

## **BCHC ELECTIONS POLICY**

The purpose of this Backcountry Horseman Elections Policy is to be used as a guideline for handling nominations, voting, counting ballots, and announcing results of BCHC State elections.

1. In March of each year, the BCHC State President will form a Nominating Committee to be made up of BCHC Past Presidents who are current members of BCHC. The most recent Past President will serve as Chairperson on the Nominating Committee.
2. The Nominating Committee will be tasked with soliciting willing candidates from within BCHC Units or existing State Officers for the State Officer positions which are open for election as defined in the BCHC, Inc. State Bylaws. They must keep in mind that only 3 members may serve as officers from a single unit. All nominees must have a current membership on file with BCHC Vice President of Membership.
3. If there is a recommendation of a current officer who has already served the limit of two terms, the Nominating Committee will request that an email vote by the State Board of Directors be conducted by the BCHC State Secretary as to whether to allow the person to serve another term of office. If the State Board of Directors votes to allow the person to be nominated for another term they will be considered as a nominee. If the State Board of Directors votes that they do not want to allow the person to serve an additional term, the Nominating Committee must seek another nominee.
4. By August of each year the Nominating Committee will present the recommended slate of officers to the BCHC Executive Committee for recommendation to BCHC Board of Directors. The Executive Committee will present the slate of officers to the State Board of Directors in the Agenda for the Fall State Board Meeting.
5. The BCHC State Secretary will prepare paper ballots which will include the names presented by the Nominating Committee as well as a blank space for nominations received from the floor during the meeting. Each State Director will be given a ballot on which to record his or her vote.
6. If more than one candidate is nominated for any BCHC office, they may, if they desire, be given time before the vote to speak about why they would like to hold the office for which they are nominated. A time limit will be set of 4 minutes per speaker.

7. In the event there are no nominations from the floor, a motion may be made and seconded to accept the recommended slate of officers as presented. In this event no paper ballots will be needed and a simple vote to accept the motion will be held.
8. If paper ballots are used, a separate Ballot Counting Committee of three active, impartial BCHC members will be selected by the State President and/or Nominating Committee Chairman. The three will distribute, collect, and count the ballots, then report the results to the State President who will announce the detailed results to the State Board of Directors.
9. In the event any ballot(s) are disqualified by the Ballot Counting Committee, the State Board of Directors will be informed of the reason(s) ballots were disqualified and whether said ballot(s) could affect the results of the election. The State Board of Directors will decide whether to let the election stand as reported or call for a re-vote for those positions involved in the disqualified ballots(s).
10. Following the Fall BCHC State Meeting, the BCHC State President will send a memo to all members announcing the results of the election and welcoming the new officers. This may be done by email, mass electronic email or USPS mail.