

MD27 Lioness C&BL Policy P-2 on the MD27 web site

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STANDARD MD 27 LIONESS CLUB CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

1. The name of this organization is the Lioness Club.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

1. The purposes of this club shall be:

- a. To cooperate with the Lions Club(s) of _____ in carrying out its service programs and activities.
- b. To provide community service opportunities for individuals.
- c. To unite its members in friendship, fellowship and mutual understanding.

ARTICLE III

Sponsorship

1. This club is an affiliate of the sponsoring Lions Club(s) _____ and its operations shall be and are subject to the jurisdiction and supervision of said Lions club(s). Such jurisdiction and supervision shall be exercised in a manner which will promote the best interests of the Lioness Club Program.

ARTICLE IV

Projects

1. Subject to the provisions of Article III, this club may plan and implement service projects within its community in addition to those projects in which it lends support and cooperation to the Lions Club(s) of _____.
2. Community services of this club shall be financed primarily through public fund-raising projects. Direct costs of any such project may be paid from funds so raised, but no portion of the net income realized in any public fundraising project shall be used to finance any administrative expense of this club or to directly or indirectly benefit this club or any member thereof. All such net income shall be used exclusively for charitable purposes.

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ARTICLE V

Membership

1. Membership in this club shall be granted to any person who is of legal majority, good moral character and good reputation in the community, and who, upon sponsorship by a member of this club and approval by the club and approval by the club's board of directors, receives and accepts a written invitation to join and pays the then required fees of this club.
2. Classes: Membership in this club shall be active and such other classes as the bylaws of this club may provide. Members of all classes shall be included in the total membership count for the purpose of determining the annual levy.

3. Termination - Membership in this club shall cease and terminate upon:
a. Acceptance by the club's board of directors of a written resignation. The board may withhold acceptance of any resignation until all in debt has been paid, all club funds and property have been returned, and all right to the use of the club name, emblem and other insignia has been surrendered.

OR

b. Termination of existence of this club as provided in Article XV.

OR

c. Vote therefore at a regular or special club meeting of no less than two-thirds of the entire membership of this club in good standing at the time of such vote.

OR

d. Vote therefore of no less than two-thirds of all members of this club's board of directors.

e. If a club wishes to terminate a member, the provisions of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED must be followed.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

1. Club Meetings

a. Regular business meetings of this club shall be held at such times and places as set forth in the bylaws.

b. The club president may at any time call, and upon written request by no less than twenty-five (25%) percent of the members in good standing, shall call a special meeting of the club. Such call may be given verbally or in writing, but it shall be given to each member in good standing and shall designate a time and place reasonably convenient to a majority of the members in good standing and state, generally, the purpose of such meeting. Such notice, if written, shall be considered as given when deposited in the mails and addressed to a member at the address shown on the club records at the time of mailing.

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c. Quorum: The presence in person of a majority of the members in good standing shall be necessary for a quorum at any regular or special meeting of this club, unless otherwise stated in the club bylaws.

2. Board of Directors Meetings

a. Regular business meetings of the board of directors shall be held at times and places as provided in the bylaws.

b. The president may at any time call, and upon the written request of any three (3) members of the board shall call, a special meeting of the board. Such call may be given verbally or in writing, but it shall be given to every member thereof, and shall designate a time and place reasonably convenient to a majority of such members and set forth, generally the purpose of such meeting. Such notice, if written shall be considered as given when deposited in the mails and addressed to the member at the address shown on the club records at the time of mailing.

c. Quorum: The presence in person of the president or vice president and any three (3) other members of the board shall be necessary for a quorum at any regular or special meeting of the board.

c. Any member of this club in good standing shall have the right to attend any regular or special meeting of the board of directors, but no such member may speak at any board meeting except by consent of the board.

3. Except as otherwise specifically provided, the act of a majority of the members present at any meeting shall be the act and decision of the entire club.

ARTICLE VII

Officers

1. The officers of this club shall be a president, immediate past president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer and such other officer(s) as may be provided in the bylaws. Each officer shall be a member in good standing, and with the exception of the immediate past president, shall take office on July 1 following the election, and shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until a successor has been elected and qualified. No member may hold two (2) offices simultaneously.

2. Unless specifically provided otherwise in this constitution, the duties of the officers shall be those assigned to their respective offices under ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED.

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ARTICLE VIII

Board of Directors

Subject to the provisions of Article III:

1. The control and supervision of the business and affairs of this club shall rest in a board of directors composed of all officers of the club and three (3) directors elected from the members in good standing.

2. Unless rescinded or modified by the board itself decisions of the board of directors shall be effective for all purposes unless and until reversed or modified by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of this club in good standing at the time of the vote.

3. The board of directors shall have general control over all committees and officers, may override the decision or action of any officer, and for good cause, may declare any office vacant and appoint a member in good standing to fill any unexpired term thereof.

4. The board of directors shall present an annual report of its operations to the club membership and to the sponsoring Lions club.

ARTICLE IX

Elections

1. Elections of officers and directors shall be held annually, not later than April 15, at a meeting specified in the club bylaws. No more than a plurality of the votes cast for any office or directorship shall be necessary for election thereto.

2. New officers shall be reported to the District Governor within thirty (30) days following the elections.

ARTICLE X

Committees

1. The bylaws shall provide for constitution and bylaws, finance, project and such other standing committees as may be deemed necessary for administration of the club. The president, with the approval of the board, may appoint such special committees as necessary from time to time.

ARTICLE XI

Fees and Dues

1. This club shall charge such fees and dues as shall be necessary from time to time to meet the administrative costs of this club and as are specified in the bylaws.

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2. Any member who shall owe this club any monetary obligation at the time of any vote at any regular or special meeting, or at any other time at which the question of good standing is raised, shall automatically forfeit the privilege of voting by virtue thereof and be considered for all purposes as not in good standing so long as said obligation remains unpaid.

ARTICLE XII

1. By accepting membership herein, each member of this club agrees to uphold and be bound by Lioness club policies of the Lions District Cabinet and the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of this club.

ARTICLE XIII

Bylaws

1. The board of directors of this club shall prepare and present, and a majority of the members in good standing of this club shall adopt, at a regular or special meeting, such bylaws as are deemed necessary to the efficient operation of this club; PROVIDED, however, that all such bylaws shall be consistent with the provisions of this constitution, any bylaws, or amendments thereto or repeal thereof, which shall contravene any provision of this constitution or any policy of The Lions District Cabinet shall be null and void and of no effect from inception.

ARTICLE XIV

Emblem

1. The emblem of this club shall be:

Such emblem shall be and remain the sole property of The International Association of Lions Clubs and shall be the emblem of the club and members thereof only so long as the special license has been obtained by your sponsoring Lions Club, and has not been revoked by the International Association of Lions Clubs.

2. Each member of this club shall be entitled to wear or otherwise display the same in a dignified and appropriate manner only during the period of Lioness membership. Such entitlement shall automatically cease upon termination of membership or the existence of this club.

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ARTICLE XV

Duration

1. This club shall cease to exist upon the occurrence of any of the following:

a. Vote of this club to terminate.

1. If Lioness club members wish to terminate their Lioness club, upon submission of Lioness Club Cancellation Form to the Lions District Cabinet, the Lioness club will be canceled.

b. Receipt by any officer of this club of written notice of withdrawal of sponsorship by the Lions Club(s) of _____.

1. If a Lions club wishes to cancel its Lioness club without the mutual agreement of the Lioness members, the Lions club shall give the Lioness club ninety days' notice, along with a written report listing reasons for cancellation; a copy of this report shall be sent on the same date to the Lioness club liaison, and the district governor.

If the district officials are not able to resolve the differences between the Lions and Lioness clubs within a ninety day period, the Lions club shall then send notice in writing to all members of the Lions club, advising them that at one of the next regularly scheduled Lions club meetings, the Lions club members will vote on whether or not to terminate the Lioness club. This notice in writing must be mailed to each Lions club member at least twenty-one days before the meeting will take place. The meeting must be held at a regular time and at a regular meeting place, and fifty percent of the members in good standing must be present at this meeting. Along with the notice of this meeting shall be a copy of the written report listing reasons for cancellation which was sent to the Lioness club ninety days previously.

A copy of this meeting notice and reasons for cancellation must be sent to the president of the Lioness club, _____ and the district governor for their information on the same date it is mailed to the Lions club members.

If two-thirds of the members in good standing at said meeting vote to cancel the Lioness club the Lions club must send a copy of the report listing reasons for cancellation, along with the Lioness Club Cancellation Form to the Lions District Cabinet. Copies of this should also be sent to the president of the Lioness club, the Lioness club liaison, and the District Governor. Upon receipt by the Lions District Cabinet of a copy of this report, the Lions District Cabinet shall then advise the Lioness club of its cancellation.

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c. Receipt by any officer of this club of written notice of revocation of Certificate of Organization of this club by the Lions District Cabinet.

2. By virtue of termination under any provision in Section 1, and without the necessity of any other act, all rights and privileges of this club and each member thereof to use the Lioness club name and emblem shall thereon be automatically relinquished and surrendered.

ARTICLE XVI

Parliamentary Authority

Unless specifically provided otherwise in this constitution, all questions of parliamentary procedure in the operations of this club shall be governed by ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, NEWLY REVISED.

ARTICLE XVII

Amendments

This constitution may be amended only by action of the Lions District Cabinet and all amendments adopted by said cabinet shall automatically amend and become provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE XVIII

The fiscal year of this club shall run from July 1st to June 30th.