



Y's Men's International • Hong Kong District

CONSTITUTION

FOR

HONG KONG DISTRICT

of

**THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF Y'S MEN'S CLUBS
(Adopted at the District Council Meeting on 9th November 2000)**

ARTICLE I NAME & INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 The name of this organization shall be the Hong Kong District of The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs.
- 1.2 In this Constitution, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:-
- 1.2.1 "DDG" means a Deputy District Governor of the District in his/her current term of office;
- 1.2.2 "DG" means the District Governor of the District in his/her current term of office;
- 1.2.3 "District" means the Hong Kong District of The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs;
- 1.2.4 "GS Club" means a Y's Men's Club in the District which is deemed by the International as being in good standing in accordance with the International Constitution and which owes no outstanding dues to the Region or District;
- 1.2.5 "Hong Kong" means Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, The People's Republic of China;
- 1.2.6 "International" means The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs;
- 1.2.7 "International Constitution" means the constitution and its guidelines of the International as may be amended from time to time;
- 1.2.8 "Region" means the Southeast Asia Region of The International Association of Y's Men's Clubs;
- 1.2.9 "Regional Director" means the Regional Director of the Southeast Asia Region of the International; and
- 1.2.10 "Territory" means Hong Kong and such other geographical jurisdiction as the International may assign to the District from time to time;
- 1.2.11 "YMCA" means the Young Men Christian Association;
- 1.2.12 "Y's Men's Club" means club to which the International has granted a charter as a Y's Men's Club and which the International deems to be active and subsisting;
- 1.3 The District is a part of the International and is established in accordance with the International Constitution hence save with the permission of the International through its Council, nothing in this Constitution shall contradict the International Constitution or any decision of the International.
- 1.4 In this Constitution, words denoting the male gender shall include the female and vice versa and words denoting singular shall include plural and vice versa.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

- 2.1 The area of operation of the District shall be the Territory.
- 2.2 The purposes of the District shall be :-
 - 2.2.1 To promote Y'sdom within the Territory.
 - 2.2.2 To serve as a source of information and a medium of discussion on policies, programs and emphasis of the International.
 - 2.2.3 To encourage the establishment of Y's Men's Clubs in the Territory.
 - 2.2.4 To cultivate communications and co-operations among the Y's Men's Clubs in the Territory.
 - 2.2.5 To support the activities of the YMCA in the Territory and to encourage close cooperation between the Y's Men's Clubs and the YMCA in the Territory.
 - 2.2.6 To encourage Y's Men's Clubs in the Territory to provide charitable service and donations to the needy.

ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION

- 3.1 The District shall be responsible for its own organization, finance and conduct of its affairs.
- 3.2 The fiscal year of the District shall commence on 1st July each year and end on 30th June the next year.
- 3.3 The address of the District shall be such address as the District Council may adopt from time to time.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Membership of Y's Men's Clubs in the District may consist of men and women residing in the Territory. No one should be denied membership because of race, creed, color or national origin.
- 4.2 Members of the District are Y's Men's Clubs in the Territory.
- 4.3 To form a new Y's Men's Club and be granted a Charter of affiliation with the International, the club shall have a constitution approved by the International; shall be recommended by the DG; shall have at least 15 members; and shall have paid such Charter and other fees as the International and the District may prescribe in connection with the grant of the Charter.
- 4.4 The DG shall decide whether or not to recommend to the Regional Director that the Charter of a Y's Men's Club in the Territory be revoked.
- 4.5 The District shall maintain a membership composing of at least five GS Clubs.
- 4.6 All Y's Men's Clubs in the Territory shall pay to the District Council such dues and levies as the District Council may from time to time decide.

ARTICLE V DISTRICT COUNCIL

- 5.1 The governing body of the District shall be the District Council composed of :-
 - 5.1.1 the DG;
 - 5.1.2 no more than two DDGs;
 - 5.1.3 the Immediate Past DG;
 - 5.1.4 the District Secretary;
 - 5.1.5 the District Treasurer;
 - 5.1.6 no more than three representatives from each of the Y's Men's Clubs in the Territory;

- 5.1.7 the District Service Directors; and
 - 5.1.8 the Regional Director.
- 5.2 The DG and DDG(s) shall be elected in accordance with Articles VII. The Regional Director and the Immediate Past DG are ex-officio members of the District Council. The District Secretary, District Treasurer and District Service Directors assume and vacate their respective offices at the appointment and direction of the DG.

ARTICLE VI DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 6.1 District Council meetings shall be held at such times and places as the DG may decide from time to time.
- 6.2 Written notice about each District Council meeting shall be sent out by the DG or the District Secretary by post, facsimile transmission or e-mail to members of the District Council at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting.
- 6.3 The DG shall be the presiding officer at a District Council meeting. In the absence of the DG after the lapse of 30 minutes from the scheduled time of commencement of a District Council meeting, those present at the meeting may elect one of their number as the presiding officer.
- 6.4 Any representative of a GS Club may appoint a proxy to attend a District Council meeting and vote for him. Such appointment of proxy shall be in writing and given to the presiding officer before the commencement of the District Council meeting.
- 6.5 Resolutions in the District Council are carried with majority votes of the GS Clubs casted through their representatives to the District Council either during a meeting or, if directed by the DG, by mail ballot. Each GS Club is entitled to one vote. In the event of a tie of votes, the DG shall have a casting vote.
- 6.6 The quorum of a District Council meeting is constituted by representatives representing at least half of the GS Clubs in the Territory.

ARTICLE VII ELECTION OF DG AND DDGS

- 7.1. The DG and DDGs are elected from only the nominees approved by the Nomination Committee. The Nomination Committee shall consist of such members of the Y's Men's Clubs within the Territory as the DG may appoint, including if possible, the Immediate Past DG.
- 7.2 The procedure for the election of the DG and DDGs is as follows :-
 - 7.2.1 the District Council shall, on or before 1st February each year, resolve on the number of DDG(s) to be elected for the coming year;
 - 7.2.2 the DG shall, on or before 1st February each year, appoint members to the Nomination Committee and select one of the members as the Chairperson;
 - 7.2.3 the Chairperson of the Nomination Committee shall, on or before 14th February each year, send invitations to the GS Clubs for nominations for the DG and DDG(s) for the next year. Each invitation shall prescribe the methods of delivery and a time limit of no less than four weeks and not more than six weeks for the nominations;
 - 7.2.4 the Nomination Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the expiry of the time limit prescribed under Article 7.2.3 for the nominations, in any event no later than 14th April, report of the District Council as to the valid nominations;
 - 7.2.5 a nomination for DG or DDG shall be invalid if :-
 - 7.2.5.1 the nominee is not:
 - 7.2.5.1.1 a President or past President of a GS Club or
 - 7.2.5.1.2 a member of the GS Club nominating him/her; or
 - 7.2.5.2 the nominating Club nominates more than one candidate for the same position; or

- 7.2.5.3 the nomination is not received by the Nomination Committee through its Chairperson before the expiry of the time limit prescribed under Article 7.2.3 for nominations;
 - 7.2.6 the Nomination Committee shall reject a nomination for DG or DDG if the nomination is invalid under Article 7.2.5.
 - 7.2.7 the DG shall arrange the election of DG and DDGs to take place at the next District Council meeting following the receipt of the valid nominations from the Nomination Committee, in any event not later than 14th May of the year; and
 - 7.2.8 if, for any reason, a District Council meeting cannot be held on or before 14th May of a year, the DG and DDG(s) shall be elected by mail or fax ballot by the GS Clubs in accordance with such procedure as may be set by the Nomination Committee.
- 7.3 In the event that any of the positions of DG or DDGs become vacant during a fiscal year, the District Council shall arrange the GS Clubs to elect the DG or DDGs, as the case may be, for the remainder of the fiscal year. The District Council may, for this purpose, prescribe the time limits and procedure to be adopted.

ARTICLE VIII THE DG

- 8.1 The District is led by the DG who reports to the International, the Regional Director and to the District Council for the administration, finance and coordination of the work within the District.
- 8.2 The term of office of the DG shall be one fiscal year of the District.
- 8.3 A person shall be disqualified from acting as a DG if he should assume the office of a President or Vice President of a Y's Men's Club.
- 8.4 The responsibilities of the DG shall include :-
 - 8.4.1 Representing the International within the District;
 - 8.4.2 Representing the District at International, Area and Regional Conventions and other occasions when the District needs to be represented;
 - 8.4.3 Appointing a District Secretary and a District Treasurer;
 - 8.4.4 Appointing District Service Directors as appropriate and needed;
 - 8.4.5 Chairing the District Council meetings;
 - 8.4.6 Reporting to the District Council, the Region and the International;
 - 8.4.7 Organizing leadership training for office-bearers of Y's Men's Clubs within the District;
 - 8.4.8 Circulating to all Y's Men's Clubs in the District minutes of District Council meetings, and information and materials from the Region and International;
 - 8.4.9 Encouraging the Y's Men's Clubs in the District to function well and to report and pay dues to the District, Region and the International promptly;
 - 8.4.10 Working together with the District Service Directors to strengthen the Y's Men's Clubs in the District in their various activities; and
 - 8.4.11 Supporting the Y.M.C.A. and encouraging cooperation between the Y's Men's Clubs and the Y.M.C.A.

ARTICLE IX THE DDG

- 9.1 The term of office of a DDG shall be one fiscal year of the District.
- 9.2 A DDG shall assist the DG in the work of the District and assume such responsibilities as may be assigned to him/her by the DG and/or the District Council from time to time. A DDG should be kept informed and keep himself / herself informed about current matters within the District.

ARTICLE X RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST DG

10. The Immediate Past DG is responsible for the work of the Nomination Committee and such other tasks as the DG may assign.

ARTICLE XI RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

11. The responsibilities of the District Secretary shall include :
- 11.1 Assisting the DG in his/her communications;
- 11.2 Taking minutes at the District Council Meetings; and
- 11.3 Keeping the rosters and files of the District.

ARTICLE XII RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DISTRICT TREASURER

12. The responsibilities of the District Treasurer shall include :
- 12.1 Keeping income and expenditure accounts for the District;
- 12.2 Receiving and disbursing the funds of the District;
- 12.3 Opening bank accounts as needed;
- 12.4 Submitting an annual financial report; and
- 12.5 Preparing a budget in cooperation with the DG.

ARTICLE XIII DISTRICT SERVICE DIRECTORS

13. The District Service Directors are appointed by the DG to take up specific tasks including but not limited to the Extension-Membership-Conservation, Services, Public Relations and Publication.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

14. This Constitution may be amended at a District Council meeting if the proposed amendments have been circulated to members of the District Council at least 1 month prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendments are to be voted upon.

ARTICLE XV SHORT NOTICE

15. The time limits prescribed in this Constitution may be abridged as the District Council may resolve.

ARTICLE XVI DISSOLUTION

16. If for any reason the District Council is of opinion that the District should be dissolved, notice of the intent to dissolve the District must be given to all Y's Men's Clubs in the District, to all members of the District Council, and to the International at least one year prior to the decision being made by the District Council. Funds held by the District at the time of dissolution shall be handed over to the International to be administered until a new District can be organized.