****

**Proxy voting for WI President and WI Committee Members**

As a result of requests from WI members, the NFWI board has reviewed the policy on voting for the President and WI Committee Members at WI Annual Meeting.

In line with current practice, the board has agreed that WIs can decide whether or not they would allow proxy voting at WI Annual or Special Meetings.

The suggested procedure is as follows:

* The WI should take a vote whether or not it wishes to allow a proxy vote.
* If it does, those members who are unable to be present at the Annual or Special Meetings would be allowed to leave a proxy vote for one candidate for the role of the President, and one proxy vote for each committee vacancy.
* The member carrying the proxy vote would continue placing the absent member’s vote until the candidate is either voted out or wins the election.
* The WI should decide who the proxy vote should be left with to place in the elections; it may be a WI member attending the meeting chosen by the absent member, or it can be the WI Secretary for all proxy votes. Alternatively, a WI can give its members a choice.
* The member carrying the proxy vote would place the absent member’s vote in the ballot box with her own. She must not disclose the proxy vote and fully comply with secret ballot voting.

CS/JO/28.7.16