

## Policy revisions adopted by the Kiwanis International Board October 28, 2017

### POLICY B. INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

#### **23. Endorsement of Candidates for Kiwanis International Offices**

- a. Per the Kiwanis International Bylaws, all candidates to be elected at the Kiwanis International convention, including those for President-Elect and President, must be endorsed by their district house of delegates.
- b. District endorsement does not apply to persons appointed to fill vacancies in Board offices.
- c. All candidates are requested to advise the Executive Director in writing of their intentions to run on or before October 1 of the administrative year during which the election will be held. However, as provided in the bylaws, candidates have the right to announce later.
- d. Governors who wish to be candidates when they are immediate past governor must secure district endorsement while they are governor. However, informing Kiwanis International of such endorsement shall not be considered effective until October 1 when the candidate becomes Immediate past governor.
- e. District house endorsement shall take place at the district convention immediately prior to the administrative year of the candidate's announcement to Kiwanis International to run for office. (Example: A candidate planning to announce Oct. 1, 2018, to run at the 2019 Kiwanis International convention must be endorsed at the district's convention held during the 2017-18 administrative year.)
- f. District endorsement shall be considered effective only for the office and election year stated in the endorsement. Endorsements may not be made for future years and shall not be considered valid after the administrative year of the stated election.
- g. If necessary due to timing constraints and if pre-approved by Kiwanis International, districts may endorse candidates for more than one election.
- h. If a district board believes the district has circumstances which make it impossible for its house to endorse a candidate, the bylaws allow that the district board may petition the Kiwanis International Board to allow the district board to make the endorsement. In such cases, endorsement may only be given by the district board in authority during the administrative year during which the election will be held. (Note that the word "petition" refers to a formal written request, but not one with multiple signatures.)

The Kiwanis International Board shall determine whether a circumstance is considered “impossible.” Such circumstances are extremely rare and do not include the following examples.

- Emergency conditions that require cancellation of the district’s scheduled annual convention. Instead, the district should follow its district bylaws to hold a make-up convention or district council where proper endorsement may and should take place.
  - A candidate doesn’t decide to run until after the district convention takes place.
  - The candidate or the district believes it is easier, for any reason, to secure district board endorsement.
  - Any assumptions related to the timing of endorsement and announcement that have not been verified in advance with Kiwanis International.
- i. Districts may not endorse more than one candidate for the same office at the same election.
- j. Candidates may not campaign outside their own districts until the beginning of the administrative year during which the election will be held.
- k. The Executive Director is charged with determining all questions related to candidates, in accordance with the spirit of existing provisions in the bylaws and policies, and may consult the International President and/or Campaign Ethics Committee as he/she deems advisable. However, in all cases, the Kiwanis International Board has the final authority to decide any questions related to candidates.