

11/6/2001

Fellow members,

The club has changed significantly over the last 15 years. However, the rules that guide our operation, the Constitution and Bylaws, have not kept pace with these changes. The club board has been working to remedy this for the last 4 months, and has completed the job. Last night they approved significant revisions to the Bylaws, and passed a resolution recommending to the membership that they approve the companion minor changes to the Constitution.

The Constitution can only be changed by the general membership; the most convenient time is at the annual meeting. There will be a simple vote at this year's meeting/party to approve the changes.

Attached is the proposed modified constitution, with the few proposed additions and deletions shown in *Italics*. The changes are as follows:

1. Article II, Section 1 (page 2) drops the definition of Frostbite membership, which will now appear in the Bylaws. It should have been put there in the first place.
2. Article IV, Section 3 (pages 3 and 4) drops other wording and indicates that each officer will supervise a set of committees to be specified in the Bylaws.

Almost all the changes to both documents just put in writing what we have already been doing; a few changes include next steps we will be taking in 2002.

Across the two documents, the major changes called for in our actual operation are few:

- 1) The Governor's Cup is no longer the sole responsibility of an Officer (was the Rear Commodore), but the sole responsibility of a director/committee chairman (Special Regattas), who now reports to the Vice Commodore. More of the work of the Governors Cup is given to existing committees, particularly the social and dinner are given to the club's Social Committee.
- 2) The Rear Commodore, no longer having the Governor's Cup, is now in charge of a set of other committees (New Members, Participation, Social, and Junior Program).
- 3) There are two new functions and committees: Experience Exploitation (which captures info from each committee on this year's operations so the data can be given to the same committee in following years) and Audit (which audits our financial operations).
- 4) The intention of having some sort of social function associated with each race day in the Summer Jordan Series.

There are two elements of the existing club strategy that are given significant continuing emphasis: a) directors'/committee chairmen's primary function is to manage a team of members performing the committees function, rather than do the whole job themselves.

b) All members are expected to work on a race committee (for 2 days) and to work on another functional committee.

We expect that, when the full membership has the opportunity to study the revised Bylaws, they will come up with many good further improvements to be made. Since the Bylaws can be changed by 2/3 of the Board of Directors at any time, and the Board meets monthly, changes can and will be made throughout the next year. Your input is solicited.

Both the new and the old Bylaws are posted on the web site.

Ed Michels
Commodore