

# PTKC Comments and Recommendations to Proposed PTWW Bylaws 16.2

*Dated 7-23-2025*

## Summary

- I. It is disappointing that the Bylaws Committee did not provide a clear summary or redlined version of the proposed changes. Instead, Chapters were left to **carefully comb through** three separate documents — the current 2020 Bylaws, and Versions 14.2 and 16.2 of the proposed revisions — just to identify what had changed. This placed an unnecessary burden on Chapter leaders and made the review process far more difficult than it needed to be. PTKC is deeply committed to the future of PrimeTimers, we spent over 300 man-hours reviewing both Versions 14.2 and 16.2 of the proposed Bylaws. No chapter should be forced to invest this level of time and effort just to make sense of critical changes.
- II. For Chapters to make informed decisions on the proposed Bylaws, the PTWW Board must provide clear justifications for the major changes in **Versions 14.2 and 16.2**, which significantly revise the 2020 Bylaws. Without explanations, it's difficult to give meaningful feedback or assess the impact. Transparency is critical, Chapters should not vote blindly on structural changes that may fundamentally alter the future of our organization. **We request that a summary outlining the purpose and advantages of the proposed Bylaws changes be provided to all Chapter Presidents before the listening session this upcoming Saturday, including what specific issues in the current Bylaws these changes are intended to fix, and how the revisions will benefit both the organization and its autonomous Chapters. The Total and final rational should be included with the final version when it is published to the Chapters for a vote.**
- III. We understand that previous versions of the Bylaws underwent professional review and correction by both a nonprofit attorney and a registered Parliamentarian. **Has Version 16.2 of the Bylaws undergone the same level of professional assessment?** If not, we respectfully ask for an explanation, as we believe such expert review is essential to ensure legal soundness and procedural integrity. **Additionally, we request that all Chapter Presidents be provided with the written recommendations and comments from both professionals since these assessments were funded by the Society.**
- IV. We have intentionally included all 43 clauses referencing “Policies and Procedures” in this document to fully expose the scale and severity of their overuse. The sheer volume of these insertions is not only excessive but signals a deliberate shift toward centralized control, in a way that dilutes the authority of the Bylaws and threatens the autonomy of chapters. **This level of repetition is not accidental;** it reflects a

systemic attempt to rewrite governance through unchecked procedural expansion. **However, to properly evaluate its implications, we respectfully request that a complete copy of the most current P&P manual be made available to all Chapters Presidents promptly.**

- V. **We categorically and unequivocally reject the newly inserted Article 4.01.O** stating, *“In the event of a conflict between these PTWW Bylaws and Local Chapter Bylaws, those Bylaws of PTWW shall apply.”* This provision is not only legally questionable but also reveals the clear intent of PTWW President Charles Koehler and the current Board to strip local chapters of their autonomy. PTWW has always operated as a federation of independent, self-governing chapters—each with its own bylaws, legal obligations, and governance structures. By asserting unilateral supremacy of PTWW’s bylaws over those of legally incorporated chapters, this clause disregards the foundational principles upon which our Society was built. It opens the door to centralized control, overrides member-approved local governance, and threatens the unique character and legal standing of each chapter. **We demand a clear and immediate explanation from the PTWW Board as to the purpose and legal justification of this clause. Furthermore, we call for its full removal, as it represents a fundamental breach of trust and a blatant power grab that is wholly inconsistent with PTWW’s mission and history.**
- VI. **As a matter of basic courtesy and respect for the time we’ve invested, we request that the Board provide a written response to each item outlined in our attached recommendations. Given the significant effort we’ve dedicated to this review, we believe a thorough and thoughtful reply to our concerns is both warranted and appropriate.**

*In our comments recommendations bellow, “Added” marks new content in Version 16.2 not found in 14.2. “Same” means the section is unchanged, while “Same/Changed” indicates existing language that has been altered. This labeling clarifies what’s new, modified, or retained.*