

ARTICLE XXIV
ST. BRIGID OF IRELAND HUMANITARIAN AWARD

PURPOSE

Section 1. The prestigious St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian award will be bestowed biennially at the National convention to a member of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. in recognition of extraordinary acts of humanitarianism. The St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award embodies the significant difference that the members of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. make in the lives of others, their community, and church furthering our motto of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity.

ELIGIBILITY

Section 2. The nominee must be a member in good standing of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Inc. The nominee's contribution to the community must be of a humanitarian or civic nature. The nominee must demonstrate qualities of compassion, kindness, understanding, and respect for all human beings promoting Catholic Action and the Hibernian Spirit.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Section 3. The nomination process requires the following completed documents:

- A. Completed nomination form that bears the State President's signature.
- B. A letter of support from the State Board that summarizes how the nominee meets the standards of eligibility. Every effort should be made to submit only one (1) application per State.
- C. The deadline for the submission of the nomination form is April 15.

SELECTION COMMITTEE PROCESS

Section 4. The selection process shall be as follows:

- A. The National Vice President shall serve as the Chairman of the Selection Committee.
- B. Voting members of the Selection Committee shall be as follows: National Board Officers, Past National Presidents, and State Presidents.
- C. The Nomination materials shall be mailed in February to recognize St. Brigid's Feast Day.
- D. The Nomination materials and ballots shall be forwarded to voting members of the committee no later than May 1st.
- E. The Chairman of the Selection Committee shall appoint a neutral Election Judge.
- F. The Selection Committee Chairman shall first notify the National President of the St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award recipient followed by the State President of the recipient and then the recipient herself. A press release will be forwarded to the Assistant Editor of *The National Hibernian Digest* and any other appropriate wire services announcing the winner of the St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award.
- G. All other nominees are to receive a letter commending them on their nomination and encouraging them to continue their service that exemplifies our motto.
- H. The St Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian award shall be presented to the recipient at the AOH/LAOH National Convention. The recipient is requested to be present; however, attendance is not mandatory.
- I. The Award recipient shall be reimbursed for room and travel expenses incurred if she is able to attend the AOH/LAOH National Convention to receive her award.

VOTING PROCESS

Section 5. The Chairman of the Selection Committee shall mail to Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernian Inc National Board Officers, Past National Presidents, and State Presidents the following documents:

- A. A copy of the completed nomination form signed by the nominee's State President
- B. A copy of the nominee's letter of support sent forward by her State Board.
- C. A ballot that requires that each voting member to vote for three (3) nominees as follows:
 - i. First Choice = 6 points
 - ii. Second Choice = 3 points
 - iii. Third Choice = 2 points.

Section 6. Voting may be done by submitting a paper ballot or by submitting an email ballot.

Section 7. Only ballots that are submitted with a First Choice, a Second Choice, and Third Choice will be considered valid ballots to be counted.

Section 8. The election will be completed on or before May 31st.

Section 9. The nominee with the highest number of points will be declared the St. Brigid of Ireland Humanitarian Award recipient.