

Official Announcement and Notification

Proposed New Lodge By-Laws

To Be Voted By the Lodge Membership, 3/11/07

The revised By-Laws are a product of discussions and work done in the administrations of two Lodge Chiefs (Kevin B. and Justin A.) as well as careful consideration by the Lodge Executive Committee.

There are many small changes in language, such as gender-neutral terms where appropriate and correcting the name of the Council. There are also additions to the By-Laws that are merely more concrete statements of procedures already in place.

Below is a list of the most major changes. This is not meant to be a comprehensive listing, just those that are most significant to the operation of the Lodge. Members are encouraged to fully read the proposed By Laws (2007 Revision). They can be downloaded from the Lodge website in PDF form at:

<http://www.ranachqua4.org/By-Laws/RanachquaByLaws2007.pdf>

Those members who have absolutely no internet access, and must receive a hard copy by mail can arrange this by contacting the Publication Committee Advisor, Jim Dell, at 718 365-6232.

1. Term of Office has been changed to September 1st to August 31st from the current January 1st to December 31st. As a consequence, the Lodge Election Meeting has been changed from the last meeting of the calendar year to the last meeting prior to July 1st.
2. The Lodge Officers have been changed from Chief, Vice Chief, Secretary, and Treasurer to Chief, Vice Chief – Operations, Vice Chief – Program, and Secretary-Treasurer. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer have been combined, and both Vice Chiefs have expanded responsibilities. All appropriate references in the By Laws to officers have been changed accordingly.
3. The Vice Chief – Operations has been given responsibility for Lodge training, and will serve ex-officio as Chairman of the new Leadership Development Committee, He will be responsible for the annual LLD.
4. The Vice-Chief – Program has been given the responsibility for unit relations and will serve ex officio as the Chairman of the Troop/Team Representative Committee, responsible for promoting the use of this office by Troops and Teams and for establishing communications between the Lodge and the Council's Scouting Units.
5. Both Vice-Chiefs have been given oversight over the committees appropriate to their main emphasis, and shall serve as interim chairman of these committees in the event of a vacancy in the committee chairmanship.
6. The quorum for Lodge meetings and elections has been changed from the fixed number of 15 (10 as amended) to a relative number – one-tenth the active youth membership of the Lodge.

- 7. The Publications and the Website Committees have been combined into the Communications Committee.**
- 8. The Dance Team Committee and the Ritual and Regalia Committee have been combined into the Ceremonies Committee.**
- 9. The Activities and Service Committee has been given the responsibility of the development and oversight of the Lodge Elangomats and Nimats.**
- 10. The Leadership Development Committee was created under the chairmanship of the Vice Chief – Operations.**
- 11. Procedures for establishing Ad Hoc committees have been standardized.**
- 12. The Ad Hoc Committee, the Vigil Honor Nominating and Awards Committee, has been included in the By Laws in order to standardized the procedures for this committee by including concrete requirements and responsibilities. This committee has also been given the responsibility for selecting the Founders' Awards.**
- 13. All meetings of the Lodge and the Lodge Executive Committee shall be run under “Robert’s Rules of Order” and open to all active Members.**