

ARTICLE I – NAME, MOTTO, HEADQUARTERS, LEGAL STATUS AND RESOURCES

101. The emblem shall consist of a red triangle with the word “International” in the top bar; a large blue “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.
102. The Association’s name (in all its variations) and logo are its proprietary assets, and their use is exclusively reserved for its club members, affiliated clubs, and management bodies for the purpose and benefit of the Association.
103. The Association will be identified by its official logo. The logo and any internationally approved alternatives shall be made available on the Association’s website in the official colours and fonts. All affiliated clubs, Districts, Regions, and Areas shall adhere to the brand guidelines published by the Association.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

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.
202. The core values of the Association are love, compassion, selfless service, and sacrifice and shall be reflected in the actions of the Association and its members.
203. The Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) may adopt strategic plans from time to time in the interest of achieving the objectives and purpose of the Association.
204. YMI is an inclusive international association of affiliated clubs making a positive and enduring difference in the world by fostering fellowship, executing projects in the areas of education, environment and health and acting as a YMCA mission partner.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

301. A group of at least five (5) people organised as a unit of this Association shall be called a club. Clubs are known in five categories:
 - Classic Club: A club having at least 15 members
 - Premium Club: A club having at least 25 members
 - Golden Club: A Club having at least 50 members
 - Diamond Club: A Club having at least 75 Members
 - Platinum Club: A Club having at least 100 members
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 five (5). The Regional Director shall notify the International Secretary General who shall register the new club and provide a charter.
307. The Regional Director, with the approval of the Regional Executive Body, shall determine when a club is defunct and notify the Secretary General of their decision.
308. Any member of an affiliated club may be banned from occupying any position in the Association, elected, appointed or nominated, for deliberately acting against the principles and objectives of the Association by the International Executive Committee after duly hearing the parties concerned, either directly or through electronic media
309. Club charters (By-law 306) shall remain valid only as long as club members conform to the laws and rules of the Association. An affiliated club shall have its membership revoked for any act or failure to act in violation of the purpose, objectives, mission or constitution of the International Association as determined by a consensus of the International Executive Committee, after an investigation and duly hearing from the concerned club and decided by a majority vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council). Voting will occur at any meeting of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) or via electronic ballot. The decision of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) shall be final.
310. Members-at-large shall pay dues as determined by the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) annually and shall not have voting rights in the International Association of Y's Men's Clubs.
311. Virtual Clubs and Glocal Clubs can be formed with members from different geographical locations by the Regions and affiliate with the International Association.

ARTICLE IV – LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF REPRESENTATIVES (THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL)

401. The Legislative Assembly of Representatives shall also be known as the International Council.
402. Functions of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council):
- Establish and approve operating, programme, and other international budgets.
 - Determine International Convention sites and assist in drawing up programmes.
 - Initiate new projects and provide maintenance and promotion for on-going

projects.

- Set goals in terms of immediate objectives as well as long-range objectives, being the planning group of the Association.
- Maintain the International Constitution under review.
- Review policies relating to membership, management of funds, issuing and recalling of club charters and officer and employee responsibilities.
- Establish by-laws, 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 Legislative Assembly of Representatives (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 Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council).

403. 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 in the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) shall be:

1. Africa - all countries in the continent of Africa and adjacent islands.
2. Asia Pacific – bounded by the eastern and southern boundaries of the ex-USSR, excluding Korea and India but including South Pacific countries, Australia, New Zealand and those in adjacent islands.
3. Canada/Caribbean - all provinces and territories in Canada and the Caribbean islands.
4. Europe – bounded on the west by the Atlantic Ocean and extending east to the eastern boundary of Russia.
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. Korea - all provinces and territories, as well as Mongolia and Vietnam.
7. Latin America - all countries in South and Central America and Mexico.
8. United States - all states and territories thereof.

404. The entitlement of each Area to membership in the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) shall be calculated every two years 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 of Article IV, 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 Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council)

expire.

405. The mathematical method to be used in calculating the entitlement of each Area to membership in the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) is D'Hondt's Method, a descriptive method is available from the International Headquarters on request.
406. Legislative terms shall begin on 1 July and expire on 30 June.
407. Minutes of Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) Meetings and the 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 informed to the Regional Directors within another thirty (30) days.
408. A Mid-Year Meeting (MYM) shall be convened each January or February for the purpose of review and planning of the work of the Association by virtual or hybrid mode. The participants in the Mid-Year Meeting shall comprise the International President, the International President Elect, the Immediate Past International President, the International Treasurer (and International Treasurer Elect when relevant, as well as the International Secretary General. Area Presidents and/or Area Presidents Elect may also be requested to participate. The International Service Directors, Committee and Task Force chairs, and other special guests shall be invited as observers whenever possible. The format and eventual location of the meeting, as well as its participants, except those whose attendance is prescribed by these By-laws, shall be determined by the International President in consultation with the International Executive Committee, taking into consideration all pertinent details, including logistics and finance.
409. Area Constitutions, Area Guidelines or Regional Constitutions causing conflict with the International Constitution shall be treated as invalid and the International Constitution shall prevail.
410. A club in good standing is a club which has paid Regional, Area and International Dues as requested for 100% of its reported members during the last three [3] semesters. Area and Regional dues will be considered timely paid unless IHQ receives information to the contrary from the Area/Region, before 30 September each year, accompanied by the request for exclusion from the good standing status. For a newly chartered club to be eligible to vote on international issues the club should have been in existence for at least two [2] semesters and paid all the above dues for 100% of its reported members during that period.
411. For a club to have annual voting privileges on International, Area, and Regional issues, it must by 30 September be in good standing as defined in By-law 410, have at least fifteen (15) members for the three last semesters and have the required details of its Club President recorded at IHQ. A club failing to meet any of these requirements forfeits its international voting rights for that year.
412. For clubs chartered at least 25 years (as of 31 December) with 5–14 members, for the sole purpose of voting in the International Elections, each club may, via the stipulated method, submit to the Regional Director, with a copy to IHQ, a request for exemption from the minimum membership requirement in By-law 411. The Regional Director must receive the request by 30 September and must certify that the club is actively seeking to increase its membership and state the number of members for the most recent three semesters. The Regional Director shall send all requests they endorse to

IHQ (individually or all together) to be received by 15 October with copies to AP. Subject to the decision by the International Executive Committee, the clubs shall vote without awaiting notification of the decision. Exemption can be granted to a maximum of three times for a club consecutively. The Regional Directors shall subsequently be notified of the decision, with an explanation if the request is rejected.

413. All clubs must settle any outstanding dues before making payments for the current semester. Clubs seeking exemption from arrears payments must submit a request, through the Regional Director, to the International Secretary General, providing a valid explanation. The International Executive Committee reserves the right to waive arrears if the reasons are deemed valid and the club has not previously been granted such a waiver.
414. In the event of a tied vote for election of Assembly Representative (International Council Member), a committee appointed by the Area President of the Area concerned shall cast the tie-breaking vote.
415. Any Area entitled to multiple seats in the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) may, subject to approved conditions in its Area Constitution, phase the allocation of these seats in an equitable manner by rotation among the various Regions within the Area.
416. Protocol and procedure for convening the meeting of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) shall be followed, which includes but is not limited to:
 - The International President shall authorise the convening of the all the meetings of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council). The International Secretary General shall send the notice for convening of the Assembly (Council) Meeting including agenda and background information for all meetings.
 - There shall be at least 14 days' notice for online meeting of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) and at least 45 days' notice for in person meeting of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council).
 - Extraordinary meetings of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) requested under Article V section 5 shall be convened within 60 days. Such requests shall be sent to the International President with copy to the International Secretary General explaining the rationale for convening the meeting. The International Executive Committee shall decide the mode of the meeting considering the financial and logistical aspects involved.
 - The International Secretary General or their representative staff shall record the minutes of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council).

ARTICLE V – THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (THE DIRECTION)

501. 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.

502. In the event of a tied vote for election of International President Elect or International Treasurer Elect, the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) shall cast the tie breaking vote through online ballot.
503. By-laws 410, 411, 412 and 413 also apply to Article V.
504. When reference is made to “The International Executive Officers” or “The IEOs” this shall mean IP, IPE, PIP and IT.
505. The International Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the International Association:
- The International President shall authorise meetings of the International Executive Committee.
 - Notice for meetings shall be issued by the International Secretary General who is responsible for keeping minutes of the meetings.

ARTICLE VI – EMPLOYED OFFICERS

601. The International 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 International Secretary General and any changes shall be approved by the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council).
602. The functions, responsibilities and performance standards of the Associate Secretaries General and other staff shall be carefully defined under their job description and negotiated with their 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 International Secretary General is accountable to the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council). The Associate Secretaries General and other staff are accountable to the International Secretary General for evaluation and reward within established policy.
604. The International Secretary General shall present a report on the state of the Association at the annual the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) and the Mid-Year meetings.

ARTICLE VII – VACANCIES IN OFFICE

701. Should the position of International President Elect-Elect become vacant because of death, resignation or incapacity, or becoming International President Elect the following procedure shall apply:
- Within a period of 45 days, 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 to assume the position of International President Elect-Elect for the remaining period of the vacant position and Regions shall be given 30 days

to return ballots.

702. In the event the position of International President Elect become vacant because of death, resignation or incapacity the International President Elect-Elect (if elected already) shall automatically become International President Elect.

ARTICLE VIII – FINANCE

801. The fiscal year shall be from 1 July to 30 June.
802. For each fiscal year, the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (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.
803. All International Funds operations shall conform with the existing policies or with a special decision of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council). 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 International, Area or Regional Dues for a period of eighteen (18) months will result in the club's charter being revoked.
804. The Regions shall pay the International and Area Dues for all reported members as of 1 February, and 1 August in each year.
805. Less than uniform financial shares shall be decided by the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) by a simple majority of Assembly Representatives (International Council Members) present and voting or by ~~a mail~~ electronic ballot – either by a motion issued by the International President, as decided by the International Executive Committee or by a motion by the Assembly Representatives (International Council Members).

ARTICLE IX – CONVENTIONS

901. The International Convention shall provide an 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.
902. The Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) shall approve a location for conventions preferably three (3) years previous to the dates of the convention.
903. An International Convention Committee shall be appointed by the International President with the approval of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (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 International Secretary General. The International Convention Committee shall be responsible for the execution of the programme, theme, selection of speakers, financial control and review.

ARTICLE X – AREAS AND REGIONS

1001. Regions shall have the responsibility and authority to:

- Choose a name for their specific Region in harmony with other Region names. No duplication in Region names will be accepted.
- Plan and conduct Regional Conventions.
- Elect their own Regional Director who will be the chief liaison officer to the President of their Area.
- Subdivide the Region as needed.
- Conduct training for club and District leaders.
- Promote the Association in the Region.
- Represent the Clubs at the Area level.

1002. Training of Regional Directors may be done by the International Secretary General and/or members of their employed staff or other person delegated by them.

1003. 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).

1004. 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. When a new club is to be chartered in a new country, the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council), in consultation with the relevant Area and Regions, shall change the boundary of an existing Region in accordance with Article X, Section 1.

1005. Areas shall have the responsibility and authority to:

- Represent the clubs from the Area at the International level.
- Oversee and coordinate the functions of the Regions in the Area.
- Plan and conduct Area convention and other events.
- Promote the Association in the Area.
- Achieve International Goals and Targets set for the year.
- Support Regions with Special Development Fund and Area Discretionary Leadership Fund allocated to the Area for extension and leadership development.

1006. In designating or revising present Areas, consideration shall be given to membership strength. In principle, an Area should have at least two Regions and 30 clubs in good standing.

ARTICLE XI – SIGNATORIES

ARTICLE XII – BY-LAWS

ARTICLE XIII – CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROCEDURE AND ARBITRATION

ARTICLE XIV – IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ARTICLE XV – DISSOLUTION

ARTICLE XVI – AMENDMENT

1601. By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) by 2/3rd affirmative vote of the Assembly Representatives (International Council Members) present and voting.
1602. The International Executive Committee shall establish a due date for all replies to proposed amendments and other administrative procedures.
1603. Notice of amendment[s] to the International Constitution must be lodged in writing to the International Secretary General at least forty-five (45) days before the next Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) Meeting setting out the specific clause[s] or part[s] thereof to be amended and a statement of intention must be submitted therewith.
1604. Motions which foreshadow any amendment to the International Constitution must be moved and seconded by members from different Areas and the advice of the International Constitution Review Committee be sought in advance on the amendment of by-laws for the sole effect of determining how the proposed amendment harmonises with or affects dispositions other than those under consideration. During the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) Meetings, advice shall be sought, if practical, from the International Constitution Review Committee or alternatively from the collective constitutional wisdom of the Assembly Representatives (International Council Members) or of anyone present knowledgeable of the International Constitution.
1605. In the event a secret ballot by the Legislative Assembly of Representatives (International Council) must be conducted, this shall be done using an anonymous ballot or an internet-based secure election system.