



THE ADVOCATE...

FEBRUARY 2018

FEATURE ARTICLE: RESOLUTIONS... PART 2
FORUM: AWARDING HONOURARIUM MEMBERSHIP & HONOURARIUM
LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to THE ADVOCATE ... a newsletter dedicated to all Council Advocates but should also be shared with everyone in your Council and our jurisdiction. This month's newsletter and all previous issues are available on the State web site at www.kofc.ab.ca under Publications.

This month's Feature Article is Part 2 on Resolutions... the concluding processes of a resolution.

The FORUM returns to share inquiries and comments from some of our Councils.

RESOLUTIONS... PART 2

This topic contains excerpts from the Officer's Desktop Reference and the Charter, Constitution and Laws of the Order.

Report of the Resolutions Committee

The State Advocate (Chairman of the Resolutions Committee) shall present his report to the State Council, announcing all valid and properly submitted resolutions, along with the Committee's recommendations. As to each resolution, the Committee will offer one of the following recommendations:

- (1) Adopt;
- (2) Reject;
- (3) No Action; or
- (4) Refer to the State Executive Committee.

In addition, the Committee may offer a substitute resolution, which modifies or refines the rationale and/or proposed action of one or more submitted resolutions. The substitute resolution may articulate a more precise or comprehensive statement of the issue or may summarize the substance of multiple resolutions pertaining to the same issue. Where multiple resolutions pertaining to the same issue have been submitted, the Resolutions Committee may also recommend adopting the one resolution that best expresses the State Council's position, and taking no action on the others.

A recommendation of "No Action" does not indicate that the resolution is without merit. It merely indicates that, in the opinion of the Committee:

- (a) The proposed resolutions should not be expressed by the State Council or the Order at this time;
- (b) The resolution itself requires no specific action;
- (c) The resolution proposes something that is already in effect in the State Council or in the Order.

The State Executive Committee should promptly review and consider resolutions that have been referred to it. The Executive Committee may, in its discretion and in accordance with State Council by-laws, act upon these resolutions or defer action pending further study.

Before the conclusion of the meeting, the chairman of the Resolutions Committee should formally submit its recommendations in a written report to the State Council.

Voting on the Resolutions

The Chairman of the Committee (ordinarily, the State Advocate) shall present the Committee's report to the State Council Annual Meeting, announcing a recommendation for each resolution under consideration, along with a motion to accept that recommendation.

Robert's Rules of Order provides that a motion presented on behalf of a committee having more than one member does not need a second. Because the Resolution Committee consists of more than one member, it is assumed that, if needed, someone on the committee would second the motion.

After the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee makes a motion as to each resolution to accept the Committee's recommendation, there will be a brief pause before the Chairman of the meeting drops the gavel, marking the end of the discussion period for that resolution. If no objection is raised during that pause, it shall be understood that the motion is passed, meaning that the assembled body agrees to follow the Committee's recommendation. If a delegate raises an objection, the question may be discussed and put to a vote, in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Only duly seated delegates may address the Chairman to speak in favor of or against any resolution. Upon recognition by the Chairman of the meeting, the delegate shall give his name, his council number, and his office. He should limit his remarks to the resolution under consideration and should speak in a manner befitting a Catholic gentleman. The Chairman of the meeting may, at his discretion and in accordance with State Council by-laws and *Robert's Rules of Order*., invoke a limitation on debate, provided that the same shall apply uniformly to all delegates.

Resolutions Submitted to the Supreme Council

The Laws of the Knights of Columbus permit State Councils to submit to the Supreme Council resolutions that pertain to issues affecting the entire Order. It is expected that all such resolutions will be submitted in good faith and in the spirit of charity, unity, and fraternity.

The Supreme Council resolutions process was established to enable subordinate councils to:

- (1) Express gratitude or support for a person, a fraternal program, or a policy of the Order;
- (2) Amend the Constitution or Laws of the Order;
- (3) Express an official position of the Knights of Columbus on matters relevant to the mission and identity of the Order; and
- (4) Offer proposals to enhance the Order's fraternal mission.

A State Council may also use the resolutions process to amend its own by-laws. Upon adoption of a resolution proposing any changes to its by-laws, the State Council shall submit the proposed amendments to the Supreme Advocate for a preliminary review, after which he will refer the proposed amendments to the Board of Directors. The Board will then consider and vote upon these proposed amendments at its Annual Supreme Convention meeting.

For further information on this topic and submitting resolution to Supreme for their consideration refer to the Council and Assembly Issues section in the Officer's Desktop Reference found at www.kofc.org .

FORUM

This section is designed to share information and feedback with Councils from comments or questions sent to the author.

AWARDING HONOURARY MEMBERSHIP & HONOURARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Here's a situation...

For whatever reason a member (who is now over age 70) decided not to pay his dues for a few years. After a few years an insurance agent sees the member then insures and assists to reinstate him so as to continue on being a regular member in good standing. The Financial Secretary completes the Form 100 for Supreme. The question is... should this member receive an Honorary Life Membership.

If a member has not pay his dues this alone does not remove them from the Order. This is something between the member and his Council. If the Council wishes they may forgive his arrears and simply have him pay the current year's dues to become "***Active in Good Standing with the Council***" again.

Conversely the Council may decide that any members in arrears (say for example, for longer than a 3 or 4 years) should be suspended or terminated from the Order. This is a different situation as form 100 and form 1845 must be submitted to Supreme for processing.

So one very important questions...Was the member suspended or terminated from the Knights where a form 100 and/or form 1845 was sent to Supreme to process the suspension or termination from the Order?

According to Section 118(c) and 118(d) in the **Charter, Constitution, Laws of the Order** booklet

Section 118(c)

Members who attained the actual age of sixth-five years and who have been members of the Order for twenty-five consecutive years, shall be designated as Honorary Members and on due request in writing they shall be exempt from general fund charges, except payment of the sum of State and Supreme Council per capita charges and levies.

Section 118(d)

Members who have attained the actual of 70 years and who have been members of the Order for twenty-five consecutive years, and those who have been members of the Order for fifty years regardless of age, shall be designated as Honourary Life Members, and on due request in writing they shall be exempt from dues, per capita charges and assessments.

Normally Supreme automatically sends out the *Honorary Membership / Honorary Life Membership* cards to the Council for presentation to the deserving member based on their records.

But if one is not received for a member that the Council feels is deserving then the Financial Secretary should be contacting Supreme's Membership Records department to resolve the matter.

Next Month: In the March issue... a primer on ***Motions*** with Robert's Rules of Order

Your feedback is invaluable. If anyone has any questions or comments drop me a line. Also, if there is a topic you wish covered in future newsletters just send a note to SA2017@kofc.ab.ca

Thank you ...and God Bless.

Vivat Jesus
Sir Knight John Onyskiw
State Advocate