



THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

March 31, 2010

To all National Directors, Regional Governors, Division Presidents and elected officers,

Enclosed please find copies of the newly revised "Duties and Responsibilities of National Directors" and "Duties of Regional Governors". The guidelines were approved by a quorum of national directors at the midwinter meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada on February 13th, 2010.

The guidelines were originally drafted to provide guidance to the league's leadership. Our predecessors recognized that in order to be affective we needed to be working together and communicating with timely and accurate information and that that information needed to flow to all levels of the league.

With these revisions to the guidelines I hope we can initiate an improved level of communication that starts with the president and chair of the e-board and goes to our newest members. But in order for these guidelines to be effective it is the responsibility of every one of us to understand them and strive to follow them.

I encourage each of you to study the new guidelines and create your own plans as to how you can best carry out the objectives, not only of the revised guidelines but the mission of the league.

Special points:

Point 1) National directors guidelines, page 2, item H. requiring directors to have internet access is new but important, it is critical whether we are dealing with legislative issues or committee discussions that we do so quickly. This change was not intended to put directors without internet at a disadvantage or to diminish the great work that they do. We simply need those directors to appoint someone to be their liaison that has internet access. We will be contacting the few national directors without internet access in the next few weeks to get the information for your contact person.

Point 2) Pages 73 through 78 of the 2010 National Directory lists every chapter's national director liaison. It is each national director's responsibility to establish who the contact person will be in each assigned chapter, and to maintain a two way stream of communication throughout the year.

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Point 3) The league's Conservation Currents, which is a monthly status of conservation issues and the Action Alert system for contacting our legislators in regards to conservation issues is quick, easy and effective. Unfortunately the league is not using our advocacy system as effectively as we should be. The league has e-mail addresses for over 13,000 individuals but less than a third of those are league members. Most disturbing is that only 150 of those contacts ever respond to requests to use the Action Alert system.

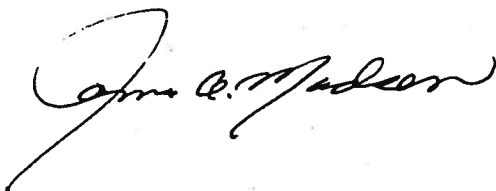
Your help is needed in two ways: First by obtaining as many e-mail addresses of our members and supporters as possible. The addresses will only be used internally and members can take comfort in the league by-law 15.6, which restricts the giving out of any member lists. We know that many of our members have e-mail addresses and that locally those addresses are being used for contacts such as newsletters. Please get the members permission and supply the addresses to national. This is part of a member service that we are excited about expanding.

The second way we need your help in regards to advocacy, is to make sure that each of your assigned chapters has an Environmental Education Director (EED). Some one that can be part of your contact list and that has his or her own list of chapter contacts for encouraging the use of our advocacy tools. Some one who will encourage members to go to our web site: www.IWLA.org, hit the advocacy button, sign up and become active in its use.

There are numerous other changes made to the Guidelines that I hope you will agree needed to be made. There may be other changes that should be made. These documents need to be works in progress and changes made periodically to keep up with the times.

Mike Williams our late president and friend commented "The earth is God's gift to us. Our gift to him is to take care of it". We have the ability to make a difference, by working together and with a little extra effort from each of us we can be part of Mike's gift.

Thank you for all you do for the league and for conservation.



James Madsen
National President
Izaak Walton League of America

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

GUIDELINES FOR

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL DIRECTORS

(Includes Past National Presidents, National Officers, and Regional Governors)

Membership on the National Board of Directors of the Izaak Walton League of America is more than an honor. In accepting nomination and election, you also accept certain responsibilities. Some of these are clearly spelled out in the Constitution and by-laws.

The League has three levels: chapter, division, and regional/national each with the same basic purpose. Each level has additional rules but none may take the place of, or contradict, the national Articles of Incorporation and by-laws.

Your obligations and responsibilities are to ensure that the chapters, the divisions, the regions, and the national components combine their efforts to carry out the mission of the League as a whole.

EXPLICIT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Local and State Level:

1. Each national director serves as a link between the national organization and the division, assists the chapters for the division, and vice versa. The division president shall outline a geographical area, or specific chapters, as the responsibility for each national director.
2. Directors are to:
 - A. Attend all state division meetings. Each shall also attend all National Board of Directors meetings. If unable to attend, the national director should contact the state division president and secretary, in writing, and give valid reason. The division president may then select a substitute for that meeting.
 - B. Keep division president and officers informed of chapter developments. Report new national developments to the division officers.
 - C. Contact assigned chapters at least once a year; every four months, if possible. Be willing to assist the officers in operations, and in furthering the League's conservation goals, such as:
 - assist chapters and divisions in orientation and reporting of new officers;
 - encourage members to promote membership increase;
 - suggest conservation or chapter projects or activities;
 - encourage chapter efforts toward conservation education projects;
 - recommend educational programs for chapters and the public;
 - bring information to the chapter of current issues on national and division levels;
 - promote legislative action, conservation issues, and projects such as SOS;
 - encourage policy issues of the divisions and chapters to have national office review
 - encourage publicity of chapter and conservation activities,
 - originate and assist chapters in the sponsorship and establishment of new chapters; and,
 - explain directives or regulations of the division or national organization.
 - D. Present Tobin Awards at a chapter meeting or a chapter function. Encourage chapters to nominate top performing members to the national office for the Tobin Awards.

National Level:

Directors are expected to:

- A. Suggest appropriate action based on established national policy.
- B. Suggest projects or positions to be taken by the national organization.
- C. Maintain a liaison with the national organization on conservation matters.
- D. Follow up promptly when action is requested by National Officers.
- E. Serve diligently on national committees when appointed.
- F. Promote harmony and unity within the assigned areas of responsibility.
- G. Support annual appeals and annually report donated travel and volunteer hours.
- H. Have internet access or an appointee who does and in that capacity be available to participate in all board communications and to promote all electronic functions of the League.

Directors-at-Large

The directors-at-large are expected to:

- A. Maintain communications and updates with chapters not located within a Division.
- B. Contact local chapters and attend national board of directors meetings.
- C. Present the chapter and Tobin awards at a chapter meeting in their region where no division exists.
- D. Support annual appeals and annually report donated travel and volunteer hours

Other Members of the National Board of Directors:

This category includes past national presidents, regional governors, and national officers. They follow the same guidelines as the national directors elected by state divisions regarding meeting attendance and acting as liaison between national, state, and local events of the League. They may be called upon by the Executive Board or State Division President for any other duties described for the National Directors.

Rules

Rules governing the national directors are covered in Article X of the Bylaws. Special attention is called to the following:

1. There are two yearly meetings of the national board of directors. One at the national convention in July and one Mid Winter at a location selected by the site committee.
2. Under the bylaws, if a director fails to attend any two consecutive National Board of Directors or two consecutive State Division meetings, without good and reasonable cause, or is not fulfilling the duties as described here-in, it is the duty of the Executive Board to declare such member's position on the National Board of Directors vacant. The vacancy will then be filled via the state election process.
3. Directors elect members of the Executive Board 24 hours after election of the national officers at the National Convention.

Revised February 13, 2010 Las Vegas, Nevada