

STATE BODY FUNCTION

Since the Branches of the RQAS were separately incorporated, they hold the tenure of the respective galleries (variously by ownership, lease or licence) and carry out all the significant functions such as exhibitions, classes and art talks. Since then the State, parent, or "umbrella" body's *main* reason for existence is simply that there needs to be a "trunk" for branches to be branches *of*.

However, the State body still has three functions:

1. Under s 12 of both the overall constitution and each of the Branch constitutions, the (State) Management Committee is the only body that has power to terminate or suspend a person's membership or censure a member. So far this is an entirely theoretical power, never used; when branches *have* had somewhat troublesome members they tend to leave, sooner or later, of their own accord.

2. Fellowships of the RQAS are a statewide form of recognition awarded by the State Committee.

3. So far, only the State Association is registered as a Deductible Gift Recipient, though we make it clear to donors that they can specify what project(s) or which gallery they want the gift to be directed to. We are currently exploring the possibility of getting the Branches registered for DGR status.

So when members join, they apply to a branch for membership and when accepted they become members (at the same level of membership) of both the relevant branch and the overall body. They may find themselves attending general meetings of one or the other, and electing office-bearers of one or the other. Most of the time, however, their interactions with the RQAS will be with the local branch that they have joined and the only reminder that they are in a statewide group will be the word "Queensland" in the name.