



**Standing Rules for the Florida State Network of the
Women's Council of REALTORS®
Amended August 2019**

1. The State Network may choose to have a yearly fund raiser earmarked for RPAC (REALTOR Political Action Committee).
2. The Leadership Team, District Vice-Presidents, Governors and Local Network Presidents shall have a Leadership Summit to be held at a location chosen by the Incoming State President. Committee Chairs and Presidents Elect to be invited at the discretion of the Incoming State President.
3. A booth is to be set up annually at the Florida Realtors Convention, an Events Task Force responsibility.
4. The State Network will pay for the hospitality suite.
5. The installation banquet and awards presentation will be held at the Mid-Winter Business Meetings.
6. A designated area shall be set aside for Governing Board at all State meetings.
7. The recommendation of any candidate for election must come from the candidate's Local Network. A Member-at-Large may be recommended by any Network.
8. Nominating:

Nominations from the floor: Nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting by any voting member, provided that the candidate has satisfied all the following requirements.
 - A. The Candidate so nominated shall have signed a Consent to Serve form.
 - B. Any candidate who wishes to run from the floor shall have met the minimum requirements and completed the application screening and nominating process.
 - C. A verbal announcement by the chair of the nominating committee to the voting delegates that the candidate is/is not qualified to run from the floor for said position.

- D. 1 - The candidate for office may officially announce his/her candidacy and begin campaign activities no earlier than 30 (thirty) days following the last Governing Board meeting of the year preceding the year of election.
 - 2 – There may be announcements and brochures containing only information about the candidate themselves and can be distributed inside or outside of the meeting rooms.
 - 3 – All campaign communications shall contain factually accurate information.
 - 4 – Electronic media communications to members shall be allowed and must include an “opt-out” provision.
 - 5 – Members of the State Leadership Team may promote their own candidacy but shall not participate in the candidacy of any candidate outside of the meeting of the Nominating Committee.
 - 6 – Only these activities as listed are allowed.

9. Nomination Committee Procedure
State Officers:

- A. The Nominating Committee Chairman is to distribute recommendation forms to all local Network Presidents ninety (90) days prior to the Annual Convention. (This distribution is to include a letter of explanation and candidate qualifications and to include the deadline for return).
- B. The Local Network Presidents, through the authorization of Governing Board, are to return the recommendation forms to the Nominating Committee Chairman at least sixty (60) days prior to the election of officers at the Annual Convention. The completed forms are to have the Network’s recommended candidates’ names. Recommended candidates’ names submitted must be from the Local Network’s membership, unless a Member-at-Large. If the Network has no candidates’, the form should be returned marked “none”.
- C. Each candidate will be sent a Consent to Serve form and an appropriate job description as found in the Leadership Policy & Procedure Manual which is to be returned at least 45 days prior to the Annual Convention.
- D. The Chairman will send applications to the nominating committee at least 21 days prior to the annual convention.
- E. The Nominating Committee will meet at the Annual Convention. After interviewing each candidate, the Nominating Committee Chairman will notify all candidates prior to posting the slate of nominees on the door of the Women’s Council of REALTORS suite. The slate shall be posted no later than 12 hours prior to the Annual Business and Election of Officers Meeting.

National Officers:

- A. The Nominating Committee shall send forms to qualified candidates for Region Vice-President in November (14 months prior to the year Florida is to fill the position). Nominees for Region Vice-President will be interviewed by the Nominating Committee prior to the State Network recommending their candidate to National.

1. To qualify for Regional Vice President, the candidate must have served, or is currently serving, as Florida State President.
- B. Nominating Committee shall send forms to qualified candidates for National Line Office during the specified National timeline. Nominees for National Line office shall be interviewed by the State Nominating Committee after the State National Focus Committee recommends the candidate.
10. Minimum requirements for application of Women’s Council of REALTORS State Line Officer position and all District Vice Presidents:
- A. Each candidate must be a member of Women’s Council of REALTORS for at least two (2) years.
 - B. Each candidate must have served as a Local Network President.
 - C. Each State Line Officer candidate shall have served as a State Network committee/forum task force chairman and/or Vice Chair and/or a State Governor or a Florida REALTORS Chairman or Vice Chairman in the past three (3) years preceding application.
 - D. Each candidate for State Line Officer must hold the Performance Management Network (PMN) designation.
 - E. Each candidate should have attended Women’s Council of REALTORS State Meetings for two (2) consecutive years prior to application for officer.
 - F. Each candidate should have attended Women’s Council of REALTORS National Meetings within the year preceding application for State Officer. (With at least three (3) of the last five (5) National Women’s Council of REALTORS meetings attended)
 - G. Each District Vice-President applicant must be at least a candidate for the Performance Management Network designation.
 - H. District Vice-President’s job description to be as follows:
 1. Organize the Local Networks in their District for the State President’s visit/District Conference in a central location, convenient to local Networks. (Follow proper protocol when inviting State Leadership. The State President is to be the keynote speaker during the District Conference.
 2. Coordinate events with Florida REALTORS District Vice-Presidents
 3. Invite your state Governor to all district events and planning sessions.
 4. Inform Local Network Presidents that the Conference is to be the only program for that particular month within their Districts.
 5. Organize the local Networks for the District Retreat to be held no later than January 31st. Open to all Network members to attend.
 6. Recruit Members-at-Large.

7. Attend all State, Regional Meetings/Summits and State Presidents Retreat with attendance at National Meetings recommended.
8. Remind all Local Network Presidents of important dates and deadlines shown in the current year in the Local Network Planning Guide.
9. Receive and review reports from Local Network Presidents and submit summarized reports to the Governor as indicated in the Local Network Planning Guide.
10. Notify Governor of known interest within the District to form a new Network.
11. Notify Governor of Networks within the District that may require services.

At the beginning of their term of office:

1. Send a communication introduction to the Local Network line officers.
2. Request a copy of Network Bylaws, Standing Rules and Budget and file with State Network.
3. Post-election, encourage incoming Local Network Presidents to have a leadership retreat with their Governing Boards prior to their installations to formulate a cohesive team plan for the year.

Duties:

1. Encourage membership growth and retention in the District.
2. Install, when invited, Local Network Officers if no other State or National Officer is available.
3. Maintain positive professional image and promote the Women's Council of REALTORS throughout the District.
4. Attend at least one General Membership Meeting and one Governing Board Meeting of Networks represented.
5. Discuss with Local Network Presidents the online submission of their "Annual Business Plan and Program Recognition Forms"
6. Make evaluation forms to be handed out at each District Conference, to evaluate and subsequently improve the event. Make them available for discussion at District Conference conclusion.

1. District Vice-Presidents Budget Requirements:

1. The District Vice-Presidents have a small allowance for travel in the state budget each year. These funds shall be utilized first. The state Treasurer will send documentation of reimbursement to the District Vice-Presidents home Network.
2. Each Network in the assigned district shall have a line item in their budget for their District Vice-President. These funds shall be issued at the beginning of the year to the District Vice-Presidents home Network.
3. The home Network for each District Vice-President shall have a separate line items/and or account in their budget to process these funds. The district cannot have a separate account as the district is not an entity.

4. Each Network shall have two line items; one for District Vice- President's travel and one for the district conference. These funds shall be audited along with the Network funds. The District Vice-President will submit a budget for their travel expenses to the local Networks for approval at their district retreat. Funds from the district conference are not to be used for travel unless specifically approved by the local Networks.

5. Reimbursement to the District Vice-President will be done following the financial policy and procedure of the state Network, reviewed and signed by two officers of the District Vice-President's home Network.

6. A budget for the district conference created with the local Networks will be submitted to the respective governor at least 60 days prior to the event. After the conference, the remaining funds or profit will be equally divided among the Networks in the district and disbursed by the District Vice-President's home Network.

7. Any remaining funds in the travel budget at the end of the year will be equally divided among the Networks in the district and disbursed by the District Vice-Presidents home Network.

11. Women's Council of REALTORS State Network President recommended qualifications:

A. In addition to Standing Rule 10, the State President must have been a member of a National committee/forum.

B. If the State Network President has not served as State Treasurer, they must attend training by the State Women's Council of REALTORS CPA.

12. Governor Candidate Criteria:

A. Each candidate must have served in a state Women's Council of REALTORS elected office.

B. Each candidate should have attended three (3) of the last four (4) State Women's Council of REALTORS/Florida REALTORS meetings.

C. Each candidate should have attended a National Women's Council of REALTORS meeting in the past two (2) years.

E. Each Governor candidate must hold the Performance Management Network designation.

F. Each candidate shall have served as a Local Network President.

G. Each candidate is encouraged to serve on a National committee/forum.

H. Governor job description to be as follows:

1. Recruitment of members- Assist Local Networks in their membership efforts.

2. Assist each Network in attaining or exceeding an 80% retention rate and monitor quarterly.

3. Work with State President to charter new Networks as needed. Nurture new Networks by working closely with the new Network's President.

4. Nurture Business Resource Groups back to Network status. In conjunction with the District Vice President, resolve Network conflicts.

5. Follow up to ensure the names and addresses of Local Network officers are reported, as soon as elected, to the National office.
 6. As an officer of the Florida Network, Governors are to attend all State, and National meetings as a voting delegate. Attend all National meetings including: Annual Business Meeting, Governing Board Meetings, Officer Meetings and workshops, Installation of Women's Council of REALTORS Officer and Regional Committee Meetings.
 7. Report quarterly to the State President by email, the status of their District's progression of each Local Network's completion of the Local Network Planning Guide.
 - I. Additional Responsibilities as found in the Florida Strategic Plan:
 1. Identify, encourage and advise future State Leadership.
 2. Encourage and support members in leadership positions.
13. Election of State Network Officers will be in the following order:
President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Governors, and District Vice-Presidents.
14. Election of the Nominating Committee for the following year:
At the end of the Nominating Committee's report for both Governing Board and General Membership Meeting, the Chairman will make a motion to open the floor for nominations of members to serve on the following year's Nominating Committee.
15. Members-at-Large are entitled to vote in the Annual Election and may cast one vote each.
16. When a member of the State Network is elected to State or National Women's Council of REALTORS office, any expenses allocated by the State Network shall be determined by and voted upon by the Governing Board. Such funds shall be included in the State Network budget.
17. When a Florida member is considering a National Office position, they must first come before the State Leadership Identification & Development committee for approval before running.
18. To qualify to run for National Executive Committee, a candidate must:
 - A. Have either taught at Leadership Academy or been a Chair or Vice Chair of a National Strategic Forum, or been a facilitator of a workshop/learning lab at National, or have been or is a NAR liaison
 - B. Must have been interviewed and selected by Leadership Identification & Development and interviewed by Nominating Committee prior to the National Annual Meeting.
19. National Line Officer criteria:
 - A. Each candidate must have served as a Local Network President.
 - B. Each candidate must have served as a State Network President.
 - C. Each candidate must have served as a Governor and if possible a Regional Vice-President.
 - D. Each candidate must have served on at least two National committees/forums.

Amended

- E. Each candidate should strive to serve on significant National committees/forums, such as Finance and Budget, Strategic Planning and Executive.
- F. Each candidate must seek the official support of the State Network by going through the State nominating process.
- F. Each candidate needs to familiarize her/himself with commitments required, financial as well as time.
- G. National candidates should have facilitated a national workshop or Leadership Academy, if possible, which would give the candidate visibility on the national level.
- H. Each candidate must be a current member of the Women's Council of REALTORS National Governing Board.

20. Women's Council of REALTORS State Network to comply with IRS guidelines concerning reimbursement of State Officers' expenses effective January 1, 1994.

21. Awards:

Florida State Award Criteria & Submission Requirements

1. Chair and Vice Chairman of Awards Task Force will not be eligible for an award in the year served.
2. One person, one award per year based on votes of the Task Force. In the event one nominee is noted first place for two or more awards, the nominations shall go back to Task Force for re-evaluation and decision (Passed 9/2008) with the exception of the Presidential Awards.
3. Awards Task Force members shall be limited to a maximum of one person per Network. (Passed 9/2008)
4. State Line officers are ineligible for nomination of awards during their term in office. (Passed 9/2006)
5. Any Florida Network may nominate a member from another Florida Network.

Award and Criteria for Nominations

NETWORK OF THE YEAR

- A. The Network that demonstrates/exemplifies the Women's Council mission, vision and values with an emphasis on leadership, professionalism and a commitment to excellence.
- B. Delivers quality programming.
- C. Minimum retention rate of 75%.
- D. Utilizes the National local website as a current and informative resource for its members.

Submission Requirements: Nominations for Network or Business Resource Group of the Year are to be submitted by State Governing Board members.

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR - Flow Through from Local Networks

- A. Must be a member of National Women's Council of Realtors for a minimum of one year.
- B. Should have been a REALTOR or REALTOR-ASSOCIATE for a minimum of one year.
- C. Sales Agent Application form must be signed by Association

Executive and Officer or Broker. Broker/Manager/Owner Application form must be signed by Association Executive Officer.

- D. The Entrepreneur of the Year Nominees must be most recent recipient from the Local Network Entrepreneur of the Year.
- E. Criteria will be based on these categories:

- 1. Business Accomplishments: 50%

Questions:

- Describe a recent business initiative that yielded outstanding business results.
- Describe how you are doing business differently from 5 years ago and what benefits this has yielded. What recommendations would you make to someone new to the profession?

- 2. Production: (Check one and complete information) 5%

__Sales Agent-Annual Production \$ _____

__Broker/Owner/Manager-Units sold _____/Number of sales agents _____

- 3. REALTOR Local/State/National Leadership (with dates) 10%

- 4. Describe how you have mentored other woman in the professional 15%

- 5. List Political/Business Community Involvement: (with dates) 10%

Public offices held/campaigned for:

Business Community involvement:

Membership in Professional Organizations:

- 6. Career Achievements: 5%

Describe outstanding accomplishments in your career or special recognition:

Submission Requirements: All current Local presidents will nominate one (1) member for Entrepreneur of the Year and turn in the nomination by state awards deadline.

STATE HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

- A. The person to be considered must be a member in good standing.
- B. The nominee should have freely volunteered of their time and talents to one or more organizations. That person should have volunteered many hours of service and commitment on a continuous basis and provided “hands-on” involvement to a specific cause. This member, by way of example, is a role model for other Women’s Council of REALTORS members.
- C. Must be actively serving on a State Committee/Forum/Task Force during the year they are nominated.

Submission Requirements: Humanitarian of the Year is nominated by State Governing Board members and Local Presidents-Elect.

STATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR

- A. State honoree shall be selected by these standards:
- B. Local Network activities 25%
- C. State Network activities 25%
- WCR National activities 10%

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| Local Board activities | 10% |
| State Association activities | 5% |
| National Association activities | 3% |
| Societies | 5% |
| REALTORS honor | 2% |
| Political involvement | 5% |
| Community service | 5% |
| Business accomplishments | 5% |
- D. Must be actively serving on a Committee/Forum/Task Force during the year they are nominated.
- E. Nominees shall have been members for a minimum of five (5) consecutive years.

Submission Requirements: Member of the Year is nominated by State Governing Board members. Local Networks may have both a local and State Member of the Year. Submit State Member of the Year to the National Council by their deadline.

STATE MENTOR OF THE YEAR

- A. The person to be considered must be a member in good standing, actively serving on a State Committee/Forum/Task Force during the year they are nominated.
- B. That nominee must have shown outstanding support for Women’s Council of REALTORS, either by example or by their response when guidance and knowledge is requested.
- C. That person should have extended a positive influence, shown comfort to and reinforced the efforts put forth by the leadership of Women’s Council of REALTORS.
- D. This mentor will be chosen for deeds intended for the overall good of the Women’s Council of REALTORS.

Submission Requirements: Mentor of The Year is nominated by State Governing Board members and Local Presidents-Elect.

STATE RISING STAR

- A. Must be actively participating on a State Committee/Forum/Task Force during the year they are nominated
- B. Demonstration of leadership skills.
- C. Demonstration of a desire to learn more and to participate further on a State level.
- D. Assumes tasks and goes beyond what is asked.
- E. Demonstrates the ability to be creative and motivated.

Submission Requirements: State Rising Star is nominated by the State Governing Board members.

STATE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

- A. Must be currently be a District Vice President or Governor.
- B. Demonstrates leadership qualities within their District(s).
- C. Has made a positive change in their District(s).
Has improved the lines of communication within their District(s).

Submission Requirements: State Officer of the Year is nominated by the State Governing Board members. No self-nominations.

STATE STRATEGIC PARTNER OF THE YEAR

- A. Involved at the State level for one (1) year or more.
- B. Strategic Partner of the Year must be actively serving on a Committee/Forum/Task Force during the year they are nominated and/or sponsor/participate at one or more district conferences.
- C. Exemplifies the objectives Women's Council of REALTORS through their willingness to lend a helping hand.

Submission Requirements: State Strategic Partner of the Year is nominated by the State Governing Board members.

22. Tallying Ballot Sheets:

Each committee member will choose a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for each award. Each 1st place will be assigned 3 points, 2nd place will be assigned 2 points and 3rd place will be assigned 1 point. The nominee with the most points will be the winner. In case of a tie, the nominee who received the most 1st place votes will be the winner. In case of a tie with two nominees have the same number of votes and points, both nominees would go back to committee for a second vote.

23. Florida National Candidate:

- A. Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) will be allocated in the approved budget for the approved Florida National Line Officer Candidate for their installation. If a candidate does not move forward the budgeted funds will remain in the general account.
- B. One thousand dollars (\$1,000) will be allocated in the approved budget for the approved National Line Officer Candidate who is brought forward from the State's Leadership Identification Committee for the purpose of marketing their candidacy.

24. In order to qualify for National Line Officer candidate funding, the candidate must:

- A. Submit a consent to serve form.
- B. Have a desire to serve as National President.
- C. Be selected based on committee/forum service and workshop involvement at the National level.
- D. For funding reimbursement; invoices and receipts must be submitted according to the Network guidelines.

25. The Leadership Identification & Development Committee will send a list of recommended candidates available for chairmen and vice chairmen positions for committees/forums, work groups and task forces to the National Staff / Vice President of Membership on or before May 1st.
26. Multiple candidates for the same National position will be interviewed by the Leadership Identification & Development Committee and the Chairman of Nominating Committee. Only the recommended candidate will be eligible for marketing funds.
27. The current Standing Rules & Bylaws of the Florida Network shall be kept an electronic format. Any updates must be approved by the Governing Board. Read-only copies of the current Bylaws & Standing Rules will be made available on the state website. Bylaws Chair and State Secretary will confer after each Governing Board Meeting to revise Board approved changes to Standing Rules within 90 days. After 90 days, if meeting does not convene, the Bylaws Chair is permitted to receive the minutes and/or recordings in order to make changes. Revised standing rules will be delivered to current State Secretary and/or State Amin to be posted to appropriate locations. (Amended 8/2018)
28. Should the need arise to change or review technology services for the integrity of the Women's Council of REALTORS Florida Network brand:
 - A. The Executive Committee will work together with the Technology Task Force/Committee to review technology needs, technology budget and proposals.
 - B. A minimum of 2 proposals are required.
 - C. The Governing Board will have final approval of any and all changes.

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