

District Governor/Vice District Governor Election Procedures

These election guidelines are a summary of the Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws, International Constitution and By-Laws and Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised. One should first consult their respective District Constitution and By-Laws and any adopted rules of procedure to determine the appropriate procedures to follow.

ä *Nomination Committee:* The District Governor appoints the Nomination Committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the district convention. The Nominating Committee should consist of not more than five (5) members, each of whom shall be a member in good standing of a different Lions club in good standing in the district, and shall not at the time of their appointment hold any district or international office. (Standard Form District By-Laws, Article III, Section 1.)

ä *Intent to run for election:* Any qualified individual seeking the office of district governor/vice district governor must file his/her intention to run in writing with the Nominating Committee on the date set by the Nominating Committee along with evidence of qualifications as set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws. (Standard Form District By-Laws, Article III, Section 2.)

ä *Qualifications/Nominations:*

n The individual must meet the qualifications set forth in the International By-Laws. Other than those qualifications described in the International By-Laws, no additional qualification may be required.

n It shall be the nomination committee's responsibility to review the qualifications of each nominated candidate and rule on the eligibility of the same. (Standard Form District Convention Rules of Procedure, Exhibit A, Rule 4(a).)

n Good standing must be demonstrated at the time the district nominating committee reviews the qualifications of the candidates.

n If no nominations are received from qualified candidates, nominations for the office may be made from the floor of the convention. (Standard Form District By-Laws, Article III, Section 3.)

n A candidate may withdraw from the contest at any time prior to the issuance of the final report of the nominations committee. (Standard Form District Convention Rules of Procedure, Exhibit A, Rule 4(b).)

n A nominated candidate is allowed one nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration. (Standard Form District By-Laws, Article III, Sections 2 & 3.)

ä *Eligibility to Vote:* Certified delegates in accordance with the delegate entitlement provisions contained in the International Constitution and By-Laws are entitled to vote. In addition, each past president and past international director of the association shall be entitled to full delegate privileges independent of the delegate quota of his/her club. Each district may, by express provision in its respective constitution and by-laws, grant full delegate status to each past district governor who is a member of a club in such district independent of the club delegate quotas.

ä *Election Committee:* Prior to the convention, the district governor shall appoint, and designate the chairperson of, an elections committee consisting of three (3) members. The election committee shall be responsible for preparation of materials, vote tabulation, and resolving questions concerning the validity of individual ballots. The committee's decision shall be final and binding. (Standard Form District Convention Rules of Procedure, Exhibit A, Rule 7.)

ä *Form of Ballot:*

n The district governor/vice district governor election shall be conducted by a secret written ballot, even if only one candidate is running for office. Unless otherwise provided in the respective district constitution and by-laws or adopted rules, in elections, "for" and "against" spaces or boxes should not be used. They are applicable only with respect to votes on motions. An election, in effect, is a vote on filling a blank, and a voter can vote against one candidate only by voting for another who has been nominated or by writing in the name of another candidate.

ä *Required Votes:*

n *Majority Vote:* The district governor/vice district governor candidate is required to secure a majority of the votes cast by the delegates present and voting in order to be declared elected. A majority is defined as a number more than one-half of the total valid votes cast excluding blanks and abstentions.

n *Valid Vote:* Unless otherwise provided in the respective district constitution and by-laws or adopted rules, votes that are to be counted to determine majority are votes cast from individuals legally entitled to vote including legal and illegal votes, but excluding blanks and abstentions. **n**