

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

DISTRICT 27-D2

CONSTITUTION

I.

PURPOSE

The purpose of adoption of a constitution and By-laws for District 27-D2 is to set up a framework of rules by which to carry out the affairs of the District and to provide a means of implementing and amplifying those rules as from time to time are determined by the voting delegates of said District at its convention.

II.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

Articles V through X of the Constitution and Articles I and II of the By-laws of Multiple District #27 are incorporated herein by reference except to the extent as hereafter modified as the Constitution and By-Laws of District 27-D2.

III.

DISTRICT OFFICERS AND FOUNDATION DIRECTORS

A District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor and when appropriate a Foundation Director shall be elected at the District convention. The election shall be by secret ballot of the certified delegates of the District present and voting.

IV.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

A Convention of District 27-D2 shall be any weekend in February. The host city for the District Convention shall be selected two years in advance. The selection shall be by secret ballot of the certified delegates of the convention present and voting, provided there has been any application made by a club or clubs to the chairperson of the District Elections Committee by the date specified in By-Law Article II, Section 3(a). If no application is received by said date and no write-in candidate is elected at the District Convention, the host city shall be selected by the District Cabinet as soon as reasonably possible following the District Convention.

V.

AMENDMENTS

The Constitution of District 27-D2 may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the voting delegates at the District Convention, provided such amendments are not in conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of Lions Clubs International or Multiple District #27, it being specifically intended that such amendments be for the purpose of implementing and amplifying said existing Constitution and By-Laws. Any proposed amendments may be submitted by any Lions Club Member or Lions Club in good standing or by the District Cabinet to the District Elections Committee on the date specified in By-Law Article II, Section 3(a) and the same, if valid, shall be placed on the official ballot at the District Convention.

History: Article IV was amended changing the month of the District Convention from October to February by vote of the delegates at the District Convention held on October 23, 2004. Articles IV and V were amended to specify a date in By-Law Article II, Section 3(a) by the Delegates at the convention held October 22, 2005, replacing the phrase "by August 31." References to First and Second Vice District Governor were added replacing "Vice District Governor" after the 2008 International Convention which passed amendments to the International Constitution which provide for the offices of First and Second Vice District Governors.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I- DUTIES OF DISTRICT OFFICERS

Section I- Duties Adopted by Reference

- a. The duties of the officers of District 27D2 are enumerated in By-Laws I and II of MD27 and are incorporated by reference.

Section II-Additional Duties Assigned to the Vice District Governors

- a. The First Vice District Governor shall preside at the D2 District meeting at the annual MD-27 Convention.

History: Article I was amended to clarify at which meeting the Vice District governor was to preside by the Delegates at the convention held February 10, 2007. This was modified in 2009 to specify that the First Vice District Governor preside after the position of Second Vice President was added by the 2008 International Convention.

ARTICLE II- DISTRICT NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS

Section I- District Elections Committee

- a. The District Governor shall appoint a District Elections Committee composed of three members. Two of the members shall be appointed from among the members of the District Cabinet and one may be appointed from any club in good standing in the District.
- b. Appointments shall be made to the Committee by the District Governor before July 15 of each year.
- c. The Committee shall send to each club in the District an official notice before July 31 which shall include:
 1. The name, address and telephone number of the Chairperson of the District Elections Committee.
 2. Information, qualifications and filing procedures for District Officers, Directors of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation and District Convention site.
- d. The Committee Chairperson shall receive all written nomination and applications for District Officers, Directors of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation and District Convention site from any club in good standing in the District by the date specified in By-Law II, Section 3 (a) and said chairperson shall immediately send a copy of all nominations and applications for all offices to State headquarters.
- e. The Committee may, if it deems it necessary or desirable, seek and encourage Lions members from clubs in the District to become candidates for District offices or as a Foundation Director.
- f. The Committee shall check the qualifications of all nominated candidates. The Committee shall submit a certified list of candidates nominated to the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer by the date specified in By-Law Article II, Section 3 (a), which list shall be presented to the District Cabinet for entry in the minutes.
- g. Nominations for District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governor, Foundation Director and District Convention site may be made from the floor of the District Convention, provided the candidate has met all of the required by Article II, Section 2 (a) hereof. All qualified nominations received after midnight on the last day of August shall be voted upon as “write-in candidates” and shall not appear on the printed ballot.
- h. The District Elections Committee shall present its report of candidates for District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governor, Foundation Director and District Convention site at the District Convention prior to the voting.
- i. In the event the District Elections Committee does not receive any nominations for the offices of District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governor of Foundation Director by the date specified in By-Law Article II, Section 3(a), it shall immediately report this information in writing to the District Governor. The matter shall be referred to the District Cabinet for action to assure at least one candidate for each office prior to the election at the District Convention.

- j. Certification of the voting delegates at the District Convention shall be on the day of the elections, starting at the beginning of registration and ending thirty minutes after the noon luncheon/banquet.

Section 2- Candidates for District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, Foundation Director and District Convention Site

- a. Any member in the District may be nominated by his/her club for the office of District Governor or First or Second Vice District Governor provided he/she meets the qualifications set forth in the Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws. Any member in the District may be nominated by his/her club for the Office of Director of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation provided he/she meets the qualifications set forth the MD-27 Constitution and By-Laws. Any Lions Club in good standing in the District may submit an application to host the District Convention provided it meets the necessary qualifications to host such Convention.
- b. All speeches at the District Convention on behalf of the candidates for District Governor, First and Second Vice District Governor, Foundation Director and District Convention site shall be limited to one nominating speech of not more than five (5) minutes and one seconding speech of not more than three (3) minutes for each candidate.
- c. In the event there is more than one candidate for the office of District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, Foundation Director or District Convention site, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be deemed elected. In case of a tie vote the candidates shall be summoned to the place of voting and the Sitting District Governor shall, after the selection of heads or tails by the tied candidates, toss a coin with the winner of the toss to be declared as the winner of the election.
- d. The official ballot shall only contain the names of the candidates who have filed papers by the date specified in By-Law Article II, Section 3(a). To be a valid candidate, these candidates and any write-in candidates must be formally nominated at the District Convention.
- e. Voting shall commence immediately following the adjournment of the last official business session of the District Convention and shall terminate thirty (30) minutes later.

Section 3. Deadlines for District Election Nominations.

- A. The deadline for filing nomination papers for the offices of District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, Foundation Director and host city for the District Convention as well as for filing amendments to be considered to the Constitution or By-Laws shall be midnight of the last day of the

month at least fifty-nine (59) days prior to the first day of the month in which the District Convention is held.

ARTICLE III- AMENDMENTS

The By-laws of District 27-D2 may be amended by a simple majority of the voting delegates at the District Convention, provided such amendments are not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of Lions Clubs International or Multiple District #27, it being specifically intended that such amendments be for the purpose of implementing and amplifying said existing Constitution and By-Laws. Any proposed amendment may be submitted by any Lions Club Member or Lions Club in good standing or the District Cabinet to the District Elections Committee on or before midnight of the last day of August and the same, if valid, shall be placed on the official ballot at the District Convention.

History: Article II, Section 1 (j) was amended by vote of the Delegates at the District Convention on October 23, 2004, to change the time of certification from "before the close of the final session preceding the necrology service" to "starting with the registration and ending thirty (30) minutes after the noon Luncheon/Banquet." Article II, Section 3(a) was created by vote of the Delegates at the District Convention held on October 22, 2005. Addition of the position of Second Vice District Governor was added following the 2008 International Convention when the position was approved in the International Constitution and By-Laws adopted by the district by reference.

The above Constitution and By-Laws were last amended February 10, 2007.