

**Date:** September 1, 2020  
**Re:** Local Lodge Referendums, Resolution #2  
**Submitted by:** Corporate Matters and Governance Committee

**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 business 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 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 Sons of Norway lodges in times where meeting in person is not an option,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Sons of Norway Charter and Constitutions **Section 4, Local Lodge, Chapter 10**, shall be amended to read as shown below.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this chapter be renumbered as set forth below in order to be in agreement with numbering conventions in Charter & Constitutions Section 2, International Lodge, Chapter 10, and Section 3, District Lodge, Chapter 10.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any local lodge bylaw amendments passed through referendum, or any other means, may not be put into effect until approval is secured as outlined in Policy & Procedures Section 4, Local Lodge, Chapter 10, paragraph 4.10.1.

**Please note that crossed out words are to be removed and underlined words are to be added. All other wording is exactly as it appears in the current (2018-2020) Constitutions.**

## **CHAPTER 10**

### **4.10. LAWS AND AMENDMENTS**

#### **4.10.1. ADOPTION, REPEAL OR AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

**4.10.1.1.** A local lodge may from time to time by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting adopt, repeal or amend its bylaws.

**4.10.1.2.** Proposals for repealing or changing of bylaws must be presented in writing and must be read at the business meeting when they are received, but they shall not be acted upon before the next business meeting. In addition, notification of the proposals and business meeting date should be sent to each member prior to the date of the business meeting at which they will be acted upon. (8/94)

- 4.10.1.3. When such laws and amendments have been adopted by the local lodge, they shall be submitted to Sons of Norway headquarters, and shall be effective when approved by the chief executive officer and legal counsel. Copies of local lodge bylaws shall be on file at Sons of Norway headquarters and made available to the district secretary. (8/12).
- 4.10.1.4. Such bylaws should be few, and limited to such matters as have not already been covered by the laws of Sons of Norway, such as lodge name, time and place of meeting, admission fees, bonds or officers. (8/16)
- 4.10.1.5. Bylaws or amendments must not conflict with the charter and constitution(s) of the International Lodge, or the by-laws of the district lodges, or the general laws governing Sons of Norway

**4.10.2. Reserved ~~APPROVAL OF BYLAWS~~**

**4.10.3. REFERENDUMS ~~CONTENTS~~**

The local lodge board of directors may adopt a resolution to conduct a referendum of the local lodge membership by mail or electronic communication. The local lodge president shall oversee the referendum by directing the lodge secretary to send to each member of the local lodge via mail, electronic communications, or other methods of electronic or internet-based communication, a copy of the local lodge board of directors' resolution directing the referendum, a summary of the referendum presented for consideration, and depending on the voting method utilized, instructions for casting a vote, including the timeline in which the vote must be cast. Each member voting in a referendum shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote and provided a quorum or majority of the local lodge casts a vote, the results of the referendum shall be binding

**4.10.4. ~~CONFORMITY WITH LODGE LAWS~~**