



# **Kiwanis<sup>®</sup>**

## **Proposed Amendments and Resolutions**

**for consideration at the 98th Annual  
Kiwaniis International Convention  
June 28, 2013**



 **Kiwanis<sup>®</sup>**  
**CONVENTION**





# Kiwaniis®

To all Kiwanis clubs:

May 2013

Proposed amendments to the Kiwanis International Bylaws, as well as one administrative resolution, will be presented for action at the 98th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. With this year’s array of amendments, delegates to the convention will address several important issues—including additional protection for the youth served by clubs and member concerns about financial accountability and sustainability. Voting will take place at the House of Delegates on Friday, June 28, 2013.

In accordance with the provisions of the Kiwanis International Bylaws, these proposals are being sent to the secretary of each chartered club. The reasons for each proposed amendment is included, along with the Kiwanis International Board’s position. The present provisions of each Bylaws article and section are shown. Text that would be added by the proposed amendment is underlined (underlined), and text that would be deleted is lined out (~~lined out~~).

*Example:*

Original wording .....Each club shall hold a program.

Proposed changes shown ...Each club ~~shall~~ may hold ~~a program~~ an annual meeting.

New wording would be .....Each club may hold an annual meeting.

We hope your club will ensure it is well represented by sending two delegates to the 2013 Kiwanis International convention. We look forward to seeing you in Vancouver.

Sincerely,

Stan D. Soderstrom  
Executive Director  
Kiwaniis International

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# PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AT A GLANCE

(Robert's Rules of Order–Newly Revised)

**Please note:** Anyone wishing to make a change to a proposed amendment (making an amendment to a motion) is required to submit the change in writing, in English, to the executive director (or designee) before going to the microphone. This ensures your change will be reflected accurately.

**Putting a motion on the floor:** To make a motion or an amendment to a motion, the maker should go to the microphone, be recognized by the presiding officer (the Kiwanis International president), state his/her name and club, and then state the motion (or amendment to the motion). The motion (or amendment) is seconded from the floor. The presiding officer then places the motion before the House for discussion. The club delegate may speak to the motion (or amendment) first. Note: Once a motion is placed before the House by the presiding officer, it is under the control of the House and does not belong to the delegate making the motion. For example, it cannot be withdrawn later without permission of the House.

**Seconds to motions:** It is not necessary to agree with a motion to second it. A second only implies that more than one person wishes to discuss the motion. Therefore, if a motion is coming from the Kiwanis International Board or a committee, it does not need a second from the floor.

**Amendments to motions:** A motion that is on the floor may have two amendments pending at one time. However, the first amendment must relate to the main motion, and the second amendment must relate to the first amendment to the motion.

**Postponing or referring:** A motion to postpone or refer to a committee can be made while a main motion or an amendment to a main motion is pending.

**Closing debate or calling the question (same motion):** A delegate must go to a microphone to move to close debate or call the question. The motion needs a second. There is no discussion, and it takes a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting to pass. If the motion to close debate or call the question is approved, there will be an immediate vote on the pending motion.

**Tabling a motion:** A motion to table is used only in an emergency. A motion to table (or to “lay on the table”) should not be used to kill the motion on the floor and should not be used to postpone consideration of the motion. If a delegate does not like the motion, he/she should vote against it. If a delegate wishes to discuss the motion at another time, he/she can move to postpone or to refer the motion to a committee. (See “Referring or postponing” above.) There is no such motion as “table until xxxx time.” Instead, the correct motion would be “postpone until xxxx time.”

**Point of order:** If a delegate believes there was a breach of parliamentary procedure, he/she may call for a point of order. If the point of order refers to an action made by someone other than the presiding officer, the delegate should give the presiding officer time to address the problem before interrupting with the point of order. If a delegate cannot reach a microphone in a timely manner, he/she may shout “point of order” from his/her place while approaching a microphone.

**Questions:** If a delegate wishes to make a motion and is not sure how to proceed, the delegate should ask the presiding officer. Any questions or concerns about the process used during the House of Delegates must be made known and addressed during the session. Questions or concerns cannot be addressed after the session.

Yes= 96% No= 4% Passed

## ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION

### Adoption of Kiwanis Membership Initiatives

The following administrative resolution is submitted by the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees. If adopted, it will be effective immediately. A majority vote is required to adopt it.

**WHEREAS:** The Kiwanis International Bylaws state (Article II, Section 3): “Notwithstanding any other provision of the Kiwanis International Bylaws, the Standard Form for Club Bylaws, or the Standard Form for District Bylaws, the International Board of Trustees may admit into Kiwanis membership and/or permit the creation of new forms of Kiwanis membership consistent with the Objects of Kiwanis International, which may extend for a period not exceeding five (5) years without approval of the House of Delegates. The Executive Director of Kiwanis International shall make an annual report to the House of Delegates covering any such Board actions taken or authorized and make an evaluation of their current effectiveness. “

**WHEREAS:** In light of the new five-year campaign for growth, a comprehensive review was made of all membership programs, including several flexible membership initiatives adopted by the Kiwanis International Board in 2007.

**WHEREAS:** A company-based club is a club composed of members who are all employees of the same organization or workplace, which pays one annual fixed fee and is required to participate in at least one Kiwanis-branded service program per year.

**WHEREAS:** Corporate membership is a membership seat occupied by varying individuals affiliated with the same company or organization.

**WHEREAS:** An affiliate club is a provisional or associate club, formed primarily in Kiwanis nations outside of existing districts, that does not qualify for full rights and privileges of membership in the organization. The club pays a reduced annual fee rather than membership dues; and receives limited Kiwanis services via web access and/or through purchase of Kiwanis materials or projects.

**WHEREAS:** Club satellites are a group of club members located, meeting, and operating remotely from their host club.

**WHEREAS:** These programs have proved to be productive in offering non-traditional initiatives for Kiwanis growth, providing a positive return on investment for clubs and the organization, helping to expand the Kiwanis brand, and should therefore be permanently adopted by Kiwanis International.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** in accordance with the Kiwanis International Bylaws, the House of Delegates at the 2013 Kiwanis International convention agrees to permanently adopt company-based clubs, corporate membership, affiliate clubs, and club satellites as new forms of Kiwanis membership.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Kiwanis International Board is directed to present any Kiwanis International Bylaws amendments to the 2014 or 2015 House of Delegates that may be necessary to permanently adopt these initiatives.

Yes= 83% No= 17% Passed

## Proposed Amendment 1 Earlier Publication of Proposed Amendments and Resolutions

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To provide for earlier publication of proposed amendments and resolutions, allowing clubs to take advantage of early-bird registration rates for the Kiwanis International convention.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- The Bylaws currently provide that amendment and resolution proposals have to be distributed to clubs 30 days prior to the Kiwanis International convention (by approximately May 20). However, once clubs learn of the proposals on the table for the coming year, it is too late to take advantage of discounted registration rates.
- Surveys repeatedly indicate most members attend the convention to vote for Board officers and bylaw amendments. Candidates are known early in the year, but amendment proposals are not due until February 15, so the Board cannot consider them until its April meeting. (Note: The Board traditionally meets in early October, mid-January, mid-April, and late June.)
- To finalize and distribute proposed amendments at the Board's January meeting, thereby allowing clubs to take advantage of early-bird convention rates, requires advancing the timing of all related processes, including the initial submission date.
- Because amendment and resolution proposals are traditionally shared with clubs at the same time, the Board also recommends a corresponding change in the resolution submission process.

**Amend** Article XXVIII, Sections 2 and 4, and Article XVIII, Section 6, as follows:

### ARTICLE XXVIII. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS AND RESCISSION OF INTERPRETATIONS

**Section 2.** Prior to the next scheduled International convention but no later than February 15 October 31, the Executive Director must receive: (7/2007)

- a. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws to be voted on at an International convention (except those passed by the International Council and those initiated by the Board of Trustees); (6/1991)
- b. Proposals to rescind the Bylaws adopted by the International Council; or (6/1991)
- c. Proposals to change or rescind an interpretation of the Bylaws by the Board of Trustees. (6/1991)

**Section 4.** Not later than ~~thirty (30)~~ ninety (90) days prior to the date of the International convention, the Executive Director shall send to the secretary of each club a copy of all proposed amendments, including those amendments passed by the International Council, and all proposals to rescind the Bylaws adopted by the International Council or to change or rescind an interpretation of the Bylaws by the Board of Trustees. (7/1998)

**ARTICLE XVII. CONVENTION PROCEDURE**

**Section 6.**

- b. The Executive Director must receive all proposed resolutions prior to the next scheduled International convention but no later than ~~February 15~~ October 31. (7/2007)
- c. Within sixty (60) days thereafter, the International Committee on Resolutions shall meet to consider such proposed resolutions, as well as any resolutions which may be initiated by the committee. (7/2007)
- d. Not later than ~~thirty (30)~~ ninety (90) days prior to the date of the International convention, the Executive Director shall send to the secretary of each club a copy of all proposed resolutions, other than memorial and appreciation resolutions. No resolutions other than those so sent to clubs shall be considered by the International convention unless recommended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the International Board of Trustees. (7/1998)

## Proposed Amendment 2 District Endorsement of Candidates

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To provide that district house action will be the standard method of endorsing candidates for Kiwanis International Board offices, with exceptions granted only in extenuating circumstances.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** Majority

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- It enforces the principle that duly elected club delegates have priority in selecting candidates from their districts.
- This amendment clarifies that action by a candidate's district house of delegates shall be the normal and preferred method for endorsement.
- It still allows for endorsement by the district board if extenuating circumstances (such as timing of an unexpected vacancy) preclude timely action by the district house.

**Amend** Article XVIII, Section 3, as follows:

### ARTICLE XVIII. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

#### Section 3.

a. The nomination and election procedures for officers to be elected at the annual International convention shall be as follows: (7/1998)

(4) No person shall be considered as a candidate until or unless the following requirements have been met:

- Written consent of such person has been given;
- Prior endorsement of the candidate's district board of trustees or district house of delegates has been provided; and The candidate has been endorsed by the candidate's district house of delegates prior to the candidate announcing his/her candidacy to Kiwanis International. If extenuating circumstances make it impossible for the district house of delegates to endorse a candidate, he/she may be endorsed instead by the district board in authority during the administrative year in which the election will take place.
- A clear criminal history background check has been conducted and verified by Kiwanis International.

(6/2010)

Yes= 87% No= 13% Passed

## Proposed Amendment 3 Service as Governor before Becoming a Trustee

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To provide that a district governor must have finished his/her term as governor before officially announcing his/her candidacy for Kiwanis International trustee.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** Majority

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- The Bylaws currently allow a sitting governor to run for Kiwanis International trustee. However, a trustee's duties begin immediately after the Kiwanis International Convention concludes. This means that, if elected as a trustee, the governor must begin his/her initial duties as a trustee well before his/her term as governor concludes.
- Under the current system, both roles overlap, and this may be perceived as a conflict of interest.
- It would be preferable if a sitting governor fully concludes his/her duties as governor before assuming the role of a Kiwanis International trustee or running an election campaign for trustee.
- Governors traditionally spend a few years gaining additional knowledge and experience through service on international committees and in other roles before announcing their candidacy for Kiwanis International trustee.

**Amend Article XVIII, Section 3, as follows:**

### ARTICLE XVIII. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

#### Section 3.

a. The nomination and election procedures for officers to be elected at the annual International convention shall be as follows: (7/1998)

(4) No person shall be considered as a candidate until or unless the following requirements have been met:

- The candidate shall have completed a full term as a district governor prior to announcing his/her candidacy to Kiwanis International;
- Written consent of such person has been given;
- Prior endorsement of the candidate's district board of trustees or district house of delegates has been provided; and
- A clear criminal history background check has been conducted and verified by Kiwanis International.

(6/2010)

Yes= 73% No= 27% Passed

## Proposed Amendment 4 Dues Rebate for Clubs with 25 Percent Growth

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To discontinue the dues rebate for clubs that have grown at least 25 percent in the prior year.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- Since 1998, Kiwanis International has offered several options allowing discounts, waivers and rebates based on the types of members or clubs that satisfy certain requirements. The underlying assumption was that these initiatives would increase overall Kiwanis membership. A study of the return on investment shows exactly the opposite.
- Since the 25 percent growth rebate option began in 2007–08, the number of members among clubs that qualified for the rebate has increased by only 42 members overall (net), accounting for only one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the total membership figure for 2012. These same clubs have sometimes seen membership losses in following years, proving the option has not provided a sustainable growth and retention mechanism.
- Almost 15,000 new members would have had to join Kiwanis since 2008 to equal the value of the rebates that have been given to clubs under this option. Instead, overall membership declined.
- The funds used for rebates can be used more effectively if directed toward new membership growth initiatives that will grow clubs and *sustain* that growth.
- Clubs achieving 25 percent growth through September 30, 2013, would still be eligible for the rebate.

**Amend** Article XXII by deleting Section 4, as follows:

### ARTICLE XXII. REVENUE

**Section 4.** If a club achieves a net growth greater than or equal to 25 percent at the end of a given Kiwanis year, the club shall be relieved of any obligation to pay International dues for any club member over and above the club membership of the previous Kiwanis year. The financial obligations to said member's local club and district, the subscription for official publications, and the premium payable to defray the cost of insurance prescribed in these bylaws shall remain payable. (7/2007)

*Note: Subsequent sections in this article will be renumbered.*

## Proposed Amendment 5 Dues Waiver for Former Members of Service Leadership Programs

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To discontinue the dues waiver for new members of clubs who were former members of Kiwanis' Service Leadership Programs.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- Since 1998, Kiwanis International has offered several options allowing discounts, waivers, and rebates based on the types of members or clubs that would satisfy certain requirements. The underlying assumption was that these initiatives would increase overall Kiwanis membership. A study of the return on investment shows exactly the opposite.
- This particular dues discount was first implemented in 2003–04 in an effort to help clubs recruit and enroll more former members of our Service Leadership Programs (SLP) into Kiwanis clubs. But the average number of members taking advantage of this discount is less than 450 each year (or 0.18% of our average annual membership).
- More than 3,400 former SLP members would have had to join Kiwanis since 2004 to equal the value of the discount offered to our clubs. The effort is not achieving its objective—to enroll a larger number of younger, former SLP members.
- Kiwanis International has become aware that some clubs are not passing on the savings to the former SLP members who qualify for it. Because this option is not being administered consistently among clubs, some individual members do not receive the intended benefit.
- The revenue stream lost through this SLP dues-waiver option will be recaptured by discontinuing it. Discontinuation will help fund the costs of a new, more comprehensive five-year growth campaign and enable more viable and successful incentives for former SLP members to join the Kiwanis network of clubs.
- Former SLP members who enroll in Kiwanis clubs through September 30, 2013, would be eligible for the dues waiver through the 2014–15 Kiwanis administrative year. Former SLP members who enroll on or after October 1, 2013, will not be eligible for the waiver.

**Amend** Article XXII by deleting Section 3, as follows:

### ARTICLE XXII. REVENUE

~~**Section 3.** A club shall be relieved of any obligation to pay International dues for any club member for a period of two (2) years from the date of joining that club, provided such member was a former member of a Kiwanis International sponsored program. The financial obligations to said member's local club and district, the subscription for official publications, and the premium payable to defray the cost of insurance prescribed in these bylaws shall remain payable. (7/2007)~~

*Note: Subsequent sections in this article will be renumbered.*

Yes= 22% No= 78% Failed

## Proposed Amendment 6 Club Delegate Representation at District Conventions

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis District of Taiwan Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To allow clubs to have a varying number of club delegates at district conventions, based on the number of members enrolled in their clubs.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** Majority

**Proposer's position:** The club advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- This change will motivate the growth of existing clubs to recruit more members. When clubs know the benefit of being strong in membership, their leadership and impact will be more powerful.
- Members should have this option because the majority's voice should be heard. A club with more members should have more votes.
- It also will help Kiwanis to grow. Members are the foundation of clubs, and motivating clubs to recruit more members is the basic step in growing Kiwanis.

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board takes no position on this amendment.

**Amend** Article IX, Section 13, as follows:

### ARTICLE X. DISTRICTS

**Section 13.** Each member club of a district in good standing with Kiwanis International and with said district shall be entitled in all conventions of its district to no less than three (3) and no more than six (6) delegates as provided in the district bylaws, one (1) of whom shall be the president, said delegates to be selected and to have such powers as are prescribed in the district bylaws. All officers and past district governors of the district shall be delegates-at-large to the district convention. (7/1998)

## Proposed Amendment 7 Protection of Youth

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To establish stronger disciplinary provisions to help protect the entire Kiwanis organization and the youth served by Kiwanis from members whose conduct involves moral turpitude or whose behavior with minors is found to be illegal.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- Kiwanis International requires clubs to address allegations of conduct unbecoming a member of the Kiwanis family when an allegation is made against a club member. However, Kiwanis International cannot require a club to remove the member if he/she is found to have committed the alleged conduct, even if such conduct involves a crime or cases of moral turpitude. (Note: Kiwanis defines *moral turpitude* as: “contrary to community standards of justice, honesty or good morals.”)
- If a member is removed from a club for such reasons, Kiwanis currently has no way to prevent that member from rejoining another Kiwanis club and potentially causing more harm to the club or to others related to club activities.
- The new provision allows a club the first opportunity to discipline its own members. Kiwanis International would act only in the absence of appropriate club action when the member’s behavior involves a crime or moral turpitude.
- This amendment is intended to prevent a member from continuing in a club or from rejoining another club if that member’s behavior is so contrary to the core values of Kiwanis that continued membership would significantly harm the organization. Clear behavioral definitions are being adopted by the Board to manage this process.
- This amendment helps to significantly reduce the amount of risk faced by clubs and the organization and, especially, the potential harm to the youth served by clubs.

**Amend** Article VIII, Section 8, and add a new Section 9, as follows:

### ARTICLE VIII. CLUB MEMBERS

#### **Section 8.** Discipline of Members of the Kiwanis Family

- a. The general discipline of members in any club shall be as provided in the Standard Form for Club Bylaws. (6/2012)
- b. The definition of “conduct unbecoming a member of the Kiwanis family” and the process to be followed for an allegation of conduct unbecoming shall be as defined by the Kiwanis International Board. (6/2012)
- c. A member of the Kiwanis family, in cases of conduct unbecoming, is defined as members of Kiwanis clubs, Aktion Clubs, Circle K clubs, and Key Clubs. (6/2012)

d. A club shall discipline any member whose conduct is determined to be conduct unbecoming a member of the Kiwanis family and shall report such conduct and discipline to Kiwanis International; or else the club shall be considered out of compliance with accepted standards for Kiwanis clubs and may have its charter suspended or revoked as provided in these Bylaws. (6/2012)

**Section 9. Illegal Behavior or Moral Turpitude:** A club shall remove any member whose behavior involves moral turpitude or whose behavior with minors is found to be illegal and shall report such member and such behavior to Kiwanis International and the proper authorities immediately. If the club does not take such action, Kiwanis International may remove the member and the club may have its charter suspended or revoked for being out of compliance with accepted standards for Kiwanis clubs.

Kiwanis International shall bar from membership in a Kiwanis club any former, current, or prospective member whose behavior involves moral turpitude or whose behavior with minors has previously been found to be illegal.

Expect to see this one again in the  
near future.

Yes= 96% No= 4% Passed

## Proposed Amendment 8 Conduct Unbecoming an Officer of Kiwanis International

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To clarify provisions regarding conduct unbecoming a Kiwanis International officer.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** Majority

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- This amendment aligns provisions applicable to Kiwanis International officers with those applicable to district officers and club members, making the standards and processes as similar as possible at each level of the organization.
- The timing of the process will be stated in Kiwanis International policy and procedure.

**Amend Article XIX, Section 8, as follows:**

### **ARTICLE XIX. DISCIPLINE OF OFFICERS AND VACANCIES IN OFFICE**

#### **Section 8.**

- a: If a Kiwanis International officer is alleged by the President or two-thirds (2/3) of the Board of Trustees to be failing to perform his/her duties, the Board shall investigate the allegation and determine the matter at a meeting held within forty-five (45) days after the investigation is complete or as soon as reasonably possible. Written notice of the allegation, investigation, and of the meeting shall be given to the accused member officer at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. The accused member officer shall be permitted to attend the meeting and present a defense. If the allegation(s) is sustained by no less than a two-third (2/3) vote of the entire Board, the office shall be declared vacant.

#### **Section 9.**

- b: a. If an allegation is made against a Kiwanis International officer of 'conduct unbecoming a member of the Kiwanis family,' the President (or Immediate Past President, if the President is accused) shall consult the procedures to be followed for investigating such allegation and shall appoint a special Investigator to investigate the matter within sixty (60) days from the date the President is notified of such allegation. If the investigation determines that there is a reasonable basis for the allegation, the President shall notify the accused officer and shall refer the matter to the Board to conduct a hearing to decide the matter, which shall be held within thirty (30) days after referral to the Board. The Board shall produce a report within seven (7) days of the hearing, setting forth its decision whether the officer did or did not engage in 'conduct unbecoming' and, if so, the office shall be declared vacant based on that decision, whether he/she shall be disciplined. The officer may appeal the Board's decision and request a reconsideration by the Board. The Board's final decision shall stand.

- b. If either the accused officer or the Investigator believes some part of the investigation process was faulty or the determination was incorrect, either party has the right to request in writing reconsideration by the Board. The Board's decision on the matter shall be final.
- c. If, at any point during the 'conduct unbecoming' process, possible criminal wrongdoing is discovered, the matter shall be reported to the proper authorities.
- d. All materials, facts, and information related to the investigation, determination, and reconsideration (if any) shall be kept confidential at all times by any parties or persons involved in any part of the process.
- e. Kiwanis International shall retain all official records on the matter (Allegation Report, Investigation Report, Hearing Record, Board Report, and Reconsideration Record if any) in a confidential file as long as required by applicable law.

### **Section 10.**

- c. ~~If the Kiwanis International officer is a district governor and the office is declared vacant, the district shall be notified that the office is now considered vacant and advised that it should act to fill the vacancy, according to the district bylaws.~~

### **Section 11.**

- d. ~~Whenever a district or an International officer is removed from office for reasons involving conduct unbecoming a member of the Kiwanis family or failure to perform the duties of office or resigns from office, that person may be declared by the International Board to be ineligible to hold an International office or appointment in the future. (6/2010)~~

*Note: Subsequent sections in this article will be renumbered.*

Yes= 87% No= 13% Passed

## Proposed Amendment 9 Constituent Members of Kiwanis Federations

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To clarify that Kiwanis clubs are the constituent members of federations.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- Kiwanis' governing documents are currently unclear regarding the constituent members of federations.
- This amendment clarifies that federations are composed of Kiwanis clubs, which are already grouped into districts, as well as any nondistricted clubs within the federation boundaries. Thus, federations are composed of clubs.

**Amend** Article X, Sections 1 and 14, as follows:

### ARTICLE X. FEDERATIONS

**Section 1.** For the purpose of promoting the best interests of Kiwanis, the International Board of Trustees has the authority to create, supervise, and control federations, which shall be composed of districts and their clubs as well as the non-districted clubs within the boundaries of the federation and ~~shall establish the boundaries of federations.~~

**Section 14.** Each district and each nondistricted club within the territorial limits of a Kiwanis federation shall be a member of said federation and such district or club must comply with ~~these Bylaws and~~ the federation bylaws. (7/1988)

## Proposed Amendment 10 Composition of Federation Boards

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

**Purpose:** To allow flexibility in the composition of the governing board of a Kiwanis federation.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** Majority

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board proposes this amendment for the following reasons:

- The Kiwanis International Bylaws currently provide that a federation board will consist of trustees with three-year terms. However, Kiwanis International-European Federation (KIEF) is Kiwanis' only currently existing federation and prefers to operate with a Board that has no trustees per se; instead, their governors are board members each year, with one-year terms.
- This amendment allows a federation board to operate as best suits the needs, cultures, and practices of clubs in the federation.

**Amend** Article X, Sections 2 and 3, and delete Section 4, as follows:

### K.I. BYLAWS

#### ARTICLE X. FEDERATIONS

**Section 2.** The officers of a federation shall consist of a president (or an acting president) and such other officers as provided in the federation bylaws. The terms of all officers shall be one year or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified, with each term beginning on October 1. The election of all officers shall be as provided in the federation bylaws. (7/1988)

**Section 3.** The board of trustees of a federation shall consist of the officers and other trustees be composed as provided in the federation bylaws. (7/1988)

~~**Section 4.** The federation president and other federation officers and trustees shall be elected as provided in the federation bylaws. Each officer above the level of trustee shall serve for the term of one (1) year and each trustee shall serve for the term of three (3) years or until the successor shall be duly elected and qualified. The terms of all federation officers and trustees shall begin on October 1. (6/1992)~~

*Note: Relevant portions of Section 4 are replaced by the new wording in Section 1.*

*Note: Subsequent sections in this article will be renumbered.*

*Note: Additionally, any other provisions in the Kiwanis International Bylaws that refer to a federation "board of trustees" shall be changed to "board."*

## Proposed Amendment 11 Members Experiencing Hardship Circumstances

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis Club of North St. Andrew, Jamaica

**Purpose:** To waive Kiwanis International dues payment by a club for members experiencing hardship while still retaining those members' rights and privileges.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**Proposer's position:** The club advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- This amendment applies to members who have been active for at least 25 consecutive years and have served with distinction and dedication, giving unsparingly of their time, energy, knowledge and leadership, and having made generous financial contributions to Kiwanis projects and activities.
- These members now, due to frailty of body and severe financial challenges, have become unable to honor the financial demands of membership.
- Kiwanis International has no provision to accommodate members with these conditions.
- The Standard Form for Club Bylaws will provide that a club's criteria for a member who has served well must be in compliance with the Objects of Kiwanis.

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board does not support this amendment for the following reasons:

- The Kiwanis club, not Kiwanis International, determines the rights and privileges of club members.
- Clubs already have (and have always had) the option to not charge or to forgive the club portion of dues for selected members under special circumstances.
- The type of hardship stated in this amendment is normally handled as a private matter between the member and the club.
- The amendment does not provide who determines, or how it is determined, whether members meet the stated criteria.
- Nothing precludes every club from claiming that five percent of its members qualify for this exemption so that the club can effectively discount its dues payment to Kiwanis International. This would have a detrimental impact on Kiwanis International's growth campaign.

**Amend Article XXII, Section 1, as follows:**

### ARTICLE XXII. REVENUE

**Section 1.** Subject to Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this Article, each club shall pay to Kiwanis International for each member, with the exception of those who have been members for 25 consecutive years and having served with distinction and dedication but now due to frailty of body and severe financial challenges have become unable to honor the

financial demands of membership (provided said eligible members do not exceed five percent of the club's total membership) and those holding life member status, the sum of forty-two dollars (US\$42.00) per annum. Such sum shall be based on each club's annual membership report as of September 30 of each year and shall be due annually on October 1 and payable by November 30.

Yes= 28% No= 72% Failed

## Proposed Amendment 12 Campaigning for Kiwanis International Board Offices

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis Club of Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

**Purpose:** To prohibit all campaign spending and restrict campaign practices by candidates for Kiwanis International Board offices.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**Proposer's position:** The club advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- This change will help Kiwanis members divert more focus and attention to its mission, Serving the children of the world.
- Members should not have to spend several thousand dollars of their own money or seek private donations from clubs, divisions and districts to guarantee a successful election.
- This change will give Kiwanis members across the globe a more equal chance at being elected to international office by reducing financial barriers.
- This change could improve socioeconomic diversity within the International Board.
- Zero-dollar campaigns have reduced financial barriers in Key Club International, Circle K International and Rotary International.

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board does not support this amendment for the following reasons:

- All other provisions regarding candidate behavior is currently stated in Kiwanis International Procedure, which is under the authority of the Kiwanis International Board.
- The proposed wording may have a number of unintended consequences. For example: It seems to preclude candidates from seeking the necessary endorsement in their own district and from personally speaking to other Kiwanis members about their candidacy.
- If this provision is adopted, interpretations may be necessary regarding what constitutes "campaigning" or "canvassing" or "personal or organization funds."
- It is not feasible for Kiwanis International to monitor implementation or enforcement of the new provision.

**Amend** Article XVIII by adding a new Section 2, as follows:

### ARTICLE XVIII. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**Section 2.** No candidate for trustee, vice president, president-elect or president shall engage in campaigning or canvassing for office or endorsement for office, either during the Kiwanis International convention or prior to the convention, nor shall any candidate expend personal or organization funds to conduct any election campaigning. The organization shall provide appropriate means for candidates to address and educate delegates.

*Note: Subsequent sections in this article will be renumbered.*

Yes= 85% No= 15% Passed

## Proposed Amendment 13 Criminal History Background Check Acceptability

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis Club of Fairfield Plantation, Villa Rica, Georgia, U.S.A.

**Purpose:** To provide that a criminal history background check will be accepted by Kiwanis International when a district conducts its own background check on a volunteer that meets or exceeds Kiwanis International standards.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**Proposer's position:** The club advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- This change will reduce the time and expenses incurred by those whom Kiwanis International requires to have a clear criminal history background check.
- Kiwanis members should have this option because the resulting savings in time and expense can be applied to serving the needs of the communities and children of the Kiwanis world.
- It will help Kiwanis by making criminal history background checks more time and cost efficient, thereby encouraging greater participation by the membership.

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board takes no position on this amendment.

**Amend Article IX, Section 3, as follows:**

### ARTICLE IX. DISTRICTS

**Section 3.** The officers of a district shall be a district governor, a governor-elect, the immediate past governor, a lieutenant governor for each division of the district, and/or a trustee for each region of the district, a secretary, and a treasurer. If so provided in the district bylaws, districts may designate an existing office or an additional office, hereinafter referred to as vice-governor, that shall be the sole candidate for governor-elect. There may be an acting governor appointed as provided in these Bylaws. (6/2010)

Where a district requires that an officer, candidate or volunteer working with children submit and have a clear criminal history background check, meeting or exceeding the current Kiwanis International standards, the issuance of a certification of a clear criminal history background check by a district approved screening provider, shall be accepted by Kiwanis International as meeting the requirements of this Section.

**Section 4.** Each district officer shall be an active or senior member in good standing in a club of the district; and each lieutenant governor shall be an active or senior member in good standing in a club in the division from which elected. Each candidate for the office of governor, governor-elect, and vice-governor (if any) also shall have a clear criminal history background check conducted and verified by Kiwanis International. (6/2010)

*Note: If this amendment is adopted by the House of Delegates, the Kiwanis International Board is directed to amend Kiwanis International's Policies and Procedures where a criminal history background check is required to accept a clear criminal history background check, certified by a Kiwanis International district-approved background check provider as meeting those requirements.*

## Proposed Amendment 14 Reimbursement of Kiwanis International Past Presidents

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis Club of The Haddons, New Jersey, U.S.A.

**Purpose:** To restrict expense reimbursement for Kiwanis International past presidents to only the last three office holders.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** 2/3

**Proposer's position:** The club advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- At the 2012 Kiwanis International convention, the Kiwanis International Board proposed a dues increase, which was referred back to the finance committee with a suggestion by a delegate of this club that the Board consider removing expense reimbursement for past Kiwanis International presidents to attend Kiwanis International meetings and conventions.
- This expense is about three-tenths of one percent (.3%) of the annual budget.
- No past Kiwanis president beyond three (3) years after having served as the immediate past international president should have expenses paid for attendance at any Kiwanis event that is not available for all other Kiwanians.

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board does not support this amendment for the following reasons:

- Active participation by our past international presidents provides significant value to the organization.
- The amendment may not meet its stated intention, since an organization is expected to reimburse expenses whenever it calls a committee to meet and since the bylaws would still provide that the entire Past Presidents Committee shall meet at Kiwanis International conventions. Kiwanis would still be obligated to reimburse past presidents "as is provided for a member of any other Kiwanis International committee."
- The bylaws state that a quorum of the committee is five. If this amendment is adopted, not even those five would receive expense reimbursement when the committee meets.
- The proposed wording is needlessly repetitive, causing redundancy and confusion. The amendment to Article XXII is erroneous, since the provision has nothing to do with Kiwanis International revenue, and the amendment to Article XXII is unnecessary since the Kiwanis International Board could not do anything prohibited elsewhere in the bylaws.
- The amendment does not make any allowance for the possibility that one or more of the three most recent past presidents may become deceased during the time they would normally receive reimbursement.
- The phrasing "whose service as Immediate Past President has been succeeded by three (3) administrative years" is hard to understand.

**Amend** Article XX, Section 4; amend Article XXII by adding a new Section 8; and amend Article XXIII, Section 6, as follows:

## **ARTICLE XX. COMMITTEES**

**Section 4.** There shall be a Standing Committee of Past International Presidents, which shall be composed of all the Past International Presidents, and there shall be added thereto each year the retiring Immediate Past International President. (6/1989)

- a. The quorum of the Committee of Past International Presidents shall be five (5). (6/1989)
- b. The Committee of Past International Presidents shall consider and report to the International Board of Trustees its conclusions on all matters referred to it. It may initiate subjects for consideration and report its conclusions to said Board. A summary of the Committee's proceedings shall be provided to each member of the Committee, the International President, and the Executive Director. (7/1998)
- c. The Committee shall meet at the annual International convention, and may hold such other meetings as provided herein, provided that such other meetings shall not be held less than thirty (30) days prior to the convention. (7/2007)
- d. All members of the Committee whose service as Immediate Past President has been succeeded by three (3) administrative years shall not receive remuneration, reimbursement of expense, or expense account allowance for attendance at any Kiwanis International function or meeting except as is provided for a member of any other Kiwanis International committee.

## **ARTICLE XXII. REVENUE**

**Section 8.** No Past International President whose service as Immediate Past President has been succeeded by three (3) administrative years shall receive remuneration, reimbursement of expense, or expense account allowance for attendance at any Kiwanis International function or meeting except as is provided for a member of any other Kiwanis International committee.

*Note: Subsequent sections in this article will be renumbered.*

## **ARTICLE XXIII. FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING**

**Section 6.** The Board of Trustees shall have power to authorize officers and employees to execute and countersign vouchers and checks and to perform such other acts to carry out the purposes and objects of this Article. (6/1989)

The Board of Trustees shall not adopt a budget that provides for any remuneration, reimbursement of expense, or expense account allowance for attendance at any Kiwanis International function or meeting except as is provided for a member of any other Kiwanis International committee.

Yes= 3% No= 97% Failed

## Proposed Amendment 15 Motto of Kiwanis International

**Submitted by:** The Kiwanis Club of Woodbridge, Virginia, U.S.A.

**Purpose:** To change the motto of Kiwanis International.

**Effective date:** October 1, 2013

**Vote required to adopt:** Majority

**Proposer's position:** The club advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- This change is consistent with the Kiwanis Objects of 1924 and will restore the former prominence that Kiwanis clubs had achieved with local citizens, providing clubs with their most valuable asset: members!
- When the citizens no longer want to become members, the clubs and the entire Kiwanis organization will cease to exist.
- Kiwanis has got to get back to "dancing with the person(s) that brought them to the dance" and kept them there, the citizens of the local community. Otherwise, Kiwanis will continue its current downward spiral of losing 15.7 percent of members since 2005.

**KI Board position:** The Kiwanis International Board does not support this amendment for the following reasons:

- For nearly a decade, Kiwanis has been building its global brand around the motto "Serving the children of the world." Changing the motto outside the context of strategic planning will be detrimental to ongoing public awareness efforts and cause confusion among clubs.
- The Board does not agree that changing the motto will result in membership growth and finds no compelling reason to change Kiwanis' motto at this time.
- Mottos very similar to the one proposed are already registered and legally protected by other organizations.

**Amend** Article XXV, Section 1, as follows:

### ARTICLE XXV. MOTTO

**Section 1.** The motto of Kiwanis International shall be "~~Serving the Children of the World.~~" "We Help Build Better Communities."





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