



Junior Chamber International Philippines
Leading Global Network of Young Active Citizens

PHILIPPINE JAYCEES BLDG.
(14 Don A. Roces Ave., Quezon City)

2016 NATIONAL ELECTION CODE

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This code shall be known as the 2016 National Election Code of the JCI Philippines, Inc. (hereinafter, "JCIP"), referred to in the Constitution and By-Laws and made an integral part of the Policy Manual.

SECTION 2. PURPOSE.

The Rules and Regulations promulgated in this Code shall govern the conduct of elections, qualifications and eligibility of voting affiliates and candidates, election contest under the supervision and control of the National Commissions on Election, with the aim in view of upholding the right of JCI Philippine members to freely exercise their right to vote, as well as to uphold the sanctity and secrecy of the votes to be cast.

SECTION 3. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ELECTION.

The composition, powers, and duties of the National Commission on Election (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") are drawn from the provisions of the 2014 Constitution of the Junior Chamber International Philippines, Inc. (hereinafter, "JCIP Constitution") and the 2015 Policy Manual of the Junior Chamber International Philippines, Inc. (hereinafter, the "JCIP Policy Manual").

SECTION 4. VOTING DELEGATES FORM.

The Commission, through the National Secretary General or the National Secretariat, shall make available the Voting Delegates Form (hereinafter, "VDF") at least six (6) months prior to the scheduled Area Conference (hereinafter, the "AreaCon"). The VDF may be personally delivered or may be submitted through registered mail or courier, provided that the VDF is actually received by the National Secretary General on or before 5:00p.m. of May 31 of the current year. If the deadline falls on a Sunday or a holiday, it shall be filed on the next business day within the same time stated.

To be accredited as voting delegates, the Local Organization (hereinafter, the "LO") must submit the VDF together with a duly notarized LO Board Resolution signed by the majority of the members of the Board, or a majority of the members thereof, containing the list of the LO's primary and alternate voting delegates for the AreaCon or National Convention (hereinafter, the "NatCon"), as stated in their VDF. Non-submission of the said Board Resolution shall mean non-inclusion of the voting delegates of the LO concerned, and ineligibility to vote in the scheduled elections.

In cases where special elections of officers are to be held at the NatCon, the same accredited voting delegates for the AreaCon elections shall cast the votes in the NatCon.

For the selection of the NatCon site, the votes shall be cast by the LO President or, in his/her absence, by the Chief Delegate of the LO, who must be a registered delegate of the NatCon. The Chief Delegate shall be authorized only when the appropriate notarized proxy form has been duly filled up and signed by the LO President and submitted a day before the start of the NatCon. In addition, the Chief Delegate shall present one government-issued identification card (original copy) and shall submit to the Commission a photocopy of the presented government-issued identification card.

SECTION 5. VOTING DELEGATES; QUALIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.

The voting delegates shall become eligible to vote in elections conducted during the AreaCon or Natcon upon showing of and compliance with the following:

1. Must be a member in good standing of an LO in good standing of the JCI Philippines, Inc. as certified by the National Secretary General and National Treasurer. An LO in good standing shall include those formally affiliated with the organization for two (2) consecutive years provided that they satisfied the provisions of Article 13-1, 13-5 and 13-6, Chapter XIII of the JCIP Constitution.
2. Must be listed as a voting delegate in the VDF submitted by the LO and approved by the Commission.
3. Must be a registered delegate in the Areacon or Natcon where elections are to be held.

It is hereby understood that the cut-off of registration of the AreaCon or NatCon, for the purpose of determining voting rights, shall be 12:00a.m. (midnight), before the day of the scheduled election. The AreaCon or NatCon Organizing Committee shall submit a list of registered voting delegates with chronological receipt numbers not later than 8:00a.m. of the day of the election. The Host LO of said AreaCon or NatCon shall also, upon the issuance of the receipt/s, attach the list of registered delegates and the time of said issuance. The list shall be signed by the President of the Host LO and the AreaCon and/or NatCon Director.

In case the name of the voting delegate is missing or cannot be located in the list of delegates in the current AreaCon or NatCon, said voting delegate can present his/her receipt of payment of registration in the area conference or national convention concerned, as proof of registration.

4. Must possess a valid Voter's ID issued by the Commission and distributed by the National Secretary-General for the current AreaCon or NatCon. Unless otherwise authorized in writing (must be notarized), and accompanied by a copy of a government issued identification card, by the concerned voting delegate, no other voting delegate shall secure or obtain the Voter's ID of another.

In addition, the voting delegate must possess a government issued identification card for purposes of proper identification.

SECTION 6. CANDIDATES; QUALIFICATIONS AND ELIGIBILITY.

To qualify as candidates in the elections during the AreaCon or NatCon, applicants must possess the qualifications and none of the disqualifications provided for in the JCIP Constitution and JCIP Policy Manual.

In addition, to be eligible to be voted upon in the elections, candidates must comply with all of the following requirements, to wit:

1. File personally or through a representative duly authorized in writing, which should be notarized, a Certificate of Candidacy on or before 5:00p.m. of July 31 of the current year with the Commission at the office of the National Secretariat in Quezon City, copy furnished the National Nominations Commission and the National Secretary-General, in accordance with the JCIP Constitution and the JCIP Policy Manual. If the deadline falls on a Sunday or a holiday, it shall be filed on the next business day within the same time stated. The same deadline shall apply to the filing of Letter of Intent by former members of the National Board using the form prescribed by the Commission.
2. Pay the prescribed filing fee.
3. Attend and complete the prescribed number of hours of the Officer's College and personal interviews to be conducted by the National Nominations Commission before the opening of the area conference.

Any candidate who withdraws his/her candidacy shall forfeit the filing fee paid unless the withdrawal is by reason of the following:

- a. Government declared calamity in the area with which the candidate resides;
- b. Death of an immediate family member;
- c. Accident that results to incapacity;
- d. Serious illness the nature of which and at such a stage that it cannot be cured within a period of six (6) months even with proper medical treatment; and
- e. Long-term hospitalization of at least six (6) months.

Any candidate who fails to attend the Officers College, or fails to attend and complete the prescribed number of hours thereof, before the AreaCon elections shall be disqualified and his/her filing fee shall be forfeited and not subject to refund. However, in the event there are no other candidates to the position, said candidate may still be nominated during the plenary session of the AreaCon without need of paying the filing fee, provided that the position to which the candidate is nominated must be the same position to which he/she was previously disqualified; otherwise he/she must pay the filing fee.

A candidate who files a Certificate of Candidacy after the conduct of the regular Officer College or nominated during the closing plenary and elected during the AreaCon shall be required to attend the Officers College before the NatCon otherwise he/she shall be prohibited from taking his oath of office and disqualified from assuming his position.

4. Must secure the Area COMELEC Certification showing his election to the position to which he/she aspired for as a candidate and must be able to present before the National Commission on Election such Certificate on or before the opening day of the immediately succeeding national convention.

SECTION 7. CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY; WHEN AND WHERE TO FILE.

The Commission shall prescribe and provide the forms for the Certificate of Candidacy to be made available in the National Secretariat at least sixty (60) days before the opening of the area conferences. Candidates holding national and/or area appointive, except for independent Constitutional Commissions, shall be *ipso facto* deemed resigned upon filing of his or her Certificate of Candidacy.

Candidates for National President, National Executive Vice President, Area Vice President and Regional Vice President shall submit, as an integral part of the Certificate of Candidacy, a Plan of Action in such form as may be prescribed and prepared by the National Secretary General. Candidates for National Treasurer shall submit, as integral part of the said Certificate of Candidacy, a financial Management Plan in such form as may be prescribed and prepared by the Audit Commission.

In case there is no Certificate of Candidacy filed for a particular position within the period stated under Paragraph 1, Section 6 hereof, or no eligible candidate therefor is declared by the Nominations Commission, any qualified applicant may file with the Commission, through the National Secretariat, a Certificate of Candidacy and other requirements on or before 5:00pm of the day before elections and pay the prescribed filing fee. If the member of the Commission finds the Certificate of Candidacy to be sufficient in form and substance, the candidacy shall be announced during the closing plenary. In case no Certificate of Candidacy is filed within the said deadline, nominations for said vacant position may be opened or made at the start of the closing plenary of the AreaCon and, upon acceptance by the Nominee, he/she shall file the Certificate of Candidacy and pay the required filing fee before the elections.

In cases where there are no candidates in any of the positions during the elections in the area conference, said position/s thereby remaining unfilled, a special election may be called during the NatCon to fill up the said position/s. Any aspirant to such position must be duly nominated to the position during the opening plenary session of the convention and must file his/her duly accomplished Certificate of Candidacy complete with all the other requirements including payment of the prescribed filing fee on or before 5:00p.m. of the same day.

SECTION 8. CAMPAIGN PERIOD AND CAMPAIGN MATERIALS.

The campaign period shall start on the day following the deadline for filing of candidacy as stated in Paragraph 1, Section 6 hereof, and shall end at 12:00a.m. (midnight), the day before the scheduled AreaCon elections. After the lapse of the campaign period, candidates and their campaign staff are prohibited from campaigning.

Campaign materials shall be limited to the following:

1. Printed bond or book paper of any color, with maximum of four (4) pages, each page is limited to a size of an A4 (8.26 inches and 11.69inches), and the contents of which must include:
 - a. Candidate's photo which is limited to a maximum size of 2in. by 3in.;

- b. Personal Data and JCI Membership Profile;
 - c. Plan of Action or Financial Management Plan as the case maybe;
 - d. Calendared Program of Activities; and
 - e. Message of the candidate.
2. Streamers. In any material and color, the size of which shall not exceed one (1) meter by three (3) meters and not more than three (3) pieces inside the venue of each area conference.
 3. Pamphlets, leaflets, cards, stickers or other written or printed materials the size of which is limited to a size of an A4 (8.26 inches and 11.69inches).
 4. Campaign materials/paraphernalia other than what is stated above shall only bear the name of the candidate or the team from which the candidate belongs.
 5. Websites or Social Media Sites, which should only contain campaign information of candidates and should not contain misleading, derogatory, false or shameful information against the other candidates.

The Commission, shall issue a resolution containing the guidelines for permissible campaign materials/paraphernalia at least seven (7) days prior to the start of the campaign period.

SECTION 9. PROHIBITION.

The following are prohibited acts, omissions or offenses:

1. Distributing campaign materials other than those prescribed in the preceding section, or distributing materials containing false, derogatory, misleading, or shameful information against another candidate, or his/her team/party.
2. Soliciting votes by paying for the cost of transportation to and/or from area conference or national convention sites, hotel and meal accommodations at area conference or national convention sites, any form of entertainment, or giving anything of value, whether in money or in kind including, but not restricted to, payment of LO dues and other LO obligations. Provided, that any bulk purchases of transportation tickets and/or block reservations, accommodations or hotel and other lodging facilities for the delegates in the AreaCon or NatCon by a candidate and/or any of his identified key campaign leaders shall constitute as prima facie evidence against the aforesaid candidate.
3. Any form of fraud or falsehood designed to violate this Rules governing the conduct of elections, subvert the electoral process, or utilized to denigrate the standing of members, the status of LO registration and accreditation, LO voting strength, payment of LO dues and assessment, Commission records and forms, and similar acts, including but not restricted to certification of voting strength and NOM dues payment or any scheme or act designed to unduly influence, threaten or intimidate a Voting Delegate to vote for a particular candidate.
4. Providing hospitality rooms of any kind.
5. Parties or caucuses during the AreaCon or Natcon without the express written consent/approval of the Commission. To merit approval by the Commission, the party or caucus shall not disrupt, interfere or disturb the schedule of activities of the AreaCon or NatCon; and shall be openly announced at the AreaCon or NatCon and open to all delegates, or made part of the fellowship schedule of the AreaCon or NatCon.
6. Taking of another's Voter's Identification Card issued by the Commission without the written consent of the voting delegate and/or refusal to return the same after proper request or demand from the voting delegate or from any of the authorized representatives of the Commission.
7. Issuance of any board resolution or authorization preventing the voting delegate to cast his vote or to remove said voting delegate from the list of primary or alternate voters of the LO beyond the period allowed by these rules or before the casting of votes.

8. Forcing the voting delegate, through threats of removal from the LO, intimidation, or undue influence, to cast his/her vote for a particular candidate.
9. Publishing election related matters, through social media, websites, sms/text messages, and the like, any defamatory, misleading, derogatory, false or libelous comments, opinions or write-ups, against a candidate, or any supporter, campaign manager, campaign staff, or same LO member of the said candidate.
10. Any person who disrupts the proceedings of the elections or the canvassing of votes, prevents a voting delegate from casting his/her votes, or allows an alternate voter to vote in lieu of the primary voter either by providing false or misleading information or presentation of alleged board resolution or authorization from the LO concerned regarding disqualification of the primary voter or replacement of the primary voter by the LO concerned.
11. Campaigning for a particular candidate before or after the campaign period determined by the Commission.
12. Any other campaign material or paraphernalia inside the venue of the area conference or national convention except for the streamers as provided for under Paragraph 2 of the immediately preceding section.

Any candidate found to be violating or has violated any of the aforesaid prohibitions shall, upon resolution of the Commission, be disqualified from being voted upon in the elections or in case of election protests filed with the Commission after elections, the Candidates election shall be annulled. In addition, the erring candidate, after proper hearing and observance of due process, may be suspended or dropped from the list of members of his LO, and his LO shall consequently be suspended for a period of one (1) year, losing all rights and privileges of affiliation within the period of suspension.

Any JCI member found guilty of violation of the aforesaid prohibitions, whether campaigning for any candidate or not, after proper hearing and observance of due process, may be suspended or dropped from the list of members of his LO, and his LO shall consequently be suspended for a period of one (1) year, losing all rights and privileges of affiliation within the period of suspension.

Any violation of the aforesaid prohibitions which may be construed as a criminal offense against JCI Philippines or any of its members shall warrant filing of a criminal case against the offender, whether he is a regular member in good standing or not, which may be instituted by the offended person even without resolution of the Commission and certification of the General Legal Counsel that there is a prima facie evidences to prosecute in court.

In any case, any violation of the aforesaid prohibitions that causes any damage to the JCI Philippines may warrant the filing of a civil case against any offender, upon resolution of the Commission and certification by the General Legal Counsel that there is a preponderance of evidence to file the said case.

SECTION 10. VOTING STRENGTH.

The voting strength of each and every LO shall be certified to by the National Secretary General and the National Treasurer. The said certificates shall be based on the schedule embodied in the JCIP Constitution and By-Laws and the JCIP Policy Manual. It is hereby understood that for purposes of determining the Voting Strength in the elections for the year concerned, the cut-off shall be March 31 of every year. No LO shall be granted an increase in Voting Strength in the elections to be held in the same year, in case said LO increases in members or category after March 31 hereof.

SECTION 11. BALLOT.

The Commission shall cause the preparation of the Official Ballot for purposes of elections of officers during the AreaCon and Natcon, when necessary, in the following form:

JCI PHILIPPINES, INC.
Commission on Elections

OFFICIAL BALLOT

(Instructions: Check with one stroke of the pen on the space provided for hereunder after the name of the candidates or site you are voting for)

National President		Check Hereunder
_____		_____
_____		_____
National Exec. Vice Pres.		
_____		_____
National Treasurer		
_____		_____
_____		_____
Area Vice-President		
	Area _____	
_____		_____
_____		_____
Regional Vice President		
	Region _____	
_____		_____
_____		_____
Area Representative to the Nominations Committee		
_____		_____
_____		_____
Site of next Area Conference/National Convention		
_____		_____
_____		_____

Furthermore, the Ballot shall contain the following:

1. Serial numbers that are chronologically arranged. The serial numbers shall be preceded by a code that will identify the Area and the Region where it was cast. Ex.. AIV-CV-001. AIV= Area IV, CV= Central Visayas; 001= Ballot number.

For purposes of security and confidentiality of voter information, the Commission may decide the sequencing of serial numbers for each Area and the same may be made in random or non-sequential codes, to avoid possible identification of Voting Delegates.

2. The official signature or initials of the Chairman of the COMELEC or the duly authorized Commissioners.

SECTION 12. ELECTION PROCEEDINGS.

Election at the AreaCon and NatCon, whenever necessary, must be duly made an integral part of the conference or convention to be held on the Sunday of the AreaCon or at the closing plenary of the NatCon, the start of which shall be determined by the Comelec, and will end at 3:00p.m. of the same day.

For the purpose of conducting the election proceedings in orderly fashion, the Commission may deputize JCI member in good standing to serve with the following duties and functions:

1. Prepare List of Registered and Accredited Voters

2. Assist in Election proceedings
3. Assist in Casting of Votes
4. Assist in Counting of Votes
5. Assist in Tally of Election Returns
6. And such other duties or functions the Commission may authorize.

SECTION 13. POLL WATCHERS.

Each candidate or each team of candidates shall be entitled to appoint two (2) watchers per polling place. Said watchers shall present their designation or authorization as such to the COMELEC concerned before the start of the elections, and their appointment as watchers shall be recorded in the minutes of the COMELEC.

No person shall be appointed as a watcher unless he/she is a member in good standing, of good reputation, has not been previously found guilty of any election offense of JCI Philippines, and should not be related within the fourth (4th) civil degree of consanguinity or affinity to the Chairman of the Commission or Area Commission members, where he seeks appointment as a watcher.

Designated watchers shall be allowed to witness the election proceedings as well as take notes of what they may see or hear, take photographs of the proceedings and incidents, if any, during the voting, counting of votes and generation of election returns, file a protest against any irregularity or violation of the JCI Philippines election rules which they believe may have been committed by the Commission, any of its members, or any person present in the polling place. Watchers shall likewise have the right to challenge the proper identity, non-registration or disqualification of voting delegates, and in such a case, the challenged voting delegate shall present proof of proper identification, registration or non-disqualification to the Commission concerned, and the challenge shall be entered into the minutes of the Commission. In case a challenge is made against a voting delegate, the Commission shall immediately render its judgment to the challenge, and it shall enter its decision in the minutes thereof.

Watchers shall not speak to any member of the Commission, to any voter, or among themselves, in such a manner as would disturb the proceedings of the elections or the Commission. Likewise, watchers shall not enter the place reserved for casting of votes, and they should not mingle and talk with the voters, with the intention of influencing the same on how to cast their votes, or to request for disclosure or make known the candidates voted for.

SECTION 14. CASTING OF VOTES; EXCEPTIONS.

The casting of votes shall proceed in the following manner:

1. The Commission shall first post the name of the accredited LO with their corresponding voting strength arranged per region in the area.
2. The Commission shall then set the time to start and conclude the casting of votes, and the casting of votes will proceed and shall not be held in abeyance by virtue of absence of appointed watchers for candidates.
3. The Commission will proceed to call the primary voters of the LOs to cast their votes. LO presidents or Chief Delegates and voting delegates shall identify themselves before the Commission. Ballot secrecy folders shall be provided by the Commission and shall be used by the voting delegates to cover their ballots.

Voting delegates, candidates or any supporter of the candidates are prohibited from wearing campaign shirts or from distributing campaign paraphernalia of any kind during the casting or counting of votes, and commission of the same will mean disruption of the proceedings of the Commission and may be deemed as a violation of these Rules.

Voting delegates, candidates or any supporter of the candidates must leave the voting areas after casting their votes; they shall not be allowed to remain in the voting area. Candidates are strictly prohibited from campaigning during the casting of votes.

4. After the primary voting delegates of the respective LO's have casted their votes, the Commission shall call all alternate voting delegates to vote. Said alternate voting affiliates shall only be allowed to vote thirty (30) minutes before the close of the casting of votes, or if the primary voter is unavailable due to death, failure to register in the AreaCon or NatCon, and such fact is previously proven and manifested before the Commission.

In elections for the NatCon site, the LO President shall cast the votes which shall be equivalent to the voting strength of his /her LO. In the absence of the LO President, the Chief Delegate, upon proper submission of a proxy form, shall be entitled to cast the votes. The manner of voting shall be that stated in Article 4-7, Chapter IV of the Constitution.

5. At the expiration of the period for casting of votes, the Commission shall declare the voting as closed. Be that as it may, the Commission may declare the voting as closed before the time set if all accredited voting delegates had already casted their votes, and the watchers of the respective candidates have been informed of the same.
6. The Commission shall immediately proceed to place the ballot boxes prepared per area under lock and key. The Commission shall likewise ensure that all election materials used during the casting and canvassing of votes shall be secured inside the ballot boxes to ensure the confidentiality and security of the election procedures conducted.
7. In cases when a special election is conducted during the NatCon as provided for under Section 7 of this Code, elections of the candidates shall be done during the closing plenary session. If there are two or more candidates for a position, the LO President and the accredited voting delegates shall cast the votes by secret ballot. In case a candidate is unopposed, election may be done thru acclamation.

SECTION 15. COUNTING OF VOTES.

Within thirty (30) minutes after the close of voting, the Commission shall count the votes cast.

Firstly, the Commission shall determine the number of ballots cast per region in the area. The same must not be over the number of votes declared before casting of votes. If a discrepancy occurs, the excess ballot will be taken out at random by the Commission.

Secondly, the Commission shall count the votes cast, and record the number of votes for each candidate or conventions/conference site voted for.

In appreciating the ballot, the Commission shall be guided by the following rules:

1. The intention of the voting delegate should be properly determined and all doubts should be construed in favor of upholding the votes cast by the voting delegate.
2. Except when the Ballot's invalidity is clearly apparent, only the votes cast for a particular candidate(s) shall be nullified and the remaining votes validated.
3. Any mark purposely placed thereon by the voter with a view to possible future identification shall render the whole Ballot null and void.
4. As a general rule, the one-stroke check of the pen shall be followed. However, in case the same is clearly not observed due to the failure of the pen to properly function, the votes cast shall not be invalidated and the votes cast in favor of the candidate shall be counted.
5. Any folding or similar devise made on the Ballot to mark the same shall be a cause to render the said whole Ballot null and void.
6. The decision of the Commission on appreciation of Ballots shall be final and unappealable.

Thirdly, upon the counting of the last ballots, the Commission shall declare the counting of votes close.

Fourthly, the Commission shall immediately announce the number of votes for each candidate and LO bidding for convention/conference site.

The Commission shall ensure that the ballot box and all ballots or election materials used during the elections are secured and that unauthorized persons are not allowed access to the same. Watchers should be allowed to stand watch on said ballot boxes during the said periods.

SECTION 16. ELECTION RETURNS.

After the counting of votes, the Commission shall prepare the election returns indicating the following:

1. Number of Delegates in Good Standing and Total Voting Strength.
2. Number of Delegates Registered and Accredited/Qualified and Eligible to Vote.
3. Number of Delegates who cast their votes and total vote cast.
4. Number of valid votes open and number of votes secured.
5. Certification that the elections were conducted in the manner provided for by the JCIP Constitution, and as specified in the National Election Code.

SECTION 17. PROCLAMATION OF OFFICERS-ELECT.

Except in cases mentioned in Section 6 or Section 7 of these Rules, the Commission shall proclaim at the Closing Plenary Session of the immediately succeeding NatCon the duly elected Officers of the incoming National Board.

Further, the Commission shall submit during a joint meeting of the Outgoing and Incoming National Board Meeting which will be held during the national conventions on the day following the aforementioned election of officers, the following:

1. Statement of Disbursement of Funds.
2. Recommendation or Proposed amendments to the 2016 National Election Code.

SECTION 18. ELECTION PROTESTS.

The Commission shall dispose the election contests in the following manner:

A. Pre-Election Contests:

1. Area Conference Elections

On matters of disqualification and eligibility of candidates, and Voting Delegates, the following procedure must be followed:

- a. Personal filing with the National Secretariat at the Philippine Jaycees Building, No. 14, Don A. Roces, Ave., Quezon City, a Verified Petition to Disqualify Candidate or Voting Delegate with supporting affidavit and documentary evidences not less than 30 days before the Area Conference, with proof of service to the respondent(s).
- b. Payment of Filing Fee in the sum of P5,000.00 per candidate/affiliate/LO President/Chief Delegate sought to be disqualified.
- c. The respondent(s) may, within 10 days from receipt of the petition, file his verified answer to the petition together with his/her supporting affidavit and documentary evidences. The answer may be filed through personal delivery or through courier only. If filed through courier, the opposing party must have received the answer within reglementary period of 10 days. No motion for extension of time to file the answer will be entertained and failure of the respondent to submit

his/her answer shall be deemed a waiver of his/her right to file his/her answer and to submit evidence in his behalf, and the Commission may render its Decision based on the documents and evidence received or on record.

- d. Hearing on merits of the Petition, if necessary. The Commission may forego a hearing on the merits and may summarily decide to render judgment on the petition based on the pleadings and evidence on record.
- e. Resolution of the Petition before the Opening Plenary.

II. National Convention Elections.

On matters of disqualification and eligibility of candidates for unfilled positions, and Voting Delegates, the following procedure must be followed:

- a. Filing with the National Secretariat at the Philippine Jaycees Building, No. 14, Don A. Roces, Ave., Quezon City, a verified Petition to Disqualify Candidate/Voting Delegate not less than seven (7) days before the start of the NatCon, copy furnished the respondents.
- b. Payment of Filing Fee in the sum of P5,000.00.
- c. The respondent(s) may, within 10 days from receipt of the petition, file his verified answer to the petition together with his/her supporting affidavit and documentary evidences. The answer may be filed through personal delivery or through courier only. If filed through courier, the opposing party must have received the answer within reglementary period of 10 days. No motion for extension of time to file the answer will be entertained and failure of the respondent to submit his/her answer shall be deemed a waiver of his/her right to file his/her answer and to submit evidence in his behalf, and the Commission may render its Decision based on the documents and evidence received or on record.
- d. Hearing on merits of the Petition, if necessary. The Commission may forego a hearing on the merits and may summarily decide to render judgment on the petition based on the pleadings and evidence on record.
- e. Resolution of the Petition before election day.

B. Post Election Contests:

On matters of contests over counting of votes, election returns, election fraud, violation of the JCIP Constitution and By-Laws relating to the conduct of elections, violations of the National Election Code, and similar electoral protests, which may affect the results of the recently conducted elections, the following procedure must be followed:

- a. Filing with the National Secretariat at the Philippine Jaycees Building, No. 14, Don A. Roces, Ave., Quezon City, a verified Petition/election protest with supporting affidavit and documentary evidence within ten (10) calendar days from the date of elections.
- b. Payment of filing fee in the amount of P10,000.00.
- c. Filing a cash bond by the protesting party in the sum of at least P25,000.00 or such amount as may be deemed appropriate by the Commission to cover the costs of litigation
- d. The respondent(s) may, within ten (10) days from receipt of the petition, file his verified answer to the petition together with his/her supporting affidavit and documentary evidences. The answer may be filed through personal delivery or through courier only. If filed through courier, the opposing party must have received the answer within reglementary period of 10 days.
- e. Hearing on the merits of electoral protest within thirty (30) days from the time the same is submitted for resolution. The Commission may summarily dismiss the Petition for failure to comply with procedural

requirements, or may forego hearing on the merits of the electoral protest and render judgment based on the pleadings and evidence submitted.

The Commission may, after hearing and observance of due process, disqualify the candidates or annul the election of candidates. The Commission shall furnish the Disciplinary Board a copy of its resolution, for the latter's appropriate action concerning the erring candidates or members.

In case of violation of the JCI Philippines National Election Code or any rules in connection with the elections held for the year which does not affect the results of the recently concluded elections, any complaint hereof should be filed within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the election.

SECTION 19. EFFECTIVITY.

This Code shall be effective thirty (30) days after its approval of the National Board and its ratification by the General Assembly during the National Convention, and shall be made an integral part of the JCIP Policy Manual.

SECTION 20. AMENDMENTS.

This code may be amended, repealed, modified or otherwise revised by a majority of the General Assembly at the National Convention. Any amendments or modifications of this Code shall be effective within thirty (30) days after its approval of the National Board and its ratification by the General Assembly during the National Convention, and shall be made an integral part of the JCIP Policy Manual.

SECTION 21. SUPPLEMENTARY APPLICATION.

The Omnibus Election Code, Rulings of the Supreme Court and other related electoral laws shall have supplementary effect to this 2016 National Election Code.

SECTION 22. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Commission shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this 2016 National Election Code and its intent.

SECTION 23. PROSPECTIVE EFFECT.

Unless otherwise provided herein, the application of all provisions of this 2016 National Election Code shall be prospective in character and nature.

Approved by the GENERAL ASSEMBLY during the _____.

Certified True and Correct:

Received by:

IRVIN A. BAUTISTA
2016 GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL