

## **By-Laws Brunch/Presentation Meeting**

Saturday, October 21, 2011

In attendance: Liz Albert, Teresa Datar, Kat Flinner, Jay Feenan

To make the document as lean and internally consistent as possible, we are led by our understanding that By-Laws **include an organization's basic commitments, structural patterns, and rules of governance**. We have tried to get to the bare bones of how the organization can/should/and does run.

1. We agree that details of Membership Classes be taken out of By Laws and placed in Addendum.
  - a. Junior Membership must have all proper consent and meet skill requirements (Board- or Boat Captain-approved), but no time restriction. May row all year. Delete time restriction clause.
  - b. Student Membership is restricted to summer months only.
  - c. Supporting Membership: delete "may...row up to 3 times" and substitute the broader language: "may row a limited number of times."
  - d. Temporary/Visiting Membership: Again, we opt for broader language: Add "limited" to "a period of time," and deleted sentence which follows (2 weeks).
  - e. Non-paying / Honorary Membership: Delete "but said persons shall not have personal use of Club equipment." This is redundant, covered in opening paragraph of this section.
2. Article 5.: Processes of Voting.
  - a. 5.2: Reword. The type of question asked for a vote by mail will determine the quorum of replies required as well as the percentage required for the item to pass. Delete reference to majority / 51%.
  - b. 5.3: Add in "proxy votes must be delivered prior to the meeting by a date determined by the Board."
3. Article 6.2: Delete "51%."
4. Article 7.3: "Eight" (not five as written) members may request a Special Meeting. Add "There are no proxy votes allowed in cases of Special Meetings for the purpose of Expulsion."
5. Article 8.2: Replace with better wording. Chop unwieldy sentence into bite-sized pieces.
6. Article 10: Disciplinary Action and Expulsion.
  - a. 10.2. Add "The Board may mediate disputes among members."
  - b. 10.4: Add "If mediation fails, and a member shall be charged..."
  - c. 10.5: Change "67% of the voting membership" to "67% of those present."
7. Addendum:
  - a. We should prepare this section to be passed along with the revised By Laws. Add to top of Addendum: Exceptions to these policies may be granted on an individual basis by the Boat Captain or by petitioning the Club officers. The exception will be granted only with a majority vote of a quorum of officers. An exception granted does not affect these policies and does not guarantee the same exception to other members of the Club.."
  - b. Add to Membership details in Addendum: "Exceptions to these may be granted on a case-by-case basis."

**Proposed next meeting: Friday, October 28, 2011 9a – 12p. Panera Bread.**