

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ASSH

At a special meeting of the ASSH Executive held in Brisbane on June 29, 1988, during the World Expo '88 International Conference on the History of Sport and Leisure, the executive resolved to propose the following amendments to the ASSH Constitution. The purpose of the amendments are, 1) to remove the need to hold elections through the use of a postal ballot - to enable the elections to be held at the Society's biennial general meeting, and 2) to increase the size of the executive committee.

PROPOSALS

Item 1: Amendment to Election Procedures

1.1 Amendment to Article IV: Section 1 which reads,

"All officers (other than the Publications Officer who shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee) shall be elected by the Members of the Society by postal ballot not less than once every two calendar years ...".

Proposed: deletion of "postal".

1.2 Amendment to Article X: Section 1 which reads,

"The Executive Committee shall be elected by postal ballot not less than once every two calendar years".

Proposed: deletion of "postal".

1.3 Amendment to Article X: Sections 4-6 which reads,

Section 4: Nominations shall close on a date not less than thirty days after the nominations are called for.
 Section 5: Ballot papers shall be posted to members within thirty days after the date set for the close of nominations.
 Section 6: The ballot shall be declared closed sixty days after the date set for the close of nominations and no ballot papers received by the Secretary after that time shall be counted".

Proposed: deletion of Sections 4, 5 and 6.

1.4 Amendment to Article X: Section 7 which reads,

"The Executive Committee shall appoint a Returning Officer to conduct the elections".

Proposed: that this Section be renumbered as Section 4 and shall be amended to read "The biennial meeting shall appoint a Returning Officer to conduct the elections".

Item 2: Increase in the Size of the Executive Committee

2.1 Amendment to Article IV: Section 1 which reads in part,

"The Officers of the Society shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Publications Officer . . . and two general members ..."

Proposed: deletion of "two" and its replacement by "four".

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOUR OF THE AMENDMENTS

Item 1 The Executive believes that the proposed amendments are necessary to bring the constitution into line with past practice and practical reality. In associations such as ours, volunteers for executive office are seldom easy to find without the peer pressure of the biennial meeting. In the past, elections have been held successfully at the biennial general meeting, without any consequent suggestion by absent members that they had been disenfranchised.

Item 2 The proposal is in accordance with the wishes of the 1987 AGM and is supported by the current executive because of the gradual increase in the workload of the committee. The increase also ensures that a quorum (four members) is attained more easily for those executive meetings which are not attached to a Sporting Traditions Conference.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE PROPOSALS

Item 1 Not all members are able to attend the biennial meeting. Postal ballots would provide an opportunity for such members to participate in the elections.

Item 2 The Executive Committee already has the power to co-opt any individual member so any extension of the committee size is unnecessary.

NOTE: For the proposed amendments to succeed in this ballot they require the support of a two-thirds majority of the members who vote on the issue. To cast your vote, please place a tick in one of the boxes on the ballot paper and return it to ASSH.

BALLOT PAPER

Do you support the proposed amendments to the ASSH Constitution?

Item 1

YES

NO

Item 2

YES

NO

Please complete this ballot paper and seal it inside an envelope, which should then be folded and placed inside another envelope, to be posted to:

John Deane
The Secretary
Australian Society for Sports History
Victoria College
336 Glenferrie Road
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