

**Proposed Amendment to the IPS By-Laws  
for Ballot Consideration 2008**

The Officers and Council seek your approval of the following proposed amendments to the IPS By-Laws.

The relevant article written in the current IPS By-Laws is listed first. The proposed amendment is listed second, with new words underlined. The rationale for the change is listed third, in *italics*.

If you want to amend the existing article, then vote “for” the amendment on the ballot. If you don’t want to amend the existing article and leave it as written, then vote “against” the amendment on the ballot.

**BY-LAWS PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

**1. Make By-Laws consistent with existing Standing Rules procedures**

**Current By-Law:**

ARTICLE IV- Officers

Section 5. The Elections Committee shall present the slate of officers to the Membership Committee for ratification and for distribution to the voting membership at least four (4) months before expiration of the term of office or at the beginning of the regular biennial meeting of the membership, whichever occurs first. The voting shall be by signed mailed ballot. The candidates with the plurality of votes shall be declared elected and assume office at the designated time. The Chair of the Elections Committee shall receive and count the votes and report to the Officers. The results of the elections shall be announced to the Membership as soon as is convenient.

**Proposed By-Law:**

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**Rationale for Change:**

*This has been addressed in the procedures for elections in the Standing Rules: Appendix B (see below), so to be consistent we need to reflect the advance of technology since the By-Laws were written.*

**APPENDIX B  
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE PROCEDURES**

VIII. Date: September, even year. Ballots and candidate statements should be mailed or made available electronically to all current IPS members. Send all overseas ballots by airmail. Return envelopes with a signature space on the return address area should be provided. Remind overseas members that they should return ballots by airmail. IPS pays for the printing and mailing of the ballots as well as the

mailing and phone costs of the committee correspondence. Deadline: October 1 for mailing of ballots, November 30 for postmark of ballots.

**2. Make By-Laws explicit in terms of enacted procedures.**

**Current By-Law:**

ARTICLE VII - Meetings and Conferences

Section 2. A Council Meeting shall be held annually at the discretion of the President in agreement with the Council Members. At any Council Meeting a majority of the Council shall constitute a quorum. All questions arising at Council Meetings shall be decided by simple majority vote except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws. A Council Member may appoint in writing any other member as his/her proxy for Council Meetings, provided the appointed person exercises only one vote by proxy.

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**Rationale for Change:**

*It has always been assumed that any member of the Society, not just another member of Council, can hold a proxy, and Council has operated that way. The proposed new words incorporate that explicitly. Note that even without this change, Council has been legal in the past because Council has allowed this procedure and because Council's interpretation of the By-Laws (see below) is final; nevertheless, this change would make it clear in print.*

ARTICLE XII - Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in principle, shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rules of order the Society may adopt. The interpretation of the By-Laws and, if necessary, Robert's Rules of Order, shall be the responsibility of Council, and its decision shall be final.