

**BYLAWS ARTICLE I, SECTION 2 AND ARTICLE II, SECTION 1 TO REPLACE  
501C3 WITH 501C4.**

**PASSED AS PROPOSED**

**ISSUE 1: DEADLINE FOR SELF-NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS AT-LARGE CANDIDATES**

(Submitted by the International Board of Directors)

EXPLANATION: The Board of Directors feels it is not necessary to have such a long span of time between self-nominations and possibility of the Candidate Qualifications nominations for the position. As the Candidate Qualifications Committee has made a practice of meeting prior to the March Board of Directors meeting, February 1 is a more appropriate deadline.

**PROPOSED**

Bylaws Article IV. International Conventions and Elections  
Section 2. Elections. A. Elections for the Board of Directors.  
3. Members-At-Large.

Any person desiring to be placed in nomination for a Member-At-large position must file an intent to run by ~~November~~ **February 1** of the year ~~preceding~~ the election **is to occur**.

**PASSED AS PROPOSED**

**ISSUE 2: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OFFICE FUNDS**

(Submitted by the International Board of Directors)

EXPLANATION: Bylaws Article VIII Section 2D requires all funds remaining in the pre-existing International Office Fund and International Development Fund be used for their intended purpose. There are no funds remaining in either of these funds.

**PROPOSED:**

Bylaws Article  
Article VIII Section 2D.

~~*Provision for International Office Fund and International Development Fund. As of October 1, 2004, all funds remaining in the pre-existing International Office Fund and International Development Fund shall remain in such funds and be used for the purposes for which each fund was established. No additional monies shall be added to these funds unless so decided by the Board of Directors.*~~

Re-letter subsequent Items E-I.

**REFERRED TO AUDIT & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**ISSUE 3: ANNUAL DUES BILLING FOR CLUBS ON THE 120 DAY LIST**

(Submitted by the International Board of Directors)

EXPLANATION: The Board of Directors has reviewed the problems with Clubs that are frequently on the 120 day list for dues payments. The Board believes that such Clubs should be required to pay their dues on an annual basis.

**PROPOSED:**

Article VIII Section 2C. Annual Billing ~~Option~~.

1. Clubs may select a yearly dues billing at the beginning of each quarter based on their Membership as of the close of the previous quarter. Any Members added in the first

half of the billing cycle shall pay the full dues amount and any members added in the second half shall pay one-half the dues. All processing fees for new members in single billing clubs will be waived.

- 2. Once a Club is delinquent 120 days two times in any fiscal year, the Club will be billed on an annual basis at the discretion of the executive director.**

## **DEFEATED**

### **ISSUE 4: DISTRICT MEETINGS** (Proposed by the Optimist Club of North Wichita, Kansas)

EXPLANATION: The “Parallel District Conferences”, which are planned for the first quarter of 2010 and are intended to replace the traditional District First Quarter Conferences, could result in Districts being unable to conduct official first quarter business. Under current International Bylaws, Districts cannot conduct official business without a quorum. The great distances members might have to travel to attend the “Parallel District Conference,” could result in not enough District members present to have the required quorum.

#### **PROPOSED:**

Bylaws Article VII, Section 3, Paragraph F. Meetings.

The Governor may call a meeting of the Board of Directors each quarter, or at such time and place as he may determine with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. Notices of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be issued and caused to be delivered to all members of the Board of Directors by the District Secretary-Treasurer at least 30 days prior to said meetings. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors **who have registered at the meeting** shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of **district** business.

## **REFERRED TO AUDIT & FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **ISSUE 5: MEMBERSHIP FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL** (Submitted by the Optimist Club of Des Plaines, IL)

EXPLANATION: Tenet number four of the purposes of Optimist International is to promote patriotism. Clubs may do that on a local level, but there is a need for a strong and permanent patriotic stand. Members of a nation’s military may have a desire to become active in community service, but the relatively low salary scale may make paying dues cost prohibitive. Both the purpose of promoting patriotism and assisting active military personnel can be accomplished by creating a class of membership known as Armed Forces Membership. Armed Forces members would pay the same rate as college students do in the country they serve. Members of a nation’s military may have a desire to become active in community service, but the relatively low salary scale may make paying dues cost prohibitive. Creating this membership category would allow clubs to actively pursue the more than 1.4 million members of the U.S. military, and hundreds of thousand of other serving in the military of nations were Optimist International is active.

#### **PROPOSED:**

Bylaws Article VIII. Optimist International Finances  
Section 2. Revenue and Dues.  
B. Annual Dues

Except as set forth herein, beginning October 1, 2004, each Club shall pay to Optimist International for each of its members, except Life Members and College Members/**active military**, enrolled in the office of Optimist International as of 30 September, 31 December, 31 March and 30 June, as annual dues, the sum of \$59.62 for Clubs in Tier 1 countries, \$44.12 for Clubs in Tier 2 countries, and \$31.00 for Clubs in Tier 3 countries, payable in quarterly amounts of \$14.90 for Clubs in Tier 1 countries, \$11.03 for Clubs in Tier 2 countries, and \$7.75 for Clubs Tier 3 countries each on 1 October, 1 January, 1 April, and 1 July of each year. For each College Member/**active military** enrolled in the office of Optimist International as of 30 September, a Club shall pay annual dues of \$31.60 per member in Tier 1, \$23.38 in Tier 2, and \$16.43 in Tier 3, payable annually on 1 October. For each Life Member enrolled in the office of Optimist International as of 30 September 2004, a Club (without regard to Tiers) shall pay annual dues of \$26.00. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to grant an extension of time for payment of obligations to Optimist International when, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, circumstances indicate such extension would best serve the interests of the organization. Effective October 1, 2005, and each year thereafter, a cost of living adjustment of no more than 4% of Base Dues (as hereafter defined) may be made by the Board of Directors based on the yearly change in the December CPI-U. Base dues is defined as follows: Tier 1 \$43.62; Tier 2 \$32.21; Tier 3 \$22.63; College Members/**active military** \$5 (college member/**active military** status to be reviewed after five years) (without regard to tiers). Tier 1 shall be defined as High Income Economies; Tier 2 shall be defined as Upper Middle Income Economies; Tier 3 shall be defined as Lower Middle and Low Income Economies. The terms High Income Economies, Upper Middle Income Economies and Low Middle and Lower Income Economies shall have the definitions established from time to time by the World Bank's published statistics. (The countries of Jamaica and Suriname will be considered Tier 3 Countries until September 30, 2013 and until further review by the World Bank.) Clubs in countries (no matter the Tier) whose currencies are not exchangeable on the international currency market (Associate Clubs) shall be required to pay to Optimist International annual dues of a minimum of \$1.00 per member. College Clubs shall pay to Optimist International all applicable dues and fees on October 1, January 1, and April 1.

## **ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

### **ISSUE 6:**

### **COLLEGE CLUBS**

(Submitted by the Black Hill Noon Optimist Club, DMM)

**EXPLANATION:** It is our firm belief that the college clubs, which could have great potential as feeders into the adult clubs, are being discouraged by the price and billing treatment they receive as college club members. We also feel that Optimist International needs to lend its support and clout to the college clubs if we intend to attract new members and maintain the current membership. The clubs and the districts are unable to do the job alone. At this point, we are not willing to build and sponsor another college club unless significant changes are made. A point in fact is that we recently had a new club that was unable to pay its international dues because of the reasons set forth above. This club has lost its charter as a result of loss of members and the manner in which the club's dues have been calculated. In order to alter the course, we offer the following amendment recommendations as a possible way to ensure the growth and longevity of the college clubs.

### **PROPOSED:**

Bylaws Article VIII. Section 2. Revenue and Dues.

#### **SECTION 2. Revenue and Dues.**

B. Annual Dues. Except as set forth herein, beginning October 1, ~~2004~~ **2010**, each Club shall pay to Optimist International for each of its members, except Life Members and College Members, enrolled in the office of Optimist International as of 30 September, 31 December, 31 March and 30 June, as annual dues, the sum of \$59.62 for Clubs in Tier 1 countries, \$44.12 for Clubs in Tier 2 countries, and \$31.00 for Clubs in Tier 3 countries, payable in quarterly amounts of \$14.90 for Clubs in Tier 1 countries, \$11.03 for Clubs in Tier 2

countries, and \$7.75 for Clubs Tier 3 countries each on 1 October, 1 January, 1 April, and 1 July of each year. **The Optimist year for a college club shall be a trimester year with the first trimester being 1 September through 30 November, the second trimester being 1 December through 28 February and the third trimester being 1 March through 31 May.** For each College Member enrolled in the office of Optimist International as of ~~30 September~~ **31 October**, a Club shall pay annual dues of ~~\$31.60~~ **\$22.50** per member in Tier 1, ~~\$23.38~~ **\$19.50** in Tier 2, and ~~\$16.43~~ **\$13.50** in Tier 3, payable ~~annually on 1 October~~ **30 November**. **Dues are payable in thirds based on members enrolled in Optimist International as of 31 October, 31 December and 28 February.** For each Life Member enrolled in the office of Optimist International as of 30 September 2004, a Club (without regard to Tiers) shall pay annual dues of \$26.00. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to grant an extension of time for payment of obligations to Optimist International when, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, circumstances indicate such extension would best serve the interests of the organization. Effective October 1, 2005, and each year thereafter, a cost of living adjustment of no more than 4% of Base Dues (as hereafter defined) may be made by the Board of Directors based on the yearly change in the December CPI-U. Base dues is defined as follows: Tier 1 \$43.62; Tier 2 \$32.21; Tier 3 \$22.63; College Members \$5 (college member status to be reviewed after five years) (without regard to tiers). Tier 1 shall be defined as High Income Economies; Tier 2 shall be defined as Upper Middle Income Economies; Tier 3 shall be defined as Lower Middle and Low Income Economies. The terms High Income Economies, Upper Middle Income Economies and Low Middle and Lower Income Economies shall have the definitions established from time to time by the World Bank's published statistics. (The countries of Jamaica and Suriname will be considered Tier 3 Countries until September 30, 2013 and until further review by the World Bank.) Clubs in countries (no matter the Tier) whose currencies are not exchangeable on the international currency market (Associate Clubs) shall be required to pay to Optimist International annual dues of a minimum of \$1.00 per member. College Clubs shall pay to Optimist International all applicable dues and fees ~~on October 1 November 30, January 31, and March 31.~~ **beginning October 1, 2010.**