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Compiled by Lisa Manookian
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ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

WHAT IS THE ACYOA?

The Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) is the national youth program of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America. The ACYOA has two divisions - Seniors and Juniors. The Seniors division is comprised of young adults, 18 and older, organized through parish-based chapters throughout the Diocese.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES?

1. To encourage its members to learn, practice, uphold and propagate the principles and teachings of Christian faith according to the doctrine, sacraments and canons of the Armenian Apostolic Church.
2. To support and work for the strengthening of the Armenian Church and to promote the study and appreciation of the Armenian culture and heritage.
3. To strengthen spiritual and social bonds and to contribute towards the development of a healthy community life among Armenians.
4. To enhance and strengthen among its members the spirit of human freedom, universal justice and brotherhood of men, and devotion to duty as good citizens, dedicated to the service of God and Country.

WHAT IS OUR PURPOSE AND ROLE IN THE DIOCESE?

Our purpose and role in the ACYOA, in the context of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, is of vital importance, as we are charged with preparing and equipping ourselves to participate in leadership capacities.

However, in order to do this, we must educate ourselves concerning the teachings of our Church and the history of her people. We must motivate and stimulate creative thinkings and illustrations of faith among our members by providing vehicles through which we may express ourselves and demonstrate our abilities, skills, interests, concerns, willingness to try and faith. These vehicles must enable us to build friendships and lasting relationships.

We must develop programs through which we participate, receive information, experience meaningful relationships, feel a sense of belonging, and be exposed to our Church and cultural heritage. These programs must be diverse and they must lead us in the direction of future participation and leadership within our parishes and Church at large.

THE EMBLEM

The Emblem of the ACYOA, adopted at its inception, is interpreted as follows:

The Cross marks the true character of the ACYOA. The radiations behind the Cross symbolize the truths of Christianity that shine forth through the centuries.

Under the horizontal bar of the Cross are:

(On the Right) the double peaks of Mount Ararat, representing the Armenian people and their destiny. Mount Ararat has been the silent witness of the victories and defeats of the Armenians through their existence as a people and a nation. Its representation here means that the members of the ACYOA make the pledge of standing for the ideals for which the Armenian nation has always stood.

(On The Left) The United States Eagle, with its wings widespread and a star above each wing, looks proudly into the distance and holds a batch of arrows. The Eagle represents the United States of America. Its presence on the Emblem symbolizes the loyalty of the members of the organization to the Constitution of the United States and its principles of democracy and freedom.

The Chain that encircles the Cross represents the solidarity among the members of the ACYOA in their service to God and to people. These symbols are designed on a shield which stands for the determination with which the objectives of the ACYOA are to be carried out. The shield also stands for defense against dangerous encroachments. It will be noted that the dominant feature on the Emblem is the Cross. This indicates the fact that Christ is our Lord, and that to Him we owe obedience above all.



THE STRUCTURE

The structure and procedures of the ACYOA follow a similar outline as that of the Diocese itself. The following is an outline of the administrative and operational aspects of the organization:

Primate

A celibate priest, usually a bishop or archbishop, the Primate is the hierarchical leader of Armenians within the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America. He is the President of the ACYOA on the National level and presides at the annual ACYOA General Assembly.

Executive Secretary

Appointed by the Primate, the Executive Secretary is responsible for the administrative and developmental aspects of the National Organization on the Diocesan level. The Executive Secretary assists the ACYOA Central Council in executing the decisions of the ACYOA General Assembly.

General Assembly

The General Assembly is presided over by the Primate and convened by the ACYOA Central Council. The Assembly is made up of representatives (delegates) from each chapter. It is the annual business meeting of the organization. The Assembly elects its own officers, the ACYOA Central Council, the Nominating and Auditing Committees, and other committees and officers as it deems necessary. All the decisions of the ACYOA General Assembly must be approved by the Primate and the Diocesan Council.

Central Council

The ACYOA Central Council is a 5-member body responsible for executing the decisions of the ACYOA General Assembly and maintaining the operations and programs of the National Organization. The Council is elected by the delegates of the General Assembly and must act in the best interests of the ACYOA and fulfill requirements and meet standards through coordinating, directing, supervising, and initiating ACYOA programs and activities. The Council elects its own officers and each member is assigned to represent a region of the Diocese as well as take on specific assignments in the operations of the ACYOA on the national level.

Chapters

The core of the ACYOA is the local chapter. Each chapter is comprised of young adults, ages 18 and older, and is organized under the guidelines and structure of the ACYOA and follows its Constitution. Five members are necessary to form a Chapter. Every Chapter is affiliated with a local parish, follows national standards and procedures, has meetings once or twice a month and should organize a variety of activities to interest the membership. Assisting in parish-sponsored events is also a part of the Chapter's schedule of activities and events. As a group, the Chapter attends and participates in regional and national events which are designed as weekend excursions.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

PRESIDENT

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

1988-89 ACYOA CENTRAL COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN

Scott Najarian
8A Robertson Road
Worcester, MA 01602
(508) 754-0806

VICE CHAIRMAN

Lisa Manookian
2007 County Line Road
Ardmore, PA 19003
(215) 649-8426

TREASURER

Melina Spinuzza
3467 Whirlaway Drive
Northbrook, IL 60062
(312) 564-4431

RECORDING SECRETARY

Laurie Onanian
650 Huntington Avenue
Apt. 24J
Boston, MA 02115
(617) 734-6140

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Suzie Ashjian
50 Coolidge Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10701
(914) 963-0889

REGIONAL PARISH ASSIGNMENTS

OVERSEER

Oversees all assignments and ensures that visitations and contact are maintained with all parishes.

SOUTHERN REGION

Atlanta	Miami
Boca Raton	Ocala
Dallas	Orlando
Houston	San Antonio
Memphis	St. Petersburg

MID-WEST REGION

Belleville	Greenfield
Chicago	Palos Heights
Cleveland	Racine
Detroit	S. Milwaukee
Evanston	Waukegan

NEW ENGLAND REGION

Cambridge	Providence
Chelmsford	Springfield
Hartford	Trumbull
Haverhill	Watertown
Lawrence	Watervliet
New Britain	Worcester

MID-ATLANTIC REGION

Bayside	Tenafly
Binghamton	Union City
Cheltenham	Washington
Elberon	Woodside
Fair Lawn	Western Queens
Livingston	Westchester
Richmond	Wynnewood

ADMINISTRATIVE/PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS

National Sports Weekend
New England Regional
Anniversary Ball

Membership Drive - Handbook
Hye Hokin (ACYOA Publication)
Fund Raising Committee
Sports Weekend Awards Records
Southern Regional Anniversary
Ball

Finances
Membership Drive - Directory
Christian Leadership Seminar
(Greenfield)
Hye Christian Encounter
(Cleveland)
Mid-West Regional Anniversary
Ball

Minutes
Cultural Committee
Armenian Cultural Day
(Washington, D.C.)
Hye Christian Encounter
(Watertown)

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Invitational Tournament
Christian Leadership Seminar
(Westchester)
Mid-Atlantic Regional
Anniversary Ball
Birthday Cards

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Douglas Tashjian
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885
(212) 686-0710

National Mailing List

1988-89 "HYE HOKIN" EDITORIAL BOARD

(To Be Produced Quarterly)

COORDINATOR:

- *Overall supervisor.
- *Coordination of updates from Central Council Chairman; messages from Primate (Christmas and Easter); and articles from alumni.
- *Calendar of National Events.
- *Final edits and approval of final layout.

Lisa Manookian (Central Council)
2007 County Line Road
Ardmore, PA 19003
(215) 854-6300 [work]
(215) 649-8426 [home]

DESIGN & LAYOUT EDITOR:

- *Artistic aspect.
- *Typesetting, paste-up and printing.

Lucine Baronian (Bayside)
193-05 53rd Avenue
Flushing, NY 11365
(718) 357-9733

RELIGIOUS EDITOR:

- *Highlighting of religious aspects of ACYOA with an emphasis on the organization's role and mission in the Armenian Church.
- *Coordination of calendar of religious feast days and celebrations, with descriptions of their significance.
- *Coordination of articles from Clergy.

Phillip Karayan (Cleveland)
5489 State Road
Parma, OH 44134
(216) 351-9394

CULTURAL EDITOR:

- *Highlighting on our history, heritage and language.
- *Literary (poetry, essays, short stories) section.

Gary Assadourian (No. New Jersey)
21 76th Street
North Bergen, NJ 07047
(201) 869-3298

NATIONAL EVENTS EDITOR:

- *Coordination of writing and editing articles and updates for all National events.

Jill Arslanian (Cleveland)
33 Carver Road
Watertown, MA 02172
(617) 924-6288

CHAPTER NEWS EDITOR:

*Reporting of chapter activities and accomplishments of individual ACYOA members.

Laura Negosian (Detroit)
4515 Sedgemoor
Royal Oak, MI 48073
(313) 549-6511

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS:

*Assisting all editors as necessary.

Sekita Ekrek (Washington, D.C.)
11420 Georgetown Drive
Potomac, MD 20854
(301) 299-5612

Hovig Heghinian (Watervliet)
11 Wren Lane
Latham, NY 12110
(518) 785-0746

Doug Trapasso (Trumbull)
74 Randall Drive
Trumbull, CT 06611
(203) 268-7039

Tom Topalian (South Florida)
3626 Lowson Blvd.
Delray Beach, FL 33445
(407) 498-3518

Hagop Dingilian
St. Nersess Armenian Seminary
150 Stratton Road
New Rochelle, NY 10804
(914) 636-2003

ACYOA CHAPTER CHAIRMEN & PARISH CONTACTS

(Dated: November 20, 1988)

ATLANTA, GA - CONTACT

Harold Kevorkian, 1804 Hidden Glen Drive, Marietta, GA 30067 404-428-1480

BAYSIDE, NY - CHAIRMAN

Denise Meshejian, 67 Nassau Drive, Albertson, NY 11507 516-621-6595

BELLEVILLE, IL - CONTACT

Nicole Vartanian, 228 Julia Place, Belleville, IL 62223 618-398-4302

BOCA RATON, FL - CHAIRMAN

Tom Topalian, 3626 Lowson Blvd., Delray Beach, FL 33445 407-498-3518

CAMBRIDGE, MA - CHAIRMAN

Edward Marootian, Jr., 15 Jeffrey Road, Arlington, MA 02174 617-641-2297

CHELTENHAM, PA - CONTACT THE PASTOR

V. Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Melkonian
101 Ashmead Road, Cheltenham, PA 19012 215-663-1600

CHICAGO, IL - CONTACT

Walter Baronian, 224 Mohawk Drive, Bensenville, IL 60104 312-595-1534

CLEVELAND, OH - CHAIRMAN

Leslie Bagdasarian, 8730 Lake-in-the-Woods Trail
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022 216-543-1404

DALLAS, TX - CHAIRMAN

Ani Kantzabedian, 11235 Cactus, Dallas, TX 75238 214-349-0937

DETROIT, MI - CHAIRMAN

Tamara Kabodian, 47 Shagbark Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48063 313-651-1168

EVANSTON, IL - CHAIRMAN

Sevan Krikorian, 1104 Castilian Court, #105, Glenview, IL 60025 312-724-1821

GREENFIELD, WI - CHAIRMAN

Maritza Armagan, 6249 Parkview Road, Greendale, WI 53129 414-421-2628

HARTFORD, CT - CHAIRMAN

Charlie Shooshan, 558 Cypress Road, Newington, CT 06111 203-667-4552

HOUSTON, TX - CHAIRMAN

David Onanian, 1502 Rockin Drive, Houston, TX 77077 713-496-9224

LAWRENCE, MA - CHAIRMAN Kevin Nazarian, 88 Valley Road, Boxford, MA 01921	508-352-8598
LOWELL, MA - CONTACT Marc Svazlian, 18 Belmont Street, Lowell, MA 01851	508-937-7089
MIAMI, FL - CONTACT Jim Torossian, 40 Southwest 39th Avenue, Miami, FL 33134	305-444-7576
NEW BRITAIN, CT - CONTACT Arthur Simonian, 70 Pape Road, New Britain, CT 06053	203-224-0100
NORTHERN NEW JERSEY - CO-CHAIRMEN Aram Minnetian, 226 Fourth Avenue, Westwood, NJ 07675 Anne Toufayan, 160 Madison Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661	201-664-1674 201-261-6045
Chapter Liaison - Fair Lawn Susan Chagachbanian, 88 Logan Lane, Wyckoff, NJ 07481	201-891-3026
Chapter Liaisons - Livingston Kim Kasparian, 29 Copeland Road, Denville, NJ 07834 Lisa Nersesian, 47 Lee Road, Livingston, NJ 07039	201-361-9241 201-992-2879
Chapter Liaisons - Tenafly Doug Martaian, 59 Pine Terrace, Demarest, NJ 07627 Steve Mekenian, 156 Elm Street, Tenafly, NJ 07670	201-767-8557 201-871-4377
Chapter Liaisons - Union City Gary Assadourian, 21 76th Street, North Bergen, NJ 07047 Alice Bozoyan, 1812 West Street, Union City, NJ 07087	201-869-3298 201-865-2790
ORLANDO, FL - CONTACT Michael Eskandarian, 7526-167 Suntree Circle, Orlando, FL 32807	407-282-0779
PALOS HEIGHTS, IL - CONTACT Anna Giragosian, 8101 W. 131st Street, Palos Park, IL 60464	312-448-1818
PROVIDENCE, RI - CHAIRMAN John Megrdochian, 116 Harvard Street, Cranston, RI 02920	401-943-7438
RACINE, WI - CHAIRMAN Thomas Gengozian, 1637 Charles Street, Racine, WI 53402	414-633-2017
RICHMOND, VA - CONTACT THE PASTOR Rev. Fr. Arsen Barsamian 834 Pepper Avenue, Richmond, VA 23226	804-282-3818
SAN ANTONIO, TX - CONTACT Jack Shahbazian, 7003 Forest Crest North, San Antonio, TX 78240	512-340-7902

SPRINGFIELD, MA - CHAIRMAN Christine Boyajian, 9 Deepwood Drive, Wilbraham, MA 01095	413-596-3927
TRUMBULL, CT - CHAIRMAN Maral Kehkedjian, 844 Lakeside Drive, Bridgeport, CT 06606	203-374-4409
WASHINGTON, DC - CO-CHAIRMEN Arto Satian, 8801 Brickyard Road, Potomac, MD 20854 Varoujan Varoujanian, 133 Environs Road, Sterling, VA 22170	301-983-9405 703-450-5019
WATERTOWN, MA - CHAIRMAN Susan Bergoudian, 248 Washington Street, Belmont, MA 02178	617-484-3080
WATERVLIET, NY - CHAIRMAN Harry Tutunjian, 630 Hoosick Road, Troy, NY 12180	518-272-6977
WESTCHESTER, NY - CHAIRMAN Carol Baker, 2550 Independence Avenue, Riverdale, NY 10463	212-548-6485
WESTERN QUEENS, NY - CHAIRMAN Robert Haroutunian, 187-02 48th Avenue, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365	718-357-8185
WORCESTER, MA - CHAIRMAN Beth Bilbilian, 17 Norback Road, Worcester, MA 01606	508-853-7138
WYNNEWOOD, PA - CHAIRMAN Lisa Kazanjian, One Patterson Place, Newtown Square, PA 19073	215-356-0262
<hr/>	
NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COMMITTEE - CHAIRMAN Richard Mardirosian, 99 Westlook Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109	203-529-8009
YOUTH DIRECTOR - CAMBRIDGE Anthony Barsamian, 11 Marlboro Street - Apt. #12, Boston, MA 02116	617-266-6480
YOUTH DIRECTOR - DETROIT Jirayer Hovsepian, c/o St. John Armenian Church 22001 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, MI 48075	313-569-3405
YOUTH DIRECTOR - WATERTOWN Randolph Dagley, 6 Phaeton Circle, Andover, MA 01810	617-923-8990

1988 PARISH & CLERGY LIST

DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

His Eminence,
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate
V. Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Najarian, Vicar General

ST. VARTAN CATHEDRAL

Rev. Fr. Arten Ashjian, Canon Sacrist
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885 212-686-0710

DIOCESAN LEGATE

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Papken Varjabedian
3101 Park Center Drive
Suite #1400
Alexandria, VA 22302 703-671-6196

NEW ENGLAND REGION

Rev. Fr. Garen Gdanian, Presiding Officer
Zarvin Kasparian, Coordinator
91 Salisbury Street
Worcester, MA 01609 617-757-9616

ST. NERSESS SEMINARY

Rev. Fr. Mardiros Chevian, Rector
150 Stratton Road
New Rochelle, NY 10804 914-636-2003
914-636-2527

C O N N E C T I C U T

HARTFORD - ST. GEORGE ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Yeprem Kelegian, Pastor
22 White Street
Hartford, CT 06114 203-524-5647

**NEW BRITAIN - ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE
HOLY RESURRECTION**

Rev. Fr. Michael Buttero, Pastor
1910 Stanley Street, P.O. Box 1080
New Britain, CT 06050 203-223-7875

TRUMBULL - HOLY ASCENSION ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Untzag Nalbandian, Pastor
1460 Huntington Turnpike
Trumbull, CT 06611 203-372-5770

FLORIDA

MIAMI - ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ARMENIAN CHURCH
V. Rev. Fr. Vasken Tatoyan, Pastor
120 North East 16th Street
Miami, FL 33132

305-371-4484

BOCA RATON - ST. DAVID ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian, Pastor
2300 Yamato Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431

407-994-2335

ST. PETERSBURG - ST. HAGOP ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian, Visiting Pastor
c/o 2300 Yamato Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431

407-994-2335

ORLANDO - ST. GARABED ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian, Visiting Pastor
c/o 2300 Yamato Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431

407-994-2335

OCALA - ST. SARKIS ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian, Visiting Pastor
c/o 2300 Yamato Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431

407-994-2335

GEORGIA

ARMENIAN CHURCH OF ATLANTA
Rev. Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian, Visiting Pastor
c/o 4125 Fessenden Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016

404-

ILLINOIS

BELLEVILLE - HOLY SHOGHAGAT ARMENIAN CHURCH
V. Rev. Fr. Shnork Kasparian, Pastor
400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

618-277-6400

**CHICAGO - ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN CHURCH**
Rev. Fr. Vahram Hazarian, Acting Pastor
6700 W. Diversey Avenue
Chicago, IL 60635

312-637-1711

EVANSTON - ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH
V. Rev. Fr. Varoujan Kabaradjian, Pastor
816 Clark Street
Evanston, IL 60201

312-864-6263

**PALOS HEIGHTS - STS. JOACHIM AND ANNE
ARMENIAN CHURCH**

Garbis Meguerian, Parish Council Chairman
12600 South Ridgeland
Palos Heights, IL 60463

312-388-4940

WAUKEGAN - ST. GEORGE ARMENIAN CHURCH

Merron Paparigian, Parish Council Chairman
1015 McAree Road
Waukegan, IL 60085

312-244-0424

LOUISIANA

BATON ROUGE - ST. GARABED ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Nersess Jebejian, Visiting Pastor
4065 Government Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

504-383-6811

MASSACHUSETTS

CAMBRIDGE - HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Mampre Kouzouian, Pastor
145 Brattle Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

617-354-0632

**CAPE COD - ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH
OF CAPE COD**

Richard Kratljan, Parish Council Chairman
P.O. Box 2249
Centerville, MA 02632

617-

CHELMSFORD - STS. VARTANANTZ ARMENIAN CHURCH

V. Rev. Fr. Ghevont Samoorian, Pastor
180 Old Westford Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824

617-256-7234

**HAVERHILL - ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN CHURCH**

Edgar Movsesian, Parish Council Chairman
110 Main Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

617-372-9227

LAWRENCE - HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Zenob Nalbandian, Pastor
54 East Haverhill Street
Lawrence, MA 01841

508-683-9942

SPRINGFIELD - ST. MARK ARMENIAN CHURCH

V. Rev. Fr. Nourhan Manougian, Pastor
2427 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, MA 01129

413-783-5793

WATERTOWN - ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Dajad Davidian, Pastor
465 Mt. Auburn Street
Watertown, MA 02172

617-923-8860

WORCESTER - ARMENIAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

Rev. Fr. Aved Terzian, Pastor
87 Salisbury Street
Worcester, MA 01609

617-756-2931

M I C H I G A N

DETROIT - ST. JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

V. Rev. Fr. Paren Avedikian, Pastor
Rev. Fr. Haik Donikian, Assistant Pastor
22001 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI 48075

313-569-3405

N E W J E R S E Y

ELBERON - ST. STEPANOS ARMENIAN CHURCH

V. Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Najarian, Pastor
1184 Ocean Avenue
Elberon, NJ 07740

201-229-3661

FAIR LAWN - ST. LEON ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Arshen Aivazian, Pastor
12-61 Saddle River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

201-791-2862

LIVINGSTON - ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH

V. Rev. Fr. Houssig Bagdasian, Pastor
200 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039

201-533-9794

TENAFLY - ST. THOMAS ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Arnak Kasparian, Pastor
Highway 9W and E. Clinton Avenue
P.O. Box 53
Tenafly, NJ 07670

201-567-5446

UNION CITY - HOLY CROSS ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Diran Papazian, Pastor
318 27th Street
Union City, NJ 07087

201-864-2480

NEW MEXICO

**ALBUQUERQUE - ARMENIAN CULTURAL
ASSOCIATION OF NEW MEXICO**
Armen Chakerian, Parish Council Chairman
111 Pennsylvania S.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87108

505-268-4958

NEW YORK

**BAYSIDE - QUEENS
ARMENIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY MARTYRS**
Rev. Fr. Krikor Hairabedian, Pastor
Rev. Fr. Yeghia Hairabedian, Assistant Pastor
209-15 Horace Harding Expressway
Bayside, NY 11364

718-225-0235

**BINGHAMTON - ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN CHURCH**
Diran Kradjian, Parish Council Chairman
12 Corbett Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13903

607-722-8801

**NEW YORK CITY - ST. GREGORY THE ILLUMINATOR
ARMENIAN CHURCH**
Kegham Tcholakian, Parish Council Chairman
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

212-679-1728

NEW YORK CITY - HOLY CROSS CHURCH OF ARMENIA
Dr. Antranig Hazarian, Parish Council Chairman
580 W. 187th Street
New York, NY 10033

212-927-4020

NIAGARA FALLS - ST. SARKIS ARMENIAN CHURCH
V. Rev. Fr. Kegham Zakarian, Pastor
300 Ninth Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14303

716-282-2587

ROCHESTER - ARMENIAN COMMUNITY OF ROCHESTER
V. Rev. Fr. Kegham Zakarian, Pastor
c/o 300 Ninth Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14303

716-

SYRACUSE - ST. PAUL ARMENIAN CHURCH
V. Rev. Fr. Kegham Zakarian, Pastor
310 N. Geddes Street
Syracuse, NY 13204

315-422-9047

WATERVLIET - ST. PETER ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Garen Gdanian, Pastor
100 Troy-Schnectady Road
Watervliet, NY 12189

518-274-3673

WESTCHESTER - ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH

Rev. Fr. Karekin Kasparian, Pastor
55 Lincoln Avenue
Purchase, NY 10577

914-253-9077

WOODSIDE - ARMENIAN CHURCH OF WESTERN QUEENS

Rev. Fr. Mamigon Vosganian, Pastor
43-12 46th Street
Sunnyside, NY 11104

718-939-2275

O H I O

**CLEVELAND - ST. GREGORY OF NAREK
ARMENIAN CHURCH**

Florence Karoghlanian, Parish Council Chairman
666 Richmond Road
Richmond Heights, OH 44143

216-381-6590

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

CHELTENHAM - HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN CHURCH

V. Rev. Fr. Haigazoun Melkonian, Pastor
101 Ashmead Road
Cheltenham, PA 19012

215-663-1600

**WYNNEWOOD - ST. SAHAG & ST. MESROB
ARMENIAN CHURCH**

Rev. Fr. Paree Metjian, Pastor
630 Clothier Road
Wynnewood, PA 19096

215-642-4212

R H O D E I S L A N D

**PROVIDENCE - ST. SAHAG & ST. MESROB
ARMENIAN CHURCH**

V. Rev. Fr. Baret Yeretian, Pastor
70 Jefferson Street
Providence, RI 02908

401-272-7712

T E N N E S S E E

MEMPHIS - ARMENIAN CHURCH COUNCIL OF MEMPHIS

V. Rev. Fr. Shnork Kasparian, Visiting Pastor
c/o 400 Huntwood Road
Belleville, IL 62221

901-

TEXAS

AUSTIN - ARMENIAN CHURCH OF AUSTIN
Rev. Fr. Nersess Jebejian, Visiting Pastor
c/o 2311 Synott Road
Houston, TX 77082 512-

**DALLAS - ARMENIAN CHURCH OF
DALLAS/FORT WORTH**
Rev. Fr. Nersess Jebejian, Visiting Pastor
P.O. Box 791453
Dallas, TX 75379 214-

HOUSTON - ST. KEVORK ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Nersess Jebejian, Pastor
3211 Synott Road
Houston, TX 77082 713-558-2722

**SAN ANTONIO - ARMENIAN CHURCH
OF SAN ANTONIO**
Rev. Fr. Nersess Jebejian, Visiting Pastor
7003 Forest Crest No.
San Antonio, TX 78240 512-340-7902

VIRGINIA

RICHMOND - ST. JAMES ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Arsen Barsamian, Pastor
834 Pepper Avenue
Richmond, VA 23226 804-282-3818

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D.C. - ST. MARY ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Vertanes Kalayjian, Pastor
4125 Fessenden Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016 202-363-1923

WISCONSIN

**GREENFIELD - ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
ARMENIAN CHURCH**
Rev. Fr. Tateos Abdalian, Pastor
7825 W. Layton Avenue
Greenfield, WI 53220 414-282-1670

RACINE - ST. MESROB ARMENIAN CHURCH
Rev. Fr. Garabed Kochakian, Pastor
4605 Erie Street
Racine, WI 53402 414-639-0531

**SOUTH MILWAUKEE - HOLY RESURRECTION
ARMENIAN CHURCH**
Grace Hadjinian, Parish Council Chairman
909 Michigan Avenue
So. Milwaukee, WI 53172

414-762-7460

OTHER CLERGY IN THE DIOCESE

The Most Rev. Abp. Tiran Nersoyan
580 W. 187th Street
New York, NY 10016

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Zgon Der Hagopian
29-75 Independence Avenue
Bronx, NY 10463

V. Rev. Fr. Khajag Barsamian
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

V. Rev. Fr. Papken Anoushian
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06510

V. Rev. Fr. Oshagan Minassian
124 Hillside Road
Watertown, MA 02172

V. Rev. Fr. Mesrob Semerjian
25 Preston Street
Hartford, CT 06114

Rev. Fr. Carnig Hallajian
22 Scott Place, Apt. C-I
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

Rev. Fr. Krikor Maksoudian
58 Winter Street
Arlington, MA 02174

Rev. Fr. Papken Maksoudian
56 Winter Street
Arlington, MA 02174

PROGRAMS

The programs of the ACYOA are the most direct and meaningful vehicles we can use to provide for, educate, and attract new and current members to participate in the organization. They are the very components that give the ACYOA her true form and direction. Their promotion, and participation therein, will lead to greater success and a continual sense of purpose. We must strive to continue to develop and upgrade new and current programs, thus providing a strong equilibrium for all Armenian youth.

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

The ACYOA offers two cultural programs, the ACYOA Cultural Weekend and the Armenian Cultural Day. The ACYOA Cultural Weekend comprises all facets of the objectives of the ACYOA Constitution. Held annually over Presidents' Weekend, the program may include a comprehensive explanation and discussion of the Badarak (Divine Liturgy); a crash course on the Armenian language; segments on Armenian Church and cultural history; instruction in Armenian dance; and fellowship. The Armenian Cultural Day

. The programs are subsidized, in part, by the ACYOA Central Council and are open only to dues-paid members.

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

The Christian Leadership Seminars and the Hye Christian Encounters are weekend programs which provide an opportunity for all Armenian young adults to learn the basics of leadership from those who lead and learn how to take the opportunities and face the obstacles and challenges that lie ahead of us as we serve our local communities in the capacities that we do. There are two seminars and two retreats each year. The programs are hosted by individual chapters and subsidized, in part, by the ACYOA Central Council. They are open only to dues-paid members.

ACYOA DAY

A local event, many chapters celebrate ACYOA Day on Palm Sunday with a banquet and program with guest speakers. The theme used can be to commemorate a specific event, to emphasize an aspect of the organization, or to celebrate an anniversary. Awards are sometimes presented to outstanding members of the chapter, parish and community at large. ACYOA Day is meant to bring together the local chapter and parish community and to emphasize the importance of the local chapter within the context of the parish. It is

a day to celebrate the very existence of the organization through its very heart--the local chapter.

MARTYRS' DAY COMMEMORATION

Held on a local basis, this annual commemoration of the Armenian martyrs of 1915 varies from chapter to chapter. The focus is on the Genocide of the Armenians from a religious perspective with an accent on the future. A special program is also held annually at the Diocese.

ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Initiated by His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, this Tournament is hosted each year by selected chapters throughout the Diocese. It began in 1971 as a basketball tournament and has grown since then to include co-ed volleyball. The Tournament is usually held in mid-May and is highlighted with the awarding of trophies to the champions and other outstanding participants at an elaborate banquet/dance. (See also Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Invitational Tournament Rules and Regulations).

ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM (ASP)

The Armenian Studies Program (ASP) consists of two educational tours to Armenia and have attracted hundreds of people. The only difference in the tours is the length of time - two weeks vs. one month. Participants are guests of the Catholicos and the Soviet Armenian government and are given extensive tours throughout the historic homeland. It is unquestionably a most fulfilling experience for any Armenian-American. Information and brochures are distributed in February or March. Open only to dues-paid members.

ANNIVERSARY BALLS

Held regionally, the Anniversary Balls mark the anniversary of the organization. They are usually highlighted with special presentations to alumni of the organization. Chapters wishing to host the Balls must present bids to the ACYOA Central Council. (See ACYOA Anniversary Ball Guidelines).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY & NATIONAL SPORTS WEEKEND

The General Assembly is where national programs are discussed and instituted, policy is set, changes are made to the Constitution, and a general direction is given to the ACYOA Central Council to carry out the decisions made. It is made up of representatives (delegates) from each chapter, and is convened prior to the National Sports Weekend. (See Organizational Overview and the ACYOA Constitution for further details).

Following the General Assembly, the National Sports Weekend is held over Labor Day Weekend. The Weekend features competition in over 30 athletic events in swimming, golf, track and field, tennis, badminton, basketball, volleyball, tavloo and chess. It is also highlighted with banquets, dances and seminars. The awards are presented at the Awards Banquet on Sunday night. The Weekend concludes with a picnic on Monday (Labor Day).

The General Assembly/National Sports Weekend is hosted by a chapter, selected after presenting a bid to the delegates of the prior year's Assembly.

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Usually conducted by ACYOA Central Council members, chapters in each region come together to discuss regional programming as well as national events. They may decide to organize on a more structured basis. The main purpose is to stimulate interaction between ACYOA chapters in a region and provide an opportunity for the chapters to meet and discuss concerns and ideas.

AWARDS

The Chapter 'A' Award is given annually to the chapter that best fulfills the standards and requirements set forth by the ACYOA Central Council. Chapters are expected to meet deadlines, file proper reports and meet the needs of ACYOA members in their parishes with a well-rounded schedule of activities throughout the year. The Award is based on a point system, whereby the chapter accumulating the most points wins. Chapters accumulating a pre-determined number of points receive an achievement award. The criteria required and explanations thereto are as follows:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| Delegation at General Assembly: | 20 Points |
| Each chapter must be represented by the chapter chairman or a delegate as outlined in the ACYOA Constitution. | |
| Representation at Regional Conference: | 10 Points |
| At least one representative from each chapter must attend any regional conference held in their respective region. | |
| Representation at Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Invitational Tournament: | 5 Points |
| At least one member from each chapter must attend the Tournament. It is not necessary to participate in the Tournament. A list of those who purchase package plans will be forwarded to the ACYOA Central Council. | |

Those who do not purchase package plans must provide the Council with a means of verification.

Team Representation at Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Invitational Tournament:

10 Points

A minimum of one team from each chapter must participate in basketball and/or volleyball. Participation is subject to the rules and regulations that govern the Tournament.

Representation at National Sports Weekend:

5 Points

A minimum of one member from each chapter must attend the National Sports Weekend. It is not necessary to participate in athletic events. The verification procedure for the Archbishop's Tournament applies here also.

Athletic Representation at National Sports Weekend:

10 Points

A minimum of two members from the chapter must participate in a minimum of one athletic event each. Participation is subject to the National Sports Weekend Rules and Regulations.

Press Release Sent to Hye Hokin:

10 Points/Per Issue

A minimum of one article/press release must be sent to the Coordinator of Hye Hokin for each issue published. Deadlines are available from the Coordinator.

Service to Parish/Armenian Community:

0-50 Points

Points will be awarded to each chapter based on the degree of service it bestows upon its respective Parish/Armenian community. Chapters will be judged at the end of the fiscal year. The number and quality of the programs as well as the manner in which the chapter communicates with the ACYOA Central Council will determine the number of points.

Service to Local Community:

0-20 Points

The same criteria that applies to the Parish/Armenian Community, applies here. Examples include "Toys for Tots," donating Armenian-related books to a local library, a general donation to a selected charity, participating in a blood drive or walk for hunger, etc.

ACYOA Day Recognized in Parish: 20 Points
Each chapter in conjunction with its local parish must designate one day a year as ACYOA Day (usually held on Palm Sunday).

Educational/Cultural Program: 10 Points
Each chapter must sponsor a minimum of one program that is educational and/or cultural. The program may be open to the chapter, the Armenian community, and/or the general public.

Spiritual Program: 20 Points
Each chapter must sponsor a minimum of one program that is spiritual. Examples include religious retreats, Bible studies, etc.

Submission of Monthly Fact Sheets:* 2 Points/Per Month
The fact sheets inform the ACYOA Central Council of local happenings. They must be postmarked 15 days following the reported month and should be sent regardless of whether activity takes place.

Submission of General Armenian Youth Listing:* 20 Points
Listing of the names and addresses of all Armenians living within the parish jurisdiction. Initially, a master list is established, names for which can be obtained from the parish's baptismal records, as well as from ACYOA membership lists. The list is forwarded to the ACYOA Central Council, which then integrates it with the National Mailing List.

Submission of Chapter Membership Listing:* 20 Points
Listing of names, addresses, and phone numbers of all members of chapter. The list must be submitted to the ACYOA Central Council by January 1st and updated periodically.

Executive Committee Listing w/Delegates:* 20 Points
Consisting of the names, addresses, phone numbers and positions of each member, this list must be forwarded to the ACYOA Central Council within thirty (30) days following elections.

Membership Dues/Membership Renewal Forms:*

20 Points

Memberships must be renewed and the designated form forwarded to the ACYOA Central Council by January 1st. Dues are \$10.00 per person, half of which is forwarded to the Council. Chapters which have not renewed by January 1st will be assessed a penalty fee. New members must fill out an application form. All membership applications, dues, and renewal forms must be submitted by January 1st (beginning of fiscal year).

Sam Nersesian Award Nomination:*

20 Points

The Priest and/or Executive Body should nominate at least one individual from their chapter. Nominations are due by June 30th.

Annual Chapter Report:*

20 Points

A self-explanatory form requiring general information, the report must be filed with the ACYOA Central Council by June 30th (end of fiscal year).

Notes:

1. Those criteria marked with a (*) are the responsibility of the Executive Body.
2. A "member" is defined as a dues-paid member for the current fiscal year (January 1st to December 31st).
3. Each program is eligible for only one category. For example, a cultural program held on ACYOA Day will only be credited towards ACYOA Day.

As an incentive to this program, the Executive Body (maximum of 5 members) of the winning chapter will receive funding to visit a new, inactive, or reorganized chapter. This is known as the Chapter 'A' Assistance Program. The ACYOA Central Council will subsidize the transportation, lodging and meals for the group. The winning chapter is announced at the National Sports Weekend Awards Banquet.

Initiated as a result of the 1979 General Assembly, the Sam Nersesian Award is named after Sam Nersesian of the St. Louis ACYOA Chapter following his tragic death in May of 1979. The award is annually given to the ACYOA member who best exemplifies the character of a true Christian, demonstrating the virtues of love, humility, patience, and understanding. Nomination forms are sent out in April by the ACYOA Central Council. Nominations are

made by the Priest and Executive Body of each chapter. The recipient is selected by the ACYOA Central Council and is presented the award at the National Sports Weekend Awards Banquet.

ARCHBISHOP'S ESSAY CONTEST

The ACYOA Central Council will distribute information and contest guidelines to all chapters and parishes in early fall of each year and publicize the contest for ACYOA members. The contest will have both Armenian and English language categories and the emphasis will be on writing style and literary ability, not on subject matter -- although subjects must be Armenian-oriented. A panel of judges (professors and those with literary background) will make the final selection of winners. A monetary award of \$150 will be given to the winner in each category. Winners will be notified in July. The deadline for submission of all entries is June 1st. The Awards will be presented during the National Sports Weekend Awards Banquet.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Currently, the Sam Nersesian Scholarship is the only scholarship offered by the National organization. This Scholarship is awarded to applicants for the St. Nersess Summer Study program. Applications are sent to all chapters and parishes, as well as individuals who request them. Recipients are selected by the ACYOA Central Council. The amount of the Scholarship equals the amount of the tuition for the program.

A long-term goal of the National organization is to provide scholarships for college students.

MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM

In an effort to promote dues-paying membership in the ACYOA, the following incentives are offered:

1. ACYOA dues-paid members for the current fiscal year shall be entitled to membership incentives. It is the chapter's responsibility to forward membership dues to the ACYOA Central Council for deposit in the ACYOA National Treasury. Membership cards will be processed as dues are received from the chapters. Persons eligible for membership must be high school graduates or 18 years of age. Minimum dues paid to the chapter is \$10.00 - half of which is sent to the ACYOA Central Council.
2. On the ACYOA National and Regional levels, these incentives shall take the form of reduced rates at official ACYOA-sponsored programs and activities. Specifically, these

incentives, in addition to privileges noted in the ACYOA Constitution, are as follows:

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Invitational Tournament:
\$10.00 Rebate off Regular Package Plan.

National Sports Weekend:
\$10.00 Rebate off Regular Package Plan.

Anniversary Balls:
\$10.00 Rebate off Regular Package Plan.

Regional Events:
\$3.00 Reduction to Cost of Event.

Note: The above reduction figures are minimums. The ACYOA Central Council and host committees for these programs can increase these figures if additional incentives are deemed necessary.

Chapters are highly encouraged to participate in the program by offering similar reductions to ACYOA members at locally sponsored programs, activities, etc. as uniformity will enhance the meaning of the program.

3. Additionally, only dues-paid members are eligible to participate in the Armenian Studies Program (ASP); the Cultural Programs; and the Leadership Programs.

PUBLICATIONS

Through the years, the ACYOA has been involved with various publications. Its most noteworthy one, Sacraments and Prayers of the Armenian Church, contains devotional prayers and information on the Sacraments of the Church. This book is very helpful to those who wish to take part in as well as understand the Badarak (Divine Liturgy).

The newsletters of the ACYOA are also important publication tools in that they communicate information between the chapters and the ACYOA Central Council. The current newsletter is Hye Hokin, ("The Armenian Spirit") which is distributed on a quarterly basis. (See most recent issue in this packet).

AUDIO-VISUAL PROGRAMS

These programs include slides and tapes, videos, films and other presentation formats to be utilized by individual chapters, parishes, Armenian and non-Armenian organizations and community groups. As the various programs take place, they are videotaped. A long-term goal is to

realize a library where these programs can be stored and then disseminated as a service to everyone.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Dated: January 11, 1989)

October 21-23, 1988	Central Council Meeting New York City, NY
October 28-30, 1988	Christian Leadership Seminar Greenfield, WI
December 9-11, 1988	Hye Christian Encounter Watertown, MA
January 13-15, 1989	Central Council Meeting New York City, NY
January 27-29, 1989	Chapter 'A' Assistance Program Boca Raton, FL
February 4-6, 1988	Central Council Meeting Houston, TX
February 17-20, 1989	2nd Annual Armenian Cultural Weekend New York City, NY
March 10-12, 1989	Christian Leadership Seminar Westchester, NY
March 19, 1989	Palm Sunday/ACYOA Day
April 14-16, 1989	Hye Christian Encounter Cleveland, OH
April 22, 1989	Martyrs' Day Celebration New York City, NY
May 5-7, 1989	Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Invitational Tournament Elberon, NJ
June/July 1989	Diocesan Summer Internship New York City, NY
June/July 1989	Armenian Studies Program (ASP) Educational Tour to Armenia (CANCELLED)

June 10, 1989	Armenian Cultural Day Washington, D.C.
July 16-22, 1989	ACYOA National Camp Miramonte, CA
August 30 - September 1, 1989	General Assembly Houston, TX
September 1, 1989	Central Council Transitional Meeting Houston, TX
September 1-4, 1989	National Sports Weekend Houston, TX

C O N S T I T U T I O N
O F T H E
ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA (ACYOA)
DIOCESE OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH

Revised
January 1989

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Primate

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, hereinafter referred to as the ACYOA.

ARTICLE 2 - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the ACYOA shall be:

Section 1 - To encourage its members to learn, practice, uphold, and propagate the principles and teachings of the Christian faith according to the doctrine, sacraments, rites, canons, discipline, and customs of the Armenian Church.

Section 2 - To support and work for the strengthening of the Armenian Church to promote among its members and others the study and appreciation of Armenian culture and heritage.

Section 3 - To strengthen the social and spiritual bond among its members, and to contribute toward the development of a health community life among Armenians.

Section 4 - To enhance and strengthen among its members the knowledge of, and loyalty to, the principles of the Constitution of the United States; to uphold the spirit of human freedom, universal justice, brotherhood of men, and devotion to duty as good citizens, dedicated to the service of God and country.

ARTICLE 3 - POLICIES

The policies of the ACYOA shall be:

Section 1 - To function subject to the jurisdiction and authority of the Primate or the Locum Tenens of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

and the Diocesan Council in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Diocese. The Primate shall be the President of the ACYOA.

Section 2 - To work in harmony and cooperate with the Pastor in charge of each local Parish of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, his assistants, and the Parish Council through the respective Chapters of the ACYOA to take interest and an active part in the affairs and management of the local Church, and to support her both morally and financially.

Section 3 - To create and maintain friendly and cooperative relations with Armenian institutions and organizations whose aims, policies, and activities are consonant with the objectives and policies of the ACYOA, and to give special consideration to organizations connected with the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America and its Parishes.

Section 4 - To create and maintain friendly and fraternal relations with other religious youth organizations whose aims, policies, and activities are consonant with the spirit of the ACYOA; to take interest and an active part in the spiritual and moral life of the community.

Section 5 - To provide spiritual, religious and cultural education among Armenian Youth.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 - All persons at least 18 years of age, or high school graduates, who are communicant members of the Armenian Church are eligible for membership.

Section 2 - A candidate for membership shall apply in writing to the Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 3 - Within a period of one month after receipt of the written application, the Chapter Executive Committee shall act upon the application.

Section 4 - Upon being duly admitted, a new member shall pay an initiation fee together with annual dues and shall be initiated formally in an initiation service in the presence of the President and the members of the Chapter. After the initiation, the new member shall receive a membership card from the Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 5 - A new member has the right to vote in elections and on fiscal issues three months after paying membership dues.

Section 6 - Those persons at least 18 years of age or high school graduates who are not communicant members of the Armenian Church, but who are interested in ACYOA, and are willing to subscribe to the objectives and policies of the Constitution may become Associate Members. Application for Associate Membership shall be made to the Chapter Executive Committee, and approved by the ACYOA Central Council. Associate Members may participate in

the local activities of the Chapter, but may not vote or hold elective office. Annual contributions equal to membership dues by Associate Members in lieu of dues shall be considered contributions to the Chapter.

Section 7 - Members-at-Large shall be those who live in an area where there is no organized Chapter. A candidate for Member-at-Large shall apply in writing to the ACYOA Central Council, which shall act upon eligibility for membership at the next ACYOA Central Council meeting. A Member-at-Large applicant shall pay dues to the ACYOA Central Council. Members-at-Large are entitled to all privileges of membership in the ACYOA. A Member-at-Large may at any time affiliate with a Chapter, whereupon the Member-at-Large status shall cease.

ARTICLE 5 - FEES AND DUES

Section 1 - Annual dues for ACYOA members shall be designated by the General Assembly. One-half of the amount shall be sent to the ACYOA Central Council Treasurer. The minimum annual dues shall be ten dollars (\$10.00). Dues become delinquent with the start of the fiscal year (January 1st).

Section 2 - Each chapter which is not in compliance with Article 5, Section 2, shall be subjected to a potential fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

ARTICLE 6 - FORMATION OF CHAPTERS

Section 1 - Five or more persons qualified to become members of the ACYOA may organize a Chapter with the approval of the Pastor and Parish Council of the local Parish.

Section 2 - A written application for Chapter formation in the ACYOA shall be made by the Pastor and Parish Council and submitted to the Primate and the ACYOA Central Council for approval.

Section 3 - If there is no local Parish or Parish Council, then written application shall be submitted by the potential Chapter to the Primate and the ACYOA Central Council for approval.

Section 4 - The name of the affiliated Parish shall precede the Name "ACYOA" of each Chapter.

ARTICLE 7 - CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 1 - The members of a Chapter shall hold a Chapter Annual Membership Meeting called by the Chapter Executive Committee in the final quarter of the fiscal year. A written notice shall be sent by the Chapter Executive Committee to all members at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting, stating the agenda of the meeting.

Section 2 - The majority of the members in good standing of the Chapter shall constitute a quorum at a Chapter Annual Membership Meeting. If such a quorum is not obtained, a second meeting shall be called in the same manner. At this subsequent meeting, the number of members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3 - The functions of the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting shall be:

- a. To elect the Chapter Executive Committee, to elect delegates and alternates to the General Assembly, and to elect Nominating and Auditing Committees.
- b. To examine, approve, or otherwise pass upon the Chapter Annual Report, the report of the Auditing Committee, and the financial transactions of the Chapter, including the portion of the annual net proceeds to be contributed to the local Parish.
- c. To decide on the amount and the manner of any Chapter financial contributions other than to the local Parish, provided that the consent of the Pastor and Parish Council is obtained for such appropriation.
- d. To decide on all matters submitted by the Chapter Executive Committee or the membership.

Section 4 - The Chapter Executive Committee shall establish the agenda of the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting.

Section 5 - Special Membership Meetings may be held to pass upon urgent resolutions. Special Membership Meetings shall be called by the Chapter Executive Committee with at least one week's written notice upon a majority vote of the Chapter Executive Committee, or upon the written request of at least one-third of the members in good standing, presented to the Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 6 - The Parish Council shall be invited to all Chapter Membership Meetings.

Section 7 - Chapter Membership Meetings shall be presided over by the President and conducted by the Chairman.

ARTICLE 8 - CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - Each Chapter at its Annual Membership Meeting shall elect by secret ballot five to eleven members who along with the President shall constitute the Chapter Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, and other officers as necessary.

Section 2 - The elections of the members of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be subject to approval by the Pastor and the Parish Council. In the event that there is neither a Pastor nor a Parish Council, the election of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be subject to approval by the Primate and the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 3 - The term of office of the members of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be one year.

Section 4 - No member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive years.

Section 5 - In case of vacancy in the Chapter Executive Committee, an election shall be held at the next regular Chapter Membership Meeting. The member who had the highest number of votes short of election at the last Chapter Annual Membership Meeting shall be a nominee. The newly-elected Executive Committee Member shall be subject to Article 8, Section 2.

Section 6 - A member of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be disqualified to serve on the Committee during the current term if absent from a total of four Chapter Executive Committee or Monthly Membership Meetings without reasonable cause.

Section 7 - The Pastor and Parish Council, or in the absence of a Parish Priest, the Parish Council, shall have the power to review and act upon any officer who proves to be incapable of carrying out the responsibilities of the office.

Section 8 - The President of the Chapter shall be the Pastor in charge of the local Parish. The President of the Chapter shall have the responsibility of insuring all action taken by the Chapter or any of its committees is consistent with the objectives and policies of this Constitution. The President shall preside over the Chapter Annual Membership and Monthly Membership Meetings. In case of a tie in any voting, the President shall cast the deciding vote. In the event there is no local Pastor or Parish Council, the Chapter Chairman and ACYOA Central Council shall have these responsibilities.

Section 9 - The Chairman shall conduct all meetings of the Chapter. The Chairman or a representative of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be a member of all appointed committees.

Section 10 - The Vice Chairman shall perform all the duties of the Chairman in the absence of the latter.

Section 11 - The duties of the Recording Secretary shall be: to receive and to present to the Chapter Executive Committee all applications for membership, to keep accurate files listing the membership of the Chapter and showing the name, address, and age of each member and any other information concerning the same; to keep a careful and authentic record of all minutes of meetings; to preserve all documents of the Chapter except those

specifically assigned to others; to authenticate by signature all records, documents, etc.; to bring to each meeting a copy of the Constitution, By-Laws, and a list of the members of all standing and regular committees; and to prepare any information required by the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 12 - The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Chapter, mail all required notices, and send any information required by the ACYOA Central Council. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary shall perform the duties of the former.

Section 13 - The Treasurer shall notify members of their financial obligations, shall collect all monies, and shall be the custodian of the funds of the Chapter. These funds shall be deposited in a bank designated by the Chapter Executive Committee and kept in the name of the Chapter.

Section 14 - All payments, bank withdrawals, and checks made on behalf of the ACYOA shall be made upon the signatures of the Treasurer and the Chairman, or one other member of the Chapter Executive Committee designated by the Committee.

Section 15 - All officers, upon retiring from office, shall deliver to the Chairman in office all monies, accounts, records, books, paper, and all other property belonging to the Chapter. The Chairman in office shall distribute said items to the respective officers to whom they pertain. The President of the Chapter shall oversee the transfer.

Section 16 - The Chapter Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month and shall have the power to transact the general business of the Chapter and to implement the resolutions of the General Assembly, Annual Membership, Special Membership and Monthly Meetings of the Chapter.

Section 17 - The Chapter Executive Committee shall submit a written Annual Report to the Parish Council and the ACYOA Central Council after the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting, describing the activities and financial status of the Chapter during the completed fiscal year.

ARTICLE 9 - CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

Section 1 - The Chapter Executive Committee shall call a Chapter Meeting at least once a month.

Section 2 - Chapter Monthly Meetings shall be presided over by the President and conducted by the Chairman.

Section 3 - The presence of twenty-five percent or twenty-five members in good standing (whichever is less) shall constitute a quorum at any Chapter Monthly Meeting, and decisions shall be taken by the majority vote of those present.

Section 4 - Chapter Monthly Meetings shall be called in order to discuss and to act upon plans and programs for the enhancement of the ACYOA. These meetings may be augmented by cultural, educational, religious, social, and recreational activities.

ARTICLE 10 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section 1 - Delegates from all Chapters shall convene at least once a year for a General Assembly.

Section 2 - The number of elected delegates a Chapter may send to the General Assembly, based on the total number of dues-paid members from the past fiscal year, shall be:

5 - 10 members	=	1 delegate
11 - 25 members	=	2 delegates
26 - 50 members	=	3 delegates
51 - 100 members	=	4 delegates

And one more delegate for any fraction of each additional 50 members. No chapter shall have more than seven delegates.

Section 3 - The Chapter Chairman shall be an ex-officio delegate to the General Assembly, with the powers of an elected delegate.

Section 4 - The President of each Chapter shall be an ex-officio delegate to the General Assembly with the powers of an elected delegate.

Section 5 - Each delegate shall present credentials signed by the President, Chairman, and Recording Secretary of the Chapter to the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 6 - If an elected delegate is unable to attend the General Assembly, an alternate delegate elected at the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting shall assume the responsibilities of the delegate.

Section 7 - A majority of the elected delegates of the existing Chapters shall constitute a quorum in the General Assembly.

Section 8 - All sessions of the General Assembly shall be presided over by the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, or a Plenipotentiary Clergy Representative designated by the Primate.

Section 9 - The Chairman of the General Assembly shall be elected from among the delegates by plurality vote. The one receiving the next highest number of votes shall be designated as the Vice Chairman. The ACYOA Central Council shall secure a competent secretary and assistant secretary to record the Minutes of the General Assembly.

Section 10 - The Chairman of the General Assembly may appoint a person who is well versed in parliamentary procedure to act as the Parliamentarian of the General Assembly.

Section 11 - Any Chapter that has not met its financial obligations to the ACYOA thirty days prior to the General Assembly shall not be entitled to have voting representation at the General Assembly.

Section 12 - The duties of the General Assembly shall be:

- a. To receive the report of the ACYOA Central Council on the activities and financial status of all the Chapters and on the progress of the ACYOA as a whole.
- b. To receive the report of the activities and the financial transactions of the ACYOA Central Council and the ACYOA for the past fiscal year.
- c. To determine the budget for the ensuing fiscal year and the manner in which the funds of the ACYOA shall be administered by the ACYOA Central Council.
- d. To determine the manner and the amount of contribution which each Chapter shall make to the ACYOA.
- e. To discuss and act upon all matters relating to the activity of the ACYOA submitted to it or placed on its agenda. Matters not submitted to the General Assembly or placed on its agenda, in compliance with Article 11, Section 9, shall be considered upon a three-fourths vote of the Assembly.
- f. To elect the members of the ACYOA Central Council, the Nominating Committee, the Auditing Committee, and other standing committees which it may create.
- g. To decide the time and place of the next General Assembly.

Section 13 - The decisions of the General Assembly shall be binding upon the Chapters of the ACYOA upon approval by the Primate and the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America.

Section 14 - The ACYOA Executive Secretary shall have a non-transferrable right of voice at the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 11 - CENTRAL COUNCIL

Section 1 - From among the members of the ACYOA, the General Assembly shall elect five members to constitute the ACYOA Central Council. Only one person from any Chapter may be elected to the ACYOA Central Council in any given

year. The ACYOA Central Council term of office shall commence following the confirmation of the election by the Primate and Diocesan Council.

Section 2 - The first General Assembly shall elect for the first ACYOA Central Council three members serving a two-year term, and two members serving a one-year term. Thereafter, as terms of office expire, the vacancies shall be filled by members elected for two year terms. No member shall hold office in excess of two consecutive terms.

Section 3 - While in office, an ACYOA Central Council member may not serve as Chairman of a Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 4 - In case of a vacancy in the ACYOA Central Council created by resignation or otherwise, the ACYOA Central Council shall invite the individual who received the next highest number of votes short of election at the last General Assembly to fill the vacancy. This member shall serve until the following General Assembly. In the event that the first alternate is unable to fill the vacancy, the second alternate shall be invited to fill the position. Should no alternates be available, the ACYOA Central Council shall select an ACYOA member in good standing to fill the vacancy with the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as the elected National Committee members.

Section 5 - The Primate and the ACYOA Central Council shall determine the place and frequency of meetings. The Primate, or his Plenipotentiary Clergy Representative, shall preside over ACYOA Central Council meetings.

Section 6 - The ACYOA Central Council shall define the responsibilities of its officers and committees.

Section 7 - The ACYOA Central Council shall keep a permanent record of its proceedings and those of the General Assembly. Within ninety days following each General Assembly, a copy of the record of the proceedings and minutes of the General Assembly shall be filed at the Office of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, and a copy shall also be sent to each Chapter for its files.

Section 8 - The ACYOA Central Council, with the approval of the Primate, shall prepare the agenda of the General Assembly and issue invitations to the delegates of the Chapters.

Section 9 - All amendments to the Constitution and proposals intended to be presented at the General Assembly shall be submitted in writing to the ACYOA Central Council not less than sixty days prior to the Assembly.

Section 10 - An agenda along with all amendments to the Constitution and proposals intended to be considered shall be sent by the ACYOA Central Council to the Chapters thirty days prior to the General Assembly.

Section 11 - All ACYOA Central Council members shall have a non-transferable right of voice and vote at the General Assembly.

Section 12 - It shall be the responsibility of the ACYOA Central Council: to convene each year the General Assembly; to advise the local Chapters; to send to members copies of all leaflets and periodicals which it published; to receive from each Chapter reports of Chapter and inter-Chapter functions and projects; and to direct, supervise and coordinate ACYOA activities.

Section 13 - The ACYOA Central Council shall be entitled to require at any time an accurate accounting of funds and activities from any Chapter.

Section 14 - On the basis of a report from a Chapter Executive Committee and/or President, the ACYOA Central Council may take steps deemed necessary and proper for the best interests of the ACYOA.

Section 15 - Any member of the ACYOA Central Council failing to attend two consecutive meetings without justification may be excluded from the ACYOA Central Council if so decided by a unanimous vote of the other members of the Council and approval of the Primate.

Section 16 - The Primate and the Diocesan Council, in consultation with the ACYOA Central Council, may appoint an Executive Secretary when and if deemed necessary to work with the ACYOA Central Council under the direction of the Primate for the advancement and efficient functioning of the ACYOA.

ARTICLE 12 - NATIONAL FUNCTIONS

Section 1 - All National functions shall be held under the name of the ACYOA.

Section 2 - All National functions must be submitted to the General Assembly for its approval.

Section 3 - Upon the approval of the General Assembly, a Guidelines Committee shall be formed to develop guidelines for each National function. Said guidelines shall state all policies, rules, regulations, and requirements for the hosting of and attendance at that National function and, upon the approval of the General Assembly, shall be subordinate to this Constitution.

Section 4 - Any Chapter wishing to host a National function shall present a detailed outline of location and activities, including prices, which should be submitted to the ACYOA Central Council sixty days prior to the General Assembly.

Section 5 - A detailed report, including financial records, shall be kept by the host chapter. The report and event proceeds shall be sent to the Central Council within ninety days of the event. If a written request is received by the ACYOA Central Council before the deadline, the Central Council may extend the deadline by no more than an additional ninety days at their discretion.

ARTICLE 13 - FUNDS

Section 1 - The fiscal year shall be from January first to December thirty-first.

Section 2 - All assets of the ACYOA shall be under the sole jurisdiction of the General Assembly to be used by the ACYOA Central Council for the general welfare of the ACYOA and for carrying out the responsibilities assigned to it by this Constitution.

Section 3 - The ACYOA Central Council shall have the power to make special appeals to members for funds for specific purposes if and when the need for such funds arises. If the appeal is to be made to the Armenian community at large, the consent of the Primate and the Diocesan Council must be obtained.

Section 4 - The Chapters shall spend the funds at their disposal for the welfare of the Chapter and for carrying out the responsibilities assigned to them by this Constitution.

Section 5 - Forty percent of the annual net proceeds of each Chapter shall be contributed to the local Parish.

Section 6 - Half of the net proceeds from national functions and one-quarter of the net proceeds from regional functions shall be sent to the ACYOA Central Council by the sponsoring Chapters.

Section 7 - Any deficit of the national budget shall be apportioned to the Chapters by dividing equally among all potential delegates of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 14 - ELECTIONS

Section 1 - All elections shall be by secret ballot, and unless otherwise provided, shall be decided by majority vote of members assembled in a meeting.

Section 2 - Only Members who have paid their annual dues in full are eligible to vote at elections or become candidates for elective office.

Section 3 - Candidates for elective office must have been members of the ACYOA for not less than one year.

Section 4 - In case of a vacancy in any National Committee of the ACYOA created by resignation or otherwise, the ACYOA Central Council shall invite the individual who received the next highest number of votes short of election at the last General Assembly to fill the vacancy. This member shall serve until the following General Assembly. In the event the first alternate is unable to fill the vacancy, the second alternate shall be invited to fill the position. Should no alternates be available, the ACYOA Central Council shall select an ACYOA member in good standing to fill the

vacancy with the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as the elected National Committee members.

ARTICLE 15 - BY-LAWS

Section 1 - By-Laws and standing rules for a local Chapter may be prepared and amended at a Chapter Membership Meeting, provided they do not contradict this Constitution and are approved by the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 2 - The Diocesan By-Laws shall supersede and supplement this Constitution. Final adjudication of questions, policies, and procedures not resolved through the normal channels shall rest with the Primate and the Diocesan Council.

ARTICLE 16 - AMENDMENTS

Section 1 - This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly.

Section 2 - All amendments to the Constitution to be proposed at the General Assembly must reach the ACYOA Central Council sixty days prior to the date of the General Assembly.

Section 3 - Amendments to be submitted to the General Assembly shall be sent by the Central Council to the Chapters thirty days prior to the date of the General Assembly at which the amendments are to be considered.

Section 4 - The amendments ratified by the General Assembly shall be submitted to the Primate and the Diocesan Council for approval. The ACYOA Central Council shall inform the Chapters of the status of the amendments.

ARTICLE 17 - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 - In the event that the number of members of a Chapter falls below five at the end of the fiscal year and for a continuous period of three months thereafter, that Chapter shall be considered dissolved.

Section 2 - Upon the dissolution of any Chapter, the assets, records and all property thereof shall be turned over and shall belong to the Parish Council of the local Parish. If there is no such Parish in the community of the dissolved Chapter, such assets, records, and properties shall be turned over and shall belong to the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 3 - The dissolution of the ACYOA may only occur at the General Assembly with a three-fourths vote in favor of dissolution of all potential delegates to the General Assembly. In case of dissolution, all assets, records, and properties are to be turned over to the Primate and the Diocesan Council.

ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

RULES & REGULATIONS

(Revised: January 1989)

In 1971, His Eminence, Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, initiated for the youth of the Diocese the "ARCHBISHOP TORKOM MANOOGIAN BASKETBALL AWARD."

Since then, this award has grown to include both men's and women's basketball divisions, co-ed volleyball, and an annual tournament. The Central Council of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) has incorporated this coveted Award into its Awards Program, and coordinates the Tournament and challenges.

The following Rules and Regulations govern the administration of the Award. It should be kept in mind that the primary purpose of the Award and related games is for the perpetuation of Armenian good will, fellowship and sportsmanship among the youth of the parishes of the Diocese of the Armenian Church.

PART 1 - ELIGIBILITY

Section 1 - All parishes of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) are eligible to participate in the tournaments and challenge the trophy holder to games.

Section 2 - Parishes of a North American Diocese not including the Eastern Diocese may participate provided that the team applies for--and receives--the approval of both their Central Council and the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 3 - Teams that represent the parishes must be made up of members of the particular parish, unless special permission is granted by the ACYOA Central Council.

PART 2 - BASKETBALL

Section 1 - All preliminary and championship games shall consist of two halves, stop time, with the length of time determined upon final scheduling. The number of teams and time allowance will be taken into consideration.

Section 2 - Two individual technical fouls shall constitute that individual's disqualification from that game, and suspension from the following game.

PART 3 - VOLLEYBALL

Section 1 - Each team shall have at least two men and two women as players on the court during the entire game.

Section 2 - Two out of three 15 point games shall determine the winner of a match except in the event that a time limit is imposed. In the event of a time limit, the team with the most points takes the game (must be won by 2 points). Said time limit will be no less than 30 minutes per set.

PART 4 - TOURNAMENTS

Section 1 - At least one tournament per year shall be held under the direction of the ACYOA Central Council. Chapters may bid for the privilege of hosting the tournament. Sites and dates will be approved by the Primate and ACYOA Central Council.

Section 2 - All tournaments shall include both men's and women's basketball divisions as well as co-ed volleyball.

Section 3(a) - ACYOA Chapters and parishes which host tournaments will be under the direction of the ACYOA Central Council. All net proceeds from the tournament and related activities (dances, dinners, ad-booklets, etc....) shall be divided with the host and the National Treasury of the ACYOA. (See ACYOA Constitution, Article 13, Section 6).

Section 3(b) - \$1,000.00 is allocated as a loan, each fiscal year, in the annual budget of the ACYOA Central Council, to be used as initial seed money by the host committee. This \$1,000.00 loan is to be repaid to the ACYOA Central Council at such time when a final accounting of the Tournament is complete and such repayment will be made with no interest accruing thereon.

Section 4 - All fees and costs for tournaments will be determined by the host, and approved by the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 5 - Announcements and invitations shall be sent to all parishes of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern) and to representative of each North American Diocese at least 8 weeks prior to the opening of the tournament. Information on costs, fees, and accommodations and itinerary must be sent to each parish and organized ACYOA Chapter.

Section 6 - Team rosters shall be submitted prior to tournament play, and carry the approval and signature of the pastor of the parish (or the parish council chairman where there is no pastor assigned). There is no age restriction. Rosters must be limited to 12 active players.

Section 7 - A minimum of one court for basketball and one court for volleyball shall be obtained by the host. Preliminary games of basketball and volleyball will be played simultaneously.

Section 8 - The host will insure that no basketball team and volleyball team representing the same parish is scheduled to play at the same time.

Section 9 - The championship games shall be played in the following order: Co-ed volleyball, women's basketball, men's basketball.

Section 10 - An All-Star team made up of an outstanding player from each team in each division shall be selected and awarded with appropriate trophies.

Section 11 - A Most Valuable Player from each of the three divisions shall be selected and awarded with appropriate trophies.

Section 12 - The Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Basketball Trophies in both the men's and women's divisions and the Archbishop Torkom Manoogian Volleyball Trophy shall be presented to the championship teams.

Section 13 - It is the responsibility of the championship trophy holders to keep the trophies in good shape, and bring them to the annual Tournament.

Section 14 - A list of participating parishes, Champions, All-Stars, and Most Valuable Players shall be kept as part of a permanent record of the Tournaments.

PART 5 - CHALLENGES

Section 1 - Any parish of the Diocese of the Armenian Church (or a North American Diocese with approval under Part 1, Section 2) that wishes to challenge the current trophy holder may do so by notifying the ACYOA Central Council and trophy holder in writing.

Section 2 - Challenges will be administered on a first come, first serve basis.

Section 3 - Trophy holders must accept challenges as soon as arrangements can be made.

PART 6 - GENERAL

Section 1 - Ineligible players constitute forfeiture.

Section 2 - All games, Tournaments, and Challenges shall be governed by College Rules.

Section 3 - All officials, judges and others involved with the actual games shall be professionals or people with equal experience and qualifications.

ACYOA ANNIVERSARY BALL GUIDELINES

(Revised: January 1989)

1. The event shall be hosted annually and shall be called "The ACYOA Anniversary Ball."
2. The host chapter, in each region, shall be selected from those submitting bids to the Central Council. If no bids are received in a timely manner, the Central Council shall appoint a chapter to host the Anniversary Ball.
3. The event will have an alumni orientation (i.e. reunion, etc.) as well as encourage the participation of current ACYOA members.
4. The format for the Anniversary Ball shall be left to the discretion of the host chapter:

Option A

A weekend format consisting of a Friday evening mixer; a daytime attraction/event followed by a banquet and ball on Saturday; and Sunday Badarak followed by a brunch or picnic.

Option B

A one-day banquet and ball format.

5. The Central Council treasurer shall provide the host committee with seed money of \$1,000.00, immediately upon request.
6. This event is subject to the Membership Incentive Program. All dues-paid members on record with the ACYOA Central Council at least one week prior to the event and who have paid the full package plan price shall receive a refund of \$10.00.
7. A detailed report including financial records shall be kept. The report shall be turned over to the Central Council at the close of the event. The Central Council shall lend prior years' reports to the host chapter upon request.
8. The financial report, with all necessary receipts, statements, etc., shall be turned over to the Auditing Committee for review.

ACYOA NATIONAL SPORTS WEEKEND RULES & REGULATIONS

(Revised: January 1989)

ARTICLE 1 - AIMS AND GOALS

Section 1 - Realizing that through athletic competition and conditioning the valuable attributes of physical coordination and moral intellectual maturity can be developed, the objective of the SPORTS WEEKEND of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America (ACYOA) shall be to encourage athletic participation among ACYOA members on national level.

Section 2 - To make available various cultural, religious, and historical events during the weekend so that ACYOA members and citizens of the hosting community may become better aware of the Armenian heritage.

ARTICLE 2 - POLICIES

Section 1 - Chapters are allowed to combine for Sports Weekend competition upon the approval of the Primate and ACYOA Central Council, provided no one chapter has a membership of 50 or more. The total number of this combination of Chapters shall not exceed 60 members. Requests must be made in writing no later than 90 days prior to the opening of the Sports Weekend.

Section 2 - Chapters wishing to combine for sporting events must combine for all events.

Section 3 - Members-at-Large who wish to participate will be combined by ACYOA Central Council. Members-at-Large must submit their intent to participate in writing to ACYOA Central Council 90 days prior to the Sports Weekend.

Section 4 - Provisions for Sunday Soorp Badarak (Divine Liturgy) must always be made. No other events may be scheduled during Sunday Soorp Badarak.

Section 5 - \$1,000.00 is allocated as a loan, each fiscal year in the annual budget of the ACYOA Central Council, to be used as initial seed money by the Sports Weekend Executive Committee of the respective host chapter. This \$1,000.00 loan is to be repaid to the ACYOA Central Council at such time when a final accounting of the Sports Weekend is complete and such repayment will be made with no interest accruing thereon.

ARTICLE 3 - REGULATIONS

Section 1 - All athletic participants must be dues-paid members or Members-at-Large of the ACYOA, and must be recognized by the ACYOA Central Council through written membership application 45 days prior to the Sports Weekend. Associate members are not eligible to participate in sporting events.

Section 2 - All athletic participants must be registered with the Official National Sports Weekend Registration Committee, and thereby be registered on the Sports Weekend Package Plan. The Sports Weekend Host Chapter shall offer an "Eligibility Package Plan" consisting of a minimum of Saturday evening dance and Sunday Awards Banquet and Dance. The cost of this "Eligibility Package Plan" shall not exceed one-half of the cost of a Sports Weekend package plan, which includes all events offered by the host chapter. A ten dollar (\$10.00) discount shall be given to those who prepay in full, thirty (30) days in advance of the start of the ACYOA National Sports Weekend.

Section 3 - Each chapter shall submit its intent to participate in athletic events to the National Sports Weekend Athletic Committee no later than 30 days prior to the Sports Weekend. Accompanying this registration will be an entry fee per team event and per individual event, dependent upon each chapters cost with the approval of the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 4 - All team and individual rosters must be submitted to the National Sports Weekend Athletic Committee 30 days prior to Sports Weekend.

Section 5 - The host chapter shall send to all chapters a schedule of sporting events' times and dates no later than 15 days prior to Sports Weekend.

Section 6 - At least four registered chapters are necessary for an event to be included in the National Sports Weekend Athletic Events.

Section 7 - Each athletic event shall have its own Coordinator. The Coordinator's workers shall be responsible for the efficient coordination and operation of the athletic event. The Coordinator shall set up schedules and given reports to the National Sports Weekend Athletic Directors.

Section 8 - Officials, judges, and marshals for all events shall be professionals and people of equal experience. (Officials should be licensed, confirmed, etc.).

Section 9 - Illegal players constitute forfeiture.

Section 10 - All team and individual eliminations in athletic events shall be single elimination. Consolation games (and brackets) may be set up if time allows. No points will be awarded for consolation games. If there are an off number of teams entered in a particular event, one team will receive a "by" via a random drawing.

Section 11 - It is the team and individual's responsibility to report to their schedule game or event ON TIME. A ten minute grace period shall be used in all games concerning a waiting time, after which the delinquent team or individual shall forfeit. This shall be enforced and upon confirmation by the Athletic Directors, all forfeitures become final.

Section 12 - Individuals are responsible for reporting time conflicts to the respective event coordinator, for possible consideration and rescheduling. Consideration of time conflicts and rescheduling shall be left to the scrutiny of the Athletic Director.

Section 13(a) - Each chapter shall provide and make known to the Athletic Directors the name of an individual who will work on a Sports Weekend Athletic Council chaired by the National Sports Weekend Athletic Directors during the Sports Weekend. Said individuals will act as a representative from their respective chapters at regularly scheduled meetings whose work will be to facilitate athletic events and to further vital communications during the Sports Weekend.

Section 13(b) - A lottery system shall determine pairings in team sports. The National Sports Weekend Athletic Director shall draw lots in the presence of a majority of National Sports Weekend Athletic Council members and a member of the ACYOA Central Council.

Section 14 - A list of winners, winning times, and record times shall be recorded and kept as a permanent part of the National Sports Weekend records.

Section 15 - Members of a North American Diocese Armenian Church Youth Organization, not including the Eastern Diocese may participate in the ACYOA National Sports Weekend with the following eligibility requirements:

All other eligibility requirements as stated in the ACYOA National Sports Weekend Rules and Regulations with the exception of Article 2 §1 and Article 3 §1 must be abided by.

All participants must be members in good standing according to the Constitution of their Diocese or their Central Council. Both their own Central Council and the ACYOA Central Council must approve their participation.

Teams may be entered from a single chapter or may combine within their Diocese, with both Central Councils' approval.

Individual participants may either represent their home chapter in individual events only or request to represent an Eastern Diocese Chapter with Central Councils' approval.

Section 16 - All teams and individuals shall receive any and all awards for their winning performances during the sports competition.

ARTICLE 4 - ATHLETIC EVENTS

Section 1 - The following is a list of Athletic Events which will be offered at the ACYOA National Sports Weekend. This list may be expanded or limited in accordance with Article 3, Section 6.

<u>ATHLETIC EVENTS</u>		<u>CHAPTER REPRESENTATION IN EACH EVENT</u>
1. Aquatics		
	a. 2 team events -----	4 [per team]
	b. 3 individual events -----	3
2. Badminton -----		2
3. Basketball		
	a. Men's Division -----	12
	b. Women's Division -----	12
4. Table Tennis		
	a. Singles	
	1. Men -----	2
	2. Women -----	2
	b. Doubles -----	1 [set]
5. Tennis		
	a. Singles	
	1. Men -----	2
	2. Women -----	2
	b. Doubles -----	1 [set]
6. Golf -----		2
7. Track & Field		
	a. One team event -----	4
	b. 3 individual events -----	3
8. Chess -----		2
9. Tavloo -----		2
10. Volleyball -----		12 [co-ed]

Section 2 - A second division in any sport or event may be scheduled, provided there is ample time and interest. Four or more chapters can field a team.

Section 3 - There will be an overall award for the chapter accumulating the most points during the sports competitions.

Section 4 - There will be an award given to the chapter exhibiting the best sportsmanlike attitude and conduct.

Section 5 - There shall be an award for the chapter with the highest average points per person participating, with the requirement that there be a minimum of five (5) participants per chapter to qualify.

ARTICLE 5 - BREAKDOWN OF ATHLETIC EVENTS

Section 1 - The number of events shall be chosen according to Chapter response.

Section 2 - Aquatics:

1. Men's and Women's Freestyle
2. Men's and Women's Backstroke
3. Men's and Women's Breaststroke
4. Men's Freestyle Relay (4 persons)
5. Women's Freestyle Relay (4 persons)

Section 3 - Track:

1. 50 yard dash
2. 100 yard dash
3. 220 yard dash
4. 440 yard dash
5. 880 yard relay (4 persons)
6. Mile relay (4 persons)
7. Mile run (individual)

Section 4 - Badminton:

1. Standard Rules.

Section 5 - Basketball: [men's and women's]

1. All teams shall consist of at least 5 players and not more than 12.
2. All games shall be governed by college rules.
3. All preliminary and championship games shall consist of two halves, stop time, with the length of time determined upon final scheduling.
4. Two individual technical fouls upon the same player shall disqualify the player from the remainder of that game, and suspension from the following game.

Section 6 - Tennis and Table Tennis:

1. Standard rules.

Section 7 - Golf:

1. U.S.G.A. rules.

Section 8 - Volleyball: [co-ed]

1. Co-ed Volleyball shall be determined by each team having at least two men as participating players on the court during the entire game.
2. All teams shall consist of at least 6 players and no more than 12.
3. Standard rules.

Section 9 - Chess:*

1. Standard rules.
2. Upon final scheduling, if a time limit must be imposed, the winner shall be determined according to the standard point system.

Section 10 - Tavloo:*

1. Standard rules.

*Note: If time limitations are involved, Chess and Tavloo competitions may begin on Friday evening.

ARTICLE 6 - POINT SYSTEM

<u>EVENTS</u>		<u>POINT VALUE PER CHAPTER ENTERED</u>
1. Aquatics	a. Team events -----	2
	b. Individual events -----	1
2. Badminton -----		1
3. Basketball	a. Men's Division -----	4
	b. Women's Division -----	4
4. Table Tennis	a. Singles	
	1. Men -----	1
	2. Women -----	1
	b. Doubles -----	2
5. Tennis	a. Singles	
	1. Men -----	1
	2. Women -----	1
	b. Doubles -----	2
6. Golf -----		1

7. Track & Field	a. Team events -----	2
	b. Individual events -----	1
8. Chess -----		1
9. Tavloo -----		1
10. Volleyball -----		4

NOTE REGARDING THE POINT SYSTEM

The value of each event is determined by the number of participating chapters in the event. For example:

Men's Basketball = 4 points per chapter entered/competing.

5 chapters entered = 20 points ($4 \times 5 = 20$) awarded to the championship team (first place), 10 points awarded to second place, and 5 points awarded to third place.

First Place = 100% of the total points for the event
 Second Place = 50% of the total points for the event
 Third Place = 25% of the total points for the event

This shall apply to all athletic events. Chapters fielding a designated "second" team receive no points.

ARTICLE 7 - FAREWELL EVENTS

Section 1 - Informal sports competitions shall be held at the Sports Weekend FAREWELL PICNIC. These events shall be purely for fun and fellowship on the final day of Sports Weekend.

Section 2 - Some suggested events:

1. Tug of War
2. Horse Shoe Pitch
3. Arm Wrestling
4. Three-Legged Race
5. Frisbee Throw
6. Etc.

PRAYER

O LORD OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, WHO IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE, GIVE US, THE YOUTH OF THE CHURCH OF ARMENIA, WE BESEECH YOU, THE WISDOM TO KNOW, TO LOVE, AND SERVE YOU IN OUR PERSONAL LIVES SEVERALLY, AND IN THE CORPORATE LIFE OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

YOU THAT LEAD MEN IN THE WAY, LEAD US, YOUR CHILDREN, THAT WE MAY BE ABLE TO SERVE THE CHURCH THROUGH OUR PEOPLE, WITH COURAGE AND VISION, AND IN THE FAITH OF OUR ILLUSTRIOUS FOREFATHERS. INSPIRE O LORD, AND OPEN OUR EYES TO YOUR LIGHT, THAT WE MAY CHERISH AND PROFIT BY THE HERITAGE WHICH OUR FOREFATHERS HAVE LEFT TO US, AND THAT WE MAY BE AWARE OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS CITIZENS OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FILL US, O CHRIST OUR GOD, WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, THAT WE MAY BE THE OBEDIENT AND UNSELFISH SERVANTS OF THE WILL OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, TO WHOM, TOGETHER WITH YOU AND THE HOLY SPIRIT, IS BEFITTING GLORY, DOMINION AND HONOR, NOW AND ALWAYS AND UNTO THE AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

* * * * *

PLEDGE

I SOLEMNLY PROMISE AND DECLARE UPON MY HONOR, THAT AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, I SHALL, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, BE A FAITHFUL MEMBER OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH; SHALL BE A DEVOTED UPHOLDER OF THE ARMENIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE; SHALL BE A LOYAL CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; AND I SHALL DILIGENTLY ABIDE BY THE OBJECTS, POLICIES AND DECISIONS OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA. I SHALL NOT STRIVE FOR PERSONAL RECOGNITION AND PLEASURE, BUT WILL SERVE OUR CHURCH, OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR COUNTRY, FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD.