

NATIONAL BEVERAGE CORP

Form PRE 14C

May 25, 2007

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
SCHEDULE 14C**

Information Statement Pursuant to Section 14(c) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Information Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14c-5(d)(2))**
- Definitive Information Statement

**NATIONAL BEVERAGE CORP.**

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14c-5(g) and 0-11.
  - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
  - (1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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**NATIONAL BEVERAGE CORP.**

One North University Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33324

**NOTICE OF ACTION TAKEN PURSUANT  
TO THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF STOCKHOLDERS**

June [\_\_\_], 2007

To Our Stockholders:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following action has been taken pursuant to the written consent, dated [\_\_\_\_], 2007, of the holders of a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock, in lieu of a special meeting of the stockholders. We expect such action to be effective on or about June 25, 2007 (the Effective Date ).

Our Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, will be amended on the Effective Date to increase the number of authorized shares of our capital stock from fifty one million (51,000,000) shares to seventy six million (76,000,000) shares and to increase the authorized number of shares of our common stock, par value \$.01 per share, from fifty million (50,000,000) shares to seventy five million (75,000,000) shares. On the Effective Date, we will file an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, pursuant to the provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

In order for us to effect an increase in our authorized share capital, we must amend our Certificate of Incorporation, which requires that we obtain the approval of stockholders holding a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock. Stockholder approval could have been obtained by us in one of two ways: (i) by the dissemination of a proxy statement and subsequent majority vote in favor of the actions at a stockholders meeting called for such purpose, or (ii) by a written consent of the holder(s) of a majority of our outstanding shares of our common stock. The holders of a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock determined that it would be preferable to act by written consent instead of soliciting stockholder approval through the use of a proxy statement because of the timing and costs involved in calling and holding a stockholders meeting.

No action is required by you. The accompanying Information Statement is furnished only to inform our shareholders of the action described above before it takes effect in accordance with Rule 14c-2 promulgated under the Securities Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 228(e) of the Delaware General Corporation Law. This Information Statement is being mailed to you on or about June [\_\_\_], 2007.

By Order of the Board of  
Directors,

Nick A. Caporella  
Chairman of the Board  
and Chief Executive Officer

**THIS IS NOT A NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS AND NO STOCKHOLDER MEETING WILL BE HELD TO CONSIDER ANY MATTER WHICH IS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED INFORMATION STATEMENT.**

**WE ARE NOT ASKING YOU FOR A PROXY AND YOU ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND US A PROXY. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE HOLDERS OF A MAJORITY OF OUR OUTSTANDING SHARES OF COMMON STOCK HAVE VOTED TO APPROVE THE INCREASE IN AUTHORIZED CAPITAL STOCK AND COMMON STOCK AND, CONSEQUENTLY, NO ADDITIONAL VOTES WILL BE NEEDED TO APPROVE THE INCREASE.**

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**INFORMATION STATEMENT AND  
NOTICE OF ACTION TAKEN WITHOUT A MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
OF  
NATIONAL BEVERAGE CORP.**

One North University Drive  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33324

This Information Statement Is Being Provided  
To You by the Board of Directors of  
National Beverage Corp.

**WE ARE NOT ASKING FOR A PROXY AND  
YOU ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND US A PROXY**

**INTRODUCTION**

This Information Statement and Notice of Action Taken Without a Meeting of Stockholders is being furnished by us to our stockholders of record as of [\_\_\_\_], 2007 (the Record Date ) to inform them of the approval by written consent of the holder owning a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock as of the Record Date of an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of our capital stock from fifty one million (51,000,000) shares to seventy six million (76,000,000) shares and to increase the number of authorized shares of our common stock from fifty million (50,000,000) to seventy five million (75,000,000) shares.

This information statement is first being sent or given on or about June 6, 2007 to our stockholders holding shares on the Record Date.

**VOTING RIGHTS AND OUTSTANDING SHARES**

The amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation was approved and declared advisable by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on May 24, 2007 and approved by written stockholder consent by the holders of a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock on the Record Date. As of the date of the stockholder consent, our only outstanding voting securities were our shares of common stock.

As of the date of the stockholder consent there were issued and outstanding a total of 37,917,059 shares of common stock. With respect to the action approved by the stockholder consent, each share of our common stock entitled its holder to one vote. The stockholder consent was signed by the holders of a majority of the votes that were entitled to be cast on these matters. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights to acquire or subscribe for any of the additional shares of common stock which have been authorized.

Pursuant to Rule 14c-2 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the proposal will not be adopted until a date at least twenty days after the date on which this Information Statement has been mailed to the stockholders. We anticipate that the actions contemplated herein will be effected on or about

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the close of business on June 26, 2007, when we file an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware.

We have asked brokers and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries to forward this Information Statement to the beneficial owners of the common stock held of record by such brokers and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries and will reimburse such persons for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in forwarding such material.

**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth information regarding the number of shares of our common stock beneficially owned on the Record Date (after giving effect to the 1-for-5 stock dividend described below) by:

- \* Each person who is known by us to beneficially own 5% or more of our common stock;
- \* Each of our directors and executive officers; and
- \* All of our directors and executive officers as a group.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and generally includes voting or investment power with respect to securities. Shares of our common stock which (i) will be acquired pursuant to a 1-for-5 stock dividend that will be effected on June 22, 2007 are deemed beneficially owned by the persons named in the table below and (ii) may be acquired upon exercise of stock options or warrants which are currently exercisable or which become exercisable within 60 days after the date indicated in the table are deemed beneficially owned by the optionees. Subject to any applicable community property laws, the persons or entities named in the table below have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares indicated as beneficially owned by them.

	<b>Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership</b>	<b>Percentage of Class (1)</b>
Nick A. Caporella	34,241,530(2)	75.2%
Joseph G. Caporella	339,960(3)	*
Samuel C. Hathorn, Jr.	106,944(4)	*
S. Lee King	266,880(5)	*
Joseph P. Klock, Jr.	83,520(6)	*
Edward F. Knecht	83,064(7)	*
George R. Bracken	113,556(8)	*
Dean A. McCoy	56,976(9)	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (8 persons)	35,292,430(10)	77.6%

- \* Less than 1% of outstanding shares.

(1) Based upon 45,500,471 shares of common stock outstanding on the Record Date (after giving effect to the 1-for-5 stock dividend described below), as

calculated in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Unless otherwise indicated, this includes shares owned by a spouse, minor children and any entities owned or controlled by the named person. Unless otherwise noted, shares are owned of record and beneficially by the named person.

- (2) Includes 33,302,246 shares owned by IBS Partners, Ltd. ( IBS ). IBS is a Texas limited partnership whose sole general partner is IBS Management Partners, Inc., a Texas corporation. IBS Management Partners, Inc. is owned by Nick A. Caporella. Also includes



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24,000 shares  
held by the wife  
of  
Mr. Caporella,  
as to which  
Mr. Caporella  
disclaims  
beneficial  
ownership.

(3) Includes 47,160  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options. Also  
includes  
144,000 shares  
to be received  
pursuant to the  
exercise of  
options, the  
delivery of  
which was  
deferred.

(4) Includes 20,160  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options and 384  
shares held by  
Mr. Hathorn as  
custodian for his  
children. Also  
includes 9,600  
shares to be  
received  
pursuant to the  
exercise of  
options, the  
delivery of  
which was  
deferred.

(5) Includes 10,080  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of

currently  
exercisable  
options.

(6) Includes 15,120  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options.

(7) Includes 17,304  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options.

(8) Includes 16,236  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options. Also  
includes 24,000  
shares to be  
received  
pursuant to the  
exercise of  
options, the  
delivery of  
which was  
deferred.

(9) Includes 6,876  
shares issuable  
upon exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options. Also  
includes 33,600  
shares to be  
received  
pursuant to the  
exercise of  
options, the  
delivery of  
which was  
deferred.

(10)

Includes  
132,936 shares  
issuable upon  
exercise of  
currently  
exercisable  
options. Also  
includes  
201,600 shares  
to be received  
pursuant to the  
exercise of  
options, the  
delivery of  
which was  
deferred.

Except as otherwise set forth above, the address of each of the persons listed is *c/o* National Beverage Corporation, One North University Drive, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33324.

#### **AMENDMENT TO CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION**

Our Board of Directors and the holders of a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock have approved an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of our capital stock from fifty one million (51,000,000) shares to seventy six million (76,000,000) shares and to increase the number of authorized shares of our common stock from fifty million (50,000,000) shares to seventy five million (75,000,000) shares.

#### **Text of Amendment**

The amendment would result in the text of Article Fourth, Section 1 of our Certificate of Incorporation reading in its entirety as follows:

SECTION 1. Authorized Capital. The total number of shares of stock which the Corporation shall have authority to issue is seventy six million (76,000,000) shares, of which seventy five million (75,000,000) shares shall be common stock, par value \$.01 per share, and one million (1,000,000) shares shall be preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share.

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**General Effect of the Proposed Amendment and Reasons for Approval**

On May 24, 2007, the Board of Directors declared a 1-for-5 stock dividend (the Stock Dividend ) to holders of record on June 4, 2007, that will be effected on or about June 22, 2007, thereby reducing the number of authorized but unissued shares that we have available for general corporate purposes, including stock dividends and splits, raising additional capital, issuances of shares pursuant to employee stock option plans, and for possible future acquisitions. We are increasing the number of authorized shares of our authorized common stock to provide additional shares for general corporate purposes, including stock dividends and splits, raising additional capital, issuance of shares pursuant to employee stock option plans, and for possible future acquisitions.

Our officers may from time to time engage in discussions with other companies concerning the possible acquisition of such companies by us in which we may consider issuing stock as part of, or as all of, the acquisition price. The Board of Directors believes that an increase in the total number of shares of authorized common stock will better enable us to meet our future needs and give us greater flexibility in responding quickly to business opportunities. The increase will also provide additional shares for corporate purposes generally.

Our Board of Directors knows of no other matters other than those described in this Information Statement, which have been recently approved or considered by the holders of our common stock.

**REASONS WE USED STOCKHOLDER CONSENT AS OPPOSED TO SOLICITATION OF STOCKHOLDER APPROVAL VIA PROXY STATEMENT AND SPECIAL MEETING**

In order for us to effect an increase in our authorized share capital, we must amend our Certificate of Incorporation, which requires that we obtain the approval of stockholders holding a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock. Stockholder approval could have been obtained by us in one of two ways: (i) by the dissemination of a proxy statement and subsequent majority vote in favor of the actions at a stockholders meeting called for such purpose, or (ii) by a written consent of the holders(s) of a majority of our outstanding shares of our common stock. The holders of a majority of our outstanding shares of common stock determined that it would be preferable to act by written consent instead of soliciting stockholder approval through the use of a proxy statement because of the timing and costs involved in calling and holding a stockholders meeting.

**INTEREST OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON**

None of our directors or officers or their associates have any substantial interest, direct or indirect, by security holdings or otherwise, in any of the matters approved by the stockholders as described in this information statement.

**NO APPRAISAL RIGHTS**

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, our stockholders are not entitled to appraisal rights with respect to an increase of our authorized shares, and we will not independently provide stockholders with any such right.

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**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), and in accordance therewith we file reports, proxy statements and other information including annual and quarterly reports on Form 10-K and 10-Q (the 1934 Act Filings ) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission ). Reports and other information filed by us can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained at the Commission at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such material can be obtained upon written request addressed to the Commission, Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. The Commission maintains a web site on the Internet (<http://www.sec.gov>) that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the Commission through the Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval System ( EDGAR ).

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this information statement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from what is contained in this information statement. This information statement is dated June [\_\_], 2007. You should not assume that the information contained in this information statement is accurate as of any date other than that date, and the mailing of this information statement to stockholders shall not create any implication to the contrary.

Dated: June [\_\_], 2007

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
Nick A. Caporella  
Chairman of the Board  
and Chief Executive Officer