

## KIN EDUCATION - NEW VOTING RULES

These points can be used in conjunction with the videos provided by Kin Canada. The new voting rules will be in effect for District Convention in Swift Current. Thank you to District 4 Governor, Allen Martin for the use of his Powerpoint on which this is based.

### WHY ARE THERE NEW RULES?

- The Canadian Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (CNCA) is the federal law which governs our association. These changes will bring us into compliance with the new federal statute, and as part of the implementation of the new law, we were required to apply to be allowed to continue as a non-profit corporation under the new Act, and to maintain our status as a federally incorporated association.
- Our General Operating By-Laws outline the type of votes we must use for motions and elections at our zone, district, and national meetings.
- As the actual members of our association are the **CLUBS**, not the individual members of the clubs, under the CNCA it is the Clubs that are eligible to vote at meetings. As the "one member, one vote" rule is federal law, we, as an Association, cannot make changes to our bylaws to contravene it.

### WHO CAN VOTE

- In order to vote at a zone, district, or national meeting, a club (in good standing) must submit an **ACCREDITED DELEGATE FORM**, which will be a standardized form from Kin HQ, to the meeting credentials committee before the submission deadline.
- The **ACCREDITED DELEGATE FORM** allows the clubs to submit the names of 4 Kin members (in good standing) that the club would like to have represent their votes at the coming meeting. The delegate name does not have to be a member of the submitting club.
- The **ACCREDITED DELEGATE FORM** must be signed by 2 of the president, vice-president or secretary of the club.
- The **ACCREDITED DELEGATE** form must be submitted to credentials by July 15th to qualify for our national convention, and 7 days prior to the start of the meeting, for zone or district meetings.
- All **ACCREDITED DELEGATES** should register at the credentials desk the morning of each meeting. The highest ranked member on the delegate form will be given the voting flash card to represent the club that submitted their names.
- **ACCREDITED DELEGATES** can hold **ONLY ONE** voting flash card.

## TYPES OF VOTES

**“Show of Hands Vote”** (Flash Card Vote) – a show of hands vote is the normal voting process to be used to deal with motions that are decided on the floor of our meetings. The Accredited Delegates that hold a voting flash card would vote for, or against, a motion using their voting flash cards. Each card counts as **ONE VOTE** and represents the club that the AD registered for at that day’s credentials.

**Poll Vote** – When requested, and approved by the floor of a meeting, a Poll vote will be called. The chair of the meeting will then read out the names of the clubs that have an Accredited Delegate registered for that day’s business. These delegates do not need to hold a voting flash card. The Accredited Delegates will announce their vote, for or against, and the credentials will total the voting results. Unlike the “Show of Hands” vote, the “Poll” vote will count for the total number of registered members of the club being represented by the Accredited Delegate. ( based on registered membership records kept by Kin HQ. )

**Ballot Vote** – is used for all elections and can be requested and approved by the floor of a meeting for use in sensitive or controversial motions. In a Ballot vote, the credentials will distribute & collect paper ballots to the registered Accredited Delegates (AD’s do not need to hold a voting flash card). The Ballot vote for each club will represent the total membership of that club (as defined in the Poll vote). Credentials will total the votes and report the results to the meeting chair(s).

**Straw Vote** – a straw vote can be used by the chair of a meeting to determine the opinion of the room for non-business items, such as deciding whether to take a meeting break. This is not a recorded vote and can include all club members present in the meeting.

## CALLING A POLL OR BALLOT VOTE

When considering a motion, the chair may accept a call from the floor for a POLL or BALLOT VOTE. The call must be made by an Accredited Delegate that holding a voting flash card.

The call must be supported by a TOTAL of 10 Accredited Delegates that hold voting flash cards, in the case of a national or district meeting, or a total of 5 Accredited Delegates holding flash card, in the case of a zone meeting.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

Accredited Delegate forms will have to be submitted to district credentials to qualify for our district convention, the exact timing of the submission will be clarified .

Accredited Delegate forms must be submitted by July 15th for our national convention in Brandon, MB, and will have to be submitted by May 29<sup>th</sup> for our district convention in Swift Current.

When listing your delegates, place your own club members first with members from other clubs as the later choices.