

1 REGION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1.01 BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

- a. Board deliberations and discussions shall be considered confidential including after conclusions, actions, or dates of implementation are officially announced per the motion or agreement.
- b. If a situation arises that involves a board member or her club and requires Region Board action or discussion; the Board member may be excused.

Section 1.02 REGION BOARD MEETINGS

- a. Meetings of the Region Board may be held during and immediately following the conference as the Co-Governors or the Board deem necessary to complete business and to consider any questions or recommendations referred to it by conference delegates, a region committee, a club, a member, or by the Federation Official Visitor.
- b. In an election year, incoming officers will meet immediately following the region conference to schedule the interim board meeting.
- c. A Board Meeting will be held during the summer of the first year of the biennium. This meeting will set Board goals, review Board Members' responsibilities and duties, and plan the biennium.
- d. A Board Meeting will be held annually during the district meetings.
- e. Conference calls and email correspondence may be used to conduct any formal business requiring action before the next scheduled board meeting. The region board will ratify all board decisions by conference call or email at the following official board meeting. In addition, the minutes of all conference calls will be approved and submitted for the records of an official board meeting.

Section 1.02 BALLOT

- a. Any required ballots shall be prepared and transmitted by the Region Secretary at the request of the Co-Governors and shall contain background information concerning the subject matter. The submitter must clearly state the question. If the action proposed requires the use of region funds, a financial impact statement must be included, and the ballot shall state from which account it is proposed to draw the funds.
- b. Response to any ballot must be made within a time limit set by the Co-Governors to the Region Secretary. The Region Secretary shall report the results promptly to the Co-Governors, with a written report to the Board members communicating the vote results to be ratified at the next official board meeting.

2 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 2.01 NOMINATING PROCEDURES

- a. The Nominating Committee is charged at appropriate times with nominating qualified regular members for the region office and district members of the Nominating Committee.
- b. To be eligible for nomination, members must be regular members in good standing with their club, region, and federation and have served as club president. If no candidate eligible candidate accepts the nomination, another member may serve as a nominee, provided they have served at least one term as a club board member.
- c. A club, any club member, or members of the Nominating Committee can present a qualified regular member to the Nominating Committee, including a self-nomination.
- d. Members of the Nominating Committee are not barred from becoming nominees.

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- e. On or before October 1st of the year preceding the last conference of the biennium, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall invite all clubs/members of the region to suggest members for consideration as Governor-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and District Director. Names must be submitted to the committee no later than November 15th.
- f. The Chair shall contact all persons whose names were submitted to ascertain their eligibility, willingness, and qualifications to serve in office if nominated and elected.
- g. All members accepting nominations, shall submit to the Chair a standard resume form of their qualifications and Soroptimist experience.
- h. The Committee shall submit at least one name for each office to be filled. Unless a nominee withdraws their name or is not qualified for the office, the nominee will be included in the slate for election.
- i. The Chair shall verify that all nominees are regular members in good standing by forwarding the list of candidates to the Region Treasurer for verification.
- j. The Chair shall forward the official list of nominations with their resumes to the Region Governor and Region Secretary at least sixty (60) days before the conference for inclusion in the call.
- k. Nominations may be made from the floor when the Nominating Committee gives its report. Additional eligible nominees for office must provide a completed standard resume form for distribution to all delegates when the nomination is made.
- l. As provided in SIA Procedures, page 12 of 25, section A, the Committee will advise all nominees that there will be no campaigning.
- m. The official program of the conference shall indicate the day and hour of the report on nominations.

SECTION 2.02 2025-2027 NOMINATING COMMITTEE PROCEDURES (additional)

- a. On or before October 1st of the year preceding the first conference of the biennium, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall invite all clubs/members of the region to suggest members for consideration as district members of the Nominating Committee to reply by November 15th.

SECTION 2.03 2022-2024 ELECTION

- a. Each Region Governor shall appoint two tellers from the current regions to oversee the election and count the ballots.

SECTION 2.04 2024-2026 ELECTION

- a. The Region Co-Governors shall appoint two tellers, one from each original region, to oversee the election and count the ballots.

SECTION 2.05 ELECTION PROCEDURES

- a. The official program for the conference shall indicate the day and hours of elections.
- b. If there are two or more nominees for any office or position, an election shall be by prepared ballot or voting machine.
- c. The Election Committee shall verify voting results, and the Chair shall present the Committee's signed report to the Governor, then to the Conference body.
- d. After the election, the Election Chair shall make a motion for the voting delegates to destroy the ballots/clear the voting machines.

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- e. The Conference Registration Committee shall ensure that each delegate has properly been designated by her club as a delegate and that her name badge identifies her as being entitled to vote.

3 OFFICER DUTIES

Section 3.01 DUTIES OF REGION OFFICERS

The Peaks to Plains Region officers will be Two Co-Governors, Governor-Elect, Two Co-Treasurers, and Secretary, District Directors for each district in the region, and a Parliamentarian appointed by the Co-Governors.

It's important to note that much of the correspondence and decisions made among the Board happen electronically in between the two annual face-to-face Board Meetings. Therefore, region Officers must regularly check and respond to emails. They should also be comfortable using Web & Phone conferencing. Since all Region Officers will also be on a committee or acting as a liaison to a committee, it is essential to communicate effectively, work well within a team, and delegate as needed.

Section 3.02 GENERAL DUTIES FOR ALL OFFICERS

- a. Carry out duties as defined in [SIA role description](#) for region officers and [SIA Procedures](#).
- b. Stay current via SI and SIA magazines and websites.
- c. Communicate information from SIA Federation to Region Board members.
- d. Review Region Bylaws to agree with SIA Federation Bylaws.
- e. Review Region Policies and Procedures to keep updated with activities.
- f. Communicate with and advise Region Board, Presidents, Region Chairs, and members.
- g. Serve on Region Board and attend all Board Meetings and Region Conferences. In addition, attend SIA Convention when possible
- h. Complete duties of their office or as assigned related to Region Conference and meetings, as detailed in the procedures for conference/meetings.
- i. Perform duties as assigned by the Co-Governors, the Board, or prescribed by the Region Bylaws or these Procedures.
- j. Attend Region Conferences and all Board Meetings.
- k. Be prepared to present workshops as requested by the Co-Governors.
- l. Strengthen parliamentary procedure skills.
- m. Maintain and pass pertinent material essential to the office to her successor before July 1st of the election year. In addition, shall ensure other materials be electronically preserved and delivered to the Region Historian or Archives, as necessary and applicable.

Section 3.03 DUTIES FOR CO-GOVERNORS

- a. Act as Chief Administrative Officers for the region.
 - i. Review job responsibilities with new Board Members and Region Committee Chairs.
 - ii. Set goals, incentives, and timeline for the biennium, with the board and committee chair participation.
 - iii. Encourage clubs to participate in SIA and Region projects, i.e., Dream Programs.
- b. Attend Federation Governors Round Table and Federation Convention representing the region as a delegate.
- c. Co-sign region checks; checks will require a signature by one Co-Treasurer and one Co-Governor or Governor-Elect.

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- d. Prepare Region Budget for a new biennium for review and approval of Board.
- e. Shall attend charter celebrations and other Soroptimist functions within the region as time permits and the budget allows.
- f. Shall plan for Governor-Elect to participate in the region business to prepare her for assuming the office of Governor.
- g. Have a professional picture taken and send forms to the federation for profile, etc.
- h. Fulfill the following duties of Co-Governors related to **Meetings**:
 - i. The Co-Governors shall prepare and distribute a tentative agenda before board meetings when practical so that officers and directors may be prepared to report, discuss, give opinions, and make decisions on agenda items.
 - ii. Coordinate with the Secretary to ensure timely completion and issuance of minutes after Conference and Board Meetings.
 - iii. Participate in planning Leadership Development content for region meetings.
 - iv. Provide direction and assistance to District Directors presiding at District Meetings.
 - v. Shall attend as possible and participate in the program of the District Meetings, which will include a Governor's Report.
 - vi. Arrange for recognition of First Timers and Members of Longer Standing at District Meetings and Region Conferences.
 - vii. Oversee recruitment of clubs to host District Meetings and Region Conferences and set dates.
- i. Fulfill the following duties of Co-Governors related to **communication**:
 - i. Prepare Governor's messages and articles for the Soroptiblast email.
 - ii. Distribute Holiday Greetings to SIA Headquarters, Governors, and any other individuals as directed by the Region Board.
 - iii. Request updated directory reports from SIA periodically and shares with Webmaster and Public Awareness chair.

Section 3.04 DUTIES FOR GOVERNOR-ELECT

- a. Perform duties of Co-Governors if both are absent.
- b. Serve on Region Board and attend all District Meetings, Conferences, Governor's Round Table, and Conventions. Perform all duties assigned by the Co-Governors.
- c. Become familiar with and assist Co-Governors in all responsibilities.
- d. Choose and be responsible for the Region Fundraiser.
- e. Prepare for your term as Governor by working with Finance Chair/Committee and Co-Treasurers to set the 2024-2026 biennium budget.

Section 3.05 DUTIES FOR REGION SECRETARY

- a. Prepare the "Call to Conference" combining the information provided by the Governor, the host club, the Laws and Resolutions Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Finance Committee, etc. This task may vary according to the Governor and the host club. Shall provide the conference co-chair contact information for the distribution of the conference call.
- b. After the conference, prepare minutes to include Board Meeting minutes, Conference minutes, workshops, special events, award winners, bylaw changes, budget adjustments, and other changes. The first draft of all minutes is due 30 days following the meeting for review. The Secretary shall establish that she needs to receive all corrections by a fixed and stated date two (2) weeks from the date sent. Within 60 days, all minutes must be final

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and distributed. The Co-Governors and their designees will review minutes before distributing to the balance of the Board and Club Presidents. Copies are stored in the permanent record of the region.

- c. Take minutes at Region Board Meetings. Minutes for Region Board Meetings shall be supplemented as needed, put into final form, and sent to the Region Board within one (1) month of the conclusion of the Board Meeting. Minutes from the previous Board Meeting shall be reviewed and approved at the next Board Meeting.
- d. Conduct correspondence for the region as requested by the Co-Governors or the Region Board. For example:
 - Distribute holiday cards, if this is the pleasure of the Co-Governors, to clubs, SIA Headquarters and Governors, and any other individuals as directed by the Co-Governors or the Region Board.
 - Thank-you notes
 - Visits acknowledgments, etc.
 - Welcome emails to new SIA clubs.
 - Other correspondence as needed
 - Prepare certificates as requested by the Co-Governors.
 - For District Meetings: host clubs and host hotels (Certificate to be signed by Co-Governors and Secretary).
 - For Region Conference: host club(s) and host hotel (Certificate to be signed by Co-Governors and Secretary).
- e. Have available forms for submitting motions for the Board and the Conference delegates.
- f. Coordinate with the hostess club and Nominating Committee to ensure that ballots for Region Officer Election at the conference, the second year of the biennium, are prepared.
- g. Take Roll Call at Conference.
- h. Be prepared to take notes at all activities.
- i. Prepare a list of Region Club Presidents and Treasurers to be included in the Region Website and distribute to Region Board. This information can be taken from Form 200.
- j. Ensure the most recent versions of the Bylaws, Policy Code, President, Treasurer, Committee, and the Board Member lists are distributed and maintained.
- k. Maintain permanent records of the region.
- l. Work with the Region Webmaster to update Website documents.

Section 3.06 DUTIES FOR REGION CO-TREASURERS

- a. Send statements for dues and fees to all clubs in the region by May 15th.
- b. Keep records on membership of all clubs in the region.
- c. Assign two people to count money from Laurel Board and fundraisers. Each person to sign a form confirming the amount received.
- d. Maintain accurate financial records. Transfer banking account signatures, order checks, deposit slips, and endorsement stamps when needed. Attend with the Co-Governors and Governor-Elect to sign new signature cards.
- e. At the appropriate time as determined by the region board, combine the banking accounts of former regions prior to the start of the 2022-2024 biennium.
- f. Shall keep the commercial checking account of the region in a federal depository
- g. The outgoing Region Co-Treasurers shall provide a copy of the biennial budget and copies of the financial and membership reports for each year of the biennium to the outgoing Co-Governors for placing in the archives.
- h. The incoming Region Treasurer should have authorization of the bank accounts between the date she is installed and July 1st of her term.

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- i. Responsible for handling all cash receipts and cash disbursements and keeping copies.
- j. Furnish Region Board and Region Committee Chairs with Reimbursement and in-kind forms. Shall disburse funds within thirty days of receipt of vouchers, with substantiating receipts attached, which have been approved by the Co-Governors.
- k. Post all transactions to the accounting system. Posting will be done monthly to be ready for input to Co-Governors and Region Board when requested.
- l. Clarification on correct account coding should be verified by Co-Governors to keep expenses charged to correct accounts and within budget.
- m. Prepare a financial statement for all Board Meetings, District Meetings, and Region Conference. Distribute copies for all Board members. Prepare copies for all attending conferences for review. Prepare an itemized financial report and comparative budget report to be distributed in the Spring Region Conference materials and coordinate with the Region Secretary that clubs without a representative in attendance receive copies of the same.
- n. Work with Governor-Elect and Finance Committee to prepare and review operating budget.
- o. Advise Co-Governors or Region Board as required with updates when money is expended, especially if going over budget.
- p. Send all checks to one of the Co-Governors or Governor-Elect for the second signature, with email notification.
- q. Reconcile checking account monthly and prepare financial statements and comparative budget reports quarterly for review by the Region Board.
- r. Place excess funds in secure financial institutions for interest income with Board approval.
- s. Send the previous year's financial statement to SIA by October 31st each year or the specified deadline, if changed.
- t. File an annual 990N with the Internal Revenue Service. Send notification to club treasurers to remind them of the November 15th deadline.
- u. Make hotel reservations for Region Board & guests at District Meetings and Region Conference.
- v. Pay for meals, registration, travel, and lodging at all Board Meetings as designated by procedures.
- w. Be available to advise and work with club Treasurers on responsibilities.
- x. Maintain records for each club on the number of paid Regular and Life members and regularly reconcile with the federation's report. This reconciliation is done to ensure clubs are paying Region and SIA dues for all new and reinstated members.
- y. Shall collect all fees and dues prescribed in procedures and notify the Governor, Directors, Federation, and Credentials Chair of those clubs delinquent and ineligible to vote.
- z. Prepare suggestions for Board action in financial activities.
- aa. Prepare checks for any Region award winner at Region Conference each year. (Amount to be determined by Board at pre-conference Board Meeting.)
- bb. Shall transfer all voluntary contributions to proper accounts and distribute acknowledgments to donors.
- cc. Shall send contributions received for Federation and Federation projects to the Headquarters office
- dd. In conjunction with Governor-Elect, order and be responsible for consigned supplies to sell at District Meetings and Region Conference.
- ee. Manage and oversee the sale of supplies at Conference and District meetings. Maintain inventory on all supplies owned by region. (Do actual count with Governor-Elect).
- ff. Maintain financial reports from Region Conference and District Meetings.
- gg. Shall submit records to the Chair of the Financial Review Committee by August 15th following the second year of the biennium.

Section 3.07 DUTIES FOR REGION DISTRICT DIRECTORS

- a. Start early to personally visit all clubs in your district at least once, if possible, during the biennium.
- b. Use email as one source, but not the only source of communication. Request that clubs include you in correspondence that goes out to all club members.
- c. Contact Club Presidents occasionally to discuss activities. Offer to help as needed. Try to touch base with each once a quarter.
- d. Assist in chartering new clubs in your district and work with clubs to recruit and educate new members and retain members. Enlist the help of the Region Membership Chair where appropriate.
- e. Encourage clubs to support International, Federation, and Region programs, including Founders Pennies, Club Giving, Live Your Dream Award, Dream It Be It, or other women and girl-focused projects.
- f. Encourage clubs to submit articles to SI, SIA, and Soroptiblast.
- g. Shall send copies of correspondence to the Co-Governors. Correspondence directed to SIA headquarters, Federation officers, and chairs shall be cleared with the Co-Governors before distributing.
- h. Co-chair District Meetings when held in your district and provide District Meeting Procedures to host club.
- i. Assist the members of the Region Board in establishing the agenda for and message to be presented at the Fall District Meeting. Coordinate with the other District Director to ensure the Joint Official Call of District Meeting ("Call") to Region Board members, Webmaster, and each club on time. Coordinate with the other District Director that the message and materials are uniform and plan and preside at the District Meeting.
- j. The "Call" shall contain the agenda, registration materials, all costs to be assessed, and other information pertinent to the meeting. The "Call" shall be distributed at least 45 days before each District Meeting each year.
- k. Act as a liaison with your assigned Committee Chair. As a liaison, you will report on the committee activities at Board meetings and work with the Committee Chair and committee members to help present workshops at District Meetings and Region conferences.
- l. Before the District Meeting, to be held in your district, select a District Secretary to take minutes at the meeting. Follow up with District Secretary that minutes were sent to Region Secretary within 30 days following the meeting.
- m. Shall immediately report issues or conditions within the district which are time-sensitive or urgent to the Region Governor. Shall submit a District Director Report to the Governor and ensure the said report is included in the materials and made at Spring Conference.
- n. Send clubs anniversary cards on their charter date.

4 COMMITTEES

Section 4.01 STANDING COMMITTEES.

- a. Nominating Committee: A nominating committee consisting of three members in good standing shall be formed in odd-numbered years to propose candidates for election to the region office. Not more than one member from each club may serve on this Committee. The 2022-2024 Governor-Elect will appoint the Nominating Committee Chair, and one appointee from each of the former regions will be appointed by each of the respective 2022-2024 Region Co-Governors.
- b. Laws and Resolutions Committee: The Committee shall review all proposed resolutions and amendments to the Region Bylaws and ensure their inclusion in the Call to Conference each year. Not more than one member from each club may serve on this Committee.

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- c. Program Committee: This Committee will promote and administer Soroptimist programs in concert with the federation. The Region member of the SIA Program Council shall serve as Chair of this Committee.
 - i. Clubs are responsible for determining local winners and the amount of monetary award/s within each club and sending that winning application to the District Director to be judged.
 - ii. The District Director is responsible for coordinating judging the winners at the district level.
 - iii. The District winners are sent to the Region Chair to determine Region winners. The District runners-up are also sent to the Region Chair.
 - iv. The Region Chair shall ensure that the District winners are judged as specified by the federation.
 - v. Once judged, the Region Chair shall ensure the winner's complete application and other required documentation are submitted to the federation for further judging by the deadline.
 - vi. Federation determines the number of Region level LYD awards and the amount of each award it will provide. The Region Chair shall work with SIA to ensure all information is submitted to facilitate timely receipt and presentation of the awards to Region winner(s). Any expenses related to the attendance at the conference by a LYD winner(s) are the responsibility of the sponsoring club.
- d. Membership Committee: The membership committee serves as a resource for clubs needing assistance with recruiting and retaining members. This Committee shall also work in cooperation with the federation and under the direction of the Region Board in extension activities for the formation, orientation, and nurturing of new clubs in the region. The committee chair shall work closely with federation headquarters to maximize growth opportunities.
- e. Fundraising Committee: The fundraising committee works to promote fundraising activities in the region. The committee chair shall work closely with federation headquarters to support the fundraising programs of the federation in the region.
- f. Public Awareness Committee: This Committee will assist clubs with increasing the visibility of the organization locally and to promote awareness of Soroptimist in the region as a volunteer organization whose mission is to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. The Chair shall work closely with federation headquarters to develop and implement the necessary resources and strategies to meet public awareness goals.
- g. Finance Committee: The Region finance committee, with the advice of the Region Co-Treasurers, shall review the state of the current operating and special-purpose funds and make recommendations for necessary adjustment to them, prepare the budget in even-numbered years to be included in the Call to Conference, and prepare and present an annual financial report of the status of the Region at Region conference. The Region Co-Treasurers and Governor-Elect shall work with the Chair on the budget.

Section 4.02 COMMITTEES PROCEDURES.

- a. Region committee chairs are selected by the incoming Governor at least three months before taking office. Each is to serve a two-year term.
- b. Region committees are customarily made up of one member from each region's Districts.
- c. The Governor and Board member assigned as the committee liaison will assure that the Region Chairs understand the duties of the Committee and may use the previous biennium's report as a guide and incorporate any new duties and ideas as determined by the Board.

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- d. At the end of the biennium, each Region chair will prepare a written report to the Board. At the discretion of the Region Board, this report may be given to the next biennium's Committee Chair along with all relevant materials to ensure continuity for the region.
- e. If a Region Chair resigns during the term of service, the Region Governor will appoint a replacement.

Section 4.03 SPECIAL COMMITTEES. Special committees or additional committees may be appointed by the Governor, with the approval of the Board, to undertake special tasks or projects within budget limitations.

5 FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

Section 5.01 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. In even-numbered years, the Chair of the Finance Committee will prepare the region Budget in coordination with input from the Governor-elect and the Region Co-Treasurers. Then, the Region Board must review and approve the budget, including recommended changes before the Finance Chair can present it at the Region Conference for information. Finally, the proposed budget must be sent out in the Call to Conference.
- b. The budget will specify expected income and budgeted amounts for the region board, region committees, conference, district meetings, and other expenses. Board restricted funds (identified as special purpose funds) must remain restricted unless a vote to change is made by the conference body.
- c. Biennium budget will be presented by financial Chair or designee for vote by delegates at Region Conference.
- d. A majority vote of the delegates may make budget adjustments at the Region Conference, if such adjustments are properly proposed by a voting delegate.
- e. Any expenditure greater than allowed by the budget must be approved in advance by special action of the Region Board.
- f. The Region Co-Treasurers will present a joint financial report at each Region Conference comparing the budgeted income and expense categories with the actual expenditures. The financial report will include the status of the Special Purpose Funds. In addition, a financial report will be presented semi-annually to the Region Board or whenever requested by a Region Board member or a Co-Governor.
- g. Each Region Co-Treasurer will file annual 990s with the Internal Revenue Service for the year ending June 30th, 2022 per Internal Revenue Service Guidelines. One 990 will be filed for the year ending June 30th, 2023, after all paperwork has been completed dissolving the former entities and establishing the new region.
- h. Within 30 days after the close of each year the checking account will be adjusted to \$20,000.00 by off-set to or from the savings account as funds are available.

Section 5.02 REGION DEBIT CARD

- a. It is preferred that expenditures are paid by check (which requires two signatures); however, given the size of our region and the physical distance in the region, the debit card can be used to facilitate business in a professional and timely manner. The Co-Governors, Governor Elect and Region Co-Treasurers are held fully accountable for their debit card use.
- b. The debit card must be associated with the main region checking account, with the Co-Governors, Governor-elect, and Region Co-Treasurers as signers.
- c. Debit cards will be provided to the Co-Governors, Governor-elect, and Region Co-Treasurers.
- d. The debit card should be used in situations where a check is not allowed or not feasible, as follows:

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- i. To pay Region Board and official Federation and Region guest expenses such as lodging and meals for board meetings.
 - ii. To pay online expenses within the approved budget.
 - iii. To pay for travel and hotel costs for the Co-Governors, Governor-elect or other region representatives to attend meetings, conferences, or conventions that their attendance is required, and the cost is included in the approved budget or special purpose fund.
 - iv. To pay any other expenses deemed reasonable and necessary.
- e. The debit card users will send the itemized debit card receipts and submit them to the designated Region Co-Treasurers immediately to record the transaction. Upon completing the transaction, the debit card transactions will be entered into the Region accounting records, and receipts will be filed according to basic region procedures.
- f. Receipts are required as support for all debit card expenditures. An itemized receipt must accompany charges.
- g. The Region Co-Treasurers, Governor-Elect, and Co-Governors will have the debit card PIN. Under no circumstances is anyone allowed to utilize the debit card to draw cash from the region checking account. The debit card should be set up with the bank to disallow cash advances.
- h. Debit card transactions will be reviewed annually.
- i. New debit cards will be procured at the end of the biennium, coinciding with a new Governor, Governor-Elect, and Region Treasurer. The outgoing Region Co-Treasurers will ensure the destruction of the old debit cards.
- j. No personal expenses will be paid for with the region debit card. If someone abuses the debit card, the card should be removed immediately, and the region reimbursed.

Section 5.03 FINANCIAL REVIEW/BONDING/INSURANCE

- a. A biennial financial report will be completed at the end of the biennium. The Outgoing Region Co-Treasurers will prepare this report, and the report will be reviewed by the outgoing region Finance Committee or Soroptimist member from our region, who is a qualified professional accountant (Certified Public Accountant preferred) may volunteer to review the report within 60 days with the approval of the Governor.
- b. The Co-Governors, Governor-Elect, Secretary, and the Region Co-Treasurers will be bonded.

Section 5.04 REGION EXPENSES

- a. Region Board and Committee Expenses
 - i. The co-chairs of each Region Committee will approve and submit committee expenses according to the budget.
 - ii. The Co-Governors and the Region Board must approve expenses other than those included in the approved budget prior to reimbursement.
 - iii. The region will cover reasonable and necessary expenses, not covered by SIA, for the Co-Governors and Governor-elect to attend the SIA Governor's Roundtable, subject to budget limitations.
 - iv. Allowed expenses of Region Board members for Board meetings will be charged to appropriate budget accounts. Allowed expenses include:
 - Travel to Region Board meetings as budget permits. Board members are urged to limit travel costs by driving together when possible. Actual gasoline expenses and travel fares (with plane fares only when approved in advance by the Co-Governors) can be reimbursed within the

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approved budget.

- Food allowance up to \$40 per day as budget permits. The allowance does not include alcoholic beverages.
- Shared rooms of Board Members.

- v. Rooms will be reserved, and the Region Co-Treasurers will pay the cost. Board members who find it necessary to request a private room will be responsible for half of the cost of the additional room.
- vi. The region will reimburse expenses for an official visit by a Region Board member to clubs in the region during each biennium as the budget allows. Hosting clubs are encouraged to provide lodging, if possible, for visiting Board members. Reimbursed expenses can usually include actual gasoline expenses and modest food and lodging expenses, not including alcoholic beverages.
- vii. The region will reimburse each Region Board member for the expenses incurred during the term of office for supplies, and miscellaneous costs as necessary for the function of the office, according to the biennium budget. Expenses exceeding budgeted amounts will be the board member's responsibility unless approved in advance by special action of the Region Board.
- viii. Expenses are to be submitted on the 'Region Expense Reimbursement Statement' or the 'In-kind Contribution Form' to the Region Co-Treasurers within 30 days of the event (and are non-reimbursable after 30 days). Original documentation and receipts should accompany all submissions.

b. District Meetings

- i. The Region Co-Treasurers will complete and send in registration forms and fees for the Region Board when there is a Board Meeting before or in conjunction with a District Meeting.
- ii. The region will pay Region Board members expenses (refer to section 5.04 a.iv. for limits):
 - For District Meeting when a Board meeting is scheduled and will include registration, room, meals, and travel.
 - For District meeting when a Board meeting is not scheduled:
 - Approved expenses will be paid for the Co-Governors, Governor-elect, Region Co-Treasurers, and the District Directors whose districts are attending the meeting.
 - Board members' expenses will be reimbursed when asked to present workshops or approved by the region Co-Governors as budget allows.

c. Region Conferences

- i. Region will pay the following expenses associated with Region Conference for Region Board members (including the Parliamentarian): registration fee, room cost, travel, and meals. (refer to section 5.04 a.iv. for limits)
- ii. Conference suites offered as gratuities by the conference facility will be assigned to the Region Board for use as Board meeting rooms and lodging.
- iii. The Region Co-Treasurers will prepare and send in registration forms for all members of the Region Board and the Parliamentarian, along with the registration fee.
- iv. When an official federation visitor attends Region Conference, or a special guest attends at the invitation of the Region Board, the region shall pay reasonable expenses not covered by SIA during the pre-conference board meeting, conference, and post-conference board meeting. These expenses shall include accommodations, meals, and all conference fees.
- v. The region shall pay the cost of the lunch or dinner for the Live Your Dream Award winners and one guest each attending the awards meal at a conference. Funds will be taken from the appropriate budget account. Expenses for any awardees' additional guests or family members, transportation expenses, or

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lodging will be the responsibility of the winner, guest, or the club submitting the winning application will be coordinated by Region Co-Treasurers and Awards chairs.

- d. Conference Scholarships
 - i. Conference Scholarships have been developed to achieve greater attendance at Region Conference and are awarded at the discretion of the Region Board.
 - ii. Unrestricted funds will be used to pay registration fees, including meals. Lodging and transportation will be the responsibility of the member/club.
 - iii. At the direction of the Governor-Elect the process will be determined and approved by the Board.
- e. Meeting Procedures
 - i. Only exception will be for facilities contracts for District meetings and Region Conference.
 - ii. Send all contracts over \$10,000.00 to SIA.
- f. SIA Conventions
 - i. Any reasonable and necessary expenses, not paid by the federation, for the Co-Governors and Governor-Elect to attend the SIA Federation Convention will be paid by the region, within budget limitations.

Section 5.05 AWARDS/GIFTS/GRATUITIES

- a. The Region Live Your Dream Award/Awards will be paid by the Region's Live Your Dream Award Fund.
- b. The Region Conference Delegates, the Co-Governors, and/or the Region Board may determine other awards, if funds are budgeted.
- c. Gifts for speakers or presenters at Region Conference will come from the region Conference budget within reason.
- d. Gifts other than those included in the budget are the personal responsibility of Board members or hosting Clubs.

Section 5.06 CHARTERING NEW CLUBS

- a. The region will reimburse approved expenses of the chartering club, not to exceed \$500, for each club chartered. Sponsoring clubs are encouraged to contribute as needed.
- b. All the expenditures require receipts when applying for funds. Applications for an advance may be made to cover up-front chartering expenses if a budget is submitted with the application and approved by the Co-Governors.
- c. Upon completion of the club chartering, a financial report and receipts must be submitted to the Co-Governors to relieve the club of this obligation.
- d. Funds will come from the region Membership Club Chartering Fund.
- e. Established clubs are encouraged to give a monetary donation to the newly chartered club.
- f. The Region Board will waive all or a portion of the fees for the first conference and/or district meeting of a newly chartered club at which it is entitled to representation after its charter.
- g. Any new club chartered in 4th quarter, to align with SIA procedures, will pay ¼ of region dues for clubs chartering between April and June and will pay the next year's dues.

Section 5.07 ITEMS FOR SALE

- a. Region Sales
 - i. Region supplies are offered at the Region Conference and District Meetings in a suitable area.

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- ii. The Region Sales are managed and accounted for by the Region Co-Treasurers or designees.
- b. Federation Sales
 - i. The region will obtain SIA supplies and offer them for sale at Region Conference and District Meetings, as a courtesy and convenience to members.
 - ii. The Region Treasurer will order these supplies in advance with input from the Governor-elect. These SIA supplies are sent to the region on consignment, in accordance with SIA Guidelines.
- c. Vendor Sales – Conference marketplace
 - i. Arrangements may be made by the Conference Chair(s) of the Region Conference to provide an appropriate area for Vendor Sales. The arrangements for the Vendor Sales will be approved by the Co-Governors.
 - ii. A vendor table fee or a percentage of sales will be established with all proceeds going to benefit the Dream Programs of the region.
 - iii. Clubs wishing to sell are encouraged to participate in vendor sales by registering as vendors and following vendor procedures. Clubs wanting to be vendors have the same obligations as all other vendors. All proceeds need to be designated for a specific Club project and advertised.

6 MEETINGS

SECTION 6.01 REGION BOARD

- a. Meetings of the Region Board shall be held immediately before, and on an as-needed basis after the conference in the city, or close vicinity, where the conference is held; at such times during and immediately following the conference as the Co-Governors or the Board deem necessary to complete business, or to consider any questions or recommendations referred by the Conference Delegates, Region Committee, a Club, a Member or by the Federation Official Visitor.
- b. A summer board meeting shall be held in even-numbered years, and as-needed in odd-numbered years.
- c. A board meeting shall be held annually prior to the first District Meeting.
- d. Other virtual or in-person meetings shall be held if considered necessary by a majority of the Board and if feasible within the given budget with at least five days' notice.

SECTION 6.02 R-5 DISTRICTS

- a. Each fall, meetings shall be held by individual districts, a combination of districts, or the entire region. The meetings are open to all club members of the region. At least 30 days' notice shall be given. If it becomes impossible to meet at the place designated, the District Director, with the approval of the Region Board, shall select the meeting place.
- b. These meetings are for information, workshops, and education only. No official Region action shall be taken.

SECTION 6.03 R-5 REGION CONFERENCE

- a. The Region Conference shall be held annually in the spring of each year no later than May 31st. The membership will be notified of the meeting dates and location no later than 120 days prior to conference.
- b. The location at which each conference will be held shall be selected by the Region Board two years prior to the Conference dates. The location shall rotate from district to district in sequence, provided there is a club within that district willing to host. If there is not, the location would then rotate to the district next in line.

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- c. The Call to Conference shall be sent at least 60 days before the conference and shall include: (a) a tentative agenda, (b) a report of the Laws and Resolutions Committee with all proposed amendments and resolutions requiring Conference action, and (c) such additional region and federation information as may be deemed necessary. In even numbered years, it shall also include the proposed region budget and a report of the Nominating Committee with a list of proposed candidates for each region and district offices, along with their qualifications.
- d. The Credentials Committee shall be composed of at least two members appointed by the Co-Governors before each conference. The Committee shall verify the credentials of the voting members of the conference and report each day, or as requested by the Co Governors, the number of voting members and others registered.
- e. The voting delegates of the conference shall be the members of the Region Board and the accredited delegates of each club in good standing. A Club Delegate may represent only the club in which the delegate's membership is held. Proxy votes shall not be allowed under any circumstances.
- f. A club shall be deemed in good standing if all requirements of the Federation Bylaws and Procedures and rules and procedures established by the Region conference and Region Board have been met when its Clubs' Delegates register for conference.
- g. All conference attendees will be required to pay a conference registration amount as determined by the Region Board.
- h. If an emergency prevents the holding of a Conference, any matters included in the Call to Conference requiring a vote of the Delegates shall be voted upon by mails, electronic mail, or telephone (election of officers, Bylaw changes, resolutions, etc.). Response to these ballots shall be made to the Region Secretary within the time limit set by the Region Co-Governors. The Region Secretary shall report the results promptly to the Region Board, with a written report to the Clubs regarding the results of the vote.

SECTION 6.04 DISTRICT MEETINGS

- a. Location of the meeting can be rotated annually.
- b. The Region Board will plan the District Meeting agenda. District Directors, where the meetings are held, will share the responsibilities in conducting these meetings.
- c. The same general agenda will be used for all District Meetings each year.
- d. The District Meeting Planning Procedures guide covers additional details and responsibilities.
- e. Financing of the District Meeting.
- f. District meetings shall be self-supporting.
- g. Income is derived from registration fees and the overrides on meals.
- h. Surplus funds, from registration fees and overrides on meals, shall be sent to the Region Treasurer to be deposited in the Region general fund.
- i. A Financial report of the meeting shall be sent to the District Director, the Region Co-Treasurers, and the Co-Governors no later than December 1st.
- j. Only the region may conduct a fundraiser at District Meetings.

SECTION 6.05 REGION CONFERENCES

- a. Responsibilities of the Co-Governors
 - i. The Co-Governors are responsible for approval of all plans and for setting the (agenda) program of the conference, in conjunction with the Region Board.

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- ii. The Co-Governors and Conference chair or Co-chair shall confer with the site representative to finalize lodging costs, meals, meeting rooms, etc.
 - iii. The Co-Governors and those individuals involved in planning the conference shall prepare the Conference Budget.
 - iv. The Co-Governors shall appoint a Parliamentarian for the conference.
 - v. The Co-Governors appoint a Credentials Committee of at least two members of the conference.
 - vi. The Committee shall verify the credentials of the voting members of the conference and report each day the number of voting members and others registered.
 - vii. A copy of the report shall be provided to the Region Secretary.
 - viii. In the year of elections, the Co-Governors appoint an Election Committee, one from each district and a Chair
 - ix. The Governor appoints a three-member committee, one from each district and a Chair, to approve the minutes of the conference.
- b. Responsibilities of the Conference Chair and/or Co-Chair
- i. Serve(s) as liaison between the Hostess Club and the Co-Governors.
 - ii. Notifies all clubs in January that they must send the mandatory registration fees for the two delegates due for conference by the established whether or not any of the club members plan to attend.
 - iii. Shall compile and distribute the call to Region Conference 60 days prior to the conference to the following:
 - Region Governor
 - Region Clubs
 - Region Officers
 - District Directors
 - Region Committee Chairs
 - Past Governors
 - SIA Headquarters
- Also, to:
- Each Region Governor in the US & Canada
 - SIA Federation President
 - Area 11 Electoral Representative to the SIA Board
 - SIA Federation Board visitor
 - Others as requested by the Governor
- c. Finance of the Conferences
- i. Region Conferences shall be self-supporting.
 - ii. Income is derived from the registration fees and overrides on the meals.
 - iii. Only the Region or Hostess Club may do a fundraiser at Region Conference.
 - iv. The expenses for the Call to Conference, mailing of the Conference minutes, postage for thank you letters, the printed Conference program, the Memorial Service expense, the first-time attendees gifts, the flowers (if any), and Conference committee expense, are to be paid from the income of the conference.
 - v. The Secretary's expenses are paid by the region.
 - vi. Registration, meals and lodging for the Federation guest will be paid by the region.
 - vii. Surplus funds from spring conference registration fees and overrides on meals will be sent to the Region Treasurer to be deposited in the general fund.

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- viii. A report will be filed and mailed to the Governor and Region Treasurer by the date of June 15th immediately following the conference.
- d. Conference Location
 - i. Conference location shall rotate among the District to District. The location for conference is selected by the Region Board. Conferences are planned by the Region Board under the direction of the Region Co-Governors.

7 AMENDMENTS

SECTION 7.01 AMENDING BYLAWS

- a. Bylaw amendments and resolutions may be proposed by the Region Board or its members or by the Laws and Resolution (L&R) Region Committee at any time throughout the club/fiscal year.
- b. A club may propose a bylaw change after it has been discussed and voted on by a quorum of the club. A 2/3 vote shall be sufficient to allow passage.
- c. Proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions shall be presented in writing to the Region Co-Governors and L&R Committee by November 15th
- d. All proposed bylaw amendments and resolutions must be accompanied by a written rationale for the action and a statement of the financial impact on the region should the amendment be passed.
- e. Upon receipt of the proposed amendment, the L&R Chair shall forward the document to SIA Headquarters for their perusal, comment, and approval.
- f. The Region Secretary or representative will publish the proposed amendment or resolution in the Call to Conference, including the stated rationale and financial impact statements.
- g. The proposed amendment(s) will be presented to the Conference body for discussion and vote. A 2/3 vote of the delegates will be needed for passage. Unless otherwise specified, the bylaw or resolution shall be deemed effective on July 1st at the start of the new club year.
- h. The Region Secretary will send the updated bylaws to SIA Headquarters following any amendment.

SECTION 7.02 AMENDING PROCEDURES

- a. Any member or club may propose a change to these procedures.
- b. The Region Board is authorized to change these procedures with a 2/3 vote of the Board.