

GCO BYLAWS AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

BY DEBBIE SICKMILLER, CHAIRMAN

These recommendations were voted on and approved by the Board of Directors at the board meeting on the above date. They will be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting on June 7, 2017.

1. Page 38 Section 4. Quorum

Change from "Twenty-five (25) board members, five (5) of whom must be elected officers"  
To "Twenty (20) board members, three (3) of whom are elected officers"

**RATIONALE:** We must be able to do business in case of bad weather or a national emergency, a local emergency, or personal emergency.

Later on **page 38, Article IX. Executive Committee Section 2. Duties**, we give the Executive Committee permission to make decisions for the organization in between board meetings.

**Section 4. Quorum** – we give permission to four (4) members of the Executive Committee to form a quorum and make decisions.

2. Page 53 Item VI – **DELETE**

Check on the appropriateness for giving a corsage to the GCO president or other Ohio dignitaries at NGC Convention, CAR Meetings, etc. (Sometimes the local committee provides these, so inquiry needs to be made.) If to be given, check day and meal to be presented. order and deliver or delegate it to be done by someone who is attending. Submit the bill to the GCO Treasurer.

**RATIONALE:** This hasn't been done in recent years and other state presidents haven't been wearing corsages, either.

3. Page 53, **ADD as Item VI**

Request past president's pin from GCO treasurer two (2) months prior to the annual meeting.

**RATIONALE:** This is a back-up means to be sure the pin is not forgotten.

4. Page 55 d **DELETE 2<sup>ND</sup> SENTENCE**

Provide GCO Convention chairman with the contract forms.

**RATIONALE:** These forms are already in the Annual Meeting/Convention manual and the Annual meeting/convention chairman has nothing to do with the spring designer program or holiday show program.

5. Page 55 e **DELETE AFTER PRESIDENT**

"and when applicable, the Convention Chairman." Sentence would end with a period.

**RATIONALE:** Same as "d"...Convention Chairman has nothing to do with spring designer or holiday show programs.

6. Page 61 District Directors

a. Serve as chairman of the local district committee. **DELETE (shall meet as needed)**

**RATIONALE:** The district committee is to meet and discuss possible candidates to succeed as District Director. This is not just the current DD's responsibility.

7. Page 62 VIII

**DELETE "SEEK AND" ADD "Assist the Membership Chairman in the formation of new garden clubs in the district and encourage retention of current garden clubs."**

**RATIONALE:** This is part of the District Directors responsibilities already.

8. Page 63 XII

**DELETE "A 10% commission may be retained in the district funds for all GCO special projects."**

**RATIONALE:** Bookkeeping nightmare for a small amount.

9. Page 63 XII

Funds are to be used **DELETE "Solely for district related expenses"**.

**ADD "TO PROMOTE THE GOALS OF GCO, SUCH AS, EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, BLUE STAR MEMORIALS, AND OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS, ETC."**

**RATIONALE:** Districts need to spend their treasuries for the benefit of the members in their districts. Example: raffle off a school tuition of their choice, send someone to the annual meeting/convention, a district Blue Star Memorial, a district garden project, etc.

10. Page 65 After III under Assistant Treasurer

**ADD IV Acknowledge donations to the All Schools Fund.**

11. To save space and avoid repetition the following positions will be listed together as they are all "Responsible to the President and BOD", "Appointed by the President with the approval of the BOD", & "Serve two (2) years or until a successor is appointed."

**Corresponding Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Historian, Hospitality Chairman, Parliamentarian, and Protocol Chairman.**

12. Page 70 III

With the combination of the duties of the Membership Chairman added to the Executive Secretary, III will become IV.

**III. Serve as the Membership Chairman**

13. Page 108 Membership Chairman

Keep #1

#2 moved to District Directors

#3 ADD "PROCESS"

DELETE #4 - #6

Keep #7 & #8

ADD #9 Serve as Membership Committee Chairman.

**RATIONALE:** Most of these duties were being done by the Executive Secretary.

14. Page 74 Item 2.

**DELETE** "Distribute the"

List of award winners **ADD** "will be available on-line on the GCO Website and in *Garden Greetings*."

**RATIONALE:** To cut down on the amount of paper & monies used to print the award winners list, not to mention the time involved.

**DELETE** the sentence "After the convention return all books of evidence that did not receive an award with a letter of explanation."

**RATIONALE:** The awards chairman is already directed to send a letter of explanation for each entry. One of the District Directors duties is to collect all books of evidence and return to the correct garden club.

15. Page 75 4a.

**ADD** ", as well as GCO members, member clubs, and other interested individuals and organizations."

**RATIONALE:** On page 74, Item 2...each current award donor is contacted first to see if they still want to sponsor an award. After that there should be no limitations on sponsors for awards.

5b.

Invite **ADD** "Citation Winners and their respective guest for presentation."

**DELETE** "Present bill for meals to the GCO Treasurer. This is covered by the Annual Meeting/Convention Chairman."

**RATIONALE:** This is covered in the Annual Meeting/Convention Manual. This is an annual meeting/convention expense.