

## The Current Situation

### Winter Booster Cancelled

Due to current meeting-size restrictions, the hotel is unable to host meetings, including our Winter Booster. A refund will be sent to anyone who has already paid for their registration and/or meals. Article VI, Sec. 4, of our Constitution states in part that, “*At the Booster Meeting immediately prior to the State Convention, each League will host a caucus or an all League joint caucus. The caucus or an all League joint caucus will be held for the purpose of allowing candidates for office to announce their intention to run and for informational purposes specific to each league.*” Caucus will be held at a later date to meet the requirements of this Article and allow candidates to announce their intention to run. Watch for a letter with more information on how we will proceed from here.

### County Meeting Considerations

Our Constitution states that County Associations must hold a county meeting during either the months of March, April, or May. Some counties, especially those in the south where it warms up earlier and farmers are going into the fields, prefer to have their meetings early. However, the State Board has made the decision to strongly urge counties NOT to plan their meetings in the month of March. This is to allow more time for restrictions to be lifted and increasing the possibility of having a standard meeting including steward attendance.

Most past local meetings were held in restaurants or bars. These spaces currently face legal restrictions on indoor seating. County units are legal entities and the local officers must use due diligence in completing Constitutional requirements within these legal restrictions. Meetings must stay in compliance with the law. To that end, the State Board made the decision to work with local officers to provide venues that offer room for social distancing and that the State would absorb the cost of renting such a venue. Keeping the safety of our members in mind as well as protecting the integrity of any elections or business done, must be a priority. Local Officers should discuss what hotel meeting space or banquet halls in their area would be appropriate. State Officers will be in touch with the local officers for locations, dates and times to be considered. The State Association will work to book an appropriate meeting space from these suggestions. Most hotels and banquet halls will require contracts, deposits and possibly higher fees than a normal meeting. Local Officers should not contract or sign for meeting space personally or on behalf of the local unit to avoid unintended costs to themselves, or contractual mistakes. County Constitutions do not give local officers the authority to enter these agreements or obligate union funds.

### Meeting Packets to County Secretaries

Things are rolling out slower this year. NRLCA Resolution and Constitution forms for the 2021 Convention have not been released at the time of this writing. State forms are a modified version of the NRLCA forms. The NRLCA forms should be released in early February. Forms will be available after that from your County or State Officers, on the ILRLCA.org website, at local meetings, or in a future edition of this paper. Meeting supplies, including the Constitution and Resolution forms, are an important part of County packets. Once all the necessary documents are available, packets will be completed and mailed to the County Secretaries.