

NCO Nominations and Elections Process



The NCO will follow this nomination and election process on each even year election year cycle. It will begin with an announcer and nominations then culminate with the election at the annual meeting.

Nominations:

- **Opening:** The opening of the nomination period is announced at a minimum 30 days prior to the annual meeting via mass email through the CircleBridge system and is also posted on NLL website. The candidate form is an attachment to the email announcement and available on the website.
- **Closing:** Nominations will be accepted from the opening announcement up to an announcement by the Election Guardian early in the agenda at the annual meeting.
- (At the annual meeting) A motion to close the nomination period will be made. At that time, all names/positions in nomination will be announced to the general assembly. The forms will be available to the election delegates (in a binder) to read at their choice or leisure for several hours up to the election. The review of forms will not interrupt the meeting schedule.

Election:

- Immediately following the lunch break, a period for introduction and Q&A with the candidates will be allowed before the election. Each candidate will be allotted a specific amount of time to speak on their qualifications and conduct a Q&A with the general assembly. The amount of time allotted to each candidate will be determined based upon the number of candidates and the allotted schedule time. It will be the candidate's choice whether or not to speak or use their full allotted time.
- The Election will take place immediately following the Q&A session.
- A generic ballot using assigned numbers (instead of names) will be distributed. Each office on the ballot will have grouped numbers that are associated to its respective candidate's names. This includes positions with only one name in nomination.
- Ballots will be completed by the voting delegates. They will circle the number of choice that associates to each name and position. Once all ballots are completed, they are then collected.
- The Election Guardian will select one other non-voting person to count and certify the votes. A candidate must receive a majority (total of election delegates present) of votes to win the election. This includes positions with only one name in nomination.
- **RUNOFF:** In an undetermined race with three or more candidates, there would be a round #2 runoff against the two candidates with the highest number of votes. The other candidate(s) would be eliminated.
- **TIES:** Election outcomes resulting in a tie are resolved as follows:
 1. If the above runoff resulted in a tie, OR
 2. If round #1 resulted in a tie, (e.g. 50%, 50% or 25%, 25%, 25%, 25%) OR
 3. If in a 3- or-more-candidate race had more than 2 people with the highest number of votes (e.g. 34%, 33%, 33%)
 4. THEN... The voting body (NLL Conclave) would go into sequestered discussion to hear arguments for, or against the candidates, and cast another round(s) of votes. If at some time afterward it was determined that the conclave was deadlocked, the independent Election Guardian would cast his weighted vote to declare the winner.
- Election results are announced. Newly elected officers are introduced. Transition periods are as defined in the Manual of Operation.

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Additional:

- Candidates are required to attend the annual meeting in person.
- Candidates not attending the annual meeting as an RAL Delegate, current NBE or NCO Officer, or other invited guest are required to pay their own fees to attend the meeting. These candidates should seek RAL or Local Longhouse sponsorship of their travel & lodging fees if possible.