



Zonta International Convention 2022 Proxy Process

What is a proxy?

Bylaws of Zonta International **Article X Convention, SECTION 4. Convention Voting Members (b) Proxies** say this:

Proxies. Any club unable to send a delegate to convention may be represented by proxy. A club choosing to be represented by proxy shall be entitled to its votes by proxy. A club may carry the proxy votes from two other clubs except that the total votes carried by one club may not exceed five.

How do I select a proxy?

The club president should seek to designate a proxy within the same area and district. If assistance is needed, the club president should work with the area director, governor, or an appointed district support person to identify a club that can carry their proxy vote.

The club or, specifically, the club member that will carry the proxy must agree to this before the assigning club selects and submits the club's information that will serve as the proxy.

In addition, in 2022, past international presidents and governors are eligible to carry a proxy vote. Again, the club must confirm with the carrying individual before selecting and submitting the individual name as the assigned proxy.

Can my proxy be from outside my district?

Yes. While it is preferable that the proxy comes from your district, there will be an option in the online voter credentialing portal to select a proxy from another district. This option is the list where you will also find the past international presidents and governors.

In this situation, before entering a proxy in the Zonta database, the club, past international president or governor that will carry the proxy must agree to serve as the proxy.

How will my proxy vote? Will they vote the way my club wants them to?

Zonta holds a convention in-person so that the voting members can discuss, debate and exchange ideas on what will be voted on. A club that cannot send a delegate from its own club must therefore rely on the assigned proxy to do its voting.

Zonta is legally incorporated in the State of Illinois, which provides for both a 'general proxy' and a 'limited proxy' process. In short, a **general proxy** gives the person holding the proxy the right to vote as the holder sees fit whereas, while a **limited proxy** is an assigned proxy in which the assigner stipulates the way that the proxy holder is to vote on specific issues.



Your club will choose how it wishes to guide your proxy – to listen to debate and vote and listen to candidate speeches and vote, or to be limited to voting on business issues and elections as your club has directed. To help you, there will be a **voter guide sheet** that your club can use to inform the club, past international president or governor assigned to carry your proxy.

What will the voter guide sheet look like?

The top of the guide sheet will provide clear direction and a point of conversation for how the club is directing the assigned club, past international president or governor carrying its proxy to vote.

For example:

The club assigning the proxy authorizes (select one):

Limited power to the delegate carrying their proxy so that votes are cast based on the assigning club's wishes and this direction may not be changed. Please see the below information for voting.

Full general power to the delegate carrying their proxy without any limitations. The proxy may reference the below but may vote their conscious after consideration of the information presented.

NOTE: For matters arising from the floor, the delegate carrying the proxy is authorized to vote based on their conscious after consideration of the information presented.

Having the above on the voter guide sheet will provide clear direction on the assigning club's wishes.