

The International
Association
of
LIONS CLUBS



DISTRICT 2-T3

CONSTITUTION
AND
BY-LAWS

As Amended April 15, 2000

***Lions Clubs
International
OBJECTS***

TO CREATE *and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.*

TO PROMOTE *the principles of good government and good citizenship.*

TO TAKE *an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.*

TO UNITE *the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.*

TO PROVIDE *a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public Interest, provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.*

TO ENCOURAGE *service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONSTITUTION

Article	Section	Title	Page
I		Name, Slogan and Motto	
	1	Name	1
	2	Slogan	1
	3	Motto	1
II		Authority	1
III		Purposes and Objects	
	1	District Purposes and Objects	1
	2	Lions International Purposes	1
	3	Lions International Objects	2
IV		Membership	
	1	District Boundaries	2
	2	Extension	3
	3	Ratification and Agreement	3
	4	Club Status	3
	5	Qualifications for Membership	3
V		District Officers	
	1	District Officers	3
	2	District Governor	4
	3	Vice District Governor	4
	4	Council Chairman	5
	5	Election of Officers	5
	6	Vacancies	5
	7	Appointments	5
	8	Subsequent Appointments	6
	9	Term of Office	6
	10	Salaries	6
VI		District Organization	
	1	The District Cabinet	6
	2	District Cabinet Meetings	7
	3	Regions and Zones	8
	4	District Committees	8
VII		District Administrative Fund	
	1	District Dues	9
	2	Expenses of the District Governor	9
	3	Balanced Budget	9
	4	Bonding	9
	5	Financial Reports and Audits	9
	6	Initial Operating Expenses	10
	7	Surplus Fund	10
	8	State Convention Fund	10
Article	Section	Title	Page

	9	Other Financial Reports	11
VIII		District Convention	
	1	Provision and Purpose	11
	2	Administration	11
	3	Host Club and Host City	11
	4	Order	12
	5	Voting Delegates	13
	6	Voting Privilege of Past District Governor	13
	7	Quorum	14
	8	Elections	14
	9	Record of Proceedings	14
IX		District Convention Fund	
	1	District Convention Fund Dues	15
	2	Surplus Convention Funds	15
	3	District Convention Fee	15
	4	Audit	15
X		Amendments	
	1	Method	15
	2	Advance Written Notice	16
	3	Effective Date	16
BY-LAWS			
I		District Nominations and Elections	
	1	Nominating Committee	16
	2	Filing Intention	16
	3	Secret Written Ballot	16
	4	Vacancy of District Governor	16
	5	Vacancy of Vice District Governor	17
	6	Vacancy of Council Chairman	17
II		Duties	
	1	District Governor	17
	2	Vice District Governor	18
	3	Cabinet Secretary	19
	4	Cabinet Treasurer	19
	5	Region Chairman	19
	6	Zone Chairman	20
	7	Texas Lions Camp Directors	19
	8	District Governor's Cabinet	20
	9	District Governor's Advisory Committee	20
	10	District Governor's Honorary Committee	21
	11	Sergeant-At-Arms	21
Article	Section	Title	Page
III		Committees	

	1	Credentials Committee	21
	2	District Convention Committees	21
IV		Convention Rules	
	1	Order of Business	21
	2	Questions of Order and Procedure	21
V		Nomination and Endorsement of International Directors and Second Vice-President Nominees	
	1	Endorsement Requirements	22
	2	Notice of Intention	22
	3	Seconding Speech	22
	4	Voting	22
	5	Certification of Endorsement	22
	6	Validity	22
VI		Professional Fund Raisers	23
VII		Fiscal Year	23
VIII		Amendments	
	1	Method	23
	2	Advance Written Notice	23
	3	Effective Date	23
IX		By-Laws	
	1	Requirements	24
	2	Majority Vote	24
	3	Suspension of Advance Notice	24
X		Reimbursement of Expenses	24
XI		Effective Date	24

**THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF
LIONS CLUBS
DISTRICT 2-T3
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

CONSTITUTION

**ARTICLE I
Name, Slogan and Motto**

Section 1. Name. The name of this Organization is The International Association of Lions Clubs, Multiple District 2 - State of Texas - U.S.A., Sub-District T3, i.e., District 2-T3 (hereinafter referred to as "District").

Section 2. Slogan. Its Slogan is: Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety.

Section 3. Motto. Its Motto is: We Serve.

**ARTICLE II
Authority**

The Constitution and By-Laws of the International Association of Lions Clubs (hereinafter referred to as Lions International) and of Multiple District 2 (hereinafter referred to as State) are hereby made a part of this document. The purpose of this document is to supplement those documents for implementation within this District, not to replace them. Where conflict occurs, the latest editions of the Lions International and/or State Constitution and By-Laws shall take precedence.

Wherever the male gender or pronoun appears herein, it shall be interpreted to mean both male and female persons.

**ARTICLE III
Purposes and Objects**

Section 1. District Purposes and Objects. To further the Purposes and Objects of Lions International and State by providing supervision, leadership, and administrative support within this District.

Section 2. Lions International Purposes. The Purposes of Lions International are:

- a. To organize, charter, and supervise service clubs to be known as Lions Clubs.
- b. To coordinate the activities and standardize the administration of Lions Clubs.

Section 3. Lions International Objects. The Objects of Lions International are:

- a. To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- b. To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- c. To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- d. To unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship, and mutual understanding.
- e. To provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.
- f. To encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works, and private endeavors.

**ARTICLE IV
Membership**

Section 1. District Boundaries. The membership shall consist of all Lions Clubs in this District which have been chartered by Lions International and are in good standing. Until changed by the State and Lions International, the boundaries of this District shall include the following sixteen (16) West-Texas counties:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| Andrews | Hudspeth | Terrell |
| Brewster | Jeff Davis | Upton |
| Crane | Loving | Ward |
| Culberson | Pecos | Winkler |
| Ector | Presidio | |
| El Paso | Reeves | |

Section 2. Extension. Lion Clubs may be organized and chartered in any municipality or its governmental subdivision in this District, including those in which an established club, or clubs, may exist, with the consent of the District Governor and the approval of the International Board of Directors. The boundaries of the territory within which a club or clubs is to be chartered are defined in Section 1 of this Article. Each club shall be known by the name of the municipality or its equivalent governmental subdivision in which it is located. Except where there is already one or more clubs, each club shall add a distinguishing designation to such name.

Section 3. Ratification and Agreement. The acceptance of a charter by a Lions Club shall be a ratification of, and agreement on its part to be bound by, the Constitution and By-Laws of Lions International. Submission by said Lions Club will have its relationship with Lions International interpreted and governed by this Constitution and By-Laws according to the laws in effect, from time to time, in the state of Incorporation of The International Association of Lions Clubs.

Section 4. Club Status. Any chartered club which shall fail to meet any obligation to Lions International may, in the discretion of the International Board of Directors, be placed in Status Quo, or have its charter canceled. Any club placed in status quo shall forfeit all rights and privileges pending final determination of its status by said Board.

As outlined in the Lions International District Governor's Manual, the District Governor may recommend status quo for District clubs which: fail to comply with the Objectives of Lionism, exhibit conduct unbecoming a Lions club, fail to pay timely dues, fail to maintain reasonable attendance, or fail to submit timely Monthly Membership Reports.

Section 5. Qualifications for Membership. Any person of legal majority and of good moral character and good reputation in his community may be granted membership in any chartered Lions Club. Membership shall be by invitation only.

ARTICLE V District Officers

Section 1. District Officers.

- a. **Nominal Positions.** The officers of this District shall be the District Governor, Immediate Past District Governor, Vice District Governor, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Treasurer, Region Chairmen, Zone Chairmen, Club Presidents and Secretaries, two (2) Directors of the Texas Lions League for Crippled Children, District Membership Chairman, and other

District Committee Chairmen. Each officer shall be a member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club, which is also in good standing.

b. Exceptions. When, at the discretion of the District Governor, he shall deem it to be in the best interests of Lions International and of the District, the following exceptions to the above nominal officer positions may be made:

- 1) Region and Zone Chairmen. The number of Region and Zone Chairmen will be determined in accordance with paragraph 3a of Article VI.
- 2) Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Treasurer. The duties of the Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Treasurer may be combined and performed by one Lion.

Section 2. District Governor. This District shall have a District Governor elected as provided herein and in accordance with Lions International Constitution and By-Laws. A candidate for the office of District Governor shall:

- a. Be an Active Member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing.
- b. Secure the endorsement of his club, or a majority of the clubs in the District.
- c. Currently be serving as the Vice District Governor within the District from which he is to be elected.
- d. Only in the event the current Vice District Governor does not stand for election as District Governor, or if a vacancy in the position of Vice District Governor exists at the time of the District Convention, any club member who fulfills the qualifications for the office of Vice District Governor as set forth in the Lions International Constitution and By-Laws, and who is currently serving or who has served one (1) additional year as a member of the District Cabinet, shall fulfill the requirements of this Section.

Section 3. Vice District Governor. The District shall have a Vice District Governor to be elected as provided herein and in accordance with Lions International Constitution and By-Laws. A candidate for the office of Vice District Governor shall:

- a. Be an Active Member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing.

- b. Secure the endorsement of his club, or a majority of the clubs in the District.
- c. Have served, or will have served, at the time he takes office as Vice District Governor:
 - 1) As president of a Lions Club for a full term, or major portion thereof, and a member of the Board of Directors of a Lions Club for no less than two (2) additional years; and
 - 2) As Zone Chairman or Region Chairman or Cabinet Secretary and/or Treasurer for a full term, or major portion thereof.
 - 3) With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.

Section 4. Council Chairman. The District shall elect a Council Chairman Elect by a plurality vote at the second District Convention prior to the year District 2-T3 hosts the State Convention. A candidate for the office of Council Chairman shall:

- a. Have served a term as District Governor.
- b. Be an Active Member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing.
- c. Secure the endorsement of his club, or a majority of the clubs in the District.

Section 5. Election of Officers. The District Governor, the Vice District Governor, and one Texas Lions Camp Director shall be elected at the annual District Convention.

Section 6. Vacancies. Any vacancy in any District office, except that of District Governor and Vice District Governor, shall be filled by appointment by the District Governor.

Section 7. Appointments. The District Governor shall make the following appointments, as appropriate:

- a. Annually. By the time he takes office, he shall have appointed the Cabinet Secretary, the Cabinet Treasurer, the District Membership Chairman, and the desired number of Region and Zone Chairmen.
- b. Texas Lions Foundation (TLF) Trustee. In accordance with the TLF schedule of appointments, he shall, when authorized, appoint one trustee

to the TLF, who shall serve for two (2) years.

- c. Membership, Extension and Leadership Committee Members. In accordance with the State schedule of appointments, he shall, when authorized, appoint one member to each committee for a term of three (3) years to coincide with the terms of their State counterparts.

Section 8. Subsequent Appointments. If any appointed officer ceases to be a member of a club in the district, his term of office shall thereupon cease, and the District Governor shall appoint a successor.

Section 9. Term of Office. All elected District Officers, except for the Texas Lions Camp Directors, shall serve for one (1) year. The Texas Lions Camp Directors shall be alternately elected for two-year terms.

Section 10. Salaries. No salary shall be paid by the District to any officer of the District. At their discretion, individual clubs may pay a salary to their Club Secretaries.

ARTICLE VI District Organization

Section 1. The District Cabinet. The District shall have a District Cabinet composed of the District Governor, the Immediate Past District Governor, the Vice District Governor, the Region Chairmen, the Zone Chairmen, the Cabinet Secretary, and the Cabinet Treasurer:

- a. Authority. The Cabinet shall function within the limits of the respective Constitution and By-Laws of Lions International, State, and this District. The Cabinet shall be the Executive Body of the District with all corporate powers of the District, expressed or implied, vested in it.
- b. Purpose, Duties, and Responsibilities.
 - 1) Purpose. The Cabinet's purpose is to supervise, coordinate and promote the general welfare of Lions Clubs and the individual members thereof, and to assist the District Governor in performing the duties of his office.
 - 2) The Cabinet shall act on behalf of, and transact all business of the District in the best interest of, the membership.

Section 2. District Cabinet Meetings.

- a. **Regular Meetings.** The Cabinet shall meet at least four (4) times each year, at least once each quarter. One Cabinet meeting shall be held in conjunction with the District Convention, and/or as set by the District Governor. The first meeting shall be held within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the preceding International Convention for the purpose of approving the depository for District funds; adopting a budget for the year; discussing matters, and transacting business pertaining to the District. Ten (10) days written notice of Cabinet meetings setting forth a date, time, and place determined by the District Governor shall be given to each member by the Cabinet Secretary.
- b. **Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Cabinet may be called by the District Governor at his discretion, and shall be called upon written request made to the District Governor or the Cabinet Secretary by a majority of the members of the Cabinet. Not fewer than five (5) nor more than ten (10) days notice of special meetings, setting forth the purposes thereof and a date, time, and place determined by the District Governor, shall be given to each member by the Cabinet Secretary.
- c. **Quorum and Vote.** The attendance of a majority of the members of the Cabinet shall constitute a quorum for any meeting thereof. In all such meetings, the voting privilege shall extend to the District Governor, the Vice District Governor, the Immediate Past District Governor, the Region Chairman, the Zone Chairmen, the Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Treasurer.
- d. **Minutes and Records.** The Cabinet shall require that accurate records of each and all Cabinet meetings and all District proceedings, including the District Convention shall be kept; that minutes of said meeting and/or proceedings, including financial reports, shall be presented to the District Convention, and shall be transmitted by the Cabinet Secretary to the District Governor, Lions International, and the State Office within five (5) days of the meeting, and that copies of same may be given to the incoming District Governor, his Cabinet Secretary, and other members of the Cabinet.
- e. **District Revenue.** The Cabinet shall require that all monies collected as District revenue, and all other monies deposited with, or transmitted through, the District for any reason, shall be deposited in the approved depository of the District; that said monies shall be disbursed as payments or withdrawals only by check signed by the Cabinet Secretary or Cabinet Treasurer and countersigned by the District Governor; and that all disbursements be approved by the Cabinet. In the event that, for any reason, the Cabinet Secretary or Cabinet Treasurer or the District Governor cannot sign a check, a notarized attestation by a majority of the

Cabinet shall be sufficient to release the monies or provide for another signatory or signatories.

Section 3. Regions and Zones.

- a. **Division of District: Regions and Zones.** The District Governor shall divide the District into Regions of no more than sixteen (16) Lions Clubs, and each such region into zones of no more than eight (8) Lions Clubs, giving due regard to the geographical location of the clubs. All such Regions and Zones shall be subject to change by the District Governor when, in his sole discretion, he shall deem the same necessary to the best interests of Lions International.
- b. **Region Meetings.** Meetings of representatives of all clubs in a Region, with the Region Chairman presiding, may be held, if deemed appropriate, during the fiscal year at times and places fixed by the Region Chairman of the respective Region.
- c. **Zone Meetings.** Meetings of the representatives of all the clubs in a Zone, with the Zone Chairman presiding, shall be held during the fiscal year at a date, time, and place called by the Zone Chairman. This Committee shall hold its first meeting within ninety (90) days after the adjournment of the preceding International Convention; a second meeting in the month of November; a third meeting in the month of February or March; and a fourth meeting approximately thirty days prior to the District Convention.

Section 4. District Committees.

- a. **District Governor's Advisory Committee.** In each Zone, the Zone Chairman and the Presidents and Secretaries of the clubs in the Zone shall comprise a District Governor's Advisory Committee, with the Zone Chairman as Chairman thereof.
- b. **District Governor's Honorary Committee.** The District Governor shall appoint a District Governor's Honorary Committee composed of Past International Officers and Past District Governors who are members in good standing of clubs within the District. This Committee shall meet when and as called upon by the District Governor and will be chaired by the Immediate Past District Governor.
- c. **Other Committees.** The District Governor may create such other committees as he deems appropriate for the efficient conduct of District business.

ARTICLE VII

District Administrative Fund

Section 1. District Dues. To provide revenue to defray the non-convention administrative expenses of the District an annual District Administration Fund Per Capita Dues of \$5.50 is hereby levied upon each member of each club in the District. It shall be collected and paid in advance by each club in two (2) semi-annual payments as follows: \$2.75 per club member on September tenth of each year to cover the semi-annual period July 1 to December 31; and \$2.75 per club member on March tenth of each year, to cover the semi-annual period January 1 to June 30, with billings of the same to be based upon the roster of each club as of the first days of July and January, respectively. Said dues shall be so paid to the Cabinet Treasurer by each club, except newly chartered and reorganized clubs, which shall collect and pay said per capita dues on a pro-rata basis from the first day of the second month following the date of their organization or reorganization, as the case may be. Said per capita dues shall be disbursed only for non-convention administrative expenses of the District and only upon approval by the District Governor.

Section 2. Expenses of the District Governor. Expenses of the District Governor in connection with his attending the International Convention shall be considered a District administrative expense. Reimbursement for such expenses shall be made on the same basis as outlined in the Rules of Audit of Lions International.

Section 3. Balanced Budget. The District Governor and his Cabinet shall not incur obligations in any fiscal year which will effect an unbalanced budget or deficit in said fiscal year. The District Governor shall prepare a budget within the anticipated District income of dues, allowances, and special projects.

Section 4. Bonding. The Cabinet Treasurer shall be bonded by the State and the cost of same shall be an administrative expense.

Section 5. Financial Reports and Audits.

- a. Financial Reports. The Cabinet shall receive from the Cabinet Treasurer financial reports at each Cabinet meeting. The Cabinet shall provide for the transfer of all closing records of the Immediate Past District Governor to the succeeding District Governor and his Cabinet Treasurer by the first Cabinet Meeting.
- b. Audits. The Cabinet shall provide for an annual (or more frequent) audit of the books and accounts of the Cabinet Treasurer. Said audit(s) shall be made by a competent committee whose chairman shall have a current license to practice accounting, and shall show all receipts and

disbursements made by the District during the fiscal year. A copy of said audit(s) shall be furnished to all District Officers, the District Governor, his Cabinet Treasurer, the State Office, Lions International, and each club in the District within sixty (60) days after the close of the fiscal year by the District Governor then in office.

Section 6. Initial Operating Expenses. The Cabinet shall provide in the District Administrative budget an amount not less than \$2,000, subject to the availability of funds, which shall be designated as a special, unbudgeted fund. Said fund shall be transferred to the District Governor Elect prior to the State Convention to provide District Administrative operating expenses until receipt of the first semi-annual per capita dues from the clubs in the district. The Cabinet shall provide for the transfer of said special unbudgeted fund and any surplus fund(s) as there may be in any District account(s) to the succeeding District Governor and/or his Cabinet Treasurer.

Section 7. Surplus Fund. An appropriate portion of any surplus District Administrative Funds shall be deposited in a special fund to help defray expenses of hosting the State Convention. The term "surplus" is defined as the total increase in cash and cash equivalents from the beginning of the fiscal year to the end of the fiscal year.

The special State Convention fund shall not exceed the maximum dollar amount set by the Lions of District 2-T3 in any regular cabinet meeting. If the special State Convention fund is found to exceed the maximum dollar amount set, then any excess money is to be returned to the District Administration fund. If the special fund is at the maximum level, then no additional funds are to be added."

Section 8. State Convention Fund.

- (a) State Convention. The District State Convention Chairman and the elected State Council Chairman from the District shall have their expenses paid from this fund to attend the State Convention immediately prior to the year District 2T3 hosts the State Convention. International Rules of Audit shall be used.
- (b) Council Meetings. The elected Council Chairman from District 2T3 shall be reimbursed from this fund for the requisite four state Council of Governors Meetings. International Rules of Audit shall be used.
- (c) In the event the District State Convention fund is not sufficient to fund items (a) and (b), the District Governor shall have the authority to apportion or deny payments.

Section 9. Other Financial Reports. The District Governor, Executive Director

of the East Eye Banks, Chairman of the Mint Program, Chairman of the Speech and Hearing Program, and Chairman of the Lions for Vision Program, and the Chairman of any ad hoc committee as well as the Chairman for the State Convention and Council Chairman when those positions are functioning within the District shall make a financial report in writing at each District Meeting, which said report shall be appended to and made a part of the minutes of such meeting.

ARTICLE VIII District Convention

Section 1. Provision and Purpose.

- a. Provision.** An Annual Convention of the District shall be held each year prior to the International Convention at a place selected by the previous annual convention of the District and at a date and time fixed by the District Governor.

- b. Purpose.** The District Convention shall: elect a District Governor to serve for the next year; elect a Vice District Governor to serve for the next year; elect a Director of the Texas Lions League for Crippled Children to serve for the next two (2) years; select a candidate (if one is proposed) for nomination for an International Office; elect a Council Chairman Elect (if appropriate); elect a Host Club and Host City (if proposed) for the next annual District Convention; vote on proposed changes (as presented) to the provisions of the State and this District's Constitution and By-Laws; vote on all matters of District and statewide business (as presented); and conduct such District business as may require action.

Section 2. Administration. The District Governor and the Cabinet shall have full supervision over all phases of the District Convention. The members of the District Cabinet shall be the officers of the Annual District Convention.

Section 3. Host Club and Host City.

- a. Invitations.** The District Governor/Nominating Committee shall receive invitations in writing from places in the District desiring to host the annual District Convention. All invitations shall set forth such information as the District Governor shall from time to time require and shall be delivered to him/Nominating Committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the convention at which they are to be voted upon. Procedures to be followed in investigation of bids and in presentation of the same to the conventions shall be determined by the District Governor. Should there be no timely, acceptable, written invitations, nominations from the floor of the convention for host club

and host city shall be the order of the day.

- b. **Convention Site.** The District Governor shall retain and have power to change at any time, for good reason, the convention site chosen by a previous District convention, and neither the District Governor nor the District, nor any member of the District Cabinet, shall incur any liability thereby to any club or club member in the District.
- c. **Arrangements.** The Host Club shall be responsible for making all arrangements for the convention, including lodging, meeting rooms, banquets, luncheons, facilities, entertainment, gifts for guests, etc., under the supervision of the District Governor and Cabinet. The District Governor shall make arrangements for guest speakers.

Section 4. Order. A Convention Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms shall be appointed by the District Governor. There shall be a printed program of convention sessions and events stating time and place of occurrence. Said program shall be the order of the day for the convention. The program shall contain the time, date, and place of the next State Convention.

- a. **Nominations and Proposals.** All nominations and proposals shall be first presented to the, hereinafter provided, applicable Convention Committee.
 - 1) District Governor. The Convention Nominating Committee shall receive the written endorsement (nomination) of any member, who satisfies the qualifications as heretofore stated, for the office of District Governor. Such endorsement (nomination) shall be received not later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the District Convention. Nominations for the office of District Governor shall NOT be made from the floor of the District Convention, except as provided for under Article I, Section 2 of the Bylaws.
 - 2) Vice District Governor. The Convention Nomination Committee shall receive the written endorsement (nomination) of any member who satisfies the qualifications as heretofore stated for the office of Vice District Governor. Such endorsement (nomination) shall be received not later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the District Convention. Nominations for the office of Vice District Governor shall NOT be made from the floor of the District Convention, except as provided for in Article I, Section 2 of the Bylaws.
 - 3) Director of Texas Lions League for Crippled Children. The Nominating Committee may receive/make the written nomination of

any qualified member, endorsed by his club, for the office of Director of Texas Lions League for Crippled Children. Nominations shall be received by the Nominating Committee not later than thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the district Convention. Should there be no written nominations, nominations from the floor of the convention shall be the order of the day. All nominees shall be members in good standing of a Lions Club and have the following qualifications: Lion Club member for three (3) years; served as President of his club or as Chairman of his club's camp committee; and must be willing and must attend, unless providentially hindered, the regular and special meetings of the Camp's Board of Directors, the Cabinet meetings of his District, and in cooperation with the other Director in his District, present, if possible, the message of the Texas Lions League for Crippled Children to each Club in the District.

- 4) International Candidates. The Nominating Committee shall receive from the State Office, as heretofore prescribed, all presentations (resolutions) of State candidates for an International office. The Nominating Committee shall report the resolution to the District Convention Assembly in fullest detail.

Section 5. Voting Delegates. Each chartered club in good standing in Lions International and the District shall be represented by one or more delegates at the annual District convention and shall be entitled in each such convention to one voting delegate and one alternate for each ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof, of said club as shown by the records of the International Office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five (5) or more members. Each certified delegate present in person may cast one vote only for each office to be filled by, and one vote only for each issue to be voted on by the members of said convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates voted on any question shall be the act of the convention. Delinquent dues may be paid and good standing acquired at any time prior to the close of credential certification, as such closing time shall be established by the rules of the respective convention.

Section 6. Voting Privilege of Past District Governor. Each Past District Governor of this district that is a member in good standing shall be entitled to be a voting delegate. Such right will not be counted as part of the number of delegates that a club is allowed by Section 5 above.

Section 7. Quorum. The attendance in person of a majority of the delegates registered at a convention shall constitute a quorum at any session of the convention.

Section 8. Elections.

- a. MD-2 Elections.** All elections involving matters affecting MD-2 in its entirety shall be held in accordance with the Lions International Constitution and By-Laws, the MD-2 Constitution and By-Laws and the MD-2 Policy Manual. "MD-2 Elections" shall include elections of candidates for International office, Council Chairman-Elect, Amendments to the MD-2 Constitution and By-Laws, and all other matters affecting MD-2 in its entirety.
- b. District Elections.** All District elections shall be held in accordance with the Lions International Constitution and By-Laws and the MD-2 Constitution and By-Laws.
- c. Ballot.** All voting on any "MD-2 Election" and all others deemed advisable by the District Cabinet shall be by individual secret ballot. Each legal delegate or alternative present in person shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote on every question submitted to the District Convention. There shall be no absentee nor proxy voting. The delegates or alternates present in person, qualified and voting at the District Convention shall constitute a quorum.
- d. Majority Rules.** Except as otherwise provided herein, the decision of the majority on any question shall be binding upon all Lions in the District. In the event that there are three (3) or more qualified candidates running for any office, a majority vote is not required to elect; a plurality shall elect. In the event of any tie votes, a decision shall be determined by lot. In the event there is only one candidate, only a YES or NO vote is required. A write in vote for a candidate not in nomination shall be construed as a NO vote.
- e. Voting Time Limit.** Voting shall be limited to the period of time that the polls are open. Such time shall be determined and announced in advance by the Election Committee.

Section 9. Record of Proceedings. Within sixty (60) days after the close of the District Convention, the Cabinet Secretary thereof shall transmit one copy of the complete proceedings thereof to the International Office. Upon written request from any Club in the District, a copy shall be furnished to said Club.

**ARTICLE IX
District Convention Fund**

Section 1. District Convention Fund Dues. In lieu of, or in addition to, a District Convention registration fee, an annual per capita District Convention Fund Dues

of \$.50 may be levied upon each member of each club in the District and shall be collected and paid in advance by each club, except newly chartered and reorganized clubs, in two (2) semi-annual payments as follows: \$.25 per club member on September tenth of each year to cover the semiannual period July 1 to December 31; and \$.25 per club member on March tenth of each year, to cover the semiannual period January 1 to June 30, with billings of said dues to be based upon the roster of each club as of the first days of July and January, respectively. These dues shall be collected from the clubs by, and be remitted to, the Cabinet Treasurer, who shall deposit the monies so collected in a bank or other depository chosen by the District Governor. The fund so collected shall be used for defraying expenses of District Conventions and shall be expended only by District checks drawn and signed by the Cabinet Secretary or Cabinet Treasurer and countersigned by the District Governor. Any club which is chartered or reorganized in a current fiscal year shall collect and pay said convention per capita dues for said fiscal year on a pro-rated basis from the first day of the second month following the date of its organization or reorganization, as the case may be.

Section 2. Surplus Convention Funds. In any fiscal year, any balance remaining in the Convention Fund after payment of all Convention Administrative expenses in that year shall remain in said Convention Fund and become available for future convention expenses.

Section 3. District Convention Fee. Such fee as the District Governor shall set may be collected, under procedures set by the District Governor, from each delegate, alternate, and guest attending the District Convention to defray the actual cost of convention meals and entertainment.

Section 4. Audit. The District Governor shall provide for an annual (or more frequent) audit of the District Convention Fund and shall give an annual financial report of said Fund to each annual District Convention.

ARTICLE X Amendments

Section 1. Method. This Constitution may be amended only at a District Convention. Amendments presented by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee must be adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

Section 2. Advance Written Notice. No amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished in writing to each club no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the Annual Convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said Convention.

Section 3. Effective Date. Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the Convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

District Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee. Each District Governor shall appoint, by written notification received at least sixty (60) days prior to the District Convention, a Nominating Committee of not more than five (5) members, each of whom shall be a member in good standing of a different Lions Club in good standing in the District, and shall not at the time of their appointment hold any District or International office. The Nominating Committee shall report the names of eligible candidates to the District Governor at least twenty-five days prior to its report to the District Convention.

Section 2. Filing Intention. Any member of a club in the District seeking the office of District Governor and Vice District Governor shall file his intention to so run in writing with the Nominating Committee thirty (30) days prior to the day of its report to the Convention, and furnish therewith evidence of his compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By- Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the District Convention the names of all candidates so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. Each candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

Section 3. Secret Written Ballot. The election shall be by secret written ballot. The candidate receiving the largest number of the votes cast shall be declared elected. In case of a tie on any ballot, balloting shall continue on the tied candidates until one is elected.

Section 4. Vacancy - District Governor. In the event of a vacancy in the office of District Governor, the same shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of the International Constitution. The Immediate Past District Governor shall, within fifteen days after vacancy notification by the International Board of Directors, invite the District Governor, Vice District Governor, Region Chairmen, Zone Chairmen, District Secretary/Treasurer, past International Presidents, Past International Directors and Past District Governors who are members in good standing in a club in the District to a meeting. The Immediate Past District Governor shall preside over such meeting at which a recommendation to the fill the vacancy shall be determined.

Section 5. Vacancy - Vice District Governor. In the event of a vacancy in the

office of Vice District Governor, the same shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of the International Constitution. The cabinet officers of the District and members of the District Governor's Honorary Committee shall convene at a date, time and place called and determined by the District Governor. Each person to be present at this meeting shall receive notification by mail no later than ten days prior to the meeting date. A quorum consisting of those present, the meeting shall proceed under Roberts Rules of Order and voting shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by the International Bylaws. Should there be more than one candidate, a plurality shall determine the person to fill the vacancy. Immediately after such election, the District Governor shall notify the International Board of Directors of the results of the meeting, including evidence satisfying the requirement of notification of the meeting to each participant.

Section 6. Vacancy - Council Chairman. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Council Chairman Elect or Council Chairman, the same shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Multiple District 2 Constitution and Bylaws, Article V, Section 9 and the provisions of the International Constitution and Bylaws. The District Governor shall convene a meeting, designating the date, place and time. Such meeting is, time permitting, to take place before the succeeding meeting of the Multiple District 2 Council. In the event the Council is scheduled to meet within fifteen days, the District Governor may designate such meeting to occur within fifteen days after the date of the scheduled Council Meeting and the Council shall proceed with an ad hoc chairman for such Council Meeting, designated by the District Governor. The meeting to fill the vacancy shall be attended by the District Cabinet Officers and the District Governor's Honorary Committee. Each such person shall be notified by mail ten days prior to the date of the meeting. The meeting shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. A quorum will consist of those persons present. Election shall be decided by a plurality in the event there is more than one candidate for the vacancy. The District Governor shall immediately following the election, notify the International Board of Directors and the Multiple District Two Council of Governors. Satisfactory evidence of notification of the meeting to each of the participants and the ballots of the voting shall be sent to the International Board.

ARTICLE II

Duties

Section 1. District Governor. Under the general supervision of the International Board of Directors, he shall represent the Association in his District. In addition, he shall be the chief administrative officer of this District and shall have direct supervision over the Vice District Governor, the Region Chairmen, the Zone Chairmen the Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Treasurer and such other Cabinet members as may be provided for in this Constitution and By-Laws. His specific responsibilities shall be to:

- a. Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- b. Supervise the organization of new Lions Clubs;
- c. Preside, when present, over cabinet, convention and other District meetings. During any period he is unable to preside, the presiding officer shall be the Vice District Governor or the Region Chairman selected by the District Governor; but, if none is selected, the District Officer chosen by attending members shall preside;
- d. Promote cordial relations among the chartered Lions Clubs;
- e. Unless providentially hindered, make a formal visit to each Club at least once during his term of office;
- f. Exercise such supervision and authority over cabinet officers and District committee appointees as is provided for in this Constitution;
- g. Submit a current itemized statement of total District receipts and expenditures to his District Convention or annual meeting of his District at a Multiple District Convention;
- h. Deliver, as soon as practicable following the termination of his term of office, all District accounts and records to his successor in office;
- i. Report all known violations of the use of the Association name and emblem to Lions International;
- j. Perform such other functions and acts as shall be required of him by the International Board of Directors through the District Governor's Manual and other directives.

Section 2. Vice District Governor. The Vice District Governor shall act under the supervision of the District Governor. In addition he shall:

- a. Further the Purposes and Objects of Lions International;
- b. Supervise organization of new Lions Clubs as directed by the District Governor;
- c. Promote cordial relations among the chartered Lions Clubs;
- d. Endeavor to attend all State business meetings;
- e. Perform other duties when assigned by the District Governor from time to time.

Section 3. Cabinet Secretary. He shall act under the supervision of the District Governor. His specific responsibilities shall be to:

- a. Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- b. Perform such functions and acts as may be required by the International Board of Directors through the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer's Manual and other directives;
- c. Perform such duties as are implied by the title of his office;
- d. Perform such additional assignments as shall be given to him from time to time by the District Governor.

Section 4. Cabinet Treasurer. He shall act under the supervision of the District Governor. His specific responsibilities shall be to:

- a. Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- b. Perform such functions and acts as may be required by the International Board of Directors through the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer's Manual and other directives;
- c. Perform such duties as are implied by the title of his office;
- d. Perform such additional assignments as shall be given to him from time to time by the District Governor.

Section 5. Region Chairman. The Region Chairman, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor, shall be the chief administrative officer in his region. His specific responsibilities shall be to:

- a. Further the purposes and objects of this Association;
- b. Perform such functions and acts as may be required of him by the International Board of Directors through the Region Chairman's Manual and other directives.
- c. Perform such additional assignments as shall be given to him from time to time by the District Governor;

Section 6. Zone Chairman. The Zone Chairman, subject to the supervision and direction of the District Governor and/or Region Chairman, shall be the chief administrative officer in his Zone. His specific responsibilities shall be to:

- a. Further the purposes and objects of this Association;

- b. Perform such functions and acts as may be required of him by the International Board of Directors through the Zone Chairman's Manual and other directives;
- c. Perform such additional assignments as shall be given to him from time to time by the Region Chairman and/or the District Governor.

Section 7. Texas Lions Camp Directors. The Texas Lions Camp Directors shall:

- a. Represent District 2-T3 at the two annual Directors meetings at the Camp;
- b. Visit each Club in their area yearly to disseminate information pertaining to the Camp.
- c. Assist in processing applications to the Camp.
- d. Perform other duties assigned by the District Governor or the governing body of the Texas Lions Camp.

Section 8. District Governor's Cabinet. The District Governor's Cabinet shall:

- a. Assist the District Governor in the performance of his duties and in the formulation of administrative plans and policies affecting the welfare of Lionism within the District;
- b. Receive, from the Region Chairmen, reports and recommendations which concern the clubs and Zones;

Section 9. District Governor's Advisory Committee. It shall assist the Zone Chairman in an advisory capacity; procure recommendations affecting the welfare of Lionism and the clubs in the Zone, and relay the same through the Zone Chairman to the District Governor and his Cabinet.

Section 10. District Governor's Honorary Committee. It shall act under the direction of the District Governor in the promotion of harmony throughout the District. The Chairman of this Committee shall attend meetings of the Cabinet when requested by the District Governor.

Section 11. Sergeant-At-Arms. The Sergeants-at-Arms shall maintain order and decorum at the respective conventions and meetings and perform such other duties as are incident to his office under Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

ARTICLE III Committees

Section 1. Credentials Committee. The Credentials Committee of the District Convention shall be composed of the District Governor, as Chairman, the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer and two other non-officers of the District appointed by the District Governor. The Credentials Committee shall have the powers and perform the duties set forth in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Section 2. Committee Chairmen. The District Governor shall appoint, designate the Chairman of, and fill any vacancies occurring in, the following District Convention Committees: Resolutions, Elections, Constitution and By-Laws, Rules, and International Convention. Each Region shall have at least one representative on each such committee. These committees shall perform such duties as the District Governor shall designate.

ARTICLE IV Convention Rules

Section 1. Order of Business. The District Governor shall arrange the Order of Business for the District Convention, and the same shall be the order of the day for all sessions.

Section 2. Questions of Order and Procedure. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution and By-Laws, or in the Rules of Procedure adopted for a meeting, all questions of order and procedure in any District meeting or convention, any meeting of the District Cabinet, a Region, Zone, or member club, or of any group or committee of any one of them, shall be determined by Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

ARTICLE V Nomination and Endorsement International Director and Second Vice-President Nominees

Section 1. Endorsement Requirements. Subject to the provisions of the International Constitution and By-Laws, any member of a Lions Club in this District seeking the endorsement of a District convention as a candidate for the office of International Director or Second Vice-President shall:

- a. Deliver (by mail or in person) written Notice of Intention to seek such endorsement to the District Governor and to the State Council Secretary, no less than sixty (60) days prior to the convening date of the respective

convention at which such question of endorsement is to be voted upon;

- b. Deliver with said Notice of Intention evidence of fulfillment of the qualifications for such office set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2. Notice of Intention. Each Notice of Intention so delivered shall be transmitted forthwith by the District Governor to the Nominating Committee of the respective Convention, which shall review and perfect the same by obtaining from each prospective candidate any additional evidence of such intention and qualifications as may be necessary under the International Constitution and By-Laws, and shall place in nomination at the respective Convention the name of each such prospective candidate who has fulfilled said procedural and constitutional requirements.

Section 3. Seconding Speech. Each such nominee for endorsement shall be entitled to one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

Section 4. Voting. The vote on the question of endorsement shall be by secret written ballot. The nominee receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared endorsed (elected) as the candidate of the convention and District . In the event of a tie vote, or failure of one nominee to receive the required majority, on any ballot, balloting shall continue with respect to the two nominees only who received the largest number of votes on the previous ballot until one receives the required majority of the votes cast.

Section 5. Certification of Endorsement. Certification of Endorsement by the respective convention shall be made in writing to the State Office, by the District officials designated, and in accordance with the requirements therefore set forth in the International Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 6. Validity. No endorsement of any candidacy of any member of a Lions Club in this District shall be valid unless and until the provisions of this Article V have been met.

ARTICLE VI

Professional Fund Raisers

District 2-T3 strongly discourages the use of professional fund raisers to solicit funds for charitable projects because of their relatively high costs and low rate of return to the charitable projects. However, if a club intends to use professional (non-Lion) fund raisers, they must first receive the written approval of the current District Governor. Before taking any action, the requesting club and the District Governor will give careful consideration to the effect of their actions on neighboring clubs and to the Objects of Lionism. If approved by the District

Governor, the provisions of any contract must provide the Lions Club with at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the gross proceeds, and must require close supervision and approval of expenditures by a member of the Club. The solicitation message must be approved by the District Governor, and must be actively and closely monitored by the club to prevent misleading the public as to the identity of the sponsoring club and the intended use of funds received. Specifically, the solicitation message must clearly identify the sponsoring club and the intended use of the funds collected, without reference to other Lions clubs in the area, Lions International, or any Lions-related charity or activity of those other Lion organizations. The International Lions Clubs Constitution, Article XII, Section 4, shall be the final authority for all District 2-T3 clubs.

ARTICLE VII Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of this District shall be from July 1st to June 30th.

ARTICLE VIII Amendments

Section 1. Method. These By-Laws may be amended only at a District Convention, by resolution reported by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.

Section 2. Advance Written Notice. No amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished in writing to each club no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the Annual Convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said Convention.

Section 3. Effective Date. Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the Convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

ARTICLE IX By-Laws

Section 1. Requirements. A By-Law of the District may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at any annual meeting, or by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Cabinet present at any cabinet meeting, but only for a single meeting or portion thereof.

Section 2. Majority Vote. These By-Laws may be amended or revised at any annual convention by a majority vote of the accredited delegates present, provided the proposed amendment or revision shall have been submitted to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the annual convention, and to each local club at least thirty (30) days prior thereto.

Section 3. Suspension of Advanced Notice. Section 2 of this Article may be suspended at any annual convention of the District, upon certification by the District Governor to each local club that a necessity exists for immediate action on any proposed amendments or revisions, said certification by the District Governor to be made to each local club at least ten (10) days prior to said annual convention, except that such proposed revision or amendment shall still be subject to majority rule at such annual convention.

ARTICLE X
Reimbursement of Expenses

Expenses of the District Governor and other elected or appointed officers of the District, which appear in the District budget, shall be paid by district funds upon presentation to the District Treasurer of an itemized account. Any expenses, including, but not limited to, travel, lodging, or telephone which are paid by Lions International shall not be billed to the District, and if such expenses are paid from District funds and Lions International, then, the District shall be reimbursed to the extent of payment by Lions International.

ARTICLE XI
Effective Date

This Constitution and By-Laws shall take effect at the close of the District Convention at which the same is adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

LIONS

Code of Ethics

TO SHOW *my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.*

TO SEEK *success and to demand remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.*

TO REMEMBER *that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.*

WHENEVER *a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards others, to resolve such doubt against myself.*

TO HOLD *friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.*

ALWAYS *to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labor, and means.*

TO AID *others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.*

TO BE CAREFUL *with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy.*