



## The International Association for Bear Research and Management

---

May 31, 2019

Dear IBA Member,

May has been a month of data clean-up for better membership management, improving the membership system appearance and functionality, and preparing for implementing data policies so IBA is in compliance with the [European Union General Data Protection Regulation](#) (EU GDPR). Many of you have received emails regarding your account and as we move forward with the legal compliance with the EU GDPR, we will be asking all members to actively manage their IBA account. In the coming months we will keep you informed about any changes with requirements for consent and if you have any questions about your IBA account and how it will be affected with the EU GDPR compliance, please do not hesitate to contact our [Director of Transition](#) with your questions.

We have also been working on other processes within IBA which we have highlighted in this month's update.

**URSUS:** The last printed copy of URSUS, Volume 29 (2) 2018 will mail out between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week of June. As you will recall, Council voted that beginning in 2019, URSUS will be produced electronically and we will no longer mail paper copies. Beginning with Volume 30 (1) 2019, members with a current eligible membership will have access to an online issue. We are working on the technical logistics and will keep you informed of the process and instructions for access, so you won't miss your first electronic issue.

**Executive Director Search Process:** We are now moving along with the process of finalizing a position announcement, forming a search committee, and advertising for the IBA Executive Director position. Once the position announcement is finalized, we will post it on our website and advertise in other media outlets. We have reached out to volunteers to serve on the search committee with plans to finalize the committee members by June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**New IBA Logo:** The logo team has completed the process of finalizing a new IBA logo. Watch for a special email announcement with the new logo design that will officially be in use beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

**IBA Committees:** We are continuing our work with [Committee Chairs](#) to restructure committees and with the purpose of setting goals for each committee and its members. It is common with volunteer committees to fall dormant as a result of the workload for the volunteers' regular job and trying to take on extra tasks for IBA. With the transition, the IBA President and Director of Transition are helping Committee Chairs make changes to help avoid this from happening. Some of these changes include fixed-term appointments rather than indefinite and a more dynamic relationship for the Committee Chair and IBA Council. These changes will be reflected on the website with committees developing content for their own page on the IBA website. The Committee Chair will work with the Director of Transition to ensure the

pages are within the guidelines of the IBA site as a whole but also to have the freedom for content specific to a committee's mission.

**Elections:** at the end of 2019, IBA will hold elections for the following Council positions: President, Vice President (Americas), Treasurer, and 2 Councilors. The Nominations Committee is finalized and will begin the process of recruiting candidates. Some of the eligibility requirement for voting were changed a few years back in the 2016 Bylaw amendment requiring that memberships are current 3 months prior to opening of the ballot. In the coming weeks, we will send emails with information about the voting and member nomination period that will open toward the end of summer, so please watch your inbox for emails from IBA. If you are curious about the election process, please review the [IBA Bylaws](#) for detailed information.

IBA Council appreciates and welcomes input from members. Membership input is what makes IBA the successful organization we are. So please do not hesitate to contact any of your [Council members](#) with suggestions or questions about IBA operations or the transition process.

Sincerely,

Andreas Zedrosser, President

Jennapher Teunissen van Manen, Director of Transition

Alexander Kopatz, Secretary and Communications Team Co-Chair

Agnieszka Sergiel, Councilor and Communications Team Co-Chair

---

### Council Motions Voted and Passed Since March 2019 Update to Members

- There is currently one motion in the process of a vote. Results of the motion vote will be included in the June monthly email update.

---

[Visit the IBA website](#) for more information on your elected council members and how to contact them if you have questions or suggestions.

---

You currently have a <<Membership Description>> membership with IBA which is current until: <<Membership Due Date>>. If you have any questions about your IBA membership, [contact Jennapher Teunissen van Manen](#). You can [renew your membership online here](#).