

Dear TCMSA member:

Enclosed please find the text of the proposed bylaw amendments for the Tri-Cities Metallic Silhouette Association. These amendments will be voted upon at the Association's annual meeting, which will take place on January 5, 2012 at 7pm at the Griggs Hunter Ed classroom. As a member of the Association, you have the opportunity to participate in the discussion of these amendments, and the final vote upon them. A simple majority vote of members in attendance at the annual meeting is required to amend the by-laws. As required by the by-laws of the club, these amendments were proposed prior to September 1, 2011. The Board of Directors has reviewed the proposed amendments, approved them, and written the proposed amendment language.

Amendment 1 would create a new type of membership, specifically for law enforcement officers. We have decided to create this type of membership as a public service. Currently the Pasco Police Department Officers and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Deputies can only use their facility (located just North of our range along our access road) if their training officer is present. This means that officers can only practice on qualification days unless they join our club or another range facility. By allowing officers full access to our facility at a reduced price (which would be set in the policy book, not the by-laws) we can provide the officers the opportunity to practice without undue cost to each officer. Law enforcement members would be granted full range access, but would only become voting members of the club and only be eligible to be officers or board members if they paid full dues and became regular members.

Amendment 2 deals with membership requirements, and with the requirements to serve as Officers or members of the Board. Currently we require NRA membership to be a member of the Association. This was originally required to become an NRA affiliated club for insurance purposes. The club's current insurance plan is still through the NRA affiliation, but the requirements for NRA affiliation are only that the officers be NRA members, not the entire club. As we pursue various possibilities for future range sites, we realize that some of our best opportunities for land might be leasing from public or quasi-public agencies. The NRA is obviously a political organization, and the required membership might be an issue with some of these agencies. While we would still encourage NRA membership, it would no longer be required if this amendment passes. As membership dues are a function of the policy book, not the by-laws, we can offer a discount in membership price as a function of the policy book, and it can be altered as needed more easily in the future.

Amendment 3 deals with changes to the range facility, and would bring the by-laws in-line with current practices. The current by-laws require the Board to assign someone to approve any range changes. The practice instead has been for the whole Board to review and approve changes. Changes are approved by the Board to ensure any changes to the range do not adversely affect the use of the range by the total membership.

Amendment 4 would alter the procedure for amending the by-laws. As discussed above, we may find ourselves leasing lands from a public agency. If in negotiations for that lease the public agency has a problem with an item in our current by-laws, it could possibly take 15 months to change that item and cause a major hold up in the negotiations. This amendment would allow us to change the by-laws at two times in the year instead of just one. The procedure is otherwise the same as exists now.

Amendment 5 deals with honorary memberships. Currently the Board is required to vote annually on honorary memberships. This amendment would move that responsibility to the general membership. Honorary memberships are granted by vote of the general membership, so it only makes sense to have the continuation of that honorary membership be voted on by the general membership as well.

Your input on these proposed amendments is welcome at the annual meeting, please attend and discuss.

Thank you,

The Officers and Board of Directors, TCMSA