

Quick Guide to Bylaw Amendments

August 2023 vs May 2015

Introduction.

During the summer of 2023, a committee of ten individuals discussed proposed amendments and organized them into four broad categories. After proper advance notification to the Board of Directors, the amendments were approved at their meeting in Baltimore on August 25, 2023. This document provides a general description of each category, a listing of the items in each category, and a reference to where each listed item may be found in the Bylaws themselves. Any reference to *Robert's Rules of Order* is abbreviated as *Robert's* in this guide.

Category A

This category includes changes related to the timing of elections, the terms of office, definitions of types of meetings and reporting of Executive Committee actions.

Category A Amendments	Where to find it?
Definition of the fiscal year. Since our fiscal year does not end on 12/31, <i>Robert's</i> recommends putting the date in the ByLaws	Article I, Letter C
Removal of misplaced officer succession clause from the list of Board members	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 5
Defining the timing of the annual meeting	Article VI, Letter A
Correcting the location of the succession clause for officers (wording recommended in <i>Robert's</i>)	Article VII, Letter B
Change to the reporting of Executive Committee actions to the full Board	Article X, Letter A, Bullet 4

Category B

The category includes changes so that our ByLaws conform to the revised governance structure of the ACBL relating to the creation of the Advisory Council and the Regional Director, and the elimination of the District Director. This category also confirms that the Regional Tournament Manager has been a voting member of the Board of Directors since 2015. The category includes the addition of two additional persons as voting members.

Category B Amendments	Where to find it?
Change of District Director to Regional Director, as non-voting member. (The non-voting status recognizes the Regional Director represents more than one District on the ACBL Board and aims to avoid conflict-of-interest risks for the Regional Director.)	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 7 and Article IV, Letter C
Deletion of Alternates to the ACBL District Director, a position that no longer exists	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 8
Change of Board of Governors to Advisory Council	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 9

Addition of Regional Tournament Coordinator as a voting member. (The minutes from 2015 confirm that the ByLaws revision meeting of May 2015 was adjourned and then properly concluded in August 2015, at which time this addition was confirmed, but it never made it into the printed version)	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 10
Addition of Tournament Coordinator as voting member	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 11
Addition of Grass Roots Coordinator as voting member	Article IV, Letter B, Bullet 12
Clarification of an alternative unit representative	Article IV, Letter D
Change of the President’s appointment power to the Advisory Council, in accordance with the ByLaws of the Advisory Council	Article VIII, Letter B, Bullet 4
Removal of language regarding vacancies in the abolished Alternate District Director roles	Article VIII, Letter B, Bullet 4

Category C

This category fixes clerical errors and other items of a “housekeeping” nature.

Category C Amendments	Where to find it?
Change of Effective Dates	Heading & Last line of Bylaws
Use of more descriptive gerund	Article II, Letter F
Change of awkward abbreviation	Article IV, Letter A
Clearer specification of <i>Robert’s</i> as our parliamentary authority	Article VI, Letter E
Clearer wording	Article VII, Letter C
Completion of sentence	Article VII, Letter D
Grammar correction	Article VIII, Letter C, Bullet 5

Category D

This category adds an additional section to Article V, made on the advice of Tom Dunck, our attorney and agent in filings with the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our ByLaws, in Article VI, Letter D already specify that electronically connected participants count towards a quorum. The new section confirms that actions taken by the Board electronically are authorized and in conformance with Virginia law.

Category D Amendments	Where to find it?
Extant section about electronic participation vis-à-vis a quorum (no change proposed)	Article VI, Letter D
Section specifically authorizing decisions taken remotely by telephonic or electronic means or by written consent (email)	Article V, Letter F