

At the Annual General Meeting on May 19th a motion has been made to make changes to the SCMHA's Constitution and Bylaws. Copies of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws were sent to all members.

If you would like a copy of these documents please contact the SCMHA Secretary at secretary@scminorhockey.com

Why is the SCMHA required to make changes to its Constitution and Bylaws?

SCMHA has been required to update its Constitution and Bylaws to conform to the new British Columbia Societies Act. The Societies Act came in to effect November 28, 2016 and governs how societies are created and run in B.C. Pre-existing societies are required to "transition" to the new Act. To do this we need to make changes to our Constitution and Bylaws to conform to the new format. The deadline is November 28, 2018.

What changes is the SCMHA making to the Constitution?

- (1) Under the new Act a constitution can only contain the name of the Society and the purpose. Therefore, Article III and Article IV are being removed from the constitution and added to the Bylaws.
- (2) The names of Sechelt and Gibsons have changed over time from the Village of Gibsons and Village of Sechelt to the Town of Gibsons and District of Sechelt
- (3) The Shilsah Nation is now included and not assumed to be part of the SCRCD
- (4) Nothing else has changed.

Where can I now find Articles III and IV from the old Constitution?

In the Bylaws: Bylaw 1.4 and Bylaw 19.1

Why is the SCMHA changing the Bylaws?

The Bylaws had to be changed to include Article III and IV from the Constitution. As the Bylaws were going to be amended the Executive Committee thought it was a good time for them to be reviewed. Most of the changes provide clarification, are a modernization, and/or remove items from the bylaws that are better suited for the Policy and Procedure Manual.

What are the changes?

PART 2 – Membership

The new bylaws extend non-voting membership to registered players. This clarifies that players are covered by the Bylaws.

The new bylaws clarify how many parents are voting members and, therefore, can vote at general meetings:

Ordinary Voting Membership will be extended to:

The parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of a child registered in SCMHA's hockey program; and the player has paid the applicable Registration Fee. Membership shall be limited to two parents/legal guardians per child registered in SCMHA's hockey program. The name of the member(s) is to be put forward at the time of annual registration. It being understood that a member having more than one child registered in the SCMHA's hockey program shall have no greater rights as a member in the Society than a member having only one child registered.

The new Bylaws extends membership opportunity to adults who don't have registered children in SCMHA but take an active role in the SCMHA. Provides membership to adults who are playing with the SCMHA, if in the future the SCMHA offered a juvenile division.

See Bylaws 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 4.11

DEBT

Bylaws 2.12 and 2.13 clarify that parents/legal guardians are not in good standing if their child has unpaid debts to the Society.

See Bylaws 2.12 and 2.13

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Bylaw 3.5 provides directions for how members will be notified of meetings. Under the old Bylaws notification was placed in a local paper. Currently this costs SCMHA approximately \$500 for notification of the AGM. It is also difficult to predict if in the future the Sunshine Coast would have a print newspaper servicing the region. The new Bylaws have notification by email and on the website.

See Bylaws 3.5 and 15.3

REGISTERED MAIL

There are a couple references in the old Bylaws to having something sent by Registered Mail. Mail is used when proof of delivery and receipt are needed. As SCMHA has a PO Box – proof of receipt is unlikely. The new Bylaws offer an alternative – an e-mail being sent to both the President and the Secretary. E-mails offer proof of delivery and having it sent to two recipients ensure that there is transparency about receipt of the e-mail.

See Bylaws 3.9 (c) and 9.3

QUORUM

Quorum is changed from nine (9) members to twenty (20) members.

See Bylaw 4.4

VOTING

In the old Bylaws voting was done by hand unless a motion was brought forward to do it by ballot. The new Bylaws state the same thing but make voting for Directors always done by ballot.

See Bylaw 4.11 and 4.12

DIRECTORS

The old Bylaws listed the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar and 4 Directors at Large. The election and role of Directors at Large was vague. Changes were made to the description and elections of Directors at Large to further clarify the current practice of the elections of Directors at Large. Currently Directors at Large take on key roles with SCMHA. It was imperative to ensure that these “job descriptions” were filled by individuals who were elected to the board who were willing and capable to take on these specific jobs. We wanted to avoid a situation where people were elected as Directors at Large and then no one was willing to take on these key roles.

The new Bylaws have Directors at Large being elected to specific portfolios (as is the current practice).

In the old Bylaws Equipment Manager was an appointed position. Under the new Bylaws it is within the portfolio of one of the Directors at Large (as is the current practice).

See Bylaws 5.5, 5.6, and 5.9

The number of Directors at Large can also be increased by the Executive Committee prior to an Annual General Meeting. The vacant new positions will then be filled at the next Annual General Meeting. This gives the flexibility to increase the number of Directors – changing and/or adding portfolios on the Executive Committee.

See Bylaws 5.11, 5.12 and 5.13

NOMINATIONS OF DIRECTORS

The process for nominations is clarified. In the old Bylaws nomination is either by the Executive Committee's Nomination Committee or from the floor. The new Bylaws opens nomination up to include paperwork being done prior to the meeting (as is the current practice)

See Bylaw 5.7

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The old Bylaws did not provide any regulation around the notice needing to be given for an Executive Committee Meeting. The new Bylaws set the minimum notice at two (2) days. However, there are times when it is imperative for the Executive Committee to meet with little notice. The new Bylaws allow for this to happen if all the Directors are in agreement. This ensures urgent matters can be dealt with quickly, yet also ensure that committee members are being excluded by calling meetings with little notice.

See Bylaws 6.7 and 6.8

VIDEO CONFERENCE

The new Bylaws allow for committee members to attend telephone or video conference.

See Bylaw 6.14

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

The duties of the appointed officials was in both the Bylaws and the Policy & Procedure Manual. They are no longer in the Bylaws and can be found in the Policy & Procedure Manual.

BORROWING

The old Bylaws only stated that the “association shall only borrow money or issue debentures without the authority of a special resolution of the members.” The new Bylaws still require a special resolution. The new Bylaws provided much greater definition of what roles can and can not be undertaken in borrowing, acquisition of property and investment.

See Part – 11

INDEMNITIES AND SECURITIES

This section was not addressed at all in the old Bylaws. It is reflective of the times that liability is addressed in the Bylaws.

See Part - 17