

Election of Bethel Officers

Section 1. Approximately one month prior to election, the Executive Guardian Council shall make a list of those daughters who are eligible for election to any elective office. The daughter shall have passed the Proficiency Test and be in good standing with regular attendance during the past six months.

Section 2. Thirty days prior to the election the Bethel Guardian shall read Article VI of the • Constitution for Bethels, the section pertaining to election. On the night of election, the following procedure shall be used:

- a. Election of Officers is the first order of New Business
- b. Honored Queen: **Election of Officers**
- c. There should be no conversation in the Bethel room during the election.
- d. Honored Queen invites the Outer Guard to enter in order to participate in the election and asks a qualified adult or a Majority Member to guard the outer door.
- e. Bethel Guardian shall read Article VI of the Constitution for Bethels and a list of the daughters who meet the eligibility requirements specified in this article.
- f. Guardian announces that a daughter does not have to vote for any office - the ballot may be left blank - and a daughter may vote for herself.
- g. Honored Queen appoints two members as tellers and the Bethel Recorder (or a PHQ) to tally the votes. None of these people should be eligible for election. The Guardian Secretary counts ballots, silently, as a check.

HONORED QUEEN: **Members of Bethel No ___ will rise and count off:** *Honored Queen says "one". All members follow the same procedure, calling out numbers as they stand. The same procedure is used to be seated, each girl calling out her number and sitting as soon as it is called.*

HONORED QUEEN: **There are ___ members entitled to vote. A majority of votes cast for each office is necessary for election.** *(Blank ballots ARE NOT counted as votes. A majority is more than one-half of the ballots cast. The majority may vary depending on the number of votes cast for each office.)*

HONORED QUEEN: **The custodians will distribute the ballots.**

HONORED QUEEN: **You will now mark you ballots for the office of Honored Queen.** *After all members have completed their ballots, the Honored Queen instructs the Custodians to collect the ballots.*

When the Custodians have placed the ballots on the Tellers table, the Honored Queen continues.

HONORED QUEEN: **Have all. balloted who desire to do so? If so, I declare the balloting closed. One rap. Tellers you will count the ballots. One teller opens the ballot passes it to the next teller who reads it aloud. Bethel Recorder repeats, giving the name of the girl and the count, 1,2,3,4,tally etc. The Bethel Recorder or PHQ reads the election report but does not announce number of votes necessary for election.**

Number of ballots:_____ Number of blank ballots: Number of votes cast: _____

The Honored Queen reads the election report plus the number of votes necessary for election.

HONORED QUEEN: Number of ballots:_____ Number of blank ballots:_____

Number of votes cast:_____ Number of votes necessary for election: _____

HONORED QUEEN: *(If majority has been reached)* By your votes you have elected
_____ Honored Queen. _____do you accept? *(Yes)* I declare
_____ elected Honored Queen for the ensuing term.

OR

HONORED QUEEN: *(If a majority has not been reached?)* **There being no majority we will ballot again.** *It is permissible for a daughter to stand and withdraw her name. The Honored Queen will say "Thank you" and nothing else. Repeat steps 4 through 8 until all officers have been elected Honored Queen thanks the tellers and excuses them and instructs the Outer Guard to return to her station.*

HONORED QUEEN: **This concludes the Election of Officers.** *One rap.*