

# MD19 Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report

Report by: Larrie Taylor, Chairperson

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## **Ongoing review of Constitution and Bylaws and Policy Manual**

The Council Chair and Vice Council Chair have struck an ad hoc committee to look at both the MD's Constitution and Bylaws and the Policy Manual. One of their objectives was to try to eliminate any duplication of overlaps in these two documents. A second objective was to investigate the possibility to adopt the LCI Standard MD Constitution and Bylaws document [amended to retain our special or unique clauses]. This work is under progress.

## **The following recommended changes were submitted in a previous report and are essentially on the ballot at the upcoming MD Convention.**

### ARTICLE I "BL"

Election of Multiple District Officers and Voting on Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws

SECTION 1. The Chairperson of the Convention shall call for nominations from the floor of the Annual Convention on the day preceding that scheduled for the election of officers. A list of the nominations for the offices of Council Chairperson and Vice Council Chairperson of the Multiple District shall be furnished by the Multiple District Executive Secretary-Treasurer to the Election Committee.

Replace with the following:

SECTION 1. Voting for the Offices of Council Chairperson and Vice Council Chairperson shall occur at each District's Spring Conference as explained in ARTICLE IV "Officers" SECTION 3 b. The MD19 Office will prepare the ballots and the Voting Certificates for the MD19 Officer elections held at the District Spring Conferences and will provide a list of the number of delegates and alternates allowed for each club. A majority of the votes on any ballot, exclusive of blanks, shall be necessary for election to any office.

SECTION 2. When voting on proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws at the MD19 Annual Convention, the Credentials Committee shall verify the voting certificates of the delegates and alternates prior to voting. A list of all registered delegates and alternates in each

SECTION 3. The Multiple District Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall prepare and furnish to the Election Committee ballots bearing spaces for the Council Chairperson and Vice Council Chairperson of the Multiple District and identified only as First, Second, Third etc. ballot. The Multiple District Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall, also, prepare and furnish ballots with the proposed amendments printed thereon with blocks marked "For" or "Against" opposite each proposed amendment.

SECTION 4. The Polling places shall open at 7:30 A.M. on the day of election and shall remain open until 11:30 A.M.

Replace with the following:

SECTION 4. The Polling Places shall be open and the election procedure shall follow the times and procedures printed in the MD19 Policy Manual in Chapter VI "CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES #A. ANNUAL CONVENTION under #33.

**It is recommended to the MD19 Policy Manual Committee** that this title "Hours for Certification of Credentials" be changed to "Hours for Certification of Credentials and Voting"

SECTION 5. Delegates desiring to vote shall present their voting certificates at the Polling Place and be checked against the list of registered delegates and if qualified, shall be furnished a ballot. Each delegate shall mark their ballot in secret, and deposit it in the ballot box.

SECTION 6. At the time specified, the Election Committee shall close their ballot box and shall retire and count the ballots, reporting their findings promptly to the convention session.

SECTION 7 Renumbered to SECTION 5.

A majority of the votes on any ballot, exclusive of blanks, shall be necessary for election to any office. (Moved to ARTICLE 1 "BL" SECTION 1. above)

SECTION 7 (Renumbered to SECTION 5)

See Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution for the requirements to pass proposed amendments to the Constitution.

See Article XI BL Section 1 for the requirements to pass proposed amendments to the By-Laws.

It is deemed that the following Sections of Article I BL would be more appropriately moved to Article IV "Officers" to define the process for announcing the election results, to define a process should there three or more candidates for the position of Vice Council Chair, to define a process should the incumbent Vice Council Chair not receive a simple majority of votes cast for the candidacy for the position of Council Chair.

Move SECTION 8 AND SECTION 9 of ARTICLE I "BL" TO ARTICLE IV "Officers" as letters c. and d. See below:

ARTICLE IV "Officers"

Add to Section 3.b. as the last sentence the following:

b. Voting for these Officers shall occur at each District's Spring Conference ...the counting of the ballots will be within seven

(7) days of these last District Conferences. "The results of the Election for the offices of Council Chairperson and Vice Council Chairperson will be announced at the MD19 Spring Council Meeting following the district elections."

c. In an election where there are three candidates or more for Vice Council Chairperson and no candidate receives a majority vote for an office, the same shall be reported to the Council at the MD19 Spring Council Meeting following the district elections. All candidates but the two candidates with the highest number of votes will automatically be dropped and a second and subsequent ballot shall be taken by email vote of the clubs in each district. The email vote will be conducted by the MD19 Office. The results of the second ballot will be announced by the MD19 EST by email to the Council of Governors within three days after the ballots have been counted.

d. In the event the incumbent Vice Council Chairperson stands for election as Council Chairperson and at the election fails to secure a simple majority of the affirmative votes cast by the delegates present and voting, he/she shall be declared not elected and a vacancy in that office shall be declared.