

PROPOSED STATUTE CHANGE 10-15-2016
Submitted by Deborah Rodondi

Add Grand to the office of Parliamentarian

List of pages below where Parliamentarian is mentioned:

Page ii

Page 5, line 6

Page 10, line 16, 18, 21 and 25

Page 11, line 1 and 4

Page 17, line 25

Page 36, line 1 and 5

Rationale: All the other offices have Grand in the title. This is to make it uniform.

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Page 1, Chapter 1 - Introduction

ADD Article 5 A. - Elected Central Council Members must maintain full membership in an active Branch of the Federation in order to maintain status on the Central Council. If dues are not paid by March 31st of the current year, the Central Council Member will be considered resigned. (He/She would need to be a Branch delegate to the Convention and run for an elected Central Council position to return to the Central Council.)

ADD Article 5 B. - Central Council Life Members must maintain full membership in an active Branch of the Federation in order to maintain status on the Central Council and as a Life Member. If dues are not paid by March 31st of the current year, the Central Council Life Member will be considered resigned and no longer a Life Member. At the June Central Council Meeting a New Life Member will be elected to replace him/her. (He/She would need to be a Branch delegate to the Convention and run for an elected Central Council position to return to the Central Council.)

Rationale: This is addressed for Life Members Emeritus and Members Emeritus on Page 42, Article 3; but nowhere is it addressed for Elected and Life Members.

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Page 1, Chapter 1 - Introduction

ADD Article 6 - If not specifically addressed in these Statutes, the Central Council will be governed by the Branch By-Laws.

Rationale: If a situation is not addressed in the Statutes we cannot assume, it must therefore default to the Branch By-Laws until the Statutes can be amended.

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Page 2, Chapter II - Organization

Article 1 - delete Lines 3-8

Article 1 would read as follows:

Article 1 - There shall be twenty (20) Members on the Central Council - ten (10) Elected Members and ten (10) Life Members. All Members of the Central Council shall be known equally as Central Council Members. The Spiritual Director serves as an Advisor of the Central Council.

Delete Article 2

Adjust Article numbers to reflect the deletion of Article 2

Currently Article 5 (to be remarked Article 4)

Line 21 - Delete ~~After September 2019, or sooner,~~

Line 23 - Delete ~~or former~~

To read: Article 5 – When a vacancy occurs on the Central Council, from among those serving as Life Members, it shall be the duty of the Central Council to elect a replacement from current Central Council Members. Notification of an election for Life Member must be sent to all Central Council Members ten (10) days before balloting.

Page 4, Article 6, Line 1 (to be remarked Article 5)

Delete: ~~After September 2019, or sooner,~~

Rationale: Downsizing from 12 Elected and 12 Life to 9 of each is too extreme. The loss of 6 Members puts a burden on the GP to select committee chairs that will take full responsibility of their committee and CC members to be on the committees. With expansion working hard on bringing in new branches we need the CC members.

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Page 5, Chapter III - Officers

After Article 3 **ADD** Article 4 and re-number all of the other articles to follow.

Article 4 - A Grand Officer who has not paid dues in full by March 31st of the current year will automatically be suspended from office.

Rationale: We, as members of Central Council, must abide by the same By-Laws as our Branches. This just reaffirms in our Statutes what is stated in the Branch By-Laws (see Page 16 of the By-Laws, Article 2 G. and H.).

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Page 13, Chapter IV - Meetings

Article 3: Lines 12-16 currently read:

A Central Council Member who fails to attend two (2) successive meetings will be considered resigned. Exceptions may be considered in the event of emergencies. A Central Council Member unable to attend a meeting of the Central Council shall notify the Central Council Office of his/her reason for requesting an excuse.

CHANGE TO:

A Central Council member who fails to attend and is not excused from two (2) successive meetings will be considered resigned. Exceptions may be considered in cases of emergencies or family special events. A Central Council Member unable to attend a meeting of the Central Council shall notify the I.C.F. Office and the Grand President, in writing by a letter and/or e-mail, of his/her reason for requesting an excuse. The Grand President will inform the Grand Secretary if the member is excused or absent for recording in the minutes.

Rationale: When a member is asking to be excused it needs to be documented, not just verbal. Also, the Grand President presides at the meetings and should receive the request to be excused. Asking to be excused does not make the member automatically excused.

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Page 35, Chapter VIII - The Annual Convention

Page 35, Article 4 – What is currently Article 4 change to Article 4 A. with Lines 22-25 to read as follows:

In the event of an emergency that causes an elected Central Council Member to ask to be excused, said Central Council Member will submit a letter and/or email ~~or make a phone call, etc~~ stating his/her desire...

Page 35, Lines 25-26 and Page 36, Line 1

This Central Council Member can also be nominated for a Central Council Office in absentia by submitting a letter and/or email, ~~or making a phone call, etc.~~

Rationale: This request needs to be documented.

ADD Article 4 B. as follows:

4 B. - A Central Council Member who has not paid dues by March 31st of the current year will not be considered in good standing and shall not attend or be seated at the Annual Convention as a Member-at-Large of the current year. The Central Council Member not in good standing will have no voting privileges at said Convention.

Rationale: We, as members of the Central Council, need to follow the same rules we expect of our members. We need to lead by example, not by exception.