

ACCREDITED DELEGATE INFORMATION

General Provisions:

1. The convention will be composed of accredited delegates.
2. A delegate is a member of an Optimist Club in good standing, who has registered at the convention and been certified by the Credentials Committee. "Good standing" means the delegate's Club is not in arrears in payment of dues or other financial obligations to Optimist International.
3. The adoption of the convention rules shall be by a majority of the votes cast by accredited delegates. Subsequently, the convention rules may be amended, suspended or rescinded by two-thirds of the votes cast by accredited delegates.
4. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all cases not covered by the Optimist International Bylaws or these Convention Rules.

Responsibilities of a Delegate

Accredited delegates have the privilege and honor of representing their Club at this Optimist International Convention. This voting privilege is also a solemn duty.

It is the responsibility of each accredited delegate to attend all business sessions of the convention, to participate fully by listening, debating the issues within the framework of the convention rules, and to vote on issues.

The direction of Optimist International for the coming years depends, in large, on the measures decided by the delegates to this convention. A failure to meet this responsibility is a failure to represent your constituency.

Parliamentary Pointers:

1. If in doubt about any item of business under discussion, a delegate may rise to a point of information or parliamentary inquiry. A delegate, without waiting for recognition, may rise and say, "Mr. Chairman, I rise for information" or "I rise to a parliamentary inquiry." The chair will ask the delegate to state their point.
2. If in doubt about the results of a voice vote as announced by the chair, a delegate may call for a demonstrated vote. Without waiting for recognition, a delegate may rise immediately after the vote is announced and say, "Mr. Chairman, I call for a division" or simply call out "Division!" The chair will initiate a show of voting cards, the results of which can be verified by everyone in attendance. If the results are still in doubt, the chair will initiate a ballot vote.

CONVENTION RULES

1. VOTING AND ACCREDITATION OF DELEGATES

- A. Each Optimist Club in good standing with Optimist International shall be entitled to one vote for each 10 members or major fraction thereof based on the membership recorded in the International Office on April 30 immediately prior to the Convention. Clubs organized after this date and prior to the first day of convention shall be entitled to one vote for each 10 or major fraction of 10 charter members recorded in the International Office.
- B. To be eligible to vote at the convention, delegates must have been accredited. To be accredited, a delegate must have registered and paid the registration fee for this convention, represent a Club in good standing (i.e., all obligations to Optimist International paid) and have registered at the Credentials Desk prior to the business sessions.
- C. The number of accredited delegates and votes cast may equal, but not exceed, the voting strength. Delegates will be accredited by the Credentials Committee.
- D. The Credentials Committee shall report at the first convention session and at each session thereafter, and at such other times as directed by the chair. The Credentials Committee report will include only those Clubs with properly accredited delegates and may be amended as necessary between business sessions.
- E. An individual holding membership in more than one Optimist Club may be a delegate for each Club provided that individual has complied with the required registration procedure and paid the required registration fee for each Club.

A delegate who is unable to obtain credentials within the normal hours of registration specified in the official convention program may obtain such credentials within the one hour period preceding the beginning of the business session. The Credentials Desk will be open Saturday, June 22nd from 3 to 7 PM; Sunday, June 23rd from 8 to 8:45 AM, and 11 AM to 5 PM; Monday, June 24th from 8 to 8:45 AM, and 11 AM to 5 PM; and Tuesday, June 25th from 8 AM to 8:45 AM, and 11:45 AM to 12:45 PM. Each individual delegate who wishes to participate in the voting must register with the Credentials Desk and obtain appropriate credentials. Credentials will not be available for distribution during a business session. In the event of loss, the Credentials Committee may issue duplicate credentials during the times specified.

2. MOTIONS AND DEBATE FOR OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL RESTATED BYLAWS

- A. Any convention registrant who is a member of an Optimist Club may speak on any question provided they address the chair in the prescribed manner, is recognized by the chair, and state their name and Club affiliation.
- B. Debate on a given motion will be limited to two minutes per speaker with a limit of 14 speakers, seven for each side of the issue. No one may speak a second time on a given motion, at the same sitting.
- C. Debate may be limited, extended, or ended by a two-thirds vote.

- D. The decision of the chair is final on all procedural matters. A decision of the chair may be reversed only upon failure of a vote to sustain the ruling of the chair.
- E. There will be no amendments to the main motion to Adopt the Restated Bylaws of Optimist International as presented.
- F. Following completion of debate, the Motion will be decided by a ballot vote.
 - (1) Delegates will caucus as Clubs, decide on the distribution of votes to which the Club is entitled and designate one delegate to mark the ballot reflecting the result of the caucus. A Club entitled to more than one vote may split its votes, except that only whole votes may be cast. Only one ballot per Club, reflecting all votes to which the Club is entitled, may be cast.
 - (2) At least four ballot boxes, with a teller assigned to each box, will be available in the business session meeting room for depositing of ballots.
 - (3) At the completion of balloting, the committee of tellers will remove the ballot boxes to a designated place, count the votes and tabulate the results. The teller committee chairperson will report the results, in writing, to the chair. All ballots will be destroyed immediately after the results of the balloting have been announced by the chair.
 - (4) A ballot vote once cast may not be changed.
- H. The motion to adopt the restated Bylaws must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote.

3. RESOLUTIONS

- A. Only resolutions presented by the Governance/Resolutions Committee will be considered by the convention. Resolutions declined by the Governance/Resolutions Committee and not presented to the convention are referred to the President-Elect and Executive Director for consideration.
- B. No amendments can be made to the stated Resolution.
- C. Any convention registrant who is a member of an Optimist Club may speak on any question provided they address the chair in the prescribed manner, is recognized by the chair and state their name and Club affiliation.
- D. Debate on a given motion will be limited to two minutes per speaker with a limit of 10 speakers, five for each side of the issue. No one may speak a second time on a given motion, at the same sitting.
- E. Resolutions will be adopted by majority vote. Resolutions approved by the convention delegates are referred to the International Board of Directors for consideration.
- F. All actions taken on delegate approved resolutions will be communicated to the delegates at the following convention.

4. CAMPAIGNING PROTOCOL

Campaigning for International Offices may take place between any sessions of the International Convention and in the designated candidate campaign area (if provided). No campaigning may take place during any scheduled session sponsored by Optimist International (general sessions, training sessions, break-outs, etc.)

Candidates who serve on Optimist International Committees, as Vice Presidents, as Officers, as Trainers, as Board Members or who are speaking or appearing in front of the delegates at any official Optimist function (including, but not limited to, general sessions, training sessions, workshops and meals) may do so, but may not campaign in any way during such a presentation. They shall not wear campaign buttons, stickers or other campaign material and shall refrain from campaigning at such events.

All candidates for any International Office shall ensure that their campaign/support people are aware of all the requirements of Board Policies and that they will be strictly adhered to during and before the convention.

As stated by Board Policy and signed by all Candidates, literature or material soliciting support of or offering candidates for International or District office is permissible providing such is in good taste and is of a size small enough to be placed at tables or in the hands of delegates. However, nothing may be fastened to walls or other locations of like nature. Activities regarding any candidacy for International or District office shall be conducted in a responsible manner consistent with the importance and dignity of the office. Candidates shall limit or cause to be limited all expenditures made by themselves and/or on their behalf to a maximum of \$5000 in cost in promoting their candidacy.