



Minutes of the State Board Meeting
Sons In Retirement
Knights of Columbus Building
Vallejo, California
November 11, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Art Pufford at 9:58 A.M. Present were all members of the State Board except Assistant Secretary Hal Stephens, Region 1 Director Eugene Parker, Region 3 Director George Christman and Region 9 Director Jim Petruk. Advisor, Eldon Parr was not present. Area Governor, Ken Edson, represented Region 1. Also present were Past Presidents Jim Wyatt, Dwight Sale, and Mel Augustine. Committee chairmen present were John Thomason, Insurance; Bob Perry, Travel; Gary Gruber, Rules Committee member; Chuck Roberts, SF Giants. The Growth and Membership Committee was represented by Buck Kendrick, and Dick DeVoe was a special invited guest.

President Pufford welcomed the attendees to the November 11, 2008 meeting and made a few opening remarks and introductions.

Chaplain Short gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A quorum was present and the Minutes of the August 4, 2008 Annual Meeting were approved as published on the SIR website.

President Pufford announced that Walter Schick has been appointed Publicity Committee Chairman. Walter was unable to attend today's meeting. President Pufford presented a brief summary of the activities that have been conducted so far this year by the Travel, Bowling, Golf, and Growth and Membership Committees.

So far this year, 27 Honorary Life Member awards have been issued and presented. There have been 178 Senior SIR awards, 27 Super Senior awards and 4 Century certificates presented.

President Pufford will be serving as the chairman of the Nominating Committee next year. He will be encouraging members who are qualified and interested in 2010 State offices to submit form 43 to him on or before April 15, 2009.

President Pufford announced that SIR now has 156 active branches as of November 2008. The following mergers will occur by early 2009: Branch 80 with 105; Branch 29 with 137; Branch 166 with 95 and Branch 64 with 2. This will bring the total numbers in SIR to 152.

Vice President David Reiser reminded the attending group that all 2008 expenses incurred involving SIR business must be submitted to him on or before January 15, 2009. Area Governors are to be reminded of the 2008 expense deadline. All 2009 expenses will be processed by 2009 Vice President, Buck Kendrick.

Vice President, Reiser encouraged the regional directors to help him recruit a big sir or two for the Rules Committee. Interest in State SIR by committee participation will be encouraged in 2009. Secretary Short explained that the Minutes of this meeting and of State meetings past are published on the SIR website under Documents. He also mentioned that extra copies of the Area Governor Training materials are also available on the SIR website.

President Pufford called upon Past President Jim Wyatt to conduct the installation of the 2009 State Officers. With humorous informality and proper wording, Past President Wyatt performed the installation ceremony. The 2009 officers who were not in attendance will be installed at the January 20, 2009 State Board meeting.

Treasurer Mannell reported that there will be no problem setting up a separate account with our bank for an insurance reserve fund.

Treasurer Mannell stated that our financial situation looks positive at this time. Our annual insurance premiums are down. Travel expenses including mileage are down. Printing costs are down due to the website posting of documents and forms. And postage is also less of an expense. The pro-rata income from branches is adequate for State SIR expenses.

Assistant Treasurer, Mike Berry stated that there is room for improvement in the way he receives the form 28s from each branch each month. Even with e-mail transmission, over 40% of the forms reach him via US Mail. He plans to contact branches that are still not using the e-mail connection. Mike is still working with about 20 branches who have accuracy problems.

INFOSYS Chairman Dwight Sale clarified how the SIR website works. He explained that information reaches the SIR website through Website Committee member, Gary Gruber. Database information comes from Dwight Sale. The e-mail system works efficiently due to Mike Berry's efforts. Gary Gruber is responsible for the State Roster and the SIR Manual production and updates. All 57 of the SIR State forms are available on the website. At this time, Dwight Sale is responsible for the production of SIR State certificates.

The HAPPENINGS quarterly SIR news bulletin is one of the proud projects of the INFOSAYS committee. All of the meeting attendees were in agreement as to the positive influence HAPPENINGS has in promoting and spreading the word about SIR activities and events.. Dwight also suggested that sometime in the future elected branch officers should be required to have a computer, an e-mail address and computer skills.

Growth and Membership Committee information was reported by committee member, Buck Kendrick. He started by saying that participation in branch activities is the key to recruitment and retention. The Committee compiled a list of ideas for recruiting new members and also retaining them. Aging of members was a controversial topic and led to the resignation of the committee chairman, Ken Edwards.

Acting as interim chairman, Buck stated that he spoke at the Governors Training session in October emphasizing the need for branches to stress membership acquisition and retention. He stressed that the committee thought that the Membership Implementation Program needs to be revised. HAPPENINGS could present articles on the theme, "Ideas that Work". Buck said that we need to find ways to inject successful, proven ideas into branch operations without destroying the positive relationships between State SIR and branches that are in need of help.

Rules Committee member, Gary Gruber reported for Chairman Thomas Smith. He stated that the Rules that the Board are to vote on today are attached to the agenda. These rules will be discussed and voted on later in this meeting.

Insurance Chairman, John Thomason talked to the Sir Insurance Premium Reserve Resolution. It was agreed to defer discussion and action until Board Action Items are considered. Branch insurance information will be sent out to branch e-mail contacts for consideration. John stated that interest in insurance for branches is minimal. Specific details will be worked out in December with our insurance carrier.

Area Governor Training Chairman, Eckart Sellinger, reported on the October 21, 2008 training session. He said that the regional directors need to check with their area governors to evaluate how each area training program is going. Each branch has a packet of practical, branch operational materials. Each area governor also has a packet of materials that he can use to help him better do his supervisory job. A critique of the AG Training session was used following the October session. The governors were favorably pleased with the program in their written comments.

The Golf and Bowling committees will report on their plans for 2009 at the January Board meeting.

SF Giants Chairman, Chuck Roberts reported that the August 21st game between the Giants and the Marlins was a fun SIR Day experience. The Giants won! President Pufford threw out the first pitch!

Travel Chairman, Bob Perry reported that the SIR 25th Anniversary cruise was a success. The three day Anniversary trip to Reno was a success with 230+ SIR members and their guests participating.

Under Board Action Items, Treasurer Mannell presented a proposal to establish an insurance premium reserve. After discussion, the Board moved, seconded and passed the following resolution directing the Treasurer to establish a premium reserve fund:

“The State Treasurer shall maintain an insurance premium reserve of \$25,000.or 40% of the current year’s total premium, whichever is greater. This reserve shall be kept in a separate interest bearing account funded by the general fund of the State Treasury.”

Proposed Rule Changes were discussed and with some changes were adopted by the Board. (See the Attachment to these Minutes for the changes. The SIR Manual update will also reflect these rule changes.)

Prior to the approval of the Rule changes, a discussion regarding the rapid processing of members, aging branch membership and suitable luncheon facilities took place. President Pufford asked Dick DeVoe of Branch 146 to speak to the subject of branch size including waiting lists and induction moratoriums. His rule adjustment ideas regarding Rule 74 were accepted by the Board and are reflected in the Approved Rule Changes. (See the Attachment.)

Newly inducted President David Reiser presented outgoing President Art Pufford with a framed HLM Certificate and a Past President pin. President Pufford thanked the members of the Board, Past Presidents, Committee Chairmen and attending SIRs for their work and dedication to Sons In Retirement this year. He then presented certificates of appreciation to the Board members and to the Committee Chairmen present.

There being no further business or announcements, President Pufford adjourned the meeting at 12:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



William T. Short, State Secretary

RULE CHANGES APPROVED

SIR State Board Meeting 11/11/08

Tom Smith, Chairman Rules Committee
Assembled by Gary Gruber, SIR Manual Chairman

NOTE: Comments are in italics.

Ten Years to "Senior HLM"

RULE 24.

a. thru i no change.

- j. When a Branch-initiated HLM has been an HLM for at least 10 years he will automatically be elevated to Senior HLM in the Corporate HLM records and the State Roster, and he no longer counts toward any Branch's HLM limit. (New 11/11/08)
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Proxy requirement - Annual Meeting

RULE 34. (Deleted 11/11/08)

RULE 166. In the event that a Big Sir cannot attend the Annual Meeting, the Branch Executive Committee shall appoint an alternate from the other elected Officers of the Branch. Also refer to Corporate Bylaws Section 185. (Revised 11/11/08)

Branch "bank" accounts

RULE 215.1 The opening of a Branch bank account, including accounts for the Branch committees in need of separate accounts, shall be authorized and controlled by the Branch Treasurer or Big Sir with the approval of the Branch Executive Committee. Approval must be recorded in the BEC minutes and kept on file with the Branch Secretary and Branch Treasurer as long as the account is active. Any Branch account must be in the name of the Branch or its committee, such as "SIR Reynolds Branch 1" or "SIR Reynolds Branch 1 Golf Committee" account. A copy of the Branch Articles of Incorporation may be provided to the bank along with the Branch federal identification number, known as the Employer Identification Number ("EIN") that is assigned by the IRS. This information is contained in local Branch files and/or on the SIR Website under SIR Documents - Organization Information - Branch EIN Numbers. Banks and Savings and Loans used by Branches must be fully insured by FDIC, or in the case of Credit Unions, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). (Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 37. The establishment of bank accounts for State Committees must receive prior approval from the State Treasurer or Assistant State Treasurer. Standard financial and banking procedures for State Committees like Bowling, Golf, RV, SIRARC and any other State Standing Committees that receive and disburse funds pertaining to their activities and expenses are:
(Revised 11/13/07)

a. and b. no change.

- c. The Committee Treasurer shall deposit and/or distribute such funds through an insured depository approved by the State Treasurer in an account bearing the title "Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, 'Committee name' " with the SIR State Treasury federal identification number. This shall not apply to money received that is necessarily paid to a provider in connection with an event on the date it is received nor shall it apply to funds paid for travel that involves air or sea transportation and goods and services in connection therewith, which payments must be handled as provided in Rule 369. (Revised 11/11/08)

d. thru f. no change.

RULE 380. A SIR-Qualified Agency ("Agency") must:

a. thru c. no change.

d. Maintain a trust account in an insured institution, deposit and keep therein all funds of participants of each travel event pending disbursement of those funds for goods or services pertinent to the event. (Revised 11/11/08)

Restrictions to Branch membership growth

RULE 72. Applications shall be processed through the Branch Executive Committee without delay and approved applicants shall be inducted within 90 days of application submittal. (New 11/11/08)

RULE 74. Any restriction in the size of a Branch is against the principles and intent of Sons In Retirement and is therefore prohibited. Branches shall not establish maximum memberships nor inhibit recruitment and induction of new members by any means, including through waiting lists and moratoriums on application submittals. Any exception to this rule proposed by a Branch Executive Committee shall be submitted through its Area Governor and Regional Director to the President for consideration. The exception must be approved by the State Board. (New 11/11/08)

Notification of election (Regional Director & Area Governor) - Forms 44 and 44A

RULE 155. The Executive Committee of each Branch in the Area shall nominate by July 31 of each year the member it proposes for Governor of its Area. A candidate for Area Governor must be willing to serve and must be a past or present Big Sir, or must have held or is holding the office of Little Sir, Secretary or Treasurer in the Branch, singly or in combination, for at least two years at the time he assumes the office. A past or present Big Sir is the preferred qualification. The State President may waive the preceding qualifications at his discretion. The nomination shall be made on Form 44 - Candidacy for Area Governor. The form shall be submitted to the current Area Governor by July 31. To formally document the election, the Area Governor-elect shall promptly execute Form 44A - Notification of Election. (Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 798. Immediately following the election of the Area Governor, the Area Governor-elect shall complete Form 44A - Notification of Election - and submit the form according to the distribution shown on the form. (Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 781. Each Region shall have a Regional Director. The Area Governors in each Region shall meet by August 31 upon the call of the Regional Director and by majority vote elect a Regional Director for a one-year term to commence on January 1 of the following year. The Regional Director shall act as Chairman and shall have no vote except to break a tie in the balloting. Immediately following the election of the Regional Director, the Regional Director-elect shall complete Form 44A - Notification of Election - and submit the form according to the distribution shown on the form. (Revised 11/11/08)

State elected office - qualifications

RULE 768.2 A candidate for President or Vice President must meet the qualifications for the office as specified in Rules 768 and 768.1 and must submit to the Chairman of the State Nominating Committee by April 15 of each year a SIR Form 43 - Declaration of Candidacy - and the background data requested on the Form 43. Refer to Rule 769 for an exception. (Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 768.3 A candidate for State Secretary, State Treasurer, Assistant State Secretary or Assistant State Treasurer must be an active member of Sons In Retirement, and must submit to the Chairman of the State Nominating Committee by April 15 of each year a SIR Form 43 - Declaration of Candidacy for State Elected Office - and the background data requested on the Form 43. Refer to Rule 769 for an exception. (New 11/11/08)

Amendments to the rules

RULE 609. The Rules Committee shall consider and shall submit to the President for his consideration, together with its recommendations, any proposal involving the Standing Rules or Bylaws that have been referred to the Rules Committee by the State Board, a State Officer, a State Committee Chairman, any member of the State Rules Committee, or a Branch Executive Committee through channels to the President. (Revised 11/11/08)

Travel Code

RULE 375. Any event involving travel that is proposed by a State activity committee must be approved by the State Board using Form 53B - Request for Approval of State Event Involving Travel. Then, the event must be arranged using SIR State Contract Form 50B, or equivalent, with a SIR-Qualified Travel Agency. The executed contract shall be signed by both the DM of the activity committee and the authorized representative of the Agency and kept on file for at least 5 years with the committee Secretary. (Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 375.1 Any event involving travel that is proposed by the State Travel Committee must be approved by the State Board and recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Then, a contract must be completed with a SIR-Qualified Travel Agency. The contract executed by the DM of the State Travel Committee and Agency shall be signed by both him and the authorized representative of the Agency and kept on file for at least 10 years with the State Secretary. The STC is exempt from mandatory use of Approval Form 53B and Contract Form 50B. (New 11/11/08)

RULE 454. The STC shall propose a State Travel Event for all active members of SIR, and those persons specified in Rule 367, every five years or so. Refer to Rule 375.1 for procedures. (Revised 11/11/08)

- a. (Deleted 11/11/08)
- b. (Deleted 11/11/08)

State Golf events

RULE 504.5 The State Board may authorize the Committee to sponsor State Golfing events. Each event shall be specifically authorized for that single identified event. When travel is involved, procedures are outlined in Rule 375. (Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 505. The Committee, upon the approval of a majority of its members, may recommend to the State Board the authorization of a State Golfing event. When the event includes travel, the procedures are outlined in Rule 375. (Revised 11/11/08)

- a. (Deleted 11/13/07)
 - b. (Deleted 11/11/08)
 - c. The State Golf Committee shall comply with applicable provisions of the SIR Travel Code -- Rules 360 et seq. Notwithstanding some of the terminology used, since most of those rules were designated for Branches, they apply equally to the State in most instances. (Revised 11/13/07)
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State Bowling events

RULE 557. The Committee, upon approval of a majority of its members, may recommend to the State Board the authorization of a State Bowling event. The Board may authorize the Committee to sponsor State Bowling events. Each event shall be specifically authorized for that single event. When the event includes travel, the procedures are outlined in Rule 375. (Revised 11/11/08)

- a. (Deleted 11/11/08)
 - b. (Deleted 11/11/08)
 - c. The State Bowling Committee shall comply with applicable provisions of the SIR Travel Code -- Rules 360 et seq. Notwithstanding some of the terminology used, since most of those rules were designated for Branches, they apply equally to the State in most instances.
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