject to disciplinary action has the right to appeal to the next higher body up to the Congress. No new charges can be laid at Congress. Congress can only deal with appeals to Congress for previous disciplinary action. No new evidence can be submitted against an individual/individuals member/s at Congress. Congresses are there to work on the business of the party and therefore appeals to Party Congress can only be made after all other processes/disciplinary procedures have been exhausted. A member who has been expelled can appeal to Congress. Congress are only to take into account factual evidence. If the member who is appealing can prove that no actual evidence of breaches of the constitution or bringing the party into disrepute can be provided the expulsion is immediately rescinded and the party member immediately becomes a full party member with all rights and responsibilities restored. Evidence includes dates, times, what happened and witness statement. Evidence does not include personal opinion. If any or all of the disciplinary procedures are not followed, in full, the expulsion/disciplinary action is rescinded immediately.

37. Any individual member or branch or committee has the right to approach any individual member or committee regarding concerns or assistance in their work as long as it not factional behavior. Factionalism will not be tolerated. See the section on factionalism, page 24 Section K.

38. The issuance and acceptance of new cards each year at the AGM is a reaffirmation of membership in the Party. Members should attend meetings, classes and activities to the best of their ability, taking into account those on shift work or with other obligations. If a branch member is inactive all efforts should be made by the branch to encourage the member to become more active. A member's activity on other party Committees or party activity should be taken into account. If all efforts have failed and there appears to be no reason for the lack of activity the branch Executive should invite the member to a meeting to discuss any issues or reasons they may have for their lack of activity. If there is no response it can be politely suggested that the member might feel more comfortable as a Supporter Member. The member involved can put their reasons in writing to the District, State or Central Committee. A branch after all efforts have failed may, upon majority decision, and in consultation with the next higher Party body, refuse to renew a membership in the event of failure to participate. For other disciplinary matters the disciplinary procedures need to be followed. A member can appeal the decision via the appeals process.

39. Any member who is found to be deliberately intimidating other members or attempting to quash the opinion of others, unless it is directly, overtly or obviously anti-working class propaganda, will be dealt with through disciplinary action.

Section G: Congress.

40. Party Congresses are the highest body of the party. All decisions properly made by majority vote at these Congresses are binding on all members until/unless rescinded by the following Party Congress.

41. The party Congress is held every two years and the decisions of party Congress are binding on all members. The highest party body between Party Congresses is the Central Committee who are responsible for carrying out the decisions of Congress and guiding the work of the party, in consultation with the membership between Party Congresses in line with the party program.

42. The Party Congress, for reviewing the Party Program and Constitution, shall be preceded by not less than three months discussion in all Party organizations of the draft Party Program. The draft Party Program can be the original program, from prior to the Congress, which then becomes the draft program, or the original program with amendments which becomes the draft program. There is no need to rewrite the entire Program, or any of it, if it is deemed correct and acceptable by the membership. If the Program is deemed out of date, unacceptable or unable to be implemented then it should be re-written or any part thereof. Any proposed amendments to the constitution and such other documents are submitted to the Central Committee who collate them into a document to give to Congress delegates. Party branches or individuals may submit amendments from the floor of any Congress. Amendments to documents are voted on at the Congress.

43. During the pre-Congress discussion period the Central Committee shall make available a Party publication within which to conduct the pre-Party Congress discussion. During the discussion all Party organizations may propose amendments to the draft Party Program and the Constitution or Political resolution or other documents submitted to the Central Committee and submit any document for the consideration of the Party Congress. All resolutions for the Party Congress must reach the Central Executive no later than eleven (14) days before the opening of the Party Congress, and such resolutions shall be made available in suitable form to all delegates.

Section H: Branches and Committees

44. All Party committees are elected. Elected committees are bound by Party policies as decided by Congress. Elected Committees have the right to make decisions on the basis of these policies and in consultation with the lower/higher organizations and branches. All Party members and committees are obliged to carry out decisions made by majority decision.

45. If another party body or individual is importantly or directly involved in a decision, where possible, that body or individual must be consulted regarding the decision before a final vote is taken. Once a final decision is made, unless an appeal is requested, all party members must abide by the decision.

46. All Party committees must report regularly on their work to the Party organization which elected them and must abide by the principle of collective leadership and decision making coupled with individual responsibility.
47. The primary organization of the Communist Workers Party of Australia is the Branch. Branches may be established wherever three or more members can set one up providing they do not already belong to a branch in which case the branch is also consulted and the person may transfer with the permission of the next highest party body. Branches are organized in communities in cities, towns, neighborhoods, and places of employment or on any other basis determined by the responsible Party committee in the area. Party members shall be organized in Industrial / workplace branches as a priority.
48. Party branches shall meet at least once a month or more often if decided by the branch membership. The branch shall elect a branch secretary and whatever officers are deemed necessary to conduct the business of the branch. These officers shall constitute the executive. Such elections shall take place annually at an Annual General Meeting in the months of December, January or February each year.
49. At the Annual General Meeting the work of the branch is reviewed. The Secretaries of the Branches must send a written report into the Central Committee regarding the work of the branch, including the financial status of the branch, within two months of having the AGM.
50. All Party officers and leading committees of the Party, from the branch executive member to the higher Party bodies, shall be elected by secret ballot and majority vote either directly by the membership or through their elected delegates. There shall be two rounds of voting if there is a plurality of candidates. In other words whenever there is more than two candidates for a position then the vote is taken twice.

51. It shall be the aim and duty of the Party branch to bring about the closest relationship between the Party and the working people in the area in which it works. This work includes: joining in the struggle of the people for their political, economic and cultural needs by; conducting propaganda, agitation, organizational work and working class based campaigns. To work amongst the working people in order to convince them to support the Party's program and policy in changing the Capitalist system to a Socialist one; by helping each member to become an active fighter for the rights of the working class and those unemployed or underemployed workers.
52. Party branches shall constantly strive to gain new members and to organize the political education of branch members so as to make them more effective in their areas, communities and industries. The Party branch checks up regularly on the carrying out of its decisions and on the activities of its members and works to strengthen Party discipline and Party unity.
53. All decisions arrived at in regular or special branch meetings shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present, and all members shall abide by such decisions. The branch executive is obligated to notify all members of regular or special meetings.
54. Branches are made up of at least three members to a maximum of nineteen members. After fourteen members are recruited two branches may be formed and work closely together within the district. At twenty members two branches must be formed and work closely together within the district. Branches in districts may like to hold joint education classes or have joint activities and are encouraged to continue to work closely together.
55. In towns or cities, where there are two branches, the two branch executives can meet to organize the work of the District or a District Committee can be formed in Consultation with the State or Central Committees. In towns or cities where there are more than two branches, a district committee will be formed in consultation with the State or Central Committees. In states where there is more than one branch, but they are not within the same town, area or city, a State Committee can be formed in consultation with the Central Committee and in consultation with the existing branches.

56. In such cases as there is a State or District Committee, District or State Committees Annual General Meetings are to be held to elect office holders via proportional representation, and review the work of the District/State Committees. Delegates from the branches can attend the Annual General Meetings of State and District Committees.
57. These State and District Committees shall assist the branches to strengthen their public work, administer the affairs of the city or regional party organization and elaborate at the local level the decisions of the Central Committee. After the first year, of the formation of State and District Committees, to be eligible for election to the District or State committee one shall have been a member of the Party in continuous good standing for at least one year.
58. State and District Committees are responsible for overseeing that the party program is being carried out in their areas of leadership.
59. For Congress purposes members in isolated areas will be grouped together and delegate/delegates to Congress selected by the district or state committees. These members can't be attached to a branch for the purposes of delegate to Congress.
60. Committees and officers must report regularly on their activities to the body which elected them or the body to which they are responsible. District, State and Central committees must report four times a year to branches regarding their activities including financial and other reports.
61. Applications for transfer are to be forwarded to the District Committee or to the State Committee or Central Committee if no State or District Committees exist. Applications for transfer document is available from headquarters. Applications for transfer must be processed within 21 days. A member objecting to a transfer, may appeal through the normal process.
62. For the purposes of Congress a delegate from the branch must have actively participated in branch activities at least to 60% of all activities or have a valid reason, such as illness as to why they have not consistently attended.

63. Attendance records at branch meetings must be kept up to date and will be recorded using the initials of the branch member only.

Section I : Party Congresses and Conferences;

64. The highest party body is the Congress. Decisions made by majority vote at the Congress must be abided by all party members including those on the Central Committee, Central Committee Executive, State and District Committees. Decisions made by majority vote at Congress are binding on all members until the next party Congress where they may be rescinded by majority vote.

65. In between Congresses the Central Committee is the highest Party body. Central Committee members are elected by secret ballot every two years at the Party Congress. To be eligible for nomination to the Central Committee a member must have continuous membership for at least three years with the exception of the initial formation Congress and the 2nd Congress.

66. Party Congresses will be held at least once every two years between July and October.

67. The Central Committee must give at least four months warning of the specific dates of the Party Congress.

68. Delegates to Party Congress will be decided on the basis of proportional representation from the party membership and as decided by the Central Committee in consultation with the branches.

69. All branches will submit names of their delegates to Party Congress at least two months prior to Party Congress.

(For nominations process to Central Committee please see Section I page 17 on the Central Committee).

70. A Special Congress may be called either by a three quarter majority vote of the Central Committee or upon the written request of branches representing 60% of the membership in the Party. A branch may submit a letter requesting a Special Congress. This letter must specify the reasons for wanting a special Congress. This letter is then circulated to all branches who then vote regarding if the branch wants a special Congress. There must be 60% agreement of the membership to organize a special Congress. A Special Congress may not be called for minor issues. A Special Congress will be only be called if a branch/District/State body believes there has been a departure from the party program, an abuse of power or for unforeseen and extraordinary circumstances and those circumstances need to be set out in the letters requesting one.

71. Every two years the Party will also have a Whole Party Conference. At this conference the strategies, tactics and general business of the party can be discussed and work in areas compared without the pressure of elections that take place at Congress. In this way more members may be involved in the discussion and members can learn from the experiences of others. Whole Party conferences will occur in the alternate year to Congress.

Section J: Central Committee and General Secretary

72. The Central Committee are the highest party body between Party Congresses. The Central Committee guides the party in between Party Congresses and oversees the implementation of the decisions of Party Congresses including guiding the party as a whole how to implement the party program. The Central Committee makes decisions in between Congresses and in consultation with the branches and other higher party committees. The Central Committee has a leadership role in the Party in guiding the party ideologically and practically in between Congresses and in line with the party program.

73. The Central Committee Executive are the highest party body in between Central Committee meetings however, they are not higher than the Central Committee. All major decisions are made by the whole Central Committee at Central Committee meetings unless they are urgent decisions or minor day to day decisions. At all times the Central Committee Executive should endeavor to include Central Committee members. The Central Committee Executive play a leadership role in that they can make recommendations to the Central Committee and can recommend agendas and issues important to discuss however, they can not replace the role of the Central Committee.
74. Nominations for the Central Committee will be called by the Central Committee at least three months prior to Congress. Branches will send to the Central Committee their nominations for the Central Committee with reasons for their nominations at least one month before Congress. All nominations to the Central Committee are immediately included on the ballot paper in alphabetical order. The names of all those nominated for the Central Committee and reasons for nominations will be circulated to Congress delegates at registration for Congress.
75. On the first day of Party Congress the chair will ask if there are any more nominations for the Central Committee. Once seconded these nominations are also immediately included on the ballot paper for election to Central Committee. The person who nominated from the floor is given the opportunity to speak for the nomination, to give reasons.
76. The Party Congress shall elect a Credentials Committee which shall receive all nominations for election to the Central Committee. Its functions shall be to decide on the eligibility of all candidates nominated and to conduct the elections. The Credentials Committee will only look at reasons set out in this constitution as reasons for deeming a candidate ineligible such as number of years of membership. All nominations shall be included on the ballot paper, in alphabetical order, unless for some reason the candidate is deemed ineligible, in which case an explanation needs to be given to Congress by the Credentials Committee. Any member who has their nomination not accepted by the Credentials Committee has the right to appeal to Congress and given time to make a statement to Congress.

77. The election for the Central Committee will take place at the end of the second day of Congress and after all those nominated have had the opportunity to speak. Priority to speak will be given to Central Committee nominations. Prior to the actual secret ballot the chair asks the delegates if those nominated are willing to stand and if there are any comments for or against any particular nomination. The candidate will have the right of reply to any comments regarding their nomination. The vote takes place by secret ballot.
78. Two alternate members of the Central Committee will be elected in case for any reason a Central Committee member/members can not fulfill their role as Central Committee member. Such members, assuming the role of a Central Committee member, will have full rights and responsibilities as per any Central Committee member.
79. The number of Central Committee members will be percentage proportional to the number of party branches/party members as decided by congress. The percentage representation will be decided at congress by majority vote.
80. A Central Committee member can be replaced by the alternate member for continued non-attendance at meetings, at least four consecutive meetings without a valid explanation such as illness being given. A Central Committee member can be suspended if expelled from the Party or if proven to be an agent provocateur for the Capitalist class, or if they have resigned from the Party. A Central Committee member can not be removed by any other means except by the next vote of the Congress. If more than two members of the Central Committee are unable to perform their duties the branches can be asked to vote for a replacement.

81. A second vote by the Congress is made for the General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary. The vote is conducted by secret ballot. The member with the largest votes becomes General Secretary and the next largest become assistant General Secretary. Nominations for General Secretary will be called for and seconded on the first day of Party Congress. A member of the Central Committee can also be the General Secretary. Any member can be nominated for General Secretary who has been a member in good standing for at least five years apart from the initial five years of the party. Ballots for General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary will be conducted after the election of the Central Committee.
82. The Central Committee shall meet between conferences at least once every four (4) months. At every normally scheduled Central Committee meeting a branch must be invited to report on their work. Between Congresses, each branch will be invited to give a report to the Central Committee at least once.
83. At every Central Committee meeting a number of randomly selected members from the branches, one member per branch, can attend and take part in the meeting, including expressing an opinion but can not vote, in this way direct communication with the branches is possible.
84. All major Party decisions, that affect the entire organization must be reported on and formally ratified by the Branches at the following branch meetings, the vote recorded and results of the ratification sent back to the Central Committee.
85. If 40% of the branches object to a decision, that decision is re-submitted at the next Central Committee meeting. The Central Committee re-discusses the issue and resubmits to the branches. If 40% of the branches still object the Central Committee calls for alternate approaches to the decision. The whole process can be tried again. If agreement can't be reached, then a Special Party Conference or Congress can be called.

86. At every Central Committee meeting one district or state Committee must be invited to report direct to the Central Committee regarding their activities. At this meeting district or state committees can raise any problems or concerns regarding their work or ask for assistance regarding any activities, or comment regarding the work of the Central Committee, State Committees, District Committees or any other concerns they may have.
87. A Central Committee Member can request an explanation as to why a decision/decisions have been made between Central Committee meetings. If the Executive /Executive member can not adequately explain why a decision was taken, without the entire Central Committee, then the decision can immediately be placed on the agenda to be discussed again. Any Central Committee member can request a review of decisions made by the Executive or the Central Committee whilst being aware that the business of the Central Committee should not be stalled by constant review requests. Constant review requests may be seen as provocative and a request for conflict resolution procedures may be requested or a Special Conference/Congress to resolve the issue/s.
88. The General Secretary guides the party in between Executive and Central Committee meetings. The General Secretary oversees the carrying out of Central Committee and Executive decisions. The General Secretary is responsible for making any necessary or urgent day to day decisions in between Executive and Central Committee meetings. The General Secretary is a contact person for other organizations and individuals outside of the party and is in a leadership role in that they are to be an example for the rest of the party. The General Secretary must give a monthly report about decisions made between central committee meetings.

89. The Central Committee must provide a financial statement regarding party funds and expenditure/balance etc. at least every six months. A biannual report will be provided to the Party Congress. This report should include all party expenditure regarding centrally held funds, with the exception of those at the local branch level who provide their own reports to the Central Committee and to their branches. These reports should include summaries of general expenditure on wages if there are any paid cadres, printing costs, travel expenses, utilities etc. all expenditure for the running of the party.

Section K: Conflict Resolution Procedure:

90. From time to time Conflicts may arise between individuals in branches with personality or other differences that either, are politically based and come out as personality differences, or are not politically based and are personality or other differences. This can occur even between branches and other committees or between committees or even between paid cadres. Personality and other conflicts can damage the solidarity of a branch or even the Party as a whole if they are not resolved quickly and efficiently.

91. Any member can ask the executive of a branch or committee that they would like to follow the Conflict Resolution Procedures in order to resolve a particular problem. Any member can request this of any executive member or the secretary or a higher party body. The request can be put in writing or made verbally. Any executive or committee can ask to follow the Conflict Resolution Procedures. Any member can make a request in this regard at any meeting or after a meeting to an executive member, or the higher committee or executive. Such a request should not be made for frivolous reasons but for unresolved constant conflict or harassment or vilification and other continual or serious issues or problems or the unjustified actions of a person or persons.

The following procedures are to be used to resolve them:

92. Step One: the executive of the Committee or Branch calls separate meetings with each individual/s or groups to discuss the problem. These meetings should be conducted in a friendly, comradely manner where the problems are outlined discussed and possible solutions suggested. If the executive or anybody on the executive is the person or people involved in the conflict, it is transferred to the next higher body who take over this role.
93. The executive discusses the problem between themselves and attempt to find some solutions to put to the individuals/groups/committees concerned separately.
94. If there is agreement at this stage then a meeting between the parties is called and an agreement made and recorded in the minutes. If there is no agreement then the executive moves to stage two.
95. Stage two: The executive asks the individuals/branches/ committees to write down their concerns and, for those in conflict, to suggest solutions. Executive members can assist in the process of writing this down, with impunity, if the member feels more comfortable doing that. The executive asks the member/members to focus on the issues/problems at hand and possible solutions. Members are asked not to include anything personally derogatory or inflammatory, to stick to the issue/problem at hand and suggest ways they might see the conflict resolved.
96. After writing the issues down the executive meets to compare what they have in writing and make some suggestions for resolving the conflict. Then they call a meeting with the individual/s to see if the conflict can be resolved.
97. If the entire branch or committee is involved in the conflict this meeting can be conducted with the entire branch or committee.
98. Stage three: If the problem remains un-resolved the matter is forwarded to the next higher party body who appoints a member of the committee to investigate the matter and make recommendations to the committee as to how to resolve the issue.

99. The people involved in the conflict are invited to a meeting, with this next higher body, where they can put their views on the conflict. The next higher committee makes a decision regarding a resolution that all must abide by. The committee must attempt to be fair to all parties.
100. If a member, or group is still unsatisfied with the outcome, they can appeal to the next committee all the way to the Party Congress. However, only serious issues will be discussed at the Congress. Like for example against the program, constitution, ideology etc.
101. For urgent matters, a member can approach a branch, district, state or central committee executive and a decision must be made within 48 hours. Urgent matters may include going against the party program, constitution, political resolution and election campaigns or acting against the party policies, making statements against the party program.

Section L: Factionalism/Disciplinary procedures

102. Factionalism is when a group within a Party manipulates party decisions or elections for the benefit or at the behest of a group outside of Democratic Centralism and outside of properly constituted party committees or branch meetings.
103. Factionalism occurs where a group of people decide to influence elections by deciding between themselves who to nominate and vote for. Factionalism also occurs where a group similarly decides to influence the outcome of meetings/decisions by deciding between themselves outside of the formal meetings/decision process. Factionalism is simple manipulation of the formal processes.
104. Factionalism will not be tolerated in our Party. Any new members who have been part of a group, need to realize that they are now an individual comrade part of the Party collective and do not follow the decisions of their prior group but follow the decisions of the Party collective bodies.

105. Factionalism does not include general discussion or theoretical discussion between Comrades about the Party, about theoretical or ideological positions. Factionalism is where a group of people manipulate decisions or elections.
106. Any Comrade who participates in Factionalism can immediately be placed on stage one of disciplinary procedures and if they persist in this activity can be suspended or even expelled.
107. Any charge of Factionalism needs to include actual evidence of the date/dates when it occurred, who/whom were involved, what activities occurred. A charge of Factionalism or allegation therein can't be made without providing evidence of the behavior. A charge of Factionalism can't be made for frivolous or personal gain reasons. If a person/persons are found to have made unfounded allegations for reasons of personal/political gain they can also be placed on stage one of disciplinary procedures.
108. Non factional theoretical discussion within the party is permitted even if it questions party documents and can't be used in a case for disciplinary actions. Members may publish theoretical materials that do not contradict Marxism and do not refer to the party documents directly. Members can not publicly attack party documents or individual party members in good standing.
109. In the case of applications from former Party members where the applicant was expelled from the Party or left because of basic disagreement with Party policy, the branch or local District/State committee shall submit such applications and their recommendations to their respective Committees and where circumstances warrant, to the Central Committee for final decision. When a person applies to rejoin the Party, the branch considering the application will request and give due consideration to the views of the applicant's former branch and any Party body to which the applicant had previously been elected.

110. For stage one disciplinary procedures or for minor disciplinary matters comrades are asked to follow the Conflict Resolution Procedures. If at all possible comrades should attempt to resolve any issues, problems or poor behavior.
111. If the behavior persists, or the matter remains unresolved the matter will be tabled at the next meeting of the higher party body and included on the agenda within the next two meetings. All parties involved will be invited and may attend the meeting when the matter is to be discussed and decisions made.
112. Disciplinary action will be decided collectively by the appropriate committee or branch and will not be limited to but may include a simple apology, a verbatim commitment to change, a letter of apology, a warning, a short suspension, a long suspension or expulsion. Expulsion is reserved for more serious breaches of the constitution or other serious actions such as deliberately bringing the party into disrepute or persistent factionalism. Those found to be agent provocateurs will immediately be expelled. Expulsion is seen as a last resort and only factual material will be taken into account as reasons for expulsion. Only the Central Committee may suspend or expel individuals, a suspension is ratified by the branch the person belongs to and the next higher party body, an expulsion is ratified by the next Congress. Reasons for any disciplinary actions must be written down and given to the person/s in question. Only factual information will be accepted as a reason for disciplinary action, personal opinions will not be accepted.
113. Comrades who are accused of misbehavior can appeal any decision, including expulsion, to the higher party body all the way to the Party Congress. If a comrade appeals to the Congress all statements, reasons, documents against the individual/group must be provided to them at least one month prior to Congress. No new material can be presented to Congress against an individual/group unless it is proof of them being an agent provocateur.

114. If the behavior is perpetrated by a comrade on the Central Committee, any other Central Committee member may table a motion to have it dealt with and if unresolved it can be taken to the next congress. Any disciplinary action taken against a Central Committee member must have the support of 75% of the whole Central Committee.

Section M: Fees, Finance and Banking

115. Membership fees are set at the smallest denomination of bank notes and are paid annually.

116. Pledges are voluntary donations of money that members chose to pay. Those that can afford to are encouraged to pay regular pledge donations.

Section N: Not for Profit organization/Disbandment

117. 'The assets and income of the organisation shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organisation except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation.'

118. 'In the event of the organisation being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.'

119. Until such an appropriate organisation can be located all assets/monies will be held in trust under the name of the Communist Workers Party of Australia in an allocated bank account and is only to allocated to another organisation by vote of all remaining members from the last three years of the organisation by secret ballot.