

Recap of Recommended District Policy Changes

Section 6(B) District Committee Meetings

Since there is no longer a separate/unique August Executive Committee meeting the Policy Committee recommends deleting the sentence: "The incoming Executive Committee members will be the guests of the District at the August meeting of the Executive Committee."

Current:

"Members of the Executive Committee may request reimbursement for meals at meetings of the District Board or District Executive Committee. In addition, only those Chairpersons or other persons who are specifically requested to be present and report at the meeting may request reimbursement for meals. All others attending shall do so at their personal expense. Past Governors, Past District Secretaries, all current District Chairpersons shall continue to receive notices of all District meetings. The Governor may, with the approval of the majority of its members, change the date of or eliminate any such meetings because of a justifiable reason such as a gasoline shortage, adverse weather or economic reasons."

Revision:

"Members of the Executive Committee may request reimbursement for meals at meetings of the District Board or District Executive Committee. In addition, only those Chairpersons or other persons who are specifically requested to be present and report at the meeting may request reimbursement for meals. All others attending shall do so at their personal expense. Past Governors, Past District Secretaries, all current District Chairpersons shall continue to receive notices of all District meetings. The Governor may, with the approval of the majority of its members, change the date of or eliminate any such meetings because of a justifiable reason such as a gasoline shortage, adverse weather or economic reasons."

Section 18 District Committees (A)

Since the District Budget must be approved by the District Board of Directors the Policy Committee believes that specific restrictions on who should serve on the FINANCE COMMITTEE should be modified. The requirement for one member to have work in the profession of banking, accounting or other finance service should continue to be a requirement, all others should be removed.

Current:

This Committee shall consist of one (1) Past Governor, one (1) Past District Committee Chairman who has at least 3 years of service and one (1) member at large from the District membership who works in the profession of banking, accounting or other finance service.

Revision:

This Committee shall consist three members one of which must work in the profession of banking, accounting or other finance service.

Section 18 District Committees (D)

To align committee title stated within the District Policy with that used in Optimist International language the Policy Committee recommends changing item (D) "Member Services" to CLUB FITNESS"

Current:

"18. DISTRICT COMMITTEES Rotating committees shall consist of three members whose terms of service shall be three years. At the inception of a rotating committee the Governor shall appoint one member for a term of three years, one member for a term of two years, one member for a term of one year, and shall appoint one member of each committee to serve as chairperson. The rotating committees shall be: (A) FINANCE (B) CONVENTION (C) ORATORICAL CONTEST (D) CLUB Fitness (E) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, (F) POLICY. In subsequent years, the Governor Designate will appoint someone to fill the vacated seat, which will be for a three year term. The Governor shall appoint committees as approved by Optimist International and, except for the following; there shall be no restrictions as to who may serve:

Revision:

"18. DISTRICT COMMITTEES Rotating committees shall consist of three members whose terms of service shall be three years. At the inception of a rotating committee the Governor shall appoint one member for a term of three years, one member for a term of two years, one member for a term of one year, and shall appoint one member of each committee to serve as chairperson. The rotating committees shall be: (A) FINANCE (B) CONVENTION (C) ORATORICAL CONTEST (D) CLUB Fitness (E) LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, (F) POLICY. In subsequent years, the Governor Designate will appoint someone to fill the vacated seat, which will be for a three-year term. The Governor shall appoint committees as approved by Optimist International and, except for the following; there shall be no restrictions as to who may serve:

Section 21 (A). FINANCE COMMITTEE – BUDGET

Since there is no longer a unique August Executive Committee meeting the Policy Committee recommends updating the policy to require the Finance Committee to review the budget before the close of the fiscal year. This will insure that the proposed budget is prepared in time for the first quarter meeting.

Current:

Meet with the Governor-Designate and Treasurer to prepare the proposed annual budget which is to be submitted to the district current and incoming executive committee at their annual August meeting. (1) The proposed budget shall be mailed to all members of the executive committee no less than ten (10) calendar days prior to August 31.

Revision:

Meet with the Governor-Designate and Treasurer to prepare the proposed annual budget prior to the end of the current fiscal year. (1) The proposed budget shall be sent to all members of the executive committee no less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the first quarter meeting.

Section 21 (D). FINANCE COMMITTEE – BUDGET

To help control District cost, while still meeting Optimist International requirements, the Policy Committee recommends adopting the additional language that allows for a review committee to review books and provide a report to the District Board of Directors.

Current:

Arrange for an annual review as of 30 September by a CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT as soon as possible after the close of the administrative year, but no later than 30 November

Revision:

An annual review of the books of account of each District as of 30 September shall be performed by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or a review committee, and a report thereon shall be submitted to the District Board of Directors not later than 31 December of each year.

22.(D) AUTHORIZED EXPENSES AND FEES

To provide transparency on what expenses will be covered by the District, when additional training is available from Optimist International, the Policy Committee recommends the following revision.

Current

There may be re-imbursement for Optimist International Training (other than at the Optimist International Convention) for any club member (in good standing) of the District. It will be considered by the Finance Committee upon request and verification of attendance

Revision

There may be re-imbursement for Optimist International Training (other than at the Optimist International Convention) for any club member (in good standing) of the District. Participation in training must be approved by the Finance Committee, reimbursement will be made after verification of attendance

31. (B) DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

With the recurring decline in attendance at the District Convention and the need to control cost the Policy Committee recommends the following change to District Conventions:

Current:

The Convention Committee shall submit to all clubs thirty (30) days in advance of the District Convention three (3) proposed cities for each year. Such proposals shall include a brief description of the facilities available, together with approximate rates and dates. Such presentations may or may not include the Committee's recommendations.

Revision:

The Convention Committee shall submit to Executive Committee of the District Convention three (3) proposed cities for each year. Such proposals shall include a brief description of the facilities available, together with approximate rates and dates. Such presentations may or may not include the Committee's recommendations or the recommendation that the District Convention be a joint convention with another District.

39. DISTRICT CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Policy Committee recommends the following timeline revisions for the District Convention Program. To control cost the Convention Program may be provided electronically as soon as it is available.

Current:

The Convention Committee shall prepare, through consultation with the Governor and Governor-Elect, the schedule of convention events and meetings for submission to the District Board of Directors, no less than 90 days prior to the convention. The Governor, through consultation with the Governor-Elect, shall prepare the agenda, and/or curriculum for all convention business sessions, leadership development events, forums, and meal-service events. The convention schedule and program shall be distributed to all District Officers and Chairpersons, Club Presidents and Secretary-Treasurers, no less than 30 days prior to the convention. The convention shall include, as a minimum, the following events:

- A. A business session necessary to accomplish the business of the convention.
- B. All leadership development events. for club and district officers, as prescribed by Optimist International.

Revision:

The Convention Committee shall prepare, through consultation with the Governor and Governor-Elect, the schedule of convention events and meetings. The Governor, through consultation with the Governor-Elect, shall prepare the agenda, and/or curriculum for all convention business sessions, leadership development events, forums, and meal-service events. The convention schedule and program shall be distributed to all District Officers and Chairpersons, Club Presidents and Secretary-Treasurers, as soon as available. The convention shall include, as a minimum, the following events:

- A. A business session necessary to accomplish the business of the convention.
- B. All leadership development events.

40. RIBBONS

With the reduction in attendance at our District Convention and to help control District Expenses the Policy Committee recommends the use of ribbons for officer designation be discontinued.

DISTRICT PHOTO CONTEST

Since the purpose of the District is to serve as an administrative division of Optimist International and to insure the Optimist International Board of Directors is aware of and approves activities of the District, the Policy Committee recommends adding the District Photo Contest into the District Policy. By providing an outline of the program the District will have notified International Board of Directors of the contest while still maintaining the ongoing management of the contest.

Addition:

DISTRICT PHOTO CONTEST

- A. The District may conduct a Photo Contest each year.
- B. All phases of the contest shall be conducted in strict compliance with Photo Contest Rules approved by the District Executive Committee.
- C. A District Chairman may be appointed by the Governor to administer all details pertinent to the conduct of the District Contest.
- D. An entry fee as determined by the District Executive Committee shall be paid by all Clubs sponsoring an entrant in the District Photo Contests.
- E. The District may provide cash prizes established by the District Executive Committee.

47. DISTRICT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

As the number of clubs within the District have continued to decrease in numbers and to control District Expenses the Policy Committee recommends that the Junior Golf Classic Qualifying Tournaments held each year be reduced to one for the District. The Golf Committee should look for a course that is conveniently located within the District.

Current:

The District may conduct two (2) Optimist International Junior Golf Classic Qualifying Tournaments each year, one in New Jersey and one in Pennsylvania. The District Qualifiers shall be held and the number of contestants provided to the International Office by the required date.

Revision:

The District may conduct an Optimist International Junior Golf Classic Qualifying Tournaments each year, . The District Qualifier shall be held and the number of contestants provided to the International Office by the required date.

54. Outstanding Secretary Awards

Since Optimist International provides an Outstanding Secretary Award and to help control District Expenses the Policy Committee recommends the deletion of this District Award.

59. GIFTS TO NEW CLUBS

Reviewing current practices and to control cost the Policy Committee recommends revising what information is engraved on the bell provided to a newly formed club.

Current:

A bell and striker may be presented to all a newly organized clubs as a gift from the sponsor club. The bell is to be engraved 'Presented by the (sponsor) Club, District to the Optimist Club of (new club) and the date of the organization. The District Administration shall provide each new club with a complimentary banner.

Revision:

A bell and striker may be presented to a newly organized club as a gift from the sponsor club. The bell may be engraved with the clubs name and organization date. The District Administration shall provide each new club with a complimentary banner.

61. DISTRIBUTION OF DISTRICT DIRECTORY AND HANDBOOK

Since access to electronic documents is more readily available to members and to help control District Expenses the Policy Committee recommends changing how directories will be delivered to electronic copies. Should a club officer not have electronic access to the directory the District will provide paper copies if requested. Also, with the electronic delivery of directories there would no longer be a restriction on the number of copies that the District will provide.

Current:

The District Secretary shall provide copies of the District Directory and Handbook for the following: All District Board Members, all District Committee Chairpersons, All Club Secretaries, all Past Governors that are still members of their clubs or the GAA.

Only one copy will be provided to an individual. For example: A Past District Governor serving as a District Committee Chairperson would receive only one copy.

Revision:

The District Secretary shall provide electronic copies of the District Directory and Handbook for the following: All District Board Members, all District Committee Chairpersons, All Club Secretaries, all Past Governors that are still members of their clubs or the GAA.