

## **Dues Alert!**

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Undoubtedly you know by now that the delegates to the National Federation Convention in September raised the per capital dues by \$2, from \$8. That means that the dues to NFRW for each member are now \$10 per year.

Most of you have revised your club bylaws to remove the actual amount of NFRW dues and simply state that you will pay NFRW per capita dues. If so, you will not have to make a bylaws change.

If you have the actual figure in your bylaws, i.e., \$8, you will need to make a bylaws change. Remember that if you make a change to your bylaws, you must follow your bylaws to make that change. Then you must submit them to the TFRW Vice President/Bylaws before that change can become effective. *See TFRW Bylaws, Article IV, Section 9, Number 2.*

If you have the actual figure in your Standing Rules, you will need to make that change at your next general meeting. Standing Rules only take a simple majority to change. You should have someone ready to make the motion to change whichever rule applies, from \$8 to \$10, and have the membership vote on it.

***NOTE:*** Whichever situation you are in, **your club has some decisions to make:**

- You need to decide whether your club will raise its dues by that \$2 or absorb the loss.
- You should discuss it at your Board Meeting and decide what the Board will recommend to your membership at the next general meeting and the reasons for that recommendation. Many of you raised your dues in 2008 because of the \$3 raise NFRW made in 2007, which might make you reluctant to raise them again.
- You should take into consideration:
  - How high your dues are
  - The ability of your members to pay them
  - Whether your club can operate on the reduced income if you do not raise your dues
  - Whether you will lose members or fail to attract new members if you raise them

Whichever decision your Board chooses, you must submit it to the membership. They should have the final say in whether you raise the dues or absorb the loss.

**You need to make your decision before November 1**, because after that date, you will start accepting renewal memberships for 2010, which will include that extra \$2, whether or not you raise your dues. Starting on that date, you will be sending \$15 to TFRW for each member—\$10 for NFRW and \$5 for TFRW.

*See you in Galveston for a “Wave of Inspiration !”*

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