

# 2026 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NSCDXVIIC BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

Formatting used in printing the proposed amendments:  
Underlined print = add, Line through words = strike out

Amendment 1 - Rewrite Article IV States, Section 8 to read a State Society is defined as having two or more chartered chapters with an elected state executive board, an annual state conference and state bylaws. The District of Columbia is recognized as having state society status and to change all references of "Organized State" to "State Society" and "Unorganized State" to "Chapters not in a State Society." The following changes all have to do with this one amendment.

## ARTICLE V FEES AND DUES

### Section 2. Member Dues

- a. The annual National dues of a member as designated in the Standing Rules, which include a subscription to *The Seventeenth Century Review*, shall be sent to the Treasurer General on or before December 31 each calendar year by the State Treasurer or by the Chapter Treasurers in unorganized states ~~chapters not in a State Society.~~

## ARTICLE VII NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### Section 2. Eligibility

- a. To be eligible for an elected National Office a candidate shall have been a member of the Society for at least five years at the time of election having served a full term as an elected officer of her chapter and state society, or chapter in an unorganized state ~~not in a State Society.~~

### Section 3. Endorsements and Nominations

- c. Any materials promoting a member for office, other than an endorsement sent in by a State Society or chapter not in a State Society ~~in an unorganized state~~, are prohibited for use in this Society. There shall be no campaigning in the assembly for a member who is on the slate or a member who is proposed from the floor.

### Section 5. Duties of Nominating Committee

- a. A meeting of the five members of the Nominating Committee shall be held electronically in even-numbered calendar years at least 30 days before the National Fall Board of Management meeting of the Society to select a slate of national officers from the names endorsed by the state societies or chapters not in a State Society ~~in unorganized states~~. The time and selection of the electronic platform for the meeting shall be determined by the chair. A candidate best qualified to fill each National Office and representing as many geographical areas of the Society as possible shall be nominated. The Treasurer General, Registrar General, and Librarian General may succeed themselves but shall not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

## ARTICLE VIII OFFICERS DUTIES

### **Section 6. Duties of the Chaplain General**

The Chaplain General shall:

- a. require each State Chaplain or Chapter Chaplain ~~in an unorganized state~~ not in a state society complete a Chaplain report listing the name of each deceased member;

### **Section 10. Duties of the Treasurer General**

The Treasurer General shall:

- g. receive all funds from state societies and chapters ~~in unorganized states~~ not in a State Society;
- h. receive all scholarship donations from State Societies and chapters ~~in unorganized states~~ not in a State Society; and issue the Society payments to the designated schools for specific scholarships;

## ARTICLE X NATIONAL BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

### **Section 1. Duties of the National Board of Management**

- a. The National Board of Management shall:

consist of the elected National Officers, Appointed National Officers, Honorary National Officers, National Standing, Special and Conference Committee Chairs, State Presidents, and Chapter Presidents ~~in unorganized states~~ not in a State Society;

## ARTICLE XI NATIONAL CONFERENCE

### **Section 5. Reports**

All National Officers, National Chairs, State Presidents, and Chapter Presidents ~~in unorganized states~~ not in a State Society shall submit electronically the reports of their work: one for the President General; one for the Recording Secretary General; and a condensed version for the Editor of *The Seventeenth Century Review*. If the report concerns finances, a fourth copy of the report must be submitted electronically to the Treasurer General. ~~State Chairs, State Officers, and Chapter Chairs and Officers in unorganized states must report to their corresponding national representatives by February 15.~~ Reports to National Chairs and National Officers shall be submitted electronically by February 15.

## ARTICLE XIV STATES

### **Section 6. Annual Conference**

State Societies shall hold their Annual Conferences prior to the National Conference. In the odd-numbered year, the ~~states~~ State Societies shall elect officers for a two-year term or until their successors are elected.

- a. State Society Presidents and state officers who are elected and installed at a State Conference shall be officers-elect and shall assume their duties and responsibilities immediately after the National Conference held in the odd-numbered year.
- c. ~~The State President shall be a voting member of the National Board of Management. In the absence of the State President, the State First Vice President may assume the State President's voting capacity. An unorganized state shall be represented by the Chapter President or the First Vice President.~~ State Societies and chapters not in a State Society shall submit the National Credential form as required.

## Section 8. State Status

A State Society is defined as having ~~one~~ two or more chartered chapters with an elected state executive board, an annual state conference and state bylaws. The District of Columbia is recognized as having State Society status.

## ARTICLE XV CHAPTERS

### Section 2. Chapter Organization

- c. The State Organizing Secretary in ~~an organized state~~ a State Society shall direct organization of a chapter and appoint the Organizing Chapter President with the approval of the State President and the Organizing Secretary General.
- d. ~~In an unorganized state, The Organizing Secretary General shall direct the organization of a chapter and appoint the Organizing Chapter President with the approval of the President General and the The Organizing Secretary General shall direct the disbandment of any chapter not in a State Society. a chapter in an unorganized state, with the approval of the President General.~~

### Section 6. Fees and Dues

Chapter bylaws shall provide for fees and dues for chapter use in addition to National and State dues. A chapter may not levy assessment in excess of its Bylaws. Chapter Treasurers shall remit dues to the State Society Treasurer on or before November 15. The State Society Treasurers shall report in turn to the Treasurer General on or before December 31. Chapter Treasurers not in a State Society ~~unorganized state~~ shall submit dues ~~report directly~~ to the Treasurer General on or before December 31.

### Section 12. Names of Chapters

- b. A chapter name or official location recorded by the Society may be changed by a majority vote of the chapter membership with approval by the State President or by the Organizing Secretary General in a chapter not in a State Society ~~unorganized states~~ and a majority vote of the National Executive Board.

### Section 13. Reports

~~Chapter~~ State Societies and chapters not in a State Society shall send their annual reports electronically to the President General and Recording Secretary General. Reports should be sent to the corresponding national chairs and National Executive Officers as required; state president, officer, and chairs for use in making their reports to State and National Conferences. The President of a chapter in an unorganized state shall send the report electronically to the President General, the Recording Secretary General and any other National Officer or National Chair;

RATIONALE: This defines the requirements for being a State Society and ensures fairness for all states. This eliminates the terminology “organized” and “unorganized” which have negative connotations and defines a state society and a chapter not in a state society consistently throughout the bylaws.

Amendment 2 - Make changes to allow different types of payment options and ensure payment type consistency.

#### ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

##### **Section 1. Admission**

b. A prospective member for a chapter shall be endorsed by two members of that chapter who are in good standing and by whom the prospect is known personally. Acceptability shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter Executive Board. The name then shall be presented to the membership for a ballot vote at the next regular chapter meeting. A majority vote shall establish acceptability. Upon favorable action three identical official application papers for membership, or one original application paper for membership and two copies, shall be prepared by the applicant and signed by her. The official application and copies shall be signed by the two endorsers and the proper chapter officers, then sent with documented proof clearly marked for each generation and ~~a chapter check payment~~ **payable** for the amount of the application fee and one year of dues and sent to the Registrar General. ~~The check Payment~~ shall be made **payable** to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century. The applicant shall be allowed one year to prepare and return her application papers unless granted a special extension by the chapter. An applicant shall agree if admitted to membership she will endeavor to carry out the purposes for which the Society was organized and to observe and comply with its Bylaws and Standing Rules.

RATIONALE: Allow different forms of payments.

Amendment 3 - Make changes to allow for different types of payment options and ensure payment type consistency.

#### ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

##### **Section 5. Supplemental Application**

A member shall submit one original and two copies of the identical typed application paper for recording each ancestor supplemental for verification. Documented proof for each generation not verified on a previous application and ~~a check payment~~ **payable** for the amount of the supplemental application fee, payable to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century, shall be ~~sent to Headquarters submitted~~ **submitted** with each supplemental application. Each supplemental application and copies shall be signed by the member and proper chapter officers. A member may request a certificate for an approved supplemental ancestor using the form available on the website and submitting the applicable fee. Supplemental applications that cannot be verified have one year from the date of review to submit additional requested documentation.

RATIONALE: Allow different forms of payments

Amendment 4 - Make changes to allow different types of payment options and ensure payment type consistency in Article IV Membership and Section 7 Transfers. Remove the duty of Office Manager notifying the chapter of the completion of transfer and change "mailed" to "sent."

## ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

### Section 7 Transfers.

- b. A member-at-large shall be a member who upon the disbanding or dissolution of her chapter may apply for member-at-large status for two years. She shall pay dues directly to the Treasurer General with payment a check made payable to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century. A member-at-large who is in good standing may transfer into a chapter to which she has been invited and approved. ~~The Headquarters Office Manager shall notify the chapters of completion of the transfer.~~
- c. A person who joins the Society for the purpose of forming a new chapter shall also be a member-at-large. Her dues are ~~to be made~~ payable to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century and ~~mailed~~ sent to the Treasurer General until the new chapter is organized.

RATIONALE: Allow different forms of payments and allow payment to be received in different ways. The Headquarters Office Manager no longer notifies that a transfer is complete because this information is now online.

Amendment 5 - Make changes to allow different types of payment options in Section 5. Supplemental Fees and Section 6. Application Copies in ARTICLE V FEES AND DUES and to ensure payment type consistency and to remove unnecessary wording.

## ARTICLE V FEES AND DUES

### Section 5. Supplemental Fees

The Society's current fee, ~~payable by check to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century,~~ shall ~~accompany a~~ be submitted for each supplemental paper. A chapter may require a fee for a supplemental if such provision is written into its bylaws or standing rules.

### Section 6. Application Copies

The current fee, ~~payable to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century,~~ shall be submitted with ~~accompany~~ each request for a copy of an application. If the copy is not the member's own, written permission of the owner must be acquired if such permission is not on file. Should the paper be that of a deceased, resigned or dropped member, permission may be granted by the Society.

RATIONALE: Allow different forms of payments

Amendment 6 - Make changes to allow different types of payment and ensure payment type consistency. Remove unnecessary words.

## ARTICLE XV CHAPTERS

### Section 5. Application Papers

Application papers for membership in a chapter shall be signed by the chapter president, the registrar and two endorsing members. Papers shall be ~~sent~~ submitted to the Registrar General with payment of the application fees and dues for one year ~~with a check payable to the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century.~~ The chapter shall maintain a file of the application and supplemental papers for each member. The dues and application fee for Junior members shall

be one half of the current fees.

RATIONALE: Allow different forms of payments

Amendment 7 - Add the Giving Tree Fund as a new fund for the Society

ARTICLE XIII FUNDS, DONATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

**Section 2. Funds and Projects**

r. Giving Tree Fund

RATIONALE: Addition of a fund for donations not previously covered as an option in the Society. This fund upon approval is to be used by National Committee Chairs and others who may request disbursements. The donor may designate the requested use of the donation.

**2026 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
TO THE STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY**

Amendment 1 - Add the Giving Tree as item g. under Donation Pins

NOTE: This amendment is needed if Amendment 7 is adopted.

SECTION 8: DONATION PINS

g. Giving Tree Fund

RATIONALE: Addition of the new fund and donation amount required in order to qualify for the donation pin for this fund.