

MEMBER RIGHTS and COMPLIANCE WEBINAR

February 2024



LWVUS Board Vice President, Dianna Wynn



League of Women Voters of the US

Logistical Reminders

- **Everyone's line is muted.** Please keep your microphone muted when not speaking to prevent background noise.
- If you find the chat distracting, you are welcome to minimize it. **We will repeat all questions or comments** that speakers address.
- **This session is being recorded, and the link will be shared.** Chat messages to all attendees are shown on the recording.
- We are using **Zoom's transcription service.** This is automated, and we can't guarantee 100% accuracy.

Community Norms

1. **Be respectful:** Assume positive intent but understand impact.
2. If you are offended or uncomfortable, **please let us know**. You can privately contact staff if you don't want to share with the full group.
3. **Bring your full self** and limit distractions.
4. Use the chat to **ask questions**.

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Agenda

- Purpose
- Member Rights and Responsibilities
- League Responsibilities
- Compliance Process
- Chat Q&A



WHY?

To build a stronger League in the 21st century, we need to grow League membership in number and diversity, strengthen our grassroots power, and bolster our ability to further empower voters and defend democracy.

Transformation Journey to Abolishing the Electoral College

Central League
Management System

Unified Dues Structure

Strong Local and
State Leagues

Changing League Culture

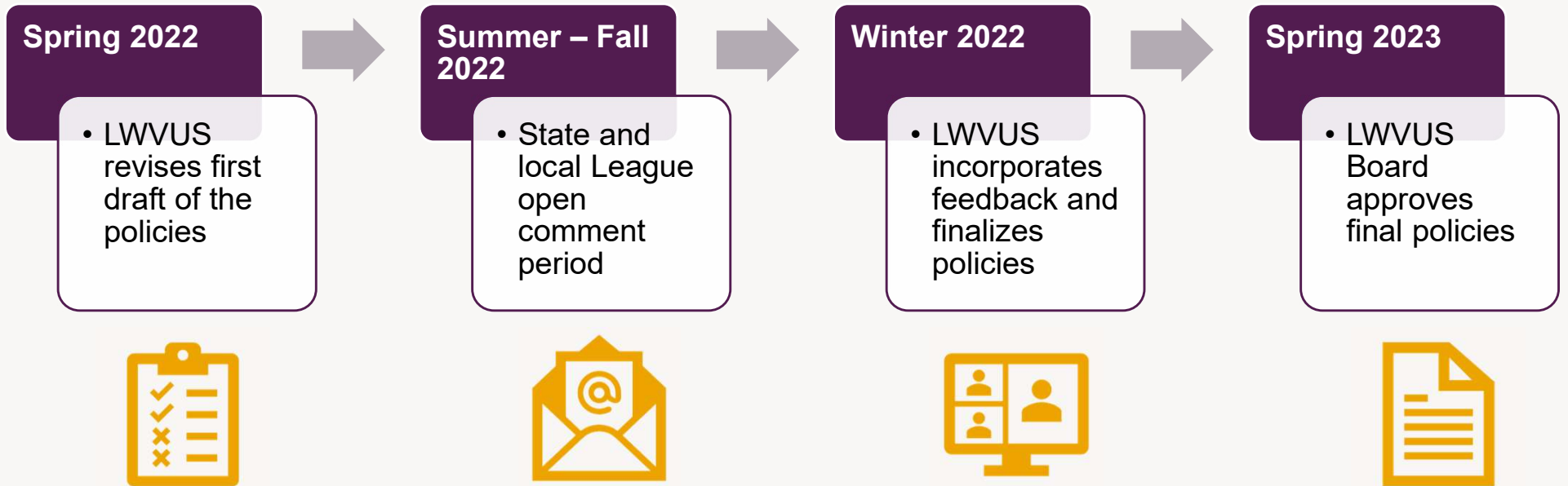


STRENGTHENING AND PROTECTING
AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

Member Rights and Responsibilities



Timeline



Member Rights

- Membership at local, state, and national levels
- Can join any League you choose
- Access to all League member events
- Participate in local League annual meetings and state and national conventions
- Elect local, state, and national leaders
- Eligible to run for LWVUS, state, and local leadership positions



Member Responsibilities

- Act in accordance with bylaws
- Maintain nonpartisan status
- Abide by Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policy
- Engage in respectful behavior
- Act on behalf of the League only when authorized
- Act in accordance with LWVUS positions and policies



Applying Member Rights and Responsibilities

What Member Rights and Responsibilities IS

- A baseline of expectations on how League members conduct themselves
- Guidelines for engagement to maximize impact on League goals and positions

What Member Rights and Responsibilities IS NOT

- Exhaustive of all possible violations
- A way to sideline or dismiss someone for disagreeing

League Responsibilities



LWVUS League Responsibilities

- Grant full recognition and charters to state and local Leagues
- Allow permission for branding materials
- List Leagues on website, maintain membership database
- Hold biennial Councils and Conventions
- Provide technical assistance to state and local Leagues
- Represent LWV nationally on advocacy & campaigns

State and Local League Responsibilities



- Adopt name, purposes and policies, and membership
- Abide by LWV's nonpartisan policy
- Adopt and abide by DEI policy
- Submit key governance documents to LWVUS
- Provide membership and leadership contact info to LWVUS

Compliance Process

Complaint Resolution Process

| For a complaint or concern regarding... | Reach out to... |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local League Member-At-Large (MAL) unit Local League or MAL unit member or director | Local League or MAL unit president |
| Local League or MAL unit president | Local League or MAL unit board or state League president |
| State League or state board member | State League president |
| State League president | State League board or LWVUS |
| Inter-League Organization (ILO) leadership | Local and/or state League if ILO is intrastate; State league(s) and/or LWVUS if ILO is multi-state |
| LWVUS board member | LWVUS president |
| LWVUS staff | LWVUS CEO |

Process Guidelines

- Make every attempt to be fair and impartial, hearing all sides; stick to facts and apply a DEI lens
- Assume good intentions
- Respect privacy
- Thoroughly document the process, and deliver official notices to involved parties in writing

Example Resolution Process

1. Acknowledge receipt of complaint and set expectations around when follow-up can be anticipated.
2. Assemble a complaint resolution team.
3. Collect documentation of complaint as well as all steps taken as part of complaint resolution.
4. Conduct interviews or gather more information as appropriate.
5. Determine a resolution to the complaint, considering the facts gathered and applying a DEI lens.
6. Notify the affected individual(s) of the outcome.
7. In the rare case that a League believes a member should have their membership revoked, this decision must be made by LWVUS. Contact LWVUS via governance@lww.org.

What the Process IS

IT IS

- For assessing the extent to which there are policy violations
- The last resort after exhausting local and state resources
- An organizational remedy

What the Process IS NOT

IT IS NOT

- For resolving personal disputes
- A personal remedy

THANK YOU!

Questions?

Contact: governance@lwv.org



Feedback Q&A