

**The International Association  
Of Lions Clubs**



**District 31-F**

**Constitution and By-Laws**

**As Amended November, 2008**

**The International Association of Lions Clubs District 31-F Constitution and By-Laws**

**Constitution**

**ARTICLE I**

**Name**

**Section 1.** This Organization shall be known as District 31-F of the International Association of Lions Clubs (hereinafter referred to as “Lions Clubs International”).

**ARTICLE II**

**Objects**

**Section 1.** To provide an administrative structure with which to advance the Purpose and Objects of Lions Clubs International in this District.

**ARTICLE III**

**Membership**

**Section 1.** The members of this Organization shall be all Lions Clubs in the District chartered by Lions Clubs International.

The boundary lines of this District shall be as follows: The area encompassed by the North Carolina Counties of Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Roberson, Sampson, and Scotland. For the purposes of this Constitution these boundaries will automatically be adjusted to conform with any changes in alignment made by Lions Clubs International or Multiple District 31.

**ARTICLE IV**

**District Organization**

**Section 1. Cabinet & Officers**

A. The District shall have a District Cabinet composed of the District Governor, the Immediate Past District Governor, the First Vice-District Governor, the Second Vice-District Governor, the Region Chairs (if the position is utilized during the District Governor’s term), the Zone Chairs’, a Cabinet Secretary and a Cabinet Treasurer as voting members. It is understood that the Secretary & the Treasurer positions may be combined if the District Governor feels it is appropriate. In addition to these positions the District Governor may add, for the duration of his term of office, up to eight District Committee Chairs as voting members of his cabinet. All other District Committee Chairs shall serve as ex-officio members of the Cabinet without the right to vote. The members of the District Cabinet shall be the Officers of the District. Each such Officer shall be a member in good standing of a Lions Club in good standing in the District.

B. The District Governor, the First Vice-District Governor and the Second Vice-District Governor shall be elected at the annual convention of District 31F. If no District Convention is held during the year, the election will take place at a meeting of District delegates at the State Convention. The District Governor shall appoint, by the time he/she takes office, the Cabinet Secretary, the Cabinet Treasurer (or the combined position), one Region Chair for each Region (if the position is utilized during the District Governor’s term), and one Zone Chair for each Zone in the District.

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C. Any vacancy in any District office, except that of District Governor, First Vice-District Governor and Second Vice-District Governor, shall be filled by appointment of the District Governor for the unexpired term thereof. In filling any vacancy arising in the office of First or Second Vice-District Governor, the District shall convene a meeting of the members of the existing cabinet as provided for in the International Constitution and By-Laws and all past international officers who are members in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing in the District. It shall be the duty of the attendees at this meeting to appoint a qualified club member to the position of First or Second Vice-District Governor for the remainder of the term. In filling said vacancy, it shall be the duty of the District Governor, or if not available, the most recent past District Governor who is available, to send out invitations to attend said meeting and it shall be his/her responsibility to preside as Chair of the meeting. The Chair shall convey the results to the international office within seven (7) days together with evidence of invitations sent and meeting attendance. Each Lion who is entitled to receive an invitation to attend and is present at said meeting shall be entitled to cast one vote for the Lion of his/her choice.

D. Each Region and Zone Chair shall:

1. Be an active member in good standing in his/her respective Region or Zone; and
2. Have served or will have served at the time of taking office as Region or Zone Chair, as president of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of the board of directors of a Lions Club for no less than two (2) additional years.

E. If any Region Chair or Zone Chair shall cease to be a member of a Club in the Region or Zone, as the case may be, to which he/she was appointed, his/her term of office shall thereupon cease and the District Governor shall appoint a successor to fill said office. Provided, however, the District Governor in his/her discretion may determine not to use the position of Region Chair for the remainder of the term.

F. No salary shall be paid to any officer of the District.

### Section 2. **District Cabinet Meetings.**

A. **Regular.** A regular meeting of the Cabinet shall be held in each quarter of the fiscal year, with the first to be held within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the preceding International Convention. Ten(10) days written notice of meetings setting forth a date, time and place determined by the District Governor, shall be given to each member by the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer.

B. **Special.** Special meetings of the Cabinet may be called by the District Governor at his/her discretion, and shall be called upon written request made to the District Governor or the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer by a majority of the members of the Cabinet. Not fewer than five (5) nor more than thirty (30) days written or telegraphic notice of special meetings, setting forth the purposes thereof and a date, time and place determined by the District Governor, shall be given to each member by the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer.

C. **Quorum and Vote.** The attendance of a majority of the voting members of the Cabinet shall constitute a quorum of any meeting thereof. In all such meetings, the voting privilege shall extend to the District Governor, the Immediate Past District Governor, First Vice District Governor, Second Vice District Governor, the Region Chairs (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term), the Zone Chairs, the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, and any Committee Chairs which may have been designated as voting members in accordance with Article IV, Section 1.A. above. At any meeting of the Cabinet, where it has been first determined that a quorum as defined above is present, the District Governor or officer presiding, may, at his or her option, rule that the voting privilege be extended to all persons in attendance who are

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members in good standing of a chartered Lions Club of good standing in the District. After such a ruling has been made, it shall apply to all votes taken for the duration of the meeting.

### Section 3. **Regions and Zones.**

A. The District Governor shall divide the District into Regions of no more than sixteen (16) and not fewer than ten (10) Lions Clubs, and each such Region into Zones of no more than eight (8) and no fewer than four (4) Lions Clubs, giving due regard to the geographical locations of the clubs. All such Regions and Zones shall be subject to change by the District Governor when, in his/her sole discretion, he/she shall deem the same necessary to the best interests of Lions Clubs International. The District Governor may also choose, at his/her discretion, to eliminate the Region divisions entirely and operate with only Zone divisions.

B. **Regional Meetings.** Meetings of representatives of all clubs in a Region, with the Region Chair (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term) or other District cabinet member as may be assigned by the District Governor presiding, may be held during the fiscal year at times and places fixed by the Region Chair or other assigned cabinet member of the respective Region.

C. **Zone Meetings.** Joint meetings of at least two or more clubs within any zone shall constitute a Zone Meeting. Such meetings shall be structured so as to foster an exchange of ideas and promote cooperative efforts within the zone. They may also serve to facilitate the official club visits of the District Governor. It shall be the responsibility of the Zone Chairman to arrange or promote as many such meetings as possible.

### Section 4. **District Committees.**

A. **District Governor's Advisory Committees.** In each Zone, the Zone Chair and the Presidents and Secretaries of the clubs in the Zone shall compose a District Governor's Advisory Committee, with the Zone Chair as Chair thereof. The Zone Chair shall call at least four meetings of this committee each year. The first of these meetings shall be held immediately following the first District Cabinet Meeting. Subsequent meetings should be held a short time prior to subsequent District Cabinet Meetings.

B. **District Governor's Honorary Committee.** The District Governor may appoint a District Governor's Honorary Committee composed of Past International Officers who are members in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing within the District. This Committee shall meet when and as called upon by the District Governor.

## **ARTICLE V District Administration and Convention Fund**

Section 1. To provide revenue to defray the administrative and convention expenses of the District, and Multiple District, an annual District Administration and Convention Fund Per Capita Tax of \$17.00 is hereby levied upon each member of each club in the District, said tax being composed of \$10.50 for District 31-F expenses and \$6.50 for Multiple District expenses. It shall be collected and paid in advance by each club in two (2) semi-annual payments as follows: one-half of the annual tax per club member by September first of each year to cover the semi-annual period July 1 to December 31; and one-half of the annual tax per club member by March first of each year, to cover the semiannual period January 1 and June 30, with billings of the same to be based upon the roster of each club as of the first days of July and January, respectively. Such tax shall be paid to the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer by each club, except newly chartered and reorganized clubs, which shall collect and pay said per capita tax on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization or reorganization, as the case may be. Said per capita tax shall be disbursed for administrative and convention expenses of the District and only upon approval by the

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District Governor. Disbursements therefrom shall be by checks drawn and signed by the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer and counter signed by the District Governor. The amount of the said tax as stipulated above shall automatically be adjusted to compensate for any changes in the tax due to Multiple District 31. Other changes in the rate of said tax shall only be made at the District Convention upon approval of a two-thirds vote of the delegates.

Section 2. Expenses of the Immediate Past District Governor and Immediate Past Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer in connection with his/her attending the International Convention shall be considered a District administrative expense. Reimbursement for such expenses shall be made on the same basis as outlined in the Rules of Audit of Lions Clubs International.

Section 3. The District Governor and his/her Cabinet shall not incur obligations in any fiscal year, which will effect an unbalanced budget, or deficit in said fiscal year.

Section 4. The Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount and with such surety company as shall be approved by the District Governor and his Cabinet. The cost of same shall be an administrative expense.

Section 5. The District Governor shall provide for an annual or more frequent audit of the books and accounts of the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, and a statement of the financial condition of the District shall be sent to Lions Clubs International and each club in the District within sixty (60) days after the close of the fiscal year by the District Governor then in office.

### **ARTICLE VI District Convention**

Section 1. An Annual Convention of the District shall be held in each year prior to the Multiple District Convention at a place, date and time fixed by the District Governor. A meeting of the registered delegates of the District in attendance at the Annual Convention of the Multiple District of which this District shall be a part, may constitute the annual convention of the District if no District Convention is held prior to that date.

Section 2. The members of the District Cabinet shall be the officers of the Annual District Convention.

Section 3. A Convention Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms shall be appointed by the District Governor.

Section 4. Each chartered club in good standing in Lions Clubs International and the District shall be represented by one or more delegates at the annual District convention and shall be entitled in each such convention to one voting delegate and one alternate for each ten members, or major fraction thereof, of said club as shown by the records of the International Office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five or more members. Each certified delegate present in person may cast one vote only for each office to be filled by, and one vote only on each issue to be voted on by the members of said convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates voting on any questions shall be the act of the convention. Delinquent dues may be paid and good standing acquired at any time prior to the close of credential certification, as such closing time shall be established by the rules of the respective convention.

Section 5. The attendance in person of a majority of the delegates registered at a convention shall constitute a quorum at any session of the convention.

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Section 6. Within sixty (60) days after the close of the District Convention, the Secretary thereof shall transmit one copy of the complete proceedings thereof to the International Office. Upon written request from any club in the respective District a copy shall be furnished to said club.

### **ARTICLE VII Amendments**

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended only at a District Convention by resolution reported by the Convention Committee on Constitution and By-Laws and adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

Section 2. No amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished in writing to each club no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the Annual Convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said Convention.

Section 3. Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the Convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **District Nominations and Elections**

Section 1. The District Governor shall appoint, by written notification received at least sixty (60) days prior to the District Convention, a Nominating Committee 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. The names and addresses of Lions so appointed shall be sent to all clubs in the District at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening day of the District Convention.

Section 2. Any member of a Club in the District seeking the office of District Governor shall file his/her intention to so run in writing with the Nominating Committee prior to the day of its report to the Convention, and furnish therewith evidence of his/her compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws. If the current First Vice-District Governor chooses to run for the office of District Governor, the Nominating Committee shall place only his/her name in nomination at the District Convention and no other nominations will be accepted. If the current Second Vice-District Governor chooses to run for the office of First Vice-District Governor, the Nominating Committee shall place only his/her name in nomination at the District Convention and no other nominations will be accepted. If the current First or Second Vice-District Governor choose not to run, the Nominating Committee shall place in nomination the names of all candidates so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. Such floor nominations will only be accepted for a candidate who meets the qualifications for the office as set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws. Each candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three minutes duration.

Section 3. Any member of a Club in the District seeking the office of Vice District Governor shall file his/her intention to so run in writing with the Nominating Committee prior to the day of its report to the Convention, and furnish therewith evidence of his/her compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the District Convention the names of all candidates so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but only then, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. Such floor nomination will only be accepted for a candidate who meets the qualifications for the office as set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws. Each candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three minutes duration.

Section 4. The election for the above named officers shall be by secret written ballot, even if only one candidate is running for office. Only certified delegates, as determined by Article VI, Section 4 of the District 31-F Constitution, may vote. The candidate receiving the largest number of the votes cast shall be declared elected. In case of a tie on any ballot, balloting shall continue on the tied candidates until one is elected.

Section 5. In the event the District Convention fails to elect a qualified District Governor or in the event of a vacancy in the office of District Governor, the office shall be filled in accordance with the appointment provisions of the International Constitution.

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Section 6. In the event the District Convention fails to elect at least one qualified Vice District Governor or in the event of a vacancy which would result in having no Vice District Governor, the office shall be filled in accordance with the appointment provisions of Article IV, Section 1C of the Constitution.

### **ARTICLE II** **Duties**

Section 1. **District Governor.** Under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors, he/she shall represent the Association in his/her District. In addition, he/she shall be the Chief Administrative Officer of this District and shall have direct supervision over the Vice District Governor, Region Chairs, Zone Chairs, Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer and such other Cabinet members as may be provided for in this Constitution and By-Laws. His/Her specific responsibilities shall be to:

- (a) Further the purposes and object of this Association;
- (b) Supervise the organization of new Lions Clubs;
- (c) Prior to taking office, join with the serving Governor, the serving Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, the serving Budget and Finance Committee, the incoming Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, and the incoming Vice District Governor to formulate a budget for the coming year.
- (d) Preside, when present, over cabinet, convention and other District meetings. During any period he/she is unable to so preside, the presiding officer at any such meeting shall be the Vice District Governor, but if he/she is not available, the District Officer chosen by the attending members shall preside;
- (e) Promote cordial relations among the chartered Lions Clubs;
- (f) Endeavor to visit each Club at least once during his/her term of office;
- (g) Exercise such supervision and authority over Cabinet Officers and District committee appointees as is provided for in this Constitution;
- (h) Submit a current itemized statement of total District receipts and expenditures to his/her District Convention or annual meeting of his/her District at a Multiple District Convention.
- (i) Deliver, forthwith, at the termination of his/her term of office, all District accounts and records to his/her successor in office;
- (j) Report all known violations of the use of the Association name and emblem;
- (k) Perform such other functions and acts as shall be required of him/her by the International Board of Directors through the District Governor's Manual and other directives.

Section 2. **First and Second Vice District Governor.** The First and Second Vice District Governor, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor, shall be Chief Administrative Assistant to the District Governor. His/Her specific responsibilities shall be to:

- (a) Further the Purposes and Objects of this Association;

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- (b) Familiarize himself/herself with the duties of the District Governor so in the event of a vacancy in the office of District Governor he/she will be prepared to assume the duties and responsibilities of said office;
- (c) Perform such administrative duties as may be assigned to him/her by the District Governor;
- (d) Perform such other functions and acts as may be required of him/her by the International Board of Directors;
- (e) Actively participate in all Cabinet and Council meetings and conduct all meetings in the absence of the District Governor;
- (f) Participate in the preparation of the District budget;
- (g) Be actively engaged in all matters to be continued during the next year,
- (h) Participate in the review of the strengths and weaknesses of the Clubs and the District; and
- (i) At the request of the District Governor, supervise appropriate District committees.

Section 3. **Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer.** If this position is separated, the following duties may be split among the positions at the discretion of the District Governor. He/She shall act under the supervision of the District Governor. His/Her specific responsibilities shall be to:

- (a) Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- (b) Perform such duties as are implied by the title of said office, including but not by way of limitation the following:
  - 1) 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 Clubs International;
  - 2) Take and keep minutes of the District Convention and furnish copies of the same to Lions Clubs International, the District Governor and the Secretary of each Club in the District;
  - 3) Make reports to the Cabinet as the District Governor or Cabinet may require;
  - 4) Collect and receipt for all per capita taxes levied hereunder on members and clubs in the District, deposit the same in such bank or banks as the District Governor shall determine and disburse the same by order of the District Governor;
  - 5) Remit and pay over to the Multiple District Council Secretary-Treasurer the Multiple District Per Capita Tax, if any, collected in the District, and secure a proper receipt therefor;
  - 6) Keep accurate books and records of account, and minutes of all Cabinet and District meetings, and permit inspection of the same by the District Governor, any Cabinet member and any 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, he/she shall furnish any such books and records as requested to any auditor appointed by the District Governor;
  - 7) Secure bond for the faithful performance of his/her duties in such sum and with such sureties as may be required by the District Governor with the advice and consent of the Cabinet.
- (c) Perform such additional assignments as shall be given to him/her, or them, from time to time by the District Governor;
- (d) Perform such other functions and acts as may be required of each by the International Board of Directors through the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer's Manual and other directives.

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Section 4. **Region Chair.** The Region Chair (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term) is subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor, shall be the Chief Administrative Officer in his/her region. His/Her specific responsibilities shall be to:

- (a) Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- (b) Supervise the activities of the Zone Chairs in his/her Region and such District Committee Chairs as may be assigned to him/her by the District Governor;
- (c) Play an active role in organizing new clubs and in strengthening weak clubs;
- (d) Visit a regular meeting of each club in his/her Region at least once during his/her term of office, reporting his/her findings to the District Governor;
- (e) Visit a regular Board of Directors Meeting of each Club in his/her Region at least once during his/her term of office, reporting his/her findings to the District Governor;
- (f) Endeavor to have every Club in his/her Region operating under a duly adopted Club Constitution and By-Laws;
- (g) Promote representation at International and District Conventions by at least the full quota of delegates to which Clubs in His/her Region are entitled;
- (h) Carry out such official visitations to Club meetings and charter nights as shall be assigned to him/her by the District Governor;
- (i) Perform such additional assignments as shall be given to him/her from time to time by the District Governor;
- (j) Perform such other functions and acts as may be required of him/her by the International Board of Directors through the Region Chair's Manual and other directives.

In the event the Region Chair for any reason cannot or does not, in the judgment of the District Governor, perform the duties of his/her office, or in the event the office is for any reason vacant, the District Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

Section 5. **Zone Chair.** The Zone Chair, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor and/or Region Chair, shall be the Chief Administrative Officer in his/her Zone. His/Her specific responsibilities shall be to:

- (a) Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- (b) Serve as Chair of the District Governor's Advisory Committee in his/her Zone and as such Chair to call regular meetings of said committee;
- (c) Make a report of each District Governor's Advisory Committee meeting and send copies within five (5) days thereafter to Lions Clubs International and to the District Governor and Region Chair

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- (d) Play an active role in organizing new clubs and keep informed on the activities and well-being of all Clubs in his/her Zone;
- (e) Represent each Club in his/her Zone in any problems with District, Multiple District or Lions Clubs International;
- (f) Supervise the progress of District, Multiple District and Lions Clubs International projects in his/her Zone;
- (g) Endeavor to have every Club within his/her Zone operating under a duly adopted Club Constitution and By-Laws;
- (h) Promote representation at International and District Conventions by at least the full quota of delegates to which Clubs in his/her Zone are entitled;
- (i) Visit a regular meeting of each Club in his/her Zone once or more during his/her term of office, reporting his/her findings to the Region Chair particularly with respect to weaknesses he/she may have discovered. (Copy to District Governor);
- (j) Perform such other functions and acts as may be required of him/her by the International Board of Directors through the Zone Chair's Manual and other directives.

In the event the Zone Chair for any reason cannot or does not, in the judgment of the District Governor, perform the duties of his/her office, or in the event the office is for any reason vacant, the District Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term.

Section 6. **District Governor's Cabinet.** The District Governor's Cabinet shall:

- (a) Assist the District Governor in the performance of his/her duties and in the formulation of administrative plans and policies affecting the welfare of Lionism within the District;
- (b) Receive from the Region Chair or other assigned District Cabinet member, reports and recommendations, which concern the Clubs and Zones.

Section 7. **District Governor's Advisory Committee.** It shall assist the Zone Chair in an advisory capacity; procure recommendations affecting welfare of Lionism and the Clubs in the Zone, and relay the same through the Zone Chair to the District Governor and his Cabinet.

Section 8. **District Governor's Honorary Committee.** It shall act under the direction of the District Governor in the promotion of harmony throughout the District. The Chair of this Committee shall attend meetings of the Cabinet when requested by the District Governor.

Section 9. **Sergeant-At-Arms.** The Sergeant-At-Arms shall maintain order and decorum at the respective conventions and meetings and perform such other duties as are incident to his/her office under ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

## **ARTICLE III NCLF Board Members**

Section 1. The District Governor shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the North

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Carolina Lions Foundation (NCLF). His/Her term shall be for one year and shall coincide with his term of office as District Governor. In the event that the District Governor is replaced in office, his replacement shall assume his/her position on the NCLF Board for the unexpired term.

Section 2. The First Vice-District Governor shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Lions Foundation (NCLF). His/Her term shall be for one year and shall coincide with his/her term of office as First Vice-District Governor. In the event that the First Vice-District Governor is replaced in office, his replacement shall assume his/her position on the NCLF Board for the unexpired term.

Section 3. The Immediate Past District Governor shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Lions Foundation (NCLF). His/Her term shall be for one year. In the event that the Immediate Past District Governor is unable to serve, the District Governor may appoint a qualified Lion of the District to serve in his place.

### **ARTICLE IV Convention Committees**

Section 1. The Credentials Committee of the District Convention shall be composed of the District Governor, as Chair, the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer and two other non-officers of the District appointed by the District Governor. The Credentials Committee shall have the powers and perform the duties set forth in ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

Section 2. The District Governor shall appoint, designate the Chairs of, and fill any vacancies occurring in the following District Convention Committees: Resolutions, Elections, Constitution and By-Laws, Rules and International Convention. No Zone shall have more than one representative on each committee. These committees shall perform such duties as the District Governor shall designate.

### **ARTICLE V Rules for Convention Procedure**

Section 1. The District Governor shall arrange the Order of Business for the District Convention, and the same shall be the order of the day for all sessions.

Section 2. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution and By-Laws, or in the rules of Procedure adopted for a meeting, all questions of Order and Procedure in any District meeting or convention, any meeting of the District Cabinet, a Region, Zone or member Club or of any other group or committee of any one of them shall be determined by ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

### **ARTICLE VI Nomination and Endorsement**

#### **International Director and Third Vice-President Nominees**

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of the International Constitution and By-Laws, any member of a Lions Club in the District seeking endorsement of a District convention as a candidate for the office of International Director or Third Vice-President shall:

(a) Deliver (by mail or in person) written Notice of Intention to seek such endorsement to the District Governor no less than 30 days prior to the convening date of the respective convention at which such question of endorsement is to be voted upon;

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(b) Deliver with said Notice of Intention evidence of fulfillment of the qualifications for such office set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2. Each Notice of Intention so delivered shall be transmitted forthwith by the District Governor 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 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. Each such nominee for endorsement shall be entitled to one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

Section 4. The vote on the question of endorsement shall be by secret written ballot, unless there shall be only one nominee seeking the same, in which event a voice vote may be taken. The nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared endorsed (elected) as the candidate of the convention and District. In the event of a tie vote, or failure of one nominee to receive the required majority, on any ballot, balloting shall continue until one receives the required majority of the votes cast.

Section 5. Certification of Endorsement by the respective convention shall be made to the International Office by the District officials designated, and in accordance with the requirements therefor set forth, in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 6. No endorsement of any candidacy of any member of a Lions Club in this District shall be valid unless and until the provisions of this Article VI have been met.

### **ARTICLE VII Fiscal Year**

Section 1. The fiscal year of this District shall be from July 1st to June 30th.

### **ARTICLE VIII Amendments**

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended only at a District Convention, by resolution reported by the Convention Committee on Constitution and By-Laws and adopted by a majority of the votes cast.

Section 2. No amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished in writing to each Club no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the Annual District Convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said Convention.

Section 3. Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the Convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

### **ARTICLE IX**

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