

2026 BSTA Proposed Bylaw Amendments

This document is intended for review by the BSTA Committee and Membership.

Each proposed amendment includes the current wording, proposed wording, and the reason for the change.

Amendment 1 – Article I, Section 3 – Purpose

Current Wording

The aims and purposes of the BSTA shall be to serve its membership and to promote and enhance the sport of trapshooting to the residents of Montana and Idaho. In addition to hold the annual Montana State Shoot.

Proposed Wording

The aims and purposes of the BSTA shall be to serve its membership and to promote and enhance **participation in shotgun sports** to the residents of Montana and Idaho. In addition, the BSTA shall conduct the annual Montana State **Trap** Shoot and other recreational **shooting** activities consistent with its purposes.

The Association is organized exclusively for pleasure, recreation, and other nonprofitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding provision of any future federal tax law.

Reason for Change

Adds language commonly requested by the IRS when seeking recognition as a 501(c)(7) social and recreational organization.

Amendment 2 – Article V – Finances (New Section 5)

Current Wording

No current section exists.

Proposed Wording

5) USE OF FUNDS:

All funds, revenues, and assets of the BSTA shall be used exclusively to further the purposes of the Association.

No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of any Director, Officer, Member, or other private individual, except through participation in the Association's recreational activities, competitions, awards, trophies, purses, added money, and programs.

Any surplus revenues shall remain the property of the Association and shall be retained and used solely for the advancement of the Association's purposes.

Reason for Change

Clarifies that Association funds are retained for Association purposes and not distributed for private benefit, while preserving normal shooting awards, trophies, purses, and added money.

Amendment 3 – Article I, Section 4(b) – Individual Members

Current Wording

Persons who reside in Montana and are a current member in good standing with the PITA.

Proposed Wording

Persons who reside in Montana and are current members in good standing with the PITA. **Membership status and eligibility shall be determined by the official records of the PITA.**

Reason for Change

Clarifies how membership status is verified while maintaining the Association's existing membership structure. This amendment recognizes the PITA as the official source of membership records and eligibility.

Amendment 4 - Article III, Section 1(b) – Composition

Current Wording

The Committee shall be comprised of seven (7) Individual Members with Handicap Chairman serving as an honorary eighth member.

The Committee shall consist of:

- i) The Six (6) Elected Members.
- ii) The Seventh Member: The Immediate Past President, who shall remain a voting Director until replaced by the next retiring President.
- iii) The Eighth Member: The Handicap Chairman, who shall not be a voting Director unless also a duly elected Committee member or Past President.

Proposed Wording

The Committee shall consist of seven (7) elected Directors.

The Immediate Past President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Committee until replaced by the next retiring President and shall not receive an additional vote by virtue of serving as Immediate Past President.

A Director who becomes the Immediate Past President shall retain all rights, duties, and voting privileges associated with their elected Director position until the expiration of their term. Thereafter, they shall continue to serve as Immediate Past President in an ex-officio capacity until replaced by the next retiring President.

The Handicap Chairman shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Committee and shall not be a voting Director unless separately elected as a Director.

Reason for Change

This amendment establishes a Committee consisting of seven voting Directors elected by the membership while preserving the experience and continuity provided by the Immediate Past President and Handicap Chairman. It clarifies that elected Director terms are not affected by annual officer elections and prevents the creation or loss of voting rights solely due to a change in officer status.

Amendment 5 - Article III, Section 1(d) & 1(e) – Terms of office and elections

Current Wording

d) TERM OF OFFICE:

- i. **Directors:** The six (6) elected directors shall have a term of two (2) calendar years. Each year at the Annual Meeting of the Membership, three (3) Directors shall be elected to serve on the Committee.

e) ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS:

- i. **At the Annual Meeting of the Membership:**
 - a. Three (3) Directors of the Committee and Handicap Chairman shall be elected annually.

Proposed Wording

d) TERM OF OFFICE:

- i. **Directors:** The **seven (7)** elected directors shall **serve** a term of **three (3)** calendar years.

e) ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS:

- i. **At the Annual Meeting of the Membership:**
 - a. **The following Directors shall be elected:**
 - 1. **First year (2027): Positions 1,2,3**
 - 2. **Second year (2028): Positions 4, 5**
 - 3. **Third year (2029): Positions 6, 7****Thereafter, the same election cycle shall repeat every three (3) years.**
 - b. **The Handicap Chairman shall be elected annually.**

Reason for Change

This amendment aligns the Director term and election schedule with Amendment 4 by establishing seven elected Directors serving staggered three-year terms, thereby promoting continuity and preserving institutional knowledge while providing for regular membership elections.

Amendment 6 - Article VII – By Law Amendments

Current Wording

No current section exists.

Proposed Wording

4) NON-SUBSTANTIVE CORRECTIONS:

The Committee may, by majority vote, correct typographical errors, grammatical errors, formatting inconsistencies, numbering errors, cross-reference errors, and other similar non-substantive drafting errors in these Bylaws without approval of the membership, provided that such corrections do not alter the intent, meaning, rights, duties, or substantive effect of any provision of the Bylaws. Any such corrections shall be documented in the official records of the Association.

Reason for Change

This amendment allows the Committee to fix clerical errors such as typos, incorrect numbering, and broken cross-references without the time and expense of a membership vote, while prohibiting any changes that would affect the meaning or operation of the Bylaws.

Amendment 7 - Article IV – Meetings

Current Wording

No current section exists.

Proposed Wording

6. HOW MEETINGS MAY BE HELD:

Any Annual Meeting, Special Meeting, Committee Meeting, or Special Committee Meeting may be conducted in person, by telephone conference, video conference, or by other electronic means that allow participants to simultaneously hear and communicate with one another.

Participation by any such means shall constitute presence in person for all purposes, including establishing a quorum and exercising voting rights.

7. ACTION WITHOUT A MEETING:

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Committee may be taken without a meeting if all voting members of the Committee unanimously consent in writing or by electronic transmission. Such unanimous consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote taken at a duly called Committee meeting and shall be entered into the official records of the Association.

Reason for Change

This amendment modernizes the Association's meeting procedures by expressly authorizing meetings to be conducted in person or through electronic means, including telephone and video conference, while ensuring that remote participants are counted for quorum and voting purposes. It also permits the Committee to take action without a meeting through unanimous written or electronic consent, improving administrative efficiency while maintaining appropriate documentation and accountability.

Amendment 8 - Article IV, Section 3, Subsection b, item 2 – Quorum at special meetings

Current Wording

- 2) Special Meetings of the Membership:** A quorum for the Special Meeting of the membership shall consist of four (4) members of the Committee and either of the following:
- a) NO BYLAW ADMENT(S):** Twenty (20%) of the eligible membership to vote per the voting rights (Article IV, Section 5, Subsection b).
 - b) BY LAW ADMENT(S):** See Bylaw amendments (Article VII Section 2, Subsection a, Item 2)

Proposed Wording

- 2) Special Meetings of the Membership:** A quorum for the Special Meeting of the membership shall consist of four (4) members of the Committee **and ten percent (10%) of the eligible members entitled to vote pursuant to Article IV, Section 5, Subsection b."**

Reason for Change

This amendment resolves an ambiguity in the current bylaws by establishing a clear and uniform quorum requirement for Special Meetings of the Membership. It also eliminates the reliance on a cross-reference to Article VII, which addresses notice and voting requirements but does not independently establish a quorum.

ARTICLE VII – BYLAW AMENDMENTS

- 1) AMENDMENTS:** All Bylaws may be amended, modified, repealed and/or new Bylaws may be adopted at any Annual meeting of the Membership, at a Special Meetings of the BSTA, or by Committee prior to the first State Shoot as outlined in Section 3.
- 2) MEETINGS:**
 - a) Changes to the Bylaws:**
 - 1. Annual Meeting:** Proposed changes to the bylaws must be posted in the State Shoot Program and should be at least forty-five (45) but no less than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the start of the State Shoot.
 - 2. Special Meeting:** Proposed changes to the bylaws must be Mailed to the BSTA, each Committee member, and to each Individual Member of the association at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to the special meeting.