

National Association of Masonic Scouters Constitution

ARTICLE I — NAME and PURPOSE

Section 1. NAME

This organization shall be known as the National Association of Masonic Scouters, hereinafter referred to as NAMS.

Section 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization is to foster and develop support for the Boy Scouts of America by and among Freemasons while upholding the tenets of Freemasonry. This includes, but is not limited to, encouraging Masonic Lodges and other Masonic organizations, to the extent permitted by their regulations, to charter and support BSA units. NAMS will seek to provide opportunities for Masonic fellowship at Scouting events and encourage the awarding of the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award to deserving Masons while supporting the Scouting movement at all levels.

ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. REGULAR MEMBERS

- a. Regular Members are Master Masons who are in good standing in a Lodge that is chartered by a Grand Lodge that is currently participating in the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award. Regular members must also be currently registered adult members of the Boy Scouts of America.
- b. Application for membership shall be submitted to the secretary of this organization with payment of dues for one year.

Section 2. ASSOCIATES

- a. Associates are registered adult members of the Boy Scouts of America, Master Masons, or concerned individuals who support the principles of Scouting and the ideals of Freemasonry and wish to promote the relationship between these organizations.
- b. Application for Associates shall be submitted to the secretary of this organization with payment of dues for one year.
- c. Associates have voice but not vote at the meetings of NAMS.
- d. No Associate may be elected an officer of the organization.

Section 3. HONORARY MEMBERS

- a. The Board of Directors may, with the approval of a majority of the members attending the biennial meeting, confer Honorary Membership on an individual, not a member of NAMS and upon whom this organization desires to confer special distinction.
- b. Honorary membership shall not require the payment of any dues.
- c. Honorary members have voice but no vote at the meetings of NAMS.

Section 4. LIFE MEMBERS

- a. Upon application by a member and payment of \$300 in lieu of all future dues to the organization.
- b. Life Members payments will be placed in a separate invested account and only the income will be used for the operation of the NAMS.
- c. Should a Life Member resign or be removed from the NAMS, the Life Membership payment, or any part thereof, will not be refunded.

Section 5. MEMBERSHIP CARDS

A membership card shall be issued to each regular member and associate upon payment of his/her dues. Such membership card shall indicate the date membership began.

Section 6. RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL OF MEMBERS

- a. A Regular Member or Associate may resign at any time by a written resignation addressed to the secretary of this organization.
- b. Any Regular Member or Associate failing to pay the dues within 180 days after due date, shall have his/her dues status brought before the Board for discussion and appropriate action.
- c. Any Regular Member or Associate may be removed by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors for any conduct not in accordance with the general practices recognized among Scouters or Freemasons and for any cause including violation of any rules and regulations governing this organization.
- d. Any Regular Member ceasing to be a Mason in good standing shall be automatically dropped from the roll of Regular Members and become an Associate.
- e. Any Regular Member ceasing to be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America shall be automatically dropped from the roll of Regular Members and become an Associate.
- f. Restoration of Regular membership subsequent to action required by paragraph “d” or “e” of this section shall be granted upon receipt of proof by the secretary that the cause has been corrected.

Section 7. MEMBERSHIP DUES

- a. The annual dues of this organization shall be established by a majority vote of those members attending the biennial meeting. The amount to be established to cover the costs of postage, newsletter, and acceptable administrative costs.
- b. Dues for all members and associate members are payable on the First Day of January each year.
- c. Annual dues for Regular Members and Associates is \$15.00 per year payable in advance of January 1.

Section 8. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MASONIC LAW

Notwithstanding the above Sections of Article II, membership requirements will conform to the established Masonic Law of the Grand Jurisdiction of the NAMS member.

ARTICLE III — OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS

- a. The elected officers of this organization shall be: a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and six Directors
- b. The elective officers other than the directors shall be elected for a term of two years.
- c. There shall be six Directors on the Board of Directors. The Directors shall be elected for a term of four years.
- d. Three of the first class of Directors shall be elected for a period of two years.
- e. Should any Director resign or be removed from office before the completion of his term of office, he shall be replaced at the next annual meeting by electing a replacement to serve the remainder of his term.

Section 2. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- a. President. The President shall have general supervisory powers over all matters concerning the organization. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He will make all appointments provided by this constitution and such other appointments as may be necessary or authorized. He shall perform all the duties delegated to him by this constitution. He shall preside at the biennial meeting of the NAMS and at any meetings of the Board of Directors. He (or an officer he designates) shall represent NAMS on the National Committee of the Boy Scouts of America.
- b. Vice-President. The Vice-President shall assist the President in the conduct of the organization's business. He shall perform all the duties of the President in his absence or in his inability to act, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him from time to time by the President.
- c. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep an accurate account of permanent record of the meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. He shall maintain a complete record of the membership of the organization. He shall submit by mail/fax/email to the officers of the organization and the Board of Directors all the matters required to be passed on to them and shall consult with the President as to all matters coming to his attention not otherwise herein stipulated. Any and all funds collected by him shall be reported and submitted to the treasurer of the organization for deposit in the organization's account.
- d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have general charge of all monies of the organization and shall collect all dues. He shall make a quarterly report of the financial condition of the organization to the Secretary and the President. All monies shall be deposited in a bank that may be designated by him but shall be approved by the Board of Directors. He shall pay all bills and obligations against the organization either by written approval of the President or Secretary or if the expense was budgeted and approved by a majority of the members attending the annual meeting. He shall, if required by the Board of Directors, give bond in such sum as may be required by the Board. Accounts and records of the Treasurer shall be subject to biennial review by the Audit Committee.

- e. Directors. The Directors shall have full voting privileges on all matters requiring a vote of the Board of Directors. The President may also assign them duties from time to time.
- f. The President, with the aid and assistance of the other officers, is empowered to initiate, execute and administer all matters with respect to The National Association of Masonic Scouters.

Section 3. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

The Immediate Past President shall be considered an Ex-Officio member of the Board if Directors and shall have a vote in the case of a tie.

Section 4. REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF OFFICERS

- a. Any officer may be removed by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors for cause including negligence or non-performance of the duty of his office as described in Section 2 of this article.
- b. Upon the removal or resignation of the President, the Vice-President shall become the President.
- c. A case of a vacancy in the office of Vice-President, the Immediate Past President shall serve as Vice-President until the next biennial meeting.
- d. Upon the removal or resignation of a secretary, treasurer, or a director; the President may appoint a replacement with approval of the Board of Directors, such term expiring at the next annual meeting.

Section 5. COMPENSATION

No officer or director shall receive compensation for services in the performance of the duties of his office, except reimbursement for duly approved administrative expenses.

Section 6. INITIAL ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

- a. Wayne Sirmon of Mobile, Alabama, and David I. Karp, of Sherman Oaks, California, are hereby designated as “Organizers” of NAMS and shall hold the positions and fulfill the duties of President Pro Tem and Secretary Pro Tem respectively until such time as formal elections of officers shall take place under the terms of this Constitution.
- b. The President Pro Tem with the concurrence of the Secretary Pro Tem may appoint such other temporary officers as necessary or appropriate to hold the positions of Vice President Pro Tem and Treasurer Pro Tem and to fulfill the duties thereof until such time as formal elections of officers shall take place under the terms of this Constitution.

ARTICLE IV — MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. BIENNIAL MEETING

- a. The biennial meeting may be held during the time and location of the Annual Meeting of the National Council BSA, at which time all necessary business will be transacted and the officers for the following term elected.

- b. The biennial meeting shall be conducted and governed by this constitution and according to Robert’s Rules of Order.
- c. On matters arising between biennial meetings, a vote of the Board of Directors may be conducted by mail/fax/internet.

Section 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

The President, with the approval of a majority of the Board of Directors, may call Special Meetings of the NAMS. The membership will be given 30 days written notice of the time, place and purpose of the meeting. No business not listed in the call may be transacted.

Section 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- a. The election of officers shall take place during the biennial meeting, as established by Section 1.a of this article.
- b. The Nominating Committee, as established by Article V, Section 1.a., shall present and nominate a slate of officers to be elected. Additional nominations shall be called for from the floor. If no nominations are made from the floor, the officers nominated by the committee may be elected by acclamation. If there is a contest, the presiding officer may dismiss the candidates from the room and call for a standing vote. A majority of the votes cast shall be required for the winning candidate.

ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

Section 1. STANDING COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint the following committees as soon after the election as possible.

- a. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall select a slate of officers to be elected and submit them to the secretary 30 days before the biennial election. At the biennial meeting the slate of officers shall be presented to the members in attendance at the meeting. The chairman of this committee, or appointed representative, after reading the slate shall move that those persons selected be placed in nomination for the office as read.
- b. Membership and Promotion Committee. This committee shall submit plans or ideas that will promote activities and membership of this organization. It shall also perform duties which may be assigned to it by the President from time to time, such duties to be for developing and promoting the interests of scouting among Freemasons and their families.
- c. Patch/Pin Committee. This committee shall promote special patches/pins in relation to the activities of Masonic Fraternity and of this organization that will be of scouting interest to its members. They shall perform the duties of designing or selecting a design, and production of such patches and/or pins as directed by the President. The committee should consult with the President as to the number of patches and/or pins to be produced, costs and other related problems.
- d. Sales Committee. The committee shall develop and promote programs for the sale and distribution of Masonic scouting items and to make them known and available to the members of the organization. It shall make a list of all new items

- available and have it published on the NAMS web site and in appropriate Masonic and Scouting publications. Unless otherwise designated by the President or the Board of Directors, this committee shall be the trustee for all patches and/or pins or scouting items owned by the organization.
- e. Jamboree Committee. This committee shall be responsible for the arrangement of the organization's activities during the BSA Jamborees. It may arrange for a booth at the Relationships area and other opportunities for Masonic fellowship.
 - f. Audit Committee. This committee will review the records of the Treasurer prior to each Biennial Meeting. The report of this review will be presented at the Biennial Meeting, and will include a list of all inventory of property (including items controlled by the Patch/Pin Committee). Reviews by be conducted at other times, if authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. AD HOC COMMITTEES

Special committees to perform special functions and assignments during the year for the promotion of the organization's activities may be appointed by the President from time to time.

ARTICLE VI — FISCAL YEAR

Section 1. ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR

The elected officers shall be duly elected and installed at the Biennial Meeting of this organization as set forth in Article IV Section 1. The officers shall assume the duties of their offices as of that day and shall relinquish those duties at the next biennial meeting following the election and installation of the new officers.

Section 2. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31. The treasurer's report for the most recent year shall be published on the NAMS web site.

Section 3. ROSTER

The NAMS membership roster may not be used for any commercial use or financial gain. It is for the exclusive use and reference by its members. The roster along with other such reports as required shall be submitted to national office of the Boy Scouts of America annually.

ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

Section 1. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) vote of members present at the biennial meeting, provided a copy of a proposed amendment is submitted in writing and signed by two or more Regular Members to the Board of Directors of the organization not later than thirty (30) days prior to the biennial meeting for consideration and approval.

Section 2. PROPOSALS FROM THE FLOOR

Should an amendment be proposed in writing and signed by two or more Regular Members at the biennial meeting, a five eighths (5/8) vote of the members present will be required for approval.

ARTICLE IX — DISSOLUTION

In the event of discontinuance of the activities of NAMS, the Board of Directors shall instruct the treasurer to donate the entire treasury balance, after payment of all debts, to the endowment fund of the Boy Scouts of America.