

Motion: Round-Up Chair Succession

Title: Succession to the Round-Up Chair, and attendance and replacement of the Chair and Alternate

Presenter: Mike M., DCM, District 6

Sponsor of record: District 6 (Handbook §V.C.1.b)

Group conscience: District 6, 11 September 2026, 7–0–0 (September text; revised on Guidelines Committee feedback)

Guidelines Committee review: 16 September 2026

Motion

District 6 moves to amend Section VI.O (Round-Up Committee) of the Area 28 Guidelines Handbook so that:

1. If the Round-Up Chairperson resigns or is replaced, the Alternate Round-Up Chairperson becomes Round-Up Chairperson for the remainder of the term.
2. The Alternate's position left open, or the Chairperson's position when there is no Alternate to succeed, is filled in the manner the Handbook provides for that position.
3. The Alternate Round-Up Chairperson is to be prepared to replace the Round-Up Chairperson at any time and fulfill duties.
4. The Round-Up Chairperson and Alternate attend Area meetings and, like Area Officers, can be replaced after three consecutive absences by vote of the Area Panel, approved by the next Area Assembly.

Effective on adoption. Because the Round-Up Chairperson's position was vacated in August 2026, the Alternate Round-Up Chairperson becomes Round-Up Chairperson on adoption, for the remainder of Panel 76.

In brief

How it works today. When an Area Officer resigns or is replaced, the Alternate takes the seat (Section III.A.4.b). The Round-Up Chair and Alternate are not Area Officers, so that rule does not reach them. Section VI.O gives the Alternate one job, a vote in the Chair's absence, and gives neither position an attendance rule.

What hasn't worked. When the Round-Up Chair's seat was vacated in August 2026, the Handbook had no answer. The Area was left with an Alternate doing the Chair's work and no rule for what came next.

What this changes. The Alternate is to be ready to step in at any time, as every officer alternate is, and becomes Chair for the rest of the term when the seat opens; the open seat is filled the way it is normally filled. The Chair and Alternate take the officers' attendance rule and three-absence replacement.

Why it works. The Area has done this before without a rule: a past Alternate stepped into the Chair mid-term and served on into the next panel. The Alternate already knows the facility, the contracts, and the committee, and a mid-year change of hands is when that matters most. It works whether the Round-Up's officers are elected or appointed.

Proposed text edits

Handbook citations are to the Area 28 Guidelines Handbook, Fall 2025 print (11/18/25). Proposed insertions are **shown like this**; deletions are ~~struck through~~. Unmarked lines are the current text, shown for context.

Section VI.O, Round-Up Committee (page 27)

1. The elected Round-Up Committee Chairperson:
 - a. to e. (unchanged)
 - f. Shall attend all Area meetings including Area Committee meetings (ACMs), Assemblies, Inventories, and Forums whenever possible with the understanding that emergencies can happen.**
 - g. Can be replaced after three consecutive absences by vote of the Area Panel and approved by the next Area Assembly.**
2. The elected Alternate Round-Up Chairperson will vote in the Chairperson's absence.
 - a. Be prepared to replace the Round-Up Chairperson at any time and fulfill duties.**
 - b. Shall attend all Area meetings including Area Committee meetings (ACMs), Assemblies, Inventories, and Forums whenever possible with the understanding that emergencies can happen.**
 - c. Can be replaced after three consecutive absences by vote of the Area Panel and approved by the next Area Assembly.**
- 3. If the Round-Up Chairperson resigns or is replaced, the Alternate Round-Up Chairperson becomes Round-Up Chairperson for the remainder of the term. The Alternate's position left open, or the Round-Up Chairperson's position when there is no Alternate to succeed, is filled in the manner this Handbook provides for that position.**
- ~~3.~~ **4.** Area 28 will reimburse the Round-Up Chairperson and Alternate Round-Up chairperson for expenses to attend Area Committee meetings and Area Assemblies.
- ~~4.~~ **5.** The Round-Up Committee shall be responsible for: ...

Transition (not printed in the Handbook)

Because the Round-Up Chairperson's position was vacated in August 2026, the Alternate Round-Up Chairperson becomes Round-Up Chairperson on adoption, for the remainder of Panel 76.

Background

Why. The Handbook has one vacancy rule, Section III.A.4.b: "If any officer resigns or is replaced the office will be filled by the Alternate or, if needed, an election." The Assembly elects five principals with an alternate: the Delegate, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Round-Up Chair. The first four are Area Officers, so the rule covers them. The Round-Up pair is the only one it leaves out. When the Round-Up Chair's seat was vacated in 2026, the Area had an Alternate doing the Chair's work at the Area Chair's direction, an announced election, and no rule for either. This motion supplies the rule.

Practice in Area 28. This writes down what the Area has already done. The White Book records three off-cycle Third Legacy elections on the Round-Up committee, in 2012, Fall 2020, and Fall 2022. All three were for the Alternate, and it records no off-cycle election of the Chair. That is the pattern an Alternate moving up leaves behind. For the officers, the record shows the same thing. In Fall 2008: "Current treasure[r] stepped down, alt. became treasure[r] so new alt. was needed." In Spring 2014: "our Alternate Secretary assumed the Secretaries Position after ... our Secretary stepped down." Nikki O., Panel 70 Delegate, described it from the inside in the Winter 2022 Boomerang: "As Alternate Round Up Chair for one year, I stepped into the Chair position after I was half way through the role ... I stayed on for the next Panel as Round Up Chair."

Why succession rather than a new election. Midway through the year the Alternate has been part of the planning and holds the relationships with the facility and the committee. If the Alternate was elected, the Assembly chose that person for exactly this purpose. The Assembly keeps its voice in filling the Alternate seat that opens, as it did in 2012, 2020, and 2022.

Elected or appointed. The motion does not say how the Chair or Alternate is chosen. It says who takes the seat when it is vacated, and that the seat left open is filled the usual way. If the positions stay elected, the next Assembly elects a new Alternate. If they become appointed, the open seat is appointed. The rule stands either way.

Ready at any time. Every Area Officer's alternate has a readiness line. The Alternate Area Chairperson's reads "Be prepared to replace the Area Chairperson at any time and fulfill duties," and this motion gives the Alternate Round-Up Chairperson the same sentence, word for word.

Attendance and replacement. Section V.B already says Committee Chairpersons "may be considered for replacement" after three consecutive absences, but only the officer sections say how. The two sentences added for the Chair and the Alternate are the officers' own, word for word. The Round-Up Chair and Alternate are replaced by the same body, with the same Assembly approval, and by no other route. Replacement is also one of the two ways the Chair's seat opens, and when it does, the Alternate steps up.

GSO guidance. The A.A. Service Manual (Ch. 4, "Alternate Committee Officers") provides alternates "for all committee officers, especially for the chair," who "can provide continuity at the area level," with qualifications "generally the same as the qualifications for the positions they may be called upon to assume."

Elsewhere. Western Massachusetts Area 31 is the one Area found whose Round-Up committee has an elected second and a written line of succession: its Co-Chair "rolls into the Chair the following year," and "The Round-Up Committee replaces its own chair." Most of the other Areas reviewed write their officer rules the same way: the alternate steps up, and the body chooses or confirms the new alternate. Examples are Western Missouri Area 39, Southern Wisconsin Area 75, and Nevada Area 42. Hawaii Area 17 is the exception, holding an election on any officer vacancy.

History (White Book). Fall 2000: the Alternate Round-Up Chair added to the Workbook as an elected position, 71 to 1. Spring 2022: "To elect an Alt. Round Up Committee Chair at the Fall 2022 Assembly," 82 to 6. The Workbook has provided an Alternate since 2000. What it has never had is a succession sentence.

Consultation. Reviewed with the Guidelines Committee on 16 September 2026.

Cost. None.

Effective date. On adoption. Under the transition sentence, the Alternate becomes Round-Up Chairperson for the remainder of Panel 76 by the same vote that adopts the amendment. The Alternate's seat is then filled in the usual manner.

Knock-on edits. None required. If more than one of District 6's Round-Up motions passes, or if they pass alongside another Round-Up motion, the edits to Section VI.O are merged and renumbered together.