# Guide to completing the conciliation form

The contents of this guide are designed to assist applicants in completing the conciliation application form (form 22). Please read this guide carefully before completing the form 22. The section number of the guide corresponds to the section numbering in the form 22.

The conciliation form can be accessed at <a href="www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes">www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes</a>.

### **Accurate information**

A copy of your conciliation application form and any attachments will be provided to other parties listed in your application, for example, the respondent, affected parties or the body corporate manager (BCM). It is your responsibility as the applicant to ensure the accuracy of the information provided and to ensure that the information is not defamatory of the respondent or any other persons. Please refer to sections 297 and 298 of the <u>Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997</u> (the Act) in respect of providing false or misleading information/documents to the commissioner.

If all relevant information is not provided, section 240 of the Act provides for the commissioner and/or the commissioner's delegate to request further information from you to meet the legislative requirements of the Act.

Read our Privacy Statement for further information.

### **Practice directions**

The commissioner issues practice directions and fact sheets which provide more detailed information on the policies and processes applying to dispute resolution applications. Practice directions are available on the BCCM website www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes.

Checklist	<ul> <li>Have you arranged payment of the prescribed fee? Your options are:         <ul> <li>www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatepayments</li> <li>Form 21 – credit card authorisation form</li> <li>Call 3227 7654 and pay by credit card over the phone</li> <li>Cheque or money order made payable to BCCM</li> </ul> </li> <li>Have you named the correct parties as the applicant and respondent? (see sections 4 and 5 below)</li> <li>Have you attempted to resolve the dispute with the respondent yourself before lodging the application? (see <a href="www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes">www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes</a> under the heading 'Self</li> </ul>
	Resolution)  Have you attached documents necessary to show evidence of self resolution?  Have you completed all sections on the application form?  Have all applicants signed and dated the form?



#### Section 1

# Body corporate / scheme information

In this section, please include:

- the name of your body corporate scheme and its community titles schemes number (CTS) (for example, Seaview CTS 1234);
- the physical / street address of the scheme (please do not include a PO Box address or the address of the appointed body corporate manager (BCM)); and
- the number of lots in the scheme and which regulation module is currently recorded on the
   community management statement (CMS) for the scheme. (If you do not know which regulation
   module applies, please leave this field blank.)

**Note:** For a copy of your scheme's CMS, the CTS number and details of the plan types and numbers contact the Land Titles Registry on 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or 1300 255 750.

#### Section 2

#### Secretary's information

Please list the name, address and contact details for the elected secretary of your body corporate in this section. This information is required as the secretary may be contacted by the BCCM Office after the lodgment of the application.

Further contact details such as address and telephone numbers can be obtained by making a written request to the body corporate and paying the prescribed fee. Further information can be found at <a href="https://www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporate">www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporate</a> under the heading 'Records and regulations'.

#### Section 3

# Body corporate manager's information

Please include the name, address and contact details for the appointed BCM of your body corporate (if your body corporate has appointed one). For details of the BCM for your scheme you should refer to the contents of minutes of meetings or other information previously sent to you as an owner.

If your body corporate has not appointed a BCM, please indicate this on the form by writing 'self-managed'.

### Section 4 (a) and (b)

#### Section 4(a)

### Applicant's information

#### Owner and/or occupier is the applicant

- · your name, preferred postal address and contact details; and
- the number of the lot you are the owner and occupier of; and
- the type of plan under which your scheme is registered. Examples; Building Form Plan (BFP) previously known as a Building Unit Plan (BUP) or Standard Form Plan (SFP) previously known as a Group Title Plan (GTP); and
- if you are representing a company, organisation or corporation then you should name this entity as the applicant. This may include a caretaking service contractor, letting agent or a service contractor.

**Note:** If you are applying as the owner of a lot, the owner's details must match those details recorded with the Land Titles Registry. If you are not the registered owner and you wish to make an application as the owner you must provide evidence that you are entitled to be the owner of the lot (section 183 Land Titles Act 1994 and the meaning of 'owner' in Schedule 6 Dictionary, Act).

### Body corporate or committee is the applicant:

- The body corporate for Seaview; or
- The body corporate committee for Seaview.

**Note:** Please do not enter the details of an individual committee member as the applicant. Your application may be rejected under *section 241* of the Act, if your dispute is not between one of the combinations as listed in section 5(a) of this guide. If the body corporate or the committee is the applicant, a copy of the minutes of the meeting containing the resolution authorising the application <u>must</u> be provided.

#### Section 4(b)

Tick the capacity in which you are making the application. For example, if you are applying as an owner, tick the box next to the owner. If you are an owner/occupier you may tick both the owner and the occupier boxes.

### Section 5(a)

# Respondent's information

### Naming the respondent

Please include the name, postal address and contact details of the other party to your dispute (the respondent).

Your dispute must be within the jurisdiction of the BCCM Office (see table below) before it can be dealt with under the Act. Under section 227 of the Act, jurisdiction for a dispute exists only between a party mentioned in column one (the applicant) and a party mentioned in column two (the respondent), in each row.

1. You are (the applicant)		2. They are (the respondent):
<ul> <li>an owner, or</li> <li>an occupier</li> <li>the committee</li> <li>a member of the committee</li> <li>the body corporate</li> </ul>	and and and and	another owner or occupier; or     the body corporate     a member of the committee     the committee     an owner or occupier     a member of the committee     the body corporate manager     the caretaking service contractor     the letting agent
<ul> <li>a member of the committee</li> <li>the body corporate manager</li> <li>the caretaking service contractor</li> <li>the letting agent</li> <li>a service contractor</li> </ul>	and	a service contractor     a former body corporate manager**     the body corporate

<sup>(\*\*</sup>limited to an application about the return of body corporate property only)

For example, an owner or occupier may lodge an application against another owner/occupier or the body corporate, but an owner or occupier may not lodge an application directly against the body corporate committee or the body corporate manager.

**Note:** Your application **will** be rejected under *section 241* of the Act if your dispute is not between one of the combinations as listed above.

### Section 5(b) Status of the respondent

### Section 5(b)

Please tick the appropriate box to state the status of the respondent.

# Section 5(c) Affected parties

### Section 5(c)

In addition to the respondent, please give the name and contact details of any other person(s) who may be affected by, or have an interest in the outcome, of your application. For example:

- a particular person or persons in an adjoining lot; or
- if you are an occupier of a lot, you may like to nominate to owner of your lot as an affected party.

**Note:** If details of an affected party are not provided they may be invited to participate in the conciliation session if the conciliator is satisfied the person may help to resolve the dispute.

### Section 6

# Evidence of self resolution with the respondent

One of the requirements of the Act is that an applicant must attempt to resolve their dispute with the other party prior to bringing an application to this office. Accordingly, an applicant must demonstrate their attempts to achieve self resolution by providing any relevant documentation as attachments to the form 22, making reference to the attachments at section 8 on the form 22. Relevant documentation may include copies of:

- body corporate committee minutes or general meeting minutes;
- emails or letters between the applicant and the respondent; and
- · copies of any contravention notices issued.

The legislation sets out preliminary procedures for applications seeking to enforce body corporate bylaws (sections 184-186 of the Act). <u>Practice Direction 6</u> provides further information on the policies and procedures relating to by-law breaches.

Section 7 What outcome are you seeking?	The BCCM Office can only deal with disputes that fall within its jurisdiction. These are primarily disputes about rights and obligations under the Act or a body corporate's CMS.  You must specify the outcomes sought clearly and concisely stating the specific action that you would like the respondent to take, or cease, in order to resolve the dispute. For example, if you are an owner or occupier seeking approval to keep a pet on your lot and the body corporate have not approved your written request to keep your pet, then your outcome might be:  I would like the body corporate to grant me approval to keep my pet 'Cindy' on my lot; or alternatively  I dispute the decision of the body corporate made at a committee meeting on 16/02/2016 to not give me approval for the keeping of my pet as I believe they have acted unreasonably.
Section 8  Background to your dispute	<ul> <li>Section 239A of the Act requires the applicant to provide a brief summary of the background to the dispute. You are required to provide grounds for each outcome sought outlining:</li> <li>a brief timeline / history of the dispute also outlining what you think the respondent should do to resolve the dispute; and</li> <li>on what basis you consider that you are entitled to the outcome sought; and</li> <li>if you believe the respondent is in breach of the Act and/or by-laws then you must state how you believe the respondent has breached, or is continuing to breach, the Act and/or the by-laws.</li> </ul>

### Signing the application

You should note the requirements set out in **Section 4(a)** of this guide if you are signing the application form as a representative of a party, including a corporation, or on behalf of the committee or body corporate as the applicant. Evidence of authority to sign on behalf of the named application must be provided. **If the applicant is the body corporate**, a **committee or general meeting resolution must be included with the application**.

For individual applications, each applicant must sign and date the application. An unsigned or undated application cannot be accepted.

### Other matters an applicant should note:

### The conciliation process

Conciliation is a relatively informal and flexible process whereby parties to a dispute are assisted by an impartial conciliator to achieve a mutually agreed resolution of their dispute, thus avoiding the requirement for adjudication of the dispute. The conciliator will have knowledge of the body corporate legislation and previous adjudicator's decisions.

For more detailed information, please refer to the information at <a href="www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes">www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporatedisputes</a> under the headings 'Self resolution' and 'conciliation for body corporate disputes'.

### Disputes not appropriate for conciliation

The commissioner may reject a conciliation application if they are satisfied the dispute is not appropriate for department conciliation. In these circumstances an application for adjudication can be made (Please refer to <a href="Practice Direction 9">Practice Direction 9</a>). Possible examples might include:

- where the body corporate is making an application to changes its financial year end date;
- where the applicant is the sole owner of all lots in the scheme and an order is sought for appointment of an administrator to convene a general meeting; and
- where the dispute is a contractual matter as defined in Schedule 6 of the Act.

### Further assistance

For general information related to the body corporate legislation, contact the Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management Information Service on Freecall 1800 060 119 or by visit <a href="www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporate">www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporate</a>. For Land Titles enquiries including information on the community management statement, registrations and plans contact the Land Titles Registry on 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or 1300 255 750.

### **Disclaimer**

The laws referred to in this guide are complex and various qualifications may apply in different circumstances. The information in this document does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to obtain independent legal advice if you are unsure of how these laws apply to your situation. If all relevant and accurate information is not provided in the application section 240 of the Act provides for the commissioner and/or the commissioner's delegate to request further information to meet the legislative requirements of the Act. If further information is requested your application may not proceed until such time as the information has been provided.

### **Body Corporate and Community Management**

www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporate

1800 060 119

### **Privacy Statement**

**Conciliation application (form 22)** 

Important information regarding privacy and access to personal information about an individual

Individuals contemplating lodging a conciliation application should be aware that a department conciliator is authorised to disclose information to other persons in accordance with the following provisions of the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997* ("the Act").

Under Section 252B of the Act the functions of a department conciliator include promoting the parties' open exchange of information relevant to the dispute.

Section 252E of the Act further provides that the department conciliation session must be conducted in the way the department conciliator considers appropriate. Pursuant to section 252E the department conciliator, as the department conciliator considers appropriate, may accept written material from any person and distribute written material to any person for the purpose of the conciliation. In addition a person who is not a party to the application may attend and take part in the department conciliation session.

The effect of the above provisions is to **authorise** the department conciliator to disclose the contents of a conciliation application - which may contain personal information - to parties to the dispute and to other relevant persons. While the Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management is bound by the *Information Privacy Act 2009*, which imposes obligations on Queensland government agencies in respect of the collection, storage, use and disclosure of personal information, disclosure of personal information in accordance with the above provision does not breach the *Information Privacy Act 2009* as such disclosure "**is authorised or required under a law**".

A person lodging a conciliation application with this Office is therefore responsible for ensuring that the documentation provided contains only information which the person is prepared to have made available to other persons.



### Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management

# **BCCM Form 22**

Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997 This form is effective from 2 September 2013

### **Conciliation Application Form**

Office Use Only Date lodged		File subject matterMIS re	ef number
Section 1  Body Corporate / Scheme information  Refer to guide.	Name of Scheme  CTS / CMS Number  Physical address of scheme  Locality / Suburb  Regulation Module (Standa	Number of lots  State  ard, Accommodation, Commercial, Small S	Postcode chemes, Two-Lot Schemes)
Section 2 Secretary's information Refer to guide	Name Address Locality / Suburb Daytime phone Mobile Email	State Home phone Fax	Postcode
Section 3  Body corporate manager's information  Refer to guide	Name. Company name Address Locality / Suburb Daytime phone Email	State Mobile	Postcode
Section 4(a)  Applicant's information  Complete the applicant's details as registered (for e.g. the name of the owner as it appears on the title search)  If corporation provide authority for individual to act	Name Address Locality / Suburb Daytime phone Mobile Email Lot number/s	State Home phone Fax on Plan type and number	Postcode



Section 4(b)  Are you applying as?  Refer to guide and section 227 of the Act	□ an owner □ the body corporate □ the committee □ letting agent □ service contractor	<ul> <li>□ an occupier</li> <li>□ the body corporate manager</li> <li>□ a committee member</li> <li>□ caretaking service contractor</li> </ul>	
Section 5(a)  Respondent's information  Refer to guide	Name Address Locality / Suburb Daytime phone Mobile Email	State Postcode Home phone Fax	
Section 5(b)  Is the respondent?  Refer to guide and section 227 of the Act	<ul> <li>□ an owner</li> <li>□ the body corporate</li> <li>□ the committee</li> <li>□ letting agent</li> <li>□ service contractor</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ an occupier</li> <li>□ the body corporate manager</li> <li>□ a committee member</li> <li>□ caretaking service contractor</li> </ul>	
Section 5(c)  Are other persons affected by the outcome sought by you?  Refer to guide	☐ Yes (provide details below or attached)	□ No	
Section 6  What attempts have you made to resolve your dispute by internal dispute resolution with the other parties?  Your application may be rejected if you have not attempted internal dispute resolution  Please attach supporting documentation			

Section 7	
What outcome are you seeking?	
If insufficient space on this page attach detailed outcomes sought on an A4 page under the heading -	
7. Outcome sought	
Section 8	
Background to your dispute	
What are your reasons for making your application? Provide full details here	
If insufficient space on this page attach concise and relevant details of the background to the dispute on an A4 page under the heading –	
8. Grounds	
offence for a person to supply  The information requested in tattachments will be disclosed	·
Signature	
<b>Note:</b> Each applicant must significant is a corporation, this must be accompanied by evid	In the application. An unsigned or undated application cannot be accepted. If the form may be signed by a person authorised by the corporation to act on its behalf, and ence of authorisation. Additional A4 pages may be attached.  porate, a copy of minutes containing the resolution authorising the application
APPLICATION FEE: See	our website for <u>current application fees</u> .
Body Corporate and Com	nunity Management  www.justice.gld.gov.au  1800 060 119

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### Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management

### **BCCM Form 21**

### Credit card payment authorisation

Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997 This form is effective from 1 April 2014

Section 1 - Application details	
	This form can be submitted  By fax: (07) 3227 8023  By post: GPO Box 1049 Brisbane Qld 4001
	Please note: This form cannot be submitted by email.
	Alternatively, you can call (07) 3227 7654 to provide your credit card payment details over the telephone.
	I authorise the Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management to accept credit card payment for the following:
	Applicant name:
	Contact phone number:
	Name of scheme:
	Application reference number (if applicable):
	Amount of fee \$
	The fee is for:
	☐ Dispute resolution application fee.  □ s246 Copies of documents. □ Search of Adjudicator's Orders. □ Other (If 'other' please specify)
Section 2 - Payment details	
	Charge my:
	☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Bankcard
	Credit card number:
	Cardholder's name:
	Amount authorised: \$ Expiry date:
	Signature: Date:

Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management www.qld.gov.au/bodycorporate

(07) 3227 7654 Fax: (07) 3227 8023

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