



## **NOTICE TO CLUBS ON DECISION TO HOLD AN ELECTRONIC DISTRICT CONFERENCE District 11**

Having 1) reviewed the continuing situation created by the COVID-19 declared pandemic; 2) conducted a thorough review of contracts, expenditures, financial obligations; 3) investigated into risks associated with an in-person event; and 4) heard the voices of the district members; the District 11 Board approved an electronic and in-person district conference.

While there is not a defined procedure for electronic district conferences in the Zonta International Bylaws or district governing documents, we will follow the precedence established in 2020 when the Zonta International Convention was cancelled. The Zonta International Bylaws provide for the International Board to operate under 'emergency powers' and as such, make decisions regarding what would be considered as 'the next best thing' or 'as near as possible' for conducting business under the "Cy pres" doctrine which provides for boards to apply common sense. It is our intent to ensure that our district clubs may still fully participate in the democratic process that underpins all that we value.

Today, this email serves as the official notice to District 11 clubs on how we will proceed with an electronic district conference.

- The district conference will be held in Orlando, Florida at the Hilton Orlando. Electronic service will be provided by the Hilton Orlando Internet Services.
- The district conference will be held on October 21-24, 2021
  - October 21 – Board arrival
  - October 22 – Pre-conference board meeting (all day)
  - October 22 – Opening reception for in-person attendees (afternoon)
  - October 23 – In person and electronic conference (all day)
  - October 24 – Post-conference board meeting (morning)
- All attendees will need to register.
  - Details to be announced by August 23, 2021.
- All clubs will be notified of the credentialing process by August 23, 2021
- Elections will be held in advance of the electronic conference.
  - Details to be announced by August 23, 2021.
- Voting on district business will be held in advance of the electronic conference.
  - Details to be announced by August 23, 2021.

Additionally, the *Bylaws of Zonta International* require the governor to issue a *Call to Conference* at least 60 days before the conference. This *Call to Conference* will be



issued separately and will include the agenda, the proposed district budget, slate of candidates and details on other district business matters.

We hope these accommodations will permit the district to smoothly move business forward while still engaging our delegates and club members.

**Club leaders should direct any questions to their respective area director who will in turn bring those questions forward to the District 11 Board.**