

Proposed changes to the FOHBC By-laws



As discussed in recent Board Meetings, the FOHBC is looking to refine the board officer election procedure. Highlighted below are the proposed changes to the FOHBC By-laws, which in summary allows the secretary to cast a singular vote when presented with an uncontested ballot of proposed officers on an election year. These changes are published for membership review, and will be voted on during the General Membership meeting at the FOHBC 50th Anniversary National Antique Bottle Convention in Augusta, Georgia, on August 2, 2019. Many thanks to Jim and Val Berry for initializing these changes.

Article VIII – Terms and Elections

A. The nomination and election of all Federation officers including President, Vice President(s), Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager, Membership Director, Public Relations Director, Conventions Director, Historian, Merchandising Director, Directors-at-Large (3), and Region Directors (4) shall be held every two years. Any officer may run for successive terms.

B. For the purpose of nominations, the President shall appoint a three (3) to five (5) member Nominating Committee at the annual convention meeting the year prior to the election year. (Per Article V, F: The Nominating Committee shall be composed of at least one member from each geographical region.) This committee shall prepare a slate of nominations for each office, listed in this Article, and these shall be published in the March/April issue of the official FOHBC periodical of the following year. Also, any member desiring to run for any office in the Federation may file a nomination form with the Election Committee (in accordance with procedures approved by the membership and instituted by the Election Committee) indicating the office they desire to run for. The deadline for filing this is April 1st of the year that the elections are held, unless otherwise stipulated and approved by the full membership of the Federation.

C. For the purpose of elections, the President shall appoint a five (5) person Election Committee to oversee and conduct the elections, and these shall be conducted in the following manner:

1. A ballot shall be prepared by the Election Committee with the nominated slate of officers, including those received on a nomination form, and this ballot shall bear the Federation seal so that it may not be duplicated. These ballots shall then be disseminated to FOHBC members and affiliated clubs in good standing (dues current as of May 1st of that year). As outlined in Article III, each Individual Membership, Associate Membership, Digital Membership, new and existing (remove the word “existing”) Life Membership shall have one vote, (for example, for a husband, wife and two children, ages 16 and 18, possessing one Individual Membership and three Associate Memberships, that family shall be entitled to four votes).

2. In such case whereas there is no opposition to any elected position, a motion shall be made and seconded for the FOHBC Secretary to cast one ballot for the nominated slate of officers, therefore, eliminating the need to conduct the election process described in C number 1 above.

2. Each Federation affiliated club shall be entitled to one vote per club, which is to be cast by a Federation representative of the club at the direction of that representative’s club.

3. These ballots shall then be returned to the Election Committee by a designated date and shall remain unopened until the annual convention meeting. The membership may, upon majority vote, make other arrangements for the return of the votes, if deemed necessary, at some future time.

4. The Election Committee shall open the ballots and tally them at a time stipulated at the convention. Any Federation member and/or candidate may view this process. Once the votes have been counted the Election Committee chairperson will then announce the results at the general membership meeting at a time designated by the presiding President, the results having been previously certified by the Election Committee as true and correct. The newly elected officers will take office at the conclusion of the annual convention at which they have been elected.

5. All nominees on the ballot shall be voted on by the entire membership and club representatives with the exception of the Region Directors, who shall be elected by a majority vote of only the members and clubs within their respective regions.

6. The person receiving the most votes shall be elected to the position under consideration. There will be a run-off only in the event of tie votes, and this procedure, if occurring, shall be set by the Election Committee.

7. From time to time, it may be necessary to slightly alter the election procedure, and, if this is necessary, it may be done by a majority vote of the members in attendance at an annual general membership meeting. An amendment to these bylaws to do so shall not be required.

8. Appointments by the President may fill any position not filled by this process.