

**Resolution #3**

**August, 2020**

**By the Corporate Matters and Governance Committee**

**Re: Local Lodge Elections and Meetings Via Electronic Means**

**WHEREAS**, in the event that meetings of the local lodge are unable to be held in person due to circumstances beyond the control of the local lodge, during which time there may be an urgent need to conduct elections that cannot wait for the next in-person meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to sustain local lodge communication and decision making during difficult times lodges could be using the most rapid, efficient and technologically advanced techniques available today; and

**WHEREAS**, using such up-to-date methods will provide the Sons of Norway local lodges with a more economical and money saving way with which to communicate and make decisions; will provide for a more secure process with which to share and pass on confidential and private information and decision making; and will provide for a more timely and speedier method with which to execute the management and affairs of the Sons of Norway lodges in times where meeting in person is not an option,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Sons of Norway Policy & Procedures Section 4, Local Lodge, Chapter 11, shall be amended to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 11**

**4.11. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**4.11.1.** Reserved

**4.11.2.** Reserved

**4.11.3.** Reserved

**4.11.4.** Reserved

**4.11.5. ELECTIONS**

Local Lodge elections shall be held under normal circumstances in the manner as outlined in the Constitution in Chapter 11, paragraph 4.11.5. In circumstances in which in-person meetings are not possible due to circumstances beyond the control of the local lodge such as, but not limited to, during a time of national emergency, the local lodge may hold elections via mail, electronic communications, other methods of electronic or internet-based communication or any combination thereof.

**4.11.5.1.** The lodge nominating committee as established in the Constitution, paragraph 4.11.4. shall convene in order to develop a slate of candidates to run for the offices of the local lodge. This slate shall be ready to present to lodge members no later than

the lodge's first regular meeting in October of each year that precedes an election as outlined in paragraph 4.11.4.

4.11.5.2. The lodge members will be notified of the field of candidates by mail, newsletter or any acceptable means of electronic communication no later than October 31. All voting members of the lodge shall receive this information. A ballot shall be provided with each such notification sent out.

4.11.5.3. Ballots may be returned by mail, email or other means of electronic communication that is mutually acceptable to the lodge such as, but not limited to, an online survey tool. The deadline to return ballots shall be set by the lodge board. In any case the balloting should be completed no later than November 30.

4.11.5.4. Non-lodge members that may be on a lodge mailing list or email distribution list may not vote. The lodge board shall appoint tellers to verify membership and count the incoming ballots. The tellers may not be candidates for any of the lodge offices or directorships.

4.11.5.5. Any nominations to be made in addition to those of the nominating committee shall be submitted to the committee no later than October 1 for inclusion in the balloting process. Nominations made after October 1 and before the deadline shall be the responsibility of the candidate or the nominator.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sons of Norway Policy & Procedures Section 4, Local Lodge, Chapter 9, new paragraph 4.9.2. be added as follows:

**4.9.2. ELECTRONIC MEETINGS**

In the event that meetings of the local lodge are unable to be held in person due to circumstances beyond the control of the local lodge, such as, but not limited to, during a time of national emergency, during which time business still needs to be transacted, local lodges may hold meetings utilizing mail, electronic communications, teleconferences, other methods of electronic or internet-based communication or any combination thereof.