

Get Out and Vote for Member Rights

If we, Members, want the benefits of a democratic representative system of governance, we need to vote "YES" for the four proposed amendments to the NSP Articles of Incorporation. If you are not familiar these amendments, they are quoted below, with some good reasons why a "YES" vote is justified.

Nomination Process

To enhance communication among Division Directors and provide maximum access for working patrollers, the Division Directors will be the nominating committee for Board of Director vacancies in a manner provided for in the Bylaws. There will be more nominees than there are positions to fill to allow members a choice.

Vote "YES" because:

- It provides an election slate of Board nominees greater than the number of positions available, enabling Members to democratically elect Board members of their choice.
- The nomination process will create an environment that makes it possible for the Division Directors to collaborate constructively in the selection of a slate of Board candidates, who will be representative of the values of patrollers and the needs of NSP
- It establishes a nomination committee made up of the Division Directors, who represent the diverse nature of NSP membership, from all of NSP geographic areas
- Nominees from this process will be more likely to be aware and sensitive to the needs and desires of the local patrollers and ski areas
- Utilizes a Board selection process that selects Board candidates and nominees based on Board needs (the same process as defined in the Bylaws)

Election Process

Election will be by member direct vote on ballots delivered to each active member in a manner provided for in the Bylaws. The nominees receiving the most votes will fill the available vacancies. There is no minimum quorum for member voting.

Vote "Yes" because:

- The Election Process will make a best effort at involving all Members and obtaining their votes
- Members can cast an educated vote based on each nominee's platform (values, agendas, characters, endorsements, known supporters, past performance, etc.)
- A direct Member vote gives each NSP Member an equal opportunity to vote for Board members who serve at the National level and are responsible for the direction of NSP and its policies
- The election results will be based on the actual Member vote only (not based, on those who did not vote)
- Since Member votes directly elect each Board member, then it would be reasonable to believe that each Board member would be accountable to the Members who elected them

Term of Office

Six (6) years total term limit for members on the National Board including the time as Chairman.

Vote "Yes" because:

- There is no ideal term limit. If a Board member is well liked, a good communicator, a great leader, we want them to stay longer. But if the opposite, we want them to leave earlier. Six years is a good compromise between both extremes. It will allow new blood, prevents stagnation, and allows enough time to get long term objectives accomplished.
- Shorter term limits will regularly bring in new Board members who have fresh ideas and new perspectives for organizational advancement organization every 3 to 6 years. A "bad" Board will not be around for a lengthy time, reducing the possibility of self-propagating, close knit groups or self-serving agendas.
- Shorter term limits will create more turn over on the Board and thus offer other able and committed Members a greater opportunity to serve

Member Rights

The Board of Directors may not change quorum requirements, nomination process, election process, or term of office without a vote of the members.

Vote "Yes" because:

- Membership would have input and control over the basic processes that determine the make up and selection of Board of Directors
- This protects Member Rights, eliminating the possibility of the Board driving NSP into an organization that is not responsive to its Members. It specifically restricts the ability of any Board to remove basic Member Rights without Member approval.