

GFWC-MFWC Reporting Presentation
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I am excited to share with you some special changes to reporting that will make the processes so much easier - for most it will be an immediate benefit- for others, it will be a learning curve, but in the end, you'll be so excited to have this in place.

Are you ready?

We are going to 100% electronic submissions for reporting. (Wait for cheering, lol)

There are many benefits for this - it will give you until 11:59 p.m. in February 1 to submit your reports. HOWEVER, like I tell my kiddos writing those research papers- don't wait until 11 pm in case the internet goes out. They are late if they are time-stamped at midnight. Those will say February 2.

Another goal is to have 100% of clubs reporting. Every club can report something. The PSP is a great place to start. If your club only focuses on supporting your local library, then fill out the Education report and send it in.

While we all love a little competition, keep the bottom line in mind- we exist to better our communities. These reports help preserve the history of your club, and when we can compile all of these together, they become a part of MFWC history. We appreciate all you do.

And to show that appreciation, we are giving more opportunities to spotlight your club's accomplishments.

Clubs will be divided into two classifications that are aligned with how we judge yearbooks and scrapbooks.

Classification A will be for clubs with 20 members or less

Classification B will be for clubs with 21 members and more.

This will apply to Juniorette clubs, too.

Rationale- we want to reward more clubs for their service and accomplishments

We will still award 1st through 5th places, so in some areas, every club could receive an award. For example, there are 3 clubs in Class B for the Central district. If they all pay their dues on time and send in a report, everyone gets a trophy (certificate) Instead of 5 clubs being recognized, 10 clubs will be recognized. This will be at district and state levels, and for Juniors, too.

Juniorette awards will now be judged at the district level. We hope this will encourage more Juniorette clubs to participate in reporting.

*The creativity awards and Top 10 projects will be awarded overall- all clubs all together, including Juniors.

I'm so excited about these changes, and I hope you are, too. If you need help, please reach out. I'll be hosting a Zoom with the chairpersons, and Carolyn, Frances, any of us are a phone call, text, or email away. We could also be available to come do a workshop with your clubs- in person or possibly Zoom.

Now, a brief reminder on writing reports. The forms will be uploaded onto the MFWC website as soon as Lisa gets them updated. GFWC now has Alzheimer's Association as an affiliate, so this will need to be added to the form. It is a fillable me form, making it easy to send electronically. Please remember that a report needs to be completed for each area, and then one needs to be completed for all of your combined numbers. Send in all three pages all 17 times because that back page has your totals each time. It helps so much if your judges don't have to add those numbers.

I am working on a template to use for your narratives. If you have things like newspaper clippings, you'll need to scan or photograph those. This no The template will have places to write a paragraph explaining how your project is associated with your club. For example, if you donate snacks and supplies to your church Vacation Bible School and also volunteer that week, you can use in-kind donations and your volunteer hours as a partnership. However, if you serve as your school's Diamond Girl sponsor, you can't count those volunteer hours as a woman's club sanctioned project. Guess who did that in the past? You're looking at her. Now, we never won an award using those hours, but. I just didn't understand how to complete a report. Your chairs are well-versed in how to decipher reports, so they know not to count those. I hope these examples help.

Another area where we have a lot of questions is cross-reporting and the President's Special Project. Let me give you an example of that to help you. Our Juniores club hosts a charity ball. We have a speaker from St. Jude or Palmer Home for Children. This would be reported under Advocacy for Children. However since the PSP is focused on servicing the whole child, this would qualify for that report, too. Now, to make it even more interesting, you can take the fundraising from this event and report it under Fundraising. When I was new, I didn't divide that and put it all under one- that's okay, too. Just report it somewhere. If you do divide and use two forms, you can't put that money raised on both. That's called double reporting.

Be sure to review the manuals. The GFWC portal has the 2024-26 manual ready. Sign up on the portal as soon as you can- it sometimes takes 24 hours or over the weekend to get clearance to use the site. Many answers are found within those guides. Read the newsletters the chairs will be sending or forwarding. This will help you when figuring out where to report certain projects.

Now- if you know how to get your club members to get their information to you, please send me an email so I can pass along your ideas.

A couple of tips I've heard- use a shared excel for members to upload their info throughout the year.

- encourage members to make a section in their planner to record what they do: newspapers collected, plastic recycled, volunteer services. Then submit at the end of each month or at reporting time.

And again, if you have questions, ask! I'll refer you to Meri 😊