

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES
CFWC CONVENTION, 2025**

February 7, 2025, CFWC Executive Board Meeting

Hilton Los Angeles North-Glendale, CA

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CFWC BYLAWS and STANDING RULES AMENDMENTS
TO BE APPROVED AT THE CFWC CONVENTION 2025

(Formatting used in printing the proposed amendments: Underlined print = **insert or add**; Line through words = strike out or remove)

Proposed Amendment #1:

ARTICLE IV MEMBERS

NEW: Section 4.2 Termination of Membership

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If adopted, will read
NEW	Members whose activities and purposes have been proven to be incompatible with those of CFWC, <u>OR UNETHICAL</u>, shall be removed from membership by a two-thirds vote of the club.	Members whose activities and purposes have been proven to be incompatible with those of CFWC, or unethical, shall be removed from membership by a two-thirds vote of the club.

Rationale: The amendment was presented at CFWC 2024 convention and returned to committee “because the wording is too broad and needs further clarification”. It follows GFWC bylaws (Article III, Section 3.4 Termination of membership pg. 5). For clarification, the committee proposes adding “or unethical” to the amendment, and a new section 4.3 Ethical Standards. Also Refer to CFWC Parliamentary authority Article XVIII: Roberts Rules of Order has remedies to prescribe standards for membership and take steps in a fair disciplinary process. Individual Clubs may determine the extent they wish to detail the process.

Proposed Amendment #2:

ARTICLE IV MEMBERS

NEW: Section 4.3 Ethical Standards

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If adopted, will read
NEW	<u>CFWC requires its officers, Board of Directors, members, to observe high standards of ethical conduct in the execution of their duties and responsibilities, as required by law and as specified in these Bylaws and Standing Rules.</u>	CFWC requires its officers, Board of Directors, members, to observe high standards of ethical conduct in the execution of their duties and responsibilities, as required by law and as specified in these Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Rationale: Follows the GFWC Bylaws (Article XVIII, Section 18.1 Ethical Standards, pg. 25).

Proposed Standing Rules Addition

FEDERATION POLICIES
Add New #11 Members

Current Wording	Proposed Amendment	If adopted, will read
NEW	<p><u>11. Members. Eligible members are those whose activities and purpose is Germane to the mission of GFWC/CFWC: Also, Be in good standing (dues paid) Policies are not contrary to Federation policies; Understand the volunteer community service vision for GFWC/CFWC Preserve historical legacy and Federation tradition Make decisions in the best interest of the membership and the organization as a whole and avoid self-promotion Refrain from disturbing the assembly or attacking a member's motives Support decisions once the vote has been taken Practice professional etiquette</u></p>	<p>11. Members. Eligible members are those whose activities and purpose is Germane to the mission of GFWC/CFWC: Also, Be in good standing (dues paid) Policies are not contrary to Federation policies. Understand the volunteer community service vision for GFWC/CFWC Preserve historical legacy and Federation tradition Make decisions in the best interest of the membership and the organization as a whole and avoid self-promotion Refrain from disturbing the assembly or attacking a member's motives Support decisions once the vote has been taken Practice professional etiquette</p>

Rationale: Follows the GFWC Standing Rules (4 Ethical Standards pg. 5). Further clarify CFWC new Bylaw (Article IV Members, Section 4.3 Ethical Standards.)

In addition to any amendments that are adopted at the 2025 CFWC Convention, the bylaws, when published, may contain several editorial changes. Editorial changes are changes that do not affect either the meaning or the application of the Bylaws and therefore do not require a vote by the membership. Usually, these are changes that are necessitated by an amendment to the Bylaws or a change in terminology. For example, following the insertion of new sections or items, the remaining items will be renumbered as necessary. In addition, the document will be proofread for punctuation and spelling errors.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS REVIEW FOR 2025 CFWC CONVENTION

RESOLUTIONS TO BE PRESENTED AT 2024 CONVENTION

The following are two committee resolutions which were written to address gaps in policy by the removal of resolutions that have aged out.

ARTS & CULTURE

Resolution #2025-01 ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE THE ARTS IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

Whereas, the arts, in all forms including visual, performing, literary, and digital arts, play a crucial role in fostering creativity, critical thinking, and cultural awareness among individuals of all ages; and

Whereas, studies have shown that exposure to the arts in educational and community settings enhances academic performance, improves social-emotional well-being, and strengthens community engagement; and

Whereas, many schools and communities face challenges in funding and sustaining arts programs, making it imperative for organizations like the California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) to advocate for and support arts initiatives; therefore, be it

Resolved, the CFWC actively encourages and promotes the arts in all forms by supporting school and community arts programs, advocating for increased arts funding, and collaborating with local artists and organizations to ensure the accessibility and sustainability of arts education and engagement for all.

Resolution #2025-02 SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Whereas, museums and historical societies play a vital role in preserving and showcasing the cultural and historical heritage of local communities; and

Whereas, maintaining and supporting these institutions fosters education, tourism, and community pride while ensuring that future generations have access to their shared history; and

Whereas, many museums and historical societies face financial and operational challenges, making it imperative for organizations like the California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) to advocate for and provide support to sustain these important institutions; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the CFWC actively engage in maintaining and supporting existing museums and historical societies by promoting community awareness, advocating for funding, and collaborating with local organizations to ensure the preservation and accessibility of historical and cultural resources for all.

This committee resolution is presented to better address the adopted policy represented in Resolution #2024-02. If this resolution is passed it will replace #2024-02

Resolution #2025-03 Prevention of Forced Marriage

Whereas, forced marriage means a marriage with one or more elements of force, fraud, or coercion, and where one or both parties do not or cannot consent to the marriage, and

Whereas, forced marriage is a violation of human rights and personal autonomy, often resulting in emotional, physical, and psychological harm to individuals; and

Whereas, forced marriage contributes to cycles of poverty, domestic violence, lack of education, and other social and economic disadvantages.

Whereas, forced marriage disproportionately affects women and girls, but also impacts men, limiting their ability to make free and informed choices regarding marriage; and

Whereas, forced marriage undermines legal protections, personal dignity, and the fundamental principle of free consent in marriage as recognized in international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); and **Be it Resolved That**:

1. **Legislation & Enforcement:** The California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC) shall advocate for governments at all levels to enact and enforce laws that criminalize forced marriage, ensure appropriate penalties for perpetrators, and provide protection and support for victims.
2. **Education & Awareness:** CFWC and its member clubs shall implement comprehensive educational programs in schools, communities, and institutions to raise awareness about the rights to free and informed consent in marriage and the consequences of forced marriage.
3. **Support Services:** CFWC shall collaborate with organizations to provide safe shelters, legal aid, mental health support, and emergency assistance to individuals at risk of or escaping forced marriages.

RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO BE RETIRED

Per the CFWC Executive Board decision to automatically retire any resolution that is 20 years old, the following resolutions will be retired.

ENVIRONMENT

2004-01 COASTAL WATERS (Convention 2004, reviewed 2009, 2014, Reaffirmed 2021)

2005-01 RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION OF FREIGHT (Convention 2005, Amended 2010, Amended 2015)

If members feel strongly about a resolution that is being retired, they are encouraged to rewrite the resolution for current times and submit the resolution through their club for submission to the Resolutions Committee.