

Subject 190514 Official Communication; 2019 Proposed General Law Amendments

Official Communication for Lodges only May 14, 2019

2019 Proposed General Law Amendments

Moose International's Judiciary Committee and the Supreme Council have approved the attached proposals for amendments to the existing General Laws of the Order.

The attached proposed amendments will be voted upon by the delegates of the 2019 International Moose Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. If approved by the governing body, Category 1 amendments will go into effect on August 1, 2019, and the Category 2 amendment will be effective on January 1, 2020.

A special session has been added at the Convention on Friday, June 28 at 2:00pm to discuss these proposals and the voting process. Please review the Convention program on-site for specific time and location of this session.

A copy of these proposals has also been posted to the Moose International website (www.mooseintl.org) within the Loyal Order of Moose – General Laws section.

Proposed 2019 General Law Amendments

Moose International's Judiciary Committee and Supreme Council have approved the following proposals for amendments to the existing General Laws of the Order. These proposed amendments will be voted upon by the delegates of the 2019 International Moose Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. If approved by the governing body, Category 1 amendments will go into effect on August 1, 2019, and the Category 2 amendment will be effective on January 1, 2020. A special session has been added at the Convention on Friday, June 28 at 2:00pm to discuss these proposals and the voting process. Please review the Convention program on-site for specific time and location of this session.

PROPOSED:

VOTING CATEGORY 1

Amendment #1

Section 30.3 – When Dues Credited:

Current: Terms for dues shall be annual. Dues paid by a member shall be credited as of the date the dues are posted by ~~the Lodge Administrator~~. Moose International will issue a membership card on behalf of the lodge to each member upon notice of enrollment or receipt of dues payment.

Proposed: Terms for dues shall be annual. Dues paid by a member shall be credited as of the date the dues are posted by **Moose International**. Moose International will issue a membership card on behalf of the lodge to each member upon notice of enrollment or receipt of dues payment.

Reasoning: The proposed terminology reflects the current process.

Amendment #2

Section 31.1 – Purchase of Life Memberships:

Current: Any active Lodge member may purchase a life membership in his Lodge by paying to Moose International the sum of ~~one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars~~, one-half of which shall be retained by Moose International and one-half remitted to the member's Lodge.

Proposed: Any active Lodge member may purchase a life membership in his Lodge by paying to Moose International the sum **designated by the Supreme Council**, one-half of which shall be retained by Moose International and one-half remitted to the member's Lodge.

Reasoning: The proposed amendment allows the Supreme Council the ability to raise, lower or pro-rate the amount paid for a Life Membership in the Fraternity based on the current economic environment.

Amendment #3

Section 43.5 – Auditing Committee:

Current: The ~~Auditing~~ Committee shall review monthly the membership and financial records of the lodge, House Committee, and other authorized funds or accounts prepared by the Administrator. Any questions raised by the ~~Auditing~~ Committee shall be submitted with the report to Moose International.

Whenever deemed necessary and appropriate, the Board of Officers may require a special ~~audit~~ of the books and records of the Administrator and, immediately upon demand, the Administrator shall deliver to the ~~Auditing~~ Committee the necessary records to prepare the special ~~audit~~. If the Administrator refuses to comply with the demands of the Board of Officers, the Governor shall suspend the Administrator with pay and the Treasurer shall act until a prompt investigation is made. Upon suspension of the Administrator, the Governor shall immediately contact the General Governor.

Proposed: The **Financial Review** Committee shall review monthly the membership and financial records of the lodge, House Committee, and other authorized funds or accounts prepared by the Administrator. Any questions raised by the **Financial Review** Committee shall be submitted with the report to Moose International.

Whenever deemed necessary and appropriate, the Board of Officers may require a special **review** of the books and records of the Administrator and, immediately upon demand, the Administrator shall deliver to the **Financial Review** Committee the necessary records to prepare the special **review**. If the Administrator refuses to comply with the demands of the Board of Officers, the Governor shall suspend the Administrator with pay and the Treasurer shall act until a prompt investigation is made. Upon suspension of the Administrator, the Governor shall immediately contact the General Governor.

Note: additional revisions will be necessary where “Auditing Committee” is referenced.

Reasoning: The term “auditing” misrepresents both the committee’s role and the requirements for being a committee member. Further, the term is intimidating for non-financial based individuals, thereby dissuading members from accepting roles on the committee.

VOTING CATEGORY 2

Amendment #4

Section 48.2 – Provide and Enforce Rules:

Current: The House Committee shall prepare and formulate rules and regulations governing the operations of the social quarters or home including, but not limited to:

1. The conduct of members and their guests during all social activities
2. A dress code for members and guests during all social activities
3. The admission and conduct of minors
4. ~~Smoking during social functions~~

~~The House Committee shall comply with all state, local or provincial laws governing smoking. If smoking is lawful, the House Committee shall adopt rules and regulations regarding smoking during social functions. The rules and regulations governing smoking shall be considerate of all members and provide smoke free areas. It is recommended that smoking be prohibited during all meal functions occurring in separate areas from the social quarters.~~

Vulgar, profane, and indecent conduct or language is absolutely prohibited at any time in the social quarters, home, on lodge property or during a Moose sponsored activity. In addition to the General Laws, the House Committee shall enforce additional adopted and approved rules.

Proposed: The House Committee shall prepare and formulate rules and regulations governing the operations of the social quarters or home including, but not limited to:

1. The conduct of members and their guests during all social activities
2. A dress code for members and guests during all social activities
3. The admission and conduct of minors

The use of any tobacco product or smoking device (including e-cigarettes) is strictly prohibited at any time in the social quarters or lodge home. The use of any tobacco product or smoking device (including e-cigarettes) is allowed on Lodge property in lawful outdoor areas or areas for which the General Governor's Office has provided a dispensation. The use of all cannabis products is absolutely prohibited at any time in the social quarters, lodge home, or on lodge property. Vulgar, profane and indecent conduct or language is absolutely prohibited at any time in the social quarters, home, or on lodge property. In addition to the General Laws, the House Committee shall enforce additionally adopted and approved rules.

Reasoning: Smoking in our lodge homes is repeatedly cited as a primary reason why members leave and prospects do not join the Moose. As the percentage of smokers, especially younger individuals, continues to decline, the presence of smoke within our lodge homes inhibits our ability to recruit and retain members. Despite the proposed change to eliminate indoor smoking, the revision does not preclude lodges from creating areas or structures that may accommodate their members who smoke.