

# **Resolution 2025-01**

## **Update and Clarification of the District Governor Selection Process**

Submitted by the District Advisory Council: PDG Janine McClanahan, Chair, District Governor Jane Winning, District Governor-Elect Jay Hislop, District Governor-Nominee Pete Herrmann, District Governor-Nominee Designate Christine Smith, Past District Governor Don Murphy, Past Club President Ray Call, and Past Club President Doug Fong.

Background: In District 5220, the District Governor is selected by a Nominating Committee. The process, as currently stated in our Policies & Procedures, does not reflect current and/or best practices. We submit this resolution to bring the process in alignment with Rotary International policy and to reflect the District's process.

### **C. SELECTION PROCESSES FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

#### **1) Directives from Rotary International:**

- a. The District shall select a nominee for governor not more than 36 months, but not less than 24 months, prior to the day of taking office. The Rotary International Board shall have authority to extend the date under this section for good and sufficient reason. The nominee will be elected at the RI Convention held immediately preceding the year in which such nominee is to be trained at the International Assembly. Nominees so elected shall serve a one-year term as governor-elect and assume office on 1 July in the calendar year following election.
- b. The Nominating Committee for governor will select one available past governor to be named Vice-Governor. The role of the Vice-Governor will be to replace the governor in case of temporary or permanent inability to continue in the performance of the governor's duties.

#### **2) District Governor Nominating Committee:**

- a. The District Governor Nominating Committee shall be appointed each year by the current District Governor. The number of committee members shall be equal to the number of Areas within the District at the time of the election. Four committee

members shall be PDGs including the Immediate Past District Governor. The remaining members shall be club past presidents. In addition, the District Governor shall select two (2) at-large alternate committee members to serve in the absence of a member of the committee.

i. The immediate Past District Governor shall be appointed Chair of the Nominating Committee.

ii. The District Governor-Elect will be invited to be a non-voting guest.

iii. A quorum (50% + 1) of the committee members shall be present to cast a ballot for the Governor candidates.

b. There shall not be more than one (1) committee member from each area within the district.

i. Committee members shall be appointed to serve for one (1) Rotary year. No Rotarian shall serve two (2) consecutive years on the committee.

ii. Committee members shall be active Rotarians who have served as club president. Additionally, committee members must have served on a club and/or district committee during the two years preceding appointment to the Nominating Committee.

iii. A committee member, other than the Chair, cannot belong to the club of a candidate presenting himself or herself for District Governor. When this situation occurs (at the closing of the application process), an alternate will be designated to replace the individual belonging to the same club as the candidate.

iv. Alternate at-large members shall consist of one (1) Past District Governor and one (1) Past Club President. At-large members may be selected from any "area" within the district, but not from the same club as one of the original appointees to the committee. There shall not be more than two (2) alternate Rotarian and committee members appointed during a Rotary year from the same "area".

3) By April 30, The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall set a date for the Governor selection that allows the successful candidate (DGND) a minimum of 60 days to make plans to attend the next Rotary Zone Institute.

4) At least 60 days prior to the Nominating Committee meeting date, the Chair of the Nominating Committee shall issue a call for candidates for DGND in district communications that includes meeting date, application requirements, application deadline, and the challenge process schedule.

5) Application Requirements – Completed applications are to be sent or delivered to the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

a. In accordance with Section 14.020.4 of the RI Bylaws, a candidate shall be proposed for nomination by their own Club. The proposal shall be submitted in the form of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the club naming the proposed candidate. The resolution shall be certified by the club secretary. A club may propose only one of its members as a candidate.

b. The candidate must meet these requirements (and provide a statement indicating that he or she has met all of these requirements):

i. The Rotarian must be a member in good standing of a functioning club in District 5220;

ii. The Rotarian must have full qualifications for such membership in the strict application of the provisions therefore, and the integrity of the Rotarian's classification must be without question;

iii. The Rotarian must have served as president of a club for a full term or be a charter president of a club having served the full term from the date of charter to 30 June, provided that this period is at least six months;

iv. The Rotarian must demonstrate willingness, commitment, and ability physically and otherwise, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of governor;

v. The Rotarian must demonstrate knowledge of the qualifications, duties, and responsibilities of governor as prescribed in the RI Bylaws; and

vi. The Rotarian shall have been a member of one or more Rotary clubs for at least five years in order that when governor-nominee assumes the office of governor he/she has been a Rotarian for at least seven years.

c. Any Rotarian who engages in campaigning or canvassing for the office shall be subject to disqualification by the District Governor who is the district's officer of Rotary International.

d. It is the intention of the district to seek out and nominate the best-qualified person for the office of governor.

e. Candidates shall submit three copies of their application, including the official RI application form and a resume.

f. Biographical data that should be included in the resume:

- i. Name of candidate, name and location of club, number of years a Rotarian, classification, name of firm or former firm, position in firm or former firm, significant Rotary meetings attended in the last five years, current position(s) or assignments(s) in Rotary, former position(s) or assignments(s) in Rotary;
- ii. Special Rotary services or particular Rotary activities in which the candidate has been engaged (i.e., what the candidate has done to advance Rotary activities);
- iii. Most significant honors or achievements in business and professional activities; and
- iv. Most significant honors or achievements in civic and public service activities.

6) The applications submitted by the candidates for District Governor will be copied and sent out to the members of the Nominating Committee prior to the meeting to select the nominee. All such materials will be deemed to be confidential and only for the use of the Committee.

**7) Nominating Committee Procedures:**

a. The Chair of the Nominating Committee will review all procedures with each candidate immediately after the filing deadline.

b. Each candidate should select a spokesperson to introduce him/her before the Nominating Committee on the day the Committee selects a governor-nominee designate. The spokesperson will meet with the Committee immediately before the Committee interviews the candidate and for a period not longer than five minutes.

c. The nominee will be asked a series of questions by the Nominating Committee related to his or her experiences in Rotary and the job responsibilities associated with being a District Governor. A list of the questions will be determined by a committee made up of the Chair of the Nominating Committee, the District Governor, and the District Governor-elect. The questions will be reviewed by the Nominating Committee on the day of the interviews; members of the Nominating Committee will be provided the opportunity to suggest additional questions to be considered by the Committee prior to meeting with the candidates.

d. All members of the committee will be involved in asking the designated questions of the candidates. The questions will be asked in the same manner to all candidates. Follow-up questions may be asked of individual candidates for the purpose of clarification.

e. There will be no discussion of candidates until all candidates have been interviewed. At the conclusion of interviews, the Chair of the Committee will allow for discussion of candidates and all members of the Committee will be encouraged to participate.

f. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chair will conduct a secret ballot and make the vote known to all members of the committee. The Chair of the Nomination Committee will only vote in case of a tie.

g. In case of one candidate, a majority of the committee will need to approve the candidate as being qualified to serve as District Governor. If the committee determines that the single candidate is not qualified, the Chair of the Nominating Committee will reopen the process to be completed in its entirety by June 30 of the Rotary year. In the case of two candidates, the candidate receiving a majority of the votes of the Committee shall be the nominee. In the case of three or more candidates, if one candidate does not receive a majority of the votes, the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be dropped, and a vote will take place with the remaining candidates. This process will continue until one candidate gets a majority of the votes. At the time of selection, the nominee will be called Governor-Nominee Designate and will assume the title of Governor-Nominee on July 1, two years before serving as District Governor.

h. All documents and notes related to the work of the committee will be turned over to the Committee Chair who will dispose of them after they are no longer needed.

i. Immediately after the District Governor Nominee Designate (DGND) has been selected; the Chair of the Committee shall announce the decision of the committee to the candidates. The Chair of the Committee will notify the District Governor of the candidate selected within 24 hours of the adjournment of the nominating committee. The District Governor will then follow the challenge process outlined in Rotary International Bylaws 12.030, including a ballot-by-mail if necessary. Prior to the meeting of the Nominating Committee, the District Governor will have developed a schedule with timelines for the challenge process and that schedule will have been made available as part of the information provided to candidates.

#### 8) **Vice Governor Selection:**

a) A committee consisting of the District Governor, District Governor Elect and Immediate Past District Governor will meet in advance of the meeting of the nominating committee to develop a list of suggested candidate(s) for Vice Governor. This committee will confirm the availability of all suggested candidates to serve. The final list of available suggested candidate(s) will be submitted by the District Governor to the Nominating Committee Chair. All available suggested candidate(s), having previously served a full term as District Governor, will be deemed qualified to serve.

#### **Role of Vice Governor:**

1. Assume role of Governor in case of his/her temporary or permanent inability to serve.
2. Support District Governor's priorities and plan of action.

3. Stay current with activities and issues in the district.
4. Assist the District Governor if requested to represent him/her at district clubs to possibly make Paul Harris Fellow presentations, New Member Inductions, etc.
5. Attend Pre-PETS to be introduced to presidents-elect and participate as requested by the District Governor.

b) The Nominating Committee Chair will present the candidate(s) to the full committee for final selection.

c) Immediately after the Vice Governor has been selected, the Chair of the Committee will announce the decision of the committee to the candidates. The District Governor will then announce the decision through district communications, including the district website, and the Rotary Times.