



THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS

MULTIPLE DISTRICT 23

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

2002 REVISION

Amended at the State Convention May 4, 2003

The notation ({DATE} REV.) will appear at the end of any section amended

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THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS

MULTIPLE DISTRICT 23

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be "Multiple District Number 23, Lions Clubs International" (hereinafter referred to as the "Multiple District"), which shall at all times be organized and act under the jurisdiction of The International Association of Lions Clubs (hereinafter referred to as the "Association").

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND OBJECTS

The purposes and objects of this organization shall be as outlined in Article II of the current revision to the Association's Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of this Organization shall consist of all Lions Clubs within the Multiple District, organized and chartered under the provisions of the Association's Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Membership in a Lions Club shall be as outlined in the current revision to the International Constitution.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION

Section 1. For the purposes of efficiency, economy and proper administration, the Multiple District shall be apportioned into three (3) sub-districts (hereinafter referred to as the "Districts"), which shall be designated and organized as follows:

- a. District 23-A shall be composed of all chartered Lions Clubs within the Counties of Fairfield and New Haven in the State of Connecticut;
- b. District 23-B shall be composed of all chartered Lions Clubs within the Counties of Hartford and Litchfield in the State of Connecticut; and

- c. District 23-C shall be composed of all chartered Lions Clubs within the Counties of Middlesex, New London, Tolland and Windham in the State of Connecticut.

Section 2. Each District within the Multiple District shall contain a minimum of thirty-five (35) Lions clubs with a total District membership of no less than one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) members in good standing unless otherwise approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Association's Board of Directors.

Section 3. Any District failing to contain at least thirty-five (35) Lions Clubs with a total membership of no less than one thousand two hundred fifty (1,250) members in good standing shall be permitted up to three (3) years from the time it fails to meet said minimum requirements to satisfy same. In the event that said District shall fail to achieve said minimum requirements within three (3) years, the Multiple District may submit a plan for redistricting to the Association's Board of Directors in accordance with the Association's Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 4. The Multiple District or any District of the Multiple District may, subject to the provisions of the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, submit to the Association's Board of Directors a redistricting proposal approved by a convention of the respective single or Multiple District which shall become effective upon approval by the Association's Board of Directors at the close of the annual International Convention which next follows the date of such Board approval. Additional provisions may be found in the current revision of the Association's Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 5. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Club may transfer from one (1) District to an adjacent District within the Multiple District, and the boundaries changed accordingly without the necessity of following the formal redistricting procedures if such transfer does not substantially change the existing District boundaries; provided that such Club obtains the approval of the current District Governors of the respective adjacent Districts, and approval of the District Governors' cabinets of the respective adjacent Districts, and approval of the Association's Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - MULTIPLE DISTRICT OFFICERS

Section 1. There shall be a Multiple District Council of Governors (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") composed of all District Governors within the Multiple District, a Council Chairman, and a Council Secretary/Treasurer who shall serve as officers of the Council as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. Each officer of the Council shall be an Active member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club within the Multiple District, and shall be serving or shall have served as District Governor of their respective District.

Section 3. Each District Governor shall serve as an officer of the Council for a term of one (1) year, which term shall commence with the close of the Association's International Convention held in the year of election, if so held, but if not, then on July 1 next following such election and shall terminate with the close of the Association's International Convention held in the calendar year

next following the calendar year of such election, if so held, but if not, then on June 30 of the calendar year next following the calendar year of such election.

Section 4. The Council Chairman shall be an Immediate Past District Governor, in rotation of Districts, and shall serve for a term of one (1) year, which term shall commence with the close of the Association's International Convention held during the calendar year of the commencement of such term, if so held, but if not, then on July 1 of the calendar year of the commencement of such term and shall terminate at the close of the Association's International Convention held in the calendar year next following, if so held, but if not, then on June 30 of the next following calendar year. If for any reason, the IPDG whose district's turn it is by the rotation system cannot or will not accept the position of council chairman, the sitting district governor of the district involved, at the first regular meeting of the council of governors for the new year will place in nomination the name or names of past district governors from his/her district. They will be voted on by the full council of governors for the position of council chairman. No past council chairman shall be eligible for consideration in this vote. **(5/03 REV.)**

Section 5. The Council Secretary/Treasurer shall be a Past District Governor, excluding the immediate Past District Governor, elected in rotation of Districts by a majority of the Council, and shall serve for a term of three (3) years, subject to an annual reconfirmation by the Council, which term shall commence upon such election and shall terminate upon the election of a successor Council Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 6. No incumbent Council Chairman or Council Secretary-Treasurer elected or appointed shall serve a successive term in such office. 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. 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 Association's Board of Directors.

Section 7. Each officer of the Council shall have one (1) vote on each question requiring action of the Council. In the event of a tie vote on any question, the question shall be deemed defeated for having failed to obtain approval of a majority of the Council.

Section 8. All officers of the Council shall, by virtue of their offices, be accredited delegates to each convention of the Multiple District and of their respective Districts, but shall not be included in the delegate quota of their respective Lions Clubs for any such convention.

Section 9. No officer of the Council shall serve as the Chairman of any Council committee other than a convention, conference or forum committee during such term of office.

Section 10. In the event of a vacancy in any office of the Multiple District, the following shall occur:

- a. In the case of a vacancy in any other office, the Council shall choose a successor from qualified candidates representing the same District as the former Council officer.

- b. In the case of a vacancy the sitting district governor by rotation of the district involved at the first regular meeting of the council of governors for the new year will place in nomination the name or names of past district governors from his/her district who will be voted on by the full council of governors for the position of council chairman or council secretary-treasurer. **(5/03 REV.)**

Section 11. No salary or other compensation shall be paid to any officer of the Multiple District.

ARTICLE VI - MULTIPLE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Section 1. A regular meeting of the Council shall be held in each quarter of the fiscal year, with the first regular meeting to be held within sixty (60) days following the date on which the District Governors of the respective Districts officially take office. The Council may call such other meetings as it deems necessary or advisable.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the Council Chairman, or upon request of a majority of the Council officers, whenever deemed necessary or appropriate.

Section 3. The Council Chairman or the Council Secretary/Treasurer, at the Chairman's direction, shall issue a written notice for each regular and special meeting of the Council with the time, place, and agenda for discussion specifically set forth therein as determined by the Chairman to be necessary and appropriate.

Section 4. The personal presence of a majority of the voting members of the Council shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting thereof. The Council shall accept no proxy votes on any question requiring action.

Section 5. Except where inconsistent with and contrary to the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and Constitution and Bylaws of the Association, the powers granted therein to the Board of Directors of said Association, and the policies and acts of said Board of Directors, the Council shall:

- a. Have jurisdiction and control over all officers and agents, when acting as such, of the Multiple District Council and all committees of the Multiple District;
- b. Have management and control over the property, business, and funds of the Multiple District;
- c. Have jurisdiction, control and supervision over all phases of the Multiple District Conventions and all other meetings of the Multiple District;
- d. Have original jurisdiction, when authorized under policy of the Association's Board of Directors and under rules of procedure prescribed by said Board to hear and rule upon any complaint of a Constitutional nature raised by any District or Districts, any Lions Club, or any member

of a Lions Club, in the Multiple District. All such rulings of the Council shall be subject to review and decision by said Association's Board of Directors; and

- e. Have control and management of all budgetary matters of the Multiple District and Multiple District Committees provided that no obligation may be approved or made which shall affect an unbalanced budget or deficit in any fiscal year.

**ARTICLE VII - INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION &
USA/CANADA LEADERSHIP FORUM**

Section 1. The Council shall have supervision over all phases of the Multiple District's participation in the Association's International Convention and USA/CANADA Leadership Forum and shall establish and control the Multiple District Convention Fund including, but not limited to, income and expenses associated with such participation.

Section 2. The Council shall establish and control a Multiple District Outgoing Governor's Fund and shall from said fund reimburse the attending outgoing District Governors for actual expenses incurred in attending the Association's International Convention, including expenses relating to transportation, registration, and accommodations based on rates and lengths of stay established by the Association for District Governor-Elect expenses for convention attendance, and in accordance with the Association's Rules of Audit.

ARTICLE VIII - STATE CONVENTION

Section 1. An annual convention of this Multiple District shall be held in each year, at least thirty (30) days, prior to the International Convention at a place selected and at a date and time fixed by the Council.

Section 2. The Council shall be the presiding officers and shall have supervision over all phases of the annual Multiple District Convention and shall establish and control a Convention Fund to defray the costs of administration of the Multiple District Convention.

Section 3. The Council shall receive all bids in writing from places desiring to host the annual convention. Upon the recommendation of the Permanent Convention Committee, the Council shall vote each year upon the venue and dates for the State Convention to be held during the third year following the close of the current year.

Section 4. A convention meeting of each District within the Multiple District shall be held annually and may be held in conjunction with meetings of the Multiple District Convention. A meeting of the registered delegates of a District in attendance at a Multiple District Convention may constitute the annual District Convention.

Section 5. A registration fee, the amount of which shall be established by the Council, may be collected from each delegate, alternate and guest attending the convention. Said fee shall be

collected under the supervision of the Council and shall be used to defray the actual costs and expenses approved by the Council and incurred at said convention.

Section 6. At the annual convention, each Chartered Club in good standing in the Association, the Multiple District, and its respective District, shall be entitled to one (1) voting delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof (five (5) or more), who have been members of the club for at least one year and a day as shown by the records of the Association's international office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held, provided that each Lions Club shall be entitled to at least one (1) vote only for each office to be filled by, and one (1) vote only on each issue to be voted on by the members of said convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, a majority of the delegates in attendance shall constitute a quorum at such convention, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates present and voting shall be the act of the convention. Delinquent dues may be paid and good standing acquired at any time prior to credential certification, as such closing time shall be established by the rules of the respective convention.

Section 7. Within sixty (60) days after the close of the Multiple District Convention, an official audit of the convention's income and expenses shall be accomplished by the Multiple District Finance Committee. The Council Secretary/Treasurer shall transmit one copy of the complete proceedings to the International Office, one copy to each District Governor, and, upon request from any club in the Multiple District, a copy shall be furnished to said Club.

ARTICLE IX - MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Section 1. Upon recommendation of the Permanent Convention Committee and approval of the Council a Mid-Winter Conference of the Multiple District may be held during the month of January or February at a place selected by the Council and at a date and time fixed by the Council. If the Council should decide to hold a Mid-Winter Conference in the third year following the close of the current year they shall vote upon the venue and dates. This vote will be taken at the first Council meeting of each Lions Year.

Section 2. The Council shall preside and have supervision over all phases of the annual Mid-Winter Conference, and shall approve the income and expenses of such conference.

Section 3. A registration fee, the amount of which shall be established by the Council, may be collected from each person attending the Mid-Winter Conference. Said fee shall be collected under the supervision of the Council and shall be used to defray the actual costs and expenses as approved by the Council and actually incurred at said conference.

Section 4. All members in good standing of Chartered Lions Clubs in good standing in the Association, the Multiple District and its respective District within the Multiple District may attend the Annual Mid-Winter Conference, participate in its deliberations, and vote upon all matters coming before such conference, provided that no matters pertaining to the election of officers or changes affecting the Multiple District Constitution and Bylaws may be voted upon at such conference.

Section 5. Within sixty (60) days after the close of the annual Mid-Winter Conference, the Multiple District Finance Committee shall accomplish an official audit of such conference's income and expenses. The Council Secretary/Treasurer shall transmit one copy of the complete proceedings to the International Office, one copy to each District Governor and upon request, from any club in the Multiple District, a copy shall be furnished to the requesting club.

ARTICLE X - DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Each District Organization shall be governed by the latest revision to the Association's Constitution and Bylaws and the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sub-district.

ARTICLE XI - REVENUE

Section 1. To provide revenue to defray the administrative expenses of the Multiple District, the Council shall submit annually to the Multiple District Convention a budget of the proposed disbursements for the succeeding fiscal year and shall establish and levy an annual Multiple District Per Capita Assessment upon each member of each Lions Club within the Multiple District. Such assessment shall be payable by each District within the Multiple District in semi-annual installments on or before the tenth (10th) day of August and the tenth (10th) day of February in each fiscal year. The Council Secretary/Treasurer shall mail notice of the proposed budget and levy to the Council and each Club Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Convention at which it is to be adopted. Upon such adoption, the budget and levy shall be binding upon all Lions Clubs within the Multiple District.

Section 2. Each District Secretary/Treasurer within the Multiple District shall, on or before the tenth (10th) day of August and the tenth (10th) day of February of each fiscal year, draw upon the Lions Clubs of the respective Districts an amount equal to the per capita assessment as established by the preceding Multiple District Convention for each member of each Lions Club within the respective District as shown by the records of the Association's International Office on the first (1st) day of July and the first (1st) day of January of each fiscal year.

Section 3. The Council Secretary/Treasurer shall, on or before the tenth (10th) day of August and the tenth (10th) day of February of each fiscal year, draw upon each District an amount equal to the per capita assessment as established by the preceding Multiple District Convention for each member of each Lions Club within the respective District as shown by the records of the Association's International Office on the first (1st) day of July and the first (1st) day of January of each fiscal year.

Section 4. To provide revenue to defray non-convention administrative expenses of the District, the District Cabinet shall establish and levy an annual District Administrative Per Capita Assessment upon each member of each Lions Club within its District, provided that in no event shall any District incur obligations in any fiscal year which will effect an unbalanced budget or deficit in such year.

Section 5. The Council Secretary/Treasurer shall be bonded in such amounts and with such surety company as shall be deemed appropriate by the Council. The cost of said bond shall be deemed an administrative expense of the Multiple District.

Section 6. The financial records of the Multiple District shall be audited annually, and a statement shall be prepared within ninety (90) days of the close of each fiscal year and presented to the Multiple District Council. The Finance Committee of the Multiple District shall be charged with conducting or, if deemed necessary by them, the hiring of an outside firm to perform the annual audit.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended only at the annual Multiple District Convention, by resolution reported by the Constitution and Bylaws Committees, approved by the Council and adopted by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by certified delegates to such convention.

Section 2. No such amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the annual Multiple District Convention, such amendment, together with an explanation of the recommended changes, has been mailed First Class to each District Governor and each Club Secretary within the Multiple District.

Section 3. Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS

MULTIPLE DISTRICT 23

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - DISTRICT NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Sixty (60) days prior to the annual Midwinter Conference, each District Governor shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three (3) members, each of whom shall be a member in good standing of a different Lions Club in good standing within the District and who shall not, at the time of their appointment, hold any District, Multiple District or International office. Notice of such appointment shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days prior to the Conference to the Council and District officers. The Nominating Committees of each District shall constitute the Multiple District Convention Nominating Committee and shall act in a manner consistent with the rules of such committee.

Said Nominating Committee shall: (1) receive in writing the names of all candidates seeking elective office; (2) determine said candidates' qualifications to hold elected office; (3) pass on any objections to said candidates and/or their qualifications; and (4) report to the conference as to the list of qualified candidates for all elective offices. **(5/03 REV.)**

Section 2. Any member of a Lions Club within the respective Districts seeking the office of District Governor, or Vice District Governor, shall file an intention to so run in writing with the Nominating Committee prior to the day of its report to the conference and furnish evidence of compliance with the qualifications for such office as set forth in the Association's Constitution and Bylaws. The Nominating Committee shall cause the names of all candidates so qualified to be placed in nomination at the conference. In the event that no notices of intention to seek office are received, and/or no candidates are so qualified, then, but only then, nominations for the elected offices may be made from the floor. **(5/03 REV.)**

Section 3. Nominating and seconding speeches for candidates seeking the offices of District Governor and Vice District Governor shall be permitted. Each candidate for elected office shall be allowed one (1) nominating speech of not more than five (5) minutes duration and one (1) seconding speech of not more than three (3) minutes duration.

Section 4. The election to the offices of District Governor and Vice District Governor shall be by secret written ballot. In the event of a tie vote on any ballot, balloting will continue on all candidates until one (1) is elected by a majority, a majority being more than half of the votes cast.

Section 5. In the case of a vacancy in the office of District Governor, the Vice District Governor shall act as District Governor and shall perform the duties of and have the same authority as the District Governor, until such time as said vacancy is filled by the Association's Board of Directors in accordance with the Association's Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE II - DUTIES

Section 1. The Multiple District Council shall:

- a. Make all contracts and approve all bills relating to administrative expenses of the Multiple District;
- b. Designate a depository for the Multiple District funds;
- c. Determine the amount of surety bond for the Council Secretary/Treasurer and approve the surety company issuing said bond;
- d. Receive financial reports, as may be deemed necessary, from the Council Secretary/Treasurer and provide for an audit at the end of each fiscal year of the books and accounts as prepared by the Council Secretary/Treasurer; and
- e. Establish and supervise such committees as required by this Constitution and Bylaws so as to promote the efficient and proper administration of the Multiple District.

Section 2. The Multiple District Council Chairman shall:

- a. Preside over all meetings of the Council;
- b. Act under the supervision of the Council as its chief administrative officer and represent the Council at all Multiple District and District functions requiring such attendance;
- c. Promote the efficient administration of Multiple District affairs;
- d. Create and foster harmony and unity among the Districts; and
- e. Submit such reports and perform such duties as may be required by the Council and/or the Association's Board of Directors.
- f. Shall act as the Chairman of the USA/Canada Forum commencing in 2003 and each year thereafter.

Section 3. The Multiple District Council Secretary/Treasurer shall under the direction and supervision of the Council:

- a. Keep an accurate record of all proceedings and meetings of the Council and, within thirty (30) days after each such meeting forward copies thereof to all members of the Council and the office of Lions Clubs International;

- b. Assist the Council in conducting the business of the Multiple District and perform such other duties as are specified or implied herein or as may be required or assigned by the Council;
- c. Receive and give proper receipts for all annual per capita assessments required to be paid to the Council hereunder by each District, deposit same in a bank or banks designated by the Council, and disburse same under the supervision and control of the Council by checks drawn against such deposits and countersigned by the Council Chairman;
- d. Keep accurate books and records of account and permit inspection of same by the Council or any Club in the Multiple District, or its authorized representatives, at any reasonable time for any proper purpose;
- e. Secure bond for faithful performance of the duties of the office in such sums and with such sureties as may be required by the Council; and
- f. Act as the Treasurer for all Multiple District Conventions and convention type activities; in the event that the Council Secretary/Treasurer is also designated as the Convention or Conference Chairman then the Council Chairman shall act as Treasurer for that Convention or Conference.

Section 4. Each District Governor of the respective Districts of this Multiple District shall, under the general supervision of the Association's Board of Directors, represent the Association in the District and shall be its chief administrative officer, having direct supervision over the Vice District Governor, Region Chairmen, Zone Chairmen, Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer and such other Cabinet members as may be appointed. Each District Governor shall within the respective Districts:

- a. Further the Purposes and Objects of the Association;
- b. Supervise the organization of new Lions Clubs;
- c. Preside over Cabinet, Convention and other District meetings;
- d. Promote fellowship among the Chartered Lions Clubs;
- e. Endeavor to visit each Club at least once while serving as District Governor;
- f. Exercise such supervision and authority over Cabinet officers and District Chairmen as may be required to promote the proper and efficient administration of the District;
- g. Provide an accounting of the activities of the District at the Mid-Winter and District Conventions; and

- h. Perform such other functions as may be required by the Association's Board of Directors, the District Constitution, or this Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 5. Each Vice District Governor of the respective Districts of this Multiple District shall act under the supervision and direction of the District Governor and shall serve as the chief administrative assistant to the District Governor. Each Vice District Governor shall:

- a. Further the Purposes and Objects of the Association;
- b. Be familiar with the duties of the District Governor so that in the event of a vacancy occurring in the office of District Governor such Vice District Governor will be prepared to assume the duties and responsibilities of such office;
- c. Perform such administrative duties as may be assigned to such office by the District Governor so as to promote the proper and efficient administration of the District; and
- d. Perform such other functions and acts as may be required by the Association's Board of Directors, the District Constitution, and this Constitution and Bylaws.
- e. Perform such other duties as are prescribed in the sub-district Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 6. All other officers of the sub-districts shall have their qualifications, duties and requirements specified in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association and the Constitution and Bylaws of the sub-district.

Section 7. Each District Governor's Advisory Committee shall assist the Zone Chairman in an advisory capacity, process recommendations affecting Lionism and the Clubs in the Zone, and relay the same through the Zone Chairman to the District Governor and District Cabinet.

Section 8. The District Governor's Honorary Committee, if appointed, shall act under the direction of the District Governor to promote harmony throughout the District and assist the District Governor as requested in the promotion of Lionism among the membership generally.

Section 9. Each District Governor may appoint Sergeants-at-Arms who shall maintain order and decorum at the respective conventions and meetings and who shall perform such other duties as are incident to such office under ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

ARTICLE III - MULTIPLE DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Council shall appoint the following standing committees:

- a. Constitution and Bylaws
- b. Extension
- c. Finance
- d. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)
- e. Leadership Development
- f. Long Range Planning
- g. Membership Development
- h. Permanent Convention
- i. Policy and Protocol
- j. Promote Connecticut
- k. Retention **(5/03 REV.)**

Section 2. The Council may appoint such other committees on an ad hoc basis as it deems to be in the best interests of the Multiple District and may charge such committees with any duties it deems necessary and appropriate.

Section 3. All Committees shall act under the supervision of the Council.

Section 4. Procedure of appointment and filling vacancies on standing committees with one (1) year appointed Chairman.

Committees with one (1) year chairman shall be composed of two (2) Lions members from each district, one (1) to serve for a two (2) year term and one (1) to serve for a one (1) year term. A chairman shall be appointed annually from the one (1) year members by rotation of the districts. In the event of the inability of any of the members of the above committees to serve in such capacity or in the event of a vacancy occurring in such a position for any reason; the Council shall choose another qualified Lions member representing the same district as the former committee member to fill the unexpired term thereof.

Section 5. Standing Committees with one (1) year appointed chairman and their duties:

- a. Constitution and Bylaws

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee shall annually review the Constitution and Bylaws and make recommendations thereon, when deemed proper, and with the approval of the Council, propose such amendments as may be necessary and in the best interests of the Multiple District.

- b. Finance

The Finance Committee shall prepare the annual budget for presentation to the Annual Convention and shall review the budgets as presented by the Council

Secretary/Treasurer, Convention Chairmen, and all Council Committees and shall make recommendations regarding such budgets to the Council, which shall authorize disbursement in accordance with same. The Finance Committee shall also review and audit the books and accounts of the Council at least semi-annually and shall report the findings to the Council. In addition to the appointed members, each Vice District Governor shall serve on the Finance Committee as a voting member. The Multiple District CST shall serve on the committee as a non-voting member.

c. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)

The Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Committee shall recommend ideas to further the knowledge and involvement of the clubs and districts in the work of the Lions Clubs International Foundation.

d. Long Range Planning

The Long Range Planning Committee shall determine, by a thorough and comprehensive review of existing policies and practices, long range issues affecting the Multiple District and make recommendations for Council action to meet the future needs of the administration, its policies, and practices.

e. Policy and Protocol

The Policy and Protocol Committee shall study and recommend action on matters of policy and Lions protocol, which shall, upon approval by the Council, become binding upon the Multiple District and District organizations. All changes in policy shall be first favorably recommended by the Policy and Protocol Committee and, upon approval by the Council, be reported to the Multiple District at its annual convention. In case of a conflict between the committee and the Council in matters of Policy, the issue shall be submitted to the Delegates at the Multiple District Convention.

f. Promote Connecticut

The Promote Connecticut Committee shall recommend ideas to promote the Multiple District in the Association and recommend to the Council actions and activities designed to promote the candidacies of Connecticut Lions for positions officer positions on said Board.

Section 6. Procedure for appointment and filling of vacancies on committees with three (3) year chairmen.

The committees with three (3) year appointed chairman shall be composed of three (3) Lions from each district, one (1) to serve for a term of three (3) years, one to serve a term of two (2) years and one (1) to serve a term of one (1) year. In the event of the inability of any committee member to serve in such capacity or in the event of a vacancy occurring in such a position for any reason,

the Council shall choose another qualified Lions member representing the same district as the former committee member to fill the unexpired term thereof.

In addition to the committee members, the Council shall appoint a Chairman to serve a three (3) year term. The Council shall strive to appoint one three (3) year chairmanship from each of the three (3) districts. However, if there is not a qualified candidate put forth by a district, the Council shall appoint the chairmanship(s) to the most qualified candidate(s) from within the multiple district. In the event of a vacancy for any reason, the district(s) without a three (3) year chairman shall be given first consideration in rotation of the districts.

Section 7. Committees with three (3) year appointed chairmen and their duties.

a. Extension

The Extension Committee shall study and recommend appropriate programs and policies concerning the organization and formation of new Lions Clubs within this Multiple District for adoption by the Districts.

b. Leadership Development

The Leadership Development Committee shall study and recommend appropriate programs and policies with regard to Leadership Development and establish, promote and conduct activities designed to foster quality leadership within the Multiple District.

c. Membership Development

The Membership Development Committee shall study and recommend appropriate programs and policies concerning the development and retention of members within the Clubs of this Multiple District for adoption by the Districts.

d. Retention

The Retention Committee shall study and recommend appropriate programs and policies concerning the retention of members within the clubs of this multiple district. **(5/03 Rev.)**

Section 8. Procedure for appointment and filling of vacancies on the Permanent Convention Committee.

The Permanent Convention Committee shall be composed of nine (9) Past District Governors and the three (3) current sitting Vice District Governors. Each year the Council shall appoint the Immediate Past District Governor of each district, who shall serve for a term of three (3) years, succeeding themselves, each year, serving their first term as the three (3) year, their second as the two (2) year, their third and final year as the one (1) year member of the committee. Commencing in 2003 while serving in their three (3) year term the Immediate Past District Governor serving as Council Chairman shall act as the Chairman of the USA/Canada Lions

Leadership Forum. All members serving in their two (2) year term shall serve as Chairman of one of the following: Mid-Winter Conference (if held), the Annual Multiple District State Convention or the Multiple District International Convention Committees in rotation of the districts. The Chairman of the Permanent Convention Committee shall be appointed annually from one of the one (1) year members in rotation of the districts. In the event of the inability of any committee member to serve or in the event of a vacancy occurring for any reason, the Council shall choose a Past District Governor representing the same district as the former committee member, to complete the unfinished term.

Section 9. Duties of the Permanent Convention Committee

The Permanent Convention Committee shall be charged with the operation of all phases of the Multiple District Mid-Winter Conference and annual Multiple District Convention and the Multiple District's participation in the Association's Annual International Convention and USA/CANADA Lions Leadership Forum. The Committee shall also review and study all bids relative to conference and convention sites and make recommendations regarding same to the Council for action. The Committee shall be responsible for the development, sales and distribution of the annual Multiple District Trading Pins, clothing and Convention souvenirs approved by the Council. All revenues derived from such sales shall be deposited to the Multiple District Convention Fund to defray the costs of the Multiple District convention activities.

Section 10. Wherever in these Bylaws, or in the Constitution, the term "rotation of the districts" is used, the term shall be so construed so as to perpetuate the rotation as established by practice within the Multiple District.

Section 11. Wherever in these Bylaws or in the Constitution, the Council is empowered to appoint two (2) or more Lions members to a Multiple District Committee, each Lions member shall be from a different Lions club within the Multiple District.

Section 12. Whenever a new Committee is formed, the Council shall appoint the chairman. Upon completion of their term, the rotation of the districts will follow in alphabetical order.

Section 13. No officer of this Multiple District shall serve simultaneously as such officer and as the chairman of any Multiple District Committee and no chairman of any such committee shall serve simultaneously as the chairman of another Multiple District Committee. The above does not apply to the chairmanships of any convention, conference or forum committee.

ARTICLE IV - MULTIPLE DISTRICT CONVENTION COMMITTEES AND PROCEDURE

Section 1. There shall be a Credentials Committee for each annual Multiple District Convention composed of the current District Governors of the Districts and their current Secretary/Treasurers. Each such Credentials Committee shall have the powers and perform the duties set forth in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

Section 2. The Council shall appoint and designate the Chairman in rotation of Districts and such members of each of the following committees as it deems necessary and appropriate to the proper

and efficient conduct of the Multiple District Convention; Constitution and Bylaws; Elections; Nominations; Resolutions; Rules; and Sergeants-at-Arms. Each District shall have at least one (1) representative on each such committee. These committees shall perform such duties as the Council shall designate.

Section 3. The Council shall arrange the Order of Business for the Mid-Winter Conference and annual Multiple District Convention, and the same shall be the order of the day for all sessions.

Section 4. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution and Bylaws, or in the Rules of Procedure adopted for a meeting or convention of this Multiple District, all questions of order and procedure in any meeting or convention, any meeting of the Council, District Cabinet, Region, Zone or member Club, or of any group or committee of any one of them shall be determined by ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED.

Section 5. No election of officers or amendment to this Constitution and Bylaws shall be voted upon at any meeting of the Multiple District except the annual Multiple District Convention.

ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS AND ENDORSEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR AND INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of the Association's Constitution and Bylaws, any member of a Lions Club in the Multiple District seeking endorsement of conventions of a District and the Multiple District as a candidate for the office of International Director or Vice President shall:

- a. Deliver written Notice of Intention to seek such endorsement to the District Governor of the District and the Multiple District Council Secretary/Treasurer no less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the convening date of the convention at which such question of endorsement is to be voted upon.
- b. Deliver with such Notice of Intention evidence of fulfillment of the qualifications for such office set forth in the International Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. Each Notice of Intention so delivered shall be transmitted forthwith by the District Governor and the Cabinet Secretary/Treasurer as the case may be, 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 such intention and qualifications as may be necessary under the Association's Constitution and Bylaws and shall place in nomination at the respective convention the name of each such prospective candidate who has fulfilled said procedural and Constitutional requirements.

Section 3. Each such nominee for endorsement shall be entitled to one (1) nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes and one (1) seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes in duration.

Section 4. The vote on the question of endorsement shall be by secret written ballot, unless there shall be only one (1) nominee seeking the same, in which event a voice vote may be taken. The nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared endorsed as the candidate of the respective convention and District and Multiple District. In the event of a tie vote, or failure of one (1) nominee to receive the required majority on any ballot, balloting shall proceed with respect to all nominees until one (1) receives the required majority of the votes cast.

Section 5. Certification of endorsement by the respective conventions shall be made in writing to the International Office by the District and Multiple District officials designated and in accordance with the requirements therefor set forth in the Association's Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 6. 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 V have been met.

ARTICLE VI - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Multiple District and each District therein shall be July 1st to June 30th of each year.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended only at a Multiple District Convention, by resolution reported by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and adopted by a majority of the votes cast by certified delegates to such convention.

Section 2. No amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished, in writing First Class, to each Club no less than ~~forty five (45)~~ *thirty (30)* days prior to the convening date of the annual convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said convention.

Section 3. Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.