

Ecclesiastical Ballot

An "ecclesiastical ballot" means there are no verbal or written nominations made in advance of the first ballot. Voting members to the convention write on the first ballot the name of any active member of an active congregational unit from the Synodical Women's Organization.

The woman nominated does not need to be present to be nominated, nor does she need to consent to the nomination. The delegate should prayerfully consider the nomination of someone she feels is called for service.

When an ecclesiastical ballot is employed, the first ballot cast by voting members serves only as the nominating ballot, unless one person receives 75% of the ballots cast in the initial vote, in which case an election is declared.

If no election occurs on the first ballot, a second ballot is prepared and everyone who received a vote is listed on the second ballot. **At this time, those nominated on the first ballot have the opportunity to withdraw from consideration but that does not remove the nominee's name from the ballot. This announcement is only made so the delegates are aware of the nominee's intent.**

On the second ballot, voting members cast a vote for one of the persons named on the first ballot. Only those names that appeared on the first ballot continue to be eligible. **If any other name is written in by a delegate, that individual delegate's vote is disqualified.**

On the second ballot, two-thirds (2/3) of the ballots cast are required for election.

If no election occurs on the second ballot, a third ballot is prepared. **This third ballot is limited to the two persons (plus ties) who receive the greatest number of votes.** A majority of the votes cast is required for election.