

CHAPTER 8 - OFFICERS

8.1 Elected Officers

The officers to be elected at the General Assembly shall be the National President and up to a maximum of two (2) National Vice-Presidents. One (1) Regional President for each Region may be elected by a vote of only those Local Chapters within that Region.

8.2 Appointed Officers

At the National Board meeting immediately following election to office, the National President, subject to the approval of the National Board, may appoint an Honourary President, Honourary Chairman, and shall appoint a General Legal Counsel.

8.3 Immediate Past President

In addition to the elected officers and the appointed officers, the Immediate Past President shall be an officer of the Corporation.

8.4 Duties

The National Board of Directors shall:

- a) carry out duties assigned by the National President;
- b) make recommendations to the National President with respect to their assigned duties;
- c) attend all meetings of the General Assembly and the National Board;
- d) promote the purposes of the Corporation; and
- e) conduct themselves in a manner befitting Board Members of the Corporation.

8.5 Nominations

1. Procedure

The officers to be elected must be nominated by a Local Chapter in good standing which shall forward to the Nominations and Elections Chair its nominations at least thirty (30) days prior to the National Convention. Nominations received after the deadline by the Nominations and Elections Chair shall be recommended for acceptance by the General Assembly. Such nominations must be approved for acceptance by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Assembly.

2. Prescribed Form

A nomination must be submitted on the prescribed form and certified by the President and Secretary of the nominating Local Chapter or, should the nominations be made at the General Assembly, by two (2) accredited official representatives and the signatures of the nominees.

8.6 Nominations & Elections Committee

The Immediate Past President, or another person appointed by the National President, shall act as the Nominations & Elections Chair and shall seek nominations for, and supervise the election of the officers as listed in By-law 8.1. The Chair of the Nominations & Elections Committee shall submit a report of the individuals qualified to run for National Office to the National Board at the pre-convention National Board meeting.

8.7 Elections Procedure

1. Address Time Limit

Candidates for the office of National President shall have a period of ten (10) minutes to address the General Assembly and/or have the General Assembly addressed on their behalf. Candidates for the office of National Vice-President shall have a period of five (5) minutes to address the General Assembly and/or have the General Assembly addressed on their behalf.

2. Scrutineers

The election of officers shall be supervised by at least three (3) delegates who are neither candidates for any office nor carrying any votes, who are appointed by the National President and who shall act as scrutineers under instructions from the Nominations & Elections Chair. The scrutineers shall not disclose the numerical result of the ballot save as hereinafter provided.

3. Ballot

A prescribed ballot form shall be used.

4. National President

The election of the office of National President shall take precedence and the scrutineers shall distribute, collect and tabulate the ballots and the Nominations & Elections Chair shall immediately announce the name of the successful candidate. If a majority vote as defined in Section 1 of By-law 8.8 is not obtained on the first or any succeeding ballot, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be omitted from succeeding ballots.

5. National Vice-Presidents

The order of elections for NVP positions shall begin with the position with the highest number of declared candidates down to the position having the least number of declared candidates. In the event that two (2) or more NVP positions have the same number of declared candidates, the order of those shall be determined by lot and shall follow the procedures for elections as in Section 4, By-law 8.7.

6. Announcement of Votes

The numerical results of the voting shall be entrusted to the Nominations & Elections Chair who shall announce the votes received by each candidate if another ballot is required.

7. Spoiled Ballot

A ballot will be spoiled if more than the required number of choices are indicated or the name of an unnominated candidate is chosen.

8. Counting Spoiled Ballots

A spoiled ballot shall not be counted as a vote cast in determining the majority.

9. Blank Ballots

A ballot shall be considered blank if there are no markings of any kind on the ballot.

8.8 Elections

1. Ballots

a) The election for each office shall be by multiple ballot. The results of each ballot shall be posted by rank. Should more than one (1) ballot be required, elected candidate(s) and the candidate receiving the least number of votes on the previous ballot shall be dropped as candidates on the next ballot.

b) To be elected, a candidate must receive at least 50% plus one (1) of the valid ballots cast.

c) Spoiled ballots will not constitute a valid ballot cast, and blank ballots will not constitute spoiled ballots.

2. Role of Nominations & Elections Committee

The Nominations & Elections Committee shall supervise the nominations beginning no sooner than one hundred and twenty (119) days before the National Convention and elections of the officers listed in By-law 8.1.

8.9 Term of Office

1. Ultimate Term

All officers shall remain in office until the next General Assembly or until their successors are elected or appointed in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws.

2. No Candidates for Office

If, when the nominations are completed, or if no candidate receives 50% of the vote, and there is no candidate elected for National President or National Vice-Presidents, the vacancies shall be filled for the term in a manner to be decided by the National Board.

If, when nominations are closed at the Regional level, if any, and there is no candidate elected for Regional President, the vacancy shall be filled for the term in a manner to be decided by the Local Chapters within that Region.

8.10 Qualifications

1. Member

Every nominee for election and every appointed officer shall be an Individual Member of the Corporation and shall have been so for a minimum of three (3) years shall be a minimum of 19 years of age and have the capacity to contract.

2. Financial Obligation

The Local Chapter to which the nominee for elected or appointed position belongs must be, at the time of election or appointment, in good standing.

3. National Convention Attendance

Unless for valid reasons a candidate is excused by the National President, every nominee for election shall be registered and in attendance at the National Convention at which said candidate is a nominee.

8.11 Continued Membership

1. Qualifications

Every Officer must not only qualify at the time of the Officer's election, but must continue to hold the same qualifications throughout the term of his office.

2. Local Chapter Affiliation

The Local Chapter to which an Officer is affiliated must remain affiliated throughout the Officer's term of office. Should either become disaffiliated and the Officer not change his own affiliation, the Officer shall automatically lose his office.

3. Failure to Remain in Good Standing

Failure of a Local Chapter to remain in good standing with the Corporation may result in the suspension or removal from office of any Corporation Officer who is a member of that Local Chapter upon the approval of the National Board.

8.12 Vacancies

Vacancies in all offices, other than that of National President, may be filled by an appointment by the National President, subject to the approval of the National Board.

8.13 Dismissal of Officers

1. Definition

A dismissal from office does not create a vacancy as provided elsewhere in these By-laws.

2. Majority

The National Board may, by at least two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, remove an appointed Officer from office. The Board of Governors may remove an Officer by a majority vote at a special meeting, notice of which has been circulated to all Local Chapters and all National Board Members thirty (30) days in advance of the special meeting.

3. Raising a Defence

The Officer in question shall be invited to attend the meeting of the National Board, or Board of Governors special meeting, with a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice by signature mail at which time such vote shall be taken. The Officer in question will be provided with the opportunity to raise a defence to any charges.

4. Notice to Local Chapters

Should an Officer be removed from office by such action, each Local Chapter shall immediately be notified by mail.

5. Appeal

The decision of the National Board or Board of Governors at a special meeting is final and not subject to appeal.

6. Effect of Dismissal

Dismissal of an Officer has the effect of that Officer being removed as a Director of the Corporation except to the extent that such Officer is required to sign documentation to effect the transfer of his responsibilities as Director or Officer of the Corporation.

7. Interim Presidential Appointment

The National President may appoint an interim Officer to be ratified by the Local Chapters within forty-five (45) days by mail ballot.

8.14 National Board Meetings

All elected Officers shall be able to attend all meetings of the National Board.

8.15 Conflicting Office

No Officer of the A.I.M. CAN National Board shall hold Presidential office in a Local Chapter. This does not apply to the General Legal Counsel.