

Cycling Clubs make us a Coalition

A response to the Bylaws Amendment Proposal

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Current Board Structure

Two ways to be on the Coalition board:

- Nominated by the Governance Committee and elected by membership
- or*
- Represent a cycling club or Bike Walk Alliance (“ex officio”)

Why are clubs special?

Clubs are cycling's Grass Roots

The Mission of the Coalition is to Represent Cyclists

The San Diego County Bicycle Coalition advocates for, and protects the rights of, all people who ride bicycles. We promote bicycling as a mainstream, safe, and enjoyable form of transportation and recreation.

Clubs are perfect for representing cyclists

- Volunteer driven groups that precisely align with the mission
- A wide variety of clubs:
 - Blind stokers, Cyclo-Vets, Major Taylor, Epicurus, Paydak
 - Regional clubs from all over the county

Clubs are uniquely valuable to the Coalition

- The Coalition started as an organization of organizations
- We're a little different than just a group of individuals
- We blend both individual members and cycling organizations

Clubs Give the Coalition Clout

- Club members have a direct representative at the Coalition
- Club members feel part of the Coalition
- The Coalition can legitimately claim to directly represent thousands of club members
- This lends weight and credibility to Coalition advocacy

The Proposal Removes Representation

Club Representation will be Reduced

- Eventually 15 Board seats: 13 elected, 2 ex-officio (1 club rep)
- Individual clubs will not have a guaranteed representative
- The Coalition board will not hear the voices of the variety of clubs
- Clubs will feel less invested in the Coalition

A Coalition No More

- “Coalition” will still be in the name, but eventually it will be seen as not being representative of *all bicycle riders*.
- Clubs are organizations too, and some will do their own advocacy.
- The Coalition will be seen as not representing a synthesis of cyclists’ views, but as a particular mission driven advocacy group.
- The unique clout of being a true Coalition will be lost.

The Current Bylaws are Good

The Result of a Long Process

- They represent a compromise between “at large” board members and club representatives
- They allowed a much needed expansion to improve diversity
- They give everyone a seat at the table

Keep it a True Coalition

Vote No