

CONSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL Y'S MEN'S CLUBS - MARITIMES REGION

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 club throughout the world.
- ii. To coordinate activities of all affiliate clubs and provide training materials and personal leadership development.

C. Objective 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 four 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 eastern New Brunswick, northern Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.
- C.** The Nova Scotia Mainland District shall include all of mainland Nova Scotia with the exception of the northern portion.
- D.** 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 on the Victoria Day Holiday weekend on or about May 24th OR be permitted to be held on another weekend, provided that each club is given a 30 day notice prior to the Annual Business Meeting and approved at the Annual Business Meeting. (Amended May, 2007)
 - 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 eighteen (18) months prior to the Convention date, and bid for at least thirty (30) months prior to the Convention date.
- 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;
- iv. each club shall have one (1) additional vote by each Club Past President in attendance to a maximum of three (3);
- v. An individual delegate shall have only one (1) vote.

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 is to be appointed by the Regional Director in consultation with District members. (Amended May, 2008)
- B.** The Regional Council shall meet 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. (Amended, Regional Convention, May 16, 1987)
- 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 upon matters presented to it by or with the approval of the Regional Director. (Amended, Regional Convention, May 16, 1987)
- 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 is to be appointed. by the Regional Director in consultation with District members. (Amended May, 2008)

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Elected officers of this Region shall be aRegional 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 six (6) months in advance of the Regional Convention.

SECTION 6. The offices of Regional Secretary and Director of Archives shall be permanent, and appointments shall be made by the Regional Council when necessary. (Amended Regional Convention May 21, 1988)

SECTION 7.

- A. Districts shall have a District Governor and a District Governor Elect, who shall serve as such for one (1) year terms, and may have such other officers as they desire.

- B. Should, for any reason, a District not have selected a District Governor Elect to take office in September, then the Regional Director shall appoint a candidate to that position at the Regional Convention.

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, 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 shall develop an operating budget for the coming year, and present it to the Fall Regional Council meeting for approval and be responsible for the control, expenditures and audit of all Regional funds.
- E. The Director of Archives shall keep a permanent historical file of all Regional activities and shall organize a historical display pertaining to the Region at every Regional Convention. (Amended Regional Convention May 27, 1988)
- F. The District Governors shall be responsible for the coordination of activities of the District and perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office. They shall report to the Regional Director.
- G. The District Governors Elect shall assist the District Governors in all matters pertaining to that office.

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.

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 a 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 to each affiliated club is required for Amendments to the Constitution.

This Constitution was amended by the Regional Convention on May 22, 2010.

It was also approved by the International Constitutional Committee and the International Council at the International Council Meeting on August 4, 2010.

