



ISO of COSA

Agenda Item Form for Delegate Business

Name of Meeting/Group/Individual Proposing Business Item:

(Please provide meeting number if applicable)

Amy S. and Sarah D.

Contact Person/Person Who Will Present Item at Annual Delegate Meeting: (Please Provide Name, E-mail, & Phone Number)

Amy S. and Sarah D.

Proposed Motion:

(Be precise; one sentence, if possible)

Change the wording of Section 8.3d of the COSA Bylaws from:

The Proposal passes when three-fourths (3/4) of the **registered** groups approve the proposed change(s) **in writing** to the Board of Trustees within a six (6) month time frame beginning with the date of mail-out.

to:

The Proposal passes when three-fourths (3/4) of the **responding** groups approve the proposed change(s) **in writing or by email*** to the Board of Trustees within a six (6) month time frame beginning with the date of mail-out.

Explanation of Issues and/or Purpose of Item:

As the Bylaws are currently written, Sections 3.3 and 8.3 combine to create a situation in which meetings no longer in existence are never removed from the rolls and yet are required to be counted in any poll of the membership that would affect changes to the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts. Assuming that the Board would find it onerous and impractical to conduct a regular census of active meetings, we (Amy S. and Sarah D.) ask that the Board replace the word “registered” with “responding” [*and replace “in writing” with “in writing or by email”] in Section 8.3d.

We believe that the original intent of this section regarding updates or changes to the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts was to create a high bar, but not an impossible one. As we've seen in the past, even something as simple as a grammatical or punctuation change has no actual chance of passing this process. Updating the language of this section of the Bylaws (or alternatively committing to a regular, perhaps yearly census to determine which groups are still in existence) would allow COSA a reasonable path to corrections of errors or consideration of updates.

[*and replace "in writing" with "in writing or by email"] is the result of a friendly amendment made by the board during the proposal vetting process. The suggestion was accepted by Amy S. and Sarah D. and is thus included in this document.

How this Proposal Might Be Carried Out:

(Consider volunteer hours, volunteer or paid skills needed to implement)

Change the wording of Section 8.3d in the COSA Bylaws by delegate vote as required by the COSA Bylaws.

Additional information:

The current complete Bylaws can be found at and downloaded from the COSA-recovery.org website, Service tab, Bylaws or <https://cosa-recovery.org/what-is-cosa/iso-of-cosa-bylaws/>

Bylaw changes:

8.1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES Except as expressly provided otherwise in these Bylaws, these Bylaws may be repealed or amended by, and new Bylaws not in conflict with these Bylaws hereof may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Trustees in office. The proposed amendments must be published to the delegates at least one (1) month prior to the annual meeting. Bylaws shall be amended at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees. Adopted changes or additions in Bylaws shall be ratified by a majority of delegates and the Trustees at the Annual Meeting.

Definition of a COSA group:

3.3 TENURE A member group shall retain ISO membership until it shall voluntarily withdraw its affiliation with ISO, or as long as it shall remain a COSA group.

Amendments to Steps, Traditions, and Concepts:

8.3 STEPS, TRADITIONS, AND CONCEPTS In order to change the wording of any of the Steps, Traditions, or Concepts the following procedure will be followed: Section Added in May 2011

- a) A registered group (s) sends the suggested change(s) to the Board of Trustees in the form of a Proposal complete with "pro" statements.
- b) The Board of Trustees finds a registered group(s) to write a "con" statement.
- c) The Board of Trustees sends out the proposed change(s) together with both the "pro and con" statements to all registered groups.
- d) The Proposal passes when three-fourths (3/4) of the registered groups approve the proposed change(s) in writing to the Board of Trustees within a six (6) month time frame beginning with the date of mail-out.
- e) Any approved change(s) will become effective at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees after the certification of the vote by the Executive Committee.

