

Submitted to the Board March 17th, 2015 by Bart McGlothin.

This motion will be made at the April Members meeting and voted on at the May membership meeting, 2015.

Mr. President;

I move that the Club Constitution be revised to eliminate restricting of membership periods to the club's fiscal year, and honorary memberships from annual review.

The update of the Constitution and Bylaws of the club to read as follows:

Article II, Section 2, items C, D and E:

- c) Single and multiple year memberships are available, as well as lifetime membership.
- d) Membership applications and renewals shall be accepted throughout the year.
- e) All expired memberships shall require the payment of both the annual dues and a reinstatement fee. The reinstatement fee may be waived on a case-by-case basis.

Article II, Section 5

The Club may bestow Honorary Membership by a two-thirds majority vote. Honorary members over the age of eighteen shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of regular members and may become regular members upon payment of dues. No initiation fee will be due when an honorary member elects to become a regular member.

Statements in support:

The current constitution and bylaws limit memberships to only be for a period defined by the Clubs fiscal year. This practice unfairly robs people of benefit who join the club later in the year. They pay the same fee as someone joining in July, but do not get the same full benefit. Pro-rating memberships is impractical.

By allowing memberships to start when fees are paid, and extend for the length of time allotted, each member will receive the same full benefit regardless of when they signed up.

The grace period offer has been removed. It would be difficult to implement in an automated fashion with memberships ending on a day-to-day basis. Last year there were only 84 people who renewed during the grace period, and all have e-mail address, so were properly notified months in advance. Also, the Board and membership committee can still waive the reinstatement fee when appropriate.

Tracking honorary memberships, for the function of continuance, should not be a requirement of the Board/Membership committee as a requirement in the Constitution and is removed from Section 5. The people who made the original request should be responsible for renewing when appropriate. Also, memberships will no longer be tied to the club fiscal year, so calling this out as a function in the July meeting would be inaccurate.

REFERENCE - Original Constitution wording (excerpts):

Section 2 Regular Memberships

Election of regular members and adjustment of dues and fees of the Club shall be based on the following:

- a) All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements for regular membership. Applications must be made on the form provided for this purpose, and must be accompanied by the appropriate dues and initiation fee.
- b) All dues, and fees may be adjusted once a year, at the May meeting, by a two-thirds majority of members present, provided a quorum of at least fifteen members are in attendance.
- c) Single and multiple year memberships are available for the fiscal period of July 1 to June 30th, as well as lifetime membership.
- d) Membership applications and renewals for the next fiscal period(s) will be accepted throughout the year. Applications for the current fiscal year ending June 30th will be accepted until June 30th.
- e) Membership renewals shall be considered delinquent on July 1. A grace period shall be allowed during which time a delinquent member may be reinstated without paying the reinstatement fee until July 31st. After July 31, reinstatement will require the payment of both the annual dues and the reinstatement fee. The reinstatement fee may be waived by a majority vote of the Board or membership committee.

Section 5 Honorary Members

The Club may bestow Honorary Membership by a two-thirds majority vote. Honorary memberships shall be reviewed annually for continuance by the Club at the July meeting. Honorary members over the age of eighteen shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of regular members and may become regular members upon payment of dues. No initiation fee will be due when an honorary member elects to become a regular member.