

EYSA Bylaw Amendment – Presented by Mark South Ex-officio President

The **need** for an Ex-officio President has now been eliminated by having interlocking two year terms for President and Vice President. As such I would like to propose that an amendment be made to the bylaws, removing "The immediate past President of the association shall remain as an "Ex-officio" member of the board of directors for one (1) year, unless that past president holds a position with the EYSA or FYSA", from section **DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND CONDUCT sub-section A. PRESIDENT.**

Wikipedia says:

"An **ex officio member** is a member of a body (a board, committee, council, etc.) who is part of it by virtue of holding another office. The term is Latin, meaning literally "from the office", and the sense intended is "**by right** of office";... "A common misconception is that the participatory rights of ex officio members are limited by their status. This is incorrect, although their rights may be indeed limited by the by-laws of a particular body. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (10th ed.), clarifies that the term denotes only how one becomes a member of a group, not what one's rights are. It is a method of sitting on a committee, not a class of membership (466-67).^[1] frequently, ex officio members will abstain from voting, but unless by-laws constrain their rights, they are afforded the same rights as other members, including debate, making formal motions, and voting"

Removing this section protects EYSA from having a past President who is difficult to work with, having the undisputable right to be at board meetings. Unlike a board member, the "Ex-officio" president, is not an elected position and can not be removed. Though I would NOT cause trouble and will be helpful, you and I both know that may not always be the case. We need to protect EYSA from "that kind of person". Additionally I would like to attend board meetings because I want to and am seen as helpful or insightful, not because I am required to.

Mark South
Ex-officio president