

May, 2017

**Suggested Amendments to the RCA By-laws
to Accomplish the Intention of the single proposal on the 2017 ABM Ballot**

The following is only the suggestion of the proposer of the one ballot proposal on the 2017 ABM ballot. It is not an official RCA document. It will be the responsibility of the Board of Trustees, with the support of the Structure Committee, to make and certify the actual amendments to the By-laws that accomplish the intent of the single 2017 ABM ballot proposal if it is approved by the Fellowship

<i>Changes to the Bylaws for Proposal 1: Mail Ballot Only Voting for ABM Proposals</i>	
<i>Current Bylaws Provision</i>	<i>Proposed Change to the Bylaws</i>
<i>Paragraph 3.6 of the Bylaws</i>	

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<i>Current Bylaws Provision</i>	<i>Proposed Change to the Bylaws</i>
<p>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.).</p> <p>(This provision adopted at the August 4, 2006 ABM to take effect at the R.C.A.C. 2007.)</p>	<p>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, all Fellowship decisions shall be made solely by means of by-mail voting. Each member group shall have one vote in the <i>By-Mail Voting Process</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By-Mail Voting: The intent is to provide each member group the opportunity to vote on all Fellowship decisions. Fellowship decisions include the adoption or modification of the following: bylaws; special rules of order; policies and procedures; or any other matter on which a vote of the entire Fellowship is taken. • The Board of Trustees shall publish a policy that establishes procedures, forms, and deadlines applicable to the <i>By-Mail Voting Process</i>. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Proposals for consideration by the Fellowship may be submitted by: RCA members; Member Groups; WSO committees; the Delegate Couples attending the ABM; or the RCA Board of Trustees. ♦ Written notice of each proposal must be filed with the Board of Trustees not later than December 1st prior to the scheduled date of the annual business meeting (ABM) of the next scheduled RCA Convention. But if December 1st is not at least 210 days prior to the scheduled date of the ABM, the written notice must be filed not later than 210 days prior to this scheduled date. ♦ The Board of Trustees may designate the format required for the written notices of proposals. ♦ The Board’s policy must include a ranking process so that the number proposals on the final by-ballot may

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	<p>be limited. If ranking is required, all member groups shall be given the opportunity to participate in this ranking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The final wording of each proposal as it appears on the final ballot, as well as its rationale, is the sole responsibility of the submitter. ♦ The <i>By-Mail Voting Process</i> shall comply with applicable Missouri law. • Actions Taken at the RCA Convention: The actions taken by the Delegate Couples at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) are limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ A matter may be referred to the Board of Trustees and an appropriate committee for further consideration. ♦ A recommendation or request may be made to the Board of Trustees to take a specified action. ♦ A proposal may be prepared and approved for submission as part of the <i>By-Mail Ballot Process</i>. <p>The limitations on the scope of actions that may be taken by the delegate couples at the ABM ensure the all member groups are given to opportunity to participate in all Fellowship decisions. Thereby, the small proportion of member groups historically present at the ABM are precluded making decisions for the entire Fellowship.</p>
<i>Paragraph 3.6.1 of the Bylaws</i>	
<p>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</p>	<p>3.6.1 Delegate Couple. Each Member Group shall select, from the member couples of the group, a Delegate Couple to submit the group's by-mail vote. The following duties are assigned to</p>

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<p>matters considered at the R.C.A.C.</p> <p>(This provision adopted at the August 4, 2006 ABM to take effect at the R.C.A.C. 2007.)</p>	<p>each Delegate Couple:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitting the group’s by-mail ballot. • If attending the RCA annual convention, to participate in the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) and to vote at the Board-election meeting pursuant to paragraph 4.1.4.

Paragraph 3-6-1-1 of the Bylaws

<p>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.</p> <p>(This provision adopted at the August 4, 2006 ABM to take effect at the R.C.A.C. 2007.)</p>	<p>3.6.1.1 Member-Group Voting-by-Mail. Each member group shall have the authority to determine the process which it uses to decide the position it will take on each proposal included on a by-mail ballot. The group’s delegate couple shall be responsible for submitting the group’s by-mail ballot.</p>
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Paragraph 3-6-1-2 of the Bylaws

<p>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</p>	<p>3.6.1.2 Member Group Representation by Proxy. If a member group will not have a delegate couple attending the RCA convention, that member group may a delegate couple from another group to represent it by proxy. This proxy may be voted at the ABM and at the Board-election meeting. No delegate couple shall hold more than one proxy.</p>
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one proxy.

(This provision adopted at the August 4, 2006 ABM to take effect at the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

Paragraph 3.6.1.3 of the Bylaws

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 at the August 4, 2006 ABM to take effect at the R.C.A.C. 2007.)

3.6.1.3 Designation Procedures. It shall be the responsibility of the Group Contact Couple (GCC) of each member group to notify the Board of Trustees of the designation of its delegate couple and the assignment of its proxy. The Board shall establish:

- The deadlines for the designations by each member group.
- Procedures and forms required the designation process.

Paragraph 6.2 of the Bylaws

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<p>6.2 Amendments. Amendments to these bylaws may be made at the annual open business meeting at R.C.A.C. Written notice of the proposed amendments must be filed with the Board of Trustees not later than 150 days prior to the scheduled date of the annual business meeting of the next scheduled R.C.A.C. An affirmative vote of 75% of all delegate couples of R.C.A. Member Groups voting shall be necessary to adopt any amendment to these bylaws.</p> <p>{ Need to be updated to reflect to 2016 change }</p> <p>(Provision amended at the August, 2016 ABM.)</p>	<p>6.2 Amendments. Amendments to these bylaws may only be made by the <i>By-Mail Voting Process</i> as specified in paragraph 3.6. Written notice of the proposed amendments must be filed with the Board of Trustees not later than December 1st prior to the scheduled date of the annual business meeting of the next scheduled R.C.A.C. But if December 1st is not at least 210 days prior to the scheduled date of the annual business meeting, the written notice must be filed not later than 210 days prior to this scheduled date. An affirmative vote of 75% of all delegate couples of R.C.A. Member Groups voting shall be necessary to adopt any amendment to these bylaws.”</p>