

Dear Membership - Below is a summary of the type of editorial revisions and specific policy changes that are recommended in each Article of the Bylaws. So you can see what revisions are being recommended without having to shuffle through the documents if you wish. I apologize for not thinking of this before our last meeting. If you do wish to look at the pdf documents, the draft of the 2025 Bylaws and the document showing where the text of the 2020 Bylaws was edited are available as a previous Eblast. I also hope to be posting all three pdf documents on the website when the site is operational. There are also printed copies of the Bylaws documents in the SRAC office and there will be copies of the Summary by noon Tuesday. Or you can email me with a request for the pdfs of the documents at sal.digman@gmail.com. Feel free to send me any question and I will attempt to find an answer.

If you wish to make a recommendation for further revision at the November meeting, if possible please prepare your recommendation in writing ahead of time, and identify the Article and page number. Be sure to have read the documents and Summary. Many items were reorganized or gently reworded, rather than removed. The Summary below specifies the changes made.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REVISIONS TO 2020 SRAC BYLAWS

Bylaws are a general, almost timeless, set of governing rules of an organization. The ad hoc Committee on Bylaws worked to address redundancies and inconsistencies, to use succinct wording, to limit the level of specificity of procedures and rules, and to remove items that are no longer relevant. (Know that the Executive Board and Membership can address specific procedures and rules to fit the context of the organization at the time one is needed to address a particular situation. All procedures and rules do not need to be in a set of bylaws.)

Article I – NAME: Editorial punctuation edits.

Article II – MISSION STATEMENT: Removed list of “Objectives” that were basically a restatement of the Mission in bullet points.

Article III - MEMBERSHIP: Restructured Article to provide a direct and succinct description of membership expectations for all members and then information unique to each level.

The policy change in this Article is the removal of a limit on the number of Associate memberships to 30 allowed in the SRAC. If a limit is to be determined for some reason, it can be done by the Executive Board. It is not necessary to have it in the Bylaws.

Article IV – MEETINGS: Minor editorial edits.

Article V – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: This Article was reorganized to reduce redundancy, so it may appear as you read through it that some things were removed, but most were just reorganized to be said just once.

Policy changes include 1) a recommendation, but not a requirement, that Directors are now recommended to serve only two terms; 2) removal of wording regarding written reports from committee chairs to the President across the year, to be replaced by the reality of what happens when reports are made to the Membership which are recorded in the Business Meeting minutes; 3) also allowing a Member to replace a VP who leaves office, rather than restricting it to an Executive Board member; 4) remove the requirement that the Secretary replace the Treasurer if the Treasurer leaves office; 5) changed the audit date to once a year in March; and 6) removed requirements for Directors to attend 50% of meetings, chair a committee or be responsible for a major SRAC event. To speak to the last item, there are no meeting requirements stated for other Executive Board members and election assumes a monthly commitment to participate in meetings. If a Director does not meet the basic expectation of attending meetings for no apparent reason, they can be removed from the Executive Board by a vote. We do not need the specificity of attendance of 50% of meetings. This even suggests it is okay to miss 50% of meetings. Also, the hope is to encourage Members to be committee chairs and event coordinators, not just Executive Board members. An attempt was made to reduce the probability that a bylaws change would be necessary for every change made to an officer's list of responsibilities.

Article VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD: Editorial Edit to add a Section Heading “When Vacancies Occur on the Executive Board.”

Policy changes include again the removal of a requirement to be a committee chair from Executive Board members.

Article VII – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: A decision to repeat the description of the Officers and Directors here because if someone is looking for direction to go through this nomination and election process, they will need to know this information and may not know to look in the other section. We think this is the only redundant piece in the bylaws.

Policy changes to remove the bullet items restricting membership years and meeting attendance requirements from an individual wishing to serve as an Executive Officer. These requirements have not been followed in recent years. Several members of the current Board were asked to serve without meeting these requirements. We assume there are good reasons to have had persons come on the Board without fulfilling these requirements, so we removed the requirements. New members may have very valuable qualities that could be a good thing for the positions.

Article VIII – STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES: Addition of a list of typical standing committees.

Policy changes were made regarding committee chair responsibilities: 1) made the way chairs are determined more flexible, 2) eliminated chairperson term limits, 3) removed written report requirements and replaced with reports to the Membership which are included in the minutes of the Business Meetings, 4) condensed a long list of responsibilities into a few bullets, and 5) removed bullets regarding chair's handling of funds because they no longer do that. Again, many of these items were so specific as to be rather changeable over time. Those changes can be done via committees or Executive Board. It should not be necessary to change the Bylaws for every change.

Article IX – DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION: Minor editorial edits.

Article X – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY: No changes.

Article XI – AMENDMENTS: Removed the full wording of the Amendment of November 9, 2021. It is already on the list of Previous Bylaw Amendments.

Article XII – SRAC NOTES ON PREVIOUS BYLAW AMENDMENTS: We will add to this list 1) the date of approval for the 2020 Bylaws (which should have been added at that time and caused much confusion as a result), and 2) the date of approval of the current proposed revisions, if and when they are approved.

Submitted by Sally Digman, Secretary

October 17, 2025