



USWT Parliamentarian SIP

2024-2025

Michelle McGowan

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I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. Now that we are in the depth of winter and starting to relax a bit after the holidays, it's time to start thinking seriously about grooming your successor. Is there someone in your chapter/state that you think would make a great Parliamentarian? Watch for information on holding Elections in the January/February Today's Leader. Please reach out to me if you are interested in stepping up to the National USWT Staff as Parliamentarian.

I want to thank everyone that attended the Bylaw and Policy Review on November 6. We had a productive meeting. We have four bylaws and five policies that will be voted on at National Year End Meeting in Duluth. The motions are listed on the third and fourth pages of this SIP.

As always, please reach out to me if you have any questions or would like a 30-minute Zoom meeting to discuss anything.

3rd Trimester Challenge

Hold a Bylaw and Policy Review

Send me information of your Bylaws and Policy review. Date, time, how many motions came from it if you held it already.

You will get your name in a drawing for a gift card (easier to mail or take on a plane)

Send the email to: parli@uswomenoftoday.org

It's that easy and fast.

Aligning Level of Formality with Board Size and Need

State/District/Chapter boards can make the most of their board meeting time by keeping formalities to a minimum. Forgoing some of the formalities allows your board to focus more on strategic planning and fundraising. Spending too much time with formal practices can actually hinder your board's work.

Here are some ways that your board can eliminate unnecessary steps and still run a professional and productive board meeting:

- Allow members to speak while seated
- Allow the chair to permit a free-flowing discussion as long as members aren't speaking over one another and all members are participating in the discussion
- Eliminate the requirement for board members to identify themselves before speaking
- Allow board directors to start a discussion without first making a motion
- Relax some of the rules for the order of precedence for motions
- Allow members to speak a second time on a motion before others have spoken first
- Allow members to speak on a motion more than twice in a day
- Allow the presiding officer to participate in debate
- Allow the presiding officer to sit when calling the meeting to order, adjourning the meeting, putting motions to vote and while explaining a ruling
- Permit the presiding officer to make motions and to vote
- Permit voice votes in lieu of standing votes, ballots or electronic votes
- Make some decisions by unanimous consent or consensus

Bear in mind that some degree of formality is necessary to keep order. The idea of reducing formality is not to stray from parliamentary procedure, but to keep the meeting focused and productive. If the meeting is getting out of control, the board chair has the authority to re-introduce formal procedures to help keep order.



Marilyn Monroe

Motions that will be voted on at Annual 2025

Bylaw motions:

I move that we delete the wording in Article II, Section 1, which states, "The purpose of this corporation shall be to encourage, foster and support the growth and establishment of the U.S. Women of Today state and local member chapters," **and replace with:**

Section 1 Mission, Vision, Benefits

A. Mission Statement

"Our mission is to provide opportunities in the areas of community service, leadership training, personal growth and work in partnerships with multiple charities."

B. Vision Statement

"We are passionate people of action... Empowering individuals to make a difference in their lives and communities."

C. Benefits Statement

Benefits from participating in Women of Today:

- . United in our vision to make a difference through service and community involvement**
- . Enrich and empower women in our communities**
- . Foster a welcoming and inclusive social experience**
- . Women gain confidence to lead**
- . Creating supportive connections as we develop lifelong friendships.**

I move that we relocate Article II, Section 2, which states, "This organization shall be non-partisan and non-sectarian. It shall wholly abstain from any political affiliation or endorsement of candidates for political office and be dedicated solely to performing functions affecting the civic, educational, recreational, and social interests of the community, state, and nation," **to Article I and renumber as Section 7.**

I move that we remove the word PURPOSE from ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND CREED to read: **ARTICLE II CREED.**

I move that we change Article II Section 3 to be titled **Article II CREED.**



Policy motions:

I move that we amend Policy 2, Section 1.B. by adding the words 'a' and 'Program Managers' so that it reads: The internal programming area shall have a Wellness and Personal Development Program Manager.

I move that we amend Policy 2, Section 3.C.1.A. to read **Writing Competition \$5.00**.

I move that we add Policy 2, Section 3.C.3. to read **Minimum of three (3) competitors for Speaking and Writing competitions.**

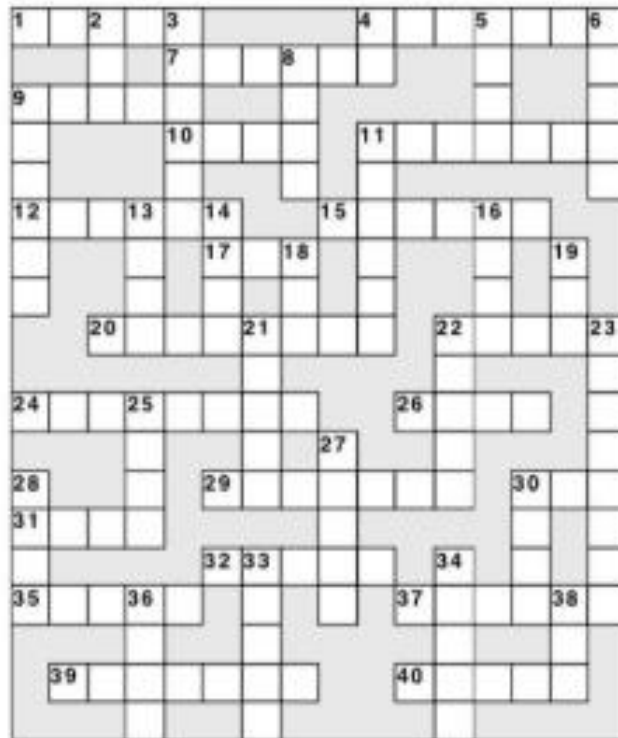
I move that we remove Board of Directors and replace with Executive Committee in Policy 13, Section 1.A.5. so that it reads: Dues Billing Contract Committee will make a recommendation for dues billing provider to the **Executive Committee** for approval at the National Mid-Year Meeting.

I move that we remove Board of Directors and replace with Executive Committee and add the word National in Policy 13, Section 2.A.5. so that it reads: Webmaster Contract Committee will make a recommendation for Webmaster to the **Executive Committee** for approval at the **National Mid-Year Meeting**.





Winter Crossword



Down:

- 2. Frozen water
- 3. Small
- 4. Myself
- 5. Small pie
- 6. Neck warmer
- 8. Chilly
- 9. Used to move snow
- 11. A season
- 13. Strong emotion
- 14. Ripped
- 16. Nil
- 18. Bath _____
- 19. Cloud of water vapour
- 21. Last month of winter
- 22. Wooden snow vehicles
- 23. Winter road condition
- 25. Be carried on
- 27. Locomotive
- 28. Carried along by wind
- 30. Piece of hockey equipment
- 33. Make this in the snow
- 34. Winter foot wear
- 36. Faucets can do this
- 38. You hear with this

Across:

- 1. Sudden cold breeze
- 4. Hand warmers
- 7. Hanging spike of ice
- 9. Freezing rain
- 10. Show and _____
- 11. Conditions outside
- 12. Flowering plant, colour
- 15. Achoo
- 17. Not in
- 20. Month of winter
- 22. Carols, etc.
- 24. Valentine month
- 26. Thaw
- 29. Keeps drinks warm
- 30. Small dog
- 31. Winter Olympic sport
- 32. Silky material
- 35. Breezy
- 37. Ice sport
- 39. Foot warmer
- 40. Direct a vehicle's course

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