

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF Y'S MEN'S CLUBS

INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND GUIDELINES

*Adopted at the International Convention 1972 and ratified at the International Convention 1973. Officially in force from 1 June 1974.
Amended 1975, 1976, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 (February and October), 2004, 2006.*

ARTICLE I – NAME, MOTTO, HEADQUARTERS AND LEGAL STATUS

Section 1 This organisation shall be known as "The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs" and its Motto shall be "To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right".

Section 2 The Headquarters of "The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs" shall be at Geneva, Switzerland.

Section 3 It is intended and hereby declared that "The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs" shall have corporate existence and therefore acquire the status of a person in accordance with Section 60 and other relevant sections of the Swiss Civil Code.

Guidelines:

- 101 *The names "Y's Men International" and "Y'sdom International" may also be used.*
- 102 *In the event that the International nomenclature has to be translated, YMCA or a symbolic representation or translation thereof shall be used.*
- 103 *The emblem shall consist of a red triangle with the word "International" in the top bar; a large blue "Y" with a white "s" in its vertical segment; the words "Men's Club" in blue on either side of the "Y"; and a golden star shedding rays on the design. Whenever any identification drawing or emblem is used in connection with a title identifying the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs it shall include the emblem described above.*

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1 The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs is a worldwide fellowship of persons of all faiths working together in mutual respect and affection, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, and with a common loyalty to the Young Men's Christian Association, striving through active service to develop, encourage and provide leadership to build a better world for all mankind.

Section 2 The objectives of the Association are:

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

Section 3 The objectives of all affiliated clubs are:

- A. To function primarily as service clubs for the YMCA.
- B. To support other worthy organisations.
- C. To encourage justice in civic and international affairs, abstaining always from party politics.
- D. To keep members informed on and actively involved in religious, civic, economic, social and international matters.
- E. To cultivate good fellowship.
- F. To support International, Area and Regional projects of the Association.

Guideline:

201 *"Based on the teachings of Jesus Christ" means that club members acknowledge what Jesus Christ has taught and that the*

acceptance of those teachings leads club members to be prepared to put His words into action. They become guidelines for club members' decision-making, for their mode of operation as clubs and as an international association and for the way of life of club members as individuals.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 The membership of this Association shall consist of affiliated local clubs known as Y's Men's Clubs, Y's Women's Clubs, Y's Men and Women's Clubs or Y Service Clubs, hereinafter referred to as affiliated clubs.

Section 2 The membership of each local club may consist of men or women or both. No one will be denied membership status because of race, creed, colour or national origin. Members of local affiliated clubs are called Y's Men or Y's Women.

Section 3 There may be Y's Menettes Clubs consisting of women to plan and carry out programmes and projects of their own in support of the affiliated clubs, the YMCA and the community at local, District, Regional, Area and International levels.

Section 4 The Secretary General, with the approval of the International President, may confer on a person the status of "honorary" membership in recognition of his/her past or present assistance in the furtherance of the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs movement.

Section 5 Persons residing in communities where an affiliated club does not exist may become members-at-large upon application to and approval of the Regional Director and the Secretary General.

Guidelines:

- 301 *A group of people organised as a unit of this Association shall be called a club.*
- 302 *Each club shall be known by at least the name of the city and/or state or country in which it is located, provided that in a community having more than one club each club shall add appropriate identifying matter.*
- 303 *All club members are encouraged to join a local YMCA.*
- 304 *In order to maintain an active relationship with the World Alliance of YMCAs and its national components, there shall be a direct liaison between (1) the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs office and the office of the World Alliance of YMCAs and (2) the Regions of Y's Men International located within a particular country and the national YMCA movement, or its sub-sections, of that country.*
- 305 *Requirements and authority to organise a club to be affiliated shall be developed and executed by each Region.*
- 306 *The Regional Director shall determine when a club is eligible to be chartered. The minimum number of members for a new club shall be fifteen (15). The Regional Director shall notify the Secretary General who shall register the new club and provide a charter.*
- 307 *The Regional Director shall determine when a club is defunct and notify the Secretary General of this decision.*
- 308 *Members-at-large shall pay dues as determined by the Council annually and shall not have voting rights in the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs.*

ARTICLE IV – LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS

Section 1 The legislative power of this Association shall be vested in an International Council.

Section 2 With the exception of Areas represented by only one or two members, all persons elected to the International Council shall serve one (1) three (3) year term of office. Areas represented by only one or two members may choose to elect their International Council Member(s) for a full term of office of either two or three years. No person may serve more than one (1) full three (3) or two (2) year term plus a partial term to which he/she may have been previously appointed. There shall be twenty-one (21) persons elected to the International Council. Area representation on the International Council shall be based on the proportion of the membership of each Area to the total membership of the Association, subject to the proviso that each Area shall be represented by a minimum of one member.

Section 3 Each club may submit one (1) nominee for each International Council Member to be elected from its Area, to the International Office and the current member of the International Council representing its Area, at least ninety (90) days prior to the election date. Forty-five (45) days prior to the election date the International Office shall present to the clubs a maximum of three (3) nominees for each office as decided by the Nominating Committee in conjunction with each Area President concerned, at least one of which must be the nominee receiving the greatest number of nominations from the clubs. Each club with voting privileges on international issues shall have one (1) vote for each International Council Member to be elected from its Area and the person receiving the highest number of votes for each office in a mail ballot returned to the International Office prior to the closing date for voting will be elected.

Section 4 The International Council shall meet at least one (1) time per year. Other meetings of the Council may be called by the International President or may be requested by any International Council Member and convened upon written approval of at least twenty percent (20%) of the International Council membership or of the affiliated clubs in good standing. Other meetings of the International Council may also be requested by twenty percent (20%) of the affiliated clubs in good standing.

Section 5 Fifteen (15) members of the International Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business. The International Council may also transact business by mail about matters presented to it by or with the approval of the International President even if such matters are not on the pre-circulated agenda.

Section 6 In the event of the absence or inability of an International Council Member to perform his/her duties, the duties shall at the decision of the Area leadership be performed by an International Council Member Elect or in case no ICME has been elected by an immediate Past International Council Member. In the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of an International Council Member, an ICME shall automatically become ICM. If no ICME has been elected, the duties shall at the decision of the Area leadership be performed by an IPICM until an ICM has been elected following Section 3.

Section 7 The International President shall preside at all meetings of the International Council but shall not have a vote, except in the event of a tie vote when he/she shall cast the tie breaking vote.

Section 8 The International President-Elect, Immediate Past International President, Treasurer and Secretary General shall attend all meetings of the International Council, without vote. In the event of the incapacity of the President to preside, the President-Elect shall assume such functions.

Section 9 The World Alliance of YMCAs is entitled to nominate one official representative to the International Council. Such representative shall serve on the International Council without vote for a period not exceeding four years.

Guidelines:

401 *Functions of the International Council:*

- *Establish and approve Operating, Brotherhood Fund and other International Budgets.*
- *Determine International Convention sites and assist in drawing up programmes.*
- *Initiate new projects and provide maintenance and promotion for ongoing projects.*
- *Set goals in terms of immediate objectives as well as long range objectives, being the planning group of the Association.*
- *Maintain Constitution under review.*
- *Review policies relating to membership, management of funds, issuing and recalling of Club Charters and officer and employee responsibilities.*
- *Establish guidelines, provide budget and assign responsibilities for creating necessary International publications.*
- *From names submitted by the Regions and by the Nominating Committee, nominate candidates for election to offices of International President-Elect and International Treasurer-Elect.*
- *In fulfilment of Article II of this Constitution, the International Council may issue position statements on actual issues. In case of urgency, such statements may be issued by the International President on behalf of Y's Men International in accordance with guidelines for position taking statements approved by the International Council.*

402 *Y's Men International shall have eight (8) Areas or such number of Areas as may, from time to time, be created or amalgamated in accordance with this Constitution. The eight Areas represented on the International Council shall be:*

1. *Africa - all countries in the continent of Africa and adjacent islands.*
2. *Asia - bounded on the west by the western boundary of the ex-USSR, but excluding India, and extending east to and including Japan, but excluding those countries listed in the South Pacific Area.*
3. *Canada - all provinces and territories thereof.*
4. *Europe - bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean and extending east to the western boundary of the ex-USSR, including those countries in the Middle East as clarified later.*
5. *India – All States and Territories of India and all countries and territories on the Arabian Peninsula which border the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.*
6. *Latin America/Caribbean - all countries in the Central and South American continents, Mexico and adjacent islands.*
7. *South Pacific - Australia, New Zealand and adjacent islands.*
8. *United States - all states and territories thereof.*

403 *The entitlement of each Area to membership on the International Council shall be calculated every odd year and be based on an average of paid members according to the four half-yearly membership reports following the last entitlement calculation as available at IHQ by 30 June that year. However, in accordance with Section 2 above, if any Area is entitled to more seats, such seats shall only be available when the terms of office of the sitting members of the Council expire.*

404 *The mathematical method to be used in calculating the entitlement of each Area to membership on the International Council is D'Hondt's Method, a descriptive document of this method being available from the International Office on request.*

405 *Legislative terms shall begin on 1 July and expire on 30 June.*

- 406 *Minutes of the International Council Meeting and Mid-Year Meeting shall be transmitted to each Regional Director within thirty (30) days of the meeting. The Regional Directors shall share the information with the clubs. Changes and additions shall be transmitted to the Regional Directors within another thirty (30) days.*
- 407 *The International Council may give approval to a Mid-Year Meeting to be held each January for the purpose of review and planning of the work of the Association. The members of the Mid-Year Meeting shall comprise the International President, International President-Elect, Immediate Past International President, Secretary General and, subject to justification of costs and availability of finance, International Treasurer and Area Presidents-Elect unless the International President sees a need for the Area Presidents to attend in their place. No legislative decisions can be made by the Meeting, unless special authorization on specific matters has been given by the International Council. In even-numbered years the Meeting shall be held at the International Office in Geneva and in odd-numbered years the venue shall be determined by the International President in consultation with the International Executive Officers, taking into consideration costs, special goals of meeting, venues of previous meetings and current conventions.*
- 408 *Area Constitutions or Area Guidelines shall not be in conflict with the International Constitution. Where there is a conflict that portion of the Area Constitution or Area Guidelines causing the conflict shall be treated as invalid and the International Constitution shall prevail. These Constitutions or Guidelines and any revisions of them must be submitted to the International Council for approval.*
- 409 *For a club to have voting privileges on international issues, it must be in good standing as defined in Guideline 410 and have at least fifteen (15) reported members for the current semester and the two preceding semesters.*
- 410 *A club "in good standing" is a club which has paid Regional, Area and International Dues for at least 94% of its reported members for the current semester and for the two semesters immediately preceding the current semester. Where a club has been chartered within the current semester or within the two semesters immediately preceding the current semester, the "in good standing" definition shall apply only to the demands for dues made against the club since it was chartered.*
In order for the International Executive Officers to apply these rules, IHQ shall request Areas and Regions to certify in writing by 1 December each year the clubs which are not "in good standing".
- 411 *For clubs with 5–14 reported members, each Club may submit to the Regional Director, with a copy to IHQ, a request for exemption from the minimum requirement in Guideline 409. The request must be received by the Regional Director by 15 November and must certify that the club is actively seeking to improve its performance and state the number of members for the most recent three semesters. The Regional Director shall send all requests he/she endorses to IHQ (individually or all together) to be received by 1 December with copies to AP. Subject to the decision by the IEOs, the clubs shall vote without awaiting notification of the decision. The Regional Directors shall subsequently be notified of the decision, with explanation if the request is rejected.*
- 412 *Neither a candidate for election to any international office, nor any club, group or affiliate is permitted to campaign for office on behalf of the candidate by sending letters, literature or other influential messages to enhance any candidate's chances of election. If a violation is reported, the Nominating Committee after reviewing and verifying the report has the right to disqualify the candidate.*
- 413 *In the event of a tied vote for election of an International Council Member, a committee appointed by the Area President of the Area concerned shall cast the tie breaking vote.*

ARTICLE V – ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Section 1

- A. Administrative Officers of this Association shall be an International President, International President-Elect, Immediate Past International President, International Treasurer and the Area Presidents who shall be members of the International Council. The Area Presidents shall be selected by a process to be determined by each Area.
- B. When an Area is entitled to only one seat on the International Council that seat shall be occupied by the Area President who shall be elected at an appropriate time to enable him/her to serve a year as Area President-Elect.
- C. Regions shall have a Regional Director and may have such other Regional and District or other designated sub-Regional officers as they desire, all of whom shall be selected by their respective Regions and Districts or other designated sub-Regional units for one (1) year terms.

Section 2

- A. The International Council shall nominate from names submitted by the Regions and by the Nominating Committee (comprised of the International President, International President-Elect, Immediate Past International President and two others appointed each year by the International Council from Areas not represented by the three ex-officio members) a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) candidates for the office of International President-Elect for a one (1) year term and at least one (1) candidate for the office of International Treasurer-Elect for a three (3) year term as International Treasurer, and such persons must come from a club with voting privileges on international issues unless an exemption is applied by the International Council. Each Region is entitled to submit the name of only one person from the Region or from any other Region for each office.
- B. The International President-Elect and International Treasurer-Elect shall be elected by the membership by a mail ballot of the clubs duly chartered and with voting privileges on international issues. The candidate receiving the highest number of ballots returned by the clubs, within forty-five (45) days after notice of the International Council nominations is mailed to the club president of record, will be elected. Each club shall have one (1) vote for each office. The election of the International President-Elect, International Treasurer-Elect and International Council Members shall be held at the same time.
- C. The International President, the International President-Elect and the International Treasurer may not hold any other elective office of the Association while serving in their positions.
- D. In the event of the inability of the International President-Elect to serve, or in the event the President-Elect becomes President by reason of death, incapacity, removal or resignation of the previous President, the Nominating Committee shall submit either two or three candidates to the Regions in order that a new International President-Elect may be elected. Regions shall be given thirty (30) days to return the ballots.
- E. The International President-Elect shall automatically become the International President of the Association at the expiration of the current President's one (1) year term of office or upon the death, incapacity or resignation of the International President. If a President-Elect becomes President by reason of death, incapacity or resignation of the previous President and serves less than six (6) months in the office of President, then he/she and the appointed President-Elect shall automatically continue in office for an additional one (1) full year term.
- F. The International Treasurer may be nominated for re-election but cannot serve for more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms in that office.
- G. The International Treasurer Elect shall automatically become the International Treasurer of the Association at the expiration of the current Treasurer's term of office or upon the death, incapacity or resignation of the International Treasurer. If no ITE has been elected, IT's duties shall be performed by the

International President Elect until a new IT can be duly elected.

Section 3

- A. The International President shall preside at all meetings of the International Council, shall oversee the work and activities of the Association and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office
- B. The International President-Elect shall, in the event of the absence or inability of the International President to perform his/her duties, perform the duties and have the same authority as the President. In the event of the absence or inability of the International Treasurer to perform his/her duties and no International Treasurer Elect has been elected, the International President Elect shall perform the duties. Upon the death, incapacity or resignation of the International Treasurer, IPE shall perform the duties until a new IT can be duly elected.
- C. The International Treasurer shall receive reports from the Secretary General of all funds deposited in and disbursed from accounts of the Association. He/she shall be responsible to see that accurate itemised accounts are kept and reported and shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to that office. The Treasurer shall report to the President.
- D. The International Treasurer Elect shall, in the event of the absence or inability of the International Treasurer to perform his/her duties, perform the duties.
- E. The Area Presidents shall be responsible for the coordination of the activities of the Regions in their Areas. Twice a year they shall report to the International President concerning the situation and development in their Area. The Area Presidents shall function through the Area Office related to their Area if one exists.
- F. The Regional Director shall be the executive and coordinator for his/her Region and shall be responsible for the administration and finances for his/her Region. He/she shall report to the Area President of his/her Area.

Section 4

- A. Appointments to special offices of the Association, as required by the International President and the International Council, shall be made by the International President subject to the approval of the International Council.
- B. The Secretary General shall serve as the Assistant International Treasurer.

Guidelines:

- 501 *In the event an Area is entitled to only one member of the Council this member shall be the Area President.*
- 502 *The International Treasurer-Elect shall be elected at an appropriate time to enable a year as International Treasurer-Elect. The International Treasurer-Elect may be invited to such international meetings as the International President considers appropriate after considering matters such as cost justification.*
- 503 *With regard to the exemption referred to in Art. V, Sect. 2, A, the Nominating Committee shall, when applicable, request the International Council to consider such an exemption. Such exemption can only be applied once, so a candidate cannot be re-nominated until his/her home club regains voting privileges on international issues.*
- 504 *In the event of a tied vote for election of International President-Elect or International Treasurer-Elect, the International Council shall cast the tie breaking vote.*
- 505 *Neither a candidate for election to any international office, nor any club, group or affiliate is permitted to campaign for office on behalf of the candidate by sending letters, literature or other influential messages to enhance any candidate's chances of election. If a violation is reported, the Nominating Committee after reviewing and verifying the report has the right to disqualify the candidate.*

506 *Guideline 409, 410 and 411 also apply to Article V.*

507 *When reference is made to "The International Executive Officers" or "The IEOs" this shall mean IP, IPE, PIP and IT acting collectively.*

ARTICLE VI – EMPLOYED OFFICERS

Section 1 Employed officers of the Association shall be the Secretary General and Associate Secretaries General who shall be paid for their services to the Association.

Section 2 The Secretary General shall be employed by the International Council. Associate Secretaries General shall be employed by the International Council upon recommendation of the Secretary General. All other staff shall be employed by the Secretary General and Associate Secretaries General following policy established by the International Council.

Guidelines:

- 601 *The Secretary General's functions, responsibilities and performance standards shall be carefully defined in the job description for that office and this shall be included in the Personnel Policy of the Association. This shall be reviewed from time to time by the Personnel Committee in consultation with the current Secretary General and any changes shall be approved by the International Council.*
- 602 *The functions, responsibilities and performance standards of the Associate Secretaries General and other staff shall be carefully defined under his/her job description and negotiated with his/her supervisors and also be reflected in the Personnel Policy of the Association.*
- 603 *A Personnel Policy, annual job performance standards formulated by employees in negotiation with their supervisor and a wage salary administration plan for employees shall be developed with automatic annual review by a personnel task force or Personnel Committee. The Secretary General is accountable to the International Council. The Associate Secretaries General and other staff are accountable to the Secretary General for evaluation and reward within established policy.*

ARTICLE VII – VACANCIES IN OFFICE

Section 1 An International Officer or member of the International Council may be removed from office for malfeasance or nonfeasance upon majority vote of at least three fourths (¾) of the membership of the International Council in a mail ballot or at a regular meeting. Such a procedure may be authorized by the International President. In the event that the procedure pertains to the office of International President, signed submissions shall be required from a minimum of four International Council Members each coming from a different Area.

A document shall be sent out from the International Office with the ballot, containing reasons for the proposed action, details of impending removal procedures and comments from the person involved, if he/she desires to submit these for publication.

Guideline:

- 701 *Should the position of International President-Elect-Elect become vacant because of death, resignation or incapacity, the following procedure shall apply. The Nominating Committee shall submit either two or three candidates to the Regions in order that a new International President-Elect-Elect may be elected. Regions shall be given thirty (30) days to return ballots.*

ARTICLE VIII – OFFICES

Section 1 An International Office shall be maintained to coordinate the work of Area Offices and to serve Areas not served by an Area Office.

Section 2 Area Offices may be established at the request of the Area or Regions in the Area and with the approval of the International Council for the purpose of promoting and maintaining the work of the Association in Areas.

Section 3 Criteria for requesting an Area Office shall include a plan of operation for at least three (3) years and shall specify:

- A. Required administrative staff.
- B. Financial requirements of the office and proposed method of obtaining same.
- C. The Area to be served

ARTICLE IX – FINANCE

Section 1 The International Council shall determine a uniform financial share on a per capita basis that each Region shall pay in support of the International Operating Budget of the Association, with the approval of a simple majority of the Regions responding in a mail ballot.

The International Council, at its discretion, may authorize payment of less than a uniform financial share on a per capita basis to any Club, Region or Area, subject to review each year.

Section 2 Each Region shall be responsible for its own finances and shall:

- A. Collect all International, Area and Regional dues.
- B. Pay to the International Office or related Area Office, on a semi-annual basis, the Region's share of the Association's expense, as determined in Section 1 of this Article.
- C. Receive all International and Regional reports required from the clubs and transmit required International reports to the International Office or related Area Office.

Section 3 The fiscal year shall be set by the International Council.

Section 4 A Region may delegate the responsibilities of Section 2 to its Area Office, if one exists, or to the International Office, subject to an agreement between the Area or Region and the International Council to accept the responsibilities.

Guidelines:

901 *The fiscal year shall be from 1 July through 30 June.*

902 *For each fiscal year the International Council shall approve budgets and accounts for all accounts and funds operated by Y's Men international. This shall include both income and expenditure.*

903 *The Brotherhood Fund operation shall conform with the existing Brotherhood Fund policy.*

904 *Each Area and Region shall determine the dues structure and other methods to get the necessary funds to meet its share of the International Budget and other operating needs. Failure of a club to pay Area or Regional Dues for a period of eighteen (18) months will result in the club's Charter being revoked.*

905 *The Regions shall pay the International and Area Dues for all reported members as of 1 April and 1 October in each year.*

ARTICLE X – CONVENTIONS

Section 1 International Conventions shall be held and shall be developed, planned and executed under the leadership and supervision of the International Council, which may delegate this authority.

Guidelines:

1001 *The International Convention shall provide opportunity to disseminate information, share experiences and provide inspiration and spiritual renewal for the delegates, and to be a source of suggestions and recommendations to the International Council for consideration and possible implementation. Preparation for and conduct of International Conventions shall generally be in accord with the official International Convention Manual.*

1002 *The International Council shall select a site for conventions at least three (3) years previous to the dates of the convention.*

1003 *An International Convention Committee shall be appointed by the International President with the approval of the International Council at least two (2) years before the Convention takes place and shall consist of at least the International Convention Committee Chairperson of the given Convention, the Chairperson of the next succeeding Convention when appointed, the Chairperson of the Host Convention Committee, the International Treasurer and the Secretary General. The International Convention Committee shall be responsible for the execution of the programme, theme, selection of speakers, financial control and review.*

ARTICLE XI – REGIONS

Section 1 The International Council shall designate as many Regions as deemed necessary to adequately serve and coordinate the activities of the Association. Changes in Regional boundaries may be made only after consultation with the affected Regions.

Section 2 Each Region shall be responsible for its own organisation and shall conduct its own internal affairs.

Section 3 There shall be Regional Constitutions which shall not be in conflict with the International Constitution. These Constitutions, and any revisions of them, shall be submitted to the International Council for approval.

Guidelines:

1101 *Regions shall have the responsibility and authority to:*

- A. *Choose a name for their specific Region in harmony with other Region names. No duplication in Region names will be accepted.*
- B. *Plan and conduct Regional Conventions.*
- C. *Elect their own Regional Director who will be the chief liaison officer to the President of his/her Area.*
- D. *Subdivide the Region as needed.*

1102 *Training of Regional Directors may be done by the Secretary General and/or members of his/her employed staff or other person delegated by him/her.*

1103 *In designating or revising present Regions, adequate consideration shall be given to each relevant aspect - geographical, linguistic, cultural, ethnographic and financial - in order to accomplish and maintain the objectives of the Association. In principle, Regions should consist of at least fifteen (15) clubs with a total membership of three hundred (300).*

1104 *Where extension is considered possible in a country not currently affiliated to a Region, the Area Council in which the country stands shall allocate the responsibility for extension work as it deems appropriate. While the Area boundaries are being reviewed, Area Europe shall be responsible for all countries from the Atlantic Ocean to the Ural Mountains. When a new club is to be chartered in a new country, the International Council, in consultation with the relevant Area and Regions, shall change the boundary of an existing Region in accordance with Article XI, Section 1.*

ARTICLE XII – SIGNATORIES

Section 1 The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs shall be bound by such signatures of its international elected officers and members of staff and in such circumstances as shall be laid down from time to time by the International Council.

Guideline:

1201 All financial transactions of The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs require any two of the following five designated signatures:
International President
International Treasurer
International Secretary General
Assistant to International Secretary General
One staff member designated by the International Secretary General

ARTICLE XIII – DISSOLUTION

Section 1 The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs can only be dissolved at a meeting of the International Council (where a quorum is established) and then only if at least three quarters of those members present and voting at such a meeting shall record their votes in favour of the resolution proposing such dissolution. The proposal would then need a three quarters affirmative vote of the clubs duly chartered and in good standing responding in a mail ballot.

Section 2 No proposal for dissolution of the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs shall be entertained unless notice in writing containing a copy of the proposed resolution of dissolution thereof and the date of the meeting of the International Council at which such resolution will be proposed shall have been given to the International Council ten months in advance of that meeting.

Section 3 The resolution for dissolution shall name the members (the International President and the Area Presidents plus a reappointable alternate) of the current International Council to act as Trustees (hereinafter called "the Trustees") and, on the resolution being passed as provided in Section 1 of this Article, the property and funds of the Association shall be transferred to the Trustees to be held by them in trust for five years. The number of Trustees shall remain constant at the originally established number of Trustees. The Trustees shall have the authority to appoint the alternates. If, however, before the expiration of such period of five years, a new International organisation shall be existing or shall be founded and the Trustees shall in their sole judgement and discretion be satisfied that the principles and purpose of such organisation are in harmony with those of the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs, the said property and funds shall be transferred to and delivered by the Trustees to such organisation upon such terms and subject to such conditions (if any) as the Trustees shall in their uncontrolled discretion think fit.

Section 4 If no new organisation shall be existing or have been founded during such period of five years, the Trustees shall convert and realise the property and funds to the best advantage, having regard to all attendant circumstances and conveniences, and distribute the proceeds, less the costs and expenses of dissolution, to the World Alliance of YMCAs or, if non-existent, to a non-profit-making organisation or association which will agree to use these assets for purposes compatible with the principles and goals of the Association.

Section 5 After such dissolution no former Member (affiliated club) of the Association or former member of any of its constituent bodies shall have the right to take any legal action or prefer any claim in any country with regard to any decision or action taken by the Trustees.

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENT

Section 1 This Constitution may be amended upon two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the International Council and a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the clubs duly chartered and in good standing in their Regions, responding in a mail ballot.

Guidelines:

1401 Guidelines may be amended at any meeting of the International Council by a simple majority affirmative vote of the Council members present and voting.
1402 The International Council shall establish a due date for all replies to proposed amendments.
1403 Any amendments to Article XIII shall require a three quarters affirmative vote of the International Council and a three quarters affirmative vote of the clubs duly chartered and in good standing in their Regions responding in a mail ballot.

1 February 2007

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