

2022-2023
PROPOSED POLICY FOR GOVERNANCE AMENDMENTS
JUNIOR OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

ISSUE 1: INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
(Submitted by the Junior Optimist International Board of Directors)

POLICY VII: INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
SECTION 3: Qualifications.

The President and JOI Board of Directors shall be elected ~~by the delegates at the annual convention~~ **via online elections during the JOI annual convention.** They shall take office October 1, following their election. No more than two candidates per District will be eligible to run for the International JOI Board of Directors. Those eligible for the office of Director shall be a member in good standing belonging to a Club in good standing, shall have served a term as Club president or a District officer* and shall be the age of 14 **or older** by October 1. Those eligible for the office of President must have served as an International Director or District Governor*, must be 16 by October 1, and meet the requirements for an International Director. **No person may be a nominee for the office of President if they would hold another concurrent elected office.** In order to be listed on the ballot, potential candidates for the International JOI Board of Directors must submit an official application and a signed letter from their school principal or equivalent, for those applicants who are still in high school or its equivalent, to the International Office by June 1 prior to convention. Candidates from the floor will **only** be allowed to run for the International JOI Board of Directors and International JOI President **where no official application was received by June 1 prior to convention.** If elected from the floor, the election for that office will be contingent upon the submission of a signed letter from their high school principal or equivalent if in high school, to the Optimist International Staff by September 1. Those nominated from the floor will receive the same privileges as preannounced candidates, with the exception of their name being pre-printed on the ballot. Those eligible for the office of Director will be able to run for a second term with a maximum of one being elected to another term. Current Board members wishing to run for a second term must follow the same nomination procedures as preannounced candidates and may not be nominated from the floor. If more than two current Board members run for election, a primary election will be held and the two highest vote receivers will be added to the ballot.

****Note: The JOI Board recognizes that the OFC no longer has "Districts" so there may need to be consideration of some "equivalent" officer, but we defer to how the Optimist International Governance Committee is handling similar situations, particularly during this Pilot timeframe.***

ISSUE 2:

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION VOTING

(Submitted by the Junior Optimist International Board of Directors)

EXPLANATION: There is a need to clarify and separate voting for Convention Business not involving Elections (by accredited delegates at Convention) from voting for Elections (online by all JOI Clubs in good standing, whether attending Convention or not) as proposed.

POLICY VIII: INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 5: Accredited Delegates.

No member shall be deemed to be an accredited delegate unless he has registered **at for** the convention, paid the registration fee **(virtual or in-person)**, belongs to a Junior Optimist Club or Octagon Club in good standing, and produced such credentials to the Credentials Committee as may be required by the JOI Board of Directors.

POLICY VIII: INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

SECTION 7: Voting.

The voting of accredited delegates on any question may be conducted by any one of the following methods: 1) voice vote, 2) hand vote, 3) rising vote, 4) ballot, 5) roll call.

a. Non-Election Voting.

1. Vote by ballot on any question may be ordered by a majority vote of accredited delegates.
2. Roll call on any question may be requested in writing by accredited delegates from at least six Districts, representing not less than 10 percent of the Clubs represented at the convention.
3. An accredited delegate may choose to abstain from voting. They may also choose to vote on some candidates and/or issues, but abstain on others. All delegates must mark their ballots with either indication of endorsement or by writing "ABSTAIN." No ballot may have the name of the delegate or the name of the Club the delegate is from written on it.

b. Election Voting. The voting for President and JOI Board of Directors shall be conducted online during the JOI International Convention. There is only ONE vote per club, and it should be cast by the voting delegate of the club. Clubs must be in good standing in order to vote.

1. A majority of votes cast is required to elect the president. A delegate may vote for only one presidential candidate. If only one candidate has shown the intent to run, a ballot vote will be waived and replaced by a vote of acclamation.
2. In the case of voting for International Director, delegates may endorse one, two, three, or four candidates with their vote. No delegate may vote for more than four candidates for Director. The four candidates running for director positions who receive the most votes will be elected to the Board of Directors. **If only 4 candidates have shown the intent to run, a ballot vote will be waived and replaced by a vote of acclamation.**