PROPOSED POLICY FOR DIVISIONAL ELECTIONS

The Executive Board hereby interprets the policy to change Division Constitutions during the unprecedented and unexpected present COVID-19 epidemic, and the ongoing social distancing restrictions and Federal, State and local restrictions, to clarify that the impossibility to fill or elect officer/stewards cannot be allowed and PEF must not allow vacancies and non-representation of its members, hereby adopts the following:

The health and safety of our members is our number one priority and at this time, the PEF Divisions Committee does not believe it would be safe or practical for members to be circulating petitions at this time to run for Officer/Steward elections per Article V of their division constitution. This policy shall be in place until the COVID-19 epidemic has ended in this State as determined by the President of PEF.

To allow for safe nominations, this policy would eliminate the need for candidates to submit a minimum of 5 signatures from other dues paying members in their constituency. Interested candidates would be allowed to self nominate. Candidates will fill out and return a Division Candidate Interest form. The Division Candidate Interest form will be a fillable PDF uploaded to PEF’s website. The form can be filled in electronically and then emailed to Divisions@pef.org or printed and then mailed to PEF Headquarters, Attn: Divisions Department, PO Box 12414, Albany, NY 12212. Due to social distancing guidelines, Division Candidate Interest forms will not be accepted in person at PEF Headquarters or any PEF Regional Office. If you are unable to access the form online, one may be mailed to you by calling PEF Divisions Department at 800-342-4306 ext. 337 to request.

If the number of interested candidates does not exceed the number of Officer/Steward positions available, those candidates will be seated. In the event that a position has more interested candidates than seats available, ballots will be mailed out for those positions. Candidate names will appear on the ballot in random order to ensure fairness for all candidates regardless on whether the candidate submitted their Division Candidate Interest form via mail or email.

Pending the passing of the above policy, the Divisions Department will work with Divisions and guide them through this process.

Approved by the Executive Board
June 11, 2020