GUIDELINES FOR ELECTION AND VOTING 2020

VOTING MEMBERS

The voting members are members of the Zonta International Board, past international presidents, governors, and delegates from each club in good standing.

‘Good standing’ eligibility will be based on the club’s position and membership as of March 2020 when Zonta International Headquarters notified each club of their vote count.

Voting members must respect confidentiality and may not advise each other how to vote or announce how they have voted until after the voting period has closed.

CREDENTIALING

The Credentials Committee supervises the registration of voters. The registration period closes on 22 May 2020 but may be extended on the recommendation of the committee.

The Credentials Committee will conduct a virtual training session and provide informational materials.

Prior to the opening of the electronic voting platform, the Credentials Committee shall report the number of voting members registered. This will establish the quorum (see below).

Once the election and voting period is open, the Credentials Committee will offer voter support including:

- Management of a special email: zicredentials@gmail.com
- Requests for a new email with a new PIN (personal identification number)
- Changes from delegates to alternates

NOMINATING

The Nomination Committee maintains direct communications with all candidates.

Candidates may submit videos which will be made available on Zonta.org three days prior to the open of the voting period. Speeches will be three minutes or two minutes, as applicable for the position.

A voting member nominating a candidate from the floor for an elected position must do so by 15 June 2020. Once validated, the candidate’s name will be inserted after the candidates who were named to the slate.
ELECTIONS AND VOTING

The voting platform will be *open for elections and voting 3 – 8 July 2020.*

The official language of the platform shall be English.

The Elections Committee supervises the setup of the elections and voting platform and provides delegates with sample ballots that can be printed out as a guide sheet prior to the opening of online voting.

The members of the Elections Committee will prepare the report of the Committee as soon as possible after the voting period has concluded and all the votes have been tabulated.

QUORUM AND RULES

A majority of the voting members registered shall constitute a quorum. For example, if 1,200 voting members are registered at least 601 voting members must cast a ballot for the vote to be considered valid.

Voting members who cast a ballot will be considered ‘present and voting’. This number will be used to determine majority or two-thirds for passage.

A majority vote shall be necessary for election of the Zonta International officers. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the balloting for the office shall continue. Only the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes shall remain on the second ballot.

The Zonta International directors and the members of the Zonta International Nominating Committee shall be elected by plurality vote.

A two-thirds vote shall be necessary for a proposed amendment to pass for the Zonta International Bylaws.

A majority vote shall be necessary for a proposed amendment to pass for the Zonta International Rules of Procedure.

A majority vote shall be necessary for a resolution to be adopted and it shall remain in effect for the biennium proposed.

A majority vote shall be necessary for adoptions of the biennial goals and fundraising goals and approval of the 2020-2022 international projects.

The members of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee will prepare the report of the Committee as soon as possible after the voting period has concluded and all the votes have been tabulated.