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**Diana Walker**  
Rules Committee Chairman  
5576 Quail Ridge  
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May 8, 2024

TO: All Club Presidents  
FROM: 2024 Rules Committee  
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to ADDC Bylaws and/or Standing Rules

In accordance with Article XXV- Amendments Section 1.

*These bylaws may be amended at a convention of the Association by two-thirds (2/3) vote provided: (a) The proposed amendments are submitted in writing to the Chairman of the Rules Committee by an Association Officer, the Board of Directors, the Rules Committee or a club prior to a deadline date set by the Board of Directors, such date not to be less than ninety (90) days prior to convention, and (b) That copies of the proposed amendments with the recommendations of the Rules Committee and the Board of Directors shall be distributed at least forty (40) days and not more than six (6) months prior to the convention.*

There were five (5) proposed amendments by the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Please see attached proposed amendments and discuss with your membership. These proposals will be voted on at the 2024 ADDC Convention in Dallas, Texas.

Please notify me if you have any questions regarding these proposed amendments.

Regards,

***Diana***

Diana Walker  
Rules Committee Chairman

Cc: Wendy Sparks, Evelyn Green  
Region Reps-Marsha Gentry, Nell Lindenmeyer, Angie Duplessis, and Diane McKee

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND STANDING RULES**

**Proposed Amendment No. 1**

Amend Article VII – Dues and Fees, Section 1. Paragraph (a)

Amend by striking the words “Fifty-Five Dollars (\$55.00)” and insert the words “Seventy Dollars (\$70.00)”.

**Currently Reads:**

- (a) Annual dues payable to the Association by each club shall be Fifty-Five Dollars (\$55.00) in U.S. funds for each member of such club with the exception of a student membership.

Annual dues payable to the Association by each club for a student membership shall be Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) in U.S. Funds.

**Amend to Read:**

- (b) Annual dues payable to the Association by each club shall be Seventy Dollars (\$70.00) in U.S. funds for each member of such club with the exception of a student membership.

Annual dues payable to the Association by each club for a student membership shall be Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) in U.S. Funds.

**Rationale:**

**For:** There has been no increase in membership dues since voted on at 2017 Convention (went into effect January 1, 2018), however the cost of everything that requires expenditure of funds has increased.

**Against:**

**Proposed by:**

Victoria Desk and Derrick Club

ADDC Board of Directors:       \_\_9\_\_ For                   \_\_\_ Against               \_\_\_ Abstain

Rules Committee:               \_\_5\_\_ For                   \_\_\_ Against               \_\_\_ Abstain

**Comments For:**

- No one wants a dues increase, but as they said, the cost of living has gone up and the only way the association can pay for the increase in services is by raising the dues. Fifteen dollars a year is not a huge increase and \$70 dollars a year is not a high fee for a membership to an organization that offers so many educational opportunities to their members. Hopefully we won't lose any existing members over this minor increase.

- Let members decide. I don't think \$15 is going to keep us afloat. I understand the rationale, not sure how clubs will react to a dues increase. The time will come when members need to decide what is the minimum membership need to disband.
- I hate to think about raising our dues when we're trying so hard to increase our membership and keep the membership that we have. BUT that being said, everything is more expensive, we haven't had a dues increase in several years, and I think membership deserves to be heard on this subject. So, I vote yes.
- \$15.00 isn't much for the memberships that are covered by employers but might be for the retired members or the ones that pay out of pocket but agree that we need to increase a bit.
- Feedback from my Region's Clubs indicates they do not have an objection to raising the dues at this time (April).
- I agree that dues should be raised. I also agree with the Rules committee comment regarding determining what ADDC 'minimum' membership would be.
- Agree with comments already stated.
- Very hard to plan a budget at the \$55 with the declining membership.
- Considering the cost of inflation and the rising costs associated with managing Association business, not to mention the reduction in membership numbers, an increase of \$15/year is not unreasonable and would certainly go a long way in keeping the Association viable. With 600 members, this increase would provide additional revenue of \$9,375/yr.

Comments Against:

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND STANDING RULES**

**Proposed Amendment No. 2**

Amend Article VIII – Officers, Section 2

Amend by replacing “one year” with “two years”.

**Currently Reads:**

The term of office for each Association officer shall be for a period of one year commencing January 1 of the year following election.

**Amend to Read:**

The term of office for each Association officer shall be for a period of two years commencing January 1 of the year following election.

**Rationale:**

**For:** Increasing officer terms to two years will require less volunteers to fill positions over time, will streamline Association operations by reducing transitions between officers, and if the bylaw amendments for biennial Convention is passed, allow for Officers the opportunity to attend Convention during their term.

**Against:**

**Proposed by:**

Farmington Desk and Derrick Club

ADDC Board of Directors:              4   For                              5   Against                           Abstain

Rules Committee:                      5   For                                   Against                           Abstain

Comments For:

- If conventions go to every other year, 2-year officers will be a plus. Hope those officers can commit 2 years at an office.
- I believe that if the ADDC board officers have a 2 year term, the association will run more smoothly. If the amendment for biennial meetings passes, a 2 year term will be an advantage.
- With a dwindling membership, it is getting increasingly harder to get volunteers for officers.
- In addition to the proposing Club’s reasoning, this would be helpful for the Treasurer and President’s positions by decreasing changes of signatory authority on accounts and bank card authorizations to every other year.
- While it will be a challenge to get anyone to commit to 2 years in an office, it is a challenge to currently have anyone serve for one now...however, a 2 year commitment will reduce transitions between officers and provide for more efficiency in running the

Association. However, my position ONLY APPLIES IF the amendment for biennial Conventions pass. In the event biennial Conventions amendment fails, then I would prefer to remain with 1-year terms, as serving on the Board for 2 Conventions may prove to be difficult.

Comments Against:

- It is getting harder to find someone willing to commit one year let alone two years.
- A required 2-year term will make it difficult to find members to step up to leadership positions. At this point, it is difficult to get Committees filled much less the Board of Directors, thus requiring a 12-year commitment from a member overall if they have positions from Regional Director to Immediate Past President of ADDC.
- I think this is a long commitment and will be hard to find individuals who can give this kind of time. I feel this will be a struggle due to increased duties at work.
- A two-year term is a lot to ask for in a volunteer position. It's hard enough to get someone for one year, as it is. Does this also include Regional Directors if it does and that person wants to go up the ladder, so to speak, that's a commitment of 12 years.
- President is a MINIMUM 6-year commitment. However, I do see the advantage of being Treasurer or RD for more than one year.

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND STANDING RULES**

**Proposed Amendment No. 3**

Amend Article XII - Committees, Section 3, Paragraph (b)

Amend by replacing “a Petroleum Tech” between “to” and “Certificate” with “an Energy Technician”. Delete “annual” before “ADDC” and before “regional”. Add “Additionally, the Petroleum Technician program will be offered as virtual classes, with a Petroleum Technician Certificate of Completion to be awarded upon successful completion of the curriculum’s courses.”

**Currently Reads:**

(b) The Education/Certification Committee shall assist the clubs in coordinating and promoting the educational purposes of the Association. The Certification program shall provide an educational program covering the subjects within the established curriculum, leading to a Petroleum Tech Certificate of Completion, prior to the start of the annual ADDC convention and educational conference and/or the annual regional meetings.

**Amend to Read:**

(b) The Education/Certification Committee shall assist the clubs in coordinating and promoting the educational purposes of the Association. The Certification program shall provide an educational program covering the subjects within the established curriculum, leading to an Energy Technician Certificate of Completion, prior to the start of the ADDC convention and educational conference and/or the regional meetings. Additionally, the Petroleum Technician program will be offered as virtual classes, with a Petroleum Technician Certificate of Completion to be awarded upon successful completion of the curriculum’s courses.

**Rationale:**

**For:** The Certification Committee has reworked the Certification program to offer two educational tracks: Energy Technician and Petroleum Technician. Updating this bylaw will allow the Committee to continue its work in developing the Energy Technician program and completing the virtual courses for the Petroleum Technician program.

**Against:**

**Proposed by:**

ADDC West Region Director, Heather Woods

ADDC Board of Directors:              9   For                                   Against                                   Abstain

Rules Committee:                      5   For                                   Against                                   Abstain

Comments For:

- It will make the purpose clearer.

- According to the Director's rationale, this is the path that the Education/Certification Committee will be taking in the future. Although we don't have the new guidelines to review to confirm it, we have to trust that the committee has the appropriate wording.
- If the certification program is going to have two tracks, they both should be addressed.
- Fully support the Committees work on securing and providing two (2) tracks for furthering Education. The amendment would simply provide Bylaw support and consistency for both tracks.
- Education/Certification committee needs this to continue moving forward with the new track.

Comments Against:

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND STANDING RULES**

**Proposed Amendment No. 4**

Amend Article XIV – Conventions

Amend by adding as a new paragraph below the XIV Section heading “A biennial convention will be hosted by a region or club every two years. A virtual delegate meeting, at a time and date to be determined by the President, will be held in the opposite year to address Association business for the current year.”

**Currently Reads:**

**Amend to Read:**

A biennial convention will be hosted by a region or club every two years. A virtual delegate meeting, at a time and date to be determined by the President, will be held in the opposite year to address Association business for the current year.

**Rationale:**

**For:** Define delegate meeting or biennial convention and the timing for the events.

The annual Convention is progressively burdensome to host due to a multitude of factors including decreasing membership, increasing expenses, decreasing employer support, and the frequency of Regions/Clubs to host (since the decrease of Regions from seven to four, paired with dwindling numbers of Clubs per Region). By modifying the Convention to a biennial schedule with a virtual delegate meeting for alternate years, Regions and Clubs can focus more on planning and obtaining support for Region meetings, as well as fund raising on a more relaxed schedule for both Region and Convention meetings.

**Against:**

**Proposed by:**

Farmington Desk and Derrick Club

ADDC Board of Directors:          5   For                                  4   Against                                       Abstain

Rules Committee:                  5   For                                       Against                                       Abstain

**Comments For:**

- If an annual in person meeting is eliminated, a virtual delegates meeting will assist the Association to perform the appropriate business functions.
- agree with stated rationale.



- It's a good idea if we go to every other year having an in-person meeting to then have virtual in the alternate years.
- Forward looking solution to an increasingly apparent issue. In addition to the reasons given by the proposing Club, this may increase attendance (i.e. learning opportunities) at both Region Meetings and Convention as members may not have to choose between attending one or the other of the meetings each year.
- This would save board expenses and have a chance to build up in a virtual year. Would help sustain our organization longer.

#### Comments Against:

- As a mid-level member (21 years), it is my firm belief that the personal connections and lifelong friendships formed during convention are one of the staples of maintaining membership. While I completely understand the rationale behind the biennial reasoning (mainly costs), it is also my belief that a biennial convention will be the beginning of the end for our association. Out of sight, out of mind is something that would, in my opinion, cause a significant drop in membership, thus leading to the demise of the organization and I can't support anything that may aid in that future.
- Costs can be cut from convention in field trips, length of convention. NOT in favor of every other year for conventions.
- If the delegate meeting is virtual, would it be open to members to participate in? If Convention was every other year; it would be nice to still have a virtual meeting in the off year to keep members engaged. I would personally rather see an annual Convention over Region Meetings. I enjoy learning about oil & gas in other areas of the country and with only four clubs in the Northeast region, we are exhausting our resources to come up with new ideas for Region meetings.
- Removing the requirement for an In-Person annual ADDC meeting will make members less likely to attend. One thought is if membership attends the virtual meeting then the mentality could be, "well, I did not go to an In-Person meeting this year, so is it really necessary for me to attend an In-Person meeting the next year?" I do realize it is burdensome to host Convention, however I think the Association needs to think outside the box concerning cutting costs and time. For example, remove hospitality suite all together and provide membership with a bag that has registration materials and snacks/drinks in it instead. This will cut cost and time of host members. Also, no need to search for miscellaneous "swagger/goodies" from companies to put in bags. Basically, removing the "fluff" from the ADDC Convention and only keeping the business of the meeting in the forefront. Provide only 2 field trips instead of 3 or 4, reducing costs of transportation, meals, entrance fees if required, and removes burden from host region to plan extra trips. Remove Friday night Icebreaker and include extra time before Banquet. In 2023, the Pre-Convention meeting was held virtually and required less time away and reduced cost by Board of Directors for hotel room fees, saving the Association thousands of dollars.

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS AND STANDING RULES**

**Proposed Amendment No. 5**

Amend Article XV – Regional Structure, Section 5, Paragraph n/a

Amend by removing the wording “In the event of an extreme emergency,”

**Currently Reads:**

In the event of an extreme emergency, a regional meeting may be suspended or held virtually by a majority vote of the clubs in that region. Participation in a meeting pursuant to the provision constitutes presence in person at such meeting.

**Amend to Read:**

A regional meeting may be suspended or held virtually by a majority vote of the clubs in that region. Participation in a meeting pursuant to the provision constitutes presence in person at such meeting.

**Rationale:**

**For:**

- By removing this wording, it will give clubs the ability to hold Region meetings virtually without the need to determine what an ‘extreme emergency’ is.
- With dwindling clubs and members, it is becoming more difficult to host Region meetings and ensure they will be well attended and not lose money.
- This will allow clubs the choice during the rotation period to host in-person or virtually.

**Against:**

**Proposed by:**

Tuscarawas Valley Desk and Derrick Club

ADDC Board of Directors:           \_\_9\_\_ For                           \_\_\_ Against                   \_\_\_ Abstain

Rules Committee:                   \_\_5\_\_ For                           \_\_\_ Against                   \_\_\_ Abstain

**Comments For:**

- The Regions should have the option to hold a virtual region meeting without it being considered an extreme emergency. The amendment allows for more flexibility.
- Amendment deserves consideration by membership. I especially think that the virtual region meeting amendment is timely ... altho, I do love going to region meetings!!
- Even though I enjoy our region meetings, I feel it should be up to the Host Club whether to be in -person or virtual and not just because of an emergency.
- Fully support allowing each Region and their individual clubs, the opportunity to choose between hosting a Region Meeting in person or virtually. I recognize that not all clubs

and Regions are built the same and each should be granted the chance to do what is best for their Region.

- It is important to maintain the autonomy of the Regions. Any unnecessary restrictions on their operations should be removed.
- Need this to be able to hold virtually.
- Needed so clubs/regions can have the option to host a virtual meeting.

Comments Against: