



OFFICE OF
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MEMBER
 ANSAR SHRINERS
 SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Temple Potentates and Recorders & Club and Unit Presidents and Secretaries
 FROM: John C. Piland, Executive Vice President

DATE: August 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Club and Unit Elections and Reports

General Order No. 1 provides the following dates and deadlines for club and unit officer elections and reports.

Elections of club and unit officers:	On or before October 31
Club and unit secretaries to update records of presently elected officers:	On or before November 30
Club and unit secretaries to update list of membership:	On or before December 31

It is important that temple leaders and Shriners International have a current and accurate list of club and unit leaders. However, the trajectory of the coronavirus pandemic, as well as laws and Grand Lodge edicts, may prevent those club and unit elections from being held. If that is the case, it is not a violation of General Order No. 1 to postpone those club and unit elections to a date where they can lawfully be held.

Pursuant to the bylaws of Shriners International, temple Potentates control clubs and units. In accordance with §336.1 and §337.3 of the bylaws, the temple Potentate has the authority to amend club or unit bylaws to provide: "Term of Office. All officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Terms shall begin on _____ (e.g. November 1st)." This proposed change may be unnecessary with many club or unit bylaws. However, for those that don't have such a provision, this will permit officers that are currently serving to continue in their posts until such time as it is determined that elections can properly be held.

The situations that exist in various parts of the world do not permit a one-size fits all approach to this question. The decision of when club and unit elections can be held is properly handled by club or unit officers and the temple Potentate.

Summary

If club and unit elections can be held, they should be held. If it is not proper to hold the elections, they should be postponed until those elections can properly be held. In the meantime, current officers should continue to serve until their successors are elected.

Temple Potentates can amend the club and unit bylaws to permit officers to serve until their successors are elected.

If elections are held, the names and contact information for the newly elected officers should be immediately entered into

WebFez or provided to the Temple Recorder and the updated list of club/unit members for the ensuing year should be entered into WebFez or provided to the Temple Recorder.

Thank you for your service to the Shrine during this uniquely difficult period.

JCP:ma

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