

The International Association
Of Lions Clubs

Multiple District "A"

Constitution and Bylaws



We Serve

Committee
Chairman - Bob Osborne, PDG
Members - Bill Daoust, PDG
- Brian Moore, PDG

As Amended May 30, 2004

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Multiple District "A" Constitution and By-Laws

(As Amended, May 30, 2004)

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MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

(As amended, May 30, 2004)

ARTICLE I

DISTRICT "A" ORGANIZATION

This Constitution shall be the Constitution of Multiple District "A" of the International Association of Lions Clubs. Multiple District "A" shall consist of the Lions Clubs included therein by the Association, also known as Lions International.

In this Constitution the International Association of Lions Clubs, shall be referred to as Lions International, Multiple District "A" shall be referred to as District "A" and individual component Districts shall be referred to as District.

SECTION 1 District "A" shall consist of the number of Districts as determined from time to time in a manner hereafter provided.

SECTION 2 The Districts shall be referred to as a District "A" followed by their designated numeral.

SECTION 3 New Districts may be created when permitted by the provisions of the Constitution, Policy or By-Laws of Lions International, provided that the following procedure is followed:

- a) The proposal to create a new District or new Districts shall be approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the Governors' Council voting at a meeting at which the proposal is considered.
- b) A written notice shall be given to each Club affected by the proposal at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting, and each Club affected shall have the right to appear at this meeting of the Governors' Council and make representation with respect to the proposal.
- c) The decision of the Governors' Council to create one or more additional Districts shall be referred to the next District "A" Convention for consideration, and, if approved, shall be dealt with according to the provisions of the International Constitution.

SECTION 4 An existing Club or Clubs may be transferred from one existing District to another in accordance with the requirements of the International Constitution.

ARTICLE II

Duties of the Governing Bodies and Officers of District "A"

The Duties of the Governing Bodies and Officers of District "A" shall be as described under By-Law II of this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE III

DISTRICT "A" ORGANIZATION

SECTION 1

Each District shall be divided, by the Governors' Council, into Regions of sixteen (16) or fewer Clubs. The Governors' Council may change the number of Clubs in a Region as it may deem advisable in the best interests of Lionism and the individual Clubs.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
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(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 2

Each Region shall be divided by the Governors' Council into Zones of eight (8) or fewer Clubs, due regard being given to geographical locations of the Clubs. The Governors' Council may change the number of Clubs in a Zone as it may deem advisable in the best interest of Lionism and the individual Clubs.

SECTION 3

A meeting of all the Clubs in a Region shall be designated as a Region meeting (Rally) and each Region Chairperson may hold one (1) meeting during the term of his/her Office, the date and place to be fixed by himself/herself, and he/she shall be in active charge of the meeting. The Region meeting (Rally) shall be arranged to make it possible and convenient for the members of all Clubs in the Region to attend.

SECTION 4

A meeting of all the Clubs in a Zone shall be designated as a Zone Meeting (District Governor's Advisory Committee) and each Zone Chairperson will hold three (3) meetings during his/her term of Office, the date and place to be fixed by himself/herself. He/she shall be in active charge of the meeting under the supervision of the Region Chairperson. The Zone meeting (District Governor's Advisory Committee) shall be arranged to make it possible and convenient for all members of the Clubs in the Zone to attend this meeting.

ARTICLE IV

M.D. "A" Advisory Board

SECTION 1

There shall be a M.D. "A" Advisory Board which shall be composed of the following Lions:

- a) The Chairperson of the Governors' Council
- b) The District Governors
- c) The Vice District Governors, Region Chairpersons and Zone Chairpersons
- d) The following Lions provided they are members in good standing of Clubs in good standing in District "A".
 - The International President or Vice President in Office
 - The International Director in Office
 - All Past International Presidents, Director and Governors

The District "A" Secretary and the District "A" Treasurer shall be Ex Officio members of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board.

SECTION 2

Rules of Audit will not apply to Advisory Board Meetings.

SECTION 3

The Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, or designates, of the Governors' Council shall be Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board.

SECTION 4

- a) Meetings of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board shall be called when the District "A" Secretary receives a written request from the Chairperson of the Governors' Council and/or a majority of the members of the Governors' Council.
- b) The District "A" Secretary shall send a notice of all meetings of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board to all of its members, by mail, at least fourteen (14) days before the date set for any of these meetings.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
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(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 5

Members of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board in attendance shall constitute a quorum thereof, and, except where otherwise provided in these Constitution and By-Laws, all matters before the Board shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and voting.

ARTICLE V

Governors' Council

SECTION 1

- a) There shall be a Governors' Council composed of the following persons:
 - The Chairperson who shall be elected as hereafter provided
 - The District Governor of each District

- b) The Term of Office of the Governors' Council shall run from the close of one International Convention to the close of the International Convention in the following year. If either Convention is not held, then from July 1st in one year to June 30th in the following year.

SECTION 2

- a) The Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall be elected at a meeting to be held at the Mid-Winter Council Meeting each year, from the current District Governors, by the current District Governors and the current Vice District Governors.

- b) The Term of Office of the Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall run from the twentieth (20th) day after the close of the District "A" Convention at which he/she was elected until the nineteenth (19th) day after the end of the District "A" Convention the following year, and he/she shall be Chairperson of any existing Council during that period.

- c) No person shall be eligible to hold the Office of Council Chairperson for two (2) consecutive years.

SECTION 3

All current District Governors of M.D. "A" shall be considered candidates for the office of Council Chairperson, each having the right of refusal prior to the election.

SECTION 4

In the event the Council Chairperson is unable to complete their term of office, a new Chairperson shall be determined as follows:

- a) By the current Governors' Council from the Immediate Past Governors of M.D. "A" if the replacement becomes necessary during the period from the beginning of term to January 1. The election shall be called by the Vice Council Chairperson and shall take place no more than 30 days after the vacancy is created. All Immediate Past Governors of M.D. "A" shall be candidates with written acceptance of nomination for the position of Council Chairperson required from all candidates.

- c) If the replacement becomes necessary during the period January 2 to the end of term, the Immediate Past Council Chairperson shall assume the office.

If the Immediate Past Council Chairperson cannot assume the Office during the period January 2 to the end of term, the Position will go back chronologically in order of term to select a Past Council Chairperson to assume the office.

SECTION 5

A Vice Council Chairperson for the following year shall be elected from and by the current Governors-Elect at a meeting held during the M.D. "A" Convention, and shall be ratified at the first meeting of the Governors' Council.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 6

The Vice Council Chairperson is to immediately assume the duties of the Council Chairperson whenever the Council Chairperson can no longer carry out their duties, until a replacement is selected.

SECTION 7

There shall be a District "A" Secretary appointed by the Governors' Council. If the position becomes vacant during the term of Office of the Council, it may be filled by the Governors' Council.

SECTION 8

There shall be a District "A" Treasurer appointed by the Governors' Council. If the position becomes vacant during the term of Office of the Council, it may be filled by the Governors' Council.

SECTION 9

The District "A" Secretary and the District "A" Treasurer shall be Ex Officio members of the Governors' Council but shall not have the right to vote.

SECTION 10

Each member of the Governors' Council shall have one Vote and the Chairperson shall not have a casting vote.

SECTION 11

A majority of the Governors' Council shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business at any of its meetings. All matters coming before the Council shall be decided by a majority Vote of those present and voting, unless otherwise provided in this Constitution.

ARTICLE VI

Officers

SECTION 1 The District Governor

The District Governor of each District within District "A" shall be elected at a Convention held in his/her District in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. Qualifications for the position of District Governor, Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson and Zone Chairperson shall be as provided for in this and the International Constitution.

The District Governor so elected shall take office immediately on the adjournment of the International Convention next succeeding his/her election and he/she shall serve until the adjournment of the next following International Convention. If either of these Conventions is not held, a District Governor's term of office shall run from July 1st of one year until June 30th of the following year.

Elections for District Governor, shall be by secret written ballot and a plurality of votes shall govern. In the case of a tie vote, additional ballots shall be taken with the names of the leading Candidates only, thereon until one Candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast. The number of votes cast for any Candidate shall not be announced and all ballots shall be destroyed when voting is completed.

Each Candidate may appoint one representative to observe the counting of the ballots but the representative shall not actively participate in the counting.

In the event that only one Nominee qualifies in a District for the position of District Governor, he/she shall be elected in accordance with the procedure as set out in **the Lions Clubs International Constitution and By-Laws**.

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(As amended, May 30, 2004)

No incumbent District Governor, elected or appointed and serving a full term, may stand for election or be appointed to succeed himself/herself from the same district (single, sub, transitional or provisional). He/she may hold the same office, after the passing of at least one association year, for one additional term only, and only for special, urgent or serious circumstances as approved by the International Board of Directors.

SECTION 2

In the event of a vacancy in the office of District Governor, the procedure for his/her replacement is as outlined in this and the International Constitution and By-Laws.

SECTION 3 Vice District Governor

A **Vice District Governor** shall be elected in each District at a duly Constituted District meeting each year, such as the respective District Convention. In the event that the meeting shall not elect a Vice District Governor, then the District Governor elect for the District shall appoint a qualified active member in good standing of a Club in good standing as Vice District Governor.

SECTION 4

- a) A **Region Chairperson** shall be elected in each Region of each District at a duly constituted Region Meeting each year, or at a meeting of the delegates from the Clubs in his/her Region held during the respective District Convention.
- b) In the case of a new Region which is to become effective after the Region Meeting, the delegates from the Clubs which shall comprise the new Region shall elect a Region Chairperson at this Region Meeting, or at a meeting of the delegates from the Clubs in his/her Region held during the respective District Convention.

SECTION 5

- a) A **Zone Chairperson** shall be elected for each Zone in each Region of each District, at a duly constituted Zone Meeting to be held each year, or at a Region Meeting or District Convention for the respective Region or District. In the event that a Zone Chairperson for each Zone in each Region is not elected at the Zone Meeting, then the District Governor Elect shall appoint a Zone Chairperson for any Zone where no Zone Chairperson was elected. Any Zone Chairperson so appointed shall be a member in good standing of a Lions Club in good standing in the Zone for which he/she is appointed.
- b) In the case of a Zone or Zones to become effective after the meeting, the delegates from the Clubs in the Zone or Zones shall elect a Zone Chairperson at this meeting or at a specially called meeting.

SECTION 6

At a Zone or Region Meeting, each club in good standing in the Zone or Region shall be entitled to one (1) voting delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof, as shown in the records of the District Governor as of the first day of March in each year in which the Zone or Region meeting is held. The major fraction referred to shall be five (5) or more members. Each Past or Present Officer of Lions International shall be entitled to one (1) vote at the Zone or Region Meeting at which his/her own club is entitled to vote, and this vote shall not be counted as a vote of the Club of which the Past or Present International Officer is a member.

SECTION 7

Candidacy Requirements for the positions of District Governor, Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson and Zone Chairperson:

- a) **A Candidate for the position of District Governor** shall:
 - 1) Be an active member in good standing of a Chartered Lions Club in good standing in his/her District.

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- 2) Secure the endorsement of his/her Club or a majority of the Clubs in his/her District
- 3) Currently be serving as the Vice District Governor within the District from which he/she is to be elected.
- 4) Only in the event the current Vice District Governor does not stand for election as District Governor, or if a vacancy in the position of Vice District Governor exists at the time of the District Convention, any Club member who fulfils the qualifications for the office of Vice District Governor as set forth in Section 7, (b) of this article VII and who is currently serving or who has served one (1) additional year as a member of the District Cabinet, shall fulfil the requirements of subsection (c) of this section.

b) A Candidate for the position of Vice District Governor shall:

- Be an active member in good standing of a Chartered Lions Club in good standing in his/her District.
 - Secure the endorsement of his/her Club or a majority of the Clubs in his/her District.
 - Have served or will have served at the time he/she takes Office as Vice District Governor;
- 1) As President of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of the Board of Directors of a Lions Club for no less than two (2) additional years; and
 - 2) As Zone Chairperson, Region Chairperson, or Cabinet Secretary and/or Treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof; and
 - 3) With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

c) A Candidate for the position of Region Chairperson shall:

- Be an active member in good standing of a Chartered Lions Club in good standing in his/her Region.
 - Secure the endorsement of his/her Club or the majority of the Clubs in his/her Region.
 - Have served or will have served by the time he/she takes Office as Region Chairperson;
- 1) As President of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof and as a member of the Board of Directors of a Lions Club for no less than two (2) additional years, and
 - 2) As Zone Chairperson or Cabinet Secretary and/or Treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof
 - 3) With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

d) A Candidate for the position of Zone Chairperson shall:

- Be an active member in good standing of a Chartered Lions Club in good standing in his/her Zone.
 - Secure the endorsement of his/her Club or the majority of the Clubs in his/her Zone.
 - Have served or will have served by the time he/she takes office;
- 1) As President of a Lions Club for a full term or major portion thereof, and as a member of the Board of Directors of a Lions Club for no less than two (2) additional years; and
 - 2) With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

e) Nominations for the Office of Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson and Zone Chairperson shall be made in writing to the District Governor, with the consent of the nominee attached, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the respective election is to take place.

SECTION 8

In the event of a vacancy in the office of Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson, the District Governor shall have the power to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term. Provided however, each respective District Governor shall have the authority to determine whether **the** position of Region Chairperson will be utilized during his/her term.

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 9

There shall be no salary paid to any District Governor, Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson of District "A".

SECTION 10

The District Governor shall have the authority to dismiss a Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson or a Zone Chairperson or any other Officer in his/her District for good and sufficient cause.

SECTION 11

The term of office for any Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson who, during his/her term of office, moves outside of his/her District, Region or Zone, shall immediately terminate unless the District Governor of the District is of the opinion that the Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson can continue to satisfactorily perform his/her duties.

SECTION 12

The elections for the position of District Governor, Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson shall be by secret written ballot and the candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the case of a tie on any Ballot between the leading candidates, balloting will continue with respect to the tied candidates until one is elected.

ARTICLE VII

District Governor's Cabinet

SECTION 1

There shall be a District Governor's Cabinet in each District composed of the District Governor as its presiding **Officer**, the immediate Past District Governor, the Vice District Governor, the Region Chairpersons, the Zone Chairpersons and the Secretary-Treasurer or the Secretary and Treasurer. All Committee Chairpersons appointed by the District Governor shall be non-voting members of the Governor's Cabinet.

SECTION 2

A majority of the voting members of the District Governor's Cabinet shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Cabinet.

SECTION 3

The District Governor's Cabinet shall meet at the times and places as fixed by the District Governor.

SECTION 4

Notices of meetings of the District Governor's Cabinet shall be sent to each member at least (10) days prior to the date on which each meeting shall be held.

ARTICLE VIII

District Governor's Advisory Committee

SECTION 1

There shall be a District Governor's Advisory Committee in each Zone of each District, composed of the Zone Chairperson, the Presidents and the Secretaries of the Clubs in the Zone.

SECTION 2

The Zone Chairperson of each Zone shall convene three (3) meetings of the Zone during the Zone Chairperson's term of his/her Office, and the Zone Chairperson shall be Chairperson of these meetings.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 3

In each Zone there shall be a Minute Book to record the proceedings of each meeting of the Advisory Committee.

ARTICLE IX

District Committees

To assist in the administration of the District, the District Governor, immediately after the commencement of the term of office, shall appoint the Committees required by Lions International, as well as the following;

1. Effective Speaking
2. Bulletin Contest
3. Lions Foundation of Canada
4. Lions Magazine Representative

The District Governor shall have the power to appoint Chairpersons to additional Committees that may be required.

ARTICLE X

District "A" Revenue

SECTION 1

To provide for the administration and Convention Funds of District "A", an annual dues, in an amount to be approved at a District "A" Convention, shall be levied on each member of each Club in each District and shall be collected by the District "A" Secretary, on or after the first day of September in each year. The Membership of each Club, including New and Reorganized Lions Clubs, for this purpose shall be based on the number of its members on record at Lions International on the first day of July immediately preceding.

SECTION 2

The dues shall become and remain a fund of District "A" and shall be disbursed only for the Administrative expenses of District "A" as approved by the Governors' Council. Payments out of this Administrative fund shall be by cheque as provided in By-Law II, **Section 5** of the By-Laws.

SECTION 3 Life Member

Any member of a Club who has maintained continuous Active Membership as a Lion for twenty (20) or more years and has rendered outstanding service to his/her Club, his/her Community or this Association; or any member of a Club who has maintained continuous Active Membership for fifteen (15) or more years and is at least seventy (70) years of age; or any member of a Club who has maintained Active Membership for twenty (20) or more years and has served as an Officer of this Association; or any member of a Club who is critically ill, may be granted Life Membership in District "A" upon - (1) recommendation of his/her Club, (2) payment to District "A", of Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars by his/her Club in lieu of all future Dues to District "A", (3) the member has been granted Life Membership at Lions International, and (4) approved by the current Governors' Council. Nothing herein shall prevent the local Club from charging a Life Member Club Dues as it shall deem proper.

A Life Member shall have all privileges of Active Membership so long as the member fulfils all obligations thereof. All International Presidents, who are members of Lions Clubs in District "A" upon retiring from Office, shall automatically become Life Members of their respective Lions Clubs at District "A" and at Lions International without cost to these Clubs. A Life Member who desires to relocate and receives an invitation to join another Lions Club shall automatically become a Life Member of this Club.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 4

The District "A" Auditor shall annually or at more frequent intervals, if necessary, audit the books and accounts of the Administrative fund and report thereon to the Governors' Council or the M.D. "A" Advisory Board.

ARTICLE XI

District "A" Convention

SECTION 1

A District "A" Convention shall be held each year, not later than the first weekend in the month of June. At each District "A" Convention the Governors' Council shall determine the location where the District "A" Convention shall be held three (3) years later.

SECTION 2

- a) There shall be a Host Committee of not less than seven (7) members, one of whom shall be elected as General Chairperson by the Club or Clubs in the City, Zone, Region or **District** where the Convention is to be held, and one of whom shall be elected Vice Chairperson.
- b) The Host Committee shall appoint as many Sub-Committees as deemed advisable and necessary for the planning and operation of the Convention.
- c) All expenses of the Sub-Committees shall be born by the Host Committee.
- d) The Host Committee shall, immediately following each of its meetings, submit a written report as well as minutes and a current Financial Statement to the Chairperson of the Convention Advisory Committee and to the District "A" Secretary who shall transmit these reports to the members of the Governors' Council.

SECTION 3

Clubs, Zones, Regions or Districts desiring to entertain the Convention for the third year following shall submit invitations in writing to the District "A" Secretary not later than December 15th in the fourth (4th) year preceding the year to which the invitation applies.

Each invitation shall be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the requirements as specified under By-Law XII of this Constitution can be satisfied and shall further be accompanied by a written undertaking that all policies, directives and requirements of the Governors' Council shall be complied with. If no invitation for a Convention in any one year is received from a Club(s), Zone, Region, or District the Governors' Council may authorize the Convention Advisory Committee to request a Club(s), Zone, Region or District to hold that Convention.

SECTION 4

The Governors' Council shall have supervision, management and control over the policies and phases of the District "A" Convention.

SECTION 5

To provide funds to defray the administrative expenses of the District "A" Convention there shall be allocated each year from the Annual District "A" dues, no less than fifty (50) cents per member, and this amount shall be paid to the Host Committee after a reconciliation of all Convention Receipts and Expenses is made. This reconciliation in the form of a confirmed Financial Statement shall be received by the Governors' Council or Post-Marked by August 31st of the Convention year. District "A" expenses related to a Convention may be deducted from the above allocation if approved by the Governors' Council. If the reconciliation is not received by, or Post-Marked by August 31st of the Convention year, this allocation shall be forfeited by the Host Committee.

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(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 6

The Governors' Council shall have control of the financing of all matters pertaining to the District "A" Convention expenses mentioned in Section 5 of this Article.

SECTION 7

A Registration Fee, the amount to be set by the Governors' Council, shall be collected from each Delegate, Alternate and Guest attending the District "A" Convention.

SECTION 8

At the District "A" Convention the Agenda shall include the following;

- 1) Report of the District "A" Secretary
- 2) Report of the District "A" Treasurer
- 3) Report of the District "A" Committees
- 4) The General Business of District "A"

SECTION 9

Each Chartered Club in District AA@, in good standing with Lions International and District AA@ shall be entitled to one (1) voting Delegate and (1) alternate voting Delegate for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof, who have been enrolled for at least one year and a day in the club, as shown on the records of Lions International and District AA@ on the first day of the month immediately preceding the month in which the Convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section is five (5) or more members. Each Club shall be entitled to receive from the District AA@ Secretary prior to the District AA@ Convention the same number of Delegate Certificates as the number of Delegates to which the Club is entitled. The member of the Club presenting his/her Delegate Certificate to the Credentials Committee at the particular Convention, and otherwise complying with the provision of the Constitution as to the qualifications for Delegates, shall be entitled to be a voting Delegate for his/her Club. Any Club which is newly chartered, and other chartered club which takes in new members prior to the convening of any such convention, shall have its delegate quota determined on the basis of members who have been enrolled in the club for at least one year and a day as shown on such record data in the records of **Lions Clubs International**.

The current Lions International Membership Card shall be sufficient proof of identification. The maximum number of Delegates- certificates to be issued for any Club shall be determined by the number of Delegates to which the Club is entitled.

SECTION 10

Each Delegate present at the Convention shall be entitled to cast one (1) Vote only on every question submitted to the Convention, and for the endorsement of Candidate(s) for International Office.

SECTION 11

- a) Each Past and Present Officer of Lions International, who is a member in good standing in District "A" shall be a Voting Delegate at the District "A" Convention, and this Vote shall not be counted as a Vote to which the officer's Club would otherwise be entitled.
- b) A Past and Present Officer of Lions International may be a Voting Delegate of the officer's own Club as provided under Section 9 of the Article of the Constitution, but the officer may not then be a Voting Delegate by reason of having a Past or Present Office. The Officer may be a Voting Delegate in one capacity only.

SECTION 12

A Majority of the Delegates in attendance at the Convention shall constitute a Quorum of the Convention for the transaction of business.

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 13

The Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall, with the approval of the Council, at the Mid-Winter meeting of the Governors' Council, appoint a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and members for the following Committees to function at the District "A" Convention;

- 1) Credentials
- 2) Voting

Members of these Committees shall not be paid expenses unless specifically approved by the Governors' Council at the time of the appointment to the Committee.

SECTION 14

The District "A" Convention shall not be held in the same District for two (2) consecutive years unless no Club(s) in any other District is willing and able to act as Host Club.

ARTICLE XII
Adoption

This Constitution and By-Laws shall become in full force and effect when it has been approved at a District "A" Convention by a majority affirmative Vote of the qualified Delegates present in person and voting unless otherwise provided for in the resolution.

ARTICLE XIII
Amendments

SECTION 1

This Constitution can be amended only at the District "A" Convention by a resolution reported by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee at the Convention, and adopted by a **the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.**

SECTION 2

Proposed amendments to the Constitution, (or By-Laws) shall be in writing and in the hands of the District "A" Chairperson of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Mid-Winter Meeting of M.D. "A"

SECTION 3

Proposals for District "A" projects and proposals for expenditures shall be in writing and in the hands of the District "A" Secretary no less than sixty (60) days prior to the official opening of the District "A" Convention.

SECTION 4

The District "A" Secretary shall notify each Club in District "A", thirty (30) days prior to the District "A" Convention of any proposals for amendments in the Constitution, for proposed District "A" projects, or for the expenditure of District "A" funds which are to be voted on during the District "A" Convention.

**MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**
(As amended, May 30, 2004)

BY-LAWS

BY-LAW I

District "A" Nominations and Elections

M. D. "A" Nominations & Elections Committees

SECTION 1

The Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall, with the approval of the Council, **no later than** at its midwinter meeting, appoint a Nominating Committee Chairperson and an Elections Committee Chairperson, and not less than two (2) members, each of whom shall be a member of a different Club in District "A", and none of whom shall at the time of the appointment hold any District "A" or International Office. Each appointee shall receive a written notice of his/her appointment immediately from the District "A" Secretary.

Nominations for International Office

SECTION 2

- a) Nominations for the position of Second Vice President shall be in duplicate and sent as soon as made public to the District "A" Secretary, but not less than ninety (90) days before the convening date of the M.D. "A" Convention at which the endorsed candidate is to be voted upon. Nominations for the position of International Director shall be in duplicate and sent as soon as made public to the District "A" Secretary, but not less than thirty (30) days prior to the District "A" Convention at which the nominations shall be considered and voted upon. Upon receipt of the nomination(s), the District "A" Secretary shall forward a copy to the Nominations Committee Chairman.
If two (2) or more Candidates from the same District are nominated for the position of International Director, the Governor of the District shall hold an elimination vote.
- b) Any person nominated for the position of International Director shall be a member in good standing of a Club in good standing with District "A" and Lions International. The Nomination for the position of International Director and/or District Governor shall be endorsed by the Club of which the nominee is a member.
- c) As soon as a Nomination is received from the District "A" Secretary, the Nominations Committee shall determine if the persons nominated are qualified in accordance with the District "A" Constitution and By-Laws. If the Candidate does qualify, then the Nominations Committee will advise the District "A" Secretary that the name of the Candidate can be published through the usual means.
- d) The District "A" Secretary shall thereupon inform each club in each District, in writing, or by Publication in the Lion Magazine, of the Nominee(s) for the position of International Director or that of second International Vice President.

SECTION 3

- a) The Report of the Nomination Committee shall be on the floor of the Convention.
- b) Nominating speeches shall be limited to two (2) minutes time duration for each Candidate and shall be made at the Convention at which election is to take place. Each Candidate nominated shall be entitled to speak once for not more than five (5) minutes duration.

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SECTION 4

(1) ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURE

Subject to the provisions of the International Constitution and By-Laws, any member of a Lions Club in the Multiple District seeking endorsement of the convention of the Multiple District as a candidate for the office of International Director or second Vice-President shall:

- (a) Deliver (by mail or in person) written notice of intention to seek the endorsement to the Multiple District Council Secretary no less than 30 days prior to the convening date of the Convention (Sub-or Multiple) at which this question of endorsement is to be voted upon.
- (b) Deliver with the notice of intention, evidence of fulfillment of the qualifications for the office set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

(2) NOMINATIONS

Each notice of intention so delivered shall be transmitted forthwith by the Council Chairperson and Council Secretary to the Nominating Committee of the respective Convention, which shall review and perfect the same by obtaining from each prospective candidate any additional evidence of intention and qualifications as may be necessary under the International Constitution and By-Laws, and shall place in nomination at the respective Convention the name of each prospective Candidate who has fulfilled the procedural and Constitutional requirements.

(3) SECONDING SPEECH

Each such nominee for endorsement shall be entitled to one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes in duration.

(4) VOTE

The vote on the question of endorsement shall be by secret written ballot, unless there shall be only one nominee seeking the same, in which event a voice vote maybe taken. The nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared endorsed (elected) as the candidate of the Multiple District Convention.

In the event of a tie vote, or failure of one nominee to receive the required majority, on any ballot, balloting shall continue with respect to the two nominees only who received the largest number of votes on the previous ballot until one receives the required majority of the votes cast.

(5) CERTIFICATION OF ENDORSEMENT

Certification of endorsement by the Multiple District Convention shall be made to the International Office by the Multiple District officials designated, and in accordance with the requirements set forth, in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

(6) VALIDITY

No endorsement of any candidacy of any member of a Lions Club in this Multiple District shall be valid unless and until the provisions of this Article VII have been met.

SECTION 4

The Duties and responsibilities of the Elections Committee shall be as follows;

- a) To verify that only accredited Delegates are admitted to vote. If in doubt, request the Delegate to go back to the Credentials Committee Desk.
- b) To supervise the distribution of the Ballot(s) to each Voting Delegate.
- c) To supervise the voting area so that a proper distance is kept between the Delegate at the voting booth and the Delegate waiting to vote.

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- d) After the polls are closed, to tally the count separately of the Ballots cast for each subject to be voted on.
- e) To register the number of votes cast for each subject voted on, on separate tally sheets.
- f) To make sure that there is no interference on the part of the Candidates' representatives allowed to attend the count of the Ballots.

SECTION 6

Candidates for the position of International Director who have been endorsed by their District shall notify M.D. “A” within thirty (30) days of the endorsement. Failure to do so will invalidate the endorsement until another district meeting is held to re-nominate the candidate.

SECTION 7

International Director candidates shall resign from all M.D. “A” committees and M.D. “A” appointments immediately at the conclusion of the M.D. “A” Convention, one year prior to the M.D. “A” Convention where the election will be held. The term may be extended to the end of the Lions' year, but the Candidate cannot be appointed for or until the next year.

BY-LAW II

Duties of the Governing Bodies and Officers of District “A”

SECTION 1 Chairperson of the Governors' Council

The Multiple District Chairperson, under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors, shall be the administrative Officer of District “A”. His/her specific responsibilities shall be to;

- a) Further the Purposes and Objects of this Association.
- b) Provide Leadership, Direction, and Initiative for International and District “A” programs, goals, and Long Range Planning.
- c) Create and foster harmony and unity among Sub-Districts, and assist District Governors to solve issues.
- d) Preside over the District “A” Convention, all Council Meetings and the M.D. “A” Advisory Board Meetings.
- e) Submit reports and perform the duties as may be required by the District “A” Constitution and By-Laws.
- f) Perform other Administrative Duties as may be assigned by the District “A” Council of Governors.
- g) Attend the International Convention immediately following his/her election and organize a meeting of the District Governors Elect at which he/she will preside to fully explain their Duties and Responsibilities for the forthcoming term.
- h) To organize and conduct the Annual District “A” Caucus at the International Convention.
- i) With the approval of the Governors' Council, appoint the Committees and their Chairpersons as required by the Constitution and By-Laws, and as may be necessary, to effectively conduct the affairs of District “A” as well as filling the Committees as may be required.

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- j) The Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall not appoint more than four (4) members, including the Chairperson, to any District "A" Committee whose members are not already appointed under the terms of this Constitution and By-Laws.
- k) To chair the International Breakfast at the International Convention.
- l) Facilitate at the close of his/her term of Office, the timely presentation of all District "A" Accounts, Funds and Records to his/her successor in Office.

SECTION 2 Governors' Council

The Governors' Council shall conduct the affairs of District "A" in accordance with the Constitution of Lions International and District "A".

It shall be responsible to the M.D. "A" Advisory Board, without limiting the generality of the foregoing. The Governors' Council shall;

- a) Designate the Bank to be used for District "A" banking purposes.
- b) Designate the Surety Company and set the amount of Surety Bonds for the District "A" Secretary and District "A" Treasurer.
- c) Request and receive Financial Reports from the District "A" Treasurer semi-annually or more frequently, if necessary.
- d) Have supervision, management and control over all Policies and Phases of the District "A" Convention.

SECTION 3 M.D. "A" Advisory Board

At Meetings of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board convened, as provided under Article IV, Section 4, of this Constitution, the duty of the M.D. "A" Advisory Board shall be to consider the reasons why the meetings were convened and make decisions as may be necessary.

SECTION 4 District "A" Secretary

The District "A" Secretary shall manage the M.D. "A" administration functions as detailed in the M.D. "A" Policy Manual under the direction and supervision of the Governors' Council.

SECTION 5 District "A" Treasurer

The District "A" Treasurer shall manage the M.D. "A" financial functions as detailed in the M.D. "A" Policy Manual under the direction and supervision of the Governors' Council.

SECTION 6 District Governor

The District Governor shall perform the duties set out in this and the Constitution of Lions Clubs International and he/she shall;

- a) Supervise the work and activities in his/her District.
- b) Preside at all meetings of the District Governor's Cabinet.
- c) Notify the District "A" Secretary on or before December 31st of the date on which his/her District shall hold its own Convention in the following year.
- d) The District Governor shall appoint a Credentials and Voting Committee whose duties shall be similar to the duties of the corresponding Committees for District "A" as provided in this Constitution and By-Laws.

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- e) See that all Clubs in his/her District promptly pay the monies they owe to Lions International, District "A" and to his/her own District.
- f) See that the Nominations of a Candidate for the position of District Governor shall be immediately sent to the District "A" Secretary with the Biography of the Candidate.

SECTION 7 District Governor's Cabinet

The District Governor's Cabinet shall:

- a) Deliberate with and assist the District Governor in the formulation of administrative plans and policies affecting the welfare of Lionism within the District. Its assistance shall be in an advisory and administrative capacity only.
- b) Receive reports and recommendations from the Region Chairpersons relating to Zones and Clubs in the District.
- c) At its first meeting, prepare a Schedule of Cabinet Meetings to be held during the ensuing year, setting out as far as possible the definite dates and places of these meetings.

SECTION 8 District Committees

District Committees shall be responsible to the District Governor and the Committee Chairpersons appointed by the District Governor shall be considered as NON voting District Officers.

The Committees shall be responsible for carrying out the Activity of the particular Committee as directed by the District Governor as may be necessary to the effective operation of the committee.

Extension Committee

- a) This Committee shall, in each District, be composed of an Extension Chairperson, the Region Chairpersons and the Zone Chairpersons. It shall be the duty of this Committee to actively promote the formation of New Clubs in each District.
- b) The Region Chairpersons and the Zone Chairpersons shall be reimbursed for visits in connection with extension work, in accordance with the Rules of Audit, when these visits have been previously authorized by the District Governor.

SECTION 9 The District Governor's Advisory Committee

This Committee shall be composed of the Zone Chairperson, who shall be Chairperson of the committee, and the President and Secretary of each club in his/her Zone.

This Committee shall be an advisory body to the District Governor and his/her Cabinet in relation to matters affecting Lionism in the particular Zone.

Its function shall be to meet, discuss and make recommendations on matters affecting the welfare of Lionism in the Zone, and these meetings shall be held three (3) times in each year. Reports of the meetings shall be made to the District Governor and his/her Cabinet through the Zone Chairperson.

SECTION 10 Vice District Governor

The Vice District Governor, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor, shall be Chief Administrative Assistant to the District Governor. His/her specific responsibilities shall be to;

- a) Further the Purposes and Objects of this Association.

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- b) Familiarize himself/herself with the Duties of the District Governor so in the event of a vacancy in the Office of District Governor he/she will be better prepared to assume the duties and responsibilities of the Office.
- c) Perform Administrative Duties as may be assigned to him/her by the District Governor.
- d) Perform other functions and acts as may be required of him/her by the International Board of Directors through the Vice District Governor’s Manual and other directives.
- e) Actively participate in all Cabinet Meetings and conduct all meetings in the absence of the District Governor.
- f) To attend and participate in all four of the regular District “A” Council Meetings held in District “A”.
- g) Participate in the preparation of the District Budget.
- h) Be actively engaged in all matters to be continued during the next year.
- i) Participate in the review of the strengths and weaknesses of the Clubs.
- j) At the request of the District Governor supervise appropriate District Committees.
- k) Co-operate with and assist the Region Chairperson and Zone Chairperson as required.
- l) Assist with Club Extension, with Membership Retention, Membership Development and Conventions.

A Vice District Governor must be recorded as present at all sessions of the meetings to be entitled to claim Expenses.

Other Meetings

A Vice District Governor shall be entitled to claim expenses, if necessary, in accordance with these Rules of Audit when attending the four (4) regularly held Council Meetings in District “A” and for his/her attendance at the following;

- a) Four (4) Cabinet Meetings held by his/her District Governor
- b) One (1) Region Meeting (Rally) of all the Clubs in any one Region
- c) One (1) Zone Advisory Meeting held by a Zone Chairperson in each Zone per year
- d) The Charter presentation Meeting of a New Club in his/her District

Extension Work

A Vice District Governor shall be entitled to claim expenses for extension work with the definite purpose of forming a new club, when the work has previously been authorized by his/her District Governor.

A Vice District Governor must be recorded as present at all sessions of the meetings to be entitled to claim expenses.

SECTION 11 Region Chairpersons

The Region Chairpersons shall be members of the District Governor’s Cabinet and shall;

- a) Further the Purposes of this association.
- b) Play an active role in organizing new clubs and in strengthening weak clubs.
- c) Perform other functions and acts as may be required by the International Board of Directors through a region chairperson’s manual and other directives.

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- d) Be responsible to the District Governor for all his/her actions and act under the supervision of the District Governor **in accordance with the provisions of the M.D. "A" Policy Manual.**

SECTION 12 Zone Chairpersons

The Zone Chairperson shall be a member of the District Governor's Cabinet and he/she shall be Chairperson of the District Governor's Advisory Committee for his/her Zone, and he/she shall;

- a) Further the Purposes of this association.
- b) Play an active role in organizing new clubs and keep informed on the activities and well-being in his/her zone.
- c) Perform other functions and acts as may be required by the International Board of Directors through a zone chairperson's manual and other directives.
- d) Be responsible to the District Governor for all his/her actions and act under the supervision of the Region Chairperson **in accordance with the provisions of the M.D. "A" Policy Manual.**

BY-LAW III

District "A" Committees

SECTION 1 Constitution and By-Laws Committee

It shall be the duty of this Committee to review the Constitution and By-Laws of District "A" each year, and make recommendations to the District "A" Convention with respect to any changes it feels should be made.

It shall also receive and consider proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws from Clubs, District Cabinets, the District Governors' Council, the M.D. "A" Advisory Board of District "A" and present the recommendations to the District "A" Convention with its own recommendations concerning the proposed amendments.

All proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of District "A" are subject to authorization by the Governors' Council.

SECTION 2 Credentials and Elections Committees

a) **CREDENTIALS -**

It shall be the duty of this Committee to determine that each voting Delegate to a District "A" Convention is in compliance with the District "A" Constitution and By-Laws.

b) **ELECTIONS -**

This Committee shall be responsible for the supervision of Voting in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws at the District "A" Convention. The Chairperson will announce, or have the results of all Voting announced during the closing session of the District "A" Convention.

SECTION 3 Bulletin Contest Committee

This Committee shall be responsible for an Annual competition to encourage the regular publishing of a Bulletin by each Club and by each District.

SECTION 4 International Advisory Committee

This Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson of the Governors' Council, present and past International Presidents, Vice Presidents and Directors who are members of clubs in District "A".

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
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BY-LAW IV

Rules for Convention Procedures

SECTION 1

The Governors' Council shall arrange a program for the District "A" Convention and the same shall be the Order of the Day for all sessions.

SECTION 2

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all Convention procedures except as otherwise provided in the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Convention.

BY-LAW V

Solicitation of Funds

SECTION 1

No club in District "A" shall, within the boundaries of any other Lions Club, Solicit Funds for any purpose whatsoever, without first obtaining approval in writing from the club within whose boundaries the solicitation is to be made.

SECTION 2

Except when authorized by the Governors' Council of District "A" or its designee, no Lions Club, Lions Club Member or any Lions District (Single, Sub, and Multiple) or any entity (Legal or natural, Incorporate or any other form) organized and/or controlled by any Lions Club, Member or Members, or any Lions District shall solicit funds or aid or anything of material or commercial value in the Chartered Territory of any other Lions Club or the defined boundary of any other District, as the case may be, without the consent of the other Club or District, as the case may be; provided however, that in the event of a major calamity or disaster, a District Cabinet or Multiple District Council may authorize solicitation of relief aid from among Clubs within its respective District; and no Lions Club, Lions Club Member, Lions District or any other Lions Organization shall use the membership relationship for any solicitation promoting private commercial benefits.

SECTION 3 District, Region, or Zone Financing Undertakings

No Financial project or undertaking, requiring participation of all Clubs in a District, Region or Zone can be undertaken without the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Clubs in the District, Region or Zone. Approval shall be determined by a vote at a meeting called for the purpose of considering the project or undertaking after at least fourteen (14) days notice in writing has been given to each Club in the District, Region or Zone affected.

When voting on the project or undertaking takes place, each club shall be entitled to one Vote.

BY-LAW VI

Rules of Audit

Reimbursement of Expenses of the members of the Governors' Council, Vice District Governors, Region Chairpersons, Zone Chairpersons, Appointed Committees Chairpersons and Members and other Lions while carrying out Official Activities authorized by the Constitution and By-Laws or Governors' Council, shall be in accordance with the Rules of Audit as set forth in these By-Laws. When the Constitution of Multiple District "A" (M.D. "A") or the By-Laws provide for the reimbursement of expenses, the following Rules shall determine the functions for which expenses are allowed and the amount to be reimbursed for each item of expense.

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Expense Claim Form

All Claims for the reimbursement of expenses shall be submitted on the Expense Claim Form supplied by M.D “A” and the required vouchers and other documents must be attached to the Claims.

Presentation of Claims

Claims for expenses incurred during the Lions’ year must be received by the M.D. “A” Secretary/Treasurer no later than the last day of the month immediately following the end of the Lions’ year.

SECTION 1 Transportation

- a) The allowance on a per kilometre basis shall be as determined by the Governors’ Council at its last meeting in each year prior to the M.D “A” Convention, and such allowance shall be effective from July 1st, following.
- b) Long Distance Travel: For trips longer than one thousand (1000) kilometres, reimbursement will be based on the least expensive option comparing airfare with private auto mileage.
- c) Transportation by Bus, Airline, Ferry or Rail will be paid (not to exceed the cost of an economy class ticket). Vouchers, copy of electronic ticket verifications or the ticket stub showing the price, must be attached to the expense claim.

SECTION 2 Accommodations

The allowance per night’s lodging shall be as determined by the Governors’ Council at its last meeting in each year prior to the M.D. “A” Convention, and the allowance shall be effective from July 1st, following.

In any event, a One Hundred and Sixty (160) kilometres one-way distance or a total round trip travel time of five (5) hours on any given day must have been travelled to be eligible to claim for Hotel expense. Any deviation is subject to the Governors’ Council approval.

SECTION 3 Meals

The allowance for each day’s Meals shall be as determined by the Governors’ Council at its last meeting in each year prior to the District “A” Convention, and the allowance shall be effective from July 1st, following.

SECTION 4 Highway, Ferry and Bridge Tolls

Use of toll roads, bridges and ferries when the use will expedite travel on behalf of M.D. “A” will be reimbursed at cost. A copy of the ferry, bridge or highway receipt must be attached to claims. Electronic tolls will be allowed up to four (4) months of date of highway use but only if the bill is submitted within thirty (30) days of receipt.

SECTION 5 Long Distance Telephone Calls

Long Distance Telephone Calls will be paid when they must be made for District “A” purposes.

The original or a copy of the Telephone Company’s Invoice must be submitted showing the date of each call, the name of the person called and the purpose of the call.

An itemized statement giving the same details may be accepted.

**MULTIPLE DISTRICT “A”
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SECTION 6 Postage

A reasonable amount will be allowed for Postage.

Functions for which Expenses can be Claimed

SECTION 7 Sub District Officer Expenses

Vice Governors, Region Chairpersons (if any) and Zone Chairpersons may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement of expenses for attending the following functions:

1. Sub District Cabinet Meetings

Vice Governors, Region Chairpersons (if any) and Zone Chairpersons may claim rules of audit reimbursement for attending four (4) District Cabinet Meetings in his/her Sub District held by the District Governor.

2. Region Rally or Regional Meeting

The Vice Governor may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for one (1) Regional Meeting held in each Region of his/her Sub District.

The Region Chairperson (if any) and Zone Chairperson may claim rules of audit reimbursement for attending one (1) Region Rally or Regional Meeting held in his/her Region.

3. Zone Advisory Meetings

The Vice Governor may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for attending one (1) Zone Advisory Meeting in each zone in his/her Sub District.

The Region Chairperson (if any) may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for attending one (1) Zone Advisory Meeting for each Zone in his/her Region.

The Zone Chairperson may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for four (4) Zone Advisory Meetings, which he/she holds in his/her Zone.

4. Visits to Clubs

The Region and Zone Chairpersons may claim reimbursement (except for meals)* for one (1) visit to each Club in his/her Region (Region Chairpersons) or Zone (Zone Chairpersons) excluding his/her own club (* Only if no meals are served, rules of audit for meals apply).

The Region or Zone Chairperson may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for one (1) additional visit to a club in the Region or Zone when such a visit has been previously authorized for good reason by the District Governor.

5. Extension

The Vice Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for a Charter Presentation occurring in the Sub District (VG), his/her Region (RC) in his/her Zone (ZC).

The Vice Governor, Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement for the specific purpose of Building a New Club or Rebuilding an established Club when the District Governor deems such a visit will be of real value to the District and gives his/her prior approval for the visit.

6. District Officer Seminars

The Region Chairpersons and Zone Chairpersons may claim Rules of Audit reimbursement, subject to budgetary approval by the Governors' Council, for attendance at a full day District Officer School at the M.D. "A" level or at the Sub District level provided this school is conducted prior to October 1 during the Lions year.

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7. Approval of Claims

All claims and supporting documentation (including a written report of each visit) submitted by a Vice Governor, Region Chairperson (if any) or Zone Chairperson must be approved by the District Governor prior to being sent to M.D. "A". Governors will maintain this documentation in case the claim is challenged or is needed by the Multiple District "A" Auditors.

SECTION 8 District Governor

District Governors shall be entitled to Claim, if necessary, expenses from M.D. "A" for one (1) Governors' Council Meeting in accordance with the following conditions;

- a) It is the Council meeting held closest to the Governor's Home.
- b) Transportation for the distance traveled
- c) Room cost, not to exceed two (2) nights lodging
- d) Meal allowance, not to exceed three (3) days in total
- e) All claims must be in accordance with the District "A" Rules of Audit", with the exception of condition c) in this Section.
- f) A District Governor must be recorded as present at all sessions of such Meeting to be entitled to claim this expense from M.D. "A".

SECTION 9 Chairperson of the Governors' Council

The Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall be entitled to an amount of expense allowance as provided in the Budget of District "A" and authorized by M.D. "A" Policy or resolution of the M.D. "A" Council. His/her expense claims shall be paid in accordance with the M.D. "A" Rules of Audit."

SECTION 10 District Governor's Delegate

A Vice District Governor, Region Chairperson (if any) or another member of the District Governor's Sub District, whom the Governor delegates to visit a Club in his/her place, shall not be entitled to claim expenses from M.D. "A".

The District Governor's Delegate shall submit his/her claim for reimbursement to his/her District Governor who shall then make application for reimbursement to Lions Clubs International.

SECTION 11 Attendance at International Convention

This section applies to travel costs for the Council Chairman Elect. This section also applies to the M.D. "A" Promotion Committee Chairperson, and the M.D. "A" International Advisory Committee Chairperson when authorized by the Governors' Council to attend the International Convention. As set forth in the Rules of Audit, reimbursement shall include:

- a) Transportation **
- b) Meals ***
- c) Accommodations ***

** Normally air travel will be arranged by and paid for by M.D. "A" or upon approval by the Governors' Council, an individual may make his/her own arrangements and will be reimbursed at the price of their ticket, or the price at which M.D. "A" could have bought an airplane ticket on March 15th, whichever is less. If any of the Convention travel is part of a tour or travel package, the M.D. "A" portion will be the lesser of the air travel component of the travel package or the price at which M.D. "A" could have bought an airline ticket on March 15th.

*** reimbursed at the established Rules of Audit rate

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
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(As amended, May 30, 2004)

SECTION 12

- a) Chairpersons and members/Coordinators of M.D. "A" Committees, appointed by the Council Chairperson and approved by the Council of Governors, attending duly convened meetings of their Committees shall be entitled to claim Expenses , if necessary, covered by these Rules of Audit. However, the Chairperson of an M.D. "A" Committee shall not convene more than two (2) meetings of his/her committee during his/her Term of Appointment, unless the Chairperson of the Governors' Council deems it necessary that more meetings of that committee should be held for the betterment of Lionism.
- b) Minutes of each meeting of a Committee shall be recorded and a copy submitted by the Committee Chairperson with his/her Expense Claim Form. All Committee members attending a meeting of their Committee shall submit their Expense Claim Form to the Chairperson of that Committee for approval.
- c) Members added to a Committee over the number of four (4) appointed by the Chairperson of the Governors' Council, or over the number appointed by virtue of the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws, shall not be entitled to reimbursement of their expenses for their attendance at said committee meeting. The Council Chairperson, subject to approval by the Governors' Council may appoint more than four (4) members to an M.D. "A" approved Committee.

SECTION 13

The Chairperson of the Governors' Council shall be responsible to the Governors' Council for authorizing reimbursement of expenses in accordance with these Rules of Audit, of those persons, not otherwise entitled to claim expenses, when requested to meet with the Governors' Council.

Persons entitled to Rules of Audit reimbursement according to this section include:

- a) The Region Chairpersons and Zone Chairpersons when requested to meet with the Governors' Council
- b) Coordinators when requested to meet with the Governors' Council
- c) Other M.D. "A" Lions when requested to meet with the Governors' Council or when requested to appear at an M.D. "A" Committee when such appearance has been approved by the Council Chairperson

BY-LAW VII

Promotion Committee

The Committee shall be composed of a Chairperson and three (3) additional members appointed by the Council Chairperson and approved by the Governors' Council, the Council Chairperson and the District "A" Treasurer.

The committee shall be composed of the Chairperson of the Governors' Council for the current year and the District "A" Treasurer. The committee shall have the power to add members, if necessary, with the approval of the Governors' Council.

The committee shall have funds available to be used for the Committee's Activities as outlined above. The money in this Fund shall be allocated each year by the Governors' Council as part of the District "A" Budget.

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(As amended, May 30, 2004)

BY-LAW VIII

District "A" Effective Speaking

The purpose of the District "A" Effective speaking Contest is to provide an opportunity for competitive Public Speaking among Students to stimulate self-expression and independent thinking.

BY-LAW IX

District "A" Magazine

- a) District "A" shall publish a Magazine to be known as "The Lion".
- b) The purpose of "The Lion" is to report activities and events of interest to the Clubs in District "A".
- c) That effective with the March/April 1998 edition of the M.D. "A" Lion that only one version be published in English with some limited French content.
- d) The cost of "The Lion" is a District "A" Administrative expense and shall be recovered through the per capita tax.
- e) The Chairperson of the Governors' Council, subject to the approval of the Governors' Council, shall annually appoint a Management Committee of the following;
 - i) A Chairperson
 - ii) One English-speaking Vice Chairperson
 - iii) Additional persons as may be necessary to effectively carry out its functions
- f) Publication dates shall comply with at least the minimum requirements of Lions International and be determined by the District "A" Publication Committee.
- g) The committee expenses shall be subject to the Rules of Audit as set out in By-Law VIII.

BY-LAW X

District "A" Lioness Program

SECTION 1

- a) The purpose of the District "A" Lioness Activity is to provide the framework to hold together the various Lioness Members and Clubs.
- b) That the position of the Lioness Liaison be established and that the position be filled by the elected representative of the Lioness of M.D. "A".

SECTION II

The Lioness Activity Program will be self-supporting.

BY-LAW XI

Fiscal Year

The Fiscal Year of District "A" shall be from July 1st of one year to June 30th of the succeeding year.

**MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A"
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

(As amended, May 30, 2004)

BY-LAW XII

Procedure

The Constitution and By-Laws of Lions International supersedes the M.D. "A" Constitution and By-Laws in all matters.

BY-LAW XIII

Amendments

SECTION 1

These By-Laws can be amended only at the District "A" Convention by a Resolution reported by the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws at the convention and accepted by a majority of the qualified Delegates present and voting.

SECTION 2

Proposed amendments to the By-Laws shall be in writing and in the hands of the District "A" Chairperson of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee no less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Mid-Winter Meeting of M.D. "A".

SECTION 3

Proposed amendments to the By-Laws shall be in writing and be in the hands of the District "A" Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Official opening of the Annual District "A" Convention.

SECTION 4

It shall be the responsibility of the District "A" Secretary to notify all Clubs in District "A" thirty (30) days prior to the official opening date of the annual District "A" Convention of any proposals to be voted on at the Convention.