



## NON-PARTISAN POLICY

*To be reviewed yearly by each new Board*

The League of Women Voters of Monmouth County (“LWVMonmouth”) does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. However, the LWVMonmouth values the many skills and types of experience that individual board members bring, including those learned in public life through elective or appointive office. In fact, involvement in the public and political life of this country is something that the league recommends for all citizens and other members of the public.

Nevertheless, the LWVMonmouth Board believes that some basic limitations on board members’ political activity, while they are serving in this capacity, are necessary to protect the nonpartisanship of the League as an organization. The following table addresses the permissibility of various activities for members, based on their League roles.

Activity	Public-Facing Board Member*	Board Member	Member
Run for or hold public partisan elective office.	No	No	Yes
Hold political party leadership post or office	No	No	Yes
Be an active member in a party organization or club	No	Yes**	Yes
Be an inactive member in a party organization or club	Yes	Yes	Yes
Circulate petition for candidate	No	No	Yes
Sign petition for candidate with no stated pledge of support	Yes**	Yes**	Yes
Attend party political rallies/coffees/dinners/dances supporting candidates or parties	No	Yes**	Yes
Work publicly for a candidate/campaign	No	Yes**	Yes
Make contributions to a party/candidate within legal limits	Yes	Yes	Yes
Host small gatherings for a candidate	No	Yes**	Yes
Take partisan political stands on public social media	No	No	Yes
Take public partisan positions on print or electronic media	No	No	Yes
Register voters in the name of the LWV at a partisan political event, an event sponsored by a political party, or an event held by a politician currently running for office.	No	No	No

**\*Public-Facing Board Members** include President/Co-President, Vice President(s), and Membership Chair.

**\*\*Measures must be taken** to ensure the activity does not jeopardize the League non-partisan image or result in a conflict of interest, whether real or implied i.e., avoid appearing in photographs, don’t take an organizing role, don’t be a speaker. Confer with LWVMonmouth board or officers in advance.

**Note:**

- All League members should register and vote.
- No Board member should take public action on issues in conflict with League policy or position.
- A Board member may run for or hold a local non-partisan elective office, only after consultation with and approval by the LWVMonmouth Board.

**Exclusion:** These policies do not apply to family members

## **Additional Policies Related to League Commitment to Non-partisanship**

**Politician Participation in Programs:** LWVMonmouth shall not invite anyone who has declared as a candidate for any office to participate in any kind of program, whether as a speaker or member of a panel, unless it is a Candidates Forum. This ban includes members of a candidate's staff.

**Moderators:** LWVMonmouth shall not engage any league member who runs for, or is elected to, any partisan office, including party committee, to moderate any partisan Candidates Forum. This prohibition shall run from the time such an office is first sought until the position is relinquished or the term ends. Active party members should also not moderate partisan forums. This could also apply to non-partisan forums such as Board of Education at the discretion of the LWVMonmouth Board of Directors.

**Social and Other Media:** A Board member shall not indicate their political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media, including on social networking sites or other public venues that also prominently identify them as a member of LWVMonmouth.

Adopted: 10-11-22

Adopted with technical amendments: 7-11-23