Annex A (Nominations by Petition) to Chapter 2 (Board Governance Structure and Process)

- 1. In accordance with the Bylaws of the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy, Section 6.3 and Section 7.4, Regular Members of the WPAOG can petition to get a Regular Member on the ballot to fill any open Board Director and Advisor-at-Large positions. The purpose of this Annex is to further clarify the procedures outlined in the Bylaws. To ensure a fair and equitable process for all nominees and for WPAOG, the nomination must follow the standard set of policies and procedures for nominations of ALL candidates, either for Director or for Advisor-at-Large, to include Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, whether the nomination is submitted to the NominatingCommittee or by petition.
- a. The time period for submitting a nomination by petition is not earlier than 85 nor later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The petition must be received in the office of the Association Secretary by 1700 hours Eastern Time Zone not later than 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- (1) Before a petition can be distributed for signatures, the nominee is responsible for preparing a nomination packet that is required of all candidates, as detailed in the Nomination Policy. All nomination packets must be submitted by the deadline as specified in the WPAOG Nominating Policy. Nomination packets are valid only for the specific election cycle in which they are submitted and approved. Packets may not be carried forward or reused for subsequent election cycles: nominators must prepare and submit a new nomination packet for each cycle in accordance with the current Nominating Policy.
- (2) The nomination packet must be reviewed by the Association prior to providing it to those who will be signing the petition. The Association reviews all letters to ensure they include the required information outlined in the Nomination Policy. Letters must be submitted to the WPAOG Executive Assistant for review.
- b. The nominator is responsible for distributing the petition (along with the approved nomination packet) and gathering signatures of 2,700 Regular Members that must be verifiable by the WPAOG. Signatures on a nominating petition are valid only for the election cycle in which the nomination packets were approved. Any petition signatures collected for a prior election will be considered null and void for all future nomination purposes.
- (1) The nominator, nominee, and all those signing the petition must be Regular Members of WPAOG. A Regular Member is defined in the Bylaws, Section4.2.
 - (2) Signatures may be in two forms and must include the following information:
- (a) **Physical Signature**: Each physical signature on a petition must be accompanied by the signatory's printed name (First, Middle, Last), Cullum Number, Class, contact information (phone number or valid email address), and date the petition was signed. WPAOG will verify the Cullum Number; if it does not match the signatory's Cullum Number as recorded in WPAOG's official database, it will not be counted. The signature must be accompanied by the following statement: "I have reviewed the nomination packet and wish to sign a petition to nominate [Candidate's Full Name] to be an (Advisor -at-Large or Director- whichever position the member is being nominated for)."
- (b) **Email:** An email to the nominator stating they endorse the candidate. The AOG will verify that the email address of the graduate matches their email in WPAOG's official database. If the email does not match, it will not be counted as a valid signature. The email must also include the signatory's name (First, Middle, Last), Cullum Number, Class, and contact information (phone number), and be accompanied by the following statement: "I have reviewed the nomination packet, and this email constitutes my signature on the petition to nominate [Candidate's Full Name] to be an Advisor-at-Large or Director—whichever position the member is being nominated for).
- c. Once the nominator has obtained the requisite number of signatures, the nominator must send them to the WPAOG point of contact listed in Section 1.A.(2). All signatures must be submitted at one time as part of a single nomination packet.

- d. WPAOG will verify the signatures. If after the verification process there are at least 2,700, the petition will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for validation. If there are not 2,700 verified Regular Member signatures, the petition will automatically be denied and not be considered.
- e. Board Determination of Validity: The Board shall be the sole authority to determine the validity of the petition. If the Board finds the petition is valid, the nominee's name shall be placed on the ballot. The Association's point of contact is the Association's Administrative Officer.

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