

CONSTITUTION

CONSTITUTION

OF THE
ARMENIAN CHURCH
YOUTH ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA



Subject to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America

THE PLEDGE OF THE A.C.Y.O.A.

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 faithful to the Armenian Church; shall be a devoted upholder of the Armenian cultural heritage: shall be a loyal citizen of the United States*; 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.

* For Canadian citizens, "Canada" may be inserted here.

THE PRAYER OF THE A.C.Y.O.A.

O Lord our Savior Jesus Christ, Who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life, give us, the youth of the Armenian Church, we beseech Thee, the wisdom to know, to love, and to serve Thee in our personal lives and in the corporate life of our Organization.

Thou that leadest men in the Way, lead us, thy children, that we may be able to serve the Church with courage and vision and in the faith of ourillustrious forefathers. Inspire us, O Lord, and open our eyes to thy 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 thy Holy Spirit, that we may be the obedient and unselfish servants of the will of our Heavenly Father, to whom, together with Thee and the Holy Spirit, is befitting Glory, Dominion, and Honor, now and always and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

* For Canadian citizens, "Canada" may be inserted here.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pledge .								٠					II
Prayer .							•	•					III
Article	1	Na	me	· a	ınd	S	co	рe				•	1
Article	2	Ob	јe	ct	, 6								1
Article	3	Po	li	ci	Les								2
Article	4	Me	emb	eı	sb	iŗ							4
Article	5	Fe	ees	5 6	and	I)ue	s		٠,			9
article	6	F	ore	a	tic	n	of	. 0	ha	pt	er	s	10
Article	7	C	aat	oto	er	An	nu.	al	Me	mt	ei	-	
			•				nip						11
Article	6	Ç:	ar	te	r N	for	th	ly	Me	eti	ine	ζS	14
Article	9	Ci	ap	te	r E	хe	cut	tiv	e (om	mi	ttee	15
Article	10	G	en	er	al	A	356	emb	ol	7.			19
Article	11	C	en	tr	al	C	our	ıci	il		•		22
Article	12	F	un	ds									25
Article	13	E	le	ct	io	15							26
Article	14	S	an	ct	io	ns			*				27
Article	15	В	v -	La	ws			•.					27
Article	16		~		me		s.						28
Article	17				lu								29
0 _ 0 _ 0	/	-		-									

CONSTITUTION

OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Article 1

NAME AND SCOPE

Sec. 1. The name of this Organization shall be the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. This Organization shall be a national Organization embodying all the young men and women of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America.

Article 2

OBJECTS

The objects of this Organization shall be:

Sec. 1. To cause, help, and encourage its members to learn, practice, uphold, and propagate the moral, dogmatic, and spiritual principles and teachings of the Christian religion according to the doctrine, sacraments, rites, forms of worship, canons, rules, discipline, and customs of the Armenian Church.

- Sec. 2. To support and work for the strengthening of the Armenian Church; to promote, among its members and others, the study and appreciation of the Armenian culture and heritage.
- Sec. 3. To deepen and strengthen among its members the knowledge of, and loyalty to, the principles of the Constitution of the United States (or Canada); to uphold the spirit of human freedom, universal justice, brotherhood of men, and devotion to duty as good citizens, dedicated to the service of their God and country.

Sec. 4. To strengthen the social and spiritual bond among its members, and establish mutual helpfulness, solidarity, and fellowship among them; and to contribute towards the development of a healthy communal life among Armenians.

Article 3 POLICIES

The policies of this Organization shall be:

Sec. 1. To function subject to the jurisdiction and authority of the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian

Church of North America or the Locum Tenens and the Diocesan Council in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Diocese.

Sec. 2. To work in harmony and cooperate with the Priest in charge of
each local Parish of the Diocese of the
Armenian Church of North America, his
assistants, and the local Parish Council
through the respective Chapters of the
Organization; to take a lively interest
and active part in the affairs and
management of the local Church, helping
her financially and/or otherwise, so
that she may render her services to the
community in a most effective way for
the glory of God.

Sec. 3. To create and maintain friendly and cooperative relations with all those Armenian ecclesiastical, cultural, educational, athletic, and charitable institutions and organizations everywhere whose aims, policies, and activities are consonant with the objects and policies of this Organization; and in particular to give special consideration to organizations connected directly with the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America and the local Churches within its jurisdiction, such as choir groups, ladies' guilds, etc.

Sec. 4. To create and maintain friendly and fraternal relations with such Christian Youth Organizations and movements everywhere whose aims, policies and activities are consonant with the spirit of this organization and to take a lively interest and active part in the religious, spiritual and moral life of the surrounding community at the municipal, state, national, and international levels.

Article 4

MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1. All persons of both sexes who have attained the age of 14 years, have been baptized and confirmed in and belong to the Armenian Church, and subscribe to the provisions of this Constitution, are qualified for membership in this Organization.
- Sec. 2. The Organization shall have four classes of members: Honorary Members, Senior Members, Junior Members, and Members-at-Large.
- Sec. 3. HONORARY MEMBERS shall be those who have been elected by the Annual Membership Meeting of the Chapter and approved by the person or persons thus elected.

- Sec. 4. Those persons irrespective of age who have rendered unusually valuable services to the Organization or have served in it over a long period of years or have given to it substantial material help are eligible to Honorary Membership.
- Sec. 5. Honorary Members are entitled to the special consideration of the Organization, which consideration shall be expressed in an appropriate manner by the Chapter or the Central Council at their discretion.
- Sec. 6. SENIOR MEMBERS shall be those who take an active part in the work of the Organization and are entitled to elect and be elected to its offices.
- Sec. 7. Senior Members shall not be less than 18 years of age.
- Sec. 8. A candidate for Senior Membership shall make written application in duplicate to the Chapter Executive Committee, such application being sponsored by two Senior Members in good standing of the Chapter.
- Sec. 9. Within a period of one month, the applicant shall be voted upon by the Chapter Executive Committee.

Sec. 10. Acceptance of applicants shall be by majority vote and by secret ballot of the Chapter Executive Committee.

Sec. 11. Upon being duly admitted, an applicant shall pay his or her initiation fee together with the first annual dues and shall subscribe to the Pledge of the Organization, pronouncing it formally in the presence of the President and at least two members of the Chapter Executive Committee. After the initiation, the new member shall receive a Membership Card from the Chapter Executive Committee.

Sec. 12. Rejected applicants may apply again after a period of six months.

Sec. 13. Any person rejected by one Chapter may be received into another if such application is authorized by the Central Council.

Sec. 14. JUNIOR MEMBERS shall be those who are under 18 but not less than 14 years of age, and who, while being prepared for Senior Membership, shall take part in the activities of the Organization in such measure and in such manner as will suit their interests and the circumstances.

Sec. 15. A candidate for Junior Membership shall make written application in duplicate to the Chapter Executive Committee, such application being sponsored by a Senior Member.

Sec. 16. A Junior Member, upon being admitted by the same procedures applicable to Senior Members, shall subscribe to the Pledge of the Junior Members of the Organization, shall pay his or her initiation fee together with the first annual dues, and shall receive a Junior Membership Card from the Chapter Executive Committee.

Sec. 17. Upon attaining the age of 18, a Junior Member in good standing shall become a member of the Senior Group by subscribing to the Pledge of the Senior Members of the Organization and shall perform the duties and shall enjoy the rights and privileges of a Senior Member. No additional initiation fee shall be required of a Junior Member upon becoming a Senior Member.

Sec. 18. On being admitted into the Organization, a Junior Member shall make the following Pledge in the presence of at least two members of the Chapter Executive Committee: "I promise, as a Junior Member of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America, to love our Armenian Church, to try to be a better Christian, to love and learn about the Armenian people, and to work unselfishly, loyally and humbly, for the success of the aims of the Organization. In this I pray God to help me."

Sec. 19. Those persons who are ineligible for Senior or Junior membership, but who are interested in the organization may become Associate Members until such a time as they are eligible for Senior or Junior Membership. Application for Associate Membership shall be made to the chapter Executive Committee and election shall be by majority vote of the Chapter Executive Committee and approval by the Parish Priest. Associate Members may participate in the activities of the chapter, but shall not vote or hold elective office. Contribution to the treasury by Associate Members, in lieu of dues, shall be considered contributions to the Chapter.

Sec. 20. Members-at-Large shall be those who have been active Senior Members of a dissolved chapter, or who have been Members of an active chapter, but who have moved into an area where there is no organized chapter.

Sec. 21. A candidate for Memberat-Large shall make written application to the Central Council, which shall vote upon said application at the next Central Council meeting after application.

Sec. 22. Acceptance of Member-at-Large applicants shall be by majority vote and by secret ballot of the Central Council.

Sec. 23. A Member-at-Large applicant shall pay his or her dues to the Central Council.

Sec. 24. Members-at-Large are entitled to all the privileges of membership in the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. A Member-at-Large will not have the right to vote.

Sec. 25. A Member-at-Large may at any time affiliate with a chapter, whereupon he or she shall cease to be a Member-at-Large.

Article 5 FELS AND DUES

Sec. 1. The initiation fee for Senior and Junior Members shall be

\$1.00 to be paid upon first joining the Organization and sent by the Chapter to the Central Council.

Sec. 2. The dues for Senior Members in good standing of this Organization shall be \$4.00 to be paid annually. Two dollars of this amount shall be retained by the Chapter and two dollars sent to the Central Council.

Sec. 3. The dues for Junior Members in good standing of this Organization shall be \$2.00 to be paid annually. One dollar of this amount shall be retained by the Chapter and one dollar sent to the Central Council.

Article 6

FORMATION OF CHAPTERS

Sec. 1. Ten or more persons qualified to become Senior Members of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America may organize a Chapter with the approval of the Priest and/or the Parish Council of a local Church. Only one such Chapter may be authorized in each Parish. A Chapter may consist of both a Senior Group and a Junior Group.

Sec. 2. In a place where there is no Armenian Church or an organized Parish of the Armenian Church, a Chapter may be established, all references in this Constitution to the Priest and to the Parish Council not applying to such Chapter until a Parish Council is formed in that community.

Article 7

CHAPTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Sec. 1. The Senior Members of a Chapter shall hold a Chapter Annual Membership Meeting in June of each year. A notice by mail shall be sent to all Members at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting, stating the agenda of the meeting.

Sec. 2. The majority of the Senior Members in good standing of the Chapter shall constitute a quorum at a Chapter Annual Membership Meeting. If such 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.

Sec. 3. Special Membership Meetings may be called upon two weeks' notice by the Chapter Executive Committee upon a decision by majority vote of the Chapter Executive Committee, or upon the written request of at least one-third of the Senior Members.

Sec. 4. Special Membership Meetings are held for passing upon resolutions submitted to it on matters of urgency during the course of the year.

Sec. 5. At Special Membership Meetings, a majority of the membership of the Chapter shall in all cases be required to constitute a quorum.

Sec. 6. The Priest in charge of the Parish shall be President of the Chapter. In the absence of the Priest, the Chairman of the Chapter Executive Committee shall take the Priest's place. The Chairman or a member of the Parish Council may attend such meetings.

Sec. 7. The functions of the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting shall be:

a. To elect the members of the Chapter Executive Committee, to elect two Senior Members as Advisors to the Junior Group, if any, to elect delegates to the General Assembly, to elect the Auditing Committee, the Nominating Committee, or any standing committee which the meeting may wish to create, such as Membership, Ways and Means, Educational, Athletic, Musical, etc., Committees.

- b. To examine and approve or otherwise pass upon the Chapter Annual Report, the report of the Auditing Committee, and the financial transactions of the Chapter Executive Committee.
- c. To decide on the amount and the manner of financial contribution which the Chapter may desire to give to the local Church or to any other religious or charitable or cultural society, in accordance with the aims and policies of this Organization, provided the consent of the Parish Council of the Church is obtained for the appropriation of such contribution.
- d. To decide on all matters submitted to it by the Chapter Executive Committee for the effective functioning of the Chapter.
- e. To discuss various problems bearing on the general work of the Chapter and to pass resolutions making recommendations to the Chapter Executive Committee.
- Sec. 8. The Chapter Executive Committee shall prescribe the order of business of the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting.

Sec. 9. The President of the Chapter, or in his absence the Chairman of

the Chapter Executive Committee, shall have the duty of insuring that all steps taken by the Chapter or any of its organs are in accordance with the objects and policies of this Constitution.

Article 8

CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

- Sec. 1. The Chapter Executive Committee shall call the Members of the Chapter to meet at least twice a month for Chapter activities.
- Sec. 2. Chapter Monthly Meetings shall be presided over by the Chairman of the Chapter, and all members of the Chapter Executive Committee shall feel responsible to attend such meetings.
- Sec. 3. Twenty-five per cent (25%) of the members in good standing attending a Chapter Monthly meeting shall constitute a quorum, and decisions shall be taken by simple majority vote.
- Sec. 4. Chapter Monthly Meetings shall be called in order to discuss and decide upon plans and programs to be carried on for the furtherance of the objects of the Organization, such as educational, cultural, religious, recreational, and social events or projects.

Article 9

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Sec. 1. Each Chapter at its Annual Membership Meeting shall elect by secret ballot a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Publicity Director, and not more than two Advisors. All of these officers together shall constitute the Chapter Executive Committee.
- Sec. 2. The term of office of the members of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be one year, commencing with the month of July.
- Sec. 3. No member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive years, and no member shall be a member of the Chapter Executive Committee for more than four consecutive years.
- Sec. 4. A vacancy in any of the offices before the termination thereof may be filled by co-option in the Chapter Executive Committee.
- Sec. 5. A member of the Chapter Executive Committee shall be disqualified to serve on the Committee during his or her current term if he or she

has been absent a total of four times from Chapter Executive Committee meetings without justifiable cause.

Sec. 6. The Central Council shall have the power to remove from office in the course of a current term any officer of the Chapter Executive Committee who proves to be incompetent and incapable of carrying out his or her assigned duties on the report and the recommendation of the remaining members of the Chapter Executive Committee.

Sec. 7. The Chairman shall conduct all the meetings of the Chapter. The Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman in the absence of the latter.

Sec. 8. 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 same; to forward duplicates of all applications to the Central Council within thirty days after approval; to keep a careful and authentic record of

all minutes of the 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.

Sec. 9. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Chapter and mail all required notices. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary shall perform the duties of the former.

Sec. 10. The Treasurer shall notify each Member of his financial obligation, shall collect all money, and shall be the custodian of the funds of the Chapter, which funds shall be deposited in a bank designated by the Chapter Executive Committee and kept in the name of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America.

Sec. 11. All payments, bank withdrawals, and checks made on behalf of the Organization shall be made upon the signatures of the Treasurer and one other member of the Chapter Executive Committee designated by that Committee. All financial transactions of the Junior Group shall be made with the cosignature of an Advisor to the Junior Group.

Sec. 12. All officers, upon retiring from office, shall deliver to the Chairman in office all money, accounts, records, books, papers, and/or all other property belonging to the Organization. The Chairman in office shall turn these over to the respective officers to whom they pertain.

Sec. 13. The Chapter Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month and shall have power to transact the general business of the Chapter and carry on the resolutions of the Annual Membership, Special Membership, and/or' Monthly Meetings of the Chapter.

Sec. 14. The Chapter Executive Committee shall submit a written Annual Report to the Central Council immediately after the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting in June on the activities and financial status of the Chapter during the year ended.

Sec. 15. A report on the activities and the financial status of the Junior Group in the Chapter, if any,

shall be incorporated in the Annual Report submitted to the Central Council by the Chapter Executive Committee.

Article 10

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Sec. 1. Delegates from all Chapters shall convene once a year during Labor Day weekend in a General Assembly.

Sec. 2. The number of delegates a Chapter may send to the General Assembly shall be proportionate to the aggregate number of Senior and Junior Members of the Chapter as follows:

Up to 25 Members -- One delegate 26 - 50 Members -- Two delegates

51 - 100 Members -- Three delegates

101 - 200 Members -- Four delegates

Over 200 Members -- Five delegates

Sec. 3. The delegates to the Assembly shall be elected at the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting. At least one delegate from a Chapter shall be elected from among the members of the incoming Chapter Executive Committee.

Sec. 4. The President and current Chairman of a Chapter shall be exofficio delegates to the General

Assembly with the powers of an elected delegate.

- Sec. 5. Each delegate shall present his credential, signed by the Chairman and by the Secretary of the Chapter Executive Committee, to the Secretary of the Central Council. Should any credential be rejected by the Central Council, same shall be passed upon by the General Assembly.
- Sec. 6. If an elected delegate is unable to attend the General Assembly, the alternate elected at the Annual Membership Meeting of the Chapter shall undertake the duties of the delegate.
- Sec. 7. A majority of the elected delegates shall constitute a quorum in the General Assembly.
- Sec. 8. All sessions of the General Assembly shall be presided over by the Primate or the Locum Tenens of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America, or a representative designated by him.
- Sec. 9. All Chapters which have not met their financial obligations to the Organization thirty days prior to the General Assembly shall not be entitled to send delegates to the General Assembly.

- Sec. 10. The duties of the General Assembly shall be:
- a. To receive the report of the Central Council on the activities and the financial status of all the Chapters and on the progress of the Organization as a whole.
- b. To receive the report of the activities and the financial transactions of the Central Council.
- c. To determine the budget of the ensuing year and the manner in which the funds of the Organization shall be administered by the Central Council.
- d. To determine the manner and the amount of contribution which each Chapter shall make towards the budgetary expenditures and/or special funds of the Organization.
- e. To discuss and decide on all matters submitted to it or placed on its agenda.
- f. To elect the members of the Central Council, Nominating Committee, Auditing Committee, and any other standing committees which it may deem necessary to create.
- g. To decide upon the place of the next General Assembly.

Sec. 11. The decision of the General Assembly shall be binding upon the Chapters of the Organization upon approval by the Primate and the Diocesan Council of the Armenian Church of North America.

Sec. 12. Each Junior Group shall elect a member at their Annual Membership Meeting to represent them at the General Assembly, if possible. Such representative to sit with the delegation from the Senior Group of the Chapter and have voice but no vote.

Article 11 CENTRAL COUNCIL

Sec. 1. From among the Senior Members and Members-at-Large of the Organization, the General Assembly shall elect not less than six (6) and not more than twelve (12) members to constitute the Central Council.

Sec. 2. The term of office of the members of the Central Council shall be three years. Each year the offices of one-third of the number of members shall be terminated and new members shall be elected to fill the vacancies. No member shall be re-elected before the lapse of one year after his last term of office.

Sec. 3. Vacancies of members in the Central Council created by resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-option in the Central Council. The co-opted individual shall be that Central Council nominee who has received the next highest vote at the last General Assembly. A member thus co-opted shall serve as such until the meeting of the following General Assembly.

Sec. 4. The Central Council shall determine the place and frequency of its meetings.

Sec. 5. The Central Council shall define the duties and authority of its officers and committees.

Sec. 6. The Central Council shall keep a permanent record of its proceedings and those of the General Assembly. Within 90 days after each General Assembly, a copy of the Record of Proceedings and Minutes of the General Assembly shall be filed at the Diœesan Office of the Armenian Church of North America and a copy shall also be sent to the individual Chapters for their files.

Sec. 7. The Central Council with the approval of the Primate or the Locum Tenens shall prepare the agenda of the General Assembly and issue invitations to the delegates of the Chapters of the Organization.

Sec. 8. All resolutions intended to be proposed at the General Assembly shall be submitted to the Central Council prior to the Assembly.

Sec. 9. It shall be the duty of the Central Council: to convene each year the General Assembly; to advise the local Chapters and make recommendations to them for the better fulfillment of the objects and policies of the Organization, to send a copy of all leaflets and periodicals published by itself to Members in good standing of the Organization; and to direct, supervise, and coordinate all the activities of the Organization.

Sec. 10. The Central Council shall be entitled to demand at any time an accounting of funds and activities from any Chapter.

Sec. 11. Upon receiving a report from a Chapter Executive Committee, the Central Council may discipline any member of this Organization acting against the provisions of this Constitution and may take necessary measures in order to insure the proper functioning of the Organization.

Sec. 12. The Central Council shall appoint an Executive Secretary or an Executive Director when and if deemed necessary to work under it for the advancement and efficient functioning of the Organization.

Sec. 13. The Chairman and the Secretary of the Central Council shall act as Chairman and Secretary respectively of the General Assembly.

Sec. 14. Any member of the Central Council failing to attend three meetings during his term of office without justifiable cause may be excluded from the Central Council if so decided by a unanimous vote of the other members of the Council.

Article 12

FUNDS

Sec. 1. The fiscal year shall be from July first to June thirtieth.

Sec. 2. All receipts from initiation fees, \$1.00 from the annual dues of each Senior and Junior Member, and a certain amount of money out of the gross income of each Chapter, which amount shall be determined by the General Assembly, shall be sent by the local Chapter to the Central Council.

Sec. 3. The funds placed at the disposal of the Central Council shall be spent for the general welfare of the Organization and for the carrying out of the duties assigned to it by this Constitution.

Sec. 4. The Central Council shall have the power to make special appeals to the members of the Organization for special funds for specific purposes if and when the need for such funds arises. If the appeal is made to the general public in the Armenian community, the consent of the Primate and of the Diocesan Council shall be obtained for such an appeal.

Sec. 5. The Chapters shall spend the funds at their disposal for the welfare of the Chapter and for carrying out the duties assigned to them by and in accordance with this Constitution.

Article 13 ELECTIONS

Sec. 1. All elections, unless otherwise provided, shall be by majority vote of Senior Members in good standing assembled in a meeting.

Sec. 2. Only Members who have paid

their annual dues may be qualified to vote at elections or become candidates for elective office, provided they have not been otherwise disqualified.

Sec. 3. Candidates for elective office must have been Members of the Organization for not less than one year.

Article 14 SANCTIONS

Sec. 1. Any Member who fails to meet his financial obligation toward the Organization as set forth in this Constitution without justifiable cause ceases to be a Member of the Organization.

Sec. 2. Any Member acting against the provisions of this Constitution may be expelled from the Organization by the decision of a Chapter Executive Committee, provided such decision has been approved by the Central Council and by the Primate.

Article 15

BY-LAWS

Sec. 1. By-laws and standing rules for a local Chapter may be made, amended, or repealed individually by Chapter - 27 -

Annual Membership Meetings, provided they do not contradict this Constitution and are approved by the Central Council.

Sec. 2. The Junior Group of each Chapter shall be governed by By-Laws and regulations which shall be drawn up by the Chapter Annual Membership Meeting and approved by the Central Council.

Article 16 AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 1. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the General Assembly, provided such amendments as may be made are approved by a majority of the Chapters at their Special Membership Meetings and provided, further, that they are subsequently approved by the Primate or the Locum Tenens and the Diocesan Council.
- Sec. 2. Amendments passed by the General Assembly shall be submitted by the Central Council to the Chapters within thirty days after the General Assembly for ratification.
- Sec. 3. All amendments approved by the Chapters shall be forwarded to the Central Council within ninety days

after the date of their submission to the Chapters. If the majority of the Chapters do not approve and/or respond to the proposed amendments submitted to them by the Central Council within a period of ninety days, such amendments shall be considered null and void and of no effect. Approval of amendments in Chapters shall be by majority vote.

Sec. 4. All amendments to be proposed at the General Assembly must reach the Central Council six weeks prior to the date of the General Assembly.

Article 17 DISSOLUTION

Sec. 1. In the event that the number of Senior Members in good standing of a Chapter falls below ten at the end of the fiscal year and for a continuous period of three months thereafter, that Chapter shall be considered dissolved.

Sec. 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 Church. If there

is no Church in the community of the dissolved Chapter, such assets, records, and properties shall be turned over and belong to the Central Council of the Organization.

THIS PRESENT CONSTITUTION OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH YOUTH ORGANI-ZATION OF AMERICA, PASSED BY REP-RESENTATIVES OF THE ARMENIAN CHURCH OF OUR DIOCESE AT AN ASSEMBLY IN PROVIDENCE, R. I., JANUARY 12 AND 13. 1946, AND AMENDED AT SUBSE-JUENT ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLIES IS APPROVED BY US IN THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE AR-MENIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA AND IS GIVEN TO ALL PARISHES AND COMMUNITIES OF OUR DIOCESE TO SUPERSEDE ALL PREVIOUS CONSTITU-TIONS OF OUR CHURCH YOUTH GIVEN BY OUR DIOCESAN AUTHORITIES, AND IS TO TAKE EFFECT FROM THIS DATE ON.

(Signed) ARCHBISHOP SION
PRIMATE OF THE DIOCESE OF THE
ARMENIAN CHURCH
OF NORTH AMERICA



May, 1963 New York, New York

INDEX

A

ABSENTEEISM OF

Central Council Members - Art. 11, Sec. 14, p. 25. Chapter Executive Committee -Art. 9, Sec. 5, p. 15.

AGENDA

Chapter Annual Membership Meetings-Art. 7, Sec. 8, p. 13.
Chapter Monthly Meetings - Art. 8, Sec. 4, p. 14.
General Assembly - Art. 11, Sec. 7, p. 23.

ALTERNATES FOR DELEGATES - Art. 10, Sec. 6, p. 20.

AMENDMENTS

Constitution

Manner of - Art. 16, Sec. 1, p. 28.

Amendments to Chapters - Art. 16

Sec. 2, p. 28.

Amendments to Central Council
Art. 16, Sec. 3, p. 28.

Amendments due - Art. 16, Sec. 4,
p. 29.

By-Laws - Art. 15, Sec. 1, p. 27.

ANNUAL CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING See Chapter Annual Membership Meeting.

APPLICATIONS

Manner of (Juniors) - Art. 4, Sec. 15, p. 7. Manner of (Seniors) - Art. 4, Sec. 8, p. 5.

ASSEMBLY

See General Assembly.

ASSISTANT TREASURER Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15.

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Election of, Chapter - Art. 7, Sec. 7a, p. 12. Report of - Art. 7, Sec. 7b, p.13.

B

BUDGET

Annual - Art. 10, Sec. 10c, p. 21.

BY-LAWS

Amendments of - Art. 15, Sec. 1, p. 27.

Making of - Art. 15, Sec. 1, p. 27.

Repealing of - Art. 15, Sec. 1, p. 27.

Use of - Art. 15, Sec. 2, p. 28.

CENTRAL COUNCIL

Absenteeism of - Art. 11, Sec. 14, p. 25.

Disposal of Funds of - Art. 12, Sec. 3, p. 26.

Distribution of Duties of - Art. 11, Sec. 5, p. 23.

Duties of - Art. 11, Sec. 6, 7, 9, pp. 23, 24.

Election of - Art. 11, Sec. 1,p.22. Eligibility to - Art. 11, Sec. 1, p. 22.

Executive Director or Secretary of-Art. 11, Sec. 12, p. 25.

Income of - Art. 12, Sec. 2, p. 25.

Number of Members of - Art. 11, Sec. 1, p. 22.

Place and Frequency of Meetings of-Art. 11, Sec. 4, p. 23.

Power of - Art. 9, Sec. 6, p. 16; Art. 11, Sec. 10, p. 24; Art. 12, Sec. 4, p. 26; Art. 15, Sec. 1,2, pp. 27, 28.

Reelection of Members of - Art. 11, Sec. 2, p. 22.

Responsibility of - Art. 11, Sec. 11, p. 24.

Retirement of Members of - Art. 11, Sec. 2, p. 22. Term of Office of - Art. 11, Sec.2, p. 22.

Vacancies in - Art. 11, Sec. 3, p. 23.

CHAIRMAN

Capacity of, in absence of priest Art. 7, Sec. 6, p. 12.

Duties of - Art. 7, Sec. 9, p. 13;
Art. 9, Sec. 7, p. 16.

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15.

CHAPTER ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Agenda for - Art. 7, Sec. 8, p. 13.
Date of - Art. 7, Sec. 1, p. 11.
Functions of - Art. 7, Sec. 7,p.12.
Notification of - Art. 7, Sec. 1,
p. 11.
President of - Art. 7, Sec. 6, p.12

President of - Art. 7, Sec. 6,p.12. Quorum for - Art. 7, Sec. 2, pp. 7, 11.

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Absenteeism of - Art. 9, Sec. 5, p. 15.

Chairman, duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 7, p. 16.

Corresponding Secretary, duties of-Art. 9, Sec. 9, p. 17.

Disposal of Funds of - Art. 12, Sec. 5, p. 26.

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15.

Frequency of Meetings of - Art. 9, Sec. 13, p. 18.

Incompetence of - Art. 9, Sec. 5,
p. 15.

Officers of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15. Recording Secretary, duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 8, p. 16.

Report from - Art. 9, Sec. 14,p.18. Term of Office of - Art. 9, Sec. 2, 3, p. 15.

Treasurer, duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 10, p. 17.

Vacancies in office - Art. 9, Sec. 4, p. 15.

Vice-Chairman, duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 7, p. 16.

CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORTS

Approval of - Art. 7, Sec. 7b, p.13. Submission to Central Council - Art. 9, Sec. 14, p. 18. Junior Group - Art. 9, Sec. 15,p.18.

CHAPTERS

Formation of - Art. 6, Sec. 1, p.10.

CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS

Frequency of - Art. 8, Sec. 1, p.14. President of - Art. 8, Sec. 2, p.14. Purpose of - Art. 8, Sec. 4, p. 14. Quorum - Art. 8, Sec. 3, p. 14.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15. Duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 9, p. 17.

D

DELEGATES

Alternates for - Art. 10, Sec. 6, p. 20.

Credentials of - Art. 10, Sec. 5, p. 20.

Election of - Art. 10, Sec. 3, p.19; Sec. 12, p. 22.

Number of - Art. 10, Sec. 2, p. 19.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

Approval of Amendments - Art. 16, Sec. 1, p. 28.

Jurisdiction of - Art. 3, Sec. 1, p. 2.

Special Appeals - Art. 12, Sec. 4, p. 26.

DIRECTOR, EXECUTIVE

Appointment of - Art. 11, Sec. 12, p. 25.

DISSOLUTION

Conditions of - Art. 17, Sec. 1, p. 29.

Property disposed in case of - Art. 17, Sec. 2, p. 29.

DUES AND FEES

Initiation - Art. 5, Sec. 1, p. 9. Juniors - Art. 5, Sec. 3, p. 10. Seniors - Art. 5, Sec. 2, p. 10.

 \mathbf{E}

ELECTIONS

Candidates for - Art. 13, Sec. 3, p. 27.

Of Central Council - Art. 11, Sec.1, p. 22.

Of Chapter Executive Committee - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p. 15.

Of Delegates - Art. 10, Sec. 3, p. 19.

Eligibility for - Art. 13, Sec. 2, pp. 26, 27.

Validity of - Art. 13, Sec. 1,p.26.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR SECRETARY
Appointment of - Art. 11, Sec. 12,
p. 25.

F

FISCAL YEAR - Art. 12, Sec. 1, p. 25.

FUNDS

Appeals for - Art. 12, Sec. 4,p.26. Dues, Fees, Taxes - Art. 12, Sec. 2, p. 25. Spending of, Central Council Art. 12, Sec. 3, p. 26.
Spending of, Chapter - Art. 12,
Sec. 5, p. 26.
Withdrawals, manner of - Art. 9,
Sec. 11, p. 17.

G

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Chairman of - Art. 11, Sec. 13, p. 25. Date of - Art. 10, Sec. 1, p. 19. Decisions of - Art. 10, Sec. 11, p. 22. Delegates to - Art. 10, Sec. 2, p. 19; Sec. 12, p. 22. Alternates to - Art. 10, Sec. 6, p. 20. Credentials to - Art. 10, Sec. 5, p. 20. Duties of - Art. 10, Sec. 10,p.21. Elections by - Art. 10, Sec. 10f, p. 21. Frequency of - Art. 10, Sec. 1, p. 19. Place of - Art. 10, Sec. 10g,p.21. Quorum for - Art. 10, Sec. 7,p.20. Reports to - Art. 10, Sec. 10a, b, p. 21. Secretary of - Art. 11, Sec. 13, p. 25.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Election of - Art. 4, Sec. 3, p.4. Eligibility of - Art. 4, Sec. 4, p. 5. Privileges of - Art. 4, Sec. 5,p.5.

I

INCOME OF CENTRAL COUNCIL - Art. 12,
 Sec. 2, p. 25.

INITIATION

Occasion of - Art. 4, Sec. 11,p.6. Fees for - Art. 5, Sec. 1, p. 9; Art. 12, Sec. 2, p. 25.

J

JUNIOR GROUP

Organization of - Art. 6, Sec. 1, p. 10.
Advisors to - Art. 7, Sec. 7a,p.12.
By-Laws of - Art. 15, Sec. 2, p.28.
Financial Transactions of - Art. 9, Sec. 11, p. 17.

JUNIOR MEMBERS

Admittance of - Art. 4, Sec. 16, p. 7.

Age of - Art. 4, Sec. 14, p. 6.

Application for membership of
Art. 4, Sec. 15, p. 7.

- 40 -

Pledge of - Art. 4, Sec. 18, p. 7. Transfer to Seniors - Art. 4, Sec. 17, p. 7.

M

MEMBERS

Age, Junior Members - Art. 4, Sec. 14, p. 6. Age, Senior Members - Art. 4, Sec. 7. p. 5. Application by - Art. 4, Sec. 8, p. 5. Associate Members - Art. 4, Sec. 19, p. 8. Classes of - Art. 4, Sec. 2, p. 4. Ecclesiastical status of - Art. 4, Sec. 1. p. 4. Election of - Art. 4, Sec. 9, 10, pp. 5, 6. Honorary Members - Art. 4, Sec. 3, p. 4. Initiation of - Art. 4, Sec. 11, p. 6. Junior Members - Art. 4. Sec. 14, p. 6. Members-at-Large - Art. 4, Sec. 2, p. 4; Sec. 20-25, pp. 8,9; Art. 11, Sec. 1, p. 22. Pledge of - p. II Qualifications of - Art. 4, Sec. 1, p. 4.

Rejection of - Art. 4, Sec. 12, 13, p. 6.
Senior Members - Art. 4, Sec. 6, p. 5.

N

NAME AND SCOPE - Art. 1, p. 1.

NOMINATING COMMITTEES

Election of (by Chapter) - Art. 7, Sec. 7a, p. 12.

Election of (by General Assembly) - Art. 10, Sec. 10f, p. 21.

0

OBJECTS - Art. 2, pp. 1, 2.

P

PARISH COUNCIL

Attendance at ACYOA Meetings Art. 7, Sec. 6, p. 12.

Cooperation with - Art. 3, Sec. 2,
p. 3.

PLEDGE OF

Junior Members - Art. 4, Sec. 18,

Senior Members - p. II.

POLICIES - Art. 3, pp. 2, 3, 4.

PRESIDENT

Of Chapter - Art. 7, Sec. 6, p. 12.

- 42 -

Duties of - Art. 7, Sec. 9, p. 13. Of General Assembly - Art. 10, Sec. 8, p. 20.

PRIMATE

Approval of Amendments - Art. 16, Sec. 1, p. 28.

Jurisdiction of - Art. 3, Sec. 1, p. 2.

Presidency of - Art. 10, Sec. 8, p. 20.

Special Appeals - Art. 12, Sec. 4, p. 26.

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15.

6

QUORUM FOR

Chapter Annual Membership Meetings-Art. 7, Sec. 2, p. 11.

Chapter Monthly Meetings - Art. 8, Sec. 3, p. 14.

Delegates at General Assembly - Art. 10, Sec. 7, p. 20.

Special Membership Meetings - Art. 7. Sec. 5, p. 12.

R

RECORDING SECRETARY

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15. Duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 8, p. 16.

- 43 -

RESOLUTIONS

Proposals of - Art. 11, Sec. 8, p. 24.

RETIREMENT OF

Central Council Members - Art. 11. Sec. 2, p. 22. Chapter Executive Committee - Art.

9, Sec. 12, p. 18.

S

SANCTIONS

Cessation of Membership - Art. 14, Sec. 1, p. 27. Expulsion of Member - Art. 14, Sec. 2. p. 27.

SECRETARY

Corresponding

Election of - Art. 9, Sec.1,p.15. Duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 9, p.17. Executive - Art. 11, Sec. 12, p.25. Of General Assembly - Art. 11, Sec. 13, p. 25.

Recording

Election of - Art. 9. Sec. 1. p. 15. Duties of - Art.9, Sec.8, p.16.

SENIOR MEMBERS

Acceptance of - Art. 4. Sec. 9. 10. pp. 5, 6.

Age of - Art. 4, Sec. 7, p. 5. Application for Membership of -Art. 4. Sec. 8. p. 5. Cessation of Membership - Art. 14, Sec. 1, 2, p. 27. Definition of - Art. 4, Sec.6,p.5. Eligibility of - Art.4, Sec.1,p.4. Pledge of - p. II. Rejection of Application of - Art. 4, Sec. 12, 13, p. 6. Transfer from Juniors - Art. 4, Sec. 17, p. 7.

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS Calling of - Art. 7, Sec. 3, p. 11. Purpose of - Art. 7, Sec. 4, p. 12. Quorum - Art. 7, Sec. 5, p. 12.

T

TREASURER

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15. Duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 10, p.17.

V

VACANCIES

In Central Council - Art. 11, Sec. 3, p. 23. In Executive Committee - Art. 9, Sec. 4, p. 15.

- 45 -

- 44 -

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Election of - Art. 9, Sec. 1, p.15. Duties of - Art. 9, Sec. 7, p. 16.

VOTING

Majority - Art. 13, Sec. 1, p. 26.