

MULTIPLE DISTRICT 5 BY-LAWS

(As passed at MD5 Convention, June 2011)

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ARTICLE I - BL DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1 Appointment and Duties of the District Nominating Committee

- a. The District Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the District Governor not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Convention and shall consist of not less than three (3) members in good standing of clubs in good standing in said district. No two (2) members of the committee shall be members of the same club, nor shall they hold any district, multiple district or international office.
- b. The duties of the District Nominating Committee shall be:
 - 1) to receive all notices of candidacy for the office of District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, and 2nd Vice District Governor for said district; and,
 - 2) to review said notices to verify that the qualifications of each candidate for the office to which petition is made have been satisfied; and,
 - 3) to provide a report of these findings to the delegates of the Annual Convention of said district; and,
 - 4) in the event no candidate submits notice of candidacy or no candidate has satisfied the qualifications for said office, shall report same to the delegates of the Annual Convention

Section 2 Qualifications and Nominations

- a. A candidate for the office of District Governor shall:
 - 1) be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing within said district; and,

- 2) secure the endorsement of said Lions Club or a majority of the clubs in said district; and,
 - 3) have served or will have served at commencement of term of said office as Vice District Governor for a full term or major portion thereof.
- b. A candidate for the office of 1st or 2nd Vice District Governor shall:
- 1) be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing within said district; and,
 - 2) secure the endorsement of said Lions Club or a majority of the clubs in said district; and,
 - 3) have filed a notice of candidacy in writing including evidence that the candidate has satisfied the qualifications for said office with the District Nominating Committee prior to the day of its report to the Annual Convention of said district as provided in Article VI Section 2 of the Constitution; and
 - 4) have served or will have served at commencement of term of said office:
 - a) as president of a Lions club for a full term or a major portion thereof, and a member of the board of directors of a Lions club for no less than two (2) additional years; and,
 - b) as zone chairperson, region chairperson or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof; and,
 - c) with none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

Section 3 Election Procedure in Full District

The election of District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor, and 2nd Vice District Governor shall be conducted by secret written ballot, with the candidate required to secure a simple majority of the affirmative votes cast by the delegates present and voting in order to be declared elected. In the event no candidate receives a simple majority of the votes cast, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be dropped and the voting shall continue until a winner is declared elected. In the event only one candidate is nominated, the ballot must include an option for "NO LISTED CANDIDATE". Voting delegates shall be as set forth in Article VI of the Multiple District 5 Constitution.

Section 4 Selection Procedure in Transitional District

- a. The term "transitional" is replaced with "established districts below 35/1250 over two years.
- b. Former transitional districts can elect their governors now.
- c. In districts below 35/1250 over two years, the transportation expenses for the governor's spouse to attend the District Governor-elect Seminar at the International Convention will be reimbursed as per Lions Clubs International policies.
- d. The constitutional provision that all district with membership below the 35/1250 requirements will not

be able to endorse a candidate for international director or second vice president remains valid.

- e. These changes are effective immediately.

Section 5 Vacancy of Office of District Governor

In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of District Governor, the Vice Governor shall act as District Governor and shall perform the duties of, and have the same authority as, the District Governor until such time as said vacancy is filled by the International Board of Directors.

Section 6: Vacancy of Office of 1st or 2nd Vice District Governor

In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of 1st or 2nd Vice District Governor, the District Governor shall convene a meeting of the District Honorary Committee to identify and recruit a qualified candidate in accordance with the District Constitution and Bylaws. The candidate will be presented for approval at the next meeting of the district cabinet with an invitation having been extended to all Past District Governors in said district to attend for the purposes of electing a new 1st or 2nd Vice District Governor.

ARTICLE II - BL DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 Multiple District Council Chairperson

Under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors, the Council Chairperson shall be the administrative officer of the Multiple District. The specific responsibilities shall be to:

- a. further the Purposes and Objects of Lions International;
- b. provide leadership, direction, and initiative for Lions International and Multiple District programs, goals, and long range planning;
- c. create and foster harmony and unity among Districts, and assist District Governors to solve issues;
- d. preside over the Multiple District Convention and all Council Meetings;
- e. submit reports and perform such duties as may be required by the Multiple Constitution and By-Laws;
- f. perform such other administrative duties as may be assigned by the Council; and,
- g. facilitate, at the close of the term of office, the timely presentation of all Multiple District accounts, funds, and records to the successor in office.

Section 2 Multiple District Council of Governors

The Multiple District Council of Governors, hereinafter referred to as the Council, shall:

- a. make all contracts and approve all bills relating to Multiple District administrative expenses;

- b. designate a depository, or depositories, for Multiple District funds;
- c. determine the amount of surety bond for the Multiple District Council Secretary-Treasurer, and approve the surety company issuing said bond;
- d. receive financial reports, semi-annually or more frequently, from the Multiple District Council Secretary-Treasurer and provide for an annual end of fiscal year audit of the books and accounts of the Multiple District Council Secretary-Treasurer; and,
- e. provide leadership and guidance as necessary, endeavoring to have each District in the Multiple District operate within its Constitution and By-Laws to the best interest of the Multiple District and Lions International.

Section 3 Multiple District Council Secretary-Treasurer

Under the supervision of the Council Chairperson and direction of the Council, the Multiple District Council Secretary-Treasurer hereinafter referred to, as Council Secretary-Treasurer shall:

- a. keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Council, and within ten (10) days after each meeting forward copies of same to all members of the Council, and to Lions International;
- b. assist the Council in conducting the business of the Multiple District and perform such other duties as are either specified or implied in either the Multiple District Constitution or By-Laws, or as may be assigned by the Council or Council Chairperson;
- c. receive and give proper receipts for all funds and assessments paid to the Multiple District, deposit same in accounts approved by the Council, and disperse same under the supervision and control of the Council by checks drawn against said accounts, signed in accordance with provisions of these By-Laws;
- d. keep accurate records and minutes of all Council and Multiple District meetings and keep accurate books of Multiple District accounts, and allow review of same by either any member of the Council or any club in the Multiple District (or any authorized agent of either) at any reasonable time for any proper purpose; and
- e. secure bond for the faithful performance of the duties in such sum and with such sureties as may be required by the Council.

Section 4 - District Governor

The District Governor shall act under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors as the representative of Lions International in the District and shall have general supervision over all Lions Clubs therein. In addition, within respective District, shall:

- a. further the Purposes and Objects of Lions International;
- b. supervise organization of new Lions Clubs;

- c. promote cordial relations among the chartered Lions Clubs;
- d. preside over all Cabinet, Convention and other District meetings;
- e. endeavor to either visit each club, or have a delegate visit, at least once during term of office;
- f. exercise such supervision and authority over cabinet officers and District Committee appointees as is provided in this Multiple District Constitution;
- g. submit a current itemized statement of total District receipts and expenditures to the District Convention;
- h. submit such other reports and perform such other duties as may be required by either the Multiple District or the Lions International Board of Directors; and,
- i. deliver, forthwith, at the termination of term of office, all District accounts, funds and records to the successor in office.

Section 5 1st Vice District Governor

The 1st Vice District Governor, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor, shall be chief administrative assistant and representative of the District Governor. His/her specific responsibilities shall be, but not limited to:

- a. further the Purposes of Lions Clubs International;
- b. perform such administrative duties assigned by the district governor.
- c. Perform such other functions and acts required by the International Board of Directors as specified in he constitution and by-laws of Lions Clubs International.

Section 6 - 2nd Vice District Governor

The 2nd Vice District Governor, subject to the supervision and direction of the district governor, shall be an assistant in the administration of the district, and representative of the district governor. His/her specific responsibilities shall be, but not limited to:

- a. further the purposes of Lions Clubs International.
- b. perform such administrative duties assigned by the district governor.
- c. Perform such other functions and acts required by the International Board of Directors as specified in the constitution and by-laws of Lions Clubs International.

Section 7 Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer

Under the supervision and direction of the District Governor, the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer shall:

- a. keep an accurate record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Cabinet, and within five (5) days after each meeting forward copies of the same to all members of the Cabinet, and the office of Lions International;
- b. take and keep minutes of the District Convention and furnish copies of same to Lions International, the District Governor, the Secretary of each club in the District, and to the Council Secretary-Treasurer;
- c. assist the District Governor and the Cabinet in conducting the business of the District and perform such other duties as are specified or implied in the Multiple District Constitution and By-Laws, or as may be assigned by the District Governor or the Cabinet;
- d. sign all notices and documents issued by the District;
- e. make an annual report of the District's financial condition at the end of official term and other such reports at other times as the District Governor or Cabinet may require;
- f. collect and receipt for all per capita assessments levied hereunder, on members and clubs in the District, deposit the same in depositories approved by the Cabinet, and disburse the same by order of the District Governor or the Cabinet;
- g. remit to the Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer the Multiple District per capita assessments collected in the District, and secure a proper receipt therefore;
- h. keep accurate books and records of accounts and minutes of all Cabinet and District meetings and permit inspection of the same by the District Governor, any Cabinet member and a club (or any authorized agent of any of them) at any reasonable time for any proper purpose. Upon direction of the District Governor or the Cabinet, furnish any such books and records as requested to any auditor appointed by the Cabinet; and,
- i. secure bond for the faithful performance of the duties in such sum and with such sureties as may be required by the Cabinet.

Section 8 Region Chairperson

If the District and/or District Governor require the office, whether elected or appointed, the Region Chairperson shall, under the supervision and direction of the District Governor:

- a. attend the regular and special meetings of the Cabinet;
- b. assist the District Governor in promoting Lionism in the Region by performing such duties as may be delegated by the District Governor and/or the Cabinet;
- c. recommend qualified Lions in the Region for election or appointment as Zone Chairperson;
- d. endeavour to have every club in the Region operating under a duly adopted Club Constitution and By-Laws;

- e. promote representation at Lions International, Multiple District, and District Conventions by at least the full quotas of delegates to which clubs in the Region are entitled; and,
- f. supervise and assist the Zone Chairpersons of the Region in the performance of their official duties and co-operate with them in arranging and holding Zone meetings.

In the event of the Region Chairperson for any reason cannot or does not, in the judgment of the District Governor, perform the duties as required of the office, or in the event the office is for any reason vacated, the District Governor may appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

Section 9 Zone Chairperson

Under the control and supervision of the District Governor and, if applicable, the Region Chairperson, the Zone Chairperson shall:

- a. make a report of each Zone Meeting and send copies within five (5) days thereafter to Lions International, the District Governor, and, if applicable, the Region Chairperson;
- b. endeavor to have every club within the Zone operating under a duly adopted club Constitution and By-Laws;
- c. arrange regularly scheduled Zone meetings;
- d. encourage inter-club meetings and social activities;
- e. promote attendance at charter nights of newly organized clubs; and,
- f. promote representation at Lions International, Multiple District, and District Conventions by at least the full quotas of delegates to which clubs in the Zone are entitled.

In the event the Zone Chairperson for any reason cannot or does not, in the judgment of the District Governor, perform the duties as required of the office, or in the event the office is for any reason vacated, the District Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

Section 10 District Governor's Cabinet

The District Governor's Cabinet shall:

- a. assist the District Governor in the performance of the District Governor's duties and assist in the formulation of administrative plans and policies affecting the welfare of Lionism within the District;
- b. receive from Zone Chairpersons and, if applicable, Region Chairpersons, reports and recommendations which concern the clubs in the District;
- c. supervise the collection of all per capita assessments by the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer, designate depository(ies) for said funds and authorize the payment therefrom of all legitimate expenses pertaining to the administration of the affairs of the District;

- d. secure, set the amount of, and approve the surety company issuing the surety bond for the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer;
- e. secure, annually or more frequently, District financial reports from the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer; and
- f. provide for an annual audit of the books and accounts of the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer; and,
- g. propose a schedule of dates, times and places of Cabinet meetings to be held during the fiscal year with the District Governor's approval

Section 11 District Governor's Advisory Committee

In each Zone, the District Governor's Advisory Committee shall assist the Zone Chairperson in an advisory capacity, procure recommendations affecting the welfare of Lionism and the clubs in the Zone, and relay the same through the Zone Chairperson to the District Governor and the District Governor's Cabinet. A meeting of a District Governor's Advisory Committee shall be referred to as a Zone Meeting.

Section 12 Governor's Special Committees

Special Committees formed by the District Governor shall perform duties required to correlate efforts of corresponding club committees in the District or special District committee work deemed necessary by the District Governor or the District Cabinet. Some but not all are required to be active committees by Lions International.

Section 13: District Honorary Committee

The District Honorary Committee shall:

- a. consist of the three most recent Past District Governors and any Past International Officers as appointed by the District Governor and approved by the district cabinet; and,
- b. serve at the discretion of the District Governor as defined in the Multiple District or District Constitution and Bylaws or in any capacity deemed necessary and appropriate.

ARTICLE III - BL COMMITTEES

Section 1 Appointment of Multiple District Committees

The Council Chairperson, in consultation with the Council, shall appoint the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of, and fill any vacancies occurring in the Multiple District Committees approved by the Council. Membership on each regular committee shall be limited to one delegate from each District of the Multiple District and the Committee Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Assignments to a special committee may be made as Council chooses in the best interests of the Council and the Multiple District.

Section 2 Multiple District Committee Budgets

Prior to the fall meeting of the Council, each Council Committee Chairperson shall submit a committee budget to the Council Secretary-Treasurer for incorporation into a Council approved Multiple District budget which outlines the general expense of the financial affairs of the Multiple District.

Section 3 Appointment of District Committees

Each respective District Governor, with concurrence of the respective Cabinet, shall appoint, and/or designate the Chairperson of, and fill any vacancies occurring in regular committees paralleling those of the Multiple District, with membership on each limited to one delegate per zone in the District, including the Chairperson. District Governors may appoint special committees of their own choosing in the best interests of the District.

ARTICLE IV - BL RULES FOR CONVENTION PROCEDURES

Section 1 Rules of Procedure

Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Multiple District Constitution and By-Laws, or in the Rules of Procedure adopted for a meeting, all questions of Order and Procedure in any Multiple District or District meeting or Convention, any meeting of the Council, a District Cabinet, Region, Zone or member club or any group or committee of any one them shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 2 Order of Business

The Multiple District Council or the District Cabinets shall approve the Order of Business for Multiple District or District Conventions respectively.

ARTICLE V - BL MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Section 1 Hosting

- a. Clubs desiring to act as hosts for the Multiple District Convention shall make application on forms to be supplied by the Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer, to the Council at least six (6) years in advance of the date of the convention to be hosted. The Council will appoint a committee from amongst the Governors, one from each of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Saskatchewan, but excluding the Governor of the District that will be hosting the convention, to investigate the capabilities and facilities of the club or clubs and the proposed host city or cities for handling the convention. This committee will make recommendations to the Multiple District Convention five (5) years prior to the date of the convention in question. At each Multiple District Convention, the site of the convention five (5) years later will be decided by ballot or acclamation of Convention delegates as conditions indicate after the Council has presented the report on their investigation in session.
- b. The Chairperson or Co-Chairperson of a Multiple District Convention Committee shall attend at Council's request at least one meeting of the Council held in the year prior to the respective Convention

to act as an observer and obtain advance information regarding the requirements of planning a convention. Upon the request from the Council Chairperson, the Convention Committee Chairperson shall submit for Council approval a written report that describes the general plans, program and budget of the respective convention. At the request of the Council, the Convention Chairperson (or a representative) shall also attend any Council Meeting to present said report in person. Expenses for this attendance will be authorized by the Council in accordance with Article VI following.

- c. The Convention Chairperson or Co-Chairperson shall furnish a final report of the convention to the Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer by no later than August 1st following the close of the convention. This report shall include complete and detailed information as to convention receipts and disbursements, registrations, special features, and such other information and on such form as the Council may provide.

Section 2 Business Session

- a. The regular order of business as shown on the program will be strictly adhered to and new business will be in order only where so scheduled in the regular program.
- b. No person, exclusive of those who have been assigned by the Convention Committee for speeches and discussions, shall be neither allowed to speak more than twice, nor be permitted to speak more than three minutes each time on any subject, without consent of the Convention delegates.
- c. Resolutions shall not be read from the floor. All proposed resolutions must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee by a time and in a format determined and so advertised by the Council.
- d. Delegate credentials must be in the hands of the Credentials Committee by a time determined and so advertised by the Council.
- e. Entries for Multiple District contests (e.g. Most Lion Miles, Club of the Year, etc.) must be in the hands of the Credentials Committee Chairperson by a time determined and so advertised by the Council.
- f. All delegates are expected to be in attendance at all business sessions and each is encouraged to take an active part in the business affairs of the Convention and to vote when called upon to do so.

Section 3 Official Breakfasts

The Rules of Order for South Dakota, North Dakota, or Saskatchewan Breakfasts, hereinafter referred to, as "Breakfasts" shall be the same as those for Convention business sessions.

- a. The Chairperson for each Breakfast shall be designated by agreement between the respective District Governors.
- b. At the discretion of the Breakfast Chairperson, the Multiple District Convention Committee shall provide a recording secretary to note proceedings of each respective Breakfast; such proceedings to be a part of the Multiple District Convention Proceedings published by the Multiple District Secretary-

Treasurer as set forth in the Multiple District Constitution.

- c. Nominations and voting for the next District Governor and/or Vice District Governor (if not already elected) as provided for in the Multiple District Constitution, and seconding speeches pertaining thereto, will take place only at the respective Breakfasts.
- d. Each respective Breakfast is permitted to conduct such other business as the Chairperson permits, provided same is in the best interests of the District or Districts represented, the Multiple District, and Lions International.

Section 4 Voting Procedures

- a. All voting on matters at the Business Sessions and the Breakfasts shall be done by voice or standing vote of the certified delegates present; certification being as set forth in the Multiple District Constitution and these By-Laws. A roll call or secret ballot may be directed by the meeting chairperson if conditions warrant, or may be requested by a motion duly seconded and passed by a majority vote of registered delegates present.
- b. In cases of secret ballots, votes are to be collected by tellers appointed by the Chairperson of the session or by the Chairperson of the Election Committee. Ballots are to be issued only to qualified delegates and are to be deposited in proper receptacles for collective counting by tellers on completion of the balloting procedure. No voting by proxy shall be permitted.
- c. A delegate shall be a member in good standing in a club in good standing. A member in good standing must have paid their club all charges that are due to the club. A club in good standing must have paid all per capita assessments due to its respective District and all other sums due its District or Lions Clubs International unless the total amount in arrears does not exceed \$50.00, are less than 60 days old or are in dispute.
- d. A delegate must be certified as having met the qualifications as set forth in paragraph c of this Section of the Bylaws through the endorsement of the delegate's club secretary in writing prior to the convention. In the absence of said endorsement, the delegate may obtain endorsement by the District Governor or District Governor Elect of the delegate's district at the Multiple District Convention prior to any vote requiring said endorsement.
- e. The result of any election for office or convention site shall be announced by or under the direction of the Council Chairperson. The number of votes cast shall not be made public but may be obtained by any voting delegate from the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee or the Council Secretary-Treasurer. Challenge of election results or recount demand must be made within one hour after the close of the Business Session in which balloting took place; otherwise same will not be honored.

ARTICLE VI -BL MULTIPLE DISTRICT FINANCES

Section 1 Regular Per Capita Assessments

Each District Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer shall remit to the Council Secretary-Treasurer, in US funds, a regular annual per capita assessment in two installments as follows:

August 1 \$2.00 per member
February 1 \$2.00 per member **

** approved by vote at MD5 Convention, May 2003. The basis for these two remittances will be membership as reported by Lions International as of June 30 and December 31 respectively prior to above dates.

When the reserves of undersigned funds reach a level of 90% of the approved budget, the Council of Governors shall make a recommendation of a dues increase to the membership of the Multi-District, which shall be voted on at the next Multi-District Convention.

Section 2 Special Assessments

The MD-5 Council of Governors shall be empowered to levy a late payment charge at a rate not to exceed the maximum amount permitted by law (1.75% per month, 21% annually-current rate) on the unpaid balances of MD-5 Dues. The late payment charge will take effect 30 days after the MD-5 Dues are issued. Such charge will be assessed on the 15th day of each month.

Section 3 Multiple District Convention Advance

An appropriation from the Multiple District as approved by the Council based on a detailed budget presented to the Council by the Convention Chairperson or Co-Chairperson, shall be made available to the club hosting a Multiple District Convention. The Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer may advance up to \$5,000.00 of the approved appropriation to the host club at any time after the Council Fall meeting, two years preceding the respective convention, when and if requested by the host club. Additional advances to the host club may be made upon approval of the Council. Upon receipt of the final report on said convention as herein before provided, the Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer may issue payment of the balance of the approved appropriation and which is indicated by this itemized report as being justly due and payable to the host club. Any unexpended balance of any advances from this fund made to the host club shall revert to the Council Secretary-Treasurer and shall be returned to the Multiple District. Under conditions of extreme emergencies, the Council Secretary-Treasurer may issue sums from the Multiple District in excess of the approved appropriation if authorized by two-thirds majority vote of all members of the Council.

Section 4 Council Secretary-Treasurer Honorarium

At it's first meeting following the Multiple District Convention, the Council will establish the honorarium and expense allowance to be made to the Council Secretary-Treasurer; such allowance being commensurate with the services to be required and anticipated expenses.

Section 5 Expense Allowance for Members of Council

Allowances from Multiple District funds will be made for expenses incurred by the Immediate Past District Governors that are presently serving on Council, the Council Secretary-Treasurer, and such other persons that might be authorized by the Council to attend the Multiple District Convention, meetings of the Council, and any such assignments as designated by the Council, at the rates for traveling, day accommodation and meals in accordance with the Rules of Audit of Lions International currently in effect for District Governors.

Section 6 Expense Allowance for Special Council Meetings

Allowances for District Governors attending special Council meetings when authorized by the Council, will be paid out of Multiple District funds at the same rates set out in Section 5 above.

Section 7 Allowance for Lions International Convention

When approved by the Council, allowances for the Secretary/Treasurer and incoming Council Chairperson to attend the Lions International Convention will be paid from Multiple District funds in accordance with the International Rules of Audit except as provided in the Multiple District Policy and Procedures Manual. Funds approved by the Council for each attendee will be limited to a maximum of \$1,000 to attend the International Convention held within the North American Continent and a maximum of \$1,500 to attend the International Convention held outside the boundaries of the North American Continent. This allowance must be taken for attendance at the Lions International Convention of the current year.

Section 8 Compensation of Allowable Expenses

Each person entitled under these By-Laws to receive compensation with respect to incurred expenses, shall submit an itemized statement of such expenses, together with such receipts as may be required to the Council Secretary-Treasurer, who shall thereupon cause a check in payment thereof to be issued. The Council, in any case, may rule that one conveyance only was reasonably necessary for the transportation of two or more persons and in that case the mileage allowance shall be made for one car only.

ARTICLE VII - BL ENDORSEMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Section 1 Intent for Seeking Multiple District Endorsement

Subject to the provisions of the Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws, any member of a Lions Club in the Multiple District seeking endorsements at Conventions of his/her District and the Multiple District as a candidate for the office of International Director or Second Vice President shall:

- a. deliver (by mail or in person) written Notice of Intention to seek such endorsement to the District Governor of his/her District, and the Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the District or Multiple District Convention at which such question of endorsement is to be voted upon; and,

- b. deliver with said Notice of Intention, evidence of fulfillment of the qualifications for such office set forth in the Lions International Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2 Nominating Committee Action

Each Notice of Intention, so delivered, shall be transmitted forthwith by the District Governor or the Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer, as the case may be, to the Nominating Committee of the respective Convention, which shall review and perfect the same by obtaining from each prospective candidate any additional evidence of such intention and qualifications as may be necessary under the Lions International Constitution and By-Laws, and shall place in nomination at the respective Convention the name of each such prospective candidate who has fulfilled said procedural and Constitutional requirements.

Section 3 Nominating Speeches

Each such nominee for endorsement shall be entitled to a speech or speeches of no more than ten (10) minutes duration, including the moving, seconding and candidate speeches.

Section 4 Voting Procedure

The vote on the question of endorsement shall be by secret ballot. The nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared endorsed (elected) as the candidate of the respective Convention. In the event of tie vote, or failure of one nominee to receive the required majority, on any ballot, balloting shall continue with respect to the two nominees only who received the largest number of votes on the previous ballot until one receives the required majority of the votes cast. If, after two succeeding ballots, results remain tied, then and only then, the Meeting Chairperson shall cast the deciding ballot. In the event there shall be only one nominee seeking the endorsement, the name of the nominee shall be on the ballot and the second question on the same ballot shall be "No candidate endorsed".

Section 5 Certification of Endorsement

Certification of endorsement by the respective Conventions shall be made in writing to the Lions International by the District and Multiple District officials designated, and in accordance with the requirements therefore set forth, in the Lions International Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 6 Validity of Endorsement

No endorsement of any candidacy of any member of a Lions Club in this Multiple District shall be valid unless and until the Provisions of this Article VII have been met.

ARTICLE VIII- BL FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Multiple District and each of its Districts shall be from July 1st in one year through June 30th of the calendar year next following.

ARTICLE IX - BL AMENDMENTS

Section 1 Amending and/or Altering

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any Multiple District Convention by a majority of the certified delegates present and voting, provided:

- a. No amendment shall be put to vote unless notice by written or electronic means shall have been given to the Council by March 1st prior to the Convention, and is recommended for amendment by the Council to the Convention; and:
- b. If the Council does not recommend the amendment duly submitted to them, or if, the proposed amendment was not submitted to the Council in accordance with "a." above, such amendment may be voted upon and passed if the motion to amend receives a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the certified delegates present and voting.

Section 2 Suspension

Any By-Law may be suspended at any Convention or meeting of the Council by a vote of three-quarters (3/4) of all certified delegates at a Convention or by three-quarters (3/4) of the membership of the Council.

Section 3 Effective Date

Each amendment to these Bylaws shall take effect at the close of the Convention or Council Meeting at which adopted, unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

ARTICLE X - BL EFFECTIVE DATE

The Multiple District Constitution and By-Laws shall take effect at the close of the Multiple District Convention at which the same is adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.