

Bylaw Proposal

Submitted by: The Convention Director's Committee

CHAPTER XVI

The Annual Convention

CURRENT BYLAW

Article 3 - C. - The delegates to the Annual Convention shall receive from the General and/or Social Fund of their Branch a reasonable expense allowance to cover costs of meals, accommodations and transportation for the Convention days in which delegates participate. The Convention registration fee, which includes a ticket to the banquet, shall be paid in advance by the Branch. Deviations from these regulations must have the approval of the Executive Committee.

PROPOSED CHANGE

Article 3 - C. - The delegates to the Annual Convention shall receive from the General and/or Social Fund of their Branch a reasonable expense allowance to cover costs of meals, accommodations and transportation for the Convention days in which delegates participate. The Convention registration fee, which includes ~~a ticket to the banquet~~ **specified meals**, shall be paid in advance by the Branch. **Delegate expenses must be included as an operational expense of the Branch and take precedence over voluntary expenses.** Deviations from these regulations must have the approval of the **Central Council** Executive Committee.

RATIONALE

1. The registration fee is now including more meals (instead of just one banquet) to support our effort to meet higher food minimums.
2. Requiring branches to budget their delegate registration fee ensures that voluntary expenses do not reduce the treasury leaving little to no funding to cover delegate expenses.

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Article 4 - All Branches are required to send at least the minimum quota of their delegates; otherwise, they are subject to a fine of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) per day per delegate.

A Branch, which desires to be excused from the Convention, must receive prior approval of the Executive Committee. When requesting to be excused, a letter stating the reason must be submitted to the I.C.F. Office by June 30th of that year's Convention. A Branch that is fined by the Executive Committee shall pay the fine to the I.C.F. General Fund within sixty (60) days of notice from the I.C.F. Office.

PROPOSED CHANGE

Article 4 - All Branches are required to send at least the minimum quota of their delegates; otherwise, they are subject to ~~a fine of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00)~~ **an assessment of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250)** per day per delegate. A Branch, which desires to be excused from the Convention, must receive prior approval of the **Central Council** Executive Committee. When requesting to be excused, a letter stating the reason must be submitted to the I.C.F. Office by June 30th of that year's Convention. A Branch that is ~~fined~~ **assessed** by the **Central Council** Executive Committee shall pay the ~~fine~~ **assessment** to the I.C.F. General Fund within sixty (60) days of notice from the I.C.F. Office.

RATIONALE

An annual meeting of branches is a legal requirement to maintain non-profit status. Our Convention/annual meeting is booked with financial commitments made to the convention hotel. When branches do not send their minimum delegates, fewer hotel rooms are booked and fewer banquet meals are purchased. When we do not meet our room and food minimum, the ICF is financially responsible for covering the unused rooms and meals. With the rising cost of expenses, the current fine (assessment) needs to be increased. Being that the fee is a share of cost, ~~an assessment~~ is a more appropriate term to use over ~~fine~~.