

**League of Women Voters of Tallmadge
Nonpartisan Policy**

1. The League of Women Voters of Tallmadge shall neither support nor oppose any political party or candidate. The League may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest.
2. Recognizing that League experiences uniquely equip members for public life and, wishing to encourage members to utilize their knowledge and abilities, non-Board members are urged to participate fully in Party activities, on an individual basis. Board members activities must be limited to preserve the League's non-partisan policy.
3. The president, voter service chair and any other board position deemed sensitive by the board shall not: run for office; work actively for a candidate, display signs, campaign buttons, etc, for a particular candidate; circulate or sign petitions that carry the inference of an endorsement of a candidate; or engage in any political activity that may be construed by the public as a League endorsement of a party or candidate. All members shall refrain from partisan political activity such as those activities described above at League meetings and programs, except as may be otherwise provided during voter awareness, or candidate forums.
4. League board members may: attend coffees and testimonial dinners to meet candidates; make contributions in their individual names to the Party or candidate of their choice; sign nominating petitions for candidates.
5. The political activity of a League member's family does not affect the eligibility of the League member for a leadership role.
6. Board members shall not be elected officeholders. If a board member declares for an elective office, the member should resign from the board. Announcements of the resignations of board members to pursue political activities should be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsement of the activity of the member.
7. Personal contributions from officeholders and candidates will be accepted; however contributions from campaign funds or political action committees will not be accepted.
8. Any League member engaged in a League activity or assignment shall maintain non-partisanship in those situations.
9. Monitoring is an action activity of the League and is only done where the League has a position in the area involved. A monitor must: a) know the League position, b) be authorized by the LWV of Tallmadge board to speak and/or ask questions, c) know the law in the area involved, d) be capable of making value judgments to properly represent the League and e) report back to the board on the activity.
10. Observing is not an activity; therefore, an observer has no authority to speak on behalf of the League. An observer attends meetings in order to report to the Tallmadge League the activities taking place.
11. Whenever League (local, state, national) takes a position on an issue, League members may not identify themselves as members in publicly expressing an opinion that is in opposition to a League position.
12. The LWVT board shall have authority to rule in any cases concerning the above non-partisan policy. Policy adopted September 2012 by the LWV of Tallmadge Board of Directors