

Royal City Men's Club

Rationale for Proposed Amendments of Constitution & By-laws - 2016

The following is the rationale for the proposed amendments to the first Constitution that was adopted in August 24, 2006.

These amendments are for consideration of adoption in the year 2016.

The following is the rationale for amendments article by article although some amendments can be considered as "housekeeping" amendments. That is, they are an amendment that needs to be made in order to follow the rationale of other amendments or they are purely grammatical changes. These amendments will thus be identified as "housekeeping."

Only amended article will be addressed in this document and all others will remain unchanged. Articles will be identified by article number of the Constitution.

RATIONALE

4.4 Life

Whereas any member, active or not, should be eligible to be considered for election as a Life member;

Therefore removal of the term "active" allows any category of member eligible for election as a life member.

4.5 Admission to membership

Whereas it is not necessary for the Secretary specifically to notify a new member of his acceptance into the Club, and

Whereas the current practice is that the Membership Committee Chair sends a notice in writing;

Therefore delete the requirement for the Secretary to do the notifying;

Whereas it is not necessary for the sponsor to introduce a new member or the new member does not necessarily have a sponsor, and

Whereas the current practice is for the President to introduce a new member at the general membership meeting following acceptance by the Board;

Therefore delete the requirement for introduction by a sponsor and insert the requirement that a new member be introduced "at the next General meeting,"

Whereas any member may resign from the Club and his absence is indicative of his desire to resign;

Therefore delete Article 4.6.1 requiring that he should provide a letter in writing.

4.7 Suspension and Reinstatement

Whereas notifying in writing a member who is delinquent in payment of dues is a make-work issue for either the Treasurer or Secretary; and

Whereas there are verbal reminders of the requirement to pay dues and the Board has the discretion to suspend a member who is late in the dues payment; and

Whereas any member who is either late in the payment of dues or absent from the meetings can simply be reinstated upon the payment of arrear dues;

Therefore delete the requirement for notification of suspension or reinstatement to be sent in writing by either the Treasurer or Secretary.

4.9 Property interest

Whereas monies paid to the Club in the form of dues belong to the Club for Club purposes including the purchase of property for the Club; and

Whereas a member who resigns from the Club forfeits any interest in the Club in the form of property interest;

Therefore delete the entirety of article **4.9 Property interest**.

5.1 Board

Whereas the Officers are automatically members of the Board of Directors;

Whereas using the term Officers and Directors is redundant since Directors includes the Officers;

Therefore delete the term "Officers" when "Board of Directors" covers all Directors.

Whereas the Officers holding accountability and responsibility are the four positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer; and

Whereas the position of "Past-President" is not an Officer who holds accountability or responsibility under Government legislation;

Therefore remove the "Past-President" position from designation as an officer.

Whereas it is beneficial to have the expertise of the person who was the immediate Past-President included as a Director;

Therefore identify one Director position as being that of the Past-President thus decreasing the number of Officers by one and increasing the number of Directors-at-Large by one and maintaining the overall number of Directors.

Whereas the current majority of the board is two-thirds and this represents seven out of eleven board members; and

Whereas reducing the required majority to a simple majority represents six out of eleven board members; and

Whereas it is less onerous to have a lower majority requirement of board members in order to accomplish Board business;

Therefore amend the required majority to a simple majority.

5.2 Succession

Whereas there is a reluctance among members to volunteer for the position of Vice-President as this means a commitment of six years --- two years as Vice-President, two years as President and two years as Past-president; and

Whereas it is likely that members eligible to be elected Vice-President will already have served on the Board of Directors for three years as a Director and they may be reluctant to seek election as Vice-President as this would mean a total commitment of nine years; and

Whereas the club is fortunate in having many younger members interested in serving on the Board of Directors and having a more rapid turnover in Officers would encourage inclusion of the younger members in the running of the club;

Therefore amend the term of election as officer to one year with the ability to serve an additional term.

5.3 Duties of Officers and Directors

Whereas it is necessary to identify someone to monitor and maintain the Club's policies and procedures;

Therefore this function is assigned to the position of the Vice-President.

Whereas the Past-President is not identified as one of the officers under the new legislation; and

Whereas all Directors are accountable and responsible for the running of the Club;

Therefore delete the position of Past-President as an Officer.

Whereas the duties of the Officers of the Club are more easily addressed and thus more flexible to the membership under the Policies and Procedures Manual;

Therefore move the duties of the Officers to the Policies and Procedures Manual .

5.4 Standing Committees

Whereas committees are more easily addressed and modified to meet the purposes of the Club without having to amend the Constitution;

Therefore Committees are moved to the Policies and Procedures manual where they can be modified to suit Club purposes.

5.7 Signing Officers (amend article number)

The only amendment to this article is a housekeeping one to change the article number from 5.7 to 5.5.

6.2 Annual

Whereas the current requirement for the Annual meeting is that it be held on the last general meeting in June; and

Whereas it would provide a more timely report for the Annual meeting to be held earlier in the month when fewer members might be absent due to starting summer vacations, etcetera;

Therefore move the timing of the Annual meeting earlier in the month of June.

Whereas the current practice is to appoint only an auditor(s) to review the financial statements at a cost to the Club; and

Whereas a review of the financial statements can be adequately reviewed by two regular members of the Club at less cost;

Therefore amend the existing Constitution to permit either an auditor or a review committee consisting of two non-Board members to review the financial statements and submit an annual report on the finances of the Club to the membership thus allowing more flexibility in controlling expenditures of the Club.

(Note: the other changes to this article are housekeeping to comply with the above intent).

6.4 Notice of Meeting

Whereas the current requirement is to provide notice of meeting with 30 days of notice; and

Whereas membership meetings are bi-weekly and thus complies to be measured more easily in weeks;

Therefore amend to provide notice of annual meeting to four (4) weeks.

7.2 Nominations Committee

Whereas the nominations committee is to prepare a slate of nominees for recommendation to serve on the Board; and

Whereas the membership elects the Directors from which the Officers are elected by the Board;

Therefore delete the reference to Officers who are subsequently elected by the Board once the membership has elected the members to serve as Directors.

7.3 Nominations

Re: amendment to change from 30 days notice to four weeks notice:
see rationale for Article 6.4.

Re: article 7.3.3: This becomes redundant therefore it is deleted.

7.4 Voting

See rationale for article 7.2

8.3 Finance

See rationale for article 6.2 annual

11. Dissolution

Whereas there is provincial legislation to be followed in the event of dissolution of the Club;

Therefore the added language makes the Constitution comply with this legislation.

Original Constitution

The change is a housekeeping change in order to track amendments to the original Constitution.