

BYLAWS District 28

Art. 1 Zonta International

Zonta International is a leading global organization of individuals working together to build a better world for women and girls.

It is composed of districts, areas and clubs.

Art. 2 District 28 of Zonta International

District 28 of Zonta International is an incorporated association and encompasses 6 countries with its clubs, divided up into geographically delimited territories corresponding to areas.

These areas are at present as follows: Area 02: Germany, Area 03: Italy and Turkey, Area 04: Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Art. 3 Members of District 28

Each Zonta Club within the established boundaries of District 28 - and each e-club which could be assigned to District 28 by Zonta International - shall be a member of the district.

Art. 4 Purpose of District 28

The purposes of district 28 are

- a) To function as an administrative division of Zonta International in the attainment of the Objects of the organization as stated in the Zonta International bylaws.
- b) To promote the programs of Zonta International within the district.
- c) To inspire and assist clubs to implement the goals and programs of Zonta International.
- d) To serve as a link between the clubs in the district and the Zonta International Board and Committees.

Art. 5 Governing Body

The governing body consists of the District Conference and the District Board.

Art. 6 District Conference

a) A conference with the clubs of the district shall be held prior to November of the year preceding the convention, on dates approved by the Zonta International President (for the biennium the conference will be held) through Zonta International Headquarters.

b) The following topics must be on the agenda of the district conference:

- Presentation of the annual reports, balance sheets, profit and loss statement and the audit report for the past biennium
- Adoption of the auditors' report
- Decision regarding appropriation of profit or loss
- Discharge from liability for the district board
- Adoption of annual fee and approval of the budget for the following biennium
- Proposals by the District Board
- Club motions
- Elections of Governor and Lieutenant Governor
- Election of treasurer
- Election of two auditors
- Election of three members of the Nominating Committee.

Art. 7 Voting rights and Elections at the District Conference

a) In accordance and under reference to the Zonta International bylaws (Art. XIV Section 11 a, c), the Conference voting members shall be the elected district officers and the delegates of each club in good standing, registered at conference.

b) In accordance and under reference to the Zonta International bylaws (Art. XIV Section 14), a majority vote of conference voting members and proxies shall elect district officers.

c) If the number of votes is equal, the vote will be repeated until there is a majority for one candidate.

d) Decisions of district dues, bylaw changes and changes of rules of procedure shall be at a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

e) Other decisions shall be at a simple majority.

Art. 8 District Board

a) The board shall have general supervision over the clubs and administration of the district. It shall guide and assist the clubs of the district in accordance with the guiding principles from the board of Zonta International or its members and execute the decisions made at district conferences. The board shall make

decisions upon those matters requiring action between meetings of the district conference, provided that none of its actions conflict with decisions made by the conference.

- b) The elected officers of the district (governor, lieutenant governor, area directors from each area, treasurer and the appointed secretary) shall constitute the district board.
- c) Voting members of the district board are the governor, the lieutenant governor, the area directors and the treasurer.
- d) The district board shall meet at least twice a year, including a meeting immediately before each district conference.
- e) A majority vote of the elected board members shall be required for action.

Art. 9 Area meetings

a) Within each area, at least once a year a meeting shall be held with the clubs in the area with the purpose to promote the Objects and programs of Zonta International.

b) The area director shall plan the meeting consulting the governor.

Art. 10 District dues

a) At the latest on 1 June every club shall pay the dues decided at the district conference. The dues are related to the financial year beginning on 1 June and are paid for the number of members, honorary members included, the club has on said date.

b) For new members joining from 1 June the club shall pay the dues in full, and for new members joining from 1 December half of the sum.

Art. 11 Financial biennium and audit

a) The financial biennium of the district corresponds to the Zonta biennium. It starts on 1 June in the year of the convention and ends on 31 May in the year of the following convention.

b) The audited financial statement shall be presented at the district conference together with the audit report.

Art. 12 Reimbursement of expenses

Reimbursement of expenses incurred by the district board members for the participation at meetings and conferences shall be in accordance with what is stated in a separate document „Reimbursement Guidelines, District 28 of Zonta International “.

Art. 13 Adoption and changes of bylaws

- a) Where these district bylaws do not provide rules for the district organisation, the rules of the bylaws of Zonta International are directly applicable.
- b) The bylaws of district 28 of Zonta International shall in all essential parts correspond to the bylaws of Zonta International.
- c) When at convention decisions are made regarding factual change in the international by laws concerning districts and clubs, the bylaws for the district automatically change to be in conformity with such decisions.
- d) Other matters regarding changes of the bylaws of the district shall be decided at a district conference. Proposals shall be sent to the clubs at the latest 60 days before the conference.

Art. 14 District Rules of procedure

District rules comprise operational guidelines and processes of the district organization, based on these bylaws and the bylaws of Zonta International. They shall be adopted at a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Art. 15 External representation

- a) Financial matters: External representation of the district shall be by joint signatures of the governor (in her absence the lieutenant governor) and the treasurer.
- b) Ordinary matters: External representation of the district shall be by the governor.

Art. 16 Taking effect

These bylaws, approved at the district conference in Chur, 9th September 2023 are taking effect immediately.

They were reviewed by parliamentarian, Luise Gerischer, and only some minor typos were changed.

Kathrin Laubacher

Governor District 28 2024-2026