

Proposed amendments to the IPF Constitution

Dear Club Member,

In 2014 the IPF at its AGM adopted a much needed revamped constitution answering to present day needs. Since then the Constitution Review Group kept this document under review and in response to constructive feedback and various submissions, I propose to bring to this year's AGM a set of motions for adoption by way of amendments which would further enhance our constitution.

Particular thanks goes to Mr Martin O'Carroll of Poe Kiely Hogan Lanigan, Solicitors for his legal guidance in bringing these proposed amendments to final stage.

Please find attached a copy of our 2014 Constitution by way of reference to the original document.

It is proposed to present the proposed amendments below in three sections, each as a separate motion.

Firstly, changes to Sections 2 and 3 address the inclusion of IPF Special Interest Groups. Secondly, a small change to Section 4 is simply a change of title. Lastly, in Section 6 we are addressing issues of fairness and due procedure surrounding complaints and appeals procedures.

Motion No 1.

Proposed Amendments to Section 2 & 3

The proposed amendments to Section 2.4 et al need to take cognisance of Section 7.1 (b) subsections (v) and (vi) which deal with motions for the AGMs and EGMs, and which address voting rights at those meetings. Unless deemed otherwise, Special Interest Groups which comprise members of "normal" IPF clubs, should not have and AGM or EGM presence. Should a Special Interest Group need to raise an issue at an AGM or EGM, this can be done by requesting the National Secretary to raise the issue.

Section 2.4 – Add “The above titles shall exclude special interest groups, all the members of which must be members of currently affiliated clubs. See Section 3.10 below”

Section 3.1 - Change to “Affiliated clubs of the IPF are formally convened photographic clubs, societies or groups as Council may admit to membership, but not including Special Interest Groups. See 3.10 below”

Section 3.10 – Change to “ A special interest group comprising a group of photographers pursuing a common specialised photographic interest shall be referred to as an IPF Special Interest Group. Application for recognition shall be subject to approval by Council, such a group being subject to the Rules and Constitution of the IPF. Membership of IPF Special Interest Groups shall exclusively comprise members of currently affiliated clubs. IPF Special Interest Groups shall be liable to an annual membership fee as determined by Council.”

Section 3.11 - new - “ Nothing in Section 3.10 shall prevent a member of an IPF Special Interest Group who is also an Affiliated Delegate Member from voting or speaking at an AGM or EGM in that capacity”

Motion No 2.

Proposed Amendment to Section 4

Section 4.9(b) - Change to “ Candidates shall be nominated by one Affiliated Delegate Member and seconded by another Affiliated Delegate Member. No candidate shall nominate himself/herself.”

Motion No 3.

Proposed Amendment to Section 6

Section 6.3(d) - Add “ The Complaints Committee at its discretions may appoint a solicitor from outside the IPF to attend the hearing in order to ensure that all procedures comply with the law and principles of fairness. The role of the solicitor would have no influence on the findings of the Complaints Committee”

Section 6.3(e) – Change to “The Complaints Committee shall meet in camera to examine the complaint(s) and determine its findings in the presence of the solicitor in 6.3(d) above.

Section 6.3(h) – Change to “An Appeal as outlined in 6.3(g) shall be submitted in writing to the National Secretary within twenty eight days of the date of issuing the findings of the Complaints Committee. Council shall then appoint an Appeals Board comprising of seven persons, four of whom are currently serving members of Council. The Appeal Board will convene with the solicitor present. This board will exclude members of the Complaints Committee other than its chairperson, who shall attend and assist the Appeals Board but not vote or decide on its findings. Members of the Appeal Board will not comprise of members of the club of the complainant or appellant.”

Section 6.3(i) – Change to “The decision of a hearing by the Appeal Board shall be final, and shall be transmitted in writing by the National Secretary to the appellant and complainant. The National Secretary will also report to Council at its next meeting on the matter.”

Section 6.4 first paragraph, change “or on appeal to Council” to “or on appeal”.

Members of the Constitution Review Group:

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