

Proposed Standing Rules of the Council

Note: A motion to adopt these rules will be made at the opening plenary meeting. Amendments may be offered at this time and amendments will require a majority vote to adopt. The rules, as proposed or amended, require a two-thirds vote for adoption. To suspend a rule at a later time during Council requires a two-thirds vote.

A. Credentials

1. Admission to the Council shall be limited to persons displaying authorized badges as delegates, observers (members who are not delegates), or guests.
2. The Credentials Committee, directly after the opening ceremonies of the first business meeting, shall report the number of delegates with proper credentials and whether the distribution of delegates meets the Bylaw requirements. The committee shall make a supplementary report before each business session.

B. Speaking and Debating

1. Privilege of the Floor is reserved to any League member in attendance. Only delegates shall be permitted to vote and initiate motions.
2. Recognition: Individuals wishing to speak shall rise and address the Chair. When recognized, they shall give their name and the name of their League, Unit-at-Large or the State Board position they represent.
3. Debate: During debate no person may speak more than once on a given question until all who desire to speak have been heard. No one may speak more than three minutes without permission of the meeting. The Chair may set the rules for debate or speaking on a topic if the agenda is behind schedule.

C. Business of the Council

1. Motions: All motions, if there are any, except simple motions such as to close debate, shall be written, signed and sent to the Chair, with copies to Secretary and computer station.
2. Formal counted votes of the Council shall be taken with the doors closed, and no one may enter until voting is completed. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. The vote count shall be taken of those present and voting, counting only "yeas" and "nays."
3. The only business of Council is the election of those officers and directors specified under the Bylaws to be elected at Council. Otherwise, Council focuses on training and best practices idea sharing between Conventions.

4. Proposed Bylaw changes are out of order at Council. Bylaws amendments, under the LWVWA Bylaws, may only be proposed at Convention.
5. Program of Work, Budget, and Resolutions are Convention-to-Convention items of business and are not considered at Council.

D. Elections

1. The Nominating Committee report shall be formally received on the Friday of Council, and nominations from the floor, if any, taken in the Friday plenary session.
2. The election shall be an item of business near the end of the Saturday afternoon session, no earlier than 4:00pm, so to provide enough time between nominations and elections for the candidates to campaign amongst the delegates.
3. Candidates in contested races shall be provided with an opportunity to address the delegation before ballots are distributed. This may be scheduled at any point in the Saturday sessions.
4. Ballots shall be issued to delegates displaying proper delegate credentials after the candidate speeches for contested races have occurred.
 - a. Ballots shall contain the names of all nominated candidates.
 - b. Ballots shall be secret, but verifiable as a properly issued LWVWA election ballot.
5. Ballots shall be collected at the doors of plenary session room, accessible by all delegates. The ballot box shall be additionally available for one-half hour after the session where voting occurs ends, in the Registration area.
6. Ballots shall be tabulated in an area where observation by interested delegates can be undertaken. At minimum, room for two observers for each candidate, and two neutral board observers, must be available for contested races.
7. Results shall be announced at the Saturday evening Council session/event.

E. Announcements

1. Announcements must be submitted in writing to the Secretary to make at the close of each session.