

League of Women Voters of King County South  
**BYLAWS**  
As amended May 7, 2005

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of King County South hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVKCS, or the League. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVUS, and of the League of Women Voters of Washington (LWVWA).

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES AND POLICY

*Section 1. Purposes:* The purposes of the League of Women Voters of King County South are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

*Section 2. Political Policy:* The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

*Section 1. Eligibility:* Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

*Section 2. Types of Membership:*

- a. **Voting Members.** Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of the local League, state League and of the LWVUS; (1) individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that local League, or any other local League; (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large; (3) those who make a lump-sum life membership payment to LWVUS shall be paid life members and those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.
- b. **Associate Members.** All others who join the League shall be associate members.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

*Section 1. Election, Qualifications and Term of Officers:* The officers of LWVKCS shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. They shall be voting members of the LWVKCS who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an annual meeting, and take office on July 1 following the annual meeting. The president, and the secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The vice-president and the treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

- a. The office of president may be held by multiple people, each of whom shall be responsible for the duties of the office of president, and each shall be authorized to perform all of the duties of that office as though she/he were the sole person elected to perform that position.
- b. Whenever the term “president” is used in these bylaws, it shall include in its meaning the term co-presidents, who are two persons serving in a joint and several capacity, as well as the term rotating presidents, who are multiple people serving serially or jointly.

*Section 2. The President:* The president shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the board of directors; may, in the absence or disability of the treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes; shall be ex-officio, a member of all committees except the nominating committee; shall have such powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the president and perform such other duties as may be designated by the board.

*Section 3. **The Vice President:*** The vice-president shall, in the event of absence, disability, resignation, or death of the president, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office until such time as the board shall select one of its members to fill the vacancy. The vice-president shall perform such other duties as the president and the board may designate.

*Section 4. **The Secretary:*** The secretary shall keep minutes of all formal meetings of the League and of all meetings of the board; shall notify all officers and directors of their election; shall sign, with the president, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

*Section 5. **The Treasurer:*** The treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due: shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the board, shall invest them as directed by the board, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the board; shall present statements to the board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the annual meeting, and shall arrange for periodic audits or reviews of the books.

#### ARTICLE V – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Section 1. **Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office:*** The board of directors shall consist of the officers of the League, six elected directors, and not more than six appointed directors. All directors shall be voting members of the LWVKCS. One-half of the elected directors shall be elected by the general membership at each annual meeting and shall serve, beginning July 1 following the annual meeting, a term of two years. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year, beginning July 1 following the annual meeting. Vacancies other than the presidency may be filled by approval of the remaining members of the board.

*Section 2. **Powers and Duties:*** The board shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instructions of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the national convention, the state convention, and the annual meeting. The board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary. It shall select delegates to state convention and council, national convention, and to any appropriate inter-League organization.

*Section 3. **Executive Committee.*** The board may appoint an executive committee consisting of no fewer than three members of the board. The executive committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the board and shall report to the board on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board.

*Section 4. **Meetings:*** There shall be at least nine regular meeting of the board annually. The president may call special meetings of the board and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the board. Three consecutive absences from a Board Meeting of any members without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.

*Section 5. **Quorum:*** A majority of members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

*Section 1. **Membership Meetings:*** There shall be at least two meetings of general membership each year; time and place shall be determined by the board.

*Section 2. **Annual Meeting:*** An annual meeting shall be held in May — the exact date, time and place to be determined by the board. A formal call shall be sent to all members at least one month in advance. The annual meeting shall adopt a local program for the ensuing year; elect officers and directors, the chair and two members of the nominating committee; adopt an adequate budget; approve any proposed bylaw changes; and transact such other business as may properly come before it. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

*Section 3. **Quorum:*** 10% of the voting members shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of LWVKCS.

#### ARTICLE VII – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

*Section 1. **Nominating Committee:*** The nominating committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the board of directors. The chair and two members, who shall not be members of the board, shall be elected at the annual meeting. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current nominating committee. The other members shall be appointed by the board immediately following the annual meeting. Any vacancy on the nominating committee shall be filled by the board of directors. Suggestions for nominations for officers and directors may be sent to this committee by any voting member.

*Section 2. **Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor:*** The report of the nominating committee and its nominations for officers, directors, and the chair and two members of the succeeding nominating committee shall be sent to all members two weeks prior to the date of the annual meeting. The report of the nominating committee shall be presented to the annual meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

*Section 3. **Elections:*** The election shall be by voice vote, or ballot if the will of the body is not clear. A majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election.

#### ARTICLE VIII – PRINCIPLES AND PROGRAM

*Section 1. **Principles:*** The Principles are concepts of government adopted by the national convention and supported by the League as a whole. They are the authorization for adoption of national, state, and local program.

*Section 2. **Program Selection:*** Members shall select governmental issues for concerted study and action using the following procedures:

- a. Voting members resident within the jurisdiction(s) of the local governments(s) concerned may make recommendations to the board at least two months before the annual meeting.
- b. A proposed program shall be formulated by the board from recommendations presented by voting members. Such proposed program shall be presented to all members two weeks prior to the annual meeting.
- c. Issues that relate to (a) specific jurisdiction(s) in the program as presented to the annual meeting by the board shall require for adoption a majority vote of members resident within the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned, followed by a majority vote of concurrence by members residing outside the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned.
- d. Recommendations for program submitted by members resident within the jurisdictions(s) of the local government(s) concerned but not included in the program recommended by the board may be considered by the annual meeting provided that:
  - (1) they were submitted two months before the annual meeting,
  - (2) the annual meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote of members present who are resident with the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned, (3) the annual meeting shall adopt the item by a two-thirds vote of the members resident within the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned, and followed by a two-thirds vote of concurrence of the members resident outside the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned.

*Section 4. **Changes in Program.*** Changes in program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that:

- a. Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is discussed.
- b. Final action by the membership resident within the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s) concerned is taken at a succeeding meeting, with concurrence by the membership residing outside the jurisdiction(s) of the local government(s).

*Section 5. **Member Action:*** Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the president or the board of directors.

*Section 6. Action:* LWVKCS may act only in conformity with, or not contrary to the position taken by the LWVUS, state and inter-league organizations.

#### ARTICLE IX – FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

*Section 1. **Fiscal Year:*** The fiscal year of LWVKCS shall commence on the first day of July each year (effective April 1, 1993).

*Section 2: **Dues:*** Annual dues shall be set by a majority membership vote at the annual meeting and shall be payable on the first day of July of each year. First year's payment shall be prorated from the month of joining to July 1. Any member who fails to pay dues within two months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls. When two members reside at the same address in a common household, a payment equal to one and one-half times the payment determined by the annual meeting may be made.

*Section 3. **Budget Committee:*** A budget committee shall be appointed by the board at least two months prior to the annual meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting. The treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chair of the budget committee, but must be a member of the committee.

#### ARTICLE X – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

#### ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.