



## Floral and Ornamental Tribute Policy

### 1. Policy purpose

To ensure that the cemeteries of Mildura Cemetery Trust ('the Trust') are an attractive, clean and tidy environment, free from potential hazards to our staff, wildlife and the wider community.

### 2. Policy statement

The Trust is committed to ensuring a high standard of presentation is maintained at Nichols Point and Murray Pines Cemeteries. This policy is to assist in ensuring that the cemeteries appearances meet community expectations.

The Trust understands the importance to individuals in memorialising a grave with flowers and ornaments for sentimental, cultural or religious reasons; and is obliged to ensure that such memorialisation is respectful and safe for all.

### 3. Principles

- Tributes must not exceed 30 centimetres in height (from base to tip), and are to be confined to the concrete plinth, or monument. Items must not encroach on the lawn. The only exception is for floral tributes from funerals held the preceding week. In gardens, no ornaments or plantings by anyone other than the Trust are permitted.
- Only floral memorialisation may be placed within 75mm of the front of the plinth or monument, provided it is in one of the cemeteries plastic, spiked vases (available at collection points throughout the cemeteries).
- Tributes must not encroach on neighbouring plots.
- No memorialisation items are to be affixed to, or hung from trees or memorial seats.
- No fill (i.e.: bark chips, stones, etc.) or plantings are to be installed – other than by the Trust or their staff.
- Ornamental or floral tributes must not obscure the name(s) of the interred on the monument.

- The following items are not permitted:
  - candles (unless in granite candle box – and not lit on total fire ban days) or open flames
  - breakable or fragile ornaments,
  - decorative fencing (other than pre-existing, historic cast-iron fencing)
  - alcohol or tobacco products,
  - glass objects,
  - balloons,
  - perishables,
  - tins or aluminium cans, or any other item likely to rust or deteriorate,
  - wind-chimes or other noise-making items,
  - items which might be considered offensive,
  - seating (other than memorial seating approved by the Trust).
- Fresh floral memorialisation may be removed by staff once withered.
- The Trust is not responsible or liable for any damage to or theft of floral or ornamental items.
- Non-approved plaques or monuments are not permitted.
- For the period of 1<sup>st</sup> December to 6<sup>th</sup> January, Festive decorations are allowable – provided they adhere to the above principles and are removed by 7<sup>th</sup> January.
- The Trust reserves the right to remove any floral or ornamental tribute if it contravenes this policy – or the item’s condition has deteriorated. The Trust will hold any (intact) items removed for a period of 4 weeks for retrieval. If not collected within that timeframe, the item(s) will be disposed of.

Approval Date:	Date for Review:
February 2020	February 2022