

# Changes to LWV Membership Processing Beginning on Feb. 1, 2025

For several years, the National League of Women Voters (LWVUS), has been planning to change how dues are collected and how local leagues receive their share of dues. The new dues process will begin on February 1, 2025. The purpose of this change is to standardize the registration process for all League members across the United States, and to make the process more efficient and accurate. Below is a summary of the membership process changes.

## **Current System:**

- · Members pay their dues at the local level when they join or renew.
- · Basic dues are \$60.
- · If there are two members in the same household, they can pay for a household membership. The second member is charged 50% of the primary member's dues. For example, the dues are a total of \$90 when there are two people in the same household.
- · Since all dues are collected locally, LWVVC makes installment payments to LWVUS and to LWV Florida for their portion of the dues that were collected.

### **New System:**

- · Members will pay their dues on the national membership website (ChaptersSpot) when they join or renew, and they will get there by clicking a link on the local website, www.lwvvc,org.
- · Dues will be standardized across the country.
  - o The standard recommended dues are \$75 per person.
  - o A member may elect to pay a reduced fee amount, if it better fits their budget. The minimum fee is \$20. Student memberships are no longer free.
- There are no household memberships. Every person must join as an individual, with a unique email.
- · Donations *cannot* be added into dues.
- · Donations must be paid separately from dues.
- LWV (national) will send 20% of the collected dues to the local league, and 47% of the collected dues to the state league. LWVUS will keep 33%. Based on these figures, LWVVC will receive \$15(minus the transaction fee) when a member joins at the \$75 level.

#### What does this mean for our members?

- 60 days prior to your membership renewal date, members will receive an automated email advising them that their renewal is in 60 days.
- · A second email will be sent 30 days before renewal.
- During the 60-day period before renewal, members can go to the LWVVC website, <a href="https://www.lwvvc.org">www.lwvvc.org</a>, and click the JOIN/RENEW button in the top right corner of every page.
  - That will bring members to a landing page that will briefly describe the renewal process.
  - On that landing page, members will click the large blue button "JOIN/RENEW". That will bring members to the renewal page on the LWVUS website.
  - The member's information will already be there. After verifying it is accurate or after updating it if needed, the member will indicate what dues amount they want to pay.
    LWVVC recommends that most members pay \$75 per person.
  - o LWVVC receives 20% of a member's dues. The balance goes to the national and state leagues to help fund their activities and to support the work of local leagues.
  - Members will be asked whether they want to make a separate donation. Members are encouraged to make an additional donation because 100% of the donation will go to LWVVC.
  - Members will then be prompted to enter their credit card number or bank account routing and account number to complete the transaction. Note: entering the routing and bank account number gives LWV the same information as sending a check, but it automates the system.
  - Members will see three transactions on their credit card, debit card, or bank statement, because there will be a separate transaction for the national, state, and local leagues. Members will be given the option to enroll in automatic payment so their membership will renew annually without having to return to the LWV website, except to renew the credit card expiration date as needed.
- · When finished, members will have the option of returning to the LWVVC website, or members can simply exit from the LWVUS site.
- · Members are encouraged to go to <u>www.lwvvc.org</u> periodically to check on events and news.

#### **Notes**

- · In addition to making a donation when they renew their membership on the LWVUS website, members can donate directly on the LWVVC.org website at any time.
- · 100% of donations on the LWVVC site go to the Volusia County League.
- On the LWV national website, you must be sure you click that you want 100% of donations made there to go to the Volusia County League.