Committee Report to the Delegates for Conference Year 2025-2026

05 August 2026

Committee: Conference By-Laws Committee
Committee Abbreviation: CBC

Committee Leadership
Vice Chair/Acting Chair: Celia G (Indonesia)

Charter or Purpose of the Committee
Responsible for maintaining and updating the current S.L.A.A. By-Laws in cooperation with the BOT. Acts in an advisory capacity regarding potential or requested By-Law changes, and facilitates changes per Article XIV.

2025-26 Conference Year Accomplishments

Reviewed ABM Agenda Item 26o05/25-21 (the BOT's requested Amendment to the By-Laws) and provided our feedback.

Reviewed **26o05/25-22 IFD** and recommends:

The CBC supports the autonomy of Groups to continue to be allowed to organise as Intergroups in whatever feasible manner they believe best serves the Primary Purpose (whether that is by geographic locality, meeting type, addict type, special interest or language), but we recommend to safeguard democracy of the Annual Business Meeting in the long term by amending the By-laws to specify that no single Intergroup register more that 20% of the members eligible to vote at any Annual Business Meeting.

Reviewed **26o07/25-24 Motion** seeking to eliminate our Committee's existing rights to request conflict resolution and concluded:

The CBC does not support the Motion. We do not support the dismantling of the existing Accountability structure for all Conference Committees set by the Conference in 2004. This Motion would result in poor governance. Members and Committees that have used the process in the CSM (as managed by the CCC on behalf of Conference) over the decades have been very satisfied with the process and outcomes. Conflict resolution is our legitimate means to implement the right of appeal under Tradition 2 and Concept 5.

Reviewed **Item 26o08/25-25 IFD** changing delegations to the CCC to manage the Conference Service Manual.

The CBC looks forward to sensible suggestions to improve our Service Manual while respecting the right of the Conference to delegate under Concepts 4 and 10 to the Conference Charter Committee responsibility for delivery of the Annual Business Meeting and to hold the other Conference Committees accountable as it sees fit without over complicating the workload for our volunteers.

Reviewed **Item 26n12/26-02 IFD** about the governance structure of our Committees and advises:

At the 2004 ABM the Conference appointed the CCC to hold the other Committees accountable and the Board to hold the CCC accountable with over ⅔ approval

The CCC like all Conference Committees manages its own processes internally by Group Conscience. There are no known issues warranting any change to the existing governance structure.

The suggestion that the CSTCC or any other Committee of unelected volunteers should have total autonomy without accountability - including the right to remove members and deny them the right of appeal - violates the SLAA Traditions and Concepts as well as the binding Conference Direction of 2004.

The Committee developed **Item 26n15/26-05 Motion** to put beyond doubt that all Conference Members can attend and vote at the Annual Business Meeting electronically in the same way the Trustees can participate in meetings of the Board electronically.

Reviewed the NEW **26n19/26-07 Motion** to change the By-Laws limiting elected Board Trustees to be non voting members of Intergroup, Conference Committees and Writing Groups and advises:

The CBC does not support this Motion.

The issue is already covered adequately by the Texan Corporations Law regarding our trustee directors duties to avoid conflict of interest and the Board Service Manual adopted by the Board respecting Tradition 4 and Concept 3.

Trustees have the same rights of participation as any other elected Conference Member and they observe processes to declare potential conflicts of interst and absent themselves from decision making carrying the risk of any real or perceived bias.

At the same time we must respect the Tradition 4 Autonomy of every Committee and Writing Group to include or exclude trustees in its own group conscience. They are best placed to choose their members. There is no compelling rationale for this kind of micro-management.

We note the importance of good service leaders as indispensable to our future functioning under Concept 9. Therefore this Motion is neither necessary nor in the best interests of SLAA.

Active and Ongoing Projects

CBC unanimously agreed to remove ABM Agenda Items 26o04/25-19 and 26o05/25-20 held over from 2025 regarding the many various synonyms for the Annual Business Conference/Meeting from the 2026 Agenda so that a better version can be submitted next year (2027)

CBC will develop an amendment to the By-Laws to specify that no single Intergroup register more that 20% of the members eligible to vote at any Annual Business Meeting for the 2027 ABM Agenda.

Proposed, Tabled, and Future Projects

In CY27 the CFC would like to conduct governance review of the By-Laws in collaboration with the CCC regarding the quality and accountability (boundaries and consequences) of the Conference Committees.

Challenges and constraints encountered in 2025-26

The Committee had to implement fairly strict measures to prevent disruption and member harassment by certain individuals. One person was removed by group conscience. Members of the Board provided the Committee with excellent support navigating those safety issues and we thank them for their service.

Our Chair accepted appointment to the Board mid term and the Vice Chair assumed the role of chair as per the Roberts Rules.

Other Relevant Information

The By-Laws Committee is always looking for new members! Please announce at your meetings and direct interested members of the Fellowship to the CBC link on the Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) website.