

Rules Committee Report – 2025

Revision of Idaho State Governing Documents

In June 2024, the membership directed the Rules Committee to simplify the Idaho State Bylaws by removing operational details and focusing the Bylaws on governance and authority. What originally sounded “easy peasy” quickly became a much larger project. If we removed content from the Bylaws where would it go? What documents were needed? How do we define the content of each? How do we tailor the documents Idaho State Organization under the DKG umbrella?

With the use of an AI generated rubric, research, and review, the committee reorganized the governing structure into four documents:

1. **Bylaws** — governance and authority
2. **Standing Rules** — administration and organizational structure
3. **Policy Manual** — governance standards, ethics, and oversight
4. **Procedures Manual** — operational “how-to” guidance, deadlines, and forms

Moving from three documents to four reduces duplication and allows operational updates without frequent Bylaws revisions.

Throughout the process, the committee reviewed all governance elements in the current documents and reassigned them to the appropriate level of authority. **No** governance content was removed; material was retained, clarified, or reorganized.

Key Additions

1. Creation of a dedicated **Policy Manual** for ethics, governance standards, and financial oversight
2. Creation of a comprehensive **Procedures Manual** containing operational responsibilities, deadlines, forms, and processes
3. Clarification of several governance gaps, including:
 - a. International governing documents take precedence
 - b. Officer, personnel, and committee transitions
 - c. Convention loan procedures and financial oversight

Key Changes

1. Weighted voting was removed from the Bylaws
2. Committees were restructured into Governance, Administrative, and Program committees
3. Several committees were merged to reduce duplication and strengthen participation
4. Governance gaps were clarified, including authority, transitions, and financial oversight
5. Dissolution language was clarified regarding distribution of remaining assets for the State

The committee’s goal has been to improve clarity, consistency, continuity, and accountability while creating governing documents that better support the work of the Idaho State Organization moving forward.