

IWCF Board Elections

The Leadership Development Committee (LDC) is charged with creating a slate of candidates for election to open board positions each year. Although it takes time, the process is uncomplicated and open.

Any member, at any time, may volunteer or suggest another member to be considered for a Board of Directors position (or to serve on any committee). This can be done by filling out the Volunteer Form in the Volunteer Opportunities section of our website, indicating interest on your membership form, or letting anyone on the board or Leadership Development Committee know of your interest. **Every member is eligible for consideration.** Names and contact information for board and LDC members are in DirectorySpot.

The LDC collects the names and shared information about interests and skills, and maintains an ongoing list, of anyone and everyone who volunteers or who is suggested for a board position. The LDC also asks each committee chair to identify who on their committee is doing a good job and would be a good chair. Board officers and members-at-large also are asked to suggest potential successors.

In November and December each year, the LDC members conduct interviews of board officers, committee chairs, and members-at-large to determine strengths, areas for improvement, board priorities and organizational needs. The LDC also confirms term limits and verifies upcoming openings on the board. Openings may happen because a member has fulfilled her term in office, has reached the maximum number of years in a particular office or on the board, or may have reason to step down.

Once upcoming vacancies are confirmed, the LDC looks at all the potential candidates and prioritizes them for each vacancy, considering:

- Interests
- Skillsets
- Previous and current committee or other volunteer service in IWCF
- The potential mix of new leaders and seasoned leaders on the board
- Diversity of skills, interests, strengths, life stages, etc.
- Succession planning for future needs
- Willingness to serve
- Organizational needs

Next, beginning in January, LDC members talk with potential candidates to ascertain if each would like to be considered for a particular position or positions. If the response is positive, LDC members arrange a meeting, most often including the current position holder, for a more in-depth discussion of the expectations, requirements, time commitment and benefits of board service.

By early March, a draft slate is compiled and the candidate to be slated for each opening is confirmed. Once confirmed, the LDC prepares bios for each candidate to be slated.

During the first week of April, the LDC submits the slate and the bio information for each candidate to the Board of Directors for approval at the regular board meeting, the second Thursday of April.

Following board approval, a ballot is prepared for the IWCF membership to vote on the slate. New board members are not elected until approved by the membership. The results of the ballot are announced at the Annual Meeting, usually in May.

New board members begin their terms as of the Annual Meeting. Training for new board members follows shortly thereafter, usually in May and June.

All IWCF members are enthusiastically encouraged to volunteer or suggest members to be considered for Board of Directors positions. Any board member or member of the LDC would be happy to answer your questions at any time. Board service is interesting, enjoyable, and rewarding!