



Winchester Chapter of the Izaak Walton League
2863 Millwood Pike
Winchester, VA. 22602
BOARD RESOLUTION

Subject:	Suspension of Paul Strawderman			
Dated:	3/6/2018	# Aye: 6	# Nay: 1	Approved (Y/N): Y
Resolution:	<p>Whereas: Mr. Paul Strawderman has distributed false and misleading accusations against Mr. Barltrop of violating the 2016 Chapter Bylaws, both by e-mail and by reading them out publicly at the 2/15/2018 Membership Meeting.</p> <p>Whereas: Mr. Strawderman's reading of these accusations followed approval of Amendments #1 and #2 to the WIWL Chapter Bylaws, so the Bylaws as Amended were in effect at the time of his reading his accusations to the membership.</p> <p>Whereas: Article II Section 8 of the 2018 WIWL Bylaws include (Italics added):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Any Member, who by his or her conduct, violates the ethics or any of the Membership Standards and Code of Conduct, or the Rules and Regulations of the Chapter or National Organization, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Behavior on the ranges that violates posted Chapter or NRA rules and regulations or is otherwise dangerous to other members, b) Shooting or permitting others to shoot on ranges that have been declared closed by the Board or Range Committee; c) <i>Derogatory or factually incorrect information about the Chapter or any of its members disseminated either by electronic, written or verbal means;</i> d) <i>Disruptive and/or abusive behavior;</i> e) <i>Verbal or physical actions or neglect that might bring emotional, psychological or physical harm, or humiliate any individual; or</i> f) <i>Pursuing or threatening to pursue a factually or legally baseless civil action against the Chapter or any Chapter member that concerns any Chapter activity;</i> g) <i>Filing with any federal, state, or local law enforcement or regulatory enforcement agency or body a factually or legally baseless complaint that concerns any Chapter activity; and/or</i> h) Nonpayment of dues by the due date; <p style="padding-left: 40px;">may be expelled from Membership or disciplined by a two-thirds vote of the full Board of Directors at any Board meeting, or a vote of 2/3 of the</p>			

	<p>membership present at a special disciplinary meeting of the membership, provided the subject Member has been given at least ten (10) days' notice through written correspondence sent to the subject Member's recorded home address (by certified mail return receipt) and/or e-mail of the proposed action and is given an opportunity to be heard before the Board. All charges must be supported by a signed written statement.</p> <p>Whereas: Mr. Strawderman sent the Request for Action shown on Page 4 hereof to members of the WIWL Board, constituting written statement, and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Strawderman read out the contents of his Request for Action to the members at the February 15 membership meeting after the Bylaws as Amended were in force in violation of paragraph c). 2. Mr. Strawderman's antagonistic behavior during the meeting was arguably a violation of paragraph d). 3. Mr. Strawderman, by publicly reading out false and/or misleading charges of misconduct by Mr. Barltrop, sought to humiliate him in front of the membership in violation of paragraph e). 4. Mr. Strawderman's last paragraph refers to his existing law suit and threatens additional charges in violation of paragraph f). 5. Mr. Strawderman's filing of the complaint against Mr. Barltrop with the USPS would represent a violation of paragraph g), had the current bylaws been in force at the time.
	<p>Now Therefore: Mr. Strawderman is found to have violated Bylaws Article II Section 8 Paragraphs c, e and f based on the documentation he has provided to the Board and read out to the Membership by Mr. Strawderman.</p> <p>Now Therefore: The content of this resolution constitutes a statement of the pertinent charges.</p> <p>Now Therefore: Mr. Strawderman's membership in the WIWL is hereby suspended until December 31, 2020.</p>

Vote

Member	M/S	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	E-Mail	Phone
Dan Arico		X					
Howard Beny	M	X					
Duane Kramer					X		
James Sherry		X					
Al Stitt		X					
Paul Strawderman			X				
Jack Weeks	S	X					
Harold Whitacre		X					

Material Discussion

Mr. Strawderman submitted his accusations against Mr. Barltrop to the Board by E-mail, and read from the text during the Membership meeting, thus providing all necessary documentation, so no disciplinary committee investigation is needed to verify his actions. Those accusations and Mr. Barltrop's responses to each are shown in the attached matrix.

The Board has an obligation to ensure that all members of the WIWL may enjoy the facilities and activities of the Chapter without harassment or abuse by other members and to ensure a reasonable level of civility and courtesy.

Mr. Strawderman was given 10 minutes to respond, but instead called the question, which was approved unanimously, resulting in an immediate vote by the Board to approve the suspension. Mr. Strawderman was the read the formal notification of suspension and given a signed copy (attached). He was then notified that he was trespassing and asked to leave. A Deputy Sheriff then ensured that he left the Park.



**Winchester Chapter of the Izaak Walton League
2863 Millwood Pike
Winchester, VA. 22602**

Request For Action

Subject:	Request for disciplinary action for Chris Baltrop			
Dated:	2/15/2018	# Yea:	# Nay:	Approved (Y/N):
Resolution:	Disciplinary actions be taken against Chris Baltrop for several violations of; Chapter Bylaws, National Bylaws, Code of Virginia, US Postal Code.			

Vote

Member	M/S	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent	E-Mail	Phone
Paul Strawderman	M						

Material Discussion

Whereas Chris Baltrop violated Chapter Bylaws Article II Section 5g and h. Under this section, the following actions occurred:

That Mr Baltrop installed a video surveillance system that was person property after being instructed by he VP not to install.

That Mr Baltrop overturned a motion by the Board and refused to issue monies for stocking trout in Neff Lake in 2016.

That Mr Baltrop changed the lock on the shotgun shed without authorization in 2017.

That Mr Baltrop violated United States Postal regulations DMM concerning non profit mailings in 2017.

That Mr Baltrop violated code of va for installing an audio recording device in the chapter meeting hall 2017.

That Mr Baltrop without Executive authority released via constant contact a letter essentially shutting down Chapter operations and placing the Presidents name on this letter without his authorization. This letter also violated National Bylaws by refusing to accept and process Memberships and renewals.

That Mr Baltrop under false authority, engaged Botkinrose LLC representation without Board approval and that monies over \$10,000 were unlawfully paid to Botkinsrose LLC without dual signatures and without Board non budgetary pre approval.

That Mr. Baltrop processed funds of Membership after he was no longer Treasure and bonded.

That Mr Baltrop issued checks exceeding \$1000.00 without advance approval and the required dual signatures since elected Treasure.

That Mr Baltrop sent an email to State, National and select members suggesting to “give” the chapter away.

In light of my recent formal request and case #17-00232, as more information is provided, other charges may be forthcoming.

Paul Strawderman, BOD 2017-2018

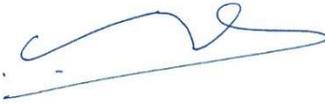
Text of written resolution sent by Mr. Strawderman to the Board and read at the February Membership Meeting is shown in the left column, Mr. Barltrop's response in the right column below:

<p>Whereas Chris Baltrop violated Chapter Bylaws Article II Section 5g and h. Under this section, the following actions occurred:</p>	<p>Response by Mr. Barltrop:</p>
<p>That Mr Baltrop installed a video surveillance system that was person property after being instructed by he VP not to install.</p>	<p>The video security system was donated, with transfer to Chapter control intended after substantial successful installation. The installation was progressive, as time permitted, in full view of the Board. Mr. Strawderman only objected once two of the cameras and the base station had been installed and were operating, and only then because he was denied access to the system to personally troll through the video in violation of member privacy. He then sought to physically remove the system, but was warned by the Sheriff's Deputy he had called to witness the removal that to do so would represent theft. Thereupon Mr. Strawderman disabled the security system by unplugging it and locking the plug in a pistol safe.</p> <p>The WIWL Chapter House is not locked, and the installation of the security system was in response to events, including vandalism of the white board and apparent overnight use of the facility by outsiders.</p> <p>Members, and particularly Board members, routinely donate goods and services to the chapter to benefit its operation. Mr. Barltrop donated both the system and the labor to install it.</p>
<p>That Mr Baltrop overturned a motion by the Board and refused to issue monies for stocking trout in Neff Lake in 2016.</p>	<p>The WIWL had an established a process for documenting Board resolutions to ensure clarity on objective and approved actions, using a standard format enabling key decisions to be developed in advance of Board meetings to ensure time for careful consideration. Mr. Strawderman ignored this process during the Board Meeting that he chaired as VP in the President's absence and accepted a floor resolution to stock fish. The lake had been stocked shortly before, so this represented an unnecessary duplication. The following day I requested Mr. Strawderman to initiate reconsideration of this duplicate stocking. This effort to reconsider was in compliance with my fiduciary responsibility as Treasurer to question waste of Membership dues, which this duplicated stocking seemed to represent. Mr. Strawderman refused to allow reconsideration, so I requested the supplier to hold off until we could discuss further internally. Based on insistence from Mr. Strawderman citing his authority as VP, I then confirmed to the supplier that stocking could occur, and it was made as originally scheduled.</p> <p>I would point out that I have not seen either the minutes of that Board meeting nor the resolution on stocking.</p>
<p>That Mr Baltrop changed the lock on the shotgun shed</p>	<p>Mr. Mitchell had been running the shogun range, and had demonstrated a willful disregard for the cash handling practices that</p>

<p>without authorization in 2017.</p>	<p>had been implemented to ensure sound accounting records. This included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depositing shotgun receipts in his own personal checking account and then issuing a personal check to the Chapter. This constituted a co-mingling of Chapter and personal funds in clear violation of sound financial management practices. 2. Failing to pass shotgun receipts on to the Treasurer in a timely manner, allowing excessive funds to build up in the Shotgun shed cash box. 3. Bypassing the Chapter accounting process by depositing shotgun receipts directly into the Chapter's BB&T checking account, intentionally undermining the integrity of our financial records. <p>Despite repeated requests of conform to sound cash management practices, Mr. Mitchell refused to cooperate. As a result, his continued access to shotgun receipts and thus the shed where these were stored represented an unacceptable risk. Since his cooperation could not be counted on, that left us with no option but to change the lock on the shed and to issue new keys to the member who took over management of the shotgun range.</p>
<p>That Mr Baltrop violated United States Postal regulations DMM concerning non profit mailings in 2017.</p>	<p>The USPS ruled otherwise.</p> <p>Mr. Strawderman filed a complaint with the Winchester Post Office that the get out the vote cards mailed to members violated our non-profit mailing permit. However:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The mailings used the same member mailing list as was used with the Newsletter. 2. The mailings concerned the upcoming elections to the Board, so were clearly Chapter business. 3. All mailings using our non-profit permit are ultimately paid by members. <p>Based on Mr. Strawderman's complaint, the USPS had originally charged full postage on the card mailings. But after receiving the explanation above, they refunded the difference between the full and non-profit rate.</p> <p>If Mr. Strawderman's complaint had resulted in withdrawal of our permit, the incremental mailing cost to the Chapter would have been over \$2,000 per year, so violated his Board member duty to act in the best interests of the Chapter.</p>
<p>That Mr Baltrop violated code of va for installing an audio recording device in the chapter meeting hall 2017.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recording meetings had been routine practice – Mr. Mitchell had routinely recorded meetings using his PC, and used those recordings to contest discussions. 2. The gate service company had placed a warning on the Park entrance gate of video and audio recording when they install the netting to bring the gate into compliance with current UL standards. That sign was intended as a deterrent to aberrant behavior until ripped down in February, 2018. 3. The audio was never activated.

<p>That Mr Baltrop without Executive authority released via constant contact a letter essentially shutting down Chapter operations and placing the Presidents name on this letter without his authorization. This letter also violated National Bylaws by refusing to accept and process Memberships and renewals.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Constant Contact message related only to operations that required the handling of funding, since at the time we no longer had a Treasurer empowered to engage in financial management. A store that does not have a checkout clerk cannot sell things. 2. The message was discussed with and approved by the President prior to sending. 3. Operations resumed as soon as the Board appointed a new Treasurer authorized to handle payments.
<p>That Mr Baltrop under false authority, engaged Botkinrose LLC representation without Board approval and that monies over \$10,000 were unlawfully paid to Botkinsrose LLC without dual signatures and without Board non budgetary pre approval.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kevin Rose of BotkinRose LLC was engaged as the Chapter's registered agent at the June 2016 Board meeting following the election. 2. The legal action that resulted in the over \$10,000 cost was initiated by Mr. Mitchell and to a lesser extent by Mr. Strawderman, not by Mr. Barltrop. 3. Virginial law (I am told) requires that corporations are legally required to be represented by legal counsel in court, so the Chapter had no choice but to incur the costs of that representation, and was legally obliged to pay the resulting invoices. 4. Neither Mr. Mitchell nor Mr. Strawderman sought Board approval before forcing the Chapter to incur these legal costs, so are the violators of this requirement.
<p>That Mr. Baltrop processed funds of Membership after he was no longer Treasure and bonded.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Barltrop did not process either deposits or payments after ceasing to be Treasurer as of the close of December 31,2017. 2. Mr. Barltrop had ensured that all membership renewals received by 12/31/2017 were processed prior to year-end. No further deposits were made until January 13. Membership renewals received in early January were held pending Mr. Weeks' appointment as Treasurer. 3. Once Mr. Weeks was appointed as Treasurer, Mr. Barltrop assisted with training on the process that had been developed, but Mr. Weeks made the deposits of membership funds at the BB&T.
<p>That Mr Baltrop issued checks exceeding \$1000.00 without advance approval and the required dual signatures since elected Treasure.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Board Resolution dated 6/16/2016 that specifically dealt with the dual signature issue reads as follows (bolding added): Whereas: Banks ceased to verify signatures on checks four decades ago, so dual signatures provide no incremental protection, Whereas: All check payments will be made using QuickBooks, where the accounting entry has to precede the check printing, Whereas: The protection against misappropriation of funds lies with the duplicates of the accounting records that will be

	<p>maintained by the Finance Committee Chair and the Membership Director, providing immediate and ongoing visibility into the account details, and</p> <p>Whereas: Publishing monthly balance sheet and profit & loss statements will ensure visibility to the membership,</p> <p>Now Therefore: It is resolved that the Treasurer and President of the WIWL will have sole signature signing authority over the WIWL accounts, and that Board approval of individual expenditures will only be required for expenses over \$1,000 each or expenses that exceed the Board approved budget.</p> <p>It is further resolved that monthly financial statements will be published on the private section of the WIWL web site (when available) and on the bulletin board in the Field House.</p> <p>This resolution was moved by none other than Mr. Strawderman, who also voted Aye.</p> <p>2. The only checks issued for over \$1,000 without specific Board approval represented legal obligations to pay for lawyer expenses incurred at the instigation of Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Strawderman. Since non-payment was not an option, Board approval was irrelevant. Instead, the Board and membership were kept advised of these expenses as they mounted through the financial reporting process, ensuring full visibility.</p>
<p>That Mr Baltrop sent an email to State, National and select members suggesting to “give”the chapter away.</p>	<p>1. Prudent management requires the existence of contingency planning. Failure to do so would represent dereliction of duty.</p> <p>2. Given that Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Strawderman seemed to be intent on rendering the management of the Chapter incapable of operating for the benefit of the membership, it was reasonable to look at options for preserving the integrity of the Park as a public good.</p> <p>3. The two obvious alternatives were to either turn the Chapter over to Division or National, as required by the 2016 Bylaws, or failing that, donate the Park to the Frederick County Parks Authority so that it could continue to be maintained for the public good.</p>
<p>In light of my recent formal request and case #17-00232, as more information is provided, other charges may be forthcoming.</p>	<p>Article II Section 8 of the 2018 WIWL Bylaws include (Italics added):</p> <p>Any Member, who by his or her conduct, violates the ethics or any of the Membership Standards and Code of Conduct, or the Rules and Regulations of the Chapter or National Organization, including but not limited to:</p> <p>a) Behavior on the ranges that violates posted Chapter or NRA rules and regulations or is otherwise dangerous to other members,</p> <p>b) Shooting or permitting others to shoot on ranges that have been declared closed by the Board or Range Committee;</p> <p>c) <i>Derogatory or factually incorrect information about the</i></p>

	<p><i>Chapter or any of its members disseminated either by electronic, written or verbal means;</i></p> <p>d) <i>Disruptive and/or abusive behavior;</i></p> <p>e) <i>Verbal or physical actions or neglect that might bring emotional, psychological or physical harm, or humiliate any individual; or</i></p> <p>f) <i>Pursuing or threatening to pursue a factually or legally baseless civil action against the Chapter or any Chapter member that concerns any Chapter activity;</i></p> <p>g) <i>Filing with any federal, state, or local law enforcement or regulatory enforcement agency or body a factually or legally baseless complaint that concerns any Chapter activity; and/or</i></p> <p>h) <i>Nonpayment of dues by the due date;</i></p> <p>may be expelled from Membership or disciplined by a two-thirds vote of the full Board of Directors at any Board meeting, or a vote of 2/3 of the membership present at a special disciplinary meeting of the membership, provided the subject Member has been given at least ten (10) days' notice through written correspondence sent to the subject Member's recorded home address (by certified mail return receipt) and/or e-mail of the proposed action and is given an opportunity to be heard before the Board. All charges must be supported by a signed written statement.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The complaints against Mr. Barltrop read out to the members at the February 15 membership meeting, as shown in the left column, violate paragraph c). 2. Mr. Strawderman's antagonistic behavior during the meeting was arguably a violation of paragraph d). 3. Mr. Strawderman, by publicly reading out false and/or misleading charges of misconduct by Mr. Barltrop, sought to humiliate him in front of the membership in violation of paragraph e). 4. Mr. Strawderman's last paragraph refers to his existing law suit and threatens additional charges in violation of paragraph f). 5. Mr. Strawderman's filing of the complaint against Mr. Barltrop with the USPS would represent a violation of paragraph g), had the current bylaws been in force at the time. 6. Mr. Strawderman has provided his written statement from his e-mail account, providing the required support.
	<p>I, Chris Barltrop, certify that the above is my response to Mr. Strawderman's accusations during the February 15, 2018 WIWL Membership Meeting.</p> 



Winchester Chapter of the
Izaak Walton League
P.O. Box 2955
Winchester, VA 22604

March 6, 2018

Paul Strawderman
106 Hites Str.
Winchester, VA 22602

Subject: Notice of Suspension of Membership

Dear Mr. Strawderman,

In compliance with Article II Section 8 of the WIWL Bylaws, as amended effective February 15, 2018, you are hereby advised that the Board approved the suspension of your membership in the Winchester Chapter of the Izaak Walton League until December 31, 2020, at its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on February 6, 2018.

You are no longer "in good standing" – your rights and privileges of membership, including to enter the Chapter grounds, vote on Chapter business, hold office or otherwise engage in any Chapter activity are suspended effective immediately. You will be subject to arrest for trespassing if found on the Chapter grounds.

You may maintain your membership in the Chapter and the National organization during the period of suspension by paying the annual membership dues. Failure to pay Chapter and/or National dues will result in expiration of your Chapter and/or National membership. Should you allow your membership to expire, you may be eligible to apply for a new membership once the suspension period ends, subject to all membership requirements then in effect and approval by the Board of Directors.

The period of suspension may be extended beyond December 31, 2020 at the discretion of the Board if any further violation of the provisions of the WIWL Bylaws Article II, Section 8 occurs.

You have the right to appeal to the State Division governing board according to the bylaws of the Virginia Division. The decision of the Virginia Division shall be final.

Sincerely,

Original signed 3/6/2018

Daniel Arico
President