



### **Affiliate Member Bylaw Assistance**

The board of directors of Cal South is committed to helping its Affiliate Members revise their bylaws both to make them compliant with the law and to ensure that they are bylaws that are responsive to the way the specific member's governance operates.

Cal South is providing a very good sample form of bylaws that can be readily adapted to the specific needs of each member. A questionnaire is included that includes basic questions to help customize the sample to the Affiliate Member's specifications. IT IS CRITICAL THAT THE SAMPLE BYLAWS not be adopted as is, as they are not adequate AS IS for any given league/club.

The sample is substantially dissimilar to Cal South's bylaws and those of many Affiliate Members. Cal South's bylaws are unique and complex, owing to the nature of that organization. The bylaws we have reviewed of many members appear to have been borrowed from either other organizations or cobbled from various bylaws found on the Internet. Most have unlawful provisions and otherwise are inappropriate to the organizations they are intended to serve.

Cal South recommends that all Affiliate Members review and, as appropriate restate their bylaws to be substantially like the sample. This means adopting wholly new bylaws derived from the sample. Some members do have good bylaws (which can be determined by carefully comparing your current bylaws to the sample). Even they may require some updating, but probably don't need to be restated from scratch.

Regardless whether a member feels its current bylaws can be improved by simple amendments or if they must be restated, some members will be comfortable revising the sample on their own. Others may want assistance. At the request of Cal South's board, we have put together two fixed fee packages to assist those Affiliate Members that would like their revised bylaws to be drafted by a lawyer that specializes in the legal needs of nonprofits such as your league and/or club.