

The following Council Bylaws amendment was approved at the Mid-Year Assembly General Membership Meeting in May 2008 (change indicated in underlined, bolded red).

## **Bylaws Change #4**

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **SECTION 1**

The Officers of this Council shall consist of the following: President; three (3) Area Executive Vice Presidents of equal rank representing the Northern, Central and Southern Areas of the State as delineated by the Board of Trustees; Secretary; Membership Secretary; Treasurer; Assistant Treasurer; and Chaplain. All Officers of the Council (except Council District Vice Presidents) shall be elected at the Annual General Membership meeting in the following manner. The entire membership present and eligible to vote shall elect the following Officers: President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Chaplain. The membership present and eligible to vote shall elect the Area Executive Vice Presidents for the Area they represent. **“Candidates for any Council office shall be a member of a Council Squad and remain a member of a Council Squad during their tenure in office.”**

All elected officers shall assume the duties of their respective office at the first Council Board of Trustees meeting of the calendar year following their election and shall hold office until a successor is elected and installed.

The time between election and the installation shall be a transition period for all officers of the Council using guidelines established in the procedure manual.

In the event the President is unable to serve any part of his term, the Area Executive Vice President with the longest tenure as such shall fill in for the President until the next scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. At that meeting, as the first order of business, the Board of Trustees will vote on ratifying this person as President. Failure to ratify this choice will result in a special election by the Board of Trustees to replace the President.

Council District Vice Presidents are additional officers of the Council. Each District shall elect its own respective District Vice President.

The Past Presidents as a group shall be Delegates at Large to the Board of Trustees and shall have one vote collectively. They shall, as a group, function as a single Delegate at Large to all General Membership meetings and shall exercise, as a group, one vote. The Past Presidents can cast that vote in the election of each Area Executive Vice President.

Motion presented by Lincoln Park EMS and approved by the Seventeenth District of the New Jersey State First Aid Council affecting Article IV, Section 1.

Comments: Currently the Bylaws are silent regarding eligibility requirements for state officers. *Roberts Rules* states: “In most societies, it is usual to elect the officers from among the members; but in all except secret societies, unless the bylaws or an established practice provide otherwise, it is possible for an organization to choose its officers from outside the membership.” The purpose of this proposal is to codify into the Bylaws the Council’s past practice of electing state officers from member Squads. This proposed change will affect the eligibility for all Council offices including District Vice President as detailed in Article IV.