



---

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

### Active and Associate Members

*Please complete this form and return it with your payment  
and any other relevant supporting documentation to:*

**The Membership Secretary,  
PO Box 1727, Capalaba, Qld 4157**  
or scan and email documentation to [membership@bats.org.au](mailto:membership@bats.org.au)  
(online forms also available at [www.bats.org.au](http://www.bats.org.au))

---

I wish to join/rejoin Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. (BCRQ) as an:-

- Active Member – (Vaccinated & Trained)** – *Involved in rescue, and/or raising and/or rehabilitation of bats. (Please complete Section A, B & C)*
- Associate Member – (Not required to be vaccinated)** – **will never** handle either flying foxes or micro-bats. *(Please complete Section A & C)*

*Under the Nature Conservation Act, Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. is obligated to send updated membership lists to the Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service. Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. will not pass member details on to any other organisation unless authorised by the member to do so. Your personal details may be passed on to other members of Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. for the purpose of rescue and care allocation only.*

Do you give us permission to allow your details to be available to the BCRQ general membership?

Yes  No

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ POST CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

MOBILE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Newsletters and correspondence will be via email **only**. New Members who do not have access to email are encouraged to set up a Google mail or Hotmail address at your nearest Library. This is a free service provided by your local council.)*

**INSURANCE** BCRQ Inc holds Public Liability Insurance in the account of \$20,000,000.

## SECTION A (All members complete)

Activities - I would like to help with:

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 'Big Picture' Conservation Work                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Rescue Telephone Service              | <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit Cutting        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education Events                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site Maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicraft (sewing, craft etc)                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee / Team Leader               | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pickup & delivery of goods                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction (e.g. nest boxes, cages) |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-contact transportation of safely contained bats |  |   |

## SECTION B (Active Members only – complete all parts of this section)

Active membership involves handling flying-foxes and micro-bats, both of which have been known to carry a rare disease called Australian Bat Lyssavirus. Although Australian Health authorities suggest that Lyssavirus poses a low public health risk, BCRQ active members **MUST** have a course of rabies vaccinations (3 injections over 1 month) before undertaking Active Membership activities. **The responsibility for vaccinations rests entirely with each individual member.** BCRQ cannot be held liable should an Active Member neglect to be adequately vaccinated or fail to have booster vaccinations when indicated necessary by a low titre level. (*Refer By-Laws 1,2,3, 4 & 5 below*)

Active Members must be **over 18 years** of age and all members will have access to annual rehabilitation and orphan training workshops, and carer manuals. Access to crèche and release facilities are made available either free, or for the most minimal fee possible (*Refer by-law 29 below*).

- I **am already vaccinated** and a copy of my current titre level test result is attached.  
My titre level was last checked on \_\_\_\_\_ and my titre level was \_\_\_\_\_
- I am **NOT vaccinated** and **will NOT** commence Active membership activities until I have completed the required course of three Rabies injections and my titre level is sufficiently high. Evidence of this will be forwarded to the Membership Secretary and is required before commencement of any bat handling activities.

<b>Availability for Rescue</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Weekdays and weekends all hours <input type="checkbox"/> Weekends and after hours only <input type="checkbox"/> Particular times only, please specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Not Available for Rescue
<b>Animal Care</b> <i>It is a requirement that <b>all active carers/rescuers attend training workshops on an annual basis to ensure rescue and care techniques are current and that an appropriate standard is maintained.</b></i>	I wish to care for: <input type="checkbox"/> Raising orphans Flying Fox <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitate Flying Fox <input type="checkbox"/> Short Term Rehabilitation Flying Fox (post rescue) _____ Years of experience  <input type="checkbox"/> Raising orphans Microbats <input type="checkbox"/> Rehabilitate Microbats _____ Years of experience

<p><b>Permit</b></p> <p>If you are a <b>member of another organisation</b>, you must nominate under which permit you will rescue/care for bats. (Please refer to By-Law 9 below)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I will rescue and care for bats under Bat Conservation &amp; Rescue Qld. Inc.'s permit only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am a member of another wildlife care organisation. However, our household will only rescue/care for bats under a Bat Conservation &amp; Rescue Qld. Inc. permit.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would like to be an <b>associate/support</b> member as I am a member of another wildlife care organisation. Any bats I rescue or care for will be under their licence.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Name of other Organisation:- _____</p>
--	---

**SECTION C - PAYMENT**

- Single membership (Active or Associate) - \$25.00**
- Family Membership (Active or Associate) - \$40.00** – 2 individuals living at the same address.
- Additional Family Membership (Active or Associate)** living at the same address - \$10.00 each

Other family member's names: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(A separate membership form must be completed & signed by each individual in the household applying for a Family Membership).*

***\*Please note that all new memberships and renewals are pending committee approval.***

**HOW TO PAY**

- PayPal** – an invoice will be generated and sent to your email address.
- Cheque / Money Order**
- Direct Deposit**

Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. BSB **034070**, Account number 310595 paid on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

As a volunteer all costs incurred while rescuing or caring for bats will be met by the individual member. Where funds permit, Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. may help to subsidise costs. If you require further information about becoming a Bat Conservation member, please email our membership secretary at [membership@bats.org.au](mailto:membership@bats.org.au)

**REQUIRED VOLUNTEER DECLARATION**

I accept that Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. will not be held liable for personal injury, death, property loss or damage or financial loss as a result of any voluntary work undertaken by me on behalf of the organization.

I have read and understand the [Code of Practice for Wildlife Carers](#) and agree to adhere to the Code. I have also read Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. By-Laws (below) and agree to abide by their rules.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_



---

## Member By-Laws.

### ***Mission Statement***

- To provide rescue, rehabilitation and release for injured bats.
- The protection and conservation of bat colonies and their habitat.
- To educate the public about the importance of bats.

### ***Aims***

**Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc. is a self-funded volunteer organisation whose aims are:**

- To provide accurate and informative education through literature, community events and talks to the general public about the importance of bats, both megabat and microbat.
- To provide an efficient and humane service to rescue and rehabilitate sick, injured and orphaned bats, and returning them to the wild as soon as possible.
- To be active in the conservation of bats and their habitat.
- To follow the guide lines set out by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in their '*Code of Practice—Care of sick, injured or orphaned protected animals in Queensland.*
- To operate as a not-for-profit voluntary organisation.

### ***General***

1. BCRQ (Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld) is licenced under the Nature Conservation Act to undertake its work with bats but that licence can be removed if BCRQ or its members don't comply with the Code of Practice.
2. BCRQ's permit is for the rescue and Rehabilitation of Sick, Injured and Orphaned Wildlife only. It does not allow members to relocate wildlife for any purpose. A common scenario where people are asked to intervene is the removal and relocation of microbats.
3. The Code of Practice contains minimum standards (as well as Best Practice Guidelines) that must be adhered to by all members. The standards cover these areas:
  - a. Vaccination against ABLV
  - b. Provision of veterinary care
  - c. Rescue and handling
  - d. Transportation
  - e. Housing
  - f. Food and water
  - g. Euthanasia
  - h. Release of animals
  - i. Release site and timing
  - j. Records
  - k. Wildlife rehabilitation organisations

- I. The Code also lays out what an organisation must do if it becomes aware that a member is not complying with the code.
4. All BCRQ active carers and rescuers must be rabies vaccinated in accordance with DERM Guidelines: **“All persons caring for flying foxes and insectivorous bats must be vaccinated against Australian Bat Lyssavirus (ABL) and must regularly consult their General Practitioner or Public Health Unit to maintain vaccinations”**. The Permit holder (BCRQ member) must restrict access to flying foxes or micro-bats in care by unvaccinated family members and friends.
5. Newly vaccinated members must have their titre levels checked two weeks after initial vaccination and then each year to ensure adequate cover has been maintained, then under the guidance of their Medical Practitioner.
6. Rescue members will provide the Secretary of BCRQ a doctor’s letter stating the member has appropriate levels to remain an active rescue member. The Membership Secretary will send titre level reminder notifications with membership renewals each year.
7. If the Management Committee is not satisfied that a member is up to date with vaccinations/training and/or capable of performing a rescue and assessment of animals, or that their facilities are deemed inappropriate, that member may be removed from the active member rescue list, until the Management Committee is satisfied.
8. Active members are those involved in rescue, raising and rehabilitation of bats. Associate/Support members are not to handle bats and are not required to be vaccinated.
9. ALL carers are required to attend an orphan training day each year.
10. ALL rescuers are required to attend a rescue training day each year.
11. ALL microbat carers are required to attend a microbat training day each year.
12. Phone training will be supplied to phone coordinators.
13. Any members who are members of another wildlife organisation must nominate which organisation they will rescue, rear and release, injured or orphaned bats. This is to ensure that BCRQ’s standards for rearing and rehabilitation are maintained.
  - a. If the member does not choose BCRQ, or if the member is rehabilitating bats for other organisations, then their membership of BCRQ will be restricted to the Associate/Support category.
14. If a BCRQ member fails to notify BCRQ of bats in their care, it will be assumed they are caring under another organisation’s or their own permit. BCRQ takes no responsibility for bats raised under another organisation’s permit or actions by these members regarding the bats in their care. Their membership will then be restricted to Associate/Support category.
15. All donations received from the public must be deposited into the BCRQ bank account. Receipts and thankyou’s will be issued as soon as possible after processing.
16. Membership fees are due on the anniversary payment of membership each year.

### ***Rescue Records***

17. All privately obtained rescue calls for bats (other than BCRQ) must be reported to the bat rescue phone coordinator so all rescues can be recorded. The statistics generated from these reports are used to inform the committee, government and the public to facilitate change. E.g. netting, alerting Energex to flowering trees through powerlines, government environmental guidelines, etc.
18. BCRQ animal record forms must be completed and given with the animal at handover or within 2 weeks of the animal being released or euthanised. Records must also be completed via the online animal records database via our web site. Contact the data coordinator if access to the internet is not available. Noncompliance in submitting record forms for a three-month period may result in the carer/rescuer being temporarily removed from the contact list until the data has been presented.

19. All Orphans are to be registered on the orphan database. The carer is to record weights and measures and submit them weekly via the database or via the database coordinator or their mentor. It is essential to have weekly contact with the species coordinator and/or mentor.

### ***Carers Responsibilities***

20. All carers and rescuers must be prepared to have their equipment/facilities and caring techniques assessed by a mentor/nominated member to access appropriate standards.
21. All members must abide by the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*, *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and *Nature Conservation Regulations 1994* and by-laws of this organisation.
22. Carers must agree to abide by the by-laws of BCRQ.
23. All carers must read and understand BCRQ's carer manuals and all amendments. Manuals are available through the members' only site on our web site. A hard copy will be available at training courses.
24. Carers are required to attend rescue and orphan workshops every year as a refresher due to information changes so members keep abreast with changes to information, new medications, treatments etc and to obtain updated manuals.
25. Carers must have the appropriate equipment for the species that they care for i.e. microbat or megabat and be able to offer the appropriate level of care.
26. Full protective equipment including gloves and gauntlets must be worn during all rescues.
27. All members must comply with BCRQ's Workplace Health and Safety policy.
28. ALL bats must be assessed at the rescue, so any emergency treatment or euthanasia can be given promptly. Help with assessments can be obtained from the Rehab Coordinator or mentor.
29. BCRQ has one trained carer authorised to perform euthanasia. We encourage rescuers with seriously injured animals to use this carer to help in assessment and euthanasia if required.
30. All public C3 exposures (bat bites or scratches) including bites to members, must be reported to the President of BCRQ immediately.
31. Carers must obtain prior approval of the Management Committee before initiating activities such as funding activities, displays or purchasing merchandise.

### ***Complaints or Dissatisfaction***

32. All members are advised that any complaints or issues causing dissatisfaction by any member of the association must be submitted in writing to the Committee and will be raised at the next Management Committee meeting for resolution.
33. When any issue of welfare, harassment, bullying or any dissatisfaction with any member of BCRQ, or anyone else arises, the Committee is to be advised directly and followed up with in writing to the Committee.
34. With the Committee being the only exception, no member is to talk of any issue they have with others members to other members or outside sources. In the event the Committee doesn't resolve the issue, the relevant outside source should be consulted e.g. police, EHP, Queensland Health, Bio Security etc.

### ***Communication***

35. Communication with members will be via newsletters, email and our web site.
36. Members are encouraged to attend quarterly general meetings which will be called by the Secretary 14 days in advance. Minutes of meetings will be available to members at general meetings and on request.

37. The President is the only authorised spokesperson to speak on behalf of the organisation to media, local or state government officials. Members must seek approval from the President if asked to speak on behalf of the organisation.

### ***Annual Audit***

38. BCRQ Inc end of financial year will be 30 April each year.

### ***Insurance***

39. BCRQ is covered by insurance policies for Personal Accident, Public Liability, and Protector Liability through Queensland Water and Land Carers. Members of BCRQ are covered by these insurance policies, provided their membership is current, they abide by these bylaws, including the Workplace Health and Safety Policy, the Code of Practice and no unlawful activities are involved in an accident leading to a claim.

The Management Committee  
Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld Inc.  
January 2018