



*Maryland Federation  
of Republican Women*

# LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2025

## 2025 DATES to REMEMBER

*Legislative = Maryland General Assembly*

*MFRW = Maryland Federation of Republican Women*

*National = NFRW deadlines*

Legislative	8-Jan	General Assembly convenes
MFRW	9-Jan	Legislative Priorities distributed to legislators
National	15-Jan	Political & Campaign Awards - online reporting (Jul-Dec 2024)
	20-Jan	Inauguration Day
	24-Jan	National March for Life
Legislative	3-Feb	Senate bill introduction deadline
Legislative	7-Feb	House bill introduction deadline
National	7-Feb	Names of club presidents to NFRW
	Feb 19-22	CPAC -- Conservative Political Action Conference
MFRW	25-Feb	Deadline -- Red Scarf Day registration
National	1-Mar	2025 National dues submitted to NFRW
MFRW	1-Mar	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions
MFRW	4-Mar	Red Scarf Day ( <i>register by Feb 25th</i> )
National	Mar 7-8	NFRW Spring Board meeting -- Alexandria VA
MFRW	15-Mar	MFRW awards applications due
Legislative	17-Mar	Bill crossover deadline
National	27-Mar	Convention deadline -- new clubs "in good standing"
Legislative	31-Mar	Budget bill must be passed by both chambers
Legislative	7-Apr	General Assembly adjourns -- " <i>Sine Die</i> "
MFRW	17-May	Spring Board & Members meeting
MFRW	1-Jun	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions
National	1-Jun	NFRW Club Achievement Awards to MFRW President
National	1-Jun	Armed Services Awards to MFRW President
National	1-Jun	Caring for America Awards to MFRW President
National	1-Jun	Literacy & Education Awards to MFRW President
National	28-Jun	Certification date for Biennial Convention (membership in NFRW database determines voting delegates)
National	30-Jun	MFRW President forwards awards submissions to NFRW
National	30-Jun	MFRW's Betty Heitman award submitted to NFRW
National	15-Jul	Political & Campaign Awards - online reporting (Jan-Jun 2025)
National	???	Club presidents -- designate Convention delegates/alternates
National	28-Aug	MFRW President to NFRW -- club delegates/alternates
MFRW	1-Sep	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions
National	7-Sep	MFRW President certifies at-large delegates/alternates
	17-Sep	Constitution Day / Citizenship Day
MFRW	21-Sep	<i>Fall on the Farm</i>
National	Sep 25-28	43rd Biennial Convention -- Orlando FL
National	1-Oct	State's can begin entering 2026 membership renewals
MFRW	Oct 24-26	Fall Convention -- Ocean City
MFRW	1-Dec	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions

# **Maryland Federation of Republican Women**

Maryland Republican women began to organize as soon as women won the right to vote in 1920. In June 1921, fifty Republican women from throughout Maryland gathered in Baltimore for an organizational meeting and returned home to form clubs in their neighborhoods. In 1938, Maryland was one of eleven state federations that joined together to form the National Federation of Republican Women.

As we said “goodbye” to 2024, there were 26 federated clubs and 1,149 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women.

## **VISION**

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW) is committed to a tradition of empowering women from all backgrounds to serve as leaders in political, governmental, and civic arenas. We are the strongest unified group of voting Republican women in Maryland.

## **MISSION**

The mission of the MFRW is to support its affiliated clubs in their efforts to function efficiently, harmoniously and optimally in achieving the purposes of this organization. The MFRW also provides support and resources to empower women to establish new clubs.

## **PURPOSE**

Purposes of this organization are defined in Article II of our Bylaws:

- Increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government;
- Disseminate information to its affiliated clubs;
- Inform the public through political education and activity;
- Foster loyalty to the Republican Party at all levels of government;
- Promote the principles of the Republican Party;
- Work for Republican candidates in all elections, including non-partisan elections;
- Support the objectives and policies of the Republican National Committee; and
- Perform any lawful activity not inconsistent with the foregoing.

## **VALUES**

The MFRW and its affiliated clubs ascribe to the highest ethical standards. We respect, appreciate and value diverse perspectives, build relationships based on trust, and relate to others as individuals without regard for role, authority, skill or experience.

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

## NFRW

### National Federation of Republican Women

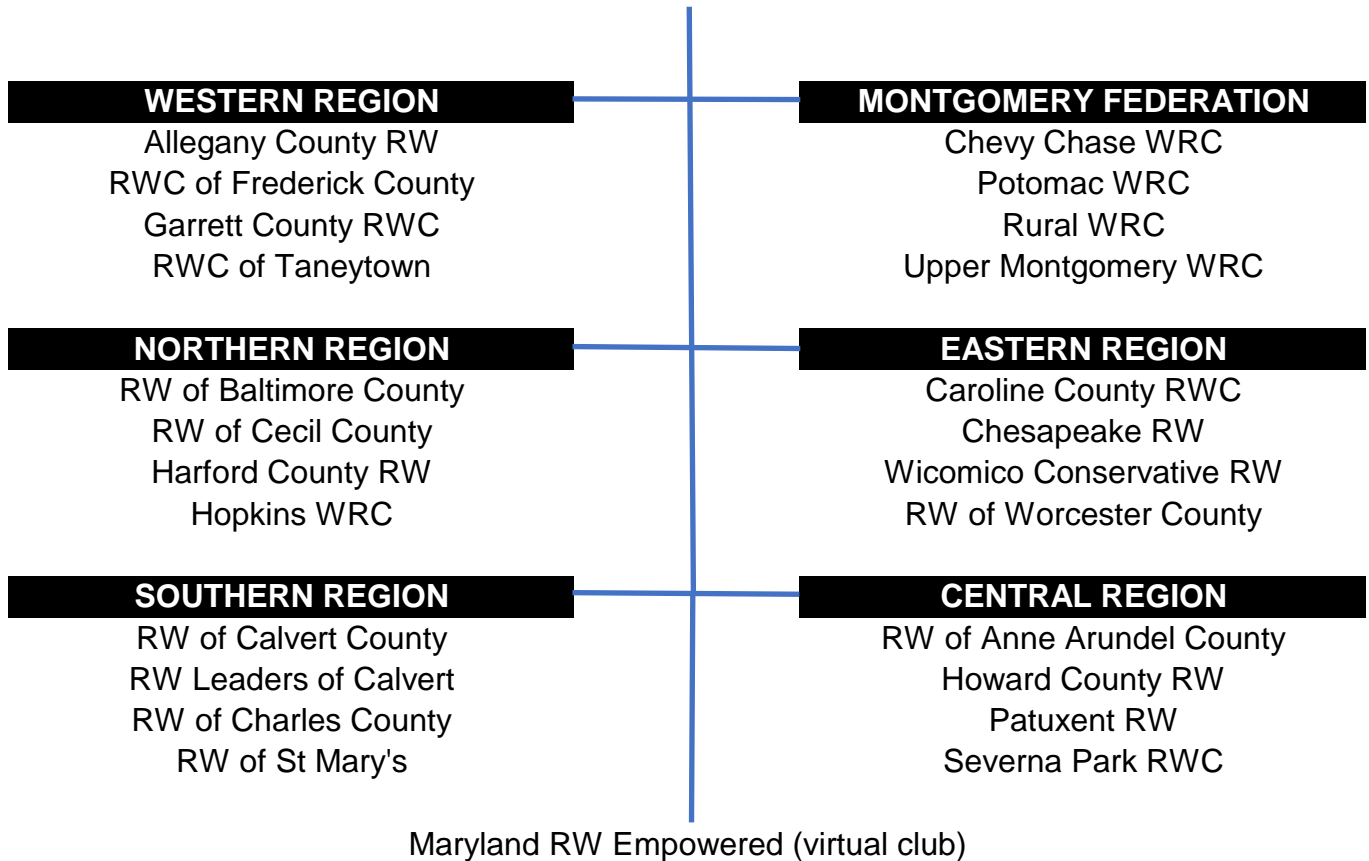
Governance: National Federation of Republican Women Bylaws (amended Sep 2021)



## MFRW

### Maryland Federation of Republican Women

Governance: Bylaws -- Maryland Federation of Republican Women Inc (amended Oct 2023)



### Governance of affiliated clubs

National Federation of Republican Women Bylaws (amended Sep 2021)  
Bylaws -- Maryland Federation of Republican Women Inc (amended Oct 2023)  
Club bylaws

RW = Republican Women  
RWC = Republican Women's Club  
WRC = Women's Republican Club

## **MFRW Executive Committee 2024-2025**

MFRW Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1

*The Executive Committee is composed of the MFRW elected officers, the MFRW regional chairmen, and any past MFRW presidents willing and able to serve who are regular members in good standing of an MFRW club.*

### **OFFICERS and PAST PRESIDENTS**

#### **President**

Sharon Carrick  
(301) 464-1954  
sha54ron@verizon.net

#### **Assistant Treasurer**

Maria Sofia  
(301) 335-4762  
msofia9412@gmail.com

#### **1st Vice President**

Luanne Ruddell  
(301) 501-0444  
luanneruddell@yahoo.com

#### **Recording Secretary**

Melissa Brown  
(410) 660-9176  
melabrown2486@gmail.com

#### **2nd Vice President**

Vikki Birkett  
(410) 991-9896  
vbirkett@msn.com

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Rebecca Tittermary  
(410) 341-7074  
fromtheartroom1@gmail.com

#### **3rd Vice President**

Jana Hobbs  
(410) 726-5223  
jana@ajhobbs.com

#### **General Counsel and Parliamentarian**

April Ishak

#### **4th Vice President**

Liliana Norkaitis  
(443) 752-7630  
liliananorkaitis@gmail.com

#### **Past President**

Carol Randall  
(410) 206-5628  
cbkrandall@yahoo.com

#### **Treasurer**

Anne White  
(410) 212-1025  
whitesk8s@comcast.net

***MFRW officers for the 2026-2027 term of office  
will be elected at Fall Convention 2025.***

**Relevant provisions of the MFRW Bylaws (amended 15 Oct 2023)  
are noted below.**

**STEP 1:** Appointment of a Nominating Committee – Article IX, Section 1

Each region elects one member to serve. A Nominating Committee member cannot be considered for an elective office, and must leave the Committee should circumstances change.

**STEP 2:** Notice to those interested in being considered for office -- Article IX, Section 3

Within 14 days of the Spring Board meeting, a call for letters of interest will be posted on the MFRW website and emailed to all members whose 2025 dues have been paid. The notice will include the email address for electronically submitting letters of interest and the submission deadline (30 days from date of notice).

An applicant may express interest in more than one office but, if selected, can be slated for 1 office only.

**STEP 3:** Responsibilities of the Nominating Committee

- Article IX, Section 2
  - The Nominating Committee shall review all submissions and nominate 1 candidate for each office.
  - No 2 vice presidents may be from the same region.
  - Each candidate must be contacted and be willing to serve.
  
- Article IX, Section 4
  - Nominees must be members in good standing within the MFRW.
  - The Nominating Committee shall interview all who expressed interest in an office.
  - In the absence of interest for a particular office, the Nominating Committee may reach out to individuals who did not submit a letter of interest.

**STEP 4:** Handling of submissions

After the submission deadline and at least 14 days prior to the meeting of the Nominating Committee at which letters of interest will be reviewed, the MFRW Corresponding Secretary will forward submissions to all members of the Nominating Committee.

**STEP 5:** Slate of officers – Article IX, Section 5

The Nominating Committee submits a slate of names to the MFRW President for inclusion with the mailing of the Call to Fall Convention. The Call must be issued at least 30 days prior to Convention. The proposed slate of officers will also be posted on the MFRW website.

**STEP 6:** Election of officers – Articles X and XII

The election of officers will take place by ballot at the Fall Convention. If there is only 1 candidate for each office, a voice vote is allowed. Nominations, with the consent of the nominee, may be made from the floor. A simple majority elects.

Those voting are:

- The Board of Directors (elected officers, regional chairs and vice chairs, club presidents, standing committee chairs, former MFRW presidents), and
- Club delegates (1 for each 5 club members @ June 30<sup>th</sup>).

## REGIONAL CHAIRS

The regional structure (detailed in Bylaws Article V) ensures that every region has voting representation at Executive Committee meetings and on the MFRW Board of Directors.

Election of regional chairs and vice chairs usually takes place at a regional meeting or caucus prior to a statewide meeting. Any full member in good standing of a club in that region is eligible.

### The **REGIONAL CHAIR**:

- Represents the region as a voting member of the MFRW Executive Committee and the Board of Directors
- Communicates monthly with the region's club presidents and reports on clubs' activities to the MFRW Executive Committee
- Mentors clubs in her region, providing information and advice as needed
- Connects Republican women interested in membership with a club in her region
- Attends meetings and events for the clubs in her region when possible (visiting each club at least once per year)
- Acts as a conduit between MFRW leadership and the clubs in her region, sharing updates, issues and other pertinent information
- May install newly elected club officers in her region
- Encourages qualified Republican women to run for office.

### The **REGIONAL VICE CHAIR**:

- Represents the region as a voting member of the Board of Directors
- Performs the duties of the Regional Chair when she is absent or unable to perform those duties
- Performs such other duties assigned to her by the Regional Chair or the MFRW Executive Committee.
- Serves as a voting member on the MFRW Board of Directors.

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While we try to allow time for **REGIONAL MEETINGS** at our statewide events, additional meetings can be held and are encouraged. These have been held in the past to offer campaign training, to present speakers of regional interest, and to offer an opportunity for fellowship among clubs.

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### **REGIONS** currently include these clubs:

- Western – Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Taneytown
- Northern – Baltimore, Cecil, Harford, Hopkins
- Southern – Calvert, Calvert Leaders, Charles, St Mary's
- Montgomery Federation (with 2 Vice Chairs) – Chevy Chase, Potomac, Rural, Upper Montgomery
- Eastern Shore – Caroline, Chesapeake, Wicomico, Worcester
- Central – Anne Arundel, Howard, Patuxent, Severna Park

**REGIONAL CHAIRS**  
MFRW Bylaws, Article V

*The MFRW Executive Committee, in consultation with the regional chairmen and affected clubs, and with approval of the Board of Directors, shall assign each local club to one of the six (6) regions.*

*Each of the six (6) regions shall have a regional chairman and up to two (2) vice chairmen, not to exceed two (2), as necessary to conduct the business of the region.*

**CENTRAL**

Chair	VACANT		
Vice Chair	(202) 257-4989	Marilyn Akinfolarin	funketimi@aol.com

**EASTERN SHORE**

Chair	(443) 253-5730	Sandy Zitzer	szitzer68@gmail.com
Vice Chair	(443) 668-8864	Beth Rodier	brodier@comcast.net

**MONTGOMERY FEDERATION**

Chair	(301) 384-3715	Anne Koutsoutis	kouts1@verizon.net
Vice Chair	(301) 972-8512	Patsy Dillingham	tp.dillingham@verizon.net
Vice Chair	(301) 987-5917	Nancy Griffin	nangriffin55@gmail.com

**NORTHERN**

Chair	(410) 812-4325	Kathryn Jerrard	kjerrard11@gmail.com
Vice Chair	(919) 987-5498	Jutilia (J.T.) Wilson	jutilia@yahoo.com

**SOUTHERN**

Chair	(301) 848-0110	Jana Barberio	jana@barberio.com
Vice Chair	(240) 882-4583	Donna Zupancic	donna@hdw ltd.com

**WESTERN**

Chair	(301) 616-7507	Melita Friend	mlfriend@shentel.net
Vice Chair	(240) 727-5277	Charity Friend	charityfriend12@yahoo.com



## STANDING COMMITTEES

Article VIII Section 1 of the MFRW Bylaws establishes eight standing committees. The chair of each standing committee is a voting member of the MFRW Board of Directors.

Feel free to contact the committee chair with questions and suggestions or if you would like to join the committee.

Bylaws – Liliana Norkaitis, Chair                      liliananorkaitis@gmail.com

- The Bylaws committee assists clubs with their bylaws, accepts suggestions for changes to the MFRW bylaws, and presents recommendations for bylaws changes to the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and to the membership at convention.

Communications – Rebecca Tittermary      fromtheartroom1@gmail.com

- The Communications committee publicizes MFRW events and the Republican platform. They manage our communication channels (Facebook, Twitter, MailChimp, etc) and keep members advised.

Finance – Treasurer Anne White                      whitesk8s@comcast.net

- The Finance committee proposes a budget, tracks income and expenditures throughout the year, and presents financial recommendations to the Executive Committee.

Fundraising – Maria Sofia, Chair                      msafia9412@gmail.com

- The Fundraising committee identifies and coordinates fundraising opportunities organizes donor programs and special events.

Legislative – Ella Ennis, Chair                      eee437@comcast.net

- The Legislative committee monitors bills proposed by federal and state legislators, providing written and oral testimony. They research topics of interest and publish literature that presents the Republican position and the basis for that position. The committee uses MFRW's communication channels to inform others about bills of concern and shows them how they can participate in the legislative process.

Membership – TBD

- The Membership committee researches membership programs and activities, conducts membership contests, and helps clubs increase their membership by sharing ideas that have been successful for other clubs.

## Political Activities – TBD

- The Political Activities committee offers guidance to clubs and individual members for election activities, promotes voter registration and voter contacts, coordinates campaign management activities, and coordinates MFRW efforts with local, state and federal campaigns. The Political Activities chair is the MFRW's contact with our Republican legislators and the Maryland Republican Party.

Program – Anne Rutherford, Chair

annerutherford@verizon.net

- The Program committee scouts locations for statewide events, works with relevant committee chair(s) to determine needs, and presents to the Executive Committee (location, costs, logistics, etc.) for a final decision. The committee oversees logistics at the event.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Article VIII Section 2 of the MFRW Bylaws allows the MFRW President to establish those special committees deemed necessary to accomplish the work of the organization. The chair of each special committee is a non-voting member of the MFRW Board of Directors.

Feel free to contact the committee chair with questions and suggestions or if you would like to join the committee.

We currently have six special committees:

Americanism – Jean Hruz, Chair

hruzviews@aol.com

- The Americanism committee explores opportunities to inspire patriotism in our members and our communities by fostering respect for the American flag and allegiance to the United States, its customs and its institutions. They are a resource for club programs and volunteer opportunities.

Awards – Barb Pivec, Chair

bpivec@gmail.com

- The Awards committee receives and verifies annual club awards submissions then presents MFRW club achievement awards at our Spring Board of Directors meeting. The committee also facilitates submission of the NFRW's biennial club and state awards, which are presented every two years at NFRW's Biennial Convention.

Literacy – Liz Mumford, Chair

lmumford2009@gmail.com

- The Literacy committee is your source for activities (book club, host an author, essay contest, etc.) that promote literacy. Clubs are encouraged to donate books to local libraries, senior centers and similar organizations.

Trumpeter (MFRW's quarterly newsletter)

Carol Randall    cbkrandall@yahoo.com

Anne White    whitesk8s@comcast.net

- Share articles and photographs of club activities. Deadline for submissions is generally the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month – March, June, September and December.

## CLUB LEADERSHIP

Each club should have, at a minimum, a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer elected by the membership. Additional officers are at the club's discretion and should be indicated in the club's bylaws. The elected officers constitute the Executive Committee.

Prior to or at the beginning of each calendar year, the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** should meet to discuss club goals. The MFRW and NFRW awards applications can be helpful in developing a written plan of action for the year, including monthly meetings, fundraisers, and other activities.

The **PRESIDENT** is the chief presiding officer of the club and ultimately responsible for the club's success. In general, she:

- Presides at all meetings and club events
- Should know the bylaws (club, MFRW and NFRW) and all rules and policies
- Prepares a meeting agenda
- Has a basic knowledge of parliamentary procedure
- Works with the committee chairs to ensure their success
- Makes meetings interesting and informative
- Should start and end meetings on time
- Ensures that members and guests leave with knowledge that helps further the goals of the club, the MFRW, and the NFRW.

The **VICE PRESIDENT** performs the duties of the president when she is absent or unable to serve. Specific duties and responsibilities may be assigned by the president or in the club bylaws.

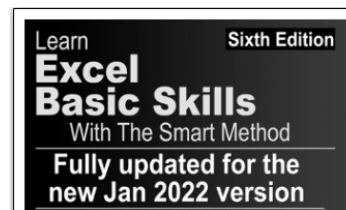
The **SECRETARY** prepares minutes of all club meetings and maintains all club records (bylaws, minutes, committee reports, etc).

The **TREASURER** collects membership dues and ensures that their membership is recorded at the state and national levels. She is the custodian of all club funds and responsible for accurately accounting for those funds. The treasurer should be comfortable working with Microsoft Excel (utilized for dues submission to MFRW).

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***Not real comfortable working in Excel? Try this:***

<https://excelcentral.com/>



# MEETING MINUTES

## A record of what was done – not everything that was said!

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER – Section 48

### 1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph

- Kind of meeting – regular, special, adjourned regular, adjourned special
- Name of the organization
- Date & time of the meeting (and the place if it is not always the same)
- The fact that the regular chairman was present (or the name of their substitute)
- Whether a quorum is present
- Approval of the previous meeting's minutes
  - Any corrections are made in the text of the minutes being approved
  - Minutes of the current meeting state “minutes were approved as corrected”

Body of the Minutes – a separate paragraph for each subject matter

- All main motions (not withdrawn motions) – whether passed or failed
  - The wording of the motion
  - The name of the person making the motion (but not the person seconding)
  - Any amendments
  - Disposition – adopted, failed, tabled
- Points of order and appeals – whether sustained or lost
- Adopted resolutions -- included in full
- Committee reports – summarized
- Treasurer's report should be referenced
- Appointments
- Program – describe (name, title, speaker's topic, panel, film, etc)

Last paragraph -- time of adjournment – *The meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm.*

Signature – *Margaret Duffy, Secretary* or *Margaret Duffy, Recording Secretary*

Per Robert's Rules: The words “Respectfully submitted” – although occasionally used – represent an older practice that is not essential in signing the minutes.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER -- §3

Minutes should reflect the agenda order of business

- Reading & approval of minutes
- Reports of officers, boards & standing committees
- Reports of special committees
- Special orders
- Unfinished business
- New business

# Information for CLUB TREASURERS

## BANKING

- Online access for both club treasurer and club president is recommended
- Club may want to require a 2<sup>nd</sup> signature for large expenditures
- Look for a free “community” checking account
- Identifying documents will be required by the bank
  - Club charter, bylaws or Articles of Incorporation
  - Federal employer identification number (FEIN)
    - www.irs.gov – Search: FEIN – apply online (Form SS-4 included for reference, see instruction on page 2 for “opened a bank account”)
    - Why do you want a FEIN? “for banking purposes”
    - Use Form 8822-B when “responsible party” changes (usually club president or treasurer)  
Filing the Form 8822-B as leadership changes can prevent the IRS from designating the FEIN inactive (after as little as 2 years inactivity)

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## DUES -- mail payments to MFRW at PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401

- Calendar year – January through December
- Regular members -- \$25 → MFRW = \$20 NFRW + \$5 MFRW
- Associate members – no dues to MFRW – all dues remain with the club
- \$15 one-time annual service charge – due to MFRW by January 15<sup>th</sup>

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## TAXABLE INCOME = gross income minus exempt income minus allowed deductions.

Exempt income is that which is used for the organization’s exempt functions:

- ✓ Contributions of money or other property;
- ✓ Membership dues, fees, or assessments from club members;
- ✓ Proceeds from a political fundraising or entertainment event (breakfast, dinner, etc) and from the sale of political campaign materials (bumper stickers, campaign buttons, etc) not received in the ordinary course of a trade or business; or
- ✓ Proceeds from conducting bingo games that are defined in § 513(f)(2).

Investment income or income from a trade or business (such as renting excess office space to an unrelated organization) is not exempt function income and is subject to tax.

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## REQUIRED FEDERAL FILINGS -- If annual gross receipts are expected to exceed \$25,000, a club must register with the IRS and file one or more of the following federal reports:

- Form 8871 *Initial Notice*
- Form 8872 *Political Organization Report of Contributions and Expenditures*
  - Name, address, occupation and employer of anyone contributing ≥ \$200 or paid ≥ \$500 during the reporting period
  - Aggregate amount of contributions < \$200 or payments < \$500
- Form 990 *Return of Organization Exempt from Tax*
- Form 1120-POL *U.S. Income Tax Return for Certain Political Organizations*

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## FEDERAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY ALLOWED

- Contribute to federal candidates -- NO
- Advocate election or defeat of specific federal candidates -- NO
- Issue advocacy – YES
- Get-out-the-vote drives -- YES

# Information for CLUB TREASURERS

## FEDERAL TAX STATUS – Section 527 political organization – not 501(c)(3)

501(c)(3)	501(c)(4)	501(c)(5)	501(c)(6)	527	FEDERAL TAX LAW ATTRIBUTES OF 5 COMMON TYPES OF EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS
yes	no	no	no	no	Receive tax-deductible charitable contributions
yes	yes	yes	yes	no	Receive contributions or fees deductible as a business expense
yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	Substantially related income exempt from federal income tax
limited	yes	yes	yes	no	Investment income exempt from federal income tax
yes	yes	yes	yes	limited	Engage in public advocacy not related to legislation or election of candidates
limited	yes	yes	yes	limited	Engage in legislative advocacy
no	limited	limited	limited	yes	Engage in candidate election advocacy

*Retrieved from www.irs.gov*

- *Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. This should be clearly indicated on all solicitations, acknowledgement letters, event promos, and other correspondence.*
- *There is no limit on the amount an individual or corporation can contribute.*
- *Federal Elections Commission registration is not required.*

When contributing to an organization for a specific purpose within the scope of club, MFRW and NFRW bylaws, and that organization may participate in advocacy at the federal level, it is recommended that the contribution be accompanied by a statement similar to the example below:

*The CLUB NAME is an affiliate of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women, which is a 527 political organization. As such, no portion of this contribution can be used to influence the selection, nomination, election, or appointment of any individual to any federal, state or local public office.*

*This contribution is intended specifically and exclusively to ensure that the NAME COUNTY school system does not incorporate Critical Race Theory (CRT) or any of its basic tenets into any subject curriculum at any grade level.*

### REQUIRED FEDERAL FILINGS

If annual gross receipts are expected to exceed \$25,000, a club must register with the IRS and file one or more of these federal reports -- Form 8871, Form 8872, Form 1120-POL, Form 990

Republican Women of Whatever County

**BUDGET 2025**

Regular		\$ 1,350.00	30 members @ \$45
less MFRW dues		\$ (750.00)	30 members @ \$25
Regular (net)	\$	600.00	
Associate	\$	150.00	10 members @ \$15
	Dues	\$ 750.00	
	Contributions	\$ 100.00	
	Fundraisers	\$ 300.00	
	<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,150.00</b>	
MFRW		\$ (25.00)	
NFRW		\$ (50.00)	
Other		\$ (100.00)	
	Donations	\$ (175.00)	
	Annual club fee	\$ (15.00)	
	Bay Club	\$ (110.00)	
	Membership event	\$ (150.00)	
	MFRW meeting expenses	\$ (100.00)	
	NFRW meeting expenses	\$ (100.00)	
	Fundraising expense	\$ (100.00)	
	Insurance	n/a	
	Literacy donation(s)	\$ (50.00)	
	Office supplies	\$ (20.00)	
	P.O. Box rental	\$ (150.00)	
	Political expenditures	n/a	
	Postage	\$ (20.00)	
	Printing	\$ (20.00)	
	Professional services	n/a	
	Program supplies	\$ (20.00)	
	Scholarships	n/a	
	Travel & mileage	n/a	
	<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (1,030.00)</b>	
<b>Net gain (loss)</b>	\$	120.00	

*A budget is an estimate -- a projection of anticipated revenue and expenditures.*

- Regular dues = # of projected members x dues amount
- MFRW dues = # of projected members x \$25
- Regular (net) = balance of dues retained by the club
- Fundraisers -- It is often beneficial, for planning purposes, to detail revenue and expenses by category
- MFRW and NFRW donations -- required at certain levels for state and national awards
- MFRW and NFRW meeting expenses -- if your club subsidizes member registration fees, etc.
- Political expenditures -- campaign/election expenditures (generally in election years only)
- Professional services -- accountant, legal advice, etc.

# Information for CLUB TREASURERS

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

Below is a sample Treasurer's Report that should be presented at each club meeting.

An annual budget should be prepared following a similar format. Defining plans for the year will allow you to determine the income necessary to achieve club goals. After considering income from projected member dues, you can determine the amount of fundraising that will be necessary to fill the void.

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Republican Women of Whatever County			
TREASURER'S REPORT			
BEGINNING BALANCE			30-Nov-25
Donations	\$ 50.00		
Event income	\$ 600.00		
Fundraising income	\$ 125.00		
Member dues	\$ 1,200.00		
Miscellaneous	\$ 15.00		
RECEIPTS		\$ 1,990.00	
Annual club fee	\$ (15.00)		
Charitable contributions	\$ (35.00)		
Event expense	\$ (125.00)		
Fundraising expense	\$ (25.00)		
Meeting expense	\$ (23.00)		
Member dues to MFRW	\$ (750.00)		
Officer expenses	\$ (30.00)		
Political contributions	\$ -		
Postage	\$ -		
Printing	\$ -		
DISBURSEMENTS		\$ (1,003.00)	
ENDING BALANCE		\$ 987.00	31-Dec-25

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**NFRW Resources** @ nfrw.org – Members → Leader Resources → Club Treasurers

- NFRW Deadlines Calendar
- FAQs – Membership & Dues
- Check register template
- And much more...



## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is the heartbeat of our organization. It is an opportunity for women to find their voice and make a difference. It is a place where, surrounded by energetic, passionate and like-minded women, conservatives can freely speak their mind.

Membership in a local club automatically enrolls the individual as a member of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW) and the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). That means opportunity!

Membership provides the opportunity to:

- Meet top Maryland and national politicians and speakers
- Participate in trainings in areas of interest -- campaign management (for candidates and volunteers), what's happening in our schools, voter integrity, membership development, communication skills and much more
- Access a wealth of resources on the MFRW and NFRW websites
- Meet Republican women from across Maryland and throughout the United States.

*MEMBERSHIP → OPPORTUNITY → KNOWLEDGE*

The more members we recruit, the stronger and louder our voice!

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### HOW TO GROW A STRONG CLUB

- Communicate with your members – promote club, MFRW and NFRW events
- Build a strong club leadership board
- Make members feel special
- Honor each member's opinion – keep the discourse respectful
- Welcome new members – provide an orientation packet
- Recruit elected Republican women into your clubs
- Provide interesting programs
- Consistency builds attendance – regular meeting date/time/place

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### How does a club remove a DECEASED MEMBER from the NFRW reporting spreadsheet?

Enter "Yes" or "Y" or "True" in Column AD when you next submit renewals/new members.

AF

Deceased?

# SUBMITTING MEMBERSHIP DUES

## Monthly Excel (.xlsx) File Submission

### 1) Excel file

NOTE: Expiration date for 2025 memberships will always be 12/31/2025

- Complete these columns for:
  - **NEW** member: first name (Col I), last name (Col H), member type (Col V – Primary Member), expiration date (Col U).
    - Dues received from a new member late in the year for the next calendar year – do not submit until January.
  - **EXISTING** member: expiration date (and update any address or contact information that may have changed).
  - **DECEASED** member: Enter “Yes” or “Y” or “True” in Column AF.
  - **ASSOCIATE** members should not be included on the Excel file.
- **Highlight** all rows on the Excel spreadsheet that contain new or updated information. Changes not highlighted will be lost when uploaded to the NFRW website and will not be reflected in the Excel file you will receive for your next submission.

### 2) Transmit the Excel file

- Send just 1 Excel file (.xlsx) per month
- Email Assistant Treasurer Maria Sofia ([msofia9412@gmail.com](mailto:msofia9412@gmail.com)) and copy Treasurer Anne White ([whitesk8s@comcast.net](mailto:whitesk8s@comcast.net)).
- Subject line → **club name, current month and year** (e.g. CCWRCJanuary2025)
- Note payment information (**check #** and **amount**) in the **body of the email**.

3) Mail check payable to “MFRW” to PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401.

4) After dues payments have been entered into the NFRW database, the Assistant Treasurer will email an updated Excel file that you will use for your next submission. Please allow 1-2 weeks for processing.

5) When working with the Excel file, **DO NOT change or delete any column or column header**. The slightest alteration to the columns can make the file unusable. You would then have to start over using an older file and re-entering all changes. Moving across or up-and-down columns is fine. Entering the changes in the appropriate cells is fine.

6) The NFRW database accepts member dues for a single year. If your club accepts a **dues payment for multiple years**, the club must track that information and submit the dues when renewals open for each of those years (typically October 1<sup>st</sup> of the prior year).

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**Facebook:** Connect with friends, family, and communities globally. Share news, events, personal updates, and join groups based on interests. Threads allow for focused discussions within larger communities, ideal for organizing events, debates, or specific topic breakdowns.

**Twitter/X:** Share and discover brief updates, news, and trends in real-time. Engage in public conversations through replies, retweets, and hashtags. Threads offer extended commentary on a single tweet, enabling detailed arguments, storytelling, or information sharing.

**Instagram:** Capture and share high-quality photos and videos, follow trends and influencers, and express yourself visually. Threads enable extended storytelling beyond captions, showcasing product reveals, step-by-step tutorials, or behind-the-scenes glimpses.

**Threads:** Unwind the story beyond the caption. String together posts, photos, and videos to showcase product reveals, step-by-step tutorials, behind-the-scenes moments, or extended narratives on your favorite platforms. Launched in July 2023 by Meta, it aims to replicate the positive sharing experiences of Instagram in a text-focused environment.

**Truth Social:** Similar to Twitter, emphasizing free speech and limited content moderation. Users share news, opinions, and political commentary. Threads facilitate discussions on current events, policy debates, and conservative viewpoints.

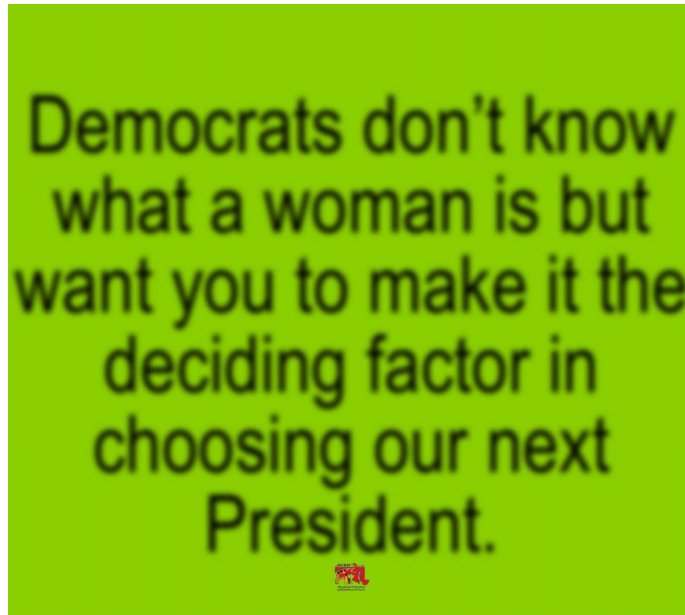
**Rumble:** Similar to *YouTube*, marketed as a free speech alternative. Popular among conservative content creators. Threads within videos allow for commentary, rebuttal arguments, and community engagement around controversial topics.

Social media **PRIVACY SETTINGS** empower users to manage their personal information and post visibility. Users can customize profile details, control post audiences (public, friends-only, or custom groups), and, on some platforms, specify friend request preferences. Navigating these settings allows individuals to tailor their online presence according to their preferred privacy level, ensuring they have control over who accesses their content and interacts with them on these social media platforms.

**Memes and Internet Phenomena** demonstrate the power of the internet to connect people, spread ideas, and create shared experiences. They can be hilarious and thought-provoking, but one thing's for sure, they're never boring!

- Picture-based jokes, catchphrases, or trends that spread like wildfire online.
- Connect with others over shared experiences and laugh at the bizarre -- poke fun at current events, social issues, or just the absurdities of everyday life.
- Memes mutate, remix, and adapt, taking on new meanings and interpretations as they spread. It's like watching internet culture in real-time!
- Memes can be used to raise awareness, spread information, or even spark social movements. They have the power to unite people and challenge the status quo.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



When you visit another state and they say they have Maryland style crabcakes.



Continuing **CONTENT** is key  
(club events, holidays, issues, action alerts, etc.)

### How to Create and Share Content

- Utilize websites to create content -- *canva.com* or *picmonkey.com*
- Templates are your friend – content should not be complicated
- Link your Instagram and Facebook accounts – enter once, post to both
- Plan your posts by creating a social media calendar
- Facebook allows you to create multiple posts and schedule when they will appear
- Tell the story with photos
- Keep it simple and fun

# SOCIAL MEDIA

What NOT to post:

- Content not relevant to your organization's mission
- Spammy content (large number of links, irrelevant links)
- Don't #Abuse #Hashtags -- no hashtags on Facebook
- Profanity, offensive content, rants
- Poor grammar
- Unprofessional content – rants, bashing of public officials, candidates, legislators
- Website links not fully read
- Blurry images
- Repeat messages – same content over and over again
- Copyrighted material not authorized to post
- Social media spats via comments

## FACEBOOK

Terminology

- Post – content published for followers
- Comment – a statement made on a post
- Share – content originally from another post
- Admin – person in charge of a page or group
- Story – a non-permanent post for quick update to followers
- Platform – a network to post content

Facebook Pages

- Purpose -- interacting with audience in a professional manner
- Goal – gain followers
- Only approved people can post
- Club updates and information
- Sharing content from the MFRW or NFRW

Facebook Groups

- Purpose -- conversing directly to members
- Goal – gain members
- Members can post with admin approval
- Moderate content
- Place for candidate information but only those in your county

## INSTAGRAM

- Use photos to highlight events
- Instagram Stories are designed for quick updates and last for 24 hours after posting
- Utilize filters to edit photos
- Use hashtags to boost followers -- #MDGA25, #MFRW, #Republican, #GOP, #MFRWinAction, #MDPolitics, #RedScarfDay25

# SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS

- I. Mission
  - II. Ethical, Safe and Effective Practical Standards
    - A. Audiences
    - B. Definitions
    - C. Ethical, Safe and Effective Practical Standards
  - III. Ethical, Safe and Effective Practical Standards
- 

## **I. Mission**

The goal of MFRW's Social Media Guidelines is to provide users guidance on their use of this organization's social media platforms.

This document covers the conduct and expectations for those participating in this organization's social media or social networking platforms.

## **II. Ethical, Safe and Effective Practical Standards**

*A. Audiences: These guidelines are intended for the following audiences:*

- Organization designees who:
  - a) are charged with creating and/or updating the organization's social media sites and forums;
  - b) participate in the organization's social media sites and forums; and/or
  - c) participate in and/or promote the organization's issues and agendas in non-organization social media sites and forums.
- Public users who participate in and/or promote the organization's social media sites and forums.

*B. Definitions:*

Social Media or social networking includes all forms of online publishing and discussion, including but not limited to: blogs, wikis, file-sharing, texting, user-generated video and audio, social networks and other social networking applications.

Participants on these sites include organization members as well as non-members/the public.

Creative Commons licenses give everyone from individual creators to large institutions a standardized way to grant the public permission to use their creative work under copyright law. <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

## **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS**

### *C. Ethical, Safe and Effective Practical Standards:*

This organization fully respects the rights of its members. However, failure to abide by these guiding principles could put a person's participation and membership with the organization at risk.

1. Follow applicable laws and guidelines
2. Be informed and interesting – and listen
3. Always be respectful, and be polite when disagreeing
4. Make sure you properly attribute all content
5. Be responsive
6. Use discretion at all times
7. Transparency, honesty, and integrity are paramount
8. Be authorized and official
9. Respond to violations of Standards

### Public (Non- Members/Non-Stakeholders)

Given the public nature of social media sites and platforms, there will always be non-members who will visit and participate in these sites, forums and discussions. Such participation is welcome as a means of sharing experiences, suggesting improvements, etc.

By participating in this organization's social media (forums, discussions, blogs, etc.), public users agree they will not:

- Post material the organization deems to be threatening, harassing, illegal, obscene, defamatory, libelous, or hostile towards an individual or entity.
- Post contact information for an individual or entity in the body of their comments without the express permission of that individual or entity.
- Post material that infringes on the rights of the organization or any individual or entity, including privacy, intellectual property or publication rights.
- Post material that promotes or advertises a commercial product or solicits business, financial or other support in any business, group or organization.
- Repeatedly post the same content or otherwise distribute SPAM.
- Post comments under multiple names or using another person's name.

If a user is found to be in violation of any of these Standards, the organization reserves the right to ban future posts and/or remove or edit comments.

# **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS**

## **III. Ethical, Safe and Effective Practical Standards: Guidelines and Examples**

### **Standard No. 1 Follow Applicable Laws and Guidelines**

Always remember, when utilizing social media channels, to conform to all appropriate laws and regulations, as well as guidelines adopted by and governing the organization.

Keep in mind privacy laws such as HIPAA, Sarbanes-Oxley, etc.

Adhere to all appropriate intellectual property laws and guidelines.

Communications must not contain confidential or proprietary information.

### **Standard No. 2 Be Informed and Interesting – and Listen**

Write in an interesting, educational manner.

Engaging your audience will increase interest and help retain your audience.

Write shorter entries more often to show you are engaged.

Entries do not have to be long, just well thought out.

Announce campaigns, appeals and successes to keep your online audience informed with up-to-the-minute information.

### **Standard No. 3 Always Be Respectful, and Be Polite When Disagreeing**

Post meaningful, polite and respectful comments – no SPAM, no remarks that are off-topic or offensive, etc.

Do not pick fights in a misguided attempt to drive traffic.

Your goal is to engage and encourage, not offend.

If you see misrepresentations made about your organization, point out the errors and stick to the facts.

Honest disagreement is fine so long as you can detail and explain your opinion. When engaging in such a discussion, always stay appropriate, polite and on point.

Feel free to let your personality show but think of the constituency that reads your posts



## **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS**

Do not respond negatively to comments with which you do not agree.

Present issues in a thoughtful manner – address opposing viewpoints with facts rather than opinion.

Provide links to research documents that form the basis for your viewpoint.

Explain in a courteous tone why you disagree.

### **Standard No. 4 Make Sure You Properly Attribute All Content**

When reposting or retweeting content from other users, make sure you attribute it and link to it appropriately.

Respect proprietary information, content, and confidentiality at all times.

When linking to an organization's website, do not repost copyrighted material to social networks without prior permission.

Remember that the terms of service of a social media site apply to what you post and gather on that site. The terms might allow for material that you post to be used in a different way than intended.

Make sure that you review the Creative Commons license or any copyrights of any photos or text that you are citing.

Ask permission or look for the Creative Commons license if you are going to use someone else's words or images.

### **Standard No. 5 Be Responsive**

Always pause and think before posting. Reply to comments in a timely manner, when a response is appropriate and will advance the topic and understanding.

Response time will depend on the size, location and scope of your organization and/or campaign.

Define what issues your organization can and wants to respond.

Negative posts are not always the best to respond to quickly.

Fueling an agitator or engaging them in nonproductive exchanges may not be the best use of resources.

# **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS**

## **Standard No. 6 Use Discretion At All Times**

The organization's programs in the social media environment can have far-reaching impact — both positive and negative. Common sense and good judgment are paramount.

Use discretion — err on the side of caution.

Anything you post is accessible to anyone with a web browser.

If you are about to post something that makes you even the slightest bit uncomfortable, review these Standards and request review by the president.

A good rule of thumb: If it makes you uncomfortable, odds are you probably shouldn't post it.

## **Standard No. 7 Transparency, Honesty, and Integrity Are Paramount**

Full disclosure, attribution and transparency are critical when representing the organization.

Always be upfront and truthful. If you make an error, be honest and up front about it, and immediately correct it.

In a blog, if you choose to modify an earlier post, make it clear that you have done so, and indicate date of change or update.

You should take care to check and conform to your organization's branding and communications guidelines to ensure that both the integrity and uniformity of these items are maintained through all social media.

The organization should have an emergency response plan for social media -- what to do if bad news or developments hit the organization.

## **Standard No. 8 Don't Mix Worlds – Know the Line Between Professional and Personal**

- The Blurring of Public and Private -- Remember that postings can be easily circulated beyond your intended audience.
- Personal Time, Professional Impact -- Recognize that everything you write or receive on a social media site is public. Use care that the content you post is

## **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS**

consistent with organization goals. Never participate anonymously or use a pseudonym on social media sites

- No Unapproved or Personal Marketing -- Organization members should not use the organization's social media for unapproved or personal purposes.
- Draw a firm and careful line between personal and professional communications.
- Write entries in a professional and ethical manner with your audience in mind.
- What is published on the Internet generally cannot be removed. Ask "Is this posting appropriate?"

### **Standard No. 9 Be Authorized and Official**

- Any time you act as a spokesperson for the organization, it is imperative that you first get proper approval.
- Your organization will determine its voice, who is allowed to speak for it, and how its social media platforms are to be created and managed.
- Assume that all social media activity will create a permanent written record of what you say. Get advance authorization from the president for potentially controversial postings.
- Get advance clearance before creating a new presence on any additional public social network websites, or creating any social networking forum on behalf of the organization.
- Secure prior review and approval from the president (or designee) before deleting any forums, content, or comments.
- When creating an official presence on a social media network, you must use a legitimate, designated organization or affiliate organization email address. Make sure to provide the president (or designee) with the username and password for these sites.
- Do not publish content that contradicts the organization's mission or values.

# **SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES: ETHICAL, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS**

## **Standard No. 10 Respond to Violations of Standards**

- It is important that all participants be familiar with these Standards.
- Educate yourself on and follow the organization's current policies and ethical guidelines.
- Be sure you have proper approval and authority before engaging as an organization spokesperson on a public platform.
- Follow all relevant organization policies and requirements.
- Pay special attention to policies that apply to confidentiality and communications.
- Organizations will need to determine how to respond when there is inappropriate behavior through social media.

Individuals may be held personally liable for defamatory, proprietary or libelous commentary.

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### **CONTENT SUGGESTIONS**

- Club and member activities and accomplishments
- Commonly celebrated events (day, month) – not just as congratulatory but also to state our position on relevant topics.
- *Did you know...*
- Highlight Democrat hypocrisy, ridiculous legislation, etc.
- Legislative efforts
  - "Call to Action" – bill testimony, legislator contacts
  - Position on bills -- excerpts from bill testimony
  - Excerpts from Legislative Committee's researched topics (brochures, talking points, etc)
- NFRW posts
- Quotes from Republicans and others when relevant
- Relevant documents – excerpts (relate to current issues/positions):
  - Bill of Rights
  - Federalist Papers
  - Keep Nine
  - U.S. Constitution
  - Declaration of Independence
- Republican legislators, elected officials, MDGOP (within constraints of equal time, non-endorsement, etc.)
- *This date in history...*

# **YOUTH OUTREACH**

## **Beginner's Guide to Recruiting Young Women**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Young Republican women continue to be an important component of the membership of the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). The NFRW over the years has struggled to outreach to this demographic of Republican women; and there has been a concerted effort in recent years.

### **ISSUES**

All Republicans are passionate about certain topics. Some focus on social issues while others focus on fiscal and legal issues. Learning what topics interest the younger demographic allows the expansion of outreach to diversify membership. The following topics are not meant for a one-size-fits-all approach in recruitment but rather a way for clubs to brainstorm the incorporation of new thoughts while expanding upon old ones.

- Protecting Women's Sports
- Education
- Economy
- Liberalism on College Campuses

Listen, empower, and learn from young women and their perspective of certain issues.

### **DIGITAL MEDIA**

Young women are rapidly more engaged in digital advertisement that is always in the palm of their hand. Social media and digital outreach are the future of the Federation. Social media is the most inexpensive, reliable, and efficient means of communication and is the best way to reach young Republican women for membership.

The most popular and effective social media platforms are Facebook and Instagram, which can be great tools in reaching a young audience. Create a professional and informative page to attract new members.

### **GRASSROOTS**

Engaging young women through grassroots efforts can be one of the most effective ways of growing the Republican Party. Grassroots encompasses several forms of outreach that include but are not limited to door-to-door, phone banking, postcards, and texting.

Establishing relationships with conservative community organizations builds a stronger coalition of activists. Partner with local Republican auxiliaries along with education and parent groups for a variety of prospective members. Coalescing with these groups will help identify common issues driving the political activity of the community. Organizing with grassroots coalitions can lead to the fostering of our sisterhood.

# YOUTH OUTREACH

## Beginner's Guide to Recruiting Young Women

### LIBERAL CAMPUSES

It is no secret that colleges are liberal. Many young college women are seeking a community to belong to, and the NFRW is a great place to empower change on college campuses.

**Censorship** - Colleges are too progressive. They have become a mold for progressive activism which deters conservative ideals. Partnering with CR chapters will give students hope for conservatism outside of campus.

**Protecting Women's Sports** - Many young women in sports have been faced with the challenge of society telling them they must play against biological men in their sport. This is an attack on women, and the NFRW can be a home to athletes who need a place to feel empowered to change the narrative.

### EDUCATION

**Curriculum** - The public education of our parents is entirely different from the education we have received. Young women interested in curriculum accountability can be a force for moving BOEs in the right direction and get children out of the progressive echo chamber.

**Leadership** - A good education system needs good elected board members. Encourage young women to draft candidates or run for board positions themselves. BOE members do not have to be teachers, and it is arguably the most important race on the ballot.

### ECONOMY

**Economics** is the study of choices, yet choices are limited when the economy is failing and under Democratic rule. Young women are energized now more than ever to fix the economy.

**Taxes** - No one wants to pay taxes, and young conservatives are interested in budget accountability and common-sense spending. The Democratic Party has portrayed to young women that they need the government to survive, but young conservatives know that the solution is less intervention.

**Student Loan Forgiveness** - Many conservative women do not agree with the concept of loan forgiveness because it is common sense that it will turn into more taxes for the general public, including recent graduates.

### ACTION

Now that talking points have been established, it is time to use them in some of the various suggestions below:

- Partner with CR/YR chapters about sharing their stories of facing progressivism and invite them to your meetings.
- New issues always arise in our nation. Start the conversation and ask young women what they are interested in helping with.
- Encourage young women to volunteer for candidates with similar ideals to those they are interested in.

## BAY CLUB

**It's time to RENEW or INITIATE your BAY CLUB membership for 2025.**

**Join at [mfrw.org](http://mfrw.org) or mail your \$110 check payable to "MFRW"  
and your contact info to MFRW, PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401.**

There are currently 30 individual and 15 club members of the 2024 Bay Club.

The BAY CLUB is a donor group supporting the work of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women. It is open to all -- MFRW members, friends, family and businesses.

Your 2025 membership will fund MFRW efforts to increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government, inform the public through political education and activity, and elect Republicans at all levels of government.

Bay Club members enjoy special events, often coinciding with MFRW's Spring Board meeting and Fall Convention. Members also receive a printed copy of the *Trumpeter*.

Membership is valid January 1 through December 31, 2025.

### 2024 Bay Club members

Jana Barberio	Carol Randall
Vikki Birkett	Beth Rodier
Linda Bradley	Kim Rosado
Sharon Carrick	Gary Ruddell
Jean Delcher	Luanne Ruddell
Lynne DeMinco	Anne Rutherford
Ella Ennis	Alma Schultz
Patty Hammond	Audrey Scott
Lisa Herman	Linda Stine Flint
Jana Hobbs	Lisa Thayer-Welch
Kathryn Jerrard	Karen Tully
Liz Mumford	Diana Waterman
Liliana Norkaitis	Anne White
Barb Pivec	Sandy Zitzer
Laurie Plemons	Donna Zupancic

RW of Baltimore County  
RW Leaders of Calvert  
RW of Cecil County  
Chevy Chase WRC  
RW of Frederick County  
Garrett County RWC  
Harford County RW  
Patuxent RW

Potomac RWC  
Rural RWC  
RW of St Mary's County  
Severna Park RWC  
Upper Montgomery WRC  
Wicomico Conservative RW  
RW of Worcester County

## LEGACY FUND

**You can contribute at *mfrw.org* or mail your check payable to “MFRW” and your contact info to MFRW, PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401.**

The **LEGACY FUND** is the brainchild of former MFRW President Betty Jane Carroll (2003-2005), an endowment created by Board resolution on April 16, 2005 to provide perpetual financial support for the organization. Once the Fund reached its base endowment of \$100,000, the MFRW has been able to utilize earnings to support trainings and educational opportunities related to leadership, participation in the legislative process, and election activities.

Those earnings annually support MFRW's Leadership Conference and Red Scarf Day, free to all MFRW members. The fund also allows the MFRW to reimburse a portion of registration costs to members attending the NFRW Biennial Convention. And, of course, there are income taxes on the earnings.

Earnings in excess of \$100,000 can be used for:

- Leadership development for MFRW members
- Educating MFRW members on issues of interest to the Federation
- Skills training for MFRW members
  - Campaign management
  - Communication (oral and written)
  - Lobbying
  - Media relations
  - Outreach skills to increase membership
- Scholarship opportunities
  - State and national meetings
  - Trainings that benefit the Federation

In the past, earnings have been used for:

- MFRW's annual Leadership Conference – free to members
- MFRW's annual Red Scarf Day in Annapolis – free to members and Maryland's Republican legislators
- ½ “Early Bird” registration for MFRW members attending the NFRW's Biennial Convention
- Income taxes on Fund earnings

Maryland is the only state federation in the National Federation of Republican Women with such a funding mechanism. We are forever indebted to Betty Jane Carroll for her foresight and tenacity in bringing the Legacy Fund to fruition.

A minimum \$25 club contribution to the Legacy Fund and/or The Diana Waterman Scholarship Fund is a required element (#11) for the 3 highest MFRW Achievement award levels – Black-Eyed Susan, White Oak, and Maryland Shield.



*Join Us in Our Mission*

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



## National Wreaths Across America Day 2025

**Join the Maryland Federation of Republican Women (MFRW)  
in honoring our local heroes!**

Sponsor a wreath to be placed on a veteran's grave in 2025.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online  
or visit [www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/MD0672](http://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/MD0672)

**Donations accepted now for 2025 placement**



## MFRW website – <https://www.mfrw.org>

*If you haven't visited lately, check it out!*

### About Us

- Governance – a number of documents that govern what we do and how
- Committees
  - Standing Committees (Bylaws, Communications, Finance, Fundraising, Legislative, Membership, Political Activities, Programs)
  - Special Committees (Americanism, Awards, Literacy, Trumpeter)
- Newsletters – 4 most recent editions of *The Trumpeter*
- Officers contact info
- Resources
  - Municipal races 2025
  - Fall Convention handout
  - Leadership handout
- MFRW History
- Regional Information

### Join Us

Contact information, website and social media links for each of our 26 clubs

### Programs

Information on Awards, the Bay Club, the Legacy Fund, and lots of resources under the Americanism heading

### Govt & GOP

Contact info for the Republican House and Senate Caucuses, the MDGOP, the NFRW, Congressman Andy Harris and the RNC

### Legislative

- MFRW's Legislative Priorities 2025
- List of Republican legislators
- Issues research
- 2024 Legislative Summary
- Positions on legislation (updated as the Session progresses)

**NFRW's 43<sup>rd</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION**  
September 26-28, 2025  
Rosen Shingle Creek, 9939 Universal Blvd, Orlando FL

While 2025 Biennial Convention details will not be available for some time, this was the 2023 **SCHEDULE:**

Friday – 7:00 p.m. – Welcome Reception

Saturday

- 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Convention General Session
- 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. – Ronald Reagan Award luncheon
- 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. – Workshops
- 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. – Achievement Awards Ceremony

Sunday

- 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. -- Voting for National officers
- 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. – Prayer breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. to Noon – Convention General Session

The convention **REGISTRATION FEE** generally runs between \$450 and \$500. The MFRW reimburses each MFRW member who is a full-time Biennial Convention attendee ½ of the Early Bird registration fee.

Pursuant to the NFRW Bylaws – Article IX, Section 3(A), the **VOTING BODY** of the Maryland delegation to the Biennial Convention will be:

- President of the MFRW
- 1 delegate from each club
  - *The club president designates the delegate and the alternate for their club unless club bylaws define a different process.*
- 5 delegates-at-large plus 1 additional delegate-at-large for each 500 members or major fraction thereof – 2025 dues paid at least 90 days prior to the convention (Ex: 1,120 members = +2 for a total of 7)

All can attend the Convention even if there are no available delegate or alternate positions. Everyone (delegates, alternates and others) is an equal member of the Maryland delegation, participating in all activities and discussions.

Through the Biennial Convention 2023, at-large delegates and at-large alternates were allocated by the MFRW President to registrants from clubs who had more than 2 members (delegate + alternate) registered for the Convention. A motion was offered at Spring Board 2023 that passed, and now requires that at-large positions be allocated first to elected officers of the MFRW.

Pursuant to the NFRW Bylaws, Article IX, Section 3(B), Maryland's Convention delegation may include an alternate for each voting delegate except the State president. A club alternate must be a full member of that club whose 2025 dues have been paid and who has registered for the full Convention.

In order to be certified as a delegate or an alternate, the individual must be a member in good standing (2025 dues paid) and have registered for the full convention.

# MFRW Country Store

[https://www.zazzle.com/store/mfrw\\_country\\_store](https://www.zazzle.com/store/mfrw_country_store)



## REPUBLICAN CONTACTS

### **NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN (NFRW)**

www.nfrw.org  
124 N Alfred St  
Alexandria VA 22314  
(703) 548-9688

Julie Harris, President  
jharris@nfrw.org

### **CONGRESSMAN** Andy Harris (official business -- scheduling)

www.harris.house.gov  
1536 Longworth House Office  
Bldg Washington DC 20515  
(202) 225-5311

(campaign or political requests)

www.andyharris.com  
PO Box 426  
Stevensville MD 21666  
(443) 693-7244

### **SENATE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS**

www.mdsenategop.com  
info@mdsenate.org  
(410) 841-3561 (301) 858-3561

Senate Minority Leader  
Senator Steve Hershey  
Senate Minority Whip  
Senator Justin Ready

### **MARYLAND REPUBLICAN PARTY**

PO Box 631, Annapolis MD 21401  
(443) 906-3534  
www.mdgop.org  
info@mdgop.org

#### MDGOP Leadership

Chairman – Nicole Beus Harris  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair – Richard Osborne  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – Kathleen Smero  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair – Richard Collins  
Secretary – Mark Uncapher  
Treasurer – Chris Rosenthal

### **NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN**

Nicolee Ambrose  
nicolee@nicoleeambrose.com

### **NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN**

David Bossie  
davebossie@yahoo.com

### **REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE (RNC)**

www.rnc.org  
(202) 863-8500  
310 First Street SE, Washington DC 20003

### **HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS**

www.mdhousegop.org  
info@mdhousegop.org  
(410) 841-3401  
(301) 858-3401

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## MFRW Board of Directors

- Voice and vote
  - MFRW Executive Committee -- elected officers, the regional chairs, and all former MFRW presidents who are regular members in good standing of a MFRW club.
  - Regional vice chairs
  - President of each club
  - Standing committee chairs
  
- Voice but no vote
  - Special committee chairs
  - Parliamentarian, General Counsel, and the Sergeant-at-Arms.

## PAST MFRW PRESIDENTS

2018 – 2021	Diana Waterman	1970 – 1971	Lucille Potts
2016 – 2017	Liz League	1966 – 1969	Sylvia Herman
2014 – 2015	Carol Randall	1964 – 1965	Katherine Rinehart
2010 – 2013	Ruth Umbel	1960 – 1963	Mary Hepburn
2006 – 2009	Patt Parker	1958 – 1959	Mary Ann Beall
2004 – 2005	Betty Jane Carroll	1954 – 1957	Mary Jane Richardson
2000 – 2003	Marilyn Dankner	1951 – 1953	Lorene Bowlus
1997 – 1999	Ann Horner Granados	1949 – 1950	Mrs. Fred E. Fisher
1995 – 1996	Mary Frances Parrish	1947 – 1948	Frances J. Kline
1991 – 1994	Barbara Powell	1945 – 1947	Mrs. W. David Tilghman
1989 – 1990	Janet Greenip	1941 – 1945	Margaret D'Unger
1987 – 1988	Janet Steed	1939 – 1941	Eva Chase
1984 – 1987	Irene Peterson	1935 – 1939	Edna P. Payne
1982 – 1983	Arlene Baybutt	1931 – 1935	Lula E. Powell
1978 – 1981	Fleur Bresler	1926 – 1931	Clara C. Holmes
1976 – 1977	Joan Beck	1925 – 1926	Eva Chase
1972 -1975	Jane Hanks	1921 – 1925	Mrs. George E. Wright

## MARYLAND'S NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMEN

In 1924, women were given equal representation on the Republican National Committee with a rule change providing for a National Committeewoman and National Committeeman from each state.

2013 – present	Nicolee Ambrose	1958 – 1965	Mrs. Robert O. Bonnell
2002 – 2012	Joyce Lyons Terhes	1948 – 1958	Bertha S. Adkins
1996 – 2002	Ellen Sauerbrey	1940 – 1948	Lula E. Powell
1988 – 1996	Helen Bentley	1936 – 1940	Mrs. William P. Lawson
1984 – 1988	Helen Chamberlain	1931 – 1936	Mrs. Calvin Gabriel
1972 - 1984	Louise Gore	1924 - 1931	Mrs. Bladen Lowndes Sr
1965 - 1972	Katherine Massenburg Rinehart		

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### The Diana Waterman Scholarship Fund

An annual scholarship to a college bound young woman from Queen Anne's County planning to study political science with the intent to bring people together for the greater good.

c/o Chesapeake Charities  
101 Log Canoe Cir Ste O  
Stevensville MD 21666



## AWARDS

Awards are presented to clubs that demonstrate excellence in membership development, campaign activities, community relations, programs, and club functions.

Awards requirements provide a blueprint for your club's programming and activities. Utilizing both the MFRW and NFRW award forms in planning makes your job much easier!

Club Presidents and Awards Chairs should review awards forms NOW to determine the requirements and plan club programs and activities accordingly.

**MFRW Club Achievement Awards** are presented annually at a statewide meeting for activities completed during the prior calendar year. Each award level has 10 scoring opportunities. There are 3 mandatory items at each award level.

	ORIOLE	BLACK-EYED SUSAN	WHITE OAK	MARYLAND SHIELD
Level	1	2	3	4
Minimum	4 of 10	5 of 10	6 of 10	7 of 10

MFRW also presents awards for Community Service (Caring for America), Literacy, Political Volunteer Hours and Special Recognition for Newsletter, Website, Meetings, and Political Events.

**Submit applications to Awards Chair Barb Pivec – [bpivec@gmail.com](mailto:bpivec@gmail.com) – by **March 15th****

**NFRW Achievement Awards** will be presented at NFRW's 2025 Biennial Convention for activities completed in 2024 and 2025. Awards are determined by a point system:

160 – 189 points	Bronze award
190 – 214 points	Silver award
215 – 239 points	Gold award
> 239 points	Diamond award

The NFRW awards form is available on the NFRW website:

*[nfrw.org](http://nfrw.org) → [Members](#) → [General Resources and Forms](#) → [Awards Forms](#)*

Information on these additional awards are also available on the Awards page:

Armed Services ◦ Caring for America ◦ Literacy and Education  
Membership ◦ Political and Campaign ◦ Public Relations

NFRW club achievement awards must be submitted to  
MFRW President Sharon Carrick ([sha54ron@verizon.net](mailto:sha54ron@verizon.net)) no later than **June 1, 2025**.



## NFRW Campaign Award submissions

Effective July 1, 2023, the NFRW Campaign Committee began collecting campaign hours and phone calls made every 6 months. Awards are presented for the:

- 1) Top political and campaign volunteer hours logged
  - Volunteer activities (visit NFRW website for list of examples)
  - Participating in activities benefiting the MFRW, your club, the MDGOP and/or Republican candidates (travel to/from, planning, set-up and breakdown, etc)
- 2) Top number of phone calls logged.
  - Calls for any political activities via traditional phone or phone apps

Clubs are responsible for collecting information from their members and completing the online form via the NFRW website no later than the due date to be considered for the period award. Volunteer hours and phone calls can be entered up to 6 months following the online entry deadline but cannot be considered for the period award. Total hours should be rounded to the nearest whole number. Detail by date/event is not needed.

	TIME PERIOD	ONLINE ENTRY BY
1 <sup>st</sup> report	1 Jul 2023 to 31 Dec 2023	15 Jan 2024
2 <sup>nd</sup> report	1 Jan 2024 to 30 Jun 2024	15 Jul 2024
3 <sup>rd</sup> report	1 Jul 2024 to 31 Dec 2024	15 Jan 2025
4 <sup>th</sup> report	1 Jan 2025 to 30 Jun 2025	15 Jul 2025

The fourth report includes a section for the 2-year totals for hours and calls.

The final cumulative awards, which will span the total two-year period, will be presented at the NFRW 43rd Biennial Convention, to be held in Orlando September 25-28, 2025.

Upon completion of the online form, both the individual inputting the data and the MFRW President will receive a receipt with a copy of the information. The committee will also provide a spreadsheet of the information collected to the MFRW President.

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Detailed instructions, FAQs, and the online reporting form can be found at:

nfrw.org → General Resources and Forms → Awards Forms  
(scroll down to *Political & Capaign Awards*)

Club online report form:

<https://republicanwomen.wufoo.com/forms/political-campaign-volunteer-awards-20242025/>

## 2024 MFRW Awards (for activities in 2023)

ORIOLE	OTHER AWARDS
Republican Women of Anne Arundel County	
Republican Women of Frederick County	Most Volunteer Hours (10-30 mbrs)
Hopkins Women's Republican Club	
Rural Women's Republican Club	Most Effective Political Action Event (tie w/ Chevy Chase)
	Greatest Increase in Membership (31-75 mbrs)
Upper Montgomery Women's Republican Club	Most Worthwhile Club Meeting(s)
BLACK-EYED SUSAN	
Wicomico Conservative Republican Women	Most New Members (10-30 mbrs)
WHITE OAK	
Republican Women of Cecil County	
Republican Women of Charles County	Greatest Increase in Membership (10-30 mbrs)
MARYLAND SHIELD	
Republican Women Leaders of Calvert	
Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club	Most Effective Political Action Project (tie w/ Rural)
Garrett County Republican Women's Club	Community Service Award
	Best Newsletter
Harford County Republican Women	
Patuxent Republican Women	
Potomac Women's Republican Club	
Republican Women of St Mary's	
Republican Women of Worcester County	Literacy Award
	Most Effective Club Project
	Best Website
	Most New Members (76+ mbrs)

## NFRW Awards (for activities in 2022 and 2023)

### Diamond Award

RW of Baltimore County  
 RW Leaders of Calvert  
 RW of Charles County  
 Chevy Chase WRC

Garrett County RWC  
 Harford County RW  
 Maryland RW Empowered  
 Potomac WRC

Rural WRC  
 Severna Park RWC  
 Upper Montgomery RWC  
 RW of Worcester County

### Gold Award

RW of Cecil County  
 Chesapeake RW  
 Patuxent RW

### Caring for America Awards – Regional Finalist – Large Club

Garrett County RWC

### Political & Campaign Awards

Top Volunteer Hours – State Winner – Tisha Stone  
 Quarterly Winner – Club with 16-24 members  
 RW of Calvert County

Top Volunteer Phone Calls – State Winner – Maria Sofia

### Silver Award

RW of St Mary's

### Bronze Award

Hopkins WRC

**MFRW CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**application for activities completed during 2024**  
**Due March 15, 2025**

CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMISSION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB AWARDS CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL AWARDS**  
**(limit submission to 1 page or less -- submit with this form)**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE award**

Describe community service provided, benefitting organization or people, and recognition the club received as a known Republican group

**LITERACY awards**

*Most literacy / M.E.L.P. donations (literacy form)*  
*Most diverse literacy donations (quantity and/or activities)*

**MOST awards**

Choose 1 -- describe the activity, # of club members attending, total attendance  
*Most worthwhile club meeting*  
*Most effective club project*  
*Most effective political action event*

**Best NEWSLETTER** -- submit 3 issues

**Best WEBSITE** -- website address: \_\_\_\_\_

Awarded based on 3 club size categories (10-30 members - 31-75 members - 76+ members)

**Most NEW MEMBERS** and **Greatest INCREASE in MEMBERSHIP**  
calculated by MFRW Awards chair using NFRW paid members  
**Most VOLUNTEER HOURS** -- Jan 1 to Dec 31 -- total for all club members

**CLUB ACHIEVEMENT awards**

There are 4 award categories -- each level builds on the level before.  
Each award requirement relates to an activity or action taken by your club.  
Enter "YES" in Column A when appropriate.

**MFRW CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**application for activities completed during 2024**  
**Due March 15, 2025**

YES?	Item #	ORIOLE Award (4 of 10 required)
	1	Held at least 5 meetings during 2024
	2	Remitted \$15 annual club fee and dues for at least 10 members to MFRW by February 28th
	3	Complied with bylaws and policies of MFRW and NFRW
		Items above are required for the Oriole award.
	4	Had a chair for at least 3 committees (circle those that apply) <i>(Awards, Americanism, Bylaws, Literacy, Caring for America, Media/PR, Newsletter, Political Education/Legislative, Voter Registration, Website)</i>
	5	Meetings and activities were publicized via newsletter, website, email, and/or social media
	6	Club held at least 3 programs on current legislative issues on either the state or national level.
	7	Members acted on legislation as directed by the MFRW Legislative Committee, NFRW advisories, and/or via their own research.
	8	Member(s) attended the Spring Board meeting <u>and</u> the Fall Convention
	9	Supported Republican candidates
	10	Club is a member of the MFRW Bay Club

**MFRW CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**application for activities completed during 2024**  
**Due March 15, 2025**

**YES?** Item # **BLACK-EYED SUSAN Award (5 of 10 required)**

- 11 Contributed at least \$25 to the MFRW Legacy Fund and/or The Diana Waterman Scholarship Fund
- 12 Supported the MDGOP and/or local Central Committee (financially or volunteer hours)
- 13 Held a special membership recruitment activity or event

Item # **Items above are required for the Black-Eyed Susan award.**

- 14 Invited MFRW President or Vice President to a club meeting
- 15 Member(s) attended Leadership Conference and/or Red Scarf Day
- 16 Maintained a club history and shared a news clipping and/or photo of a club event with the Trumpeter editor or the MFRW Public Relations Committee.
- 17 Participated in a voter registration, ballot collection or GOTV effort
- 18 Sponsored a fundraising event and/or project
- 19 Helped start, financially supported, or mentored a Teenage Republicans, College Republicans, or Young Republicans group
- 20 Engaged in a non-political community service project (describe below)

**MFRW CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**application for activities completed during 2024**  
**Due March 15, 2025**

YES?

Item #

**WHITE OAK Award (6 of 10 required)**

- 21 Issued 4+ newsletters to members
- 22 Shared MFRW and NFRW information with club members and promoted national, state and regional programs
- 23 Promoted Republican legislation at the local, state or national level via email, text, website, etc.

Items above are required for the White Oak award.

- 24 Reviewed club bylaws for needed updating and provided a copy to the MFRW Bylaws Chair
- 25 Displayed club awards at meetings
- 26 Budgeted funds to help send delegate(s) to the Spring Board and/or Fall Convention
- 27 Donated book(s) from the NFRW book list and/or other relevant text(s) -- shared recipient(s) and book title(s) with MFRW Literacy chair
- 28 Club has a Parliamentarian to monitor conduct at meetings and to educate members in parliamentary procedure
- 29 At least 1 club meeting featured a state elected official, NFRW officer, and/or board member as a speaker
- 30 Americanism chair presented a program at a club meeting

**MFRW CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**application for activities completed during 2024**  
**Due March 15, 2025**

YES? Item #

**MARYLAND SHIELD Award (7 of 10 required)**

- 31 Met at least 7 times (provide topic and speaker for each below)  
(a)  
(b)  
(c)  
(d)  
(e)  
(f)  
(g)
- 32 Meeting programs included a current local, state or national legislative or political issue of importance
- 33 Contributed at least \$25 to NFRW's Marion Martin Building Endowment, The Federation Fund and/or the Kathy Brugger Residential Fund
- Items above are required for the Maryland Shield award.
- 34 Club has an active public relations program
- 35 Club member(s) participated in a campaign management program
- 36 Member(s) visited a local, state or national legislative body in session
- 37 Club held an essay contest for students (limited to K-12) promoting Americanism and patriotism.
- 38 Provided a monetary scholarship or cash award to benefit a needy Republican woman in our region
- 39 "Shared" at least 10 posts from NFRW's Capital Connection or social media accounts with members
- 40 Held a program on the RNC delegate process (even numbered years) or the NFRW Biennial Convention delegate process (odd numbered years)





# BYLAWS

## Robert's Rules of Order – §§ 2, 56 and 57

*Bylaws establish an organization's basic structure and manner of operation. The content of an organization's bylaws has important bearing on the rights and duties of its members.*

*Bylaws:*

- *Define the primary characteristics of the organization*
- *Prescribe how the organization functions*
- *Include all rules that the organization considers so important that they:*
  - *Cannot be changed without previous notice to the membership and the vote of a 2/3 majority, and*
  - *Cannot be suspended.*

*The only limitations upon the rules that such a body can thus adopt might arise from the rules of a parent body (NFRW Bylaws and MFRW Bylaws), or from national, state or local law affecting the particular type of organization (IRS restrictions on 527 political organizations).*

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**Updated MFRW Bylaws** can be found at :

[mfrw.org](#) → About Us → Governance -->

[MFRW Bylaws \(amended Nov 12 2022\)](#)

[Club Bylaws and Bylaws Information](#)

Below this heading, you will find club bylaws listed by region.

**NFRW Bylaws** can be found at:



[nfrw.org](#) → Login → Members → Committee & Issue Resources → Bylaws

[Download the NFRW Bylaws](#) [PDF, 26 pages, amended September 2021]

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Do you need member access to these websites?

[mfrw.org](#) – select REGISTER

|  Other bookmarks |  Rea

[REGISTER](#)

[LOGIN](#)

[nfrw.org](#) → Login → Need Login Help? → Not registered?

**BYLAWS**  
**Maryland Federation of Republican Women, Inc.**  
Founded June 10, 1921  
Incorporated September 10, 1999

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**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this Corporation shall be the Maryland Federation of Republican Women, Inc. (MFRW).

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSES**

The purposes of the Corporation shall be to:

- A. Increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government;
- B. Disseminate information to all local clubs;
- C. Inform the public through political education and activity;
- D. Foster loyalty to the Republican Party at all levels of government;
- E. Promote the principles of the Republican Party;
- F. Work for Republican candidates in all elections, including non-partisan elections;
- G. Support the objectives and policies of the Republican National Committee; and
- H. Perform any lawful activity not inconsistent with the foregoing.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1** -- Member in Good Standing:

- A. An individual member in good standing is one whose current dues are paid in an MFRW local club and who supports Article II of these Bylaws and all MFRW policies.
- B. A club in good standing is one whose current dues and service charge have been paid to the MFRW and to the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW).

**Section 2** – Eligibility

- A. Full Membership in the MFRW shall be extended to individual registered Republican women who join a local MFRW club.

- B. Republican women who have a full membership in a MFRW local club are eligible for Associate Membership in other local clubs upon payment of the required annual club dues. Dues for Associate Members do not include charges for MFRW or NFRW membership as those charges have already been paid with the dues to their primary club. Associate Members cannot hold office, vote or be counted for the purpose of determining the number of delegates to National or State Federation Meetings or Conventions.
- C. Republican men are eligible for Associate Membership upon payment of the required annual dues to the local club. They cannot hold office, have a voice or vote or be counted for the purpose of determining the number of delegates to national or state federation meetings or conventions.

**Section 3** -- Requirements for local clubs

- A. MFRW and each of its local clubs, including Virtual/E-Clubs which meet through utilizing technology, may be admitted to and continued in NFRW membership if their bylaws are not in conflict with the NFRW or MFRW Bylaws and the purposes of those organizations.
- B. Neither MFRW nor any of its local clubs, including Virtual/E-Clubs which meet through utilizing technology, nor an individual member that advocates a split party ticket or supports a candidate running on an opposition ticket, shall be admitted to or continued in membership.
- C. Dues and service charges must be paid in accordance with MFRW and NFRW deadlines.
- D. Only members with full membership in a local club, including a Virtual/E-Club which meets through utilizing technology, and who are in good standing, are eligible to be delegates or alternates to a MFRW or NFRW Meeting or Convention and shall be counted from only one local club for the purpose of representation.
- E. The word “Republican” shall be included in the title of all local clubs, including Virtual/E-Clubs which meet through utilizing technology. Local clubs, including Virtual/E-Clubs which meet through utilizing technology, shall not use the word “Federation” in their titles, but may use the word “Federated.”
- F. A voting member shall have but one (1) vote, even though she may be entitled to vote in either of several capacities. She may not give her right to vote in one capacity to another member in order to circumvent the “one person, one vote” rule.
- G. Election of officers in all local clubs, including Virtual/E-Clubs which meet through utilizing technology, must occur so that the new officers take office at the beginning of the fiscal year, January 1.

**Section 4** -- Local Club Application Requirements

- A. There shall be no limit to the number of local clubs that may be organized within an area. Local clubs shall consist of ten or more Republican women who form a permanent organization, adopt bylaws in compliance with the MFRW and NFRW bylaws, pay MFRW and NFRW dues and service charges and hold at least five (5) meetings within a twelve (12) month period if unusual circumstances prohibit more frequent meetings.

- B. An application for membership in MFRW and NFRW, together with a copy of the club's bylaws, the names and addresses of its members, along with the first year's annual dues and service charges, shall be sent to the Chairman of the MFRW Region who shall present the application to the MFRW Executive Committee for action. Upon approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, the MFRW Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer will forward the appropriate dues and fees to NFRW.
- C. A local club shall be in good standing of the NFRW and MFRW for at least six (6) months prior to be eligible for representation at convention. The six (6) month period begins on the date the MFRW President notifies the NFRW President in writing, by mail, fax or email, that the local club's bylaws have been approved at the state level and the local club's dues and service charge have been received by the NFRW office.

**Section 5 -- Removal and Reinstatement of a Local Club to MFRW Membership:**

- A. A two-thirds vote of the MFRW Executive Committee is required for removal of any federated local club from membership, after the local club has received notification of the reason(s) in writing, and efforts have been exhausted to repair the infringement.
- B. A local club may be removed from membership for any of the following reasons after the club has received notification of the reason(s) in writing and efforts have been exhausted to repair the infringement:
  - 1. Bylaws which are in material conflict with the MFRW or NFRW Bylaws
  - 2. Non-payment of dues for the total membership and the current service charge
  - 3. Failure to support the Republican Party ticket, advocating a split ticket, supporting a candidate on an opposition ticket or actions which are in conflict with MFRW and/or NFRW Bylaws
  - 4. Failure to comply with MFRW and/or NFRW membership rules
  - 5. Affiliation with a political organization which is not officially recognized as working in concert with the MFRW, NFRW and the Republican National Committee.
  - 6. Failure of a club as an entity to remain neutral during a Primary election, including social media posts and comments, press, and any statements made under the title of the club.
  - 7. Any act or omission intended to cause or have the effect of causing damage to the MFRW or its reputation.
- C. Upon dissolution or removal of any local club, for any reason, all of its assets, records, charter and all other material objects belonging to the club shall be sent to MFRW. None of the assets shall be distributed to any individual officer or member of the club.
- D. All funds of the club will be deposited in an escrow account by MFRW. If at the end of three (3) years the club has not been reinstated, the funds will become part of MFRW's general fund and all other records will be given to the MFRW historian who will determine their disposition.
- E. The right to the use of the name of a dissolved club will revert to MFRW.
- F. A local club may be reinstated by filing an application with payment of dues for at least ten (10) members, the NFRW service charge and upon approval of two-thirds (2/3) vote of the MFRW Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE IV – MFRW OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

### **Section 1 – Officers**

Elected officers of the MFRW shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Fourth Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

### **Section 2 – Eligibility**

- A. Elected and appointed MFRW Officers, Regional Chairmen and Vice Chairmen, and members of Standing and Special committees shall be local federated club members in good standing.
- B. Only one MFRW Vice President shall serve from any Region during the same term of office.
- C. A candidate shall run for only one office in an election.
- D. No elected Officer shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office.

### **Section 3 -- Term**

The MFRW Officers shall be elected at the MFRW Convention in the odd numbered years. The term will be for two (2) years beginning January 1 following their election through December 31 of the second year, regardless of the date of installation. They serve until their successors are elected.

### **Section 4 – Duties of the MFRW President**

- A. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation; shall be charged with the general and active management and direction of the activities of the Corporation; and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are effectuated.
- B. The President of MFRW shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors and shall preside at meetings, including meetings of the Board of Directors; shall appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms, a Parliamentarian, a General Counsel, an Historian, and members of all committees, except as herein otherwise provided; shall chair the Executive Committee; shall have general supervision and direction of all other Officers and shall see that their duties are properly performed; may sign MFRW checks; and shall perform such other duties as the Board of Directors may direct.
- C. The President shall submit an annual report to the Board of Directors.
- D. The President shall represent MFRW on the NFRW Board of Directors by attending meetings, making necessary reports and participating in NFRW activities. She shall also lead the MFRW delegation at the NFRW Conventions.
- E. The President shall represent MFRW on the Executive Committee of the Maryland Republican Party. She shall attend meetings, make reports of MFRW activities, and act as a liaison between MFRW and the Maryland Republican Party.

- F. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee; shall have the general powers and duties of a chief executive officer of a corporation; shall have the power to sign contracts as authorized by the Board of Directors; and perform such duties as properly required of her by the Board of Directors.

**Section 5 – Duties of the MFRW Vice Presidents**

The Vice Presidents, in their order, shall perform the duties of the President in her absence or inability to perform her duties; and they shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the MFRW President. The First Vice President shall be a member of the Finance Committee.

**Section 6 -- Duties of the MFRW Recording Secretary**

The Recording Secretary shall:

- A. Record and report quorums for all MFRW Executive Committee meetings, Board of Directors meetings, and conventions.
- B. Record the minutes of all meetings of the MFRW Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and conventions.
- C. Prepare and maintain a permanent record book of all Minutes, and other documents.
- D. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the MFRW President.

**Section 7 – Duties of the MFRW Corresponding Secretary**

The Corresponding Secretary shall:

- A. Send notices for all meetings.
- B. Conduct correspondence as may be requested by the President or Board of Directors.
- C. Compile a Directory annually for distribution to all members of the Board of Directors.
- D. Notify new clubs of their admission to membership.
- E. Work with Recording Secretary to certify all voting members and proxies at Board of Director and convention meetings.
- F. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the MFRW President.

**Section 8 – Duties of the MFRW Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall:

- A. Have custody of the corporate funds; keep or cause to be kept full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Corporation; deposit all MFRW funds upon receipt from Assistant Treasurer, and other chairman who receive income for events (e.g. Bay Club, Legacy Fund) and deposit them in the name of Maryland Federation of Republican Women in a bank(s) account(s) as may be designated by the Executive Committee.
- B. Disburse funds of the Corporation according to the budget approved by the MFRW Board of Directors, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements.
- C. Keep accurate records, receipts and vouchers of all income and disbursements. These records will be open to inspection by the Board of Directors.

- D. Prepare treasurer's reports of all transactions for the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and conventions.
- E. Be bonded. MFRW will pay the premium for the bonding of the Treasurer for the faithful discharge of her duties.
- F. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
- G. At the end of her term, pass all MFRW books, papers and records of whatever kind, in her possession, to the succeeding Treasurer.
- H. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the MFRW president.

**Section 9 -- Duties of the MFRW Assistant Treasurer**

The Assistant Treasurer shall:

- A. Receive all MFRW dues, service charges and funds.
- B. Keep the membership statistics for MFRW.
- C. Record and report membership information to MFRW and NFRW
- D. Record and transfer all funds to MFRW Treasurer, for deposit.
- E. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
- F. Perform other duties as assigned.

**Section 10 – MFRW Officers' and Committees' Records**

All Officers, Regional Chairmen, Regional Vice Chairmen and Committee Chairmen shall deliver all MFRW records, files and properties to their respective successors at the end of their terms, and at least within one month after retiring from office unless otherwise directed by the President or Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE V – MFRW REGIONS**

**Section 1 – Organization of affiliated clubs**

MFRW affiliated clubs shall be organized as follows:

- A. Statewide Virtual Club
- B. Local clubs organized into six (6) regions:
  - 1. Eastern Shore
  - 2. Montgomery County Federation
  - 3. Northern
  - 4. Central
  - 5. Southern
  - 6. Western

**Section 2 – Assignment of Clubs to Regions**

The MFRW Executive Committee, in consultation with the regional chairmen and affected clubs, and with approval of the Board of Directors, shall assign each local club to one of the six (6) regions.

**Section 3 -- Regional Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Each of the six (6) regions shall have a regional chairman and up to two (2) vice chairmen, not to exceed two (2), as necessary to conduct the business of the region.

**Section 4 -- Election of Regional Officers**

- A. At the annual regional conference prior to the convention held in odd numbered years, a nominating committee, composed of one member from each club in the region, shall be elected by the region to select a slate for chairman and vice chairman of that region.
- B. Election of Regional Chairman and Vice Chairmen of each region shall occur at a regional meeting or caucus prior to the MFRW Convention.
- C. Members in good standing of clubs in the region shall be eligible for consideration.

**Section 5 -- Term of Office**

The term of office for Regional Chairmen and Regional Vice Chairmen shall be two years beginning January 1 following their election.

**Section 6 -- Installation**

All Regional Chairmen and Regional Vice Chairmen shall be installed at the annual Convention in odd-numbered years.

**Section 7 -- Regional Responsibilities**

- A. Regional Chairmen shall act as a conduit of communication and information between the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors and the region she represents. She shall attend all Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings and shall be counted as a member of each respective quorum.
- B. Regional Chairmen shall call one or more annual conferences of the region at a suitable place within the region. These conferences shall be with the cooperation of the regional vice chair(s) and the local club presidents. The Regional Chairman shall notify the MFRW Executive Committee of the date of such conferences.
- C. A Regional Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of the Regional Chairman in her absence or inability to perform her duties and perform such other duties as shall be assigned to her by the Regional Chairman or the MFRW Executive Committee. She shall serve on the Board of Directors and will be counted as a member of the quorum for the meetings. She shall attend meetings of the Executive Committee in the absence of the Regional Chairman, shall vote for the region in the absence of the Regional Chairman, and shall be counted as a member of the quorum when substituting for the Regional Chairman.
- D. The annual regional conference in odd-numbered calendar years shall be convened prior to the MFRW Spring Board of Directors meeting. At that meeting one member shall be elected to serve on the MFRW Nominating Committee. Each Regional Chairman will present her region's selection at the Spring MFRW Board Meeting.



## **ARTICLE VI -- MFRW BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Section 1 -- Members of the Board of Directors**

- A. The voting body of the MFRW Board of Directors shall be the elected officers, the regional chairmen, the regional vice chairmen, the president of each club, all standing committee chairmen, and all former MFRW presidents who are regular members in good standing of a MFRW club.
- B. The non-voting members of the MFRW Board of Directors shall be Chairmen of Special Committees, the Parliamentarian, the General Counsel, and the Sergeant-at-Arms.
- C. Any club president who is unable to attend an MFRW Board of Directors meeting may name a proxy to represent her club at the meeting. The proxy named must be a full member in good standing of the Club she is representing. An official proxy form will be sent to each club president with the official call to all BOD meetings. The proxy must be signed by the club president. (In the event of the president's incapacity, a vice president of the Club may sign the proxy.) The issued proxy must be presented to the MFRW recording secretary and validated before the proxy may vote. Each proxy is valid for only one BOD meeting. Subsequently, if the club president finds that she will be able to attend the BOD meeting, the proxy will be voided, and the club president will be allowed to vote.

### **Section 2 -- Duties of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall:

- A. Consider for approval the program of action as presented by the MFRW President.
- B. Select the sites for the MFRW Conventions from recommendations presented by the MFRW Executive Committee.
- C. Vote on all MFRW policies and procedures recommended by the MFRW Executive Committee.
- D. Adopt the MFRW annual budget and is responsible for all operations involving financial obligations on the part of MFRW, provided that no debt or liability shall be incurred in excess of the regular income of the MFRW.
- E. Fill any vacancy in an elective office and confirm interim appointments made by Executive Committee under Article VII, Section 2(C), at its next meeting following the vacancy, or at a special meeting called by the President. Notice of such vacancy shall be sent with the Call for the BOD meeting, or if the vacancy occurs after the Call is issued, by letter, fax or email.
- F. Adopt rules for the transaction of its business provided they do not conflict with these bylaws or standard parliamentary procedure.

### **Section 3 -- Meetings of the Board of Directors**

- A. Regular meetings of the MFRW Board of Directors shall be held twice a year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall, prior to the state convention.
- B. Special meetings may also be held at the call of the President or upon written request of seven (7) members of the Board, provided the purpose of the meeting is stated in the Call. No other business may be transacted at that time. At least ten (10) days' notice of the time and place of the meeting shall be given.

- C. At least thirty (30) days' notice of meetings shall be given to each member of the Board, except for special or emergency meetings for which a timely notice shall be required.
- D. One-third of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
- E. In the event a properly called Board meeting has to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond the control of the MFRW, then it shall be acceptable to hold said Board meeting by conference call, Skype or approved electronic means, with seven (7) days' notice being given to the members of the Board of Directors. This section does not apply to a meeting required by these Bylaws that has not already been called.

## **ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Section 1 -- Members**

The Executive Committee is composed of the MFRW elected officers, the MFRW regional chairmen, and any past MFRW presidents willing and able to serve who are regular members in good standing of an MFRW club.

### **Section 2 -- Duties**

- A. It shall be responsible for the transaction of MFRW business between meetings of the MFRW Board of Directors, provided that the Executive Committee shall not make any new policies or change existing policy established by the MFRW at its BOD or Convention meetings
- B. It has the right to make expenditures on behalf of MFRW as long as those expenditures are provided for in the Annual MFRW Budget.
- C. It shall confirm the MFRW president's recommendations for chairmen of standing and special committees.

### **Section 3 -- Meetings**

- A. It shall meet monthly or at the Call of the President. It shall make a complete report of its activities at each regular meeting of the MFRW Board of Directors Meeting.
- B. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the president or upon written request of a majority of members of the Executive Committee. At least seven (7) days' notice shall be required for special meetings.
- C. Regular meetings may be dispensed with, for cause, upon a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- D. A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- E. A vote of the Executive Committee may be conducted between meetings by mail, phone, fax, email, or other electronic means and ratified at the next Executive Committee meeting. Responses from a majority of Executive Committee members will constitute a quorum with a majority of votes in the affirmative passing a motion (the same requirements as for a regular meeting).

## **ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1 -- Standing Committees**

The MFRW Standing Committees shall be Bylaws, Communications, Finance, Fundraising, Legislative, Membership, Political Activities, and Program.

- A. The Finance Committee along with the MFRW First Vice President, the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, shall prepare a budget for the upcoming year to be presented at the Fall Board of Directors Meeting, preceding the Annual convention.
- B. The Bylaws Committee shall be authorized to initiate amendments to the bylaws in order to conform to the NFRW Bylaws; to eliminate existing inconsistencies; to clarify the text or improve the form. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Chairman of the Bylaws Committee sixty (60) days prior to BOD meetings and conventions.

**Section 2 -- Special Committees**

MFRW Special Committees, including the Resolutions Committee, shall be appointed by the president, as deemed necessary to accomplish the work of the organization. The Chairmen of Special Committees shall have a voice but no vote at Board of Directors meetings.

**Section 3 -- Duties**

Programs of action (guidelines) for each standing committee and special committee shall be prepared by the Executive Committee and shall be available to each committee chairman for guidance.

**ARTICLE IX – NOMINATIONS**

**Section 1**

- A. A Nominating Committee consisting of one member elected from each region will be presented at the MFRW Spring Board of Directors meeting in the odd-numbered calendar years.
- B. Any member of the Nominating Committee wishing to be considered for election shall be immediately and automatically removed from the Nominating Committee and replaced by another MFRW member from her region.
- C. No two members may serve from the same Region.

**Section 2**

- A. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate one candidate for each office.
- B. No two Vice Presidents may be from the same region.
- C. No person may run for more than one office simultaneously but submissions under Section 3(c) of this article may express an interest in more than one office.
- D. Each candidate must be contacted and be willing to serve.

**Section 3**

- A. Within 14 days following the MFRW Spring Board of Directors meeting in the odd-numbered years, a call for letters of interest shall be posted on the MFRW website and distributed to members via the MFRW email list.
- B. The announcement shall include the offices to be filled, the Bylaws sections that delineate the duties of each office, and the email address and deadline for submission.

- C. Those interested in serving as an elected officer of the MFRW shall electronically submit their letter of interest to the MFRW Corresponding Secretary within 30 days of the website posting and email announcement.
- D. After the submission deadline and at least 14 days prior to the meeting of the Nominating Committee at which letters of interest will be reviewed, the MFRW Corresponding Secretary will forward submissions to all members of the Nominating Committee.
- E. In the absence of interest for a particular office, the Nominating Committee may reach out to individuals who did not submit a letter of interest.
- F. The Nominating Committee shall interview all who expressed interest in an office.

#### **Section 4**

Nominees shall be members in good standing within the MFRW.

#### **Section 5**

- A. The Nominating Committee shall submit the slate of names, together with the affiliated clubs they represent, to the MFRW President to include with the mailing of the Call for the state convention.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of all submissions sorted by office to the Recording Secretary for inclusion in the minutes.

### **ARTICLE X – ELECTIONS**

#### **Section 1**

Nominations, with the consent of the nominee, may be made from the floor at the Biennial Convention.

#### **Section 2**

The election of MFRW officers shall be by ballot unless there is only one candidate for each office, in which case it may be by voice vote. A majority vote will elect.

#### **Section 3**

The election of Regional Chairmen and Vice Chairmen will be by ballot unless there is only one candidate for each office, in which case it may be by voice vote. A majority vote will elect.

### **ARTICLE XI – DUES AND SERVICE CHARGES**

#### **Section 1**

Per capita dues and service charges shall be assessed by MFRW sufficient to cover remittance due and payable to NFRW. Changes in the MFRW annual dues shall be by recommendation of the Board of Directors and majority vote of the delegates at an annual state convention.

## **Section 2**

Dues are payable to the MFRW Assistant Treasurer beginning January 1 of each year. Membership expires each year on December 31. Renewal of membership must be received by the NFRW by March 1 of the following year for the member to remain in good standing. Payments must be received according to the deadlines set by MFRW and NFRW, if a local club and members wish to be represented at meetings and conventions. See Article III, Section 4(C).

## **Section 3**

The MFRW fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

## **ARTICLE XII – CONVENTIONS**

### **Section 1**

The annual state convention of the MFRW shall be held in the Fall, the date and time determined by the Executive Committee for approval by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 2**

The purposes of the Convention will be stated in the Call, which must be sent by the President to all clubs thirty (30) days prior to the meeting, i.e., election of officers, receiving required reports; transaction of other business.

### **Section 3**

- A. A local club and its members must be in good standing to be eligible for representation at the state convention.
- B. The voting members of the MFRW state convention are the MFRW Board of Directors, credentialed delegates and former MFRW Presidents who are regular members in good standing of a MFRW club.
- C. Delegates are elected by each club in proportion to its membership, as certified by the MFRW Treasurer as on June 30th of the year of the Convention.
- D. Each club is allowed one (1) delegate for each five (5) members.
- E. Official MFRW credentials forms must be sent to the Recording Secretary at least one week before the convention.
- F. Fifty (50) voting members (Board of Directors, credentialed delegates, and former MFRW Presidents who are regular members in good standing of a MFRW club) shall constitute a quorum.

### **Section 4**

The annual state convention shall be open to all members of the MFRW and visitors, but only accredited delegates shall be entitled to a voice and a vote. Each delegate is entitled to one vote.

## **ARTICLE XIII -- PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

The rules contained in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the MFRW in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

#### **ARTICLE XIV -- AMENDMENTS**

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at an annual state convention, provided the amendment has been proposed by the Bylaws Committee or an MFRW local club, and was submitted in accordance with Article VIII, Section 1(B). Proposed amendments will be included with the call for the state convention.

#### **ARTICLE XV – INDEMNIFICATION**

The MFRW shall indemnify to the fullest extent authorized or permitted by the State of Maryland, any person made, or threatened to be made a party to an action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that said person is or was an officer, employee or member acting in good faith on behalf of MFRW.

#### **ARTICLE XVI – DISSOLUTION**

In the event of the dissolution of this organization by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, all of its assets remaining after payment of all costs and expenses of such dissolution shall be distributed to the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). None of the assets shall be distributed to any member or officer of this organization.

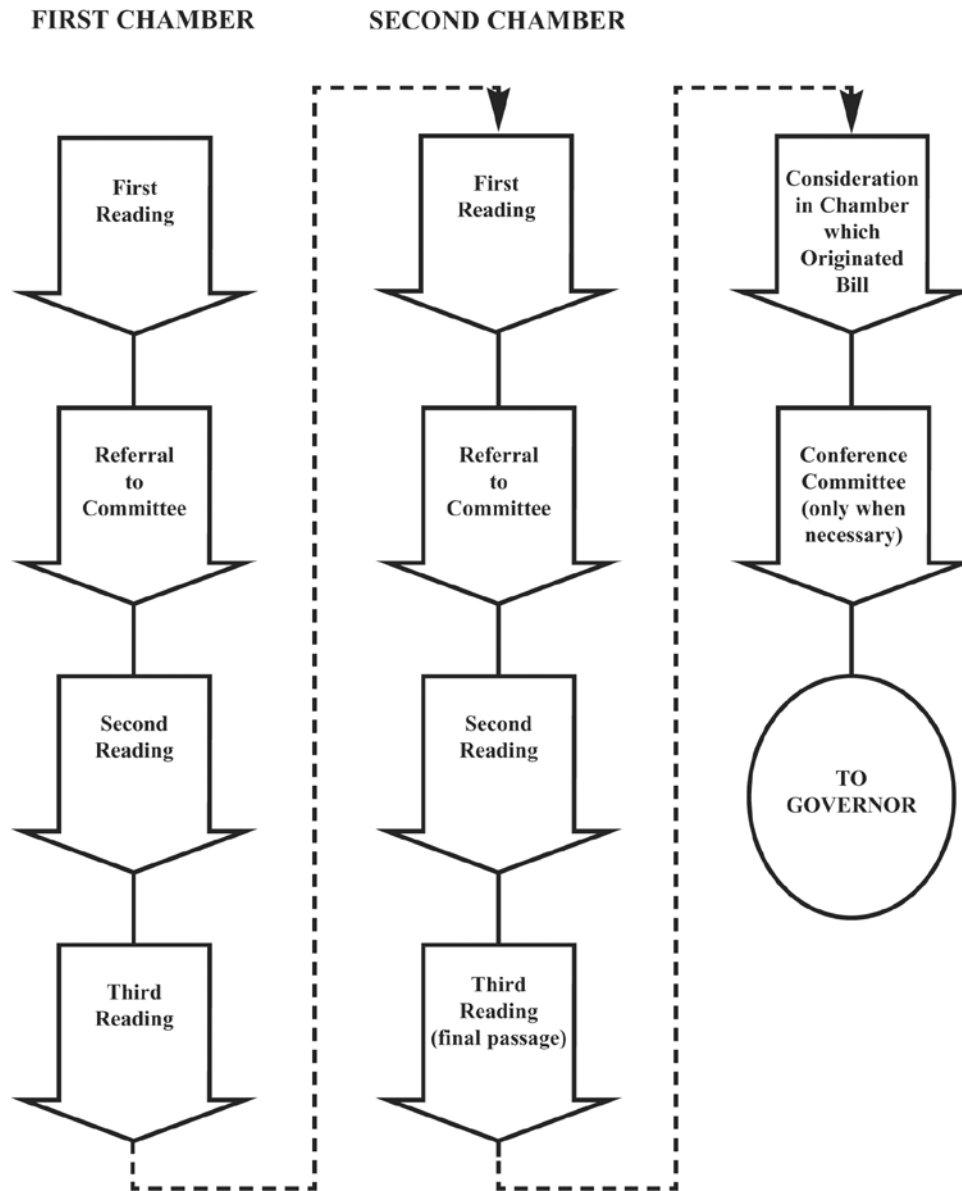
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PREVIOUSLY  
Amended 12 Nov 2022  
Amended 14 Nov 2020



# THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

## The Progress of a Bill





# Maryland Federation of Republican Women

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### CLIMATE / HOUSING / TRANSPORTATION

- 1) Modify *Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan* to reflect balanced energy policies that provide citizens multiple, reliable, and affordable energy choices.
  - a. The timeline for new and increased energy sources is out of sync with increased demand for electricity required by *Plan* mandates.
  - b. Mandates are excessively costly and unfairly limit citizens' right to choose where and how they live (e.g. all electric homes, electric vehicles only).
  - c. Zoning changes that would allow increased density or auxiliary dwelling units in communities of stand-alone single-family homes must remain with the local government authority, not be usurped by the State.
  - d. The plan will burden businesses (especially agriculture and manufacturing) with costly modifications, leading to higher prices for all.
- 2) Repeal annual Consumer Price Index increases to Maryland's motor fuel tax.
- 3) The new electric vehicle surcharge is less than a fair share of transportation construction and maintenance costs when compared to fuel tax paid by gas and diesel vehicles. A replacement (not additional) funding source is needed for the gas tax.

### PUBLIC SAFETY -- Support for law enforcement and safety in our communities.

- 1) We support increased training for police officers in non-lethal methods of restraint and control of individuals or groups, including training for de-escalating tense or potentially violent demonstrations.
- 2) We "Back the Blue" – Overzealous press and prosecutorial decisions have negatively impacted recruitment and retention, resulting in understaffing and reduced enforcement.
- 3) We must develop and implement effective tests for drug intoxication, distinct from alcohol intoxication. Statistics need to separate drug from alcohol intoxication.
- 4) We need to strengthen penalties for persons who:
  - a. Physically attack bystanders, police, or other protesters.
  - b. Set fires, destroy private or public property with graffiti or physical destruction, or participate in looting and theft during protests, demonstrations, or riots.
  - c. Use lasers or projectiles with the intent to obstruct or harm others.

### ELECTION INTEGRITY

- 1) SUPPORT
  - a. Government-issued photo ID requirement for voter registration and voting
  - b. Vote count accuracy and security
- 2) OPPOSE -- Ranked choice voting and approval voting

# Maryland Federation of Republican Women

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### CULTURE OF LIFE

#### 1) SUPPORT

- a. Protection for pain-capable unborn children as a compelling interest of the state.
- b. Education and action to address the deadly rise in fentanyl trafficking and fentanyl overdoses.
- c. More effective treatment (vs. incarceration) for opioid addiction.

#### 2) OPPOSE

- a. Physician-assisted suicide or “death with dignity” legislation.
- b. All attempts to apply the “Right to Reproductive Freedom” constitutional amendment to gender affirming care or to restrict parental rights as they relate to reproductive care for minors.

### EDUCATION

A Department of Legislative Services fiscal briefing in January 2024 projected that deficits directly attributable to the *Blueprint* will appear in 2025 and reach nearly \$2.9B in fiscal 2029.

#### 1) SUPPORT

- a. Altering the *Blueprint for the Future*. The plan does not require that students perform at grade level and adds extra layers of bureaucratic control. It limits parental involvement and does not require parental knowledge or consent for education, social and health services.
- b. Fewer administrators / more teachers - fewer consultants / more tutors.
- c. Education reform emphasizing the basics, with the goal of every child performing at grade level.
  - MCAP proficiency rates for the 2023-2024 school year (grades 3-8):
    - Language arts – 48.4%
    - Mathematics – 24.1%
  - Reading -- 33% NAEP proficient – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students (2022)
  - Science – 23.9% MCAP proficient -- 5<sup>th</sup> grade students (2024)
- d. School choice (vouchers, charter schools, home schooling).
- e. Limit girls’ competitive sports to biological girls. Disproportional muscle mass and other physiological advantages in trans-identifying males increase the danger of life-altering injuries and give trans-identifying males an unfair competitive advantage.

- #### 2) OPPOSE teaching, counseling or promoting gender transition in schools, including agreements between Boards of Education and hospitals or clinics for “gender-affirming” counseling, treatments, or surgeries for children under 18 years of age.

**REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS  
2024**

13 of 47 = 27%			(410) 841-			James Senate Office Bldg	EXEC	
District	Committee	Rm#	(301) 858-		<b>SENATE</b>	11 Bladen St, Annapolis MD 21401	NOMS	RULES
29	B&T	401	(410) 841-3673	Jack	Bailey	jack.bailey@senate.state.md.us		
38	EEE	316	(410) 841-3645	Mary Beth	Carozza	marybeth.carozza@senate.state.md.us	xxx	
2	B&T	403	(410) 841-3903	Paul	Corderman	paul.corderman@senate.state.md.us		
4	JPR	414	(410) 841-3704	Bill	Folden	william.folden@senate.state.md.us		
35	EEE	420	(410) 841-3603	Jason	Gallion	jason.gallion@senate.state.md.us		
36	FIN	423	(410) 841-3639	Steve	Hershey	steve.hershey@senate.state.md.us	xxx	xxx
				<i>Minority Leader</i>				
7	B&T	403	(410) 841-3706	J B	Jennings	jb.jennings@senate.state.md.us		xxx
37	FIN	402	(410) 841-3590	Johnny	Mautz	johnny.mautz@senate.state.md.us		
1	JPR	416	(410) 841-3565	Mike	McKay	mike.mckay@senate.state.md.us	xxx	
5	FIN	315	(410) 841-3683	Justin	Ready	justin.ready@senate.state.md.us	xxx	xxx
				<i>Minority Whip</i>				
6	B&T	321	(410) 841-3587	Johnny Ray	Salling	johnnyray.salling@senate.state.md.us		
31	EEE	320	(410) 841-3658	Bryan	Simonaire	bryan.simonaire@senate.state.md.us		
42	JPR	322	(410) 841-3648	Chris	West	chris.west@senate.state.md.us		
39 of 141 = 27.6%			(410) 841-			Lowe House Office Bldg	EXEC	
District	Committee	Rm#	(301) 858-		<b>HOUSE</b>	6 Bladen St, Annapolis MD 21401	NOMS	RULES
37B	ECM	405	(410) 841-3343	Chris	Adams	christopher.adams@house.state.md.us		
38B	APP	310	(410) 841-3431	Carl	Anderton Jr	carl.anderton@house.state.md.us		
36	ECM	308	(410) 841-3543	Steve	Arentz	steven.arentz@house.state.md.us		
7B	JUD	414	(410) 841-3334	Lauren	Arikan	lauren.arikan@house.state.md.us		
1C	ENV	323	(410) 841-3321	Terry	Baker	terry.baker@house.state.md.us		
5	JUD	321	(410) 841-3200	Eric	Bouchat	christopher.bouchat@house.state.md.us		
1B	W&M	201	(410) 841-3404	Jason	Buckel	jason.buckel@house.state.md.us	xxx	xxx
				<i>Minority Leader</i>				
31	HGO	412	(410) 841-3206	Brian	Chisholm	brian.chisholm@house.state.md.us		
4	ENV	226	(410) 841-3080	Barrie	Ciliberti	barrie.ciliberti@house.state.md.us		
27C	ECM	422	(410) 841-3231	Mark	Fisher	mark.fisher@house.state.md.us		
36	APP	430	(410) 841-3555	Jeff	Ghrist	jeff.ghrist@house.state.md.us	xxx	xxx
6	JUD	416	(410) 841-3298	Robin	Grammer Jr	robin.grammer@house.state.md.us		
35A	W&M	423	(410) 841-3444	Mike	Griffith	mike.griffith@house.state.md.us		
38C	W&M	213	(410) 841-3356	Wayne	Hartman	wayne.hartman@house.state.md.us		
1A	APP	323	(410) 841-3435	Jim	Hinebaugh	jim.hinebaugh@house.state.md.us		
35B	W&M	325	(410) 841-3284	Kevin	Hornberger	kevin.hornberger@house.state.md.us		
30B	ECM	159	(410) 841-3439	Seth	Howard	seth.howard@house.state.md.us		
37B	HGO	308	(410) 841-3582	Tom	Hutchinson	tom.hutchinson@house.state.md.us		
36	ENV	309	(410) 841-3449	Jay	Jacobs	jay.jacobs@house.state.md.us		
31	HGO	165	(410) 841-3421	Nic	Kipke	nicholaus.kipke@house.state.md.us	xxx	xxx
6	W&M	320	(410) 841-3458	Bob	Long	bob.long@house.state.md.us		
42A	APP	320	(410) 841-3258	Nino	Mangione	nino.mangione@house.state.md.us		
34B	APP	411	(410) 841-3272	Susan	McComas	susan.mccomas@house.state.md.us		

**REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS  
2024**

39 of 141 = 27.6%			(410) 841-			Lowe House Office Bldg	EXEC	
District	Committee	Rm#	(301) 858-		<b>HOUSE</b>	6 Bladen St, Annapolis MD 21401	NOMS	RULES
6	APP	413	(410) 841-3332	Ric	Metzgar	ric.metzgar@house.state.md.us		
4	W&M	226	(410) 841-3288	April	Miller	april.miller@house.state.md.us		
29A	HGO	310	(410) 841-3170	Matthew	Morgan	matt.morgan@house.state.md.us		
29C	ENV	215	(410) 841-3319	Todd	Morgan	todd.morgan@house.state.md.us		
31	JUD	156	(410) 841-3510	Rachel	Munoz	rachel.munoz@house.state.md.us		
<i>Delegate Munoz has resigned effective 1 Jan 2025. Her replacement will be selected soon thereafter.</i>								
<i>The Anne Arundel Central Committee will select her successor from 3 applicants.</i>								
<i>Governor Wes Moore will then make a final appointment based on their recommendation.</i>								
7A	ENV	322	(410) 841-3289	Ryan	Nawrocki	ryan.nawrocki@house.state.md.us		
38A	ENV	309	(410) 841-3433	Charles	Otto	charles.otto@house.state.md.us		
4	ECM	212	(410) 841-3118	Jesse	Pippy	jesse.pippy@house.state.md.us		
<i>Minority Whip</i>								
35A	HGO	325	(410) 841-3278	Teresa	Reilly	teresa.reilly@house.state.md.us	xxx	xxx
5	W&M	213	(410) 841-3070	April	Rose	april.rose@house.state.md.us		
33B	JUD	157	(410) 841-3110	Stuart	Schmidt	stuart.schmidt@house.state.md.us		
42C	APP	215	(410) 819-3833	Josh	Stonko	joshua.stonko@house.state.md.us		
7	HGO	322	(410) 841-3698	Kathy	Szeliga	kathy.szeliga@house.state.md.us		
5	JUD	321	(410) 841-3359	Chris	Tomlinson	chris.tomlinson@house.state.md.us		
2A	JUD	324	(410) 841-3636	William	Valentine	william.valentine@house.state.md.us		
2A	ECM	324	(410) 841-3447	William	Wivell	william.wivell@house.state.md.us		

# THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The legislative process, the mechanism through which the laws of Maryland are enacted, is dynamic and complex. One hundred and eighty-eight men and women are elected every four years to serve in the State's legislative branch to enact laws that protect the interest of Marylanders. Legislation introduced in the General Assembly is a legislator's response to the needs or desires of his or her constituency.

In Maryland, an idea or concept must pass through many processes before it becomes law. Citizens of Maryland must approach their legislators to introduce a bill. If the legislator agrees to sponsor the legislation, the bill is drafted by the Department of Legislative Services, reviewed by the legislator, and prepared for introduction. Bills or resolutions may be introduced in advance of regular sessions.

**First Reading:** When the session convenes, the Reading Clerk reads the numbers and titles of the bills being introduced and indicates the committee to which they have been referred by the presiding officer.

**Referral to Committee:** The committees meet daily during the session to receive testimony and take action on bills referred to the committee. Since the legislature is instrumental in integrating public demands with public policy, citizens are encouraged to present their views on the proposed bills by mail or by personal appearance. Lobbyists representing organized interest groups, officials from State agencies, local government representatives, and other interested citizens speak at these hearings, to either oppose or support the proposed legislation.

The Department of Legislative Services prepares a fiscal analysis for each bill, and these fiscal notes are considered during the committee deliberations.

**Second Reading and Floor Consideration:** The bill is reported back to the floor by the committee with its recommendation (favorable, unfavorable, favorable with amendment, or rarely, no recommendation). If the bill is amended by the committee, a vote is taken on the amendment, and if passed, another vote is taken on the bill as amended. Committee action may be reversed, but this is infrequent.

Amendments can then be offered from the floor by any member. After all amendments are considered, the presiding officer orders the bill to be printed for its third and final reading.

**Third Reading:** The bill must be printed in its final version with all amendments included for third reading. No amendments may be presented on third reading in the bill's chamber of origin, and the bill must be passed by a majority of the elected membership.

**Second Chamber:** The procedure follows a pattern identical to that of the chamber in which the bill originated, except amendments may be proposed during third reading, as well as during second reading. If not amended in the second chamber, final passage may occur without reprinting.

# THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

## **Consideration of Bills Originating in One Chamber and Amended in the Second**

**Chamber:** If amended in the second chamber, the bill is returned to the chamber of origin where a vote is taken on a motion to concur or reject the amendments. If concurrence is voted, a final vote is taken on the bill as amended, and action is complete. The bill is reprinted, or enrolled, to include the added amendments before it is presented to the Governor.

If the amendments are rejected, two courses of action are possible: 1) the amending chamber may be requested to withdraw its amendments or 2) upon refusal to withdraw the amendments, either chamber may request a conference committee to resolve the differences between the two chambers.

**Conference Committee:** Three members from each chamber are appointed to a conference committee by the presiding officers to reach a settlement on the proposed legislation. A report of a conference committee goes back to both chambers to be adopted or rejected without amendment. If the conference committee report is adopted, the bill is voted upon for final passage in each house. If the conference committee report is rejected by either house, the conference committee may be directed to reconvene, new members may be appointed, or the bill fails.

**Presentation of Bills to Governor:** Except for constitutional amendments and the budget bill, presentation of all bills to the Governor is mandatory. The budget bill becomes law upon its final passage and cannot be vetoed. Bills must be presented to the Governor within twenty days after adjournment of a session, and in the case of such bills, the Governor may veto within thirty days after presentation. If the Governor does not veto a bill, it becomes law. The Governor may not veto a constitutional amendment.

**Veto Power:** The power to override a veto rests with the legislature. If a bill is vetoed during a regular session, the veto message is considered immediately. If a bill presented after the session is vetoed, the veto message must be considered immediately at the next regular or special session of the legislature, except that the legislature during the first year of a new term may not override a veto. A three-fifths vote of the elected membership in each house is necessary to override a veto.

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## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025**

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebbsite/>

Jan 8 – General Assembly convenes

Feb 3 – Senate bill introduction deadline

Feb 7 – House bill introduction deadline

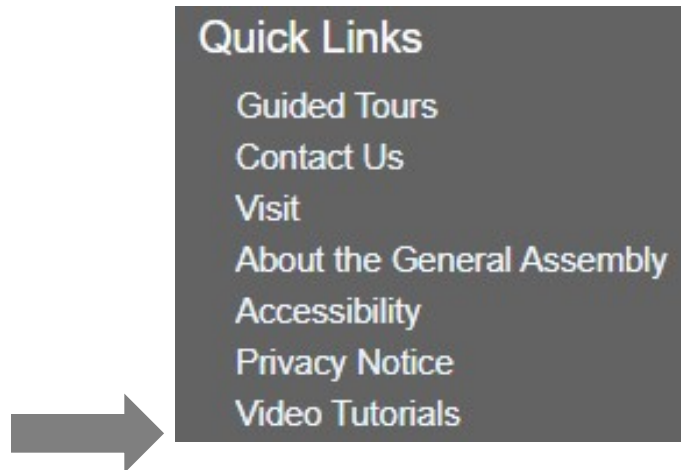
Mar 17 – Bill crossover deadline

Mar 31 – Budget bill must be passed by both chambers

Apr 7 – General Assembly adjourns

**MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY website**  
**HERE'S HOW YOU CAN UTILIZE THE WEBSITE**  
**TO MONITOR LEGISLATION**

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/>



At the bottom of the Home Page, you will find a link to Video Tutorials – a great place to start (especially \*\*):

- Intro to the MGA website
- Understanding a bill page
- Searching for bills
- Finding a legislator
- Searching media
- Bill tracking lists
- MyMGA New Account
- Witness sign up

Once you have reviewed the tutorials, spend some time exploring each of these headings.

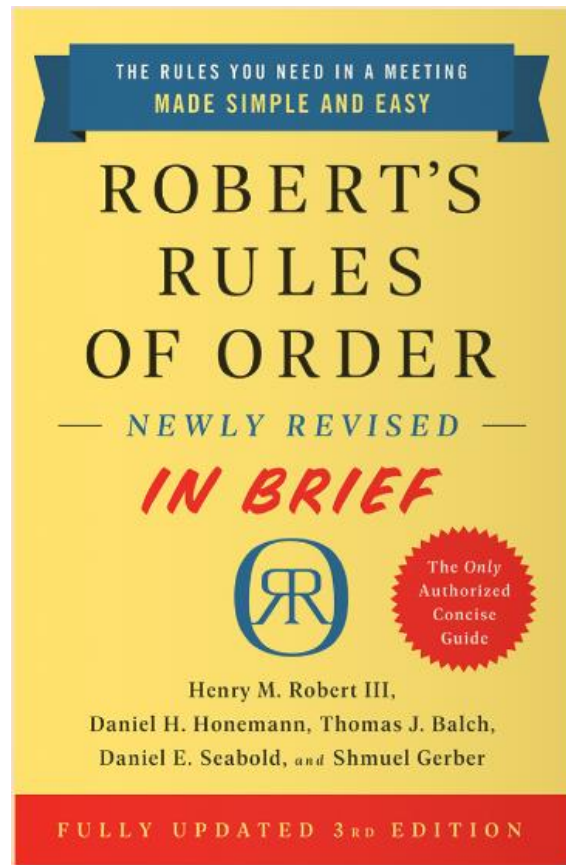
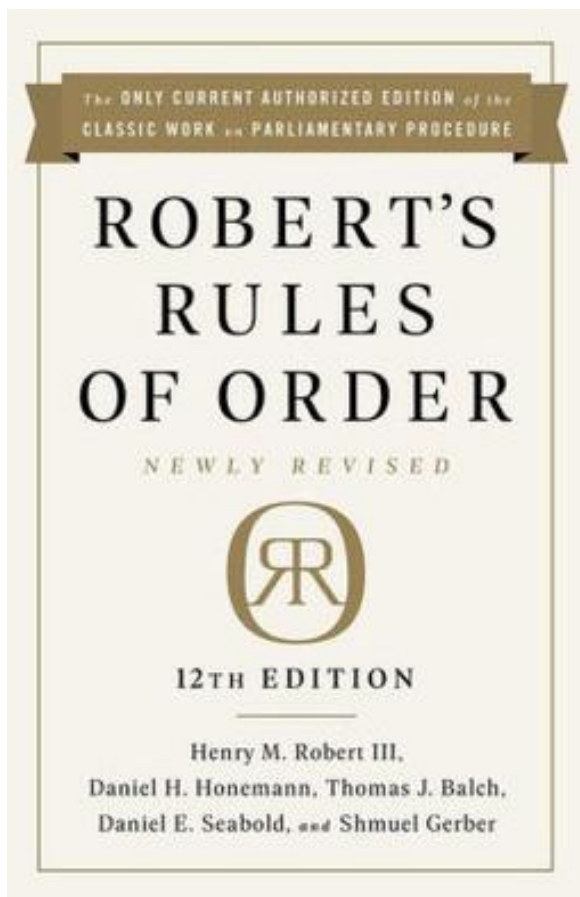
There is a tremendous amount of information available on the MGA website.

**MEMBERS      COMMITTEES      MEETINGS      LEGISLATION      BUDGET**

**LAWS      FLOOR ACTIONS      REDISTRICTING      SEARCH**







The *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* 12th Edition is the foremost authority on parliamentary procedure, and the *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief* 3rd Edition is the only authorized concise guide.

<https://robertsrules.com/>

## ROBERTS RULES CHEAT SHEET

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Adjourn	"I move that we adjourn"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Recess	"I move that we recess until..."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Complain about noise, room temp., etc.	"Point of privilege"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decides
Suspend further consideration of something	"I move that we table it"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
End debate	"I move the previous question"	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Postpone consideration of something	"I move we postpone this matter until..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The above listed motions and points are listed in established order of precedence. When any one of them is pending, you may not introduce another that is listed below, but you may introduce another that is listed above it.

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Object to procedure or personal affront	"Point of order"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides
Request information	"Point of information"	Yes	No	No	No	None
Ask for vote by actual count to verify voice vote	"I call for a division of the house"	Must be done before new motion	No	No	No	None unless someone objects
Object to considering some undiplomatic or improper matter	"I object to consideration of this question"	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
Take up matter previously tabled	"I move we take from the table..."	Yes	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider something already disposed of	"I move we now (or later) reconsider our action relative to..."	Yes	Yes	Only if original motion was debatable	No	Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	"I move we suspend the rules and consider..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	"I appeal the Chair's decision"	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority

The motions, points and proposals listed above have no established order of preference; any of them may be introduced at any time except when meeting is considering one of the top three matters listed from the first chart (Motion to Adjourn, Recess or Point of Privilege).

## PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING A MAIN MOTION

**NOTE:** Nothing goes to discussion without a motion being on the floor.

**Obtaining and assigning the floor** -- A member raises her hand when no one else has the floor:

- The chair recognizes the member by name

### How the Motion is Brought Before the Assembly

- The member makes the motion: *I move that (or "to") ...* and resumes her seat.
- Another member seconds the motion: *I second the motion* or *I second it* or *second*.
- The chair states the motion: *It is moved and seconded that ... Are you ready for the question?*

### Consideration of the motion:

1. Members can debate the motion.
2. Before speaking in debate, members obtain the floor.
3. The maker of the motion has first right to the floor if she claims it properly.
4. Debate must be confined to the merits of the motion.
5. Debate can be closed only by order of the assembly (2/3 vote) or by the chair if no one seeks the floor for further debate.

### The chair puts the motion to a vote:

1. The chair asks: *Are you ready for the question?* If no one rises to claim the floor, the chair proceeds to take the vote.
2. The chair says: *The question is on the adoption of the motion that ... Those in favor, say 'Aye'. (Pause for response.) Those opposed, say 'Nay'. (Pause for response.) Those abstained please say 'Aye'.*

### The chair announces the result of the vote.

1. *The ayes have it, the motion carries, and ...* (indicating the effect of the vote) or
2. *The nays have it and the motion fails*

### WHEN DEBATING YOUR MOTIONS

Listen to the other side  
Focus on issues, not personalities  
Avoid questioning motives  
Be polite

"Motion" is the noun -- "*The question is on adoption of the motion that...*"

"Move" is the verb -- "*I move that...*" "*It is moved and seconded that...*"

# HOW TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT YOU WANT TO DO IN MEETINGS

## **MAIN MOTION -- You want to propose a new idea or action for the group.**

- After recognition, make a main motion.
- Member: "Madame President, I move that \_\_\_\_\_."

## **AMENDING A MOTION -- You want to change some of the wording that is being discussed.**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move that the motion be amended by adding the following words \_\_\_\_\_."
- After recognition, "Madame President, I move that the motion be amended by striking out the following words \_\_\_\_\_."
- After recognition, "Madame President, I move that the motion be amended by striking out the following words, \_\_\_\_\_, and adding in their place the following words \_\_\_\_\_."

## **REFER TO A COMMITTEE -- You feel that an idea or proposal being discussed needs more study and investigation:**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move that the question be referred to a committee made up of members Smith, Jones and Brown."

## **POSTPONE DEFINITELY -- You want the membership to have more time to consider the question under discussion and you want to postpone it to a definite time or day, and have it come up for further consideration.**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move to postpone the question until \_\_\_\_\_."

## **PREVIOUS QUESTION -- You think discussion has gone on for too long and you want to stop discussion and vote.**

- After recognition, "Madam President, I move the previous question."

## **LIMIT DEBATE -- You think discussion is getting long, but you want to give a reasonable length of time for consideration of the question.**

- After recognition, "Madam President, I move to limit discussion to two minutes per speaker."

## **POSTPONE INDEFINITELY -- You want to kill a motion that is being discussed.**

- After recognition, "Madam President, I move to postpone the question indefinitely."

## **POSTPONE INDEFINITELY -- You are against a motion just proposed and want to learn who is for and who is against the motion.**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move to postpone the motion indefinitely."

## **RECESS -- You want to take a break for a while.**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move to recess for ten minutes."

## **ADJOURNMENT -- You want the meeting to end.**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move to adjourn."

## **PERMISSION TO WITHDRAW A MOTION -- You have made a motion and after discussion, are sorry you made it.**

- After recognition, "Madam President, I ask permission to withdraw my motion."

**CALL FOR ORDERS OF THE DAY -- At the beginning of the meeting, the agenda was adopted. The President is not following the order of the approved agenda.**

- Without recognition, "Call for orders of the day."

**SUSPENDING THE RULES -- The agenda has been approved and as the meeting progressed, it became obvious that an item you are interested in will not come up before adjournment.**

- After recognition, "Madam President, I move to suspend the rules and move item 5 to position 2."

**POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE -- The noise outside the meeting has become so great that you are having trouble hearing.**

- Without recognition, "Point of personal privilege."
- President: "State your point."
- Member: "There is too much noise, I can't hear."

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE -- You are going to propose a question that is likely to be controversial and you feel that some of the members will try to kill it by various maneuvers. Also you want to keep out visitors and the press.**

- After recognition, "Madame President, I move that we go into a committee of the whole."

**POINT OF ORDER -- It is obvious that the meeting is not following proper rules.**

- Without recognition, "I rise to a point of order," or "Point of order."

**POINT OF INFORMATION -- You are wondering about some of the facts under discussion, such as the balance in the treasury when expenditures are being discussed.**

- Without recognition, "Point of information."

**POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY -- You are confused about some of the parliamentary rules.**

- Without recognition, "Point of parliamentary inquiry."

**APPEAL FROM THE DECISION OF THE CHAIR**

- Without recognition, "I appeal from the decision of the chair."

### **Rule Classification and Requirements**

<b><i>Class of Rule</i></b>	<b><i>Requirements to Adopt</i></b>	<b><i>Requirements to Suspend</i></b>
Charter	Adopted by majority vote or as proved by law or governing authority	Cannot be suspended
Bylaws	Adopted by membership	Cannot be suspended
Special Rules of Order	Previous notice & 2/3 vote, or a majority of entire membership	2/3 Vote
Standing Rules	Majority vote	Can be suspended for session by majority vote during a meeting
Modified Roberts Rules of Order	Adopted in bylaws	2/3 vote

# SPEAK WITHOUT FEAR – Rules for Success

www.debsofield.com

Deb Sofield spoke at NFRW's Fall Board of Directors meeting. As president of Executive Speech Coaching Company, she trains women and men for success in speaking, crisis communications, presentation skills, media, and message development.

Below are some suggestions from her presentation:

- If you know you will have a hostile audience, write out the worst-case questions you will most likely be asked and answer them in advance.
- Use “wiggly words” – *normally, generally, usually, probably, last time I checked*
- Take away the fire – lower the temperature of today's language
- Craft a gentle reply – use *feel/felt/found* – validate their feelings

*“I know how you feel. Others felt the same way but when they found out ..., they felt differently.”*

*“What we found when we did the research...”*

Soft landings (do not follow with “but” or “however” – those words start a fight)

- I agree with you
- You make an interesting point
- I appreciate your opinion
- I understand your point of view
- I can see where you're coming from
- Many people I have spoken to feel as you do
- Yes, we need to look into that more carefully
- Your point is well taken
- I can see why you would think that way

Transitions

- First let me say
- I don't have that information but I can tell you
- You should also know that
- Let me explain
- I'm also frequently asked
- Let me add
- A common concern is
- For example
- Equally important
- One point I believe the audience would be interested in
- You can go one step further

# SPEAK WITHOUT FEAR – Rules for Success

www.debsofield.com

WHAT HAPPENS	HOW TO HANDLE
Interruptions	Be politely assertive Raise your voice slightly <i>“hold that thought – let me finish mine”</i>
Put words in your mouth	Correct the mistake – restate your position
State an untruth or distort a fact	Correct the mistake – restate your position
Shoot rapid-fire questions	Pick 1 question to answer -- keep your cool
Demand an answer to a question that cannot be answered	Be politely assertive Offer to get the answer if you can
Attempt to confirm an answer while misinterpreting or misquoting you	Correct the mistake - restate your position
Ask you to respond to a controversial or critical statement	Admit bad news and bridge to message
Ask you for a personal opinion	Do <u>not</u> give personal opinions on a controversial policy
Ask your opinion of an adversary's point of view	Restate your organization's opinion

# PRINCIPLES FIRST

## List of Principles

Retrieved 7-19-24 from <https://www.principlesfirst.us/principles/>

### **1 *Integrity, character, & virtue matter***

The strength of our republic depends upon the moral conviction of our elected officials. If we don't pick inherently trustworthy people to lead us, they will bring the character of the country down with them. Unethical and immoral behavior can never become the norm.

### **2 *Every person has dignity, quality, and worth***

We are all created in the image of God. Each of us deserves the same level of respect and dignity from our government and fellow countrymen. All citizens are Americans and none of us is more American than any other.

### **3 *Truth, honesty, rationality, & facts are non-negotiable***

No one is entitled to their own facts – regardless of party. Data isn't something to be afraid of and intelligence isn't something to demean. We aspire to an objective political discourse that is uncompromisingly honest. The currency of good ideas must again be their rationality and logical persuasiveness, rather than how loudly they are shouted.

### **4 *The Constitution and the rule of law are paramount***

The law is a great equalizer. No one is above it. It maintains order and commits us to common rules. The Constitution isn't perfect, but its mix of individual rights, enumerated and separated powers, checks, and balances is the greatest formulation of self-government yet devised. The rule of law and the Constitution must be defended.

### **5 *Our government is a limited one with enumerated powers***

There are plenty of things that government could do, but only certain things that government can do. The Framers specifically enumerated the powers of Congress in Article I, Section 8 – everything else was left to the states and to the people. Whichever challenges the government chooses to tackle, it must tackle them within the boundaries laid down by the Constitution.

### **6 *Congress writes laws, the executive executes laws, and the courts interpret laws***

Each of the branches have a clearly defined constitutional role. They ought to remain within their respective spheres of authority and zealously guard them against encroachment. We were not meant to be ruled by emergency declaration or an expansive bureaucracy. Such an imbalance should not persist.



## **PRINCIPLES FIRST**

### **List of Principles**

*Retrieved 7-19-24 from <https://www.principlesfirst.us/principles/>*

#### **7 *Government closest to the people is most accountable***

When the government performs one of its enumerated powers, it should do so at the lowest level that can effectively accomplish the goal. This limits the social cost of bad policy and permits experimentation and adaptation across differing local needs. One size very rarely fits all.

#### **8 *People reach their full potential when they are free***

People are meant to be free, not controlled. They often achieve more when left to their own devices to organically work together towards shared goals instead of at the state's direction.

#### **9 *Free and functioning markets deliver prosperity***

When barriers to entry are low and sufficient competition exists, the free market is the single-greatest mechanism that the world has ever known for allocating scarce resources, making goods more accessible, improving the human condition, & driving innovation and progress.

#### **10 *Equality of opportunity, not equality of outcomes***

We believe the pursuit of happiness requires a fair shot at success, but does not guarantee a particular outcome. And for good reason. Opportunity empowers us to push toward our own better versions of happiness, while a guarantee dampens that uniquely American spirit and often leaves us all worse off.

#### **11 *Government must responsibly steward resources for the next generation***

The government oversees the people's money and other resources – not its own. As a result, it has a duty to manage the public fisc, public lands, and other public resources responsibly and in the long-term interest of the people. Ever-growing debt is a national security risk and our environment will be the same one our kids inherit. We have a moral duty to leave things better and more secure than we found them.

#### **12 *Civic associations, faith communities, and families should be the primary engines of our culture - not the state***

We should not entrust our culture to the outcomes of our elections. Instead, we should let American culture be the product of the civic associations, faith communities, and families that comprise the great fabric of our country. Limited government and small-l liberalism make this possible.

## **PRINCIPLES FIRST**

### **List of Principles**

*Retrieved 7-19-24 from <https://www.principlesfirst.us/principles/>*

#### **13 *Strong families are the building blocks of society***

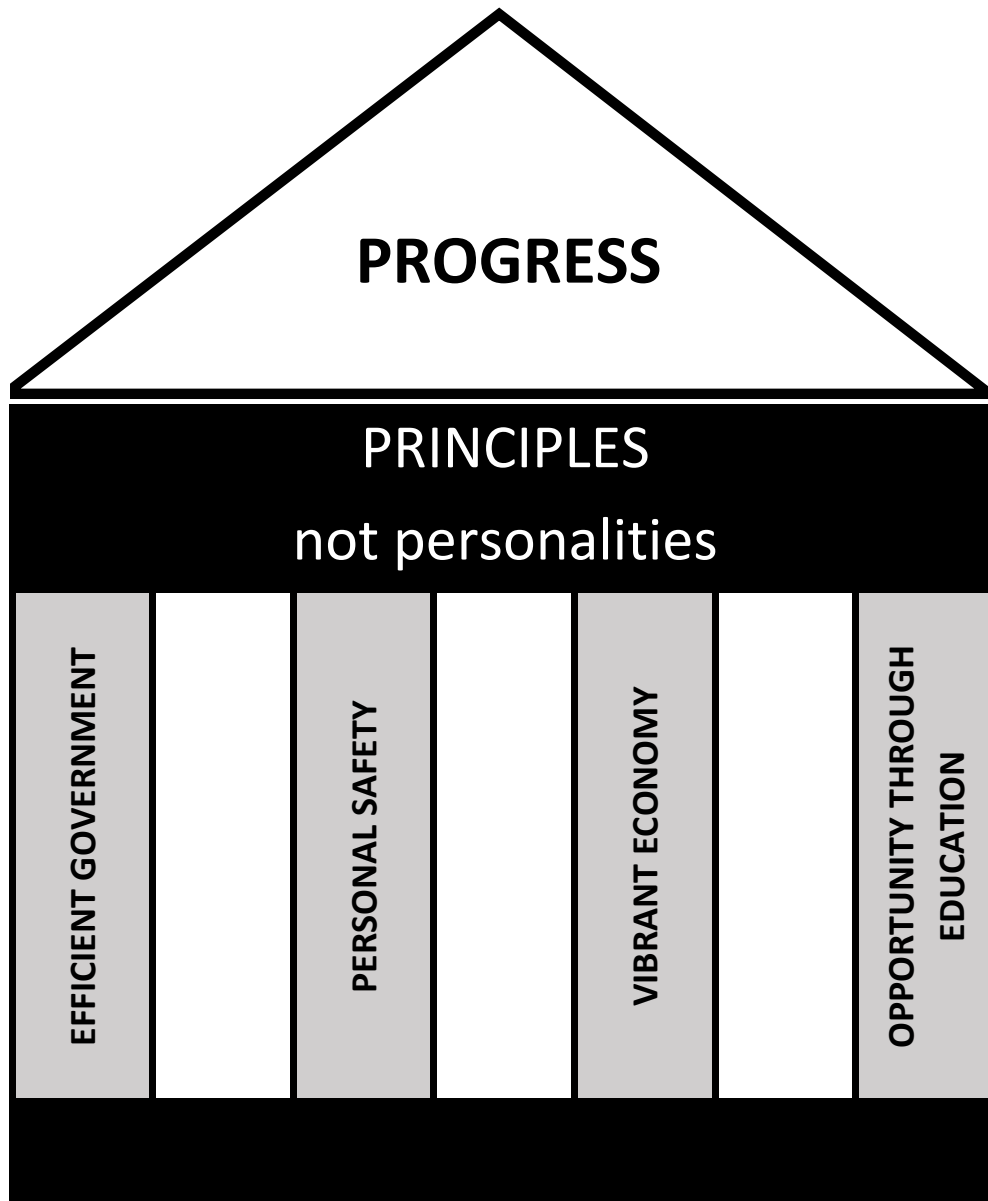
A strong family is a significant determinant of a child's success and does more to develop children than any government program ever will. As such, a family has utility and worth no matter what form it takes. Each and every family unit – regardless of its shape – deserves to thrive in America.

#### **14 *Sovereignty is critical to self-government***

The principle of national sovereignty permits us to successfully govern ourselves. Part of that principle is the constitutional duty to define immigration laws and ensure they are enforced. To that end, borders matter and should be secured. However, enforcing our laws should never require us to deny humane treatment to anyone.

#### **15 *America's role in the world is unique and important***

The United States cannot afford to be the world's policeman, but it cannot afford to be a passive bystander either. We live in an increasingly connected world where the oceans that separate us from our enemies are no longer buffers. Possessing the strongest military in the world is both a strategic advantage and moral responsibility – and we must wield it with purpose and circumspection.



Let's stop identifying Republicans as RINOs.

We are an organization that welcomes all Republican women. Have sufficient confidence in and basis for your personal opinions to defend those opinions to those who disagree.

*"The person who agrees with you 80% of the time is a friend and an ally -- not a 20% traitor."*

*-- Ronald Reagan*

## MFRW CODE of CONDUCT

Robert's Rules of Order [RONR (12<sup>th</sup> ed.) 61.1] states that "*an organization...has the ultimate right to make and enforce its own rules, and to require that its members refrain from conduct injurious to the organization or its purposes*".

We welcome all Republican women into our organization. We are an organization that does not discriminate based on race, religion, ethnicity, age, or otherwise. We understand that this will mean a diversity of interests and opinions.

The goal of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women is to provide an open and supportive environment for civil discourse, where all sides of an issue are examined and members feel comfortable expressing differing views. It is imperative that we work together in a respectful and collaborative way to provide our members the opportunity to learn, engage, and flourish in the political process.

This Code of Conduct is intended as a guide to acceptable behavior that includes respect for the individual and an environment free of abusive, offensive or harassing behavior. All members are expected to observe the highest standards of civility in their conduct.

Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. Everyone should feel comfortable to speak her mind, so long as the communication is respectful, impersonal (not directed at or about a specific individual), and devoid of malice.

A culture of open and honest communication brings out the full potential in each member which, in turn, contributes directly to the positive impact that we make in our mission.

Ethical behavior is the product of clear and direct communication of behavioral expectations, modeled from the top and demonstrated by example. The MFRW Executive Committee and club leadership has the added responsibility for demonstrating the importance of this Code through their actions.

# MFRW POLICIES

## Audit of Treasurer's Records

MFRW will pay for the audit and review of the Treasurer's accounts.

## Endorsement Policy

It is recognized that members of our organization are politically active and should be engaged in the support of Republican candidates. It is further recognized that building quality relationships with our elected officials are critical to our mission.

The MFRW has adopted this policy to specifically address endorsement of candidates during election cycles:

- The President and Campaign Activities Chair (or equivalent) of the MFRW and all affiliated clubs shall not publicly endorse any candidate for public office in any primary, runoff, special, or non-partisan race where two or more known Republicans are in the race.
  - Examples of endorsements or public displays of support include block walking, door knocking, phone banking, handing out literature, sending emails, displaying signs on personal property, donating funds or attending fundraising events, and social media posts.
- No endorsement or evidence of support by any member shall be issued using the affiliation, logo, state/club name, or stationery of the MFRW or any local club of the MFRW.
- This policy does not apply to an individual running for delegate to the Republican National Convention for one of the presidential candidates.
- An officer of the organization who is a candidate, or whose spouse or family member is a candidate, shall be exempt from this rule. However, they may not use the name, logo or stationery of the MFRW or their local MFRW club in their support of that candidate.
- Clubs may distribute (either hard copy or through digital mediums) information on all Republican candidates in a contested Primary race (such as fundraisers, press releases, and events) so long as they ensure it is done in a fair and equitable manner.

# MFRW POLICIES

Suggestions include:

- Create a separate “Candidate’s Forum” club Facebook page (and other digital mediums) that includes a disclaimer (i.e., “Items posted on this page are for informational purposes only and do not represent an endorsement by this club”) and allow all Republican candidates to post on the page.
- Emails forwarded by the club on behalf of Republican candidates in a contested Primary should include a similar disclaimer and be done in a fair and equitable manner:
  - Invite candidates to participate in a weekly club email that contains information/invitations.
  - Make sure that all candidates are aware of the club policy (content, format, deadlines) for having their information included.
- With non-partisan races, confirm party affiliation using the voter data software and support our Republican candidates running in the non-partisan races. Contact your local Central Committee or the MDGOP if you need help with this.

## Letters to the Editor

MFRW encourages its members to write letters to the editor. However, a member’s title and MFRW stationery cannot be used unless the MFRW President and a majority of the Executive Committee have approved the statement for release to the media.

## Membership lists

The members of MFRW authorize their President to submit the lists of members to *bona fide* Republican candidates for public or party office, upon request by the candidate and at their expense, unless otherwise instructed by the individual local club president(s).

## Reimbursement of President’s Expenses

MFRW will reimburse the President (or her appointed representative) for travel at the current federal mileage reimbursement rate and other reasonable and approved expenses incurred on her behalf.

## Run for Office

It is the policy of MFRW to encourage its members to run for party and public office. In the event the MFRW President is elected to public office, she shall immediately resign as President.

# *MY YOUNGER DAYS*

by Maya Angelou

When I was in my younger days,  
I weighed a few pounds less,  
I needn't hold my tummy in  
to wear a belted dress.

But now that I am older,  
I've set my body free;  
There's the comfort of elastic  
Where once my waist would be.

Inventor of those high-heeled shoes  
My feet have not forgiven;  
I have to wear a nine now,  
But used to wear a seven.

And how about those pantyhose-  
They're sized by weight, you see,  
So how come when I put them on  
The crotch is at my knee?

I need to wear these glasses  
As the print's been getting smaller;  
And it wasn't very long ago  
I know that I was taller.

Though my hair has turned to gray  
and my skin no longer fits,  
On the inside, I'm the same old me,  
It's the outside's changed a bit.