



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2026



Dear Members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women,

I am honored and humbled to address you for the first time as the newly elected President of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women, an organization rich in history, purpose, and unwavering dedication to our state and nation. It is a privilege that I do not take lightly.

The Maryland Federation has long stood as a powerful voice for conservative values, grassroots engagement, and strong, principled leadership. Our members work tirelessly in their communities, promoting Republican candidates, championing policies that support families, ensuring public safety, promoting economic opportunities, and protecting the freedoms that define our nation. It is your commitment that keeps our movement vibrant, resilient, and forward-looking.

As we embark on this next chapter together, my priorities are clear:

- **Strengthening our clubs** through enhanced communication, leadership development, and support for local initiatives.
- **Expanding membership** by engaging new voices, empowering young Republican women, and building bridges within our communities.
- **Increasing our impact** in elections by amplifying voter outreach, volunteer training, and strategic collaboration with county and state partners.
- **Upholding our legacy** of service, integrity, and advocacy in every corner of Maryland.

I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me, and I look forward to working alongside each of you. Together, we will continue to elevate the influence of Republican women across Maryland and ensure that our work leaves a meaningful, lasting impact. Thank you for your dedication, your patriotism, and your belief in the mission of the MFRW. I am excited about what we can accomplish by being united, energized, and focused on the future.

With appreciation and determination,

Luanne Ruddell

Luanne Ruddell, President
Maryland Federation of Republican Women

2026 DATES to REMEMBER

*Legislative = Maryland General Assembly
MFRW = Maryland Federation of Republican Women
National = NFRW deadlines*

Legislative	14-Jan	General Assembly convenes
MFRW	15-Jan	Legislative Priorities distributed to legislators/\$15 NF Club FEE DUE.
National	15-Jan	Political & Campaign Awards - online reporting (Jul-Dec 2025)
	23-Jan	National March for Life - https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/
National	2-Feb	Names of club presidents to NFRW
Legislative	9-Feb	Senate bill introduction deadline
Legislative	13-Feb	House bill introduction deadline
MFRW	25-Feb	Deadline -- Red Scarf Day registration
National	28-Feb	2026 National dues submitted to NFRW
MFRW	1-Mar	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions
MFRW	3-Mar	Red Scarf Day (<i>register by Feb 25th</i>)
National	12-14 Mar	NFRW Spring Board meeting -- Alexandria VA
MFRW	15-Mar	MFRW awards applications due
Legislative	23-Mar	Bill crossover deadline
	25-28 March	CPAC -- Conservative Political Action Conference - https://cpac.org/
Legislative	6-Apr	Budget bill must be passed by both chambers
Legislative	13-Apr	General Assembly adjourns -- " <i>Sine Die</i> "
MFRW	2-May	Spring Board & Members meeting
MFRW	1-Jun	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions
National	15-Jul	Political & Campaign Awards - online reporting (Jan-Jun 2026)
MFRW	1-Sep	Deadline -- <i>Trumpeter</i> submissions
	17-Sep	Constitution Day / Citizenship Day
MFRW	20-Sep	Fall on the Farm
National	TBD	NFRW Fall Board & Members Meeting
National	1-Oct	States can begin entering 2027 membership renewals
MFRW	7-Nov	Fall Convention
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 2025, there were 26 federated clubs and 1,306 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women. We will begin 2026 with 25 federated clubs.

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 2025)



MFRW

Maryland Federation of Republican Women

Governance: Bylaws -- Maryland Federation of Republican Women Inc (amended Oct 2025)

WESTERN REGION

Allegany County RW
RWC of Frederick County
Garrett County RWC
RWC of Taneytown
Washington County RWC

NORTHERN REGION

RW of Baltimore County
RW of Carroll County
RW of Cecil County
Harford County RW
Hopkins WRC

SOUTHERN REGION

RW of Calvert County
RW Leaders of Calvert
RW of Charles County
RW of St Mary's

MONTGOMERY FEDERATION

Chevy Chase WRC
Potomac WRC
Rural WRC
Upper Montgomery WRC

EASTERN REGION

Caroline County RWC
Chesapeake RW
Wicomico Conservative RW
RW of Worcester County

CENTRAL REGION

RW of Anne Arundel County
Patuxent RW
Severna Park RWC

Governance of affiliated clubs

National Federation of Republican Women Bylaws (amended Sep 2025)

Bylaws -- Maryland Federation of Republican Women Inc (amended Oct 2025)

Club bylaws

RW = Republican Women

RWC = Republican Women's Club

WRC = Women's Republican Club

MFRW Executive Committee 2026-2027

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 PRESIDENT

President

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

1st Vice President

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

2nd Vice President

Linda Stine Flint
(410) 322-2650
lindastineflint@gmail.com

3rd Vice President

Anne Koutsoutis
(301) 384-3715
koutsu1@verizon.net

4th Vice President

Jana Barberio
(301) 848-0110
jana@barberio.com

Treasurer

Susan Brainerd
(301) 466-0838
susanbrainerd@his.com

Assistant Treasurer

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

Recording Secretary

Jana Hobbs
(410) 726-5223
jana@wicomigopwomen.org

Corresponding Secretary

Rebecca Tittermary
(410) 430-3693
Becca1@me.com

Past President

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

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 of a 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.

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.

REGIONS currently include these clubs:

- Western – Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Taneytown, Washington
- Northern – Baltimore, Carroll, 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, 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	(410) 940-8259	Brenda Yarema	brendayarema@verizon.net
Vice Chair	(202) 257-4989	Marilyn Cowan	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) 919-7277	Sandy Tuttle	s.alexandratuttle@gmail.com
Vice Chair	(301) 974-7606	Lori Jaffe	Lorijaffe75@yahoo.com
Vice Chair	(240) 426-1837	Martha Hale	Mlhale6@verizon.net

NORTHERN

Chair	(410) 812-4325	Amy Wagner	amywagner1@comcast.net
Vice Chair	(919) 987-5498	Jutilia (J.T.) Wilson	jutilia@yahoo.com

SOUTHERN

Chair	(301) 769-1246	Linda Crandall	neilinda@chesapeake.net
Vice Chair	(410) 903-4076	Stacey Lehn	rwcc.staceylehn@gmail.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 bylaw changes to the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and to the membership at convention.

Communications – Melissa Brown, Chair

melabrown2486@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, Susan Brainerd

susanbrainerd@his.com

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

Fundraising – Anne Rutherford, Chair

annerutherford@verizon.net

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

Legislative – Sharon Carrick, Chair
Ella Ennis, Co-chair

sha54ron@verizon.net
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 show them how they can participate in the legislative process.

Membership – Melita Friend, Chair

mlfriend@shentel.net

- 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 – Maria Sofia, Chair

msofia9412@gmail.com

- 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 – Kathryn Jerrard, Chair

kjerrard11@gmail.com

- 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 4 special committees:

Americanism – Karen Tully, Chair

carefitz@comcast.net

- 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 – Sharon Carrick, Chair

sha54ron@verizon.net

- 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, hosting 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 1st of the month – March, June, September, and December.

CLUB LEADERSHIP

At a minimum, each club should have 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.

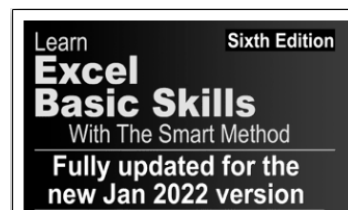
The **VICE PRESIDENT** performs the duties of the president when she is absent or unable to serve. Specific duties and responsibilities may be assigned by the president or in the club bylaws.

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).

Not real comfortable working in Excel? Try this:

<https://thesmartmethod.com/>



MEETING MINUTES

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

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER – Section 48

1st 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 2nd 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)

DUES -- mail payments to **Susan Brainerd, 6706 Farcroft Terrace, Laytonsville MD 20882**

- 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 15th**

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.

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*

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 2026

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		
REVENUE	\$ 1,150.00		
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		
EXPENSES	\$ (1,030.00)		
Net gain (loss)	\$ 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.

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

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 training(s) in areas of interest -- campaign management (for candidates and volunteers), what is 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!

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 to be members of your club
- Provide interesting programs
- Consistency builds attendance – regular meeting date/time/place
- Develop a succession plan

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

Enter Y or YES in Column AF when you next submit renewals/new members.

AF

Deceased?

SUBMITTING MEMBERSHIP DUES

Monthly Excel (.xlsx) File Submission

1) Excel file

NOTE: Expiration date for 2026 memberships will always be 12/31/2026

- 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 Y or YES 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 Anne White (whitesk8s@comcast.net) and copy Treasurer Susan Brainerd (susanbrainerd@his.com)
 - Subject line → **club name, current month and year** (e.g. CCWRCJanuary2026)
 - Note payment information (**check #** and **amount**) in the **body of the email**.
- 3) Mail check payable to “MFRW” to **Susan Brainerd, 6706 Farcroft Terrace, Laytonsville MD 20882** or transmit payment via Zelle using the email address **treasurer@mdfrw.org** and **MD Federation of Republican Women**. Note: NFRW Annual Club Fee of \$15 must be paid by each club to MFRW by January 15th.
- 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 1st 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.

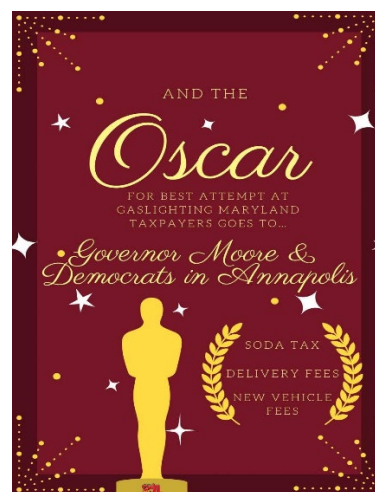
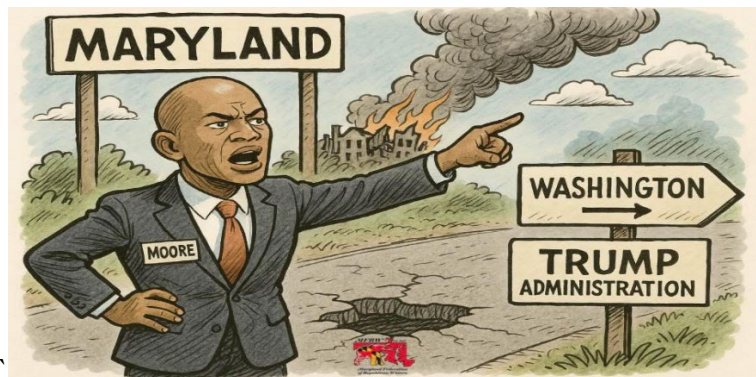
Rumble: Similar to *YouTube*, marketed as a free speech alternative. Popular among conservative content creators. Threads within videos allow for commentary, rebuttal arguments, and community engagement around controversial topics.

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



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 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.

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

Compiled by the NFRW Youth Outreach Committee (2023)

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

Compiled by the NFRW Youth Outreach Committee (2023)

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 2026.

Join at 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 26 individual and 15 club members of the 2025 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 2026 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, 2026.

2025 Bay Club Members

Martine Baker

Jana Barberio

Linda Bradley

Sharon Carrick

Sylvia Darrow

Jean Delcher

Lynne DeMinco

Ella Ennis

Barbara Freilich

Patty Hammond

Lisa Herman

Jana Hobbs

Jean Hruz

Karen McKinley

Erin McPate

Liliana Norkaitis

Carol Randall

Beth Rodier

Kim Rosado

Gary Ruddell, LLC

Luanne Ruddell

Anne Rutherford

Linda Stine Flint

Anne White

Sandy Zitzer

Donna Zupancic

RW of Calvert County

RW Leaders of Calvert

RW of Cecil County

RW of Charles County

Chesapeake RW

Chevy Chase RW

RW of Frederick County

Garrett County RWC

Harford County RW

Patuxent RW

Potomac RWC

RW of St Mary's County

Severna Park RWC

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.

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
 - Fall Convention handout
 - Leadership handout
- MFRW History
- Regional Information

Join Us

Contact information, website and social media links for each of our 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
- List of Republican legislators
- Issues research
- Legislative Summary
- Positions on legislation (updated as the Session progresses)

REPUBLICAN CONTACTS

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN (NFRW)

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

Martha Jenkins President
mjenkins@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
1st Vice Chair – Dwight Patel
2nd Vice Chair Kathleen Smero
3rd 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

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

2022 – 2025	Sharon Carrick	1970 – 1971	Lucille Potts
2018 – 2021	Diana Waterman	1966 – 1969	Sylvia Herman
2016 – 2017	Liz League	1964 – 1965	Katherine Rinehart
2014 – 2015	Carol Randall	1960 – 1963	Mary Hepburn
2010 – 2013	Ruth Umbel	1958 – 1959	Mary Ann Beall
2006 – 2009	Patt Parker	1954 – 1957	Mary Jane Richardson
2004 – 2005	Betty Jane Carroll	1951 – 1953	Lorene Bowlus
2000 – 2003	Marilyn Dankner	1949 – 1950	Mrs. Fred E. Fisher
1997 – 1999	Ann Horner Granados	1947 – 1948	Frances J. Kline
1995 – 1996	Mary Frances Parrish	1945 – 1947	Mrs. W. David Tilghman
1991 – 1994	Barbara Powell	1941 – 1945	Margaret D'Unger
1989 – 1990	Janet Greenip	1939 – 1941	Eva Chase
1987 – 1988	Janet Steed	1935 – 1939	Edna P. Payne
1984 – 1987	Irene Peterson	1931 – 1935	Lula E. Powell
1982 – 1983	Arlene Baybutt	1926 – 1931	Clara C. Holmes
1978 – 1981	Fleur Bresler	1925 – 1926	Eva Chase
1976 – 1977	Joan Beck	1921 – 1925	Mrs. George E. Wright
1972 – 1975	Jane Hanks		

MARYLAND'S NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMN

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		

The Diana Waterman Scholarship Fund

An annual scholarship to a college bound young woman from Maryland
planning to study political science or comparable field of study
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 Sharon Carrick - sha54ron@verizon.net– by **March 15th**

NFRW Achievement Awards will be presented at NFRW's 2027 Biennial Convention for activities completed in 2026 and 2027. 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 → 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 Luanne Ruddell (luanneruddell@yahoo.com) no later than **June 1, 2027**

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 st report	1 Jul 2025 to 31 Dec 2025	15 Jan 2026
2 nd report	1 Jan 2026 to 30 Jun 2026	15 Jul 2026
3 rd report	1 Jul 2026 to 31 Dec 2026	15 Jan 2027

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 44th Biennial Convention, to be held September 24-26, 2027 in Texas.

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.

NOTE: *MFRW's annual "Most Volunteer Hours" awards are calculated using the hours reported to the NFRW via Item 1 above.*

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

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

Club online report form:

<https://republicanwomen.wufoo.com/forms/political-campaign-volunteer-awards-20252026/>

2025 MFRW Awards (for activities in 2024)

ORIOLE	OTHER AWARDS
Republican Women of Anne Arundel County Republican Women of Carroll County Republican Women of Frederick County Hopkins Women's Republican Club Severna Park Republican Women's Club	
BLACK-EYED SUSAN	
Allegany County Republican Women Rural Women's Republican Club	
WHITE OAK	
Republican Women of Cecil County Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club Upper Montgomery Women's Republican Club	Most effective political action event Most volunteer hours, most new members -- medium club
MARYLAND SHIELD	
Republican Women of Baltimore County Republican Women Leaders of Calvert Republican Women of Charles County Chesapeake Republican Women Garrett County Republican Women's Club Harford County Republican Women Patuxent Republican Women Potomac Women's Republican Club Republican Women of St Mary's Wicomico Conservative Republican Women Republican Women of Worcester County	Most new members -- large club Best newsletter / Best website Greatest % membership increase -- medium club Greatest % membership increase -- large club Greatest % membership increase -- small club Greatest % member retention -- medium club Greatest % member retention -- medium club Most effective club project Most new members -- small club Community service / Caring for America Literacy -- most MELP donations, most diverse donations Most volunteer hours -- large club

2025 NFRW Awards (for activities in 2024 and 2025)

Diamond -- RW Leaders of Calvert, Chevy Chase WRC, Garrett County RWC, Harford County RW, Patuxent RW, Potomac WRC, RW of St Mary's, Severna Park RWC, Upper Montgomery RWC, RW of Worcester County

Gold -- Wicomico Conservative RW

Silver -- Hopkins WRC, Rural WRC

Bronze -- RW of Baltimore County, RW of Frederick County

Membership Awards -- RW Leaders of Calvert -- greatest % increase in their state and greatest number increase in state for 2024

Political & Campaign Awards -- Jana Barberio -- Top volunteer calls and top volunteer hours

MFRW -- Betty Heitman Award for State Excellence, Literacy & Education Award, School Board Service Award

CLUB ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – 2025

There are four award levels; each level builds on the one before.

Each requirement relates to an activity or action taken by your club. Enter “YES” in the YES column when the requirement has been met.

ORIOLE AWARD (4 of 10 items required)

To qualify for the Oriole Award, complete Items 1–3 (required) and at least one additional item from 4–10 (for a minimum of 4 YES responses).

Items 1–3 are required for the Oriole Award.

YES	Item #	Requirements
	1	Held at least 5 meetings during 2025.
	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.
	4	Had a chair for at least 3 committees (circle those that apply): Awards, Americanism, Bylaws, Caring for America, Communications, Finance, Fundraising, Legislative, Literacy, Membership, Newsletter, Political Activities, Program, Public Relations, Voter Registration, Website.
	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 and the Fall Convention.
	9	Supported Republican candidates.
	10	Club is a member of the MFRW Bay Club.

BLACK-EYED SUSAN AWARD (5 of 10 items required)

To qualify, complete Items 11–13 (required) and at least two additional items from 14–20.

Items 11–13 are required for the Black-Eyed Susan Award.

YES	Item #	Requirement
	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 with volunteer hours).
	13	Held a special membership recruitment activity or event.
	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).

WHITE OAK AWARD (6 of 10 items required)

To qualify, complete Items 21–23 (required) and at least three additional items from 24–30.

Items 21–23 are required for the White Oak Award.

YES	Item #	Requirement
	21	Issued 4 or more 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.
	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) and shared recipient(s) and book title(s) with the MFRW Literacy Chair.
	28	Club has a Parliamentarian to monitor conduct at meetings and to educate members in parliamentary procedure.
	29	At least one 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.

MARYLAND SHIELD AWARD (7 of 10 items required)

To qualify, complete Items 31–33 (required) and at least four additional items from 34–40.

Items 31–33 are required for the Maryland Shield Award.

YES	Item #	Requirement
	31	Met at least 7 times (provide date and program topic for each).
	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.
	34	Club has an active outreach program, sharing club, MFRW, and NFRW news and events with club members and the public.
	35	Club member(s) participated in Board of Elections training programs (MCRIS, voter registration distributors, election workers, etc.).
	36	Member(s) visited a local, state, or national legislative body in session.
	37	Club sponsored an essay contest for students (K–12) promoting Americanism and patriotism.
	38	Club member(s) participated in issues advocacy (letters to the editor, legislator contacts, shared information with contacts, etc.).
	39	"Shared" at least 10 posts from NFRW's Capital Connection.
	40	Held a program on the RNC delegate process (even-numbered years) or the NFRW Biennial Convention delegate process (odd-numbered years).

MFRW LITERACY & EDUCATION AWARD (For activities in 2025)

Additional information can be provided on a separate sheet (limit to 1 page).
Check all that apply.

1. Donations to schools, libraries, and other organizations

- ☐ 1(a) Books from the NFRW book list or equivalent
- ☐ 1(b) Dictionaries
- ☐ 1(c) U.S. Constitution
- ☐ 1(d) Faith-based books

2. Book Clubs

- ☐ 2(a) Read books in groups of Federated women
- ☐ 2(b) Read books to groups (school, church, etc.)

3. Speakers

- ☐ 3(a) Authors spoke at club meetings (live or recorded)
- ☐ 3(b) Selected a local educator for special recognition
- ☐ 3(c) Relevant MFRW or NFRW presentations

4. Teacher of the Year

- ☐ 4 Selected a local educator for special recognition

5. School Boards

- ☐ 5(a) Members serve on the School Board
- ☐ 5(b) Members attended School Board meetings
- ☐ 5(c) Members spoke at School Board meetings

6. Other Activities

- ☐ 6 Describe below: _____

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).

Updated MFRW Bylaws can be found at :

mfrw.org → About Us → Governance -->

MFRW Bylaws (amended October 25, 2025)

Club Bylaws and Bylaws Information

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

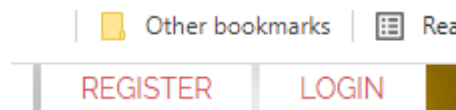
NFRW Bylaws can be found at:

nfrw.org → Login → Members → Committee & Issue Resources → Bylaws

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

Do you need member access to these websites?

mfrw.org – select REGISTER



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, make 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 the 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 the 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.
 - a. Ensure that disbursements from the Legacy Fund are in compliance with the “Implementation” provisions of the Legacy governance document dated January 23, 2025.

- 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 Nominating Committee 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 Nominating Committee Chair 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.

PREVIOUSLY

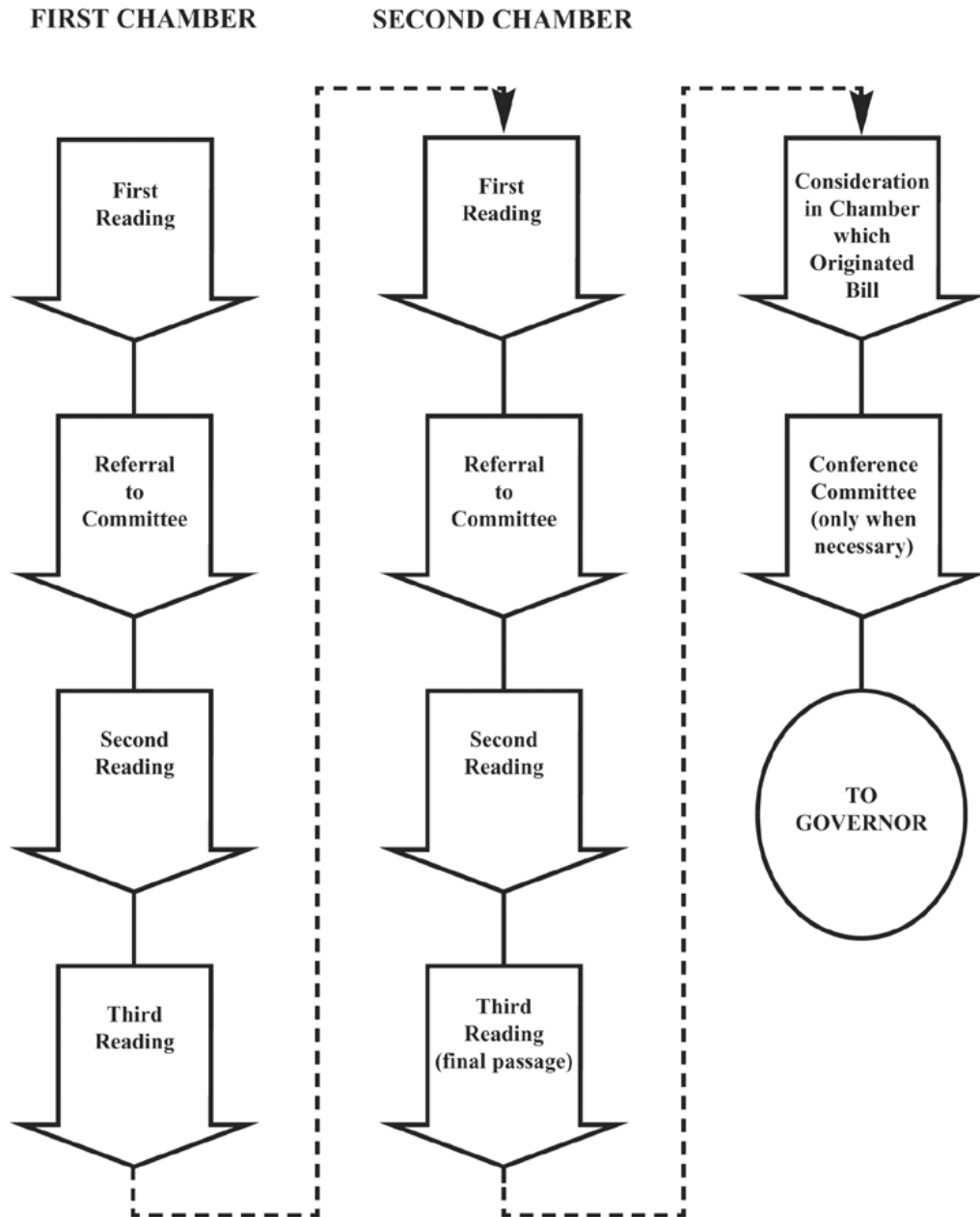
Amended 15 Oct 2023

Amended 12 Nov 2022

Amended 14 Nov 2020

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The Progress of a Bill



Maryland Federation of Republican Women
2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

BUDGET, TAXES AND SPENDING

Current and projected programs and budgets are unsustainable. Urgent and detailed reconsideration of current and projected spending levels, taxes, and fees is needed to provide essential services at a cost that Marylanders can afford.

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 required to meet Plan mandates. Lost capacity from early power plant retirements has been ignored.
 - b. Mandates are extremely costly and unfairly limit citizens' rights to choose where and how they live (e.g. all electric homes, electric vehicles only).
 - c. Zoning changes allowing increased density or auxiliary dwelling units in communities of stand-alone single-family homes must remain with local government, not usurped by the State.
 - d. The plan burdens businesses, especially agriculture and manufacturing, with costly modifications (e.g. the "clean-heat" standard) that will lead to higher prices for everyone.
 - e. Allowing conversion of agricultural and forest land to solar-power generation betrays years of citizen and local government efforts and dedicated funds to preserve agricultural and forest land.
- 2) Repeal the automatic annual Consumer Price Index increase to Maryland's motor fuel tax.
- 3) The electric vehicle surcharge represents far 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 public safety requires that we:

- 1) 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 situations.
- 2) "Back the Blue" – Recruitment and retention have been negatively impacted by overzealous press, activists, and prosecutors, resulting in understaffing and reduced enforcement.
- 3) Develop and implement effective tests for drug intoxication distinct from alcohol intoxication. Statistics must differentiate between drug intoxication and alcohol intoxication.
- 4) Retain automatic referral of juveniles to adult court for the most serious and violent crimes.
- 5) Strengthen penalties for those 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.

Maryland Federation of Republican Women
2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

ELECTION INTEGRITY

- 1) SUPPORT
 - a. Government-issued photo ID requirement for voter registration and for voting
 - b. Vote count accuracy and security
 - c. Annual cleansing of voter rolls for ineligible voters and those who have died or moved.
- 2) OPPOSE
 - a. Ranked choice voting and approval voting
 - b. Mid-decade redistricting to facilitate gerrymandering for political gain.

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

- 1) SUPPORT
 - a. Altering the *Blueprint for the Future* to require that students perform at grade level, remove extra layers of bureaucratic control, and remove constraints on parental involvement (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 grade level proficiency rates for the 2024-2025 school year (grades 3-8):
 - Language arts – 50.8%
 - Mathematics – 26.5%
 - Science -- 25.6%
 - Reading -- 33% NAEP proficient – 8th 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 to biological girls 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
2026**

						<i>James Senate Office Building</i>
District	Committee	Room	(301) 858-		SENATE	<i>11 Bladen St, Annapolis MD 21401</i>
29	B&T	401	(410) 841-3673	Jack	Bailey	jack.bailey@senate.maryland.gov
38	EEE	316	(410) 841-3645	Mary Beth	Carozza	marybeth.carozza@senate.maryland.gov
2	B&T	403	(410) 841-3903	Paul	Corderman	paul.corderman@senate.maryland.gov
4	JPR	414	(410) 841-3704	Bill	Folden	william.folden@senate.maryland.gov
35	EEE	420	(410) 841-3603	Jason	Gallion	jason.gallion@senate.maryland.gov
36	FIN	423	(410) 841-3639	Steve	Hershey	steve.hershey@senate.maryland.gov
				Minority	Leader	
7	B&T	323	(410) 841-3706	J B	Jennings	jb.jennings@senate.maryland.gov
37	FIN	402	(410) 841-3590	Johnny	Mautz	johnny.mautz@senate.maryland.gov
1	JPR	416	(410) 841-3565	Mike	McKay	mike.mckay@senate.maryland.gov
5	FIN	315	(410) 841-3683	Justin	Ready	justin.ready@senate.maryland.gov
				Minority	Whip	
6	B&T	321	(410) 841-3587	Johnny Ray	Salling	johnnyray.salling@senate.maryland.gov
31	EEE	320	(410) 841-3658	Bryan	Simonaire	bryan.simonaire@senate.maryland.gov
42	JPR	322	(410) 841-3648	Chris	West	chris.west@senate.maryland.gov
						<i>Lowe House Office Building</i>
District	Committee	Room			HOUSE	<i>6 Bladen St, Annapolis MD 21401</i>
38A	ENT	309	(410) 841-3433	Kevin	Anderson	kevin.anderson@house.maryland.gov
37B	ECM	405	(410) 841-3343	Chris	Adams	christopher.adams@house.maryland.gov
36	ECM	308	(410) 841-3543	Steve	Arentz	steven.arentz@house.maryland.gov
7B	JUD	414	(410) 841-3334	Lauren	Arikan	lauren.arikan@house.maryland.gov
1C	ENT	323	(410) 841-3321	Terry	Baker	terry.baker@house.maryland.gov
38B	APP	310	(410) 841-3431	Barry	Beauchamp	barry.beauchamp@house.maryland.gov
5	JUD	321	(410) 841-3200	Eric	Bouchat	christopher.bouchat@house.maryland.gov
1B	W&M	201	(410) 841-3404	Jason	Buckel	jason.buckel@house.maryland.gov
31	GOV	412	(410) 841-3206	Brian	Chisholm	brian.chisholm@house.maryland.gov
4	GOV	226	(410) 841-3080	Barrie	Ciliberti	barrie.ciliberti@house.maryland.gov
27C	GOV	422	(410) 841-3231	Mark	Fisher	mark.fisher@house.maryland.gov

**REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS
2026**

District	Committee	Room			HOUSE	<i>6 Bladen St, Annapolis MD 21401</i>
36	APP	430	(410) 841-3555	Jeff	Ghrist	jeff.ghrist@house.maryland.gov
6	ENT	416	(410) 841-3298	Robin	Grammer Jr	robin.grammer@house.maryland.gov
35A	W&M	423	(410) 841-3444	Mike	Griffith	mike.griffith@house.maryland.gov
38C	W&M	213	(410) 841-3356	Wayne	Hartman	wayne.hartman@house.maryland.gov
1A	APP	323	(410) 841-3435	Jim	Hinebaugh	jim.hinebaugh@house.maryland.gov
35B	W&M	325	(410) 841-3284	Kevin	Hornberger	kevin.hornberger@house.maryland.gov
30B	ECM	159	(410) 841-3439	Seth	Howard	seth.howard@house.maryland.gov
37B	HEA	308	(410) 841-3582	Tom	Hutchinson	tom.hutchinson@house.maryland.gov
36	ENT	309	(410) 841-3449	Jay	Jacobs	jay.jacobs@house.maryland.gov
31	HEA	165	(410) 841-3421	Nic	Kipke	nicholaus.kipke@house.maryland.gov
6	W&M	320	(410) 841-3458	Bob	Long	bob.long@house.maryland.gov
42A	JUD	320	(410) 841-3258	Nino	Mangione	nino.mangione@house.maryland.gov
34B	APP	411	(410) 841-3272	Susan	McComas	susan.mccomas@house.maryland.gov
6	APP	413	(410) 841-3332	Ric	Metzgar	ric.metzgar@house.maryland.gov
4	W&M	226	(410) 841-3288	April	Miller	april.miller@house.maryland.gov
29A	HEA	310	(410) 841-3170	Matthew	Morgan	matt.morgan@house.maryland.gov
29C	ENT	215	(410) 841-3319	Todd	Morgan	todd.morgan@house.maryland.gov
7A	ENT	322	(410) 841-3289	Ryan	Nawrocki	ryan.nawrocki@house.maryland.gov
31	JUD	156	(410) 841-3510	LaToya	Nkongolo	latoya.nkongolo@house.maryland.gov
4	ECM	212	(410) 841-3118	Jesse	Pippy	jesse.pippy@house.maryland.gov
35A	HEA	325	(410) 841-3278	Teresa	Reilly	teresa.reilly@house.maryland.gov
5	ECM	213	(410) 841-3070	April	Rose	april.rose@house.maryland.gov
33B	JUD	157	(410) 841-3110	Stuart	Schmidt	stuart.schmidt@house.maryland.gov
42C	APP	215	(410) 819-3833	Josh	Stonko	joshua.stonko@house.maryland.gov
7A	HEA	322	(410) 841-3698	Kathy	Szeliga	kathy.szeliga@house.maryland.gov
5	GOV	321	(410) 841-3359	Chris	Tomlinson	chris.tomlinson@house.maryland.gov
2A	JUD	324	(410) 841-3636	William	Valentine	william.valentine@house.maryland.gov
2A	ECM	324	(410) 841-3447	William	Wivell	william.wivell@house.maryland.gov

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.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2026

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

Jan 14 – General Assembly convenes

Feb 9 – Senate bill introduction deadline

Feb 13 – House bill introduction deadline

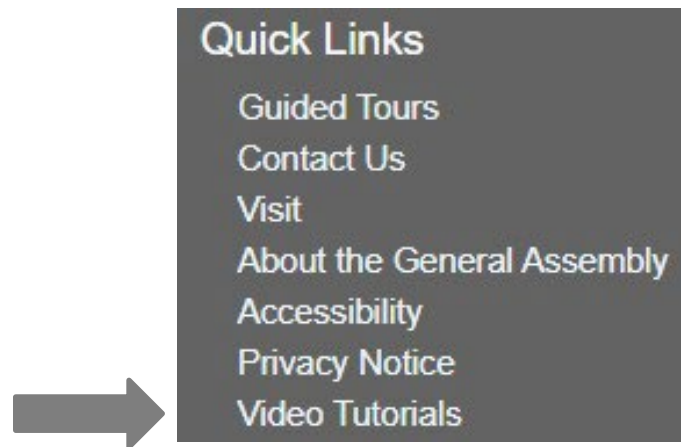
Mar 23 – Bill crossover deadline

Apr 6 – Budget bill must be passed by both chambers

Apr 13 – General Assembly adjourns

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN UTILIZE THE MGA WEBSITE TO MONITOR LEGISLATION

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

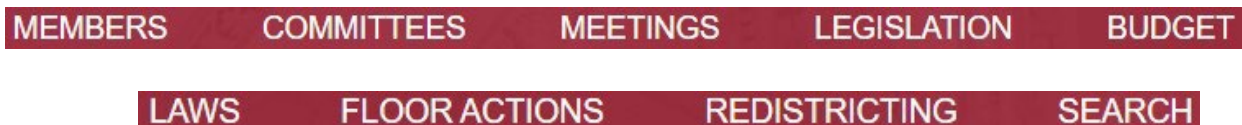


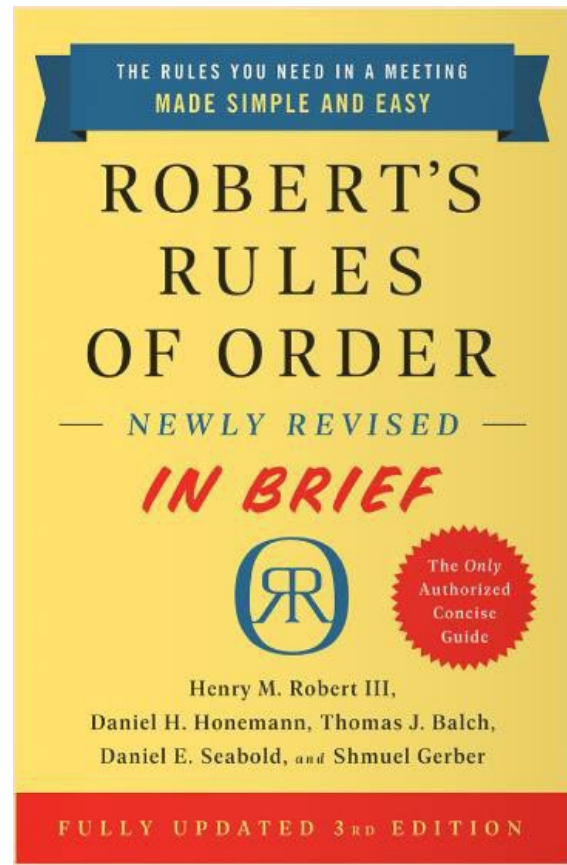
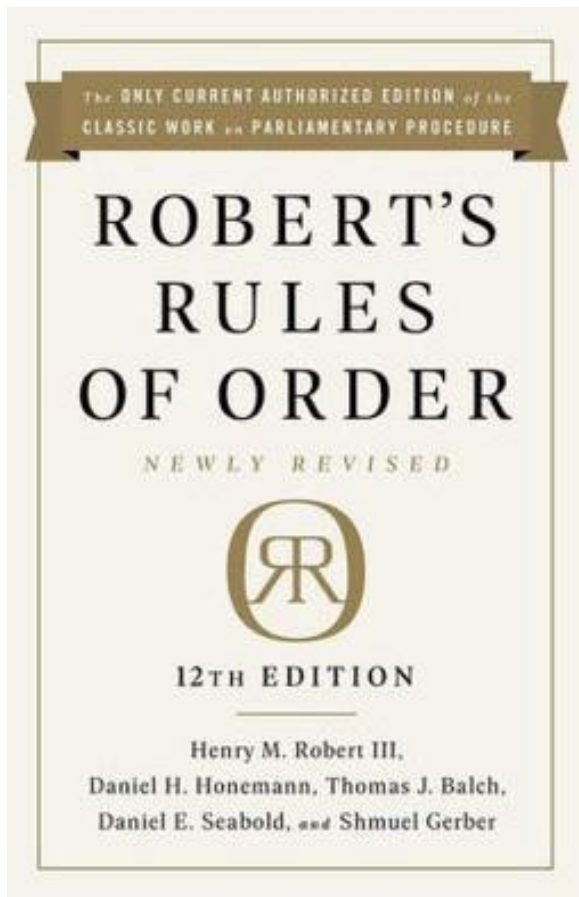
At the bottom of the Home Page, you will find a link to Video Tutorials – a great place to start (especially **):

- 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.





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

<i>Class of Rule</i>	<i>Requirements to Adopt</i>	<i>Requirements to Suspend</i>
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

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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 reasons. 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*

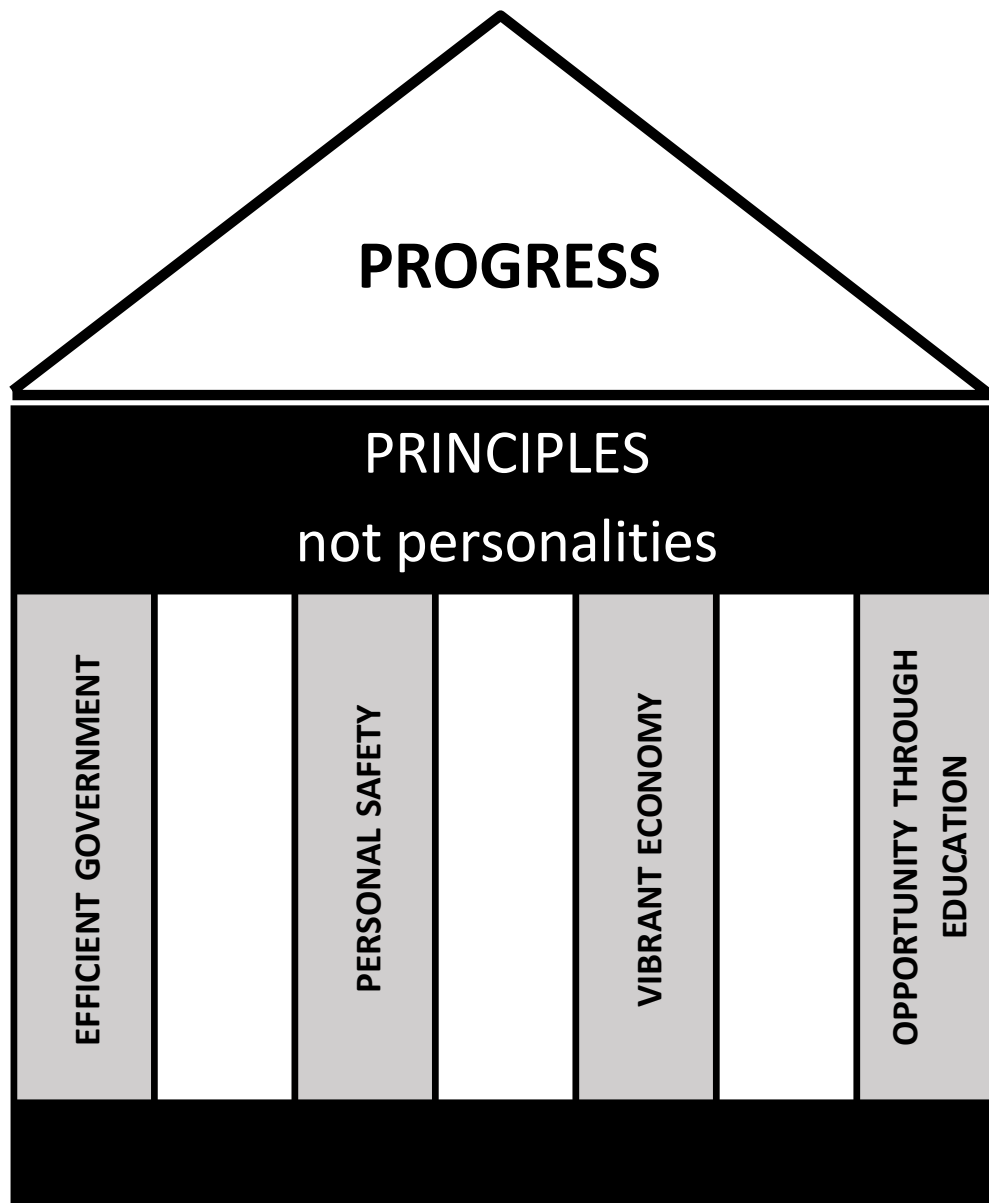
A strong family is a significant determinant of a child's success and does more to develop children than any government program ever will. As such, a family has utility and worth no matter what form it takes. Each and every family unit – regardless of its shape – deserves to thrive in America.

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 (12th 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 with 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 speaking 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.

Spotting Phishing Emails & Scams

Quick checks to verify the sender and avoid dangerous clicks

Red flags (pause and verify)

- Urgency, threats, or pressure to act now
- Unexpected request for money, gift cards, crypto, or wire transfer
- Requests for passwords, MFA codes, SSN, banking, W-2s, patient data
- “Don’t tell anyone” or “bypass the normal process”
- Unexpected attachments or “secure document/shared file” links
- Spelling/grammar issues, generic greetings, or a tone that feels “off”
- You were not expecting the message (new vendor, invoice, delivery notice)

Confirm the email is really from the sender

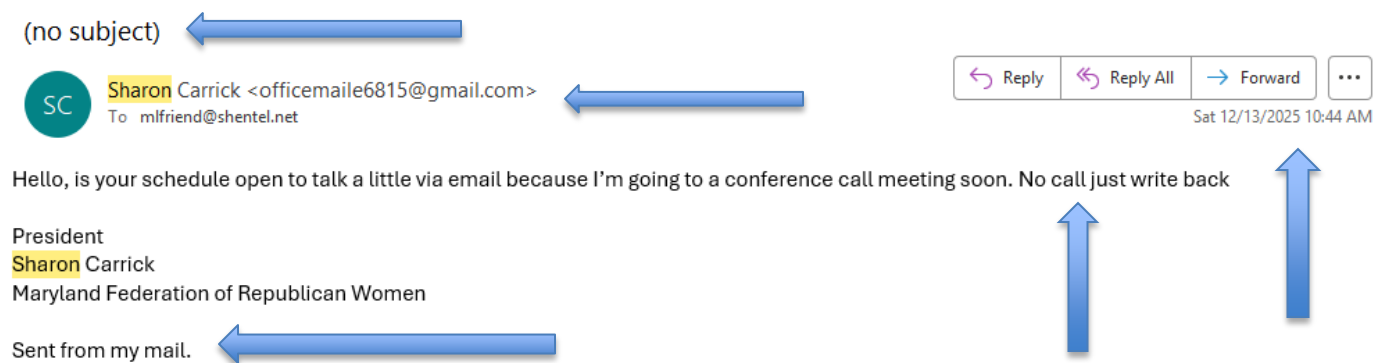
- Check the full “From” address (not just the display name). Watch for look-alike domains.
- Compare From vs Reply-To. A different or odd Reply-To is a major warning sign.
- Hover to preview links before clicking (press-and-hold on mobile). Does the URL match the real site?
- Verify via a known-good channel: call/text using a number you already have or start a new email to a saved address.
- If available, view message details: mailed-by/signed-by should match the organization’s domain; SPF/DKIM/DMARC should pass.

If you suspect phishing

- Do not click links or open attachments.
- Report it (use your “Report Phishing” button or forward to IT/security), then delete it.
- If you already clicked: report immediately, change passwords from a trusted device, and watch for unusual account activity.

Rule of thumb: If it creates urgency and asks you to click, pay, or share sensitive info, verify first using a separate channel.

EXAMPLES:



Notice the missing subject line, always look at the email address, the time sent is also important (sometimes it will come at strange hours), this should say “sent from iphone or EMAIL” not mail, and do not assume that just because you recognize the name that it is legit. NEVER EVER click links or give out personal information.

As leadership changes, scammers will adjust their attempts to match the names with influence. Directory of officers is available in your leadership packets and on the official MFRW website. www.mfrw.org

TIPS:

MFRW will never ask you to send money outside of the standard donation protocols, registration links on official websites and via check. If you EVER question the emails legitimacy you are welcome to inquire.

MFRW Country Store

https://www.zazzle.com/store/mfrw_country_store



Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



National Wreaths Across America Day 2026

**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 2026.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online
or visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/MD0672

Donations accepted now for 2026 placement

