

~~Strike through shows changes of words being deleted~~
Italics shows changes with new words

ARTICLE III MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 3.1 - Elections

The Elections of the Region shall be conducted each *calendar* year ~~at the fall OEC refresher or refreshers, or at a similar gathering requiring attendance of a majority of Voting Members held by calendar year end,~~ for the purpose of casting ballots for the Region Director and two Section Chief's in the last year of their term or filling any vacancy in one or more of the elective offices and conducting such other business as the Voting Members may determine.

Section 3.2 - Special Meetings

Special meetings, to conduct Region business, may be held at the call of the Region Director or ten percent of all the Voting Members to conduct such business as the Voting Members may determine. Fifty percent of the total number of Voting Members in the Region, present, shall constitute a quorum for special meetings. In the absence of a quorum, a simple majority of those present may adjourn the meeting.

Section 3.3 - Voting

Votes for election, or removal, of Region Officers and amendments to these By-Laws shall be *as provide herein.* ~~by paper ballot. There shall not be proxy voting on Region issues, but absent Voting Members may vote by absentee ballot in writing and signed under such rules as maybe adopted by the Region Election Committee. Any Region matter, other than those described specifically in the by-laws, must be submitted to, and acted upon, at all meetings of members in a fall series of OEC refreshers before adoption, irrespective of the existence of a quorum in the first such meeting.~~ Voting on other Region issues shall be conducted in accordance with rules that maybe established by the Election Committee for that event.

Section 3.4 - Notice of Meeting

Written, personal or telephone notice of voting and/or meetings shall be given to the Voting Members 14 days prior to the date of the meeting giving the place, date and time. The place, date and time of the meeting shall also be posted on the Region web page.

Section 3.5 - Region Election *Procedures* ~~Committee~~

~~No later than January 15th of each year~~ *The Regional Director shall appoint a Regional Election Committee of at least three active members to oversee the nomination and election process for the Region Director, with one member appointed to act as Chair. The identity of the Region Election Committee shall be sent to the Chair of the Division Nomination and Election Committee and shall be posted on the Region's website along with a call for candidates and other election notices. Notice of upcoming elections shall be given to the members by email and such other method as the Region Election Committee shall decide.*

~~Region Election Committee, as required to meet the Eastern Division By laws, and to properly staff the oversight of the election.~~

~~At least one appointee shall have served on a previous election committee within the past 3 election cycles.~~

~~The committee shall appoint one of their number to act as chair of the Election Committee.~~

~~Any patroller who is running for an elected office shall be excused from serving on the Election Committee, and shall be replaced by the Regional Director within 15 days of notification of intent to run for office. The Election Committee shall be responsible for conducting the voting for Regional Director in accordance with the Eastern Division By Laws. Election of Section Chiefs shall follow the procedure described for Regional Director. The Election Committee members shall be selected each year.~~

Section 3.6 – Voting Options

Voting may be by written or electronic Australian ballot. The Region may select only one balloting option for a single election. Written and electronic balloting cannot be mixed except as provided below. ~~The only exception to the non-mixed ballot will be for patrollers that do not have an email address available for their use in the election process, and it is a requirement of the selected electronic ballot process.~~ Members may request a paper ballot be mailed to their home for years in which an electronic ballot is selected. Such a member must make a written request for an alternative method to vote by stating their reason for requesting an alternate ballot to any member of the Regional Election Committee. In this case a numbered ballot can be mailed to the patroller. The Election Chair will track the ballots by patroller name, number, date sent, and date received. Proxy votes shall not be permitted, but absentee votes shall be permitted for good cause shown to the Region Election Committee.

Section 3.7 – Electronic Balloting

Electronic balloting shall be performed via the approved on-line portal as designated by the Region. Electronic balloting: Shall incorporate state-of-the-art technology to maintain the security and privacy of the process; shall use data check registration based on the voter's NSP registration number; and shall allow only one vote per member.

Section 3.8 – Election Supervision

Balloting and vote count shall be supervised by the Region Election Committee. Security of the written or electronic balloting process shall be maintained to assure no duplicate or ineligible voting or "hacking" takes place. Ballots shall not be counted until substantially all of the Patrollers have been given the opportunity to vote, after which, the tally shall be made and the candidate receiving the greater number of votes cast (a plurality) shall be declared the winner. Ties shall be broken in a manner determined by the Chair of the Region Election Committee.