

A Clarification to October 11, 2019 Ruling

On October 11, 2019, an Official Ruling went out concerning Departments without Districts and the ability of the Department President to remove officers.

There was some concern about this being a direct change to our Bylaws. It was not meant to be. The Sections were mentioned so you could easily locate where in the Bylaws this omission occurred. National President Peggy Haake is recalling this Ruling and replacing it with the attached ruling dated October 21, 2019. We felt in order to protect our members rights there should be a concurrence, as there is for Departments with Districts. Since there is no provision for anyone else to concur with the Department President other than the District President, we felt this needed to be addressed. Please see below the difference between a Resolution, a Bylaw suggestion and a Ruling. We hope this will help to clarify things.

The difference between a Resolution, a Bylaw change suggestion and a Ruling

- 1.) A Resolution is made and voted on per the Bylaws and submitted to National Headquarters. As long as it is submitted properly and timely, the committee will recommend to adopt or not to adopt. The Resolution would then be voted on by the delegates in attendance.
- 2.) A Bylaw change suggestion, is something you think should be clarified, added or omitted from the Bylaws. The recommendation would be sent to National Headquarters for consideration. The Bylaws committee will look over all the suggestions and if they deem it as something the body should consider, they will make it part of their presentation and it would then be voted on by the convention delegates. A recommendation is just that, a recommendation and it may or may not be brought before the convention.
- 3.) A Ruling is something that is not specifically addressed in the Bylaws and may need to be, either because of a difference of opinion as to how it reads or it is an omission. Rulings are sometimes used to make a needed resolution. A ruling will stay in effect until reversed or made into a resolution and voted on. We would not vote on a ruling. We only vote on proposed resolutions. A ruling can be temporary and is not meant to change the Bylaws in a permanent fashion. *I.e. We added an optional official cap to our uniform look. However, we did not add anything to our Bylaws about when it should be removed. (I.e. during the prayer or pledge) We received lots of questions about this, so we made a ruling, so we could all follow the same directive. I am sure a resolution will be put forth this year to address this oversight.*