

**Ballot for By-Mail Voting on Topics  
to Be Considered at RCAC 2010 Annual Business Meeting**

**June 22, 2010**

**I. Instructions for Submitting Your Ballot:**

1. Since there are no RCA couples living in the immediate area of Niagara Falls, there has been some difficulty in establishing a mailing address for the by-mail ballots. For the last three annual business meetings, a number of ballots have been received on Thursday, the day before the annual business meeting. Because of the fact that many couples are beginning their travel several days before the annual business meeting this year, the mailing deadline will be tighter than it has been the last three years. Another complication is the uncertain delay for mail crossing the border from the US to Canada as well as in the other direction. Therefore, the Chair of the RCA-WSO Board of Trustees has approved the deadlines and locations for the receipt of by-mail ballots as specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 that follows:

2. **Mailing within Canada:** Your group's ballot must be **received** at the specified address **no later than Wednesday, July 21, 2010** (this RCA couple will be traveling on Thursday so that ballots received after Wednesday will not be delivered to the business meeting):

RCA-WSO Structure Committee  
c/o Gerrie P. irw Randy W.  
3388 Raleigh St.  
East St Paul, Manitoba R2E 1B9

3. **Mailing within the US:** Your group's ballot must be **received** at the specified address **no later than Tuesday, July 20, 2010** (this RCA couple will be traveling on Wednesday so that ballots received after Tuesday will not be delivered to the business meeting):

RCA-WSO Structure Committee  
c/o Ruth B. irw Debbie V.  
125 Birchwood Drive  
Schenectady, NY 12303

4. **Mailing from other than Canada or the US:** You may chose whichever address will work best for you, either the address in Canada in paragraph 2 above or the address in the US in paragraph 3 above.

5. Please use two envelopes to submit the ballot from your RCA Member Group.

a. On the inner envelope **please print** the **group number**, the group name, and location of your group and have the inner envelop signed by your Delegate Couple or your Group Contact Couple or a couple in your Group that has been authorized to submit the ballot for your Group. Please also print each name under each signature

b. The outer envelope should contain the above mailing address and your return address.

6. **Please ensure that you have used adequate postage.**

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**II. Notice Required by Applicable Missouri Law for Voting By-Mail:**

Since there are no quorum requirements in the RCA WSO bylaws for voting by the delegate couples, the quorum requirements of the applicable Missouri law apply. The required quorum requirement is for voting by 10% of the member groups. This requires voting by at least an estimated 13 RCA member groups, given that there are currently approximately 130 RCA member groups. These counts will be updated with a final estimate of the number of eligible RCA member groups established prior to the annual business meeting on Friday, July 23, 2010.

**III. Voting:**

1. Before voting, your group should review the information on each of the four topics that is contained in a document dated April 23, 2010, and entitled:

*Notice to the RCA Fellowship: Topics to be Considered at the 2010 Annual Business Meeting  
on Friday, July 23, 2010 in Niagara Falls, Canada*

If you have not received a copy of this document, you may download it from the RCA WSO website: [www.recovering-couples.org](http://www.recovering-couples.org) from the section covering the annual business meeting.

2. Please vote “yes,” “no,” or “abstain” on each of the four topics that follow (including the four parts of Topic 4) by checking the appropriate box at the end of each topic.

**Category I: Proposed Changes to the Bylaws**

**Topic 1: Authorizing Participation at the RCA Convention By Teleconference or Equivalent Method.**

This proposed amendment involves the addition of a new provision to the bylaws. If adopted, this provision would be in effect for the RCA convention in 2011.

**Motion:** Move to amend the bylaws to add the following new section:

**3.6.1.4 Meetings by Teleconference or Equivalent Method.** The Delegate Couples are authorized to meet by teleconference or video-conference or by any other technical means that allows the Delegate Couples in attendance at the R.C.A.C..to hear each other at the same time.

Vote on Topic 1: Please check one of the three boxes:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws.
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws.
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws.

**The vote required for passage is 75% of the total of the yes and no votes.**

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**Topic 2 Proposal to Eliminate the Use of By-Mail Voting at the Annual Business Meeting.**

This proposed amendment involves modification to existing provisions of the bylaws. If adopted, this provision would be in effect for the RCA convention in 2011.

**Motion:** Move that the bylaws be amended to not allow by-mail voting at the RCA convention.

1. The current bylaw wording of those sections to be amended is as follows:

**3.6 Collective Group Conscience of the Membership.** To ensure that the services provided by the W.S.O. are guided by the collective group conscience of the entire membership, the Delegate Couple for each Member Group shall have one vote on each matter considered at the annual R.C.A. convention (R.C.A.C.). (This provision adopted August 4, 2006 to take effect as of the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

**3.6.1 Delegate Couple.** Each Member Group shall select from the member couples of the group, a Delegate Couple, to represent the group at the R.C.A.C. and to vote for the group on all matters considered at the R.C.A.C. (This provision adopted August 4, 2006 to take effect as of the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

**3.6.1.1 Member-Group Voting-by-Mail.** The Delegate Couple for each Member Group may vote by mail for those matters (as decided by R.C.A.C. or by the board) for which adequate prior notice (minimum of 90 days) and information is provided to the Member Groups. (This provision adopted August 4, 2006 to take effect as of the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

**3.6.1.2 Member-Group Voting-by-Proxy.** If a Member Group will not have a Delegate Couple attending the R.C.A.C., that Member Group may vote by proxy at the R.C.A.C. by designating a Delegate Couple from another Member Group to represent it at the R.C.A.C. A proxy designation may be for all of the matters considered at the convention or it may be limited to specific matters to be considered at the convention. If a Member Group will not have a Delegate Couple attending the R.C.A.C., that Member Group may vote both by mail, on those matters for which by mail voting is permitted, and by proxy, on those matters for which voting by mail is not available. No delegate couple shall hold more than one proxy. (This provision adopted August 4, 2006 to take effect as of the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

**3.6.1.3 Procedures for Voting by Member Groups.** It shall be the responsibility of the Group Contact Couple (GCC) of each Member Group to notify the Board of Trustees of the Delegate Couple representing the Member Group or, in the alternative, of the designation of the Delegate Couple representing the group by proxy if the group chooses that option. The delegate couple shall also be responsible for the group's submission of any votes by mail when the group elects to vote by that means when voting-by-mail is available. The Board of Trustees shall establish the deadlines for initial and modified designations by each Member Group and shall establish necessary procedures and forms required to implement delegate voting, by-mail voting, and proxy voting. Since the fundamental objective is to seek the collective group conscience of the entire membership, the Board of Trustees shall provide for voting-by-mail to the extent feasible and insure adequate time for an informed group conscience and full discussion. (This provision adopted August 4, 2006 to take effect as of the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

**Ballot for By-Mail Voting on Topics  
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2. The bylaws as amended by this proposal would read as follows with additions shown in bold italics and deletions shown by cross-out. These are no changes proposed to sections 3.6 and 3.61 which are included here for completeness.

**3.6 Collective Group Conscience of the Membership.** To ensure that the services provided by the W.S.O. are guided by the collective group conscience of the entire membership, the Delegate Couple for each Member Group shall have one vote on each matter considered at the annual R.C.A. convention (R.C.A.C.).

**3.6.1 Delegate Couple.** Each Member Group shall select from the member couples of the group, a Delegate Couple, to represent the group at the R.C.A.C. and to vote for the group on all matters considered at the R.C.A.C.

**3.6.1.1 Member-Group Voting-by-Mail.** The Delegate Couple for each Member Group may vote by mail for those matters (as decided by R.C.A.C. or by the board) for which adequate prior notice (minimum of 90 days) and information is provided to the Member Groups. *By-mail voting is only allowed when all of the ballots counted are sent by mail, as in special balloting occurring between R.C.A.Cs. Ballots mailed in by absentee delegates will never be counted together with votes of delegates who are in attendance at the R.C.A.C. in person or electronically.*

**3.6.1.2 Member-Group Voting-by-Proxy.** If a Member Group will not have a Delegate Couple attending the R.C.A.C., that Member Group may vote by proxy at the R.C.A.C. by designating a Delegate Couple from another Member Group to represent it at the R.C.A.C. A proxy designation may be for all of the matters considered at the convention or it may be limited to specific matters to be considered at the convention. ~~If a Member Group will not have a Delegate Couple attending the R.C.A.C., that Member Group may vote both by mail, on those matters for which by-mail voting is permitted, and by proxy, on those matters for which voting by mail is not available.~~ No delegate couple shall hold more than one proxy.

**3.6.1.3 Procedures for Voting by Member Groups.** It shall be the responsibility of the Group Contact Couple (GCC) of each Member Group to notify the Board of Trustees of the Delegate Couple representing the Member Group or, in the alternative, of the designation of the Delegate Couple representing the group by proxy if the group chooses that option. The delegate couple shall also be responsible for the group's submission of any votes by mail when the group elects to vote by that means when voting-by-mail is available. The Board of Trustees shall establish the deadlines for initial and modified designations by each Member Group and shall establish necessary procedures and forms required to implement delegate voting, by-mail voting, and proxy voting. ~~Since the fundamental objective is to seek the collective group conscience of the entire membership, the Board of Trustees shall provide for voting-by-mail~~

**Ballot for By-Mail Voting on Topics  
to Be Considered at RCAC 2010 Annual Business Meeting**

~~to the extent feasible and insure adequate time for an informed group  
conscience and full discussion.~~

Vote on Topic 2: Please check one of the three boxes:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws.
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws.
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws.

**The vote required for passage is 75% of the total of the yes and no votes.**

**Category II: Topics for Approval of Fellowship That  
Do Not Involve Changes to the Bylaws.**

**Topic 3: The 1996 Version of the Third Edition of the Blue Book Should Be Maintained  
and Made Available to All Who Request It.**

**Motion:** That the current 3rd edition be maintained and made available to all who request it.

Vote on Topic 3: Please check one of the three boxes.:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws.
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws.
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws.

**The vote required for passage is a majority of the total of the yes and no votes.**

**Ballot for By-Mail Voting on Topics  
to Be Considered at RCAC 2010 Annual Business Meeting**

**Topic 4: Request that the Board of Trustees Include in the Policies and Procedures Manual Certain Provisions Related to Committees and Committee Service.**

**Motion:** Move that the Board of Trustees be requested to include the following provisions in the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual:

1. All board members must serve on a W.S.O. committee while serving on the Board of Trustees.
2. The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall maintain contact with the all W.S.O. service providers on a regular basis and shall maintain discretionary communications with the various W.S.O. committees.
3. The Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees shall maintain communications with all W.S.O. committees on a regular basis.
4. The Treasurer of the Board of Trustees shall work with a W.S.O. finance or budget committee and shall maintain some level of ongoing participation with this committee. The treasurer shall serve on the 7th traditions committee.

**Separate Voting on Each of the Four Parts of This Motion:**

Since each of the four parts of the motion are independent and separable, each part will be voted on separately

**Vote on Part 1 of Topic 4:** Move that the Board of Trustees be requested to include the following provisions in the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual:

1. All board members must serve on a W.S.O. committee while serving on the Board of Trustees.

Vote on Part 1 of Topic 4: Please check one of the three boxes:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws

**The vote required for passage is a majority of the total of the yes and no votes.**

**Ballot for By-Mail Voting on Topics  
to Be Considered at RCAC 2010 Annual Business Meeting**

**Vote on Part 2 of Topic 4:** Move that the Board of Trustees be requested to include the following provisions in the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual:

2. The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall maintain contact with the all W.S.O. service providers on a regular basis and shall maintain discretionary communications with the various W.S.O. committees.

Vote on Part 2 of Topic 4: Please check one of the three boxes:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws

**The vote required for passage is a majority of the total of the yes and no votes.**

**Vote on Part 3 of Topic 4:** Move that the Board of Trustees be requested to include the following provisions in the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual:

3. The Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees shall maintain communications with all W.S.O. committees on a regular basis.

Vote on Part 3 of Topic 4: Please check one of the three boxes:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws

**The vote required for passage is a majority of the total of the yes and no votes.**

**Ballot for By-Mail Voting on Topics  
to Be Considered at RCAC 2010 Annual Business Meeting**

**Vote on Part 4 of Topic 4:** Move that the Board of Trustees be requested to include the following provisions in the Board's Policies and Procedures Manual:

4. The Treasurer of the Board of Trustees shall work with a W.S.O. finance or budget committee and shall maintain some level of ongoing participation with this committee. The treasurer shall serve on the 7th traditions committee

Vote on Part 4 of Topic 4: Please check one of the three boxes:

- Yes, our group approves of this amendment to the bylaws
- No, our group opposes this amendment to the bylaws
- Abstain, our group abstains from voting on this amendment to the bylaws

**The vote required for passage is a majority of the total of the yes and no votes.**