

**CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**  
**Proposed Amendments to the CGCI Bylaws to be considered by the board of directors**  
**at the 2025 Virtual Winter Board Meeting (during business meetings on January 28 and/or 29, 2025)**

Key - underline means insert words. ~~Strikeouts~~ mean omit words.

<b>CGCI BYLAWS</b> <b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Would Read After Amendment</b>
<p><b>Proposal #1</b></p> <p><b>ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 1.</b> Elected officers and shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, third vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer. The appointed officer shall be the parliamentarian.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 1. OFFICERS:</b></p> <p><b>b) Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>5.</b> The second and third vice-presidents each shall have served at least one year on the board of directors and shall have served in one of the following capacities:</p> <p><b>d) Vacancies:</b></p> <p><b>2.</b> In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the president-elect or first vice-president shall succeed. If the president-elect or first vice president declines, the</p>	<p><b>Proposal #1</b></p> <p><b>ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 1.</b> Elected officers <del>and</del> shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, <del>third vice-president,</del> recording secretary, <del>corresponding secretary,</del> financial secretary, and treasurer. The appointed officers <u>shall be the corresponding secretary and</u> parliamentarian.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 1. OFFICERS:</b></p> <p><b>b) Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>5.</b> The second <del>and third</del> vice-presidents <del>each</del> shall have served at least one year on the board of directors and shall have served in one of the following capacities:</p> <p><b>d) Vacancies:</b></p> <p><b>2.</b> In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the president-elect or first vice-president shall succeed. If the president-elect or first vice president declines, the</p>	<p><b>Proposal #1</b></p> <p><b>ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 1.</b> Elected officers shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, recording secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer. The appointed officers shall be corresponding secretary and parliamentarian.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 1. OFFICERS:</b></p> <p><b>b) Eligibility:</b></p> <p><b>5.</b> The second vice-president shall have served at least one year on the board of directors and shall have served in one of the following capacities:</p> <p><b>d) Vacancies:</b></p> <p><b>2.</b> In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the president-elect or first vice-president shall succeed. If the president-elect or first vice president declines, the</p>

<p>second and third vice-presidents shall succeed in order. If the second and third vice presidents decline, the vacancy shall be filled by the board of directors, voting upon the recommendation of the executive committee.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE VII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b></p> <p>Sec. 5. Post-convention meetings shall be held in odd-numbered, election years to ratify appointments of the parliamentarian, all appointed chairmen and any new members of the board of trustees. Those eligible to attend the post-convention meeting shall be the officers and district directors, or assistant directors, and, after ratification, the district director coordinator and the parliamentarian.</p>	<p>second <del>and third</del> vice-presidents shall succeed <del>in order</del>. If the second <del>and third</del> vice presidents declines, the vacancy shall be filled by the board of directors, voting upon the recommendation of the executive committee.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE VII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b></p> <p>Sec. 5. Post-convention meetings shall be held in odd-numbered, election years to ratify appointments of the <u>corresponding secretary and</u> parliamentarian, all appointed chairmen and any new members of the board of trustees. Those eligible to attend the post-convention meeting shall be the <u>elected</u> officers and district directors, or assistant directors, and, after ratification, the district director coordinator, <u>corresponding secretary</u> and <del>the</del> parliamentarian.</p>	<p>second vice-president shall succeed. If the second vice president declines, the vacancy shall be filled by the board of directors, voting upon the recommendation of the executive committee.</p> <p><b>ARTICLE VII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b></p> <p>Sec. 5. Post-convention meetings shall be held in odd-numbered, election years to ratify appointments of the corresponding secretary and parliamentarian, all appointed chairmen and any new members of the board of trustees. Those eligible to attend the post-convention meeting shall be the elected officers and district directors, or assistant directors, and, after ratification, the district director coordinator, corresponding secretary and parliamentarian.</p>
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Rationale: **Eliminate the position of third vice president.** It may be easier for nominating committees to find candidates willing to serve six years (2<sup>nd</sup> VP, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, President) than it is to currently find candidates willing to serve eight years through the presidency. Eliminate the term in all four places in which it appears in the bylaws.

**Make the positon of Corresponding Secretary an appointed position rather than an elected position.** Corresponding Secretaries are appointed, rather than elected, in many organizations, such as National Garden Clubs, Pacific Region Garden Clubs and some or many of our Districts. If appointed, that is one less office for which the Nominating Committee will need to find a candidate each term. Presidential appointments are still subject to ratification by elected officers and district directors.

<b>CGCI BYLAWS Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Would Read After Amendment</b>
<b>Proposal #2</b>  <b>Article V, Sec. 1</b> (3 occurrences) <b>Article V, Sec 3</b> (heading and c)) <b>Article VI, Sec. 1 b) 4</b> <b>Article VI, Sec. 1 b) 5</b> <b>Article VI, Sec. 1 d) 2</b> (2 occurrences) <b>Article VIII, Sec. 1</b> <b>Article XII, Sec. 5 (a)</b>	<b>Proposal #2</b>  Eliminate all hyphens in vice-president. 11 occurrences.	<b>Proposal #2</b>  vice president

Rationale: The term 'vice president' is not generally hyphenated. 'Vice' is not a prefix, but a word that means that the person is acting in place of someone else, which the vice president does if the president is unable to preside. Rule of thumb: in American English, use a space, but in other English variants, use the hyphen.

<b>CGCI BYLAWS Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Would Read After Amendment</b>
<b>Proposal #3</b> <b>ARTICLE XII – FINANCES</b> <b>Sec. 6.</b> The following are budgeted from the General Fund: <b>(b)</b> president's reimbursement of up to \$5,000.00 annually for verified expenses incurred in attending two meetings of NGC and one PRGC meeting; expenses over and above may be presented to the Board of Directors for approval; <b>(c)</b> president-elect's reimbursement of up to \$3,500.00 for verified expenses incurred in attending the PRGC and NGC Conventions; expenses over and above may be presented to the Board of Directors for approval; and	<b>Proposal #3</b> <b>ARTICLE XII – FINANCES</b> <b>Sec. 6.</b> The following are budgeted from the General Fund: <b>(b)</b> president's reimbursement of up to \$5,000.00 annually for verified expenses incurred in attending two meetings of NGC and one PRGC meeting; <del>expenses over and above may be presented to the Board of Directors for approval;</del> <b>(c)</b> president-elect's reimbursement of up to \$3,500.00 for verified expenses incurred in attending <u>the one PRGC and one NGC Conventions associated with the year that the president-elect holds this office;</u> <del>expenses over and above may</del>	<b>Proposal #3</b> <b>ARTICLE XII – FINANCES</b> <b>Sec. 6.</b> The following are budgeted from the General Fund: <b>(b)</b> president's reimbursement of up to \$5,000.00 annually for verified expenses incurred in attending two meetings of NGC and one PRGC meeting; <b>(c)</b> president-elect's reimbursement of up to \$3,500.00 for verified expenses incurred in attending one PRGC and one NGC Convention associated with the year that the president-elect holds this office; and

	be presented to the Board of Directors for approval; and	
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Rationale: Clarify the previous custom that the president-elect may not be reimbursed for expenses pertaining to more than one meeting of each organization. Align with section (b) which specifies the number of annual meetings of these organizations for which the president may be reimbursed. Delete references to the board of directors possibly approving expenses over the budgeted amounts since that is already addressed in Sec. 5 (c) where it is stated that the budget and finance committee shall recommend on any increases to budget or expenditures before action by the board of directors.

<b>CGCI BYLAWS</b> <b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Would Read After Amendment</b>
<b>Proposal #4</b> <b>ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES</b> <b>Sec. 2.</b> The president shall: New (f)	<b>Proposal #4</b> <b>ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES</b> <b>Sec. 2.</b> The president shall: Insert new <u>(f) serve on the board of directors of NGC and serve on the executive committee and board of directors of PRGC.</u>	<b>Proposal #4</b> <b>ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES</b> <b>Sec. 2.</b> The president shall: (f) serve on the board of directors of NGC and serve on the executive committee and board of directors of PRGC.

Rationale: These are existing duties of the office, but are not enumerated anywhere.

<b>CGCI BYLAWS</b> <b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Would Read After Amendment</b>
<b>Proposal #5</b> <b>ARTICLE XVII – LIABILITY INSURANCE</b> <b>Sec. 1.</b> Liability insurance shall be maintained for clubs and associate plant societies who choose to have this insurance, and are approved by the insurance carrier. The annual rate shall be recommended by the executive committee and approved by the board of directors at the preconvention meeting.	<b>Proposal #5</b> <b>ARTICLE XVII – LIABILITY INSURANCE</b> <b>Sec. 1.</b> Liability insurance shall be maintained for clubs and associate plant societies who choose to have this insurance, and are approved by the insurance carrier. The annual rate shall be recommended by the executive committee and approved by the board of directors at the <del>preconvention</del> <u>fall board</u> meeting.	<b>Proposal #5</b> <b>ARTICLE XVII – LIABILITY INSURANCE</b> <b>Sec. 1.</b> Liability insurance shall be maintained for clubs and associate plant societies who choose to have this insurance, and are approved by the insurance carrier. The annual rate shall be recommended by the executive committee and approved by the board of directors at the fall board meeting.

Rationale: We are not receiving rates from the insurance company prior to the pre-convention board meeting and need to have more time to set rates as was the case prior to 2012.

<b>CGCI BYLAWS</b> <b>Current Wording</b>	<b>Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Would Read After Amendment</b>
<p><b>Proposal #6</b>  <b>ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP &amp; DUES</b></p> <p>Sec. 3. All dues are payable on July 1 and delinquent on October 1. Dues shall be payable to CGCI and mailed to the membership chairman who shall transfer the funds promptly to the treasurer.</p> <p>e) If dues are not paid by October 1, clubs and associate plant societies become ineligible for liability insurance and participation in the awards program. In addition clubs also become ineligible for the Group Tax Exemption Program.</p>	<p><b>Proposal #6</b>  <b>ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP &amp; DUES</b></p> <p>Sec. 3. All dues are payable on July 1 and delinquent on <del>October 1</del> <u>July 15</u>. <u>A late fee of \$25 will be charged if postmarked after July 15.</u> Dues shall be payable to CGCI and mailed to the membership chairman who shall transfer the funds promptly to the treasurer.</p> <p>e) If dues are not paid by <del>October</del> <u>August</u> 1, clubs and associate plant societies become ineligible for <u>participation in the liability insurance program, the Group Tax Exemption Program,</u> <del>and participation in the awards program; In addition clubs also become ineligible for the Group Tax Exemption Program and</del> <u>may not be listed in the Yearbook, Manual &amp; Roster.</u></p>	<p><b>Proposal #6</b>  <b>ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP &amp; DUES</b></p> <p>Sec. 3. All dues are payable on July 1 and delinquent on July 15. A late fee of \$25 will be charged if postmarked after July 15. Dues shall be payable to CGCI and mailed to the membership chairman who shall transfer the funds promptly to the treasurer.</p> <p>e) If dues are not paid by August 1, clubs and associate plant societies become ineligible for participation in the liability insurance program, the Group Tax Exemption Program, the awards program, and may not be listed in the <i>Yearbook, Manual &amp; Roster.</i></p>

Rationale: Shortens the amount of time that the Membership Chairman has to spend collecting dues (2.5 months vs. 5 months), gives the YMR Chairman current information earlier, and provides more time between Membership Dues due date and Liability Insurance and GTEP due dates. Earlier delinquent date encourages handling by club treasurers prior to any change in officers. Late fee is intended to encourage timely payment.