



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 9
 EMPOWERING WOMEN
 THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENTS FOR DISTRICT 9 2021 CONFERENCE & ZONTA INTERNATIONAL 2022 CONVENTION

Proposal 2

Proposal to add Junior Z Clubs to Z & Golden Z Clubs: Article XII Committees, SECTION 12. Z Club and Golden Z Club Committee.	
Present Wording	Proposed Wording
It shall provide resources and information to encourage the formation of Z clubs and Golden Z clubs, and provide ongoing support.	It shall provide resources and information to encourage the formation of Z clubs, <u>Junior Z clubs</u> , and Golden Z clubs, and provide ongoing support.

Proposed by: Zonta Club of Casa Grande

Rationale: Junior Z club members will be sub-teens generally between the ages of 11 – 14 years old, in intermediate or middle schools. Supporting community and international service projects is one way for Junior Z members to become well educated individuals with positive self-esteem. Junior Z members can be mentored by the local Z/Golden Z Club members as they collaborate on service and advocacy projects. Zonta Club members provide resources and information, which encourage service to the school and community, and an international awareness among Junior Z members.

Association early in the Zonta mission creates a lifetime of empowerment, beginning at a critical age. Not only do Junior Z club members represent future members of Zonta, but their service and advocacy give[s] credibility to the Zonta mission. This will result in increased awareness and membership. Future leaders building a better future through service and advocacy: Adding mentoring to the possible activities of Golden Z and Z Clubs will enhance opportunities for youth taking responsibility for training/encouraging other youth, and setting examples for service and advocacy. One example is the Vista Grande High School Z Club in District 9, Area 5, is already working with a sanctioned (non-Zonta) school club in this category. They have approximately 20 members and have a list of girls from lower grades waiting to join. An additional example is our “Let Us Learn Madagascar” 2020-2022 international project which includes 88 children’s clubs that were established to promote children’s rights in lower secondary schools. This reinforces the value of clubs at an earlier age. The current goals in the Z/Golden Z Club Manual fits exactly with the proposed goals for Junior Z club participants. By adding the Junior Z club to the current By Laws and the Z/Golden Z Club manual, it does not change the intent or language already accepted. The one addition which should be added to the Z/Golden Z Club manual would be: Service projects in middle school, though similar in nature to examples in the manual, need to be age appropriate.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



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Proposal 3

Proposal to add Junior Z Clubs to Z & Golden Z Clubs:
 Article XIV Clubs, SECTION 10. Z Club and Golden Z Club Committee.

Present Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>(a) Z clubs and Golden Z clubs are service programs formed and sponsored by a Zonta club. Guidelines are in the Zonta International Z Club and Golden Z Club Manual. (b) The sponsoring Zonta club shall pay a charter fee and an annual renewal fee in US dollars. The renewal fee shall be used toward the administration of the Z Club program of Zonta International.</p>	<p>(a) Z clubs, <u>Junior Z clubs</u>, and Golden Z clubs are service programs formed and sponsored by a Zonta club. Guidelines are in the Zonta International Z Club, <u>Junior Z clubs</u>, and Golden Z Club Manual. (b) The sponsoring Zonta club shall pay a charter fee and an annual renewal fee in US dollars. The renewal fee shall be used toward the administration of the Z Club program of Zonta International. (c) <u>Junior Z Club will operate under the auspices of the school where it is formed and functions. Privacy and Insurance Liability would be covered under the school policies and guidelines.</u></p>

Proposed by: Zonta Club of Casa Grande

Rationale: Same as previous proposed amendment, Article XII Committees, SECTION 12. Z Club and Golden Z Club Committee.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



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Proposal 4

Change identity of Committee Leadership: Throughout the governing documents, including ZI Bylaws	
Present Wording: Chairman/Chairmen	Proposed Wording: Chair/Chairs or Chairperson/Chairpersons
Copy from Bylaws, ROPs: Throughout	Replace each instance of [Chairman/Chairmen] with <u>Chair/Chairs or Chairperson/Chairpersons</u>

Proposed by: Zonta Club of Hilo

Rationale:

Zonta is a leading international organization whose mission is to improve the status of women.

There are several internationally recognized sources of parliamentary authority. Zonta has chosen and designates Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (Robert’s) as its parliamentary resource as long as it is consistent with Zonta bylaws and policies.

Robert’s refers to assembly leaders as “chairman/men” and “he” by referral throughout, in fact, in numerous instances. This extensive use of reference to men (or women) reflects a leadership distinction between the sexes. Having this distinction imbedded within the governing documents is inconsistent with the objectives of Zonta.

This distinction was eliminated when Zonta adopted a policy that it shall be gender neutral. Thus, in 2020 Zonta amended its bylaw Article XIV, Section 2. (b) (1) to reference classified members not as “men and women” but as “individuals.” We have designated a parliamentary authority that reflects a distinction that is inconsistent with Zonta’s policy of gender neutrality.

Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12th edition (RONR-12ed), Section 3.9 states: “Several variations of this form—such as “chairperson” or “chair”— are frequently encountered, however, and may be in use as a general practice in particular assemblies.” Even should Robert’s imply a recognition of the office as “chair” and the person as “chairman,” Robert’s is still vague and ambiguous on this point, expresses a clear distinction of male vs. female leadership, and is inconsistent with our bylaws. Therefore, Zonta is not required to follow Robert’s and should follow its own gender-neutral policy and amend its bylaws and related governing documents to a gender-neutral term indicating assembly leadership.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



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Proposal 5

Use Gender Neutral Language: Zonta District 9 Rules of Procedure, Section A. Administrative, Item 2. Page 1	
Present Wording	Proposed Wording
2. At the first meeting of the Board-elect, these Rules of Procedure shall be read and discussed for the purpose of understanding and application by each member throughout her term of office.	2. At the first meeting of the Board-elect, these Rules of Procedure shall be read and discussed for the purpose of understanding and application by each member throughout <u>the</u> [her] term of office.

Proposed by: District 9 Board

Rationale: Implement gender neutral language where appropriate to be consistent with Zonta International's adoption of gender neutral language and to create more inclusive documents that reflect any member interested in serving as a member and/or leadership capacity.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



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Proposal 6

Change to Service Committee:

Zonta District Rules of Procedure, Section B. COMMITTEES, Item 3. Page 2

Present Wording	Proposed Wording
3. The Service Committee shall review and recommend to the Governor proposals from clubs for project funding for Z Club/Youth Development projects, to be funded by the District Discretionary Fund. Club requests for project funding shall comply with the Guidelines and Application for Youth Development Funds, available on the District 9 website.	3. [The Service] <u>Committees</u> [shall] <u>may</u> review and recommend to the Governor proposals from clubs for <u>district-wide</u> project funding [for Z Club/Youth Development projects,] to be funded by the District Discretionary Fund. [Club requests for project funding shall comply with the Guidelines and Application for Youth Development Funds, available on the District 9 website.]

Proposed by: District 9 Board

Rationale: Youth Development funds and such an application no longer exist. All district committees should be allowed the opportunity to petition the district for funding for a district-wide project/program of interest.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



Proposal 7

Addition of Emergency Powers: Zonta District Rules of Procedure, Section C. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Item 14 added. Page 4	
Present Wording	Proposed Wording
N/A	<u>14. In the event that extreme emergency prevents the holding of a conference, the District 9 board shall have the power to transact such business of the district as may be necessary, and to submit to voting members for a vote by mail, electronic or physical, all items that require action.</u>

Proposed by: District 9 Board

Rationale: Adding emergency powers allows future boards to more easily respond to an emergency if needed. The allowance for such an options ensures the district the flexibility to do necessary business in the event of an emergency.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



Proposal 8

Removal of classification luncheon: Zonta District Rules of Procedure, Section D. DUES, EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENTS, DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Item 3f, Page 5	
Present Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>3. As a voting member of the delegation at Zonta International Convention, the Governor’s expenses, net of any International reimbursements, shall be reimbursed by the District for the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The most reasonable airfare, round trip. b. The standard hotel room rate, double occupancy, beginning the night before the first day of registration and continuing through the night of the close of all Convention activities. c. Registration fee. d. International dinner or its equivalent. e. Closing banquet or its equivalent. f. Classification luncheon or its equivalent. g. Luncheon or dinner for the specific office, if not covered by Zonta International. h. Any event where the presence of the Governor will be noted, e.g., award. Full notification of known expenditures, including receipts, shall be submitted to the current District Treasurer by the close of the Governor’s fiscal year. 	<p>3. As a voting member of the delegation at Zonta International Convention, the Governor’s expenses, net of any International reimbursements, shall be reimbursed by the District for the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The most reasonable airfare, round trip. b. The standard hotel room rate, double occupancy, beginning the night before the first day of registration and continuing through the night of the close of all Convention activities. c. Registration fee. d. International dinner or its equivalent. e. Closing banquet or its equivalent. [f. Classification luncheon or its equivalent.] f. Luncheon or dinner for the specific office, if not covered by Zonta International. g. Any event where the presence of the Governor will be noted, e.g., award. Full notification of known expenditures, including receipts, shall be submitted to the current District Treasurer by the close of the Governor’s fiscal year.

Proposed by: District 9 Board

Rationale: It is unclear what a classification luncheon is. Section D.3.f covers any meals in which it is expected for the Governor to attend.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



Proposal 9

Removal of classification luncheon:
 Zonta District Rules of Procedure, Section D. DUES, EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Item 5f, Page 5

Present Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>5. The Governor shall be reimbursed from the District budgeted funds for the following District Conference expenses:</p> <p>a. The most reasonable airfare, round trip and/or auto mileage at the IRS charitable mileage rate when within reasonable driving distance of the conference site.</p> <p>b. Airport parking at the most reasonable rate, when air travel is necessary, and auto mileage at the IRS charitable rate when there is a distance to travel to the nearest airport.</p> <p>c. The standard hotel room rate, double occupancy, beginning the night before the first day of registration through the night of the closing banquet or its equivalent.</p> <p>d. Registration fee.</p> <p>e. Meals during Conference, including the Closing banquet or its equivalent.</p> <p>f. Classification luncheon or its equivalent.</p>	<p>5. The Governor shall be reimbursed from the District budgeted funds for the following District Conference expenses:</p> <p>a. The most reasonable airfare, round trip and/or auto mileage at the IRS charitable mileage rate when within reasonable driving distance of the conference site.</p> <p>b. Airport parking at the most reasonable rate, when air travel is necessary, and auto mileage at the IRS charitable rate when there is a distance to travel to the nearest airport.</p> <p>c. The standard hotel room rate, double occupancy, beginning the night before the first day of registration through the night of the closing banquet or its equivalent.</p> <p>d. Registration fee.</p> <p>e. Meals during Conference, including the Closing banquet or its equivalent.</p> <p>[f. Classification luncheon or its equivalent.]</p>

Proposed by District Board

Rationale: It is unclear what a classification luncheon is. Section D.5.e covers any meals in which it is expected for the Governor to attend.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.



Proposal 10

Addition of hotel expenses:
 Zonta District Rules of Procedure, Section D. DUES, EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Item 7.c, Page 6

Present Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>7. District Board members shall be reimbursed from District budgeted funds for the following Board meeting expenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The most reasonable airfare, round trip, and/or auto mileage at the IRS charitable mileage rate for those members within reasonable driving distance of the meeting site. b. Copies, postage and supplies at the most reasonably available rate. c. Meals designated by the Governor as District expenses. d. Expenses not enumerated above must be submitted in writing for prior approval to the District Board. 	<p>7. District Board members shall be reimbursed from District budgeted funds for the following Board meeting expenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The most reasonable airfare, round trip, and/or auto mileage at the IRS charitable mileage rate for those members within reasonable driving distance of the meeting site. b. Copies, postage and supplies at the most reasonably available rate. c. <u>Hotel &</u> [M]meals designated by the Governor as District expenses. d. Expenses not enumerated above must be submitted in writing for prior approval to the District Board.

Proposed by District Board

Rationale: It is current, standard district practice to reimburse District boards members for hotel stays during board meetings.

Recommended for adoption by the District 9 Board.