

By-Laws Change to take as soon as they're approved.

Article III: Section 1. Voting Membership Categories

We need to consolidate our number of different types of memberships due to the fact that Texas Knights is now on-line. If you purchased a membership that didn't get Texas Knights you got the reduced price.

Currently Written

B. Regular Non-subscriber: Any Texas resident may become a Regular Non-subscribing Member of the Association upon payment of \$5.00 for one year. This class of membership does not receive Texas Knights but may participate in TCA tournaments and vote in TCA elections, and does not exclude juniors aged 16 (as of September 1st) or under.

C. Student: Any Texas resident with a valid college ID may become a Student Member of the Association upon payment of \$7.50 for one year.

D. Junior: Any Texas resident 16 (as of September 1st) years of age and under may become a Junior Member of the Association upon payment of \$7.50 dues per year.

Recommendation - delete Regular Non-subscriber, Student and Junior and that we go with one type of membership (Regular) at \$10.00/year.

Other memberships classes

I. Blind Membership. A blind person may become a Special Member of the Association upon payment of \$2.00 for one year without the magazine, or \$5.00 for one year with the magazine. Recommendation – delete, we have one (1) blind member.

E. Junior Tournament: Any Texas resident 16 (as of September 1st) years of age and under may become a Junior Tournament Member of the Association upon payment of \$1.00. This class of membership does not receive Texas Knights and carries no voting privileges, but may participate in one TCA sponsored tournament. College players in a TCA Scholastic Event with a Collegiate Section may participate as Junior Tournament Members upon payment of the \$1.00 fee.

Proposed re-write

E. Junior Tournament: Any Texas resident 16 (as of September 1st) years of age and under may become a Junior Tournament Member of the Association upon payment of \$1.00. This class of membership ~~does not receive Texas Knights and~~ carries no voting privileges, but may participate in one TCA sponsored tournament. College players in a TCA Scholastic Event with a Collegiate Section may participate as Junior Tournament Members upon payment of the \$1.00 fee.

Rationale: Deletes reference to Texas Knights.

J. Family Patron: Any family member may become a Family Patron Member of the Association upon payment of \$30.00 or more dues per year. Said Member shall receive Texas Knights by first class mail, have their family name displayed in the Texas Knights "Hall of Honor" and be known as a generous supporter of Texas chess.

Proposed re-write

J. Family Patron: Any family member may become a Family Patron Member of the Association upon payment of \$30.00 or more dues per year. Said Member shall ~~receive Texas Knights by first class mail,~~ have their family name displayed in the Texas Knights "Hall of Honor" and be known as a generous supporter of Texas chess.

Rationale: Deletes reference to mailed Texas Knights.

Section 2. Non-voting Membership Categories

Currently written

L. Club: Any U.S. club or organization that wishes to affiliate itself with the Association may do so for an annual affiliation fee of \$25.00. Any foreign club or organization may affiliate itself with the Association for an annual affiliation fee of \$40.00. The club or organization will not have voting privileges but will receive Texas Knights and one free quarter page advertisement per year in Texas Knights.

Proposed re-write

L. Club: Any U.S. club or organization that wishes to affiliate itself with the Association may do so for an annual affiliation fee of \$25.00. Any foreign club or organization may affiliate itself with the Association for an annual affiliation fee of \$40.00. The club or organization will not have voting privileges but will receive ~~Texas Knights and~~ one free quarter page advertisement per year in **the on-line** Texas Knights.

Rationale: Removes reference to mailed Texas Knights. Gives them the on-line option if they want it.

Currently written

M. Scholastic Club: Any scholastic organization including colleges, junior colleges, community colleges, high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, youth centers, youth hostels, etc., may affiliate itself with the Association for an annual affiliation fee of \$10.00. The club or organization will not have voting privileges but will receive Texas Knights and one free quarter page advertisement per year in Texas Knights.

Proposed re-write

M. Scholastic Club: Any scholastic organization including colleges, junior colleges, community colleges, high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, youth centers, youth hostels, etc., may affiliate itself with the Association for an annual affiliation fee of \$10.00. The club or organization will not have voting

privileges but will receive Texas Knights and one free quarter page advertisement per year in the on-line Texas Knights.

Rationale: Removes the reference to the mailed and gives them the on-line option if they want it.

Barb noted at the State meeting that the Lifetime Patron membership is no longer in the By-Laws. I will do research and see if I can find out when it disappeared and why. We need to put it back in.

Section 3. Renewals

Currently written

Membership renewals shall be dated from the previous expiration date, if renewed within 30 days following expiration, or for a year from the date of renewal if necessary to ensure that the renewing member is scheduled to receive six issues of Texas Knights before the new expiration date.

Proposed re-write

~~Membership renewals shall be dated from the previous expiration date. ,if renewed within 30 days following expiration, or for a year from the date of renewal if necessary to ensure that the renewing member is scheduled to receive six issues of Texas Knights before the new expiration date.~~

Rationale: Deletes reference to mailed Texas Knights.

Section 4. Rights and Privileges of Members

Currently written

A. Each member (unless a non-subscribing member) shall be entitled to receive Texas Knights or other TCA publications.

Proposed re-write

Delete A. and change B. to A.

B. All Voting Members except for Junior Tournament Members are entitled to vote at meetings of the general membership and participate in all activities and tournaments sponsored by the Association, except that such events may require an entry fee. All Voting Members may hold office in the Association if duly elected or appointed.

Rationale: Deletes reference to mailed Texas Knights.

Article IV: Board of Directors

Section 1. Composition

Currently written:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected by the membership; eight Regional Directors representing each region of Texas (as specified in Appendix I), who shall each be appointed by the President; the Editor of Texas Knights, who shall be appointed by the President; and the immediate past President. The President shall be Chairman of the Board.

Proposed re-write

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected by the membership.; ~~eight~~ **Ten** Regional Directors representing each region of Texas (as specified in Appendix I), ~~who shall each be appointed by the President;~~ and the Editor of Texas Knights, ~~who shall be appointed by the President.;~~ ~~and~~ **The immediate past President holds the same status as the Regional Directors and Editor of Texas Knights who are all Board Members but not part of the Board of Directors. From time to time the Board of Directors will need to consider actions necessary to carry out the business of the Association. When these instances occur, the Board shall inform the Regional Directors, the Editor of Texas Knights, and the immediate past President in a timely manner.** The President shall be Chairman of the Board.

Rationale: In 2015 the number of Regions was increased to ten when Region X was created.

Additional considerations – we need to clarify what the Board of Directors really means as it's not clear. Is the Board the elected officers or does it include the Regional Directors, the Editor of Texas Knights, and the immediate past President? Since there is a semicolon after the elected officers' past administrations have construed this to mean there is a board of Directors comprised of the elected officers. Whichever it needs some wording to clarify the specifics.

Section 2. Meetings of the Board of Directors

Currently written

A meeting of the Board of Directors may be held on Saturday preceding Labor Day at the location of The Southwest Open upon call of the President or the Chairman of the Board. Special meetings may similarly be called at any major tournament sponsored by the Association. Advance motions must be received at least three weeks prior to any meeting, and shall be posted to the TCA Website no later than two weeks prior to the same meeting.

Proposed re-write

A meeting of the Board of Directors may be held on Saturday **or Sunday** preceding Labor Day at the location of The Southwest Open upon call of the President ~~or the Chairman of the Board~~. Special meetings may similarly be called at any major tournament sponsored by the Association. Advance motions must be received at least three weeks prior to any meeting, and shall be posted to the TCA Website no later than two weeks prior to the same meeting.

Rationale: Meeting are often Sunday morning. This allows for some latitude. The President is the Chairman of the Board and it's stated earlier so this is redundant.

Section 3. Quorum and Voting for Meetings of the Board

Current written

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting shall be five (5) of the Board members, including at least three (3) of the elected officers of the Association. A majority vote of the directors present shall be sufficient to transact business.

Proposed re-write

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting shall be five (5) of the Board members, including at least ~~three (3)~~ **two (2)** of the elected officers of the Association. A majority vote of the directors' present shall be sufficient to transact business.

Rationale: Here it seems clear that the Regional Directors are part of the Board but rarely are five board members present at a TCA meeting. We need to fix this to be consistent with how we operate.

Article V: Officers

Section 3. Elections

Currently written

- A. Election of the officers of the Association, as well as tournament bids on official TCA events, shall be by mail ballot.

Proposed re-write

- A. Election of the officers of the Association **shall be on-line**. Tournament bids on official TCA events shall be conducted via e-mail.

Rationale: This is how we have been operating.

Currently written

B. A ballot shall be prepared by the Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, listing the nomination for each officer post. Sufficient copies of the ballot shall be published in order that each voting member in good standing may vote. The Secretary may mail a copy of the ballot to each voting member in good standing, or have a copy of the ballot included with the July/August issue of Texas Knights. A preaddressed envelope shall be included with the ballot.

Proposed re-write

B. A ballot shall be prepared by the Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, listing the nomination for each officer post. Sufficient copies of the ballot shall be published in order that each voting member in good standing may vote. The Secretary may mail a copy of the ballot to each voting member in good standing, or have a copy of the ballot included with the July/August issue of Texas Knights. A preaddressed envelope shall be included with the ballot. The Secretary will provide on-line ballots to all members with valid e-mail addresses.

Currently worded

C. The President shall appoint a special committee to tally the votes. This committee shall be made up of at least one Board member and one voting member. The ballots shall be opened and tallied during a public meeting during the Southwest Open. The nominee having a plurality shall be declared the winner of each office. The committee chairperson will present the election results to the President prior to or during the first part of the Annual Meeting. The committee chairperson will announce the election results at the appropriate time during the Annual Meeting.

Proposed re-write

C. The ~~President shall appoint a special committee to~~ Secretary shall provide the on-line vote tally to the membership at the Southwest Open membership meeting. ~~tally the votes. This committee shall be made up of at least one Board member and one voting member. The ballots shall be opened and tallied during a public meeting during the Southwest Open. The nominee having a plurality shall be declared the winner of each office. The committee chairperson will present the election results to the President prior to or during the first part of the Annual Meeting. The committee chairperson will announce the election results at the appropriate time during the Annual Meeting.~~

Rationale: This is how we are actually operating.

Section 4. Term

Currently written

The terms of the Directors and Officers shall begin at the Annual Membership Meeting after the close of old business in the order of business items, and continue for approximately one year until the next Annual Membership Meeting.

Proposed re-write

The terms of the Directors and Officers shall begin at the Annual Membership Meeting after the close of old business in the order of business items, and continue for approximately ~~one~~ two years. ~~until the next Annual Membership Meeting.~~

Rationale: Rarely are TCA elections competed, running them every year is really unnecessary and cost us money. This was approved for immediate implementation at the State meeting in March 2019.

Section 5. Duties and Responsibilities of the Officers

Currently Written

A. President

2. The President shall call special meetings of the Board of Directors; appoint committees, and committee chairmen; appoint the Editor of Texas Knights; appoint the eight Regional Directors representing each Region of Texas (as outlined in Appendix I); appoint officers for positions in which there are no nominees; appoint members to fill any vacancy in any office for the unexpired term; appoint the nominate candidates for the USCF SOMOV election, and appoint the Director of Postal Chess, Scholastic Committee Chair, Ethics Committee Chair, Procurement Director, and Webmaster; and appoint the Directors of Postal Chess and Junior Chess. All Presidential appointments must be submitted to the Board of Directors and are subject to their approval.

Proposed re-write

2. The President shall call special meetings of the Board of Directors; appoint committees, and committee chairmen; appoint the Editor of Texas Knights; appoint the ~~eight~~ **ten** Regional Directors representing each Region of Texas (as outlined in Appendix I); appoint officers for positions in which there are no nominees; appoint members to fill any vacancy in any office for the unexpired term; appoint the nominate candidates for the USCF Single One Vote (SOMOV) election, and appoint the ~~Director of Postal Chess,~~ Scholastic Committee Chair, Ethics Committee Chair, ~~Procurement Director,~~ and Webmaster ~~;~~ ~~and appoint the Directors of Postal Chess and Junior Chess.~~ All Presidential appointments must be submitted to the Board of Directors and are subject to their approval.

Rationale: There's ten regional directors. If there's actually Postal Chess going on its news to me. We're not procuring anything and if we are it goes through the Treasurer. If there's a Junior Chess Committee when was the last time they did anything.

C. Secretary

Currently Written

5. The Secretary shall confirm with all appointed USCF Delegates on May 1st to ensure they are planning to attend the USCF business meeting and inform each delegate if they cancel, they will need to formally resign so an alternate may be assigned in their place.

Proposed re-write

5. The Secretary shall confirm with all appointed USCF Delegates on May 1st to ensure they are planning to attend the USCF business meeting and inform each delegate if they cancel, they will need to formally resign so an alternate may be assigned in their place. **The Secretary will also notify and coordinate with the representatives to the US Senior, the Susan Polgar Nominee, the Ruth Haring National Tournament of Girls, the Barber and the Denker Chess Championships.**

Section 6. Duties and Responsibilities of Non-Officers

Currently written

- A. Director of Procurement: The Director of Procurement shall handle the purchase of chess sets for the TCA scholastic support program, and for other TCA approved projects.

Proposed re-write

Delete

Article VI: MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 2. Annual Junior Chess Meeting

A. The annual junior chess meeting shall be held during the Texas Scholastic Championship. The tournament director or organizer shall plan for this meeting to take approximately ninety minutes. The agenda shall focus on issues unique to Texas Junior Chess.

B. The Order of Business and quorum rules for the junior chess meeting shall be the same as that for the Annual Membership Meeting.

C. Voting Rules at the Junior Chess Meeting:

1. Amendments of Bylaws that relate directly to Junior Chess may only be approved by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the voting Members. Discussion of other proposed Bylaws changes may be held and a straw poll may be taken, but all other Bylaws changes shall be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

2. Transaction of other business on issues that relate directly to Junior Chess may be approved by a majority vote of the voting Members.

3. All bylaws changes that do not directly relate to junior chess shall be voted on at the Annual Membership Meeting. Such bylaws changes may be discussed at the Annual Junior Chess meeting, and non-binding votes may be taken.

This goes under the category of we don't do this and even if we did there's not 90 minutes at State to dedicate to this, given we also do the regular TCA meeting at State. I'm open to suggestions on this one.

Section 5. Organizers Committee

Currently written

B. The Primary Responsibilities of these committee will be:

1. Award the Scholastic Majors when more than one bid. When only one bid, then the committee must also review the bid to make sure it meets the guidelines or to not approve the bid. Note that in the case

of only one bid submitted by the bidding deadline, the committee can help the bidder to improve the bid. The North Texas Organizer Committee will award the South Texas Scholastic Major bids, while the South Texas Organizer Committee will award the North Texas Scholastic Major bids. When there is a super state (see Article IX, Section 1 E), the South Texas Organizer Committee awards the bid when it is the North Texas turn to host it and the North Texas Organizer Committee awards the bid when it is the South Texas turn to host it.

Proposed re-write

B. The Primary Responsibilities of these committee will be:

1. Award the Scholastic Majors when more than one bid **is received**. When only one bid **is received**, then the committee must also review the bid to make sure it meets the guidelines or ~~to~~ not approve the bid. Note that in the case of only one bid **being** submitted by the bidding deadline, the committee can ~~help~~ **make suggests for the submitter to consider adding that would make the bid acceptable, then subsequently resubmitting the bid**. The North Texas Organizer Committee will award the South Texas Scholastic Major bids, while the South Texas Organizer Committee will award the North Texas Scholastic Major bids. When there is a super state (see Article IX, Section 1 E), the South Texas Organizer Committee awards the bid when it is the North Texas turn to host it and the North Texas Organizer Committee awards the bid when it is the South Texas turn to host it.

Notes: I don't even know who's on these committees.

Article IX: Tournaments

Section 2. Policies of the Conduct of Tournaments

H. Organizers of TCA events involving scholastic players shall make a good faith effort to ensure every volunteer has complied with the normal vetting process employed by schools in the state of Texas meaning they shall have successfully completed the on-line background check.

I. Any organizer approved/authorized to run an event defined in Article IX., Section 1 shall submit a Profit and Loss Statement to the TCA President, the organizer of the event, and the TCA secretary. This statement shall contain all the components of a normal business profit and loss statement to include but not be limited to:

- a. Revenue
- b. Expense details such as cost of venue (if applicable), cost of trophies, prize fund, ratings fee, TD fee's and any other applicable expenses.
- c. Profit(s) including who received them/or loss if applicable.

H and I were added at March 2019 State and approved for immediate implementation.

M. Regional Scholastic Championships. These shall be held in each of the Regions of the Association, and shall precede the Texas Scholastic Championship within the school year. These shall be organized according to the same guidelines as the Texas Scholastic. These shall be open only to students residing in or attending school in the same region as the tournament. [Notes: (1) A TCA region that does not hold a regional forfeits its priority in the next bidding cycle for the Texas Scholastic Championships and for the Texas Grade Championships. (2) If a regional draws less than 150 players the previous year (or is not held), then the next year the regional can be held as an open event. It will be up to the organizer to decide whether out of region players can win trophies.]

Proposed re-write

M. Regional Scholastic Championships. These shall be held in each of the Regions of the Association, and shall precede the Texas Scholastic Championship within the school year. These shall be organized according to the same guidelines as the Texas Scholastic. These shall be open only to students residing in or attending school in the same region as the tournament. [Notes: (1) A TCA region that does not hold a regional forfeits its priority in the next bidding cycle for the Texas Scholastic Championships and for the Texas Grade Championships. (2) If a regional draws less than ~~150~~ 350 players the previous year (or is not held), then the next year the regional can be held as an open event. It will be up to the organizer to decide whether out of region players can win trophies.

I was notified this was changed to 350 players some time ago but have no documentation to cite. I am open to suggestions on this one.