

Marine Corps League, Inc.
2021 Emergency Plan for Elections and Installations
MCL League Departments

Effective Period: 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021
(Note: This policy is cancelled on 30 June 2021)

The health of our members being our foremost concern, the National BOT held discussions concerning Department election delays due to the COVID-19 crisis and specifically the extension of social distancing practices.

The following Emergency Election Procedure (EEP) has been reviewed by a Special Meeting of the National Board of Trustees (BOT) with a quorum present and were approved on 2 February 2021. Based on our discussions and approval, we have adopted the following procedure:

Emergency Election Procedure for Departments

Departments that have already submitted their Report of Officer Installation (ROI) for the 2021 fiscal year are not impacted by this EEP.

Option 1

All Departments are authorized to hold a Department Convention or Quarterly Conference in person for conducting their annual elections of the Department Commandant, Department Senior Vice Commandant, the Department Junior Vice Commandant, and the Department Judge Advocate. The National Bylaws, Section 855, Election of Officers states: "Each Department shall hold an annual election and installation of officers between September 1 and June 30th. The election and submitting the ROIs must be completed by 31 July 2021.

Prior to 30 June 2021, at a Department Convention or Quarterly Conference in person meeting, the following procedures can be followed:

1. Nominations are allowed to be made on the same day as the elections.
2. The elections would then be held as per National and Department Bylaws.

Option 2

All Departments are authorized to hold the Department Elections remotely for the elections of the Department Commandant, the Department Senior Vice Commandant, the Department Junior Vice Commandant, and the Department Judge Advocate. The election and submitting the ROIs must be completed by 31 July 2021.

Prior to 30 June 2021, for the Department remote elections, the following procedures must be followed:

1. Remote elections are authorized. Remote elections can be conducted by telephone/teleconference; e-mail; Zoom; Go-to-Meeting; or other remote communication resources.

2. The following procedures will be used for the election of the Department Commandant, Department Senior Vice Commandant, Department Junior Vice Commandant, and the Department Judge Advocate:

a. A Past Department Commandant will be the Chairman and a second Past Department Commandant (Teller) will be assigned as the election process Chairman using following process:

b. On a specific date as set by the Department Commandant, the Election Chairman will send an e-mail to all Detachment Commandants requesting for “nominations” for each of the top four positions of the Department as stated in Paragraph 2 above. The Detachment Commandants should be given only ten (10) days to respond.

c. After the tenth (10th) day, the Election Chairman will contact each nominee via e-mail to ensure that they are willing to serve in the position that they were nominated.

d. If only one nominee is nominated for any particular position, the Chairman will send out an e-mail to all Department Officers and all Detachment Commandants stating that he has instructed the Department Adjutant to cast one unanimous vote for each or all as required.

e. If there are any multiple nominated candidates for any particular position, each position would be voted on separately and Detachment Commandants would be asked to cast a vote to elect each contested position (via email). The Election Chairman will send an e-mail with total delegate count to all Detachment Commandants, requesting for Detachment Commandants to caucus their Detachment and to submit their votes as they normally would during a normal Department election at a Convention. The Detachment Commandants should have only fourteen (14) days to respond. Any Detachments not responding at the end of the fourteen (14) days will be considered a negative response. At that point, the Chairman will complete the election process in accordance of the National Bylaws and Department Bylaws.

f. The Election Chairman will ensure the following is used in the Department Election process:

1) Using the 31 December 2020 Department Roster, the Department Election Chairman will review the Roster and each Detachment’s full voting strength will be sent to all Detachment Commandants so that everyone is aware of the voting strength of each Detachment. If the Detachments are required to cast their votes for a Department elected position, the Election Chairman and the teller will again reverify the votes as presented by the Department Elections Chairman. This procedure will ensure the integrity of the elections.

2) No individual Detachment would require submitting a registration form.

3) No registration fee will be required.

4) When the Election Chairman sends an e-mail requesting each Detachment to cast their votes for each contested position, the Detachment Commandant would use their voting strength as sent by the Elections Chairman.

5) If a Detachment should cast their votes and there is a discrepancy with the numbers, the Election Chairman will verify the voting strength as listed on the Department Roster, then advise the Detachment Commandant of the discrepancy. The discrepancy would be corrected, the same as we would do at convention.

6) The Election Chairman and tellers would record the votes as usual. The Election Chairman would then notify the Department Board of Trustees and all Detachments of the results. The Detachment Commandant will be able to vote their entire delegate strength on one candidate or divide their votes for multiple candidates.

7) If a candidate does not get majority votes, the Election Chairman will request the Detachment Commandant to cast their votes again for the remaining candidates, until one candidate has a majority vote. The Detachment Commandants should have only ten (10) days to respond.

8) The Election Chairman will immediately send an e-mail to the Department Board of Trustees and all Detachment Commandants announcing the results of the election.

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