

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE KIWANIS
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF DELEGATES

JUNE 24, 2023



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CONVENTION 2023
MINNEAPOLIS

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themselves, addressing and solving challenges we can't yet imagine. Let's continue to be the best service organization in the world for the next 100 years.

Amend Kiwanis International bylaw provisions as follows:

ARTICLE XXII. REVENUE

Section 1. Subject to Sections 2 and 3 of this Article, each club shall pay to Kiwanis International for each member, with the exception of those holding life member status, the sum of ~~fifty-two dollars (US \$52)~~ eighty-two dollars (US \$82) per annum. Such sum shall be based on each club's annual membership report as of September 30 of each year and shall be due annually on October 1 and payable by November 30. (6/2015)

Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall adjust the dues from the clubs in any country where the Gross National Income per capita is less than ten thousand dollars (US \$10,000) as reported by the World Bank. The schedule for payment shall be as follows: (6/2015)

- Tier A: Countries with per capita income US \$10,000 or more ~~pay US\$52~~ shall pay the amount stated in Section 1. (6/2015)
- Tier B: Countries with per capita income US \$5,000 to US \$9,999 shall pay ~~US\$34~~ US\$54.
- Tier C: Countries with per capita income US \$4,999 or less shall pay ~~US\$23~~ US\$36.



To all Kiwanis clubs

March 2023

One proposed amendment to the Kiwanis International Bylaws will be presented for action at the 2023 Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S. This amendment will be considered and voted on at the House of Delegates on Saturday, June 24. Complete information is included in this booklet.

In accordance with the provisions of the Kiwanis International Bylaws, this proposal is being sent to the secretary of each chartered club 90 days prior to the convention.

The current provisions of each bylaws article and section are shown. Text that would be added by the proposed amendment is underlined (underlined), and text that would be deleted is lined out (~~lined out~~).

Example:

Original wording: Each club may hold a program.

Proposed changes: Each club ~~may~~ shall hold a an annual program.

New wording: Each club shall hold an annual program.

This year, Kiwanis will also consider adoption of the Kiwanis International Bylaws Modernization Revision. The complete modernization revision proposal is available as a separate document posted on the convention web page at [kiwanis.org/convention/2023-convention/elections-amendments](https://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2023-convention/elections-amendments). Be sure to review that information as well.

We hope each club will send two delegates to this convention, ensuring that important decisions on the organization's future are made by a wide array of Kiwanians. We look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'SD Soderstrom'.

Stan D. Soderstrom
Executive Director

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AT A GLANCE

(Per Robert's Rules of Order—Newly Revised)

Please note: As stated in Standing Rule 5, anyone wishing to make a change to a proposed amendment (making an amendment to a motion) is required to submit the change in writing, in English, to the executive director (or designee) before going to the microphone. This ensures your change will be reflected accurately.

Putting a motion on the floor: To make a motion or an amendment to a motion, the maker should go to the microphone, be recognized by the presiding officer (the Kiwanis International president), state their name and club, and then state the motion (or amendment to the motion). The motion (or amendment) must be seconded from the floor. The presiding officer then places the motion (or amendment) before the House for discussion. The club delegate may speak to the motion (or amendment) first. *Note:* Once a motion is placed before the House by the presiding officer, it is under the control of the House and does not belong to the delegate making the motion. For example, it cannot be withdrawn later without permission of the House.

Seconds to motions: It is not necessary to agree with a motion to second it. A second only implies that more than one person wishes to *discuss* the motion. Therefore, if a motion is coming from the Kiwanis International Board or a committee, it does not need a second from the floor.

Amendments to motions: Bylaw amendments are main motions. A main motion that is on the floor may have two amendments pending at one time. However, the first amendment must relate to the main motion, and the second amendment must relate to the first amendment to the motion.

Referring: A motion to refer to a committee can be made while a main motion or an amendment to a main motion is pending. A motion to refer should only be used if problems are identified with the content of the motion that indicate more study or adjustments are needed. A referral should not be made without instructions regarding what aspects are to be addressed before the motion is brought back to the House. Referral should not be used to kill the motion on the floor or to put off a difficult decision. If a delegate does not like a motion, they should simply vote against it. (*Note:* It takes a majority vote either to refer or defeat a motion.)

- The global slowdown and inflation crisis, along with the lingering effects of the pandemic, are impacting the financial health of many businesses and organizations, including Kiwanis.
- The board is always looking for ways to add value and control costs. Adjustments were considered prior to the pandemic, but priorities shifted with the challenges brought on by COVID-19. The board has made strategic decisions to control spending. Operating budgets have been reduced. Programs have been cut. Staff reductions have taken place and the amount spent on salaries and benefits continues to decrease. Vendor contracts have been reviewed and renegotiated. In fact, Kiwanis spends nearly US\$4 million less each year than it did 15 years ago. But we cannot cut our way out of this crisis. We have been lucky to be able to delay any increase in dues, but we are now forced to make changes. Doing nothing is not an option.
- Kiwanis International partners with businesses and organizations to raise non-dues revenue but these revenue streams have not made a significant impact on the organization's bottom line. Kiwanis continues to explore sponsorship and advertising opportunities but historically, these have not provided significant revenue.
- The proposed dues amount aligns Kiwanis International with many of its peer service organizations, which charge an average amount of US\$82 per member, as follows:
 - Civitan International: US\$72
 - Cosmopolitan International: US\$100
 - Lions Clubs International: US\$50¹
 - Optimist International: US\$82.58²
 - Rotary International: US\$82¹
 - Sertoma: US\$105
 - Soroptimist International: US\$74
 - Zonta International: US\$88
- Historically, dues increases have not led to a decrease in club membership. Member satisfaction with their club experience, positive networking opportunities and community-service impact have always been reported as the top factors in deciding to join or leave a club.
- Kiwanis clubs globally are continuing to develop future generations of healthy children ready to learn, lead and make a difference for generations to come — generations who will become leaders

¹ By 2025

² US\$42.95 for clubs in developing nations

Proposed Amendment Kiwanis International Dues Adjustment

Submitted by: Kiwanis International Board of Trustees

Purpose: To adjust the Kiwanis International dues amount.

Effective date: October 1, 2023

Vote required to adopt: Two-thirds

Financial impact: The proposed dues amounts for Tiers A, B and C will bring in projected additional revenue of US\$4.9 million annually. Combined with careful ongoing cost reductions, this will have a significant impact on reducing future deficits and helping to ensure the long-term financial health of the organization.

Board's position. The Kiwanis International Board advocates this amendment for the following reasons:

- Delegates at this convention have an urgent matter to vote on — how to address a growing budget deficit.
- The annual dues members pay to their clubs is composed of Kiwanis International dues, district dues, and club dues. Kiwanis International dues are used to support clubs, divisions and districts with leadership education, training events, printed and digital resources, translation and interpretation in eight core languages, technology and digital products, global marketing, public relations and legal services. Dues also support our Service Leadership Programs: Key Club, Circle K International, Aktion Club, Builders Club, and K-Kids. A dues adjustment will also allow Kiwanis International to continue to invest in club openings and provide resources and education to members, clubs and districts.
- Kiwanis International dues were last adjusted in 2015. Since that time, we've seen an overall decrease in membership and a decline in dues revenue of -14%, which equates to US\$1.42 million annually. Since 2015, the cost of living has increased by 33% in the U.S. and even more in other parts of the Kiwanis world. During the same period, our purchasing power has eroded by -22%, we've seen our IT and cyber costs increase by 76%, and legal costs have increased by 400%. Eroded purchasing power means we are paying more for much less than we did eight years ago.
- Kiwanis International has been operating with a budget deficit since 2015. Since the bylaws do not allow the board to adjust dues in small amounts for annual inflation, we have had to rely on a strong economy and solid investment returns to cover operating costs. However, under the current and forecasted conditions, the investments and reserves will be depleted if they continue to be used to cover deficits.

Closing debate or calling the question (same motion): A delegate must go to a microphone and wait for recognition to move to close debate or call the question. To proceed, the motion must receive a second. There is no discussion, and it takes a two-thirds (2/3) vote. If the motion to close debate or call the question is approved, there will be an immediate vote on the pending motion.

Postponing or tabling a motion: A motion to postpone can be made while a main motion or an amendment to a main motion is pending. A motion to table (or to "lay on the table") is used only in an emergency; it should not be used to kill the motion on the floor or to postpone consideration of the motion. If a delegate does not like the motion, they should simply vote against it. If a delegate believes there is good reason to discuss the motion later, they can move to postpone. There is no such motion as "table until [X] time." Instead, the correct motion would be "postpone until [X] time." A motion cannot be postponed until the next annual convention.

Point of order: If a delegate believes there was a breach of parliamentary procedure, they may call for a point of order. If the point of order refers to an action made by someone other than the presiding officer, the delegate should give the presiding officer time to address the problem before interrupting with the point of order. If a delegate cannot reach a microphone in a timely manner, they may shout "point of order" from their place while approaching a microphone.

Point of information: A delegate should call for a point of information if they wish to *request* information. To ask for a point of information, go to a microphone and let the sergeant know you wish to do so. If the delegate wants to *provide* information, they may only do so by being recognized for debate.

Questions: If a delegate wishes to make a motion and is not sure how to proceed, the delegate should ask the presiding officer. Any questions or concerns about the process used during the House of Delegates must be made known and addressed *during* the session. Questions or concerns cannot be addressed *after* the session.

STANDING RULES FOR THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Rule 1: The official language of this Convention shall be English. Simultaneous interpretations may be made available, as designated in the official program.

Rule 2: Only delegates may present or speak on motions and vote.

Rule 3: Only delegates may be seated in the area designated for delegates.

Rule 4: The House of Delegates shall allow delegates to leave and re-enter; however, ballot (written or electronic) shall not leave the House. Delegates leaving the House early must surrender their ballots to an Elections Committee volunteer at the pass-out door; ballots will be returned to delegates upon re-entry to the House. In no case will a delegate be allowed to cast a ballot for any votes conducted in their absence.

Rule 5: Any main motion or amendment shall be written in English, signed by the maker and seconder, and presented to the executive director or designee before it is moved.

Rule 6: No delegate may speak in debate more than two (2) minutes at a time unless allowed to do so by a majority vote of the delegates.

Rule 7: No delegate may address the assembly a second time on the same question until all other delegates who desire to speak on the topic have spoken.

Rule 8: The maker of a motion shall be entitled to speak first in support of such motion or may immediately yield the floor to another delegate.

Rule 9: Microphones shall be designated by number. Speakers for the main motion shall use the odd-numbered microphones, and speakers against the main motion shall use the even-numbered microphones. Debate on each issue will begin at microphone one and the chair will then recognize each microphone in sequence.

Rule 10: A delegate shall not speak for or against a motion and move to close debate on the same recognition.

Rule 11: An assistant Sergeant at Arms shall be positioned at each microphone to relay to the chair priority motions, such as a point of order, a point of information, etc. Any microphone may be used to make priority or secondary motions.

Rule 12: Debate on main motions (i.e., any resolution or proposed amendment to the bylaws) shall be limited to 15 minutes, at which time the vote shall be taken on the resolution or amendment, unless the House, by a majority vote, orders debate to be extended. Debate on debatable secondary motions from the floor, such as amendments or motions to refer, shall be limited to five (5) minutes, which shall not apply to the 15-minute limit on debate on the main motion. Debate may be

closed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote on any immediately pending motion or series of motions at any time.

Rule 13: If the submitting body wishes to withdraw a motion after it has been moved and seconded, the House, by a majority vote, may grant permission for withdrawal.

Rule 14: Subject to the discretion of the chair, no proposed amendment to the bylaws shall be introduced later than 15 minutes before the scheduled adjournment of any session.

Rule 15: Candidates for the offices of Kiwanis International President and President-Elect may have one (1) nominating speech not to exceed three (3) minutes.

Rule 16: Candidates for the office of International Vice President shall have a nomination not to exceed one (1) minute, and each candidate shall have up to five (5) minutes to personally address the House of Delegates. In the event of a run-off election, each of the candidates involved shall return to the stage before the second ballot to present remarks not to exceed two (2) minutes.

Rule 17: Candidates for the office of trustee shall have a nomination, the content of which shall include only: (a) the nominator's name and club; and (b) the name of the candidate and the office the candidate is seeking. Each candidate shall have up to three (3) minutes to personally address the House of Delegates.

Rule 18: Candidates whose remarks require interpretation shall be allowed no more than twice the normal time limit for the presentation of their remarks and interpretation combined. Candidates must provide their own interpreters.

Rule 19: In any election where the number of candidates is equal to the number of seats to be elected, the election may be held by voice vote.

Rule 20: Any of the above rules may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Rule 21: The most recent edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by the bylaws of Kiwanis International and these standing rules.

Rule 22: The Kiwanis International Board and Staff are authorized to make nonsubstantive corrections that may be necessary as a result of adopting Bylaw amendments that cause unintentional conflicts or inconsistencies in terminology, grammar, numbering, cross-references, etc.