Article III
Membership

Section 1. Eligibility
(a) A woman of eighteen years of age or over shall be eligible for membership in the Virginia Society provided that she is a citizen of the United States of America and is a lineal descendant of an ancestor who rendered service to his country during the colonial period prior to July 5, 1776, in accordance with the eligibility list of the Virginia Society. All signers of the Declaration of Independence are qualifying ancestors. The Virginia Board of Managers shall approve any substantive changes to Virginia’s Eligibility List (categories of Virginia ancestors eligible for proving descent).
(b) To be proposed for membership in the Virginia Society, a candidate shall meet one of the following requirements:
   (1) A resident or native of Virginia.
   (2) A resident of the District of Columbia or its immediate environs.
   (3) A resident of Virginia with ancestry in a Colonial state other than Virginia who may be admitted upon the eligibility list of such other Colonial state society.
   (4) Where good reason can be shown for not becoming a member of the society in her own state, a non-resident of Virginia or of the District of Columbia, whose claim for eligibility rests on service rendered by a Virginia ancestor or another Colonial state ancestor can be proposed for membership in the Virginia Society.

Section 2. Election to membership
(a) One member of the Virginia Society shall propose, and another member shall endorse a candidate, and each of the proposer and endorser shall be members in good standing. The proposer and endorser must each know the candidate personally and be convinced that the candidate will add to the strength, dignity, and influence of the Virginia Society. To conform to the Acts in Council, the Board of Managers may decide whether or not to accept a candidate proposed by a member of another Corporate Society.
   It shall be the responsibility of the proposer to see that one of these conditions is met:
   (1) A candidate shall be known personally to two members of the Board of Managers, or
   (2) A candidate being proposed through a Town and County Committee shall be known personally to the Chairman or past Chairman and two members of that committee.
(b) Candidates shall be presented to the Board of Managers by the membership chairman and spoken for either by two members of the board or the Chairman of the Town and County Committee through which the candidate is proposed. In exceptional cases, particularly of out of state candidates, the President may waive the conditions of subsections (a) and (b) and authorize other members of the Virginia Society to speak for the candidate. Upon the positive vote of two-thirds of the Board, the candidate shall be invited to begin the membership process.
   (c) Upon approval of her lineage papers as described in Article V section 7, the candidate shall be elected to membership by the Board of Managers.

For additional inquiries please contact nscda-va@comcast.net.