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Ladies and Gentlemen

I have been asked to be a member of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.

To that end I have examined our present Constitution and By-Laws and compared them to other Clubs, The United Square Dancers of America and several other State Clubs. (I also looked at some Fraternal Organizations)

I have no recommendations as to our Constitution.

I enclose an outline of Amendments to the By-Laws that I think should be considered.

The Member definition is very confusing, basically there is no difference in the definitions of a District and an Individual. I suggest defining the different Memberships that we have.

I believe a statement that all Directors and Officer meetings are open to all members is warranted; while that is the present custom, a statement will defuse any controversy.

Likewise, an adoption of the Roberts Rules of Order, while we do that now, should be a stated policy.

I also suggest that our club adopt the standard Rules of Conduct and Rules of Ethics used by most other Square Dance Clubs and as is set out in the By-laws of the United Square Dancers of America.

I have included a statement that the funds obtained by a Member Club should stay with that Club. I think that is the generally accepted position of our membership, but there have been some confusing statements made in the past. Whatever the NMSRDA decides is OK, as long as we all know what the policy is.

I have included a safety resolution. While I have never seen a drunk or armed dancer at a square dance; if a future occurrence by an intoxicated or armed person causes harm to someone; I can assure you that our Insurance Carrier will be glad to know that we have publicly, by resolution, stated our opposition to drinking and armed participants at our dances.

I also suggest that either by Resolution of the Directors or in the By-Laws, there should be a stated policy of continuing membership in the United Square Dancers of America.

That is my input for the Committee, please feel free to comment and discuss (or ignore) these suggestions.

Ken Wilson