



MULTIPLE DISTRICT 49
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS



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As the duly charged MD49 Constitution & Bylaws Chairperson I offer the Council of Governors the following report in preparation for the upcoming annual MD49 convention.

Pursuant to Article X of both the MD49 Constitution and MD49 Bylaws, I am obliged to send notice to all MD49 Lions Clubs postmarked by March 11, 2013, 45 days prior to the convention.

The attached letter fulfills the requirement for official notice to all Lions Clubs of Multiple District 49, that properly constructed proposals to amend either the MD49 Constitution and/or MD49 Bylaws have been duly processed by a Lions Club in good standing, addressed by their originating sub-district's cabinet and received by registered mail from the originating Lions Club, by January 24, 2013, and thereby will be voted upon, through secret ballot, by the registered delegates of the Multiple District 49 annual convention scheduled for April 24-27, 2013, in Fairbanks, Alaska, at the Wedgewood Resort.

Specifically, the following proposed amendments have submitted. See the attached sample MD49 Constitution and Bylaws amendment ballot and supporting submission documents.

Amend-ment	Context of Change	Sponsoring Club	Cabinet Recommend-ation
MD49-001	Replace the existing MD49 Constitution with a copy of the most current version of LCI's standard Multiple District Constitution, with those parts of the existing MD49 Constitution that add to and/or deviate from the LCI's standard Multiple District Constitution incorporated therein	North Pole Lions	DO PASS
MD49-002	Replace the existing MD49 Bylaws with a copy of the most current version of LCI's standard Multiple District Bylaws, with those parts of the existing MD49 Bylaws that add to and/or deviate from the LCI's standard Multiple District Bylaws incorporated therein	North Pole Lions	DO PASS
MD49-003	Add to MD49 Bylaws Article III, Section 2 paragraphs G and H Regarding MD49 financial data and records	Mountain View Lions	DO PASS

MD49-004	Add to MD49 Bylaws Article III, Section 3 added paragraph F. Regarding the annual turnover of MD49 books and records	Mountain View Lions	DO PASS
MD49-005	Add to MD49 Bylaws Article IV changed Section 3 to Section 4 and added a new Section 3, regarding the closeout of the Multiple District Convention Report	Mountain View Lions	DO PASS
MD49-006	Replace "fifty-one (51) percent" with the term "majority" throughout Bylaw Article 1, Section 4	Benton Bay	DO PASS
MD49-007	Insert "or return receipt electronic" mail throughout Article I, Section 1 and Article X, Section 2	Benton Bay	DO PASS

Attached to the letter is a draft copy of the MD49 Constitution and MD49 Bylaws amendment ballot to be used at the convention.

All delegates attending the convention should be prepared to fully and freely represent their respective Lions Clubs on these measures. In order to pass, each measure must receive an affirmative vote by at least 2/3 of the registered delegates.

These proposed documents do not include an initiative put forth by the Kenai Lions Club, regarding the redistricting of MD49.

The Kenai Lions Club put forth an initiative to redistrict District 49A and District 49B into a single district. The initiative was deemed a bylaw change and addressed as such by the District 49A cabinet at their midwinter conference in Juneau, Nov 8-10, 2012. The cabinet endorsed the initiative with a recommendation to "Do pass."

In researching redistricting I have reviewed LCI's constitution and bylaws, as well as the LCI Board Policy. I have come to the following conclusions regarding the proposed initiative:

The specificity of the initiative is not sufficiently constructed to be deemed a proposed Constitution or Bylaw change and therefore does not warrant further consideration as a proposed Constitution or Bylaw change.

After conferring with Ms Amy Pena, LCI's Sr Attorney, the initiative was deemed not to be a Constitution or Bylaw change, rather it was deemed a redistricting proposal. However, Ms Pena does point out Constitution or Bylaw changes will need to be addressed should redistricting proceed forward.

A proposal to dissolve Multiple District 49 and sub-districts 49A & 49B and establish a new single District 49, which fully complies with LCI's Policy documentation requirements for a qualified redistricting proposal would include:

- (1). Map and clear description of the geographic area for which the new single LCI District 49 will be comprised of, to include its clubs, zones and regions; clearly defining any changes therein
- (2). A list of names of the clubs, which shall comprise the proposed single-district with each club's total membership. Should any clubs be transferred to another district then ...

"A club may transfer from one district to an adjacent district and boundaries changed accordingly without the necessity of following the formal redistricting procedures if such

transfer does not substantially change the existing district boundaries. The approvals of a majority of the members of the club, the current district governors of the respective adjacent districts, and the district governors' cabinets of the respective adjacent districts are required. Documents signifying the approvals are submitted to the international office for review and action.”

- (3). “Explanation of how the multiple/sub-district(s) will be better served through redistricting.”
- (4). “An explanation about the programs recently implemented by the sub-district (s) to increase membership and why redistricting is still needed, if redistricting reduces the number of sub-districts.”
- (5). Summary Statement of Club Accounts. “The accounts of all the clubs in the redistricting single or sub-district(s) shall have no outstanding balance of more than US\$50 over 90 days when the redistricting proposal is submitted.”
- (6). Summary Statement of MD49, D49A & D49B Accounts. “All accounts of any single or sub-district shall be paid in full by June 30 of the fiscal year in which the proposal is submitted.”
- (7). List of proposed officers, District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor and 2nd Vice District Governor, and their proposed terms
- (8). Resolution by each sub-district to dissolve itself and transfer its clubs, assets and liabilities to a new single LCI District 49__ which must be endorsed by each sub-district’s delegates.
- (9). Resolution by Multiple District to dissolve itself and transfer its clubs, assets and liabilities to a new single LCI District 49__ which must be endorsed by MD49’s delegates.
- (10). “A certified copy of the minutes of the respective convention of the redistricting single district or sub district(s) as well as multiple district at which the proposal was approved when the minutes become available.”

Items 1 through 7 are products which arm MD49 delegates with the information necessary to make an informed decision on whether to endorse the resolutions of items 8 and 9.

For reference, should MD49 pursue redistricting the following notes apply:

Note 1: Should District 49B remain in transitional status, it does not make a difference whether their district’s delegates vote at the district level, in the affirmative or not for the redistricting proposal.

Note 2: District 49A’s delegates must vote by secret ballot on the proposal. In order for the redistricting proposal to move forward for consideration by all MD49 delegates, the District 49A’s delegates must endorse the proposal, with 2/3 of delegates voting in the affirmative; otherwise the proposal fails.

Note 3: At the Multiple District’s convention the redistricting proposal must be voted on by secret ballot. Multiple District 49’s delegates must endorse the proposal, with 2/3 of delegates voting in the affirmative; otherwise the proposal fails. MD49 delegates include all registered delegates from both sub-districts 49A & 49B.

NOTE 4: “... All redistricting proposals must be submitted and filed with our international office 60 days prior to the board meeting. No redistricting proposal shall be approved at the June/July board meeting.”

NOTE 5: “... All approved redistricting proposals shall take effect at the adjournment of the next international convention. New districts are allowed to elect its governor and vice governor for the following fiscal year.”

Per Ms Amy Pena, "Ultimately, it is up to your (C&B) committee to review the relevant multiple district constitution and by-laws provisions to determine if the proposed resolution is proper under the multiple district's constitution and by-laws, policies and/or past practice."

In so much that the Kenai Lions Club initiative lacks sufficient substance to be deemed a qualified "redistricting proposal" per the LCI Board Policy as outlined above, the proposal, as-is, places the delegates of MD49 at a severe disadvantage in making an informed decision on continuance of the very existence of the Multiple District 49 organization, as we know it today; and

Whereas, the earliest date the redistricting proposal could be fully consummated, per LCI Board Policy, is July 2014, which is contrary to the "mid-winter conference of 2013" deadline set forth in the proposal, making the proposal unobtainable; and

Whereas, the Kenai Lions Club put forth the redistricting proposal in hopes of bringing good order to the MD49 as a whole; and

Whereas, the MD49 Constitution and/or Bylaws do not address how a "resolution" is addressed; and

Whereas, in the MD49 Policy Manual, Paragraph I.A.2, precedence is established as to how to handle insufficient proposals, specifically: "Should any Council member feel sufficient information necessary to make a decision is not present, they shall notify the Secretary/Treasurer of the Council, and the proposed revision shall be referred back to the submitting authority for the information required and requested"; and then considered at a future COG meeting; and

Whereas, the merits of the proposal cannot be given their due considerations, without a full and complete definition of what and how "redistricting" should be construed by the entire MD49 Lions membership body and any delegates charged to represent their interests and perspectives; and

Whereas, the PDGs of MD49, at the behest of the COG, established a joint committee at the 2012 Valdez convention, charged with exploring our membership growth issues and opportunities, and potential courses of action, which included the studying of the impact of redistricting; and

Whereas, to address the Kenai redistricting proposal, as is, would be contrary to the good order of the standing MD49 Lions organization;

Therefore, the Kenai redistricting proposal does not warrant consideration by the MD49 convention delegates at this time; and it should be referred to the Membership Growth Committee previously mentioned, for the purposes of developing a comprehensive redistricting proposal.

In conclusion I ask the Council of Governors endorse this report, and thereby approving the following:

1. Acknowledge the duly submitted MD49 Constitution & Bylaw proposed amendments described herein.
2. Approve the MD49 Constitution & Bylaw proposed amendment club notification letter

3. Approve the 2012-13 MD49 Constitution & Bylaw Amendment Ballot
4. Approve the costs associated with mailing copies of each to all MD49 Lions Clubs.
5. Referral of the Kenai Lions Club redistricting proposal to the Membership Growth Committee.

Respectfully submitted

Howard S. Rixie Sr.

PCC HOWARD S. RIXIE SR.,
Constitution & Bylaws Chairperson
Multiple District 49

Attachments:

1. MD49 Constitution & Bylaw proposed amendment club notification letter
2. 2012-13 MD49 Constitution & Bylaw Amendment Ballot
3. Correspondence with Amy Pena, LCI Sr. Attorney