

MARITIMES REGION – CANADA

Constitution 2019

ARTICLE I - NAME AND AFFILIATION

SECTION 1. This organization shall be known as the Maritimes Region of The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs.

SECTION 2. PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

A. Purposes

The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs is a worldwide fellowship of persons of all faiths working together in mutual respect and affection, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, and with a common loyalty to the Young Men's Christian Association, striving through active service to develop, encourage and provide leadership to build a better world for mankind.

B. Objectives of the Association

The objectives of the Association are:

- i. To encourage, promote, and foster organization and maintenance of affiliated clubs throughout the world.
- ii. To coordinate activities of all affiliated clubs and provide training materials and personal leadership development.

C. Objectives of All Affiliated Clubs

The objectives of all affiliated clubs are:

- i. To function primarily as service clubs for the YMCA.
- ii. To support other worthy organizations.
- iii. To encourage justice in civic and international affairs, abstaining always from party politics.
- iv. To keep members informed on and actively involved in religious, civic, economics, social, and international matters.
- v. To cultivate good fellowship.
- vi. To support International, Area, and Regional projects of the Association.

ARTICLE II - DEFINITION OF REGIONAL AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

SECTION 1. The Maritimes Region shall encompass the Eastern Canadian Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland Labrador.

SECTION 2. The Maritimes Region shall be divided into three Districts with the following boundaries:

A. The Saint John River Valley District shall include the Saint John River Valley and the remainder of western New Brunswick.

B. The Northumberland District shall include Prince Edward Island, eastern New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, with the exception of Cape Breton.

- C.** The Cape Breton - Newfoundland District shall include Cape Breton, and Newfoundland Labrador.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION 1.** The membership of this Region shall consist of affiliated local Y's Men's Clubs and Y Service Clubs. (Amended, Regional Convention, July 14, 2005.)
- SECTION 2.** The membership of each local club shall be as defined by the International Constitution.
- SECTION 3.** Members-at-large of the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs who reside within the boundaries of the Region may upon application to the Regional Director, be granted similar status at the Regional level.

ARTICLE IV - LEGISLATIVE POWER

- SECTION 1.** The highest legislative body in this Region shall be the Regional Convention, which shall, however, designate certain legislative responsibilities to be vested in a Regional Council.
- A.**
- i. This Region shall hold one Annual Convention, to be called the Maritimes Regional Convention, to be held in the spring any weekend between May 15 and 31. (Amended May 2017)
 - ii. Should there be an International or Area Convention held in the Region at another time of the year, the Regional Council may decide to hold the Regional Convention in Co-operation with the International or Area Convention. (Amended: Oct. 3, 1992)
- B.** The purpose of the Convention shall be to provide an inspirational experience for the general membership, to elect the Regional officers, and to conduct the business of the Region.
- C.** The location of the Convention shall be confirmed at least twelve (12) months prior to the Convention date, and bid for at least eighteen (18) months prior to the Convention date. (Amended May 2017)
- D.** Voting delegates at the Convention shall be accredited on the following basis:
- i. each member of the Regional Council shall have one (1) vote;
 - ii. each Past Regional Director shall have one (1) vote;
 - iii. each club shall have one (1) additional vote for every additional twenty (20) members or major fraction thereof in good standing;
 - iv. each club shall have one (1) additional vote by each Club Past President in attendance to a maximum of three (3);
 - v. Any individual with voting privileges shall have one (1) vote only, regardless of the positions held.

Guideline 1: A list of clubs with additional voting rights for the Maritimes Regional Business Meeting, shall be calculated through the Regional Secretary by March 30, after the Feb.1 rosters are submitted. This list will be calculated as stated in Article IV- Section 1: D iii. above and confirmed through the International Constitution Guidelines 409 and 410.

Guideline 2: This calculation will be based on the requirement of at least 15 members plus one vote for every 20 additional members or major fraction thereof (greater than one half).

SECTION 2

- A.** The Regional Council shall consist of the Regional Director, the Regional Director Elect, the District Governors, the District Governors-Elect, the Regional Service Directors, the Director of Y's Menettes, the Regional Secretary, the Regional Treasurer, the Immediate Past Regional Director, and the President (or delegate) of each Y's Men's Club. In the absence of both District Governor and District Governor Elect an alternate shall be appointed by the Regional Director in consultation with District members. (Amended May, 2008)
- B.** The Regional Council shall meet in-person once annually-in early fall. Other meetings of the Regional Council may be called by the Regional Director at his / her wish or upon request of another council member, upon approval of at least fifty (50%) of the Regional Council. These other meetings may be by electronic video conferencing, by email, or by on-line survey.
- C.** Fifty percent (50%) of the members of the Regional Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business. Regional Council may also transact business by mail, email, or through an on-line survey, upon matters presented to it by or with the approval of the Regional Director.
- D.** The Regional Director shall preside at all meetings of the Regional Council, but shall not have a vote, except in the event of a tie vote, the Regional Director shall then cast the tie breaking vote.
- E.** The Regional Council shall be bound by all motions and resolutions approved by voting delegates at the annual business meeting held during the Regional Convention.
- F.** A Regional Executive, consisting of the Regional Director, Regional Director-Elect, District Governors, District Governors Elect, Regional Treasurer and the Regional Secretary, shall deal with any urgent business between meetings of the Regional Council or Regional Conventions. (Amended Regional Convention May 21, 1988). In the absence of both District Governor and District Governor Elect an alternate shall be appointed by the Regional Director in consultation with District members. (Amended May, 2008). Fifty percent (50%) of the Regional Executive shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Elected officers of this Region shall be a Regional Director and a Regional Director Elect, who shall serve as such for one (1) year terms, which commence on July 1. (Amended Regional Council May 21, 1983)

SECTION 2.

- A.** The Regional Director Elect shall be elected by a majority vote at the Regional Convention prior to taking office on July 1. (Amended Regional Council May 21, 1983)
- B.** In the event of the inability of the Regional Director Elect to serve or in the event the Regional Director Elect becomes Regional Director by reason of the death, incapacity or resignation of the

previous Regional Director, a replacement shall be appointed by a committee consisting of the Regional Director and the three (3) immediate past Regional Directors.

- C. The Regional Director Elect shall automatically become Regional Director at the expiration of the current Regional Director's term of office, or upon his death, incapacity or resignation. If a Regional Director Elect becomes Regional Director by reason of death, incapacity or resignation of the previous Regional Director, and serves less than six (6) months in the office, then he and the appointed Regional Director Elect shall automatically continue in office for an additional one (1) year term.

SECTION 3. A Regional Treasurer, to take office on July 1st., shall be appointed by the Regional Director Elect at, or prior to, the preceding Regional Convention. (Amended Regional Council May 21, 1983)

SECTION 4. Regional Service Directors, to take office on July 1, shall be appointed by the Regional Director Elect at or prior to, the preceding Regional Convention. (Amended Regional Council May 21, 1983)

SECTION 5. The Nominating Committee for the Regional Director Elect shall consist of three (3) immediate past Regional Directors. The name or names of nominees shall be submitted to the Regional Director at least four (4) months in advance of the Regional Convention.

SECTION 6. The Regional Secretary shall be appointed for a three year term, by the current RDE. The Regional Secretary may be re-appointed for an additional three year term on a one-time basis. (Revised May 16- 2015)

SECTION 7. The Regional Director at his/her discretion, after consultation with and approval of the District Clubs, may appoint a District Governor and/or District Governor Elect for each District. The District Governor and District Governor Elect may appoint District Officers.

SECTION 8.

A. The Regional Director shall preside at all business sessions of the Regional Convention and the Regional Council, shall oversee the work and activities of the Region, be responsible for the control, expenditures, yearly audit of all Regional Funds/Accounts, the appointment of an audit committee and perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office.

B. The Regional Director Elect shall assist the Regional Director in all Regional matters and shall, in the event of the absence or inability of the Regional Director to perform his duties, perform the duties and have the same authority as the Regional Director.

C. The Regional Secretary shall keep minutes of all business meetings of the Regional Convention and the Regional Council and shall transmit a notice of all meetings to Club Presidents and Regional Officers at least three weeks in advance.

D. The Regional Treasurer, in consultation with the Regional Director, shall develop an operating budget for the coming year, and present it to the Fall Regional Council meeting for approval. The Past Regional Treasurer shall present an audited yearend financial statement at the Fall Council Meeting on all revenues and expenditures for the financial year end. This statement must include all financial accounts related to the Maritimes Region. The Regional Treasurer shall perform all duties relating to this office. (Amended May 19, 2012)

- E.** The District Governors shall be responsible for the co-ordination of activities of the District and perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office. They shall report to the Regional Director.
- F.** The District Governors Elect shall assist the District Governors in all matters pertaining to that office.
- G.** An audit committee shall be appointed by July 1 and be responsible to perform an audit of all Maritimes Regional funds/accounts for report to the Fall Council Meeting. (Amended May 19, 2012)

Guideline 3: The Regional Treasurer will complete the finances for the year from July 1 to July 31. He will then send the Books and Financial Statements to the Auditor(s).

Guideline 4: The appointed financial reviewers will provide an independent financial review of the Books and financial Statements from August 1 to August 31. The financial reviewers will send the books to the Regional Director and the audited statement to the Past Regional Treasurer by September 1.

ARTICLE VI - VACANCIES IN OFFICE

In the event it becomes necessary to replace an officer or member of the Regional Council, other than the Regional Director Elect because of death, incapacity or resignation, the Regional Director shall appoint an interim replacement to be approved at the next meeting of the Regional Council. If the Regional Secretary is unable to carry out their term because of death, incapacity or resignation, a new Regional Secretary shall be appointed by the current RDE.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCE

SECTION 1. The Regional Council shall determine a uniform financial share on per capita basis that each club shall pay in support of the Regional operating expenses.

SECTION 2. The fiscal year of the Region shall be from July 1 to June 30. (Amended, Regional Council, May 21, 1983)

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of registered voting delegates of affiliated clubs in good standing in the Region at the annual Maritimes Regional Convention. (Amended, Regional Council, May 17, 1980)

Section 1: Thirty days written notice, prior to the Annual Regional Convention Business meeting, to each affiliated club is required for Amendments to the Constitution.

Guideline 5: Guidelines may be amended at any regular Business meeting of the Maritimes Region by a simple majority affirmative vote of voting delegates in attendance.

This Constitution was amended at the Regional Convention business meeting May **2019**. It was recommended by the International Constitutional Committee and approved by International Council **2019**.