

At the March 23rd MNRC board meeting, the proposal was presented. Discussion followed and the board voted not to support the proposal.

Our Board does not believe that lowering the requirement for modifying our By-Laws, the primary governance document of our club, is in the best interests of the MNRC. Good governance is based upon standards that protect continuity, promote operating flexibility, and ensure the primary interests of the members are represented as intended.

- We believe that changes to the by-laws should require broad support from the membership. A 50%+1 standard does not represent broad support and could even encourage the development of factions within the membership.
- While some worthwhile proposals (depending on your view) may not get passed, those that do obviously have broad support and that level of support promotes more durable and sustainable governance rules. A 50%+1 standard is not durable and could be reversed easily by a small change in member club delegates.
- The supermajority requirement helps prevent unintended consequences and mitigates disruptions and distractions to ongoing operating activities and requirements. A 50%+1 standard could promote more frequent changes in procedures that could add significant complications to dealing with the changes currently faced by our sport.
- We believe the By-Laws should be as clear and concise as possible. A lower standard for making changes in the By-Laws increases the possibility of clutter, obfuscation, and even dysfunction.

The MNRC recognizes that there are elements of need to be addressed in light of the changes in our sport. The Board has been working very hard on these efforts over the last 3 or so years. Implementing a change in the By-Laws that may make it easier to “manage from the floor” could unintentionally complicate the future management of our event and limit our ability to adapt to those changes in an orderly fashion.

Jace Tramontin,
MNRC, 2016 President
3891 Hartman Rd
Iron, MN 55751
mnretriever@gmail.com