

# **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NARFE MARYLAND FEDERATION BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES**

The below proposed amendments are needed to fix grammar, reflect the change to a one member one vote system, make text and process clearer, and provide a process for dealing with non-majority voting results due to a large number of candidates. They were proposed by the Maryland Federation Resolutions and Executive Committees.

## ***Proposed Set of Amendments # 0: Corrections & Clarifications***

### **Heading:**

After "Ocean City, Maryland" add a new line reading  
"Amended [appropriate date]"

### **Throughout the bylaws:**

Wherever the phrase "National Members" appears, replace it with "National Only Members"

### **Article IV, Section 6, Second Paragraph**

Strike out the first sentence and insert in its place:

"Any member may submit to the Federation Secretary for action at any Board meeting resolutions on any topic pertinent to NARFE and Federation objectives."

### **Article V, Section 9**

Strike out extra space between "or" and "other" in the first line.

### **Article VII, Section 2, first sentence**

Place a "." (full stop) at the end of the sentence, after "as approved by the Board".  
Article IX, Section 2.C

## Article IX, Section 2.C

Strike out Sub-Section 2.C and Insert:

“C. Prior to the Biennial Membership Meeting, manage the ballot voting, counting, and reporting on officer elections and resolutions, and serve as Tellers at the Biennial meeting, if necessary.”

## Article X, Section 4:

Delete Section 4 as this is a National NARFE process not governed by the Federation.

Delete: Section 4. A group of members, as determined by the NARFE Bylaws, is free to transmit directly to NARFE National Headquarters, by a deadline set by National Headquarters, a resolution intended for national consideration, whether or not adopted by a Federation ballot.

## Article XII, Section 1, last sentence

Strike out the hyphen, “-”, between “Newly” and “Organized” and insert a blank, “ ”.

## Article XII, Section 5

Substitute for Section 5, the following:

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall establish the mileage rate and travel expense reimbursement rate for each member of the Board (or for a designated alternate) attending Federation meetings and Biennial Membership Meetings, for the Chairs of the Federation Committees, and for those Chairs appointed under Article XI, Section 1 and those persons appointed under Article V, Section 8. The mileage rate shall not exceed the rate established by the National Executive Board of NARFE for reimbursement of travel by National Officers.

## Article XII, Section 7, last line:

Change the comma “,”, between “amount” and “the amount” to a semi-colon “;”.

## Article XIV, Section 1, first line:

Strike out “of” and insert “by”

## Standing Rule #1, first line:

Strike out the words “of Chapters”.

### Formatting Key for the below proposed bylaw amendments:

Underlined print = insert or add

~~Line through print~~ = strike out

## *Proposed Amendment # 1: Single Candidate Election by Acclamation*

### Article IV, Section 3.A:

Add, at the end, a sentence reading: “If there is only one candidate for a particular office, that candidate shall be declared elected by acclamation, his or her name will not be included on the ballot, and the Executive Committee shall be informed of the election.”

Current Text	Amendments Highlighted	Text if Amendments Adopted
A. Any member wishing to run for any office shall notify the Federation secretary of his or her intent, in sufficient time to prepare the election ballots to be sent to all members.	A. Any member wishing to run for any office shall notify the Federation <u>Nominating Committee and the Federation</u> Secretary of his or her intent, in sufficient time to prepare the election ballots to be sent to all members. <u>If there is only one candidate for a particular office, that candidate shall be declared elected by acclamation, his or her name will not be included on the ballot, and the Executive Committee shall be informed of the election.</u>	A. Any member wishing to run for any office shall notify the Federation <u>Nominating Committee and the Federation</u> Secretary of his or her intent, in sufficient time to prepare the election ballots to be sent to all members. If there is only one candidate for a particular office, that candidate shall be declared elected by acclamation, his or her name will not be included on the ballot, and the Executive Committee shall be informed of the election.

Rationale: Eliminates necessity for balloting if only one candidate

Committee Recommendation: Adopt

## ***Proposed Amendment # 2: Clarification of Electronic Voting for Officers & BMAL***

Article IV, Section 3.B, second line:

Current Text	Amendments Highlighted	Text if Amendments Adopted
B. The Officers and the Board Member At Large, excepting Past Presidents, shall be elected by ballot, prior to the Federation's Biennial Membership Meeting, held during odd-numbered years, to serve a term of two years or until their successors are elected and installed, their terms of office to begin on the day of installation. However, the immediate past Treasurer is authorized to continue making payments of the Federation's obligations for up to forty-five days after the installation of his successor. The past Treasurer's records shall be transferred to the new Treasurer as soon	B. The Officers and the Board Member At Large, excepting Past Presidents, shall be elected by ballot, <u>that may be returned to the Tellers by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President</u> prior to the Federation's Biennial Membership Meeting, held during odd-numbered years, to serve a term of two years or until their successors are elected and installed, their terms of office to begin on the day of installation. However, the immediate past Treasurer is authorized to continue making payments of the Federation's obligations for up to	B. The Officers and the Board Member At Large, excepting Past Presidents, shall be elected by ballot, that may be returned to the Tellers by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President prior to the Federation's Biennial Membership Meeting, held during odd-numbered years, to serve a term of two years or until their successors are elected and installed, their terms of office to begin on the day of installation. However, the immediate past Treasurer is authorized to continue making payments of the Federation's obligations for up to

<p>as practicable; but in no case later than forty-five days after the Biennial Membership Meeting. The immediate past Officers shall serve as consultants to and work with their successors for one month after their installation.</p>	<p>forty-five days after the installation of his successor. The past Treasurer's records shall be transferred to the new Treasurer as soon as practicable; but in no case later than forty-five days after the Biennial Membership Meeting. The immediate past Officers shall serve as consultants to and work with their successors for one month after their installation.</p>	<p>forty-five days after the installation of his successor. The past Treasurer's records shall be transferred to the new Treasurer as soon as practicable; but in no case later than forty-five days after the Biennial Membership Meeting. The immediate past Officers shall serve as consultants to and work with their successors for one month after their installation.</p>
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Rationale: Makes the balloting process clear and more flexible.

Committee Recommendation: Adopt

### *Proposed Amendment # 3: Completing an Incomplete Election*

#### Article IV, Insert a NEW Section 3.D:

**Section D.** In the event that there is a tie vote for the election of one or more of the Officers or the Board Member At Large, or no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any position, an election by ballot will be held at the Biennial Meeting for the unfilled position(s). Nominations shall be opened for the unfilled positions and all previous candidates may remain on the ballot. A majority vote of those present and voting or if no majority obtained, the candidate with the most votes, shall be determined the winner(s).

Current Text	Amendments Highlighted	Text if Amendments Adopted
[none]	<p><b><u>Section D:</u></b></p> <p><u>In the event that there is a tie vote for the election of one or more of the Officers or the Board Member At Large, or no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any position, an election by ballot will be held at the Biennial Meeting for the unfilled position(s). Nominations shall be opened for the unfilled positions and all previous candidates may remain on the ballot. A majority vote of those present and voting or if no majority obtained, the candidate with the most votes, shall determine the winner(s).</u></p>	<p><b>Section D:</b></p> <p>In the event that there is a tie vote for the election of one or more of the Officers or the Board Member At Large, or no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for any position, an election by ballot will be held at the Biennial Meeting for the unfilled position(s). Nominations shall be opened for the unfilled positions and all previous candidates may remain on the ballot. A majority vote of those present and voting or if no majority obtained, the candidate with the most votes, shall be determined the winner(s).</p>

Rationale: Eliminates the necessity of a long delay re-balloting all Maryland Federation members in the unlikely case of an incomplete election.

Committee Recommendation: Adopt

## *Proposed Amendment # 4: Member Parliamentarian Rights*

### Article V, Section 8:

Add, at the end, a sentence reading: “If a Board member is appointed as Parliamentarian, he or she shall retain full membership rights, and shall be entitled to exercise them at all meetings”.

Current Text	Amendments Highlighted	Text if Amendments Adopted
Section 8. The President shall appoint persons to serve in such capacities as Auditor, Budget Officer, Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, and in other assignments as the President deems necessary.	Section 8. The President shall appoint persons to serve in such capacities as Auditor, Budget Officer, Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, and in other assignments as the President deems necessary. <u>If a Board member is appointed as Parliamentarian, he or she shall retain full membership rights, and shall be entitled to exercise them at all meetings.</u>	Section 8. The President shall appoint persons to serve in such capacities as Auditor, Budget Officer, Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, and in other assignments as the President deems necessary. If a Board member is appointed as Parliamentarian, he or she shall retain full membership rights, and shall be entitled to exercise them at all meetings.

Rationale: Robert’s Rules does not allow an appointed parliamentarian who is a member of the association to exercise his or her normal membership rights. This amendment removes that restriction.

Committee Recommendation: Adopt

## *Proposed Amendment # 5: Electronic Voting Option for Resolutions*

### Article X, Section 3:

Insert, after “ballots”, the following: “by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President”

Current Text	Amendments Highlighted	Text if Amendments Adopted
<b>Section 3.</b> The resolutions shall be sent out to all Federation members in sufficient time to allow for the return of ballots to the Federation Secretary for tabulation and preparation of a report of the decisions reached to be presented to the next Biennial Membership Meeting.	<b>Section 3.</b> The resolutions shall be sent out to all Federation members in sufficient time to allow for the return of ballots <u>by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President</u> to the Federation Secretary for tabulation and preparation of a report of the decisions reached to be presented to the next Biennial Membership Meeting.	<b>Section 3.</b> The resolutions shall be sent out to all Federation members in sufficient time to allow for the return of ballots by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President to the Federation Secretary for tabulation and preparation of a report of the decisions reached to be presented to the next Biennial Membership Meeting.

Rationale: Makes the balloting process clear and more flexible.

Committee Recommendation: Adopt



## *Proposed Amendment # 6: Electronic Voting Option for Bylaw Amendments*

### Article XIV, Section 1:

Insert, after “ballots”, the following: “by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President”

Current Text	Amendments Highlighted	Text if Amendments Adopted
<b>Section 1.</b> These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members returning ballots following the Resolutions procedure of Article X.	<b>Section 1.</b> These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members returning ballots <u>by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President</u> following the Resolutions procedure of Article X.	<b>Section 1.</b> These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members returning ballots by postal mail and/or electronic means as deemed appropriate by the Federation President following the Resolutions procedure of Article X. .

Rationale:

Makes the balloting process clear and more flexible.

Committee Recommendation: Adopt