

# **LWML NORTHERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS FOR 2024**

Proposed Date of Approval: July 12, 2024

If the proposed amendments are adopted, then the LWML NID Structure Committee requests permission to renumber or reletter sections to account for the deletions and insertions and make any necessary spelling and typographical corrections.

## **THE ENTIRE BYLAWS**

**Proposed amendment:** The district convention shall be called the District LWML Convention and the district president shall be called the District LWML President.

**Rationale:** To make these titles consistent throughout these Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 1.A., strike "organizations" and insert "groups"

**Rationale:** The word "organizations" is synonymous with the word "societies" and has been updated to read "groups".

### **EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

A. The membership shall consist of women's organizations within LCMS congregations, on campuses, in resident homes, or in other settings that have expressed their desire to join, have followed procedure laid down by these bylaws, and have made the LWML objectives their own.

### **IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

A. The membership shall consist of women's' groups within LCMS congregations, on campuses, in resident homes, or in other settings that have expressed their desire to join, have followed procedure laid down by these bylaws, and have made the LWML objectives their own.

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 1.C., strike the words "with or"

**Rationale:** Having the words "with or" in the sentence encourages a member who does not agree with the local group actions to hold individual membership rather than remaining a part of that group.

### **EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

C. A woman in an LCMS congregation with or without a group affiliated with the District LWML may hold individual membership. Individual membership is not considered a group or a unit, nor does it confer voting privileges at the LWML or District LWML level.

### **IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

C. A woman in an LCMS congregation without a group affiliated with the District LWML may hold individual membership. Individual membership is not considered a group or a unit, nor does it confer voting privileges at the LWML or District LWML level.

## **ARTICLE VII. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 3.D., Section 4.D., Section 5.D., Section 6.E., Section 7.D., strike "a written" and insert "an electronic", strike "to" and insert "for inclusion in", insert "manual."

**Rationale:** Since other officers' duties have been updated to differentiate between electronic and paper copies, the same update has been made to these officers' duties.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

Submit a written report to the District LWML convention.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

Submit an electronic report for inclusion in the District LWML convention manual.

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 8.B. strike "a " and insert "an electronic"

**Rationale:** Since other officers' duties have been updated to differentiate between electronic and paper copies, the same update has been made to this officer's duties.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

B. Provide each member of the District LWML Executive Committee and Board of Directors with a copy of all minutes of their respective meetings and of the District LWML convention.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

B. Provide each member of the District LWML Executive Committee and Board of Directors with an electronic copy of all minutes of their respective meetings and of the District LWML convention.

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 8.C., strike "a" and insert "an electronic"

**Rationale:** Since other officers' duties have been updated to differentiate between electronic and paper copies, the same update has been made to this officer's duties.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

C. Send a copy of all minutes to the District LWML President.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

C. Send an electronic copy of all minutes to the District LWML President.

**ARTICLE VII. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS**

**Proposed amendment:** Section 6.C., insert "and coordinator of the Committee on Young Women.", strike "Section", insert "Sections", insert "and 5".

**Rationale:** To conform to national LWML bylaws by updating the responsibilities of the VP of Special Focus Ministries.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

C. Serve as Chairman of the Special Focus Ministries Committee. (See Article XIV. Section 4. of these Bylaws)

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

C. Serve as Chairman of the Special Focus Ministries Committee and coordinator of the Committee on Young Women. (See Article XIV. Sections 4. and 5. of these Bylaws)

**Proposed amendment:** Section 7.B., strike "Committee on Young Women.", insert "Structure Committee and Church Workers in Mission.", strike "Sections 5. -", insert "Section 6".

**Rationale:** To conform to national LWML bylaws by updating the responsibilities of the VP of Organizational Resources.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

C. Serve as Chairman of the Group and Leadership Development Committee and coordinator of the Committee on Young Women. (See Article XIV. Sections 5.-6. of these Bylaws)

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

C. Serve as Chairman of the Group and Leadership Development Committee and coordinator of the Structure Committee and Church Workers in Mission. (See Article XIV. Section 6. of these Bylaws)

**ARTICLE VIII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 2., strike "G. Prepare a copy of the completed ballot, listing the names of candidates for each office in alphabetical order, as well as the qualifications of the candidates, and submit same to the Convention Chairman for printing."

**Rationale:** The Corresponding Secretary, as an ex-officio member of the Convention Committee, has done this function for the two previous conventions as assistance in the compiling and arranging of the Convention Manual. This duty is no longer necessary for the Nominating Committee.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

G. Prepare a copy of the completed ballot, listing the names of candidates for each office in alphabetical order, as well as the qualifications of the candidates, and submit same to the Convention Chairman for printing.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

None

**ARTICLE IX. APPOINTED OFFICER AND DUTIES**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 2.B., strike “, except for the Archivist-Historian and the Parliamentarian,”

**Rationale:** Archivist-Historian and the Parliamentarian are not Appointed Officers and should not be discussed in this article.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

B. Appointed officers, except for the Archivist-Historian and the Parliamentarian, shall have the vote at the Board of Directors’ meetings and conventions.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

B. Appointed officers shall have the vote at the Board of Directors’ meetings and conventions.

**ARTICLE X. APPOINTED PERSONNEL AND DUTIES**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 2. strike "C. Attend meetings as advisory members at the request of the President, without the privilege of the vote", insert " **Section 3. Eligibility to Vote** Attend meetings as advisory members at the request of the District LWML President without privilege of the vote."

**Rationale:** Appointed Personnel need their own statement about their eligibility to vote rather than putting it under Section 2., Requirements, C.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

C. Attend meetings as advisory members at the request of the President, without the privilege of the vote.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

**Section 3. Eligibility to Vote**

Attend meetings as advisory members at the request of the District LWML President without privilege of the vote.

**ARTICLE XI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 3., strike "F. Plan the program for the District LWML convention."

**Rationale:** The District LWML convention is planned by the Convention Committee in conjunction with the District LWML President who has the script to be followed to conduct the convention in proper order.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

F. Plan the program for the District LWML convention.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

None

**ARTICLE XV. SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 1.B., strike "Standing" and insert "Special"

**Rationale:** The title Standing Committees should read Special Committees, since this is the committee being discussed in this article.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

B. Standing Committees shall be appointed by the District LWML President, with the approval of the District LWML Executive Committee. Committee members assume their duties upon approval.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

B. Special committees shall be appointed by the District LWML President, with the approval of the District LWML Executive Committee. Committee members assume their duties upon approval.

**ARTICLE XVII. MISSION GRANTS**

**Proposed amendment:** In Section 1.A. strike "The required number of copies shall be submitted to the Vice President of Gospel Outreach by January of the District LWML convention year."

**Rationale:** Copies of mission grant proposals are no longer required since all paperwork is sent digitally.

**EXISTING BYLAWS READ:**

A. Mission Grants may be proposed by individual members, groups, zones and/or District and LCMS and LCMS boards. The required number of copies shall be submitted to the Vice President of Gospel Outreach by January of the District LWML convention year.

**IF ADOPTED WILL READ:**

A. Mission Grants may be proposed by individual members, groups, zones and/or District and LCMS and LCMS boards.