

May 1, 2025

Dear Members of The 99s:

During the 2025 annual meeting, to be held on Saturday July 12, members will vote on three (3) proposed amendments to the international bylaws and standing rules. To permit the widest possible attendance, the annual meeting will use a hybrid format (both in-person and online).

Proposal Process

The International Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee obtained input from members through discussions over the year. The proposed amendments were discussed in detail with the IBOD. Impact assessments and comments were solicited from The 99s general counsel, treasurer, and parliamentarian.

In May, a link to the final proposed amendments was sent electronically to governors, chapter chairmen, and Members-at-Large, as required by the bylaws. An email with the same link was also sent to ALL members. The document containing the proposed amendments is posted on the website in the library, accessible to all members. The 99s website is the primary source for reviewing the proposed amendments.

Review and Discussion Process

Members are encouraged to discuss the proposed amendments during section and chapter meetings, in preparation for discussion and voting during the annual meeting.

A hybrid Communications Session will be held on Friday, July 11, to present the proposals with an opportunity for questions and discussion. You may attend either in-person at the conference in Burlington, or online. A link to the meeting will be sent to all credentialed members.

The annual meeting will be held on Saturday July 12. Each proposed amendment will be presented with a final opportunity for debate. Voting will take place using ElectionBuddy so that all credentialed members, both in-person and online, may cast their votes. Links to the voting platform and to the online meeting will be sent to all credentialed members.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at governngdocs@ninety-nines.org. I look forward to seeing you in person or online at the hybrid communications session, and at the hybrid annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliet Lindrooth
Chairman, International Bylaws/Standing Rules Committee

Committee members: Chris Bentley, Ellen Nobles-Harris, Jeanne Fenimore
IBOD liaison: Pat Chan

Insertions are indicated by **bold, underlined** font. Deletions are indicated by ~~***bold-red italic strikethrough***~~ font. Titles and full sentences which are not being changed are included in this amendment for clarity and context, shown in greyed out font.

2025 Proposed Bylaws Amendment #1 **on Definition of Woman**

Proposed bylaws amendment #1 adds the definition for “woman”.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE, POLICIES, AND DEFINITION

Section 3. Definitions

- J. “Woman” refers to how a person identifies herself under sex/gender on her pilot’s documentation, official government ID or equivalent. A female (“F”) designation on the U.S. FAA certificate or military certificate, or non-English specific female equivalent for non-FAA pilot certificate or official government identification, is required.**

Proposed by: International Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

Rationale: The Ninety-Nines, Inc., since its inception in 1929, has always been an organization of women pilots. Reflecting this history, the current bylaws specify that the Corporation’s members must be women. The Ninety-Nines Headquarters receives membership applications from the U.S and many different countries. This amendment adds the definition of “woman” and describes the documentary evidence, which is the current practice used by Headquarters, to determine that an applicant is eligible for membership by virtue of being a woman. (Note that holding a pilot certificate or being a military or student pilot is already set forth in Article IV, Section 1.)

Financial Impact: No impact

Legal Impact: No change to current practice and therefore no legal impact.

International Board of Directors: Concur

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2025 Proposed Bylaws Amendment #2 **on Definition of Pilot**

Proposed bylaws amendment #2 adds the definition of “pilot”.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE, POLICIES, AND DEFINITION

Section 3. Definitions

K. “Pilot,” for the purpose of qualification for membership, means the certification or qualification, by the applicable authority of the home country, for operations of aircraft which require one or more pilots to be physically on board the aircraft to directly control the aircraft.

Proposed by: International Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

Rationale: The Ninety-Nines, Inc., since its inception in 1929, has always been an organization of women pilots, as established by an applicant’s provision of certificates/documentation applicable to the home country of the specific member. Though types of aircraft and operations can vary, in all cases piloting has been traditionally performed from inside the aircraft. The definition of “aircraft,” per 14 CFR 1.1 is “a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air;” meaning that when unmanned aircraft are certified and in operation, they are “aircraft.” Recently, U.S. and international aviation governing bodies have included unmanned aircraft system rating privileges to their pilot rating systems. Operating an aircraft remotely does not embody the spirit, history, and intent of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. membership. A woman pilot who is a member of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. takes responsibility for the safety of herself and her passengers. She is present in the aircraft, and shares in the success or failure of that flight. Because government agencies have expanded the definition of “pilot” to unmanned aircraft systems, this amendment clarifies that certification as a remote pilot or unmanned aircraft pilot, by itself, does not qualify a woman pilot for membership in The Ninety-Nines, Inc.

Financial Impact: No impact

Legal Impact: As of the date of this proposed amendment, there is no change to any current Ninety-Nines members. There are currently no Ninety-Nines members who qualify solely based on remote pilot qualifications. If this amendment is approved, membership in the Ninety-Nines will be restricted to only women who hold pilot qualifications that require being physically on board the aircraft. It would not permit membership to women who hold pilot qualifications solely for remotely piloted aircraft. There is no legal impact to current membership, but there will be future exclusion of pilots who otherwise would qualify for membership if not for this restrictive definition.

International Board of Directors: Concur

Insertions are indicated by **bold, underlined** font. Deletions are indicated by **~~bold red italic strikethrough~~** font. Titles and full sentences which are not being changed are included in this amendment for clarity and context, shown in greyed out font.

2025 Ratification of Standing Rules Amendment #3 **on Dues Increase**

Proposed standing rule amendment #1 documents dues increase. The International Board of Directors voted to approve this amendment in March of 2025. To become a permanent amendment, per bylaw XIV.5.B, delegates at the annual meeting will be asked to ratify this proposed amendment.

STANDING RULES

SR V – FISCAL AND DUES

1. **DUES SCHEDULE:** Annual dues for all members of The 99s, payable to The 99s, at the Headquarters is as follows:

	US	CANADIAN CARIBBEAN	ALL OTHERS
A. NEW MEMBERS			
Membership Dues	\$70.00 \$60.00	\$62.00 \$52.00	\$54.00 \$44.00
Section Dues	5.00	5.00	0.00
Total	\$75.00 \$65.00	\$67.00 \$57.00	\$54.00 \$44.00
B. STUDENT PILOT MEMBERS			
First 2 years:			
Membership Dues	\$40.00 \$30.00	\$40.00 \$30.00	\$40.00 \$30.00
Section Dues	\$5.00	5.00	0.00
Total	\$45.00 \$35.00	\$45.00 \$35.00	\$40.00 \$30.00
Renewals after 2 years:			
Membership Dues	\$70.00 \$60.00	\$62.00 \$52.00	\$54.00 \$44.00
Section Dues	5.00	5.00	0.00
Total	\$75.00 \$65.00	\$67.00 \$57.00	\$54.00 \$44.00
C. RENEWALS (non-Student Pilot Members)			
Membership Dues	\$70.00 \$60.00	\$62.00 \$52.00	\$54.00 \$44.00
Section Dues	5.00	5.00	0.00
Total	\$75.00 \$65.00	\$67.00 \$57.00	\$54.00 \$44.00

1) A member may authorize automatic annual dues renewal by credit card.

E. MISCELLANEOUS:

4) **Members New and renewing members (except Student Pilot members)** may ~~renew~~ pay membership **dues** for three years or five years at current rates (non-refundable). ~~Student Pilot Members are not eligible for multiple-year renewals.~~ Funds will be retained in the appropriate financial accounts and dispensed to Headquarters and sections in the appropriate year. Membership cards will be issued for the full length of the renewal.

Proviso: This dues change will take effect August 1, 2025.

Proposed by: International Board of Directors

Rationale: International dues have not been raised in 20+ years (2002). The proposed \$10 increase for membership dues is important for several key reasons:

- Inflation and the rising costs of technology, events, materials, and administrative resources have negatively impacted our ability to continue offering high-quality programs and services at the current level. This increase will help us meet these rising costs without compromising the value we provide to our members.

- The dues increase helps ensure that all members contribute fairly to the costs associated with the benefits and services we provide. This change aids us in maintaining a strong financial position and continuing to offer programs that benefit all members.

The decision to increase dues is never taken lightly. It is a necessary step to ensure that our organization remains financially viable, competitive, and able to continue offering valuable services for years to come.

Financial Impact: Using current membership data as of 03/07/2025, the estimated fiscal impact anticipates an increase of \$60,360 in dues revenue for fiscal year 2026. Using the same membership data, it is anticipated that the impact for fiscal year 2027 is \$71,760. This analysis only uses the current membership data and does not consider any anticipated membership changes.

Legal Impact: No legal impact

International Board of Directors: Concur