



## Past District Governors of Wisconsin

RATIFIED February 14, 2004  
Amended on September 7, 2013  
Updated July 1, 2019  
**Updated May 6, 2022**  
**Updated June 11, 2024**

### **CONSTITUTION**

#### ARTICLE I

##### **NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

The name of this organization shall be Wisconsin Lions Past District Governors Organization. It shall be referred to hereinafter as the Past District Governors Organization.

#### ARTICLE II

##### **OBJECTS AND PURPOSES**

The Past District Governors Organization (PDGO) is an Affiliate of the Wisconsin Lions Multiple District 27 and is both honorary and advisory in scope and purpose.

The purpose of the PDGO is to promote Lionism through the Lions Clubs of Wisconsin. The PDGO shall work in cooperation with the State Council of Governors and the Boards of Directors of both the Wisconsin Lions Foundation and the Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin.

The PDGO shall not participate in or promote any individual project for the benefit of Lionism without the approval of the State Council of Governors.

The Objects of the PDGO shall be the same as the Objects and Code of Ethics of Lions Clubs International (Article II of the LCI Constitution).

#### ARTICLE III

##### **MEMBERSHIP**

Any Lion member in good standing in their Club who has previously served as District Governor, and has received the title of Past District Governor, shall be eligible for membership. Only members who have paid the annual dues prescribed in the By-Laws shall be considered active members and have the privilege to vote and to participate in the business affairs of the Past District Governors.

Only active members shall hold office or be candidates for any office of the PDGO.

ARTICLE IV  
**AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended at the next regular meeting of the PDGO following the publication of the proposed changes to the current membership, by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the active members present and voting.

**BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I  
**MEETINGS**

**Section 1 – Meetings:**

There shall be a minimum of three (3) meetings of the PDGO each year. There shall be a fall meeting, a winter meeting, and a meeting to be held during the Lions of Wisconsin Multiple District Convention. Meetings shall be called by the President. In the event of illness of the President, or the President is unable to serve, then the Vice President or succeeding officer shall assume authority to call the meeting.

**Section 2 – Notice of Meetings:**

The President or Secretary shall give at least ten (10) days written notice to all active members of any regular or special meeting called by the President.

**Section 3 – Place and Time of Meeting:**

The President shall designate the time and place of all meetings, making it as convenient as possible for all members to attend.

**Section 4 – Quorum:**

A quorum shall be the total number of members in good standing present at the meeting.

**Section 5 – Order of Business:**

The order of business of all meetings of the PDGO is recommended to be as follows:

- a. Call to Order
- b. Pledge to Flag and Song
- c. Prayer – silent or audible
- d. Roll call – Secretary
- e. Reading of minutes of the previous meeting – Secretary
- f. Financial Report – Treasurer
- g. Correspondence
- h. Reports – Committee Chairman and others
- i. Unfinished business
- j. New Business
- k. Approval of Expenditures – Treasurer
- l. Announcements
- m. Adjournment

**Section 6 - Rules:**

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Roberts' Rules of Order.

ARTICLE II  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1 – Members:**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the:

- a. President
- b. Vice- President
- c. Secretary/Historian
- d. Treasurer
- e. Sergeant-at-Arms/Lion Tamer
- f. Immediate Past President – Ex Officio

There shall be one officer from each letter District on the Board at all times.

**Section 2 – Rotation of Officers:**

In order to achieve equal representation amongst the letter Districts while recognizing the tenure of the existing board members, the order of rotation of officers shall follow the order as outlined in Attachment A. Thereafter, the officers shall advance in the order of their office with an election for the office of Sergeant-at-Arms/Lion Tamer from the letter District of the outgoing President.

**Section 3 – Term of Office:**

The term of office shall be from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

**Section 4 – Vacancies:**

If a vacancy should occur, an election to fill the vacant office (except President) shall occur at the next scheduled PDGO meeting following notice of the vacancy. The vacancy shall be filled by an active member from the letter District of the departing officer. Until the vacant office is filled, the duties of the vacant office will remain vacant until the following year. In the interim, the VP will cover the duties of both offices.

A vacancy for President will only be filled if a member from the same lettered District can be obtained who has been active during the previous year and is knowledgeable of the duties. If none can be found, the office will remain vacant until the following year. In the interim, the VP will cover the duties of both offices.

**Section 5 – Election of Officers:**

Election of vacant offices shall be held annually at the meeting held during the Lions of Wisconsin Multiple District 27 Convention.

ARTICLE III  
**DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1 – President:**

- a. Shall preside at all meetings of the Board and Membership.
- b. Shall see that all actions by the Board and by the PDGO are carried out.
- c. Shall serve as the PDGO's representative at meetings of the Council of Governors.  
Reimbursement to attend such meetings shall be paid according to the current Lions Clubs International Rules of Audit.

**Section 2 – Vice President:**

- a. Shall have the responsibility for heading up the planning and coordination of the seminars for the State Lions Convention.
- b. Shall perform the duties of the President when the President is unable to serve for any reason.
- c. Shall perform such additional duties as may be prescribed by the President, Board of Directors, or by these By-Laws.

**Section 3 – Secretary/Historian:**

- a. Shall issue all notices of meetings.
- b. Shall prepare and keep an accurate record of the minutes of all regular and any special meetings.
- c. Shall send a copy of all minutes to each member in good standing.
- d. Shall compile and maintain a ledger of the PDGO's activities, listing of officers, photographs, etc. from original concept to current date.
- e. Shall provide notice of eligibility to those districts eligible to bring candidates for office.
- f. Shall perform such additional duties as may be prescribed by the Board or by these By-Laws.

**Section 4 – Treasurer:**

- a. Shall keep an accurate accounting of all receipts and expenditures of the PDGO.
- b. Shall pay bills only when approved by the Board of Directors.
- c. Shall receive all monies for dues and activities; keep a current record of all membership payments; and keep current listings of the members and their addresses.
- d. Shall prepare and make reports to the Board and the Past District Governors on receipts and expenditures as directed by the President or the Board.
- e. Shall maintain a sub-accounting of Lifetime Dues and make reports of the sub-account's status to the Board and Past District Governors.
- f. Shall sign all checks.
- g. Shall ensure that annual dues notices are sent to all Wisconsin PDGs in August of each year.
- h. Shall oversee an annual audit of the PDGO financial books, before transitioning to the next Treasurer.
- i. Shall perform such additional duties as may be prescribed by the Board or by these By-Laws.

**Section 5 – Sergeant-at-Arms/Lion Tamer:**

- a. Shall be responsible for all meeting setups as directed by the President or the PDGO.
- b. Shall be responsible for the maintenance of proper decorum during all meetings and functions.
- c. Shall perform such additional duties as may be prescribed by the Board.

ARTICLE IV  
**COMMITTEES**

The President of the PDGO shall have authority to appoint committees as deemed necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of the PDGO.

ARTICLE V  
**DUES**

Dues for the PDGO shall be paid to the Treasurer in one of the following ways:

- a. Annual dues for the period of July 1 – June 30 shall be established each year at the winter meeting. Change of dues shall require a simple majority affirmative vote by those present and shall be payable in advance by July 1 of each year. Current dues, as of July 1, 2010, are \$15.00.
- b. Lifetime dues – to be assessed once. Currently, they are \$150, as of July 1, 2010. These monies shall be placed in a special interest-bearing account. Each fiscal year the Treasurer shall remove from this account an amount equal to the number of active lifetime members times the annual \$15 assessment, to be placed in the Treasurer account. All remaining lifetime money shall remain in the special account. Active lifetime members shall be defined as any lifetime dues-paying member that has attended at least one meeting in the past three years. Any non-active members shall automatically reestablish active status by simply attending any regular meeting of the PDGO.

ARTICLE VI  
**AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be amended at the next regular meeting of the PDGO following the publication of the proposed changes to the current membership, by a simple majority affirmative vote of the active members present and voting.

**ATTACHMENT A**

The order of rotation for the composition of the Board of Directors as referenced in Article II, Section 2 of the By-Laws shall be as follows:

**2012-13**

President – Virgil Thompson D2  
Vice President – John Schwab E2  
Secretary – Debbie Schwanz A1  
Treasurer – Dave Sievert B2  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Duane Habrat C1  
Past President – Stan Carlson C1

#### 2013-14

President – Dan Gaeu E2  
Vice President – Debbie Schwanz A1  
Secretary – Dave Sievert B2  
Treasurer – Duane Habrat C1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Dierk Van Cleef D1  
Past President – Virgil Thompson D2

#### 2014-15

President - Dave Hempel A1  
Vice President - Dave Sievert B2  
Secretary – Duane Habrat C1  
Treasurer – Dierk Van Cleef D1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Ron Edlund E1  
Past President – Dan Gaeu E2

#### 2015-16

President – Dave Sievert B2  
Vice President – Duane Habrat C1  
Secretary – Dierk Van Cleef D1  
Treasurer – Ron Edlund E1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Jerry Wille A2  
Past President – Dave Hempel A1

#### 2016-17

President – Duane Habrat C1  
Vice President – Dierk Van Cleef D1  
Secretary – Ron Edlund E1  
Treasurer – Jerry Wille A2  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Ken Wallander B1  
Past President – Dave Sievert B2

#### 2017-18

President - Dierk Van Cleef D1  
Vice President – Ron Edlund E1  
Secretary – Jerry Wille A2  
Treasurer – Ken Wallander B1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Dennis Knott C2  
Past President – Duane Habrat C1

#### 2018-19

President – Ron Edlund E1  
Vice President – Jerry Wille A2  
Secretary – Dick Helbach B2  
Treasurer – Dennis Knott C2  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Eric Holthaus D1  
Past President – Ron Edlund E1

**2019-20**

President – Jerry Wille A2  
Vice President – Dick Helbach B2  
Secretary – Dennis Knott C2  
Treasurer – Eric Holthaus D1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Connie LeCleur-Meyer E2  
Past President – Ron Edlund E1

**2020-21**

President – Dick Helbach B2  
Vice President – Dennis Knott C2  
Secretary – Eric Holthaus D1  
Treasurer – Connie LeCleur-Meyer E2  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Greg Pryor A1  
Past President – Jerry Wille A2

**2021-22**

President – Dennis Knott C2  
Vice President – Eric Holthaus D1  
Secretary – Connie LeCleur-Meyer E2  
Treasurer – Greg Pryor A1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Dave Lee B1  
Past President – Dick Helbach B2

**2022-23**

President – Eric Holthaus D1  
Vice President – Connie LeCleur-Meyer E2  
Secretary – Greg Pryor A1  
Treasurer – Dave Lee B1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Evett Hartvig C1  
Past President – Dennis Knott C2

**2023-24**

President – Connie LeCleur-Meyer E2  
Vice President – Greg Pryor A1  
Secretary – Dave Lee B1  
Treasurer – Evett Hartvig C1  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Tim McClain D2  
Past President – Eric Holthaus D1

**2024-25**

President – Greg Pryor A1  
Vice President – Dave Lee B1  
Secretary – Evett Hartvig C1  
Treasurer – Tim McClain D2  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Lee Vrieze E1  
Past President – Connie LeCleur-Meyer E2