Article IX (Convention Standing Orders)

1. (Order of Business)

a) Debates shall be conducted in accordance with the procedural rules as approved by Convention.

b) The business of Convention shall be dealt with in accordance with the published Agenda, or as determined by the Chairman in agreement with the Convention Delegates.

c) If an issue arises which is not covered by the Convention Procedural Rules, the Chairman shall make a ruling in accordance with the normal procedures of debate, as set out in "Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised" as revised from time to time.

d) A ruling by the Chairman shall be final, unless it is challenged by a Delegate, who moves that the ruling be rescinded.

e) Such a motion shall not be put to the vote unless at least 20 delegates require that it be put, in which case the Chairman shall temporarily vacate the Chair. A Past District Governor shall then take the Chair and shall put to the vote that the ruling be rescinded. When the vote has been taken, the Chairman shall resume the Chair and proceed in accordance with the vote.

2. (Chairperson) The District Governor or in his or her absence the 1st Vice District Governor or the 2nd Vice District Governor or the most recent Past District Governor available shall preside over Convention.

a) The District Governor shall have discretion in selecting the number of speakers to any resolution or amendment, and in terminating discussions whenever he or she considers it appropriate.

b) The District Governor being entirely neutral shall not be a delegate of his or her Club and if at any time he or she wishes to express a personal opinion on a matter under discussion he or she shall vacate the Chair for this purpose.

c) Resolutions and or amendments to be taken as read and may be displayed on screen as part of Convention audio visuals and included in the delegate packs.

3. (Speakers)

a) On the District Governor standing any speaker shall yield to the Chair and immediately resume his or her seat.

b) Any Delegate wishing to speak on any resolution or amendment or other matter of business, must use a microphone, announce his or her name and Club, and address the Chair.

c) If a member of the Cabinet speaks on any resolution or amendment or other matter of business he or she shall state whether he or she is representing the views of the Cabinet or otherwise.

4. (Resolutions and Amendments) Resolutions or amendments will be moved and seconded as follows:

a) By nominees on behalf of Cabinet.

b) By delegates on behalf of two sponsoring Clubs (or of two Clubs when a resolution is sponsored by more than one Club)

c) If no delegates are present from a Club submitting a resolution or amendment then, unless that Club advises the Resolutions Officer in writing at least ten days before the commencement of Convention of the names of a proposer and seconder from another Club, the resolution or amendment shall be withdrawn unless Convention shall otherwise decide. With this one exception no resolution or amendment may be withdrawn without the consent of Convention.

d) If a resolution is withdrawn with the consent of Convention and there is an amendment to that resolution then that amended resolution shall become the substantive resolution.

e) All resolutions and amendments shall be moved and seconded before consideration by Convention and not more than one resolution or amendment shall be discussed at any one time.

f) A delegate shall not move more than one amendment to any resolution nor shall the mover of a resolution move any amendment to such resolution.

g) Where appropriate, resolutions or amendments will be put for consideration immediately following the adoption of the relevant Committee Chairman's or District Officer's report.

5. (Emergency Resolutions)

a) The District Governor shall have discretion to submit an emergency resolution for consideration at Convention provided:

b) Where appropriate, the resolution was received by him or her no less than 24 hours before the Convention Cabinet meeting i.e. 1pm on the Thursday prior to the District Convention

c) In his or her opinion, the resolution could not reasonably have been submitted to the CNRO on or before the closing dates published for their receipt by him or her.

d) Convention consents by a majority of registered delegates present and voting to the resolution being so considered.

6. (Delegates Addressing Convention)

a) Only the District Governor, or the mover of a resolution exercising his or her right of reply shall speak more than once on any resolution.

b) Subject only to the provisions of Section 9 hereof any other delegate shall not speak more than once to the same resolution or amendment without the consent of Convention.

7. (Time limit for Speeches)

a) The proposer of a resolution or amendment will be permitted a maximum of three minutes to put his or her case and after so doing shall formally move the resolution or amendment. Normally the seconder will formally second the resolution and may reserve the right to speak later. At the conclusion of the debate and before a vote is taken on a resolution the proposer of the resolution shall have the right of reply for the purpose of answering questions or clarifying points raised. He or she will not be permitted to introduce fresh arguments and shall not be allowed more than two minutes for this purpose.

b) The mover of an amendment shall not be entitled to the right of reply except when an original resolution has been displaced by an amendment which has become a substantive resolution in accordance with Section 4(d) above when the right of reply ensues to the mover of the amendment.

c) With the exception of time limits stated in Section 7(a) every speaker in general debate will be limited to two minutes and must direct his or her speech directly to the report, resolution or amendment under discussion.

d) The time specified for speakers may be exceeded only with the approval of Convention.

8. (Voting)

a) The voting on any resolution or amendment on general business or for the appointment of Host Club for future Conventions shall be by show of Delegate Cards of those delegates present and voting and the District Governor shall declare the result or order a count. If the District Governors declaration is challenged by twenty or more voting delegates then the votes shall be counted.

b) Any election of candidates for office shall be by secret ballot and the candidate or nomination receiving the majority of votes cast shall be declared elected.

c) In the event of three or more candidates or nominations being involved in a ballot which does not result in an overall majority being obtained the candidate or nomination receiving the lowest number of votes cast will withdraw. A fresh ballot will take place on the candidates or nominations remaining until an overall majority decision has been reached.

d) In the event of a tie following a show of hands or a secret ballot the District Governor will have a casting vote given to the returning officer in a sealed envelope only to be used in the event of a tied vote.

9. (Motion to proceed to next business)

a) Any delegate, provided that he or she has not already spoken on the matter under discussion, may move at any time that Convention proceed to the next business, and if this resolution be seconded and carried the District Governor shall put the matter to Convention after the mover of the resolution has been offered the right of reply.

10. (Point of order or question)

a) Any delegate at any time may ask a question or raise a point of order through the Chair but must confine the question or point of order to the subject before Convention. Issue of 20/03/2023 Page 8 of 9

11. (Quorum)

a) A minimum of thirty-five (35) delegates in attendance at Convention shall constitute a quorum.

12. (Suspension of Standing Orders)

a) Any one or more of these Standing Orders may be suspended by a resolution of Convention in relation to a specific item of business properly before Convention provided that at least two-thirds of the voting delegates present shall vote for the resolution.