



## STREAMLINING THE BYLAWS IN 2008

The delegates to the 2008 annual meeting will be asked to approve a streamlined set of bylaws that are the result of an 18 month committee effort. The Association's Board of Directors in April 2008 unanimously recommended an approval by the delegates to the annual meeting. **WE ASK FOR YOUR VOTE TO APPROVE THE STREAMLINED BYLAWS.**

The Association's bylaws have historically included not just the essentials for our identity and governance but a host of operational detail. The bylaws served as an operations document and had become unnecessarily cumbersome and at the same time did not cover some important operational detail. The Association launched an initiative in July 2006 to review and streamline the bylaws and transfer operational detail into a portion of a comprehensive operations document. Such a document is also needed. The Operations Manual will be expanded to include policies and practices that are extracted from the bylaws as a part of the streamlining process.

The Bylaws have been reduced to 7 articles from 17 and the page count reduced to 8, exclusive of diary pages. The Operations Manual is an open-ended document which will contain the policies and practices and in addition an annual operations schedule, a full set of director and committee person function and responsibility descriptions and a set of policy decisions as they are developed.

Any content in the current bylaws that is missing from the proposed set has been transferred to the Operations Manual, with duplicate wording removed. Further, sections of proposed Bylaws and transferred sections have also been streamlined by simplification. For instance, rather than document separately the election and business processes for the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees, a single election process has been put in place to cover both with a reduction in verbiage. Similarly, conduct of meetings has been standardized.

The final drafts of the proposed Bylaws and the Policies and Practices section of the Operations Manual have been posted on the web since January 2008 ([www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)). The current bylaws are on the web as well for comparison. Thanks are due to all the reviewers who responded to the committee.

Bylaws Committee: John Watson, Fallbrook, CA - Chairman  
Robb Margrave, Novato, Ca - Trustee  
George Kish, CA - Orange Council President  
Bob Ellis, Truckee, CA - Vice President, Racing  
Ex officio Randy Lew, Wilsonville, OR - President  
Steve Coxen, Chairman, Portland, OR - Board of Trustees

Voting Delegates are welcome to contact John Watson at 760-723-6539.