

International Sled Dog Racing Association

Constitution and By Laws

Amended July, 2001

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the Association shall be INTERNATIONAL SLED DOG RACING ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED, also known as ISDRA.

ARTICLE II. OBJECT

The object and purpose of the Association is to further sled dog racing by:

- A. Promoting the education of dog drivers and race officials.
- B. Promoting the public interest in the sport of sled dog racing.
- C. Promote the welfare of sled dogs in all activities and endeavors.
- D. Encouraging cooperation between clubs and racing organizations.
- E. Assisting in the standardization of rules and race management procedures.

ARTICLE III. DURATION

The Association shall have perpetual existence as a nonprofit corporation under its corporation name.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 QUALIFICATION

Membership in the Association shall be accorded to any reputable person or organization, which seeks to:

- A. Promote public interest in the sport of sled dog racing and related activities.
- B. Establish uniform rules and procedures for the conduct of sled dog racing and related activities that will foster the safety of the competitors and animals involved.

- C. Promote the education of the Associations' members of its rules, regulations and procedures, thereby establishing proper conduct of all events, which strictly abide by these rules, regulations and procedures.
- D. Inform and educate the members of the proper care and handling of the animals to ensure their humane treatment and to insure identification and treatment of any health problems peculiar to the sled dog.
- E. Foster cooperation among all members and race organizations.

SECTION 2 ADMISSION

- A. Membership in this Association may be obtained by submission of a written application together with the payment of one year's annual dues.
- B. The application and annual dues payment shall be sent to the Executive Director of the Association for acceptance of the applicant to the membership.
- C. Membership shall be denied to any person who has been convicted in a recognized court of law in, any country, of animal abuse, cruelty, or neglect.

SECTION 3 CLASSIFICATION AND VOTE

Membership in the Association shall consist of Individual, Family, Sponsored, Member Club, National Organizing Body, Life, Contributor, Sponsor, Honorary and Associate.

- A. Any person twelve (12) years of age or older, interested in supporting the purposes and objectives of the Association, may become an individual member. An individual member shall have voting privileges.
- B. A family member shall be the spouse and/or any dependent under the age of eighteen (18) of an individual member. A family member may participate in sanctioned events and receive championship points. October 1st shall be used to determine the dependent's age for the ensuing year.
- C. A sponsored member is any child under the age of eighteen (18) who is personally sponsored by an adult member. A sponsored child may participate in sanctioned events and receive championship points.
- D. A member club shall be any reputable organization interested in supporting the objectives and purposes of the Association. A member club shall have voting privileges but may not hold office or serve as a committee chairman.
- E. A National Organizing Body shall be a reputable organization that supports the objectives and purposes of the Association and represents all sled dog sports for their respective country. Only one National Organizing Body will be recognized per country.
- E. A life member shall be a person who is eligible for individual membership. A life member shall have all the privileges for life.

- F. A contributor shall be a person who is eligible for individual membership and who supports the Association with an annual financial contribution as set forth in Section 5. A contributor shall have all the privileges of an individual member.
- G. A sponsor shall be a company or corporation that supports the goals of the Association by making annual contributions as set forth in Section 5. A sponsor shall not vote, hold office, or serve as a committee chairman.
- H. An honorary member shall be one who has had membership conferred upon him by the Board of Directors for having made an outstanding contribution to the Association. Honorary members shall not vote, hold office, or serve as a committee chairman unless they held the status of individual member, life member or sponsor at the time honorary membership was conferred.
- I. An associate member shall be a person twelve (12) years of age or older, interested in supporting the purposes and objectives of the Association. An associate member shall receive the Association's newsletter. An associate member shall not vote.
- J. Dual membership by an individual is not permitted.
- K. To be eligible to vote in elections, qualified voters must be members in good standing.

ARTICLE V. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

SECTION 1 AT MEETING

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at an Annual meeting provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the ISDRA Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 BY MAIL

This Constitution and Bylaws may also be amended by a mail ballot from the voting members of the Association provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the ISDRA Board of Directors, or is contained in a written petition signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting membership of each region in a majority of regions, or fifty (50%) of the voting membership of the Association.

- A. A copy of the proposed amendment and an appropriate ballot shall be mailed to each voting member of the Association no later than thirty (30) days prior to the voting deadline which shall be indicated on the ballot.
- B. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the ballots received by the Executive Director prior to the voting deadline shall be required for the adoption of an amendment.

ARTICLE VI. DISSOLUTION

- A. The Association may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the total eligible voters of the Association.
- B. In the event of the dissolution of the Association, whether voluntary or involuntary, or by operation of law, none of the property of the Association, nor any proceeds thereof, nor any assets of the Association shall be distributed to any members of the Association, but after payment of debts of the Association, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization selected by the ISDRA Board of Directors.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. VOTING PROCEDURE

- A. On matters requiring action by the general membership, each individual, life and contributor shall be entitled to one vote.
- D. Each member club is entitled to five (5) votes by mail ballot. The club vote shall be cast by the club executive officer.
- E. Each national organizing body is entitled to five (5) votes by mail ballot. The national organizing body vote shall be cast by the national organizing body's president.
- C. Each voting member may vote for one Regional candidate from within his region during the Regional election years and five (5) At-Large candidates.

SECTION 2 DUES (ALL AMOUNTS ARE BASED ON U.S. CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE)

- A. Individual members. Annual dues for an Individual member shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- B. Family members. Annual dues for Family members shall be established by the Board of Directors and shall not exceed one half (1/2) of the annual dues for Individual members per person.
- C. Sponsored members. Annual dues for sponsored members shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- F. Member clubs. Annual dues for Member clubs shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- G. National Organizing Bodies. Annual dues for National Organizing Bodies shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- E. Life members. Dues for Life members shall be established by the Board of Directors.

- F. Contributors. Annual dues for Contributors shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- G. Sponsor. Annual dues for Sponsors shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- H. Honorary membership. Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues.
- I. Associate members. Annual dues for Associate members shall be established by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3 ANNUAL DUES PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Annual dues for Individual, Family, Sponsored, Club and Associate members are due and payable on or before October first (1). Contributor and Life membership dues may be accepted at any time.

SECTION 4 FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall be from July 1st through June 30th.

SECTION 5 DELINQUENCY

All dues set forth in Section 5 are delinquent if not paid prior to October 1st.

SECTION 6 EXPULSION

- A. Following a written complaint, the Board of Directors shall have the power, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board, to expel a member when it is deemed to be in the best interest of the Association. Concerned members shall have the right of representation before the board and shall be notified thirty (30) days prior to the vote being cast by the Board of Directors.
- B. Any member in good standing who is convicted in a court of law, in any country, of animal abuse, cruelty, or neglect shall be automatically expelled from the organization.

SECTION 7 NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Association prohibits discrimination in any manner against any applicant or member because of such person's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, as provided in applicable state and federal law.

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION

The Association shall be comprised of thirteen (13) geographic regions, each region to be composed of such organizations and individual members as are recognized by the Association for the purpose of nominating and electing Regional directors to the Association's Board of Directors.

- A. The regions shall have no governmental or sub-governmental status, shall exercise no rights, powers or functions and shall not perform duties within the framework of the Association.
- B. The regions shall consist of the following:
1. Region I: Alaska.
 2. Region II: Western Canada (Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Yukon Territories).
 3. Region III: Eastern Canada (Labrador, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec).
 4. Region IV: New England (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island).
 5. Region V. Mid and Southern Atlantic (Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia).
 6. Region VI: Mideast (Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee).
 7. Region VII. Midwest (Iowa, Texas, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Arkansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Louisiana).
 8. Region VIII. Pacific (Idaho, Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada and Hawaii).
 9. Region IX. Europe.
 10. Region X. Rocky Mountain (Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Arizona).
 11. Region XI. Ontario, Canada.
 12. Region XII. Asia (Japan, Korea, and Non-European Countries).
 13. Region XIII. Southern Hemisphere (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Argentina).

ARTICLE III. ISDRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1

The Board of Directors shall be comprised of one Director for each National Organizing Body, thirteen (13) Regional Directors and five (5) Directors At-Large, and if a Regional Director has been elected Chairman of the Board, an Acting Regional Director elected/appointed pursuant to Section 7 of this article.

- (1) There shall be one (1) Regional Director from each region.
- (2) No more than two (2) At-Large Directors from one region may serve on the board at the same time.

- (3) The term of office for Directors shall be four (4) years.
- (4) The National Division Director for each National Division shall be designated the National Division Chairman.
- (5) All Directors representing the US shall elect a US Division Treasurer and a US Division Secretary. All Directors representing Canada shall elect a Canadian Division Treasurer and a Canadian Division Secretary.

SECTION 2 ADMINISTRATION

- A. The business and purpose of the Association shall be under the management control of the Board of Directors.
- B. Immediate action may be taken by the Board of Directors at any time provided a majority of Directors vote for such action by mail or by telephone. Telephone votes are to be confirmed by the Directors in writing to the Executive Director of the Association. All voting action must be recorded by the Executive Director.

SECTION 3 RESIGNATION

A Director may resign from the Board of Directors by submitting a written resignation to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4 REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- A. Any Director that resides in North America and who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board of Directors may be subject to removal from office. At the Chairman of the Board's discretion the entire Board may vote on the removal, or be polled informally. The Chairman of the Board shall make the final determination for removal.
- B. A Regional Director may be subject to removal procedures provided that a petition to that effect is signed by fifty percent (50%) of the voting members in his/her region and sent to the Executive Director. A ballot to determine whether the named Region Director is to be removed from office shall be mailed to each voting member of that region no later than thirty (30) days after the petition is received by the Executive Director.
- C. An At-Large Director may be subject to removal procedures provided that a petition to that effect is signed by at least thirty percent (30%) of the voting members in each of the Association's regions and sent to the Executive Director. A ballot to determine whether the named At-Large Director is to be removed from office shall be mailed to each voting member of the Association no later than thirty (30) days after the petition is received by the Executive Director.
- D. Members shall have at least thirty (30) days to cast their ballots and the deadline shall be indicated on the ballot.
- E. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the ballots received by the Executive Director prior to the voting deadline shall be required for removal of a Regional or At-Large Director.

SECTION 5 VACANCY

In the event of a vacancy on the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board shall appoint a member in good standing to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

SECTION 6 QUORUM

Five (5) Regional or At-Large Directors shall constitute a quorum of any meeting of the ISDRA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

SECTION 1 CLASSIFICATION

- A. The elective officers of the Association shall be members of the ISDRA Board of Directors. There shall be a Chairman of the Board, a Vice Chairman of the Board, a Treasurer, and a Recording Secretary.
- B. Whenever a Regional Director has been elected Chairman of the Board, a replacement shall be elected to act as Regional Director and shall be titled 'Acting Regional Director'. Upon the Regional Director's election as Chairman of the Board, an election will be held within sixty (60) days in said region for a Acting Regional Director. If a suitable candidate cannot be found, the Chairman of the Board will appoint an Acting Regional Director. If the Chairman resigns as Chairman or is not re-elected as Chairman before the end of his/her term as Regional Director, he/she shall resume the position of Regional Director and the term of the Acting Director shall expire.
- C. The Executive Director shall be a non-elected, salaried officer of the Association.
- D. There shall be a non-elected Public Relations Officer.

SECTION 2 DUTIES

- A. The Chairman of the Board has overall responsibility for all activities of the Association and reports to the Board of Directors. All other Officers of the Association, including the Vice-Chairman, the Treasurer, the Public Relations Officer, the Executive Director, Legal Counsel and the Association's newsletter Editor shall report to the Chairman. The Chairman of the Board shall: preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors; conduct the business correspondence directed to the Chairman of the Board, countersign all contracts; appoint standing and other special committees, and assign such duties as necessary to the Directors, Officer and Division Chairman.
- B. The Vice Chairman of the Board shall be responsible for directing and coordinating standing and other committees and related activities. The Vice Chairman acts for the Chairman in the Chairman's absence, and shall delegate a Committee Chairman to act in the Vice Chairman's absence when appropriate.
- C. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the Association's financial affairs.

- D. The Corporate Secretary shall perform such duties as may be requested by the Chairman of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the Executive Director, shall record the proceedings of the Board of Directors and/or Association meetings. Shall chair the Constitution Committee, and be responsible for presenting proposed Constitutional changes to the Board of Directors.
- E. The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for the publicity, promotion and public relations activities of the Association.
- F. The Executive Director shall preside over the daily business activities of the Association which includes: processing memberships; answering general communications by phone and mail; distributing letters and proposals at the request of members of the Board of Directors and when indicated, committee chairmen; processing sanctioning applications in concert with the sanctioning chairman; preparing reports for the Association's newsletter; and processing championship awards. The Executive Director shall: attend all ISDRA Board meetings, and maintain communications between board members. The Executive Director shall keep a complete ledger of all money collected and disburse and submit a monthly statement to the Treasurer.

SECTION 3 RESIGNATION

An officer may resign from office by submitting a written resignation to the ISDRA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V. AUDIT

Annually, the Audit Committee will review the financial records and tax returns of the organization and present their findings to the Board of Directors. The Members of the Audit Committee will be chosen from Directors who do not have signatory powers for the accounts of the organization. In the event the annual revenues of the organization exceed the limits allowed by the Internal Revenue Service for internal audits of nonprofit corporations, an external audit will be performed by a certified public accountant versed in nonprofit practices.

ARTICLE VI. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1 NOMINATIONS

Nominations for Chairman of the Board, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Recording Secretary shall be made by ISDRA Board members at the Annual Board of Directors meeting and all nominees shall be selected from the ISDRA Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 ELECTIONS

- A. The first order of business at the Annual meeting shall be the seating of the newly elected Regional and At-Large Directors. The last order of business at the Annual meeting shall be the election of Chairman of the ISDRA Board, Vice Chairman Treasurer and Recording Secretary. The outgoing Chairman, or his representative, shall direct the election process until his successor is elected.

- B. Elections shall be by written ballot and a majority vote shall elect.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

SECTION 1 ANNUAL AND SEMI-ANNUAL MEETINGS

- A. There shall be an Annual meeting of the Association in the June of each year. The place, date and time of the meeting shall be set by the ISDRA Board of Directors.
- B. If so decided at the Annual meeting of the ISDRA Board of Directors, there shall be a Semi-annual meeting of the Board. The place, date and time of the meeting shall be set by the ISDRA Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 SPECIAL MEETINGS

- A. A special meeting of the Association may be called by the ISDRA Board of Directors or by fifty (50) members.
- B. A special meeting of the ISDRA Board of Directors may be called by the Chairman of the Board at any time.
- C. Meetings of the committees may be called at any time by the Chairman of the Board or the respective committee chairman. The Chairman of the Board may request the report of a committee at any time.

SECTION 3 NOTICE

The date and location of each Annual, Semi-annual and any special meetings called by the membership shall be publicized thirty (30) days in advance of the meetings.

SECTION 4 QUORUM

Any action presented to the general membership may be approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members eligible to vote and present at an Annual, Semi-annual or special meeting provided that the action has been approved by the ISDRA Board of Directors or is contained in a petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the voting members present and is presented for discussion at the meeting in question.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

SECTION 1 ELIGIBILITY

- A. Each committee chairman and member shall be an Individual, Life, Honorary, or Adult Family Member in good standing.

- B. Persons wishing to contribute to the committees who are not members of the organization may be listed as Advisors but shall not have a voice in committee decisions.

SECTION 2 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

- A. Committee Chairmen shall be appointed by the ISDRA Board or Directors at each Annual or Semi-annual meeting. In the event of a vacancy, the Chairman of the Board shall appoint a new committee chairman, subject to the approval of the ISDRA Board of Directors.
- B. All Committee Chairmen are responsible for reports detailing committee activities to be presented to the ISDRA Board of Directors at the Annual meeting.
- C. All Committee Chairmen are responsible to the Chairman or Vice Chairman. In the event that a committee chairman fails to fulfill his/her assigned duties, a new chairman shall be appointed by the Chairman or the Vice Chairman of the Board, subject to the concurrence of the Board.
- D. Committee Chairmen may attend board meetings during discussion of their committee's activities. The Committee Chairman may designate a representative to his/her place at board meetings.

SECTION 3 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- A. Committee members shall be appointed by the committee chairman and must meet eligibility requirements as set forth in Section 1. All appointments are subject to the approval of the ISDRA Chairman or Vice Chairman.
- B. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the Board shall serve as ex-officio members of all committees except the Nominating Committees.

ARTICLE IX. STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1 NAMES

There shall be the following Standing Committees which shall report to the Vice Chairman: Animal Welfare, Race Rules and Sanctioning.

SECTION 2 DUTIES

- A. The Animal Welfare Committee shall:
1. Gather information from veterinarians and racers concerning the nature, treatment and prevention of injuries and illnesses in working sled dogs in the sport.
 2. Advise the Race Rules Committee and other standing or special committees on all matters concerning the welfare of the animals used in the sport.

3. Make recommendations to the concerned committees and/or the Vice Chairman concerning the drug testing procedures, treatment of injured dogs, and/or new regulations to ensure the safety and welfare of the animals.
 4. Inform the membership of new advances in canine nutrition and all areas related to the physical and mental well-being of sled dogs.
 5. Work closely with legitimate humane associations to ensure the welfare of sled dogs.
- B. The Race Rules Committee Chairman shall be responsible for presenting proposed rules changes to the ISDRA Board of Directors. The composition of the Race Rules Committee shall be determined by the committee chairman. However, not more than one member from each region may serve concurrently on the Race Rules Committee.
- C. The Sanctioning Committee shall consist of an overall chairman and chairmen for speed, gig, distance, ski-joring and weight pulling. Each section chairman may appoint additional personnel as he or she deems necessary to facilitate committee functions. The Sanctioning Committee is responsible for all administrative, technical and evaluation aspects of the sanctioning program. The committee shall be responsible for presenting proposed changes in sanctioning procedures and proposed changes in sanctioned race requirements to the Vice Chairman for approval by the ISDRA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECTION 1 DUTIES

- A. Special Committees shall be created by the ISDRA Board of Directors and/or the Chairman of the Board and shall be responsible for specific duties as assigned at the time of creation;
- B. Special committees shall function as fact-finding and recommendation-making committees and shall not commit the Association to any action unless such action is approved by the ISDRA Board of Directors and/or the Chairman of the Board.

SECTION 2 DURATION

Each special committee shall exist until such time as its task is completed or until it is dissolved by the ISDRA Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI. DIRECTOR AT-LARGE NOMINATIONS

SECTION 1 INTERNATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The International Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members, one of whom shall be from the Board of Directors and two (2) from the general membership. No At-Large Director shall serve on this committee, nor shall any member serve on a nominating committee more often than one (1) year in three (3) years.

SECTION 2 DUTIES

Select a slate of at least ten (10) but not more than fourteen (14) candidates from the general membership for the office of Director At-Large of the Association and deliver to the Executive Director of the Association no later than May 1st in every other even numbered year.

SECTION 3 CANDIDATES

- A. A maximum of two (2) candidates may be selected from any one region.
 - B. There shall be no other geographical restrictions.
 - C. Five (5) Directors At-Large shall be elected for a four (4) year term.
-

ARTICLE XII. REGIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

SECTION 1 REGIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- A. The Executive Director or, in his/her absence, the Chairman of the Board shall appoint a two (2) member Regional Nominating Committee from each respective Association region. The Regional Directors shall not serve on these Regional Nominating Committees, nor shall the committees be responsible to these Regional Directors once selected.
 - B. Members of the Regional Nominating Committee may not serve concurrently as members of the International Nominating Committee, nor may they serve as a member of any nominating committee more often than one (1) year in three (3) years.
-

SECTION 2 DUTIES

Select a slate of not less than two (2) candidates from each Association region and deliver to the Association's Executive Director no later than May 1st in every other even numbered year.

SECTION 3 CANDIDATES

The candidate must reside within the region from which he is nominated.

- B. Thirteen (13) Regional Directors, one from each region, shall be elected to a four (4) year term.

ARTICLE XIII. REGIONAL AND AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTION PROCEDURES

SECTION 1 NOTIFICATION

The Executive Director shall provide notification of the candidates selected by the nominating committee to the voting members of the Association no later than May 15th.

SECTION 2 PETITIONS

- A. Additional nominations may be submitted by a petition signed by a minimum of ten (10) voting members.
 - 1. Members signing a petition for Regional Director Candidates must reside within the candidate's region.
 - 2. Members signing a petition for Director At-Large candidates may reside in any region.
 - B. Additional nominations must be received by the Executive Director no later than June 15th.
-

SECTION 3 ACCEPTANCE

- A. Candidates chosen by the nominating committee must send letters of acceptance of their nominations to the Executive Director no later than May 15th.
 - B. Candidates petitioning to have their names included on the ballot must submit letters of acceptance of their nomination no later than June 15th.
-

SECTION 4 BALLOTS

- A. The Executive Director shall provide a ballot for each voting member of the Association to be delivered by July 1st.
 - B. All ballots must be returned to a designated address by noon, August 1st.
 - C. In the case of an uncontested Regional Director election, the Chairman of the Board shall appoint the lone candidate to the ISDRA Board of Directors and no ballots will be sent to the voters in the concerned region.
-

SECTION 5 ELECTION RESULTS

The Executive Director shall notify all candidates and Member Clubs of the Association of the election results and shall cause the results to be published in the next issue of the Association's newsletter.

ARTICLE XIV. DIVISIONS

SECTION 1 NAMES

Divisions shall be established to handle the following activities: Speed Racing, Distance Racing, Ski-joring, Gig Racing, Weight Pulling and Junior.

SECTION 2 CHAIRS

Division Chairmen shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board and confirmed by the Board at its next meeting.

SECTION 3 MEMBERS

The Division Chairman shall appoint other division members as officials of that section as he/she considers appropriate.

SECTION 4 REPORTING

Division Chairman shall submit an annual report of their division's activities to the ISDRA Board of Directors and other reports as requested by the Chairman of the Board.

ARTICLE XV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in 'Robert Rules of Order,' newly revised, shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, special rules of order that the Association may adopt, and any statutes of New York State Corporate Law.

ARTICLE XVI. AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

SECTION 1 AT MEETING

This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at an Annual meeting provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the ISDRA Board of Directors.

SECTION 2 BY MAIL

This Constitution and Bylaws may also be amended by a mail ballot from the voting members of the Association provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the ISDRA Board of Directors, or is contained in a written petition signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting membership of each region in a majority of regions, or fifty (50%) of the voting membership of the Association.

- A. A copy of the proposed amendment and an appropriate ballot shall be mailed to each voting member of the Association no later than thirty (30) days prior to the voting deadline which shall be indicated on the ballot.
- B. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the ballots received by the Executive Director prior to the voting deadline shall be required for the adoption of an amendment.

ARTICLE XVII. REFERENDUMS

A referendum of the membership shall be held, provided that the proposed issue is contained in a petition signed by at least fifty percent (50%) of the voting members in each of the Association's regions and sent to the Executive Director.

- A. A copy of the proposal and an appropriate ballot shall be mailed to each voting member of the Association no later than sixty (60) days after the petition is received by the Executive Director.
- B. Members shall have at least thirty (30) days to cast their ballots and the deadline shall be indicated on the ballot.
- C. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the ballots received by the Executive Director prior to the voting deadline shall be required for the adoption of a proposal.