

CHARTER
AND BYLAWS
OF THE
BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA

APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

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CHARTER AND BYLAWS
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CONTENTS

CHARTER 3

CONGRESSIONAL REPORT IN SUPPORT OF ACT TO INCORPORATE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA 5

BYLAWS 6

Article I. General 6

- SECTION 1. Name 6
- SECTION 2. Purpose 6
- SECTION 3. Seal; Designating Marks 6
- SECTION 4. National Service Center 6
- SECTION 5. Fiscal Year 6
- SECTION 6. Rules and Regulations 6
- SECTION 7. Priorities 6

Article II. The National Council 7

- SECTION 1. General 7
- SECTION 2. Members of the National Council 7
- SECTION 3. Meetings of the National Council 7

Article III. The Executive Board 8

- SECTION 1. Powers, Duties, and Interpretation 8
- SECTION 2. Membership 8
- SECTION 3. Election of Regular Members; Election, Vacancies 8
- SECTION 4. Meetings 8
- SECTION 5. Electronic Communications 9
- SECTION 6. Telecommunication Meetings 9
- SECTION 7. National President's Council 9
- SECTION 8. Committees of the Executive Board 9

Article IV. Officers 12

- SECTION 1. General 12
- SECTION 2. President 12
- SECTION 3. President-Elect 12
- SECTION 4. Vice Presidents 12
- SECTION 5. Treasurer/Vice President and Assistant Treasurers 12
- SECTION 6. National Commissioner 12
- SECTION 7. International Commissioner 12
- SECTION 8. Chief Scout Executive 12
- SECTION 9. Honorary Officers 13

Article V. Regional Organization 13

- SECTION 1. Regions 13
- SECTION 2. Regional Committees 13
- SECTION 3. Regional Board 13

- SECTION 4. Regional Executive Committee 14
- SECTION 5. Regional Director 14
- SECTION 6. Regional Officers 14
- SECTION 7. Regional Standing Committees 14
- SECTION 8. Area Committees 15
- SECTION 9. Regional Advisory Council 15

Article VI. Local Councils 15

- SECTION 1. General 15
- SECTION 2. Applications 15
- SECTION 3. Conditions and Termination 16
- SECTION 4. Revocation of Charter 16
- SECTION 5. Responsibility of the Local Council 16
- SECTION 6. Incorporation of Local Councils 16
- SECTION 7. Organization and Operation 16

Article VII. Youth Membership 17

- SECTION 1. General 17
- SECTION 2. Membership, Advancement, and Achievement 17

Article VIII. Adult Leadership 17

- SECTION 1. General 17
- SECTION 2. Professional Leadership 17

Article IX. Policies 18

- SECTION 1. Policies 18

Article X. Program 18

- SECTION 1. Program Objectives 18

Article XI. Business 18

- SECTION 1. Finance 18
- SECTION 2. Deeds, Contracts, Bonds, etc. 19

Article XIII. Special Situations 19

- SECTION 1. Experimental Programs 19
- SECTION 2. Overseas Scouting 19
- SECTION 3. Learning for Life 19

Article XIV. Indemnification 20

- SECTION 1. Indemnification 20

Article XV. Waivers and Amendments 20

- SECTION 1. Waivers 20
- SECTION 2. Amendment of Bylaws 20

Index 21

CHARTER

SIXTY-FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AT THE FIRST SESSION

BEGUN AND HELD AT THE

CITY OF WASHINGTON

ON MONDAY, THE SIXTH DAY

OF DECEMBER

ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED

AND FIFTEEN

AN ACT

**To Incorporate the
Boy Scouts of America and
for Other Purposes**

SECTION 1.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Colin H. Livingstone and Ernest P. Bicknell, of Washington, District of Columbia; Benjamin L. Dulaney, of Bristol, Tennessee; Milton A. McRae, of Detroit, Michigan; David Starr Jordan, of Berkeley, California; F. L. Seely, of Asheville, North Carolina; A. Stamford White, of Chicago, Illinois; Daniel Carter Beard, of Flushing, New York; George D. Pratt, of Brooklyn, New York; Charles D. Hart, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Franklin C. Hoyt, Jeremiaah W. Jenks, Charles P. Neill, Frank Presbrey, Edgar M. Robinson, Mortimer L. Schiff, and James E. West, of New York, New York; G. Barrett Rich, Junior, of Buffalo, New York; Robert Garrett, of Baltimore, Maryland; John Sherman Hoyt, of Norwalk, Connecticut; Charles C. Jackson, of Boston, Massachusetts; John H. Nicholson, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; William D. Murray, of Plainfield, New Jersey; and George D. Porter, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, their associates and successors, are hereby created a body corporate and politic of the District of Columbia, where its domicile shall be.

SECTION 2.

That the name of this corporation shall be “Boy Scouts of America,” and by that name it shall have perpetual succession, with power to sue and be sued in courts of law and equity within the jurisdiction of the United States; to hold such real and personal estate as shall be necessary for corporate purposes, and to receive real and personal property by gift, devise, or bequest; to adopt a

seal, and the same to alter and destroy at pleasure; to have offices and conduct its business and affairs within and without the District of Columbia and in the several States and Territories of the United States; to make and adopt bylaws, rules, and regulations not inconsistent with the law of the United States of America, or any State thereof, and generally to do all such acts and things (including the establishment of regulations for the election of associates and successors) as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this Act and promote the purposes of said corporation.

SECTION 3.

That the purpose of this corporation shall be to promote, through organization, and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred virtues, using the methods which are now in common use by Boy Scouts.

SECTION 4.

That said corporation may acquire, by way of gift, all the assets of the existing national organization of Boy Scouts, a corporation under the laws of the District of Columbia, and defray and provide for any debts or liabilities to the discharge of which said assets shall be applicable; but said corporation shall have no power to issue certificates of stock or to declare or pay dividends, its object and purposes being solely of a benevolent character and not for pecuniary profit to its members.

CHARTER—SECTION 5

SECTION 5.

That the governing body of the said Boy Scouts of America shall consist of an executive board composed of citizens of the United States. The number, qualifications, and terms of office of members of the executive board shall be prescribed by the bylaws. The persons mentioned in the first section of this Act shall constitute the first executive board and shall serve until their successors are elected and have qualified. Vacancies in the executive board shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members thereof. The bylaws may prescribe the number of members of the executive board necessary to constitute a quorum of the board, which number may be less than the majority of the whole number of the board. The executive board shall have power to make and to amend the bylaws, and, by two-thirds vote of the whole board at a meeting called for this purpose, may authorize and cause to be executed mortgages and liens upon the property of the corporation. The executive board may, by resolution passed by a majority of the whole board, designate three or more of their number to constitute an executive or governing committee, of which a majority shall constitute a quorum, which committee, to the extent provided in said resolution or in the bylaws of the corporation, shall have and exercise the powers of the executive board in the management of the business affairs of the corporation, and may have power to authorize the seal of the corporation to be affixed to all papers which may require it. The executive board, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole board, may appoint any other standing committees, and such standing committees shall have and may exercise such powers as shall be conferred or authorized by the bylaws. With the consent in writing and pursuant to an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of said corporation, the executive board shall have authority to dispose in any manner of the whole property of the corporation.

SECTION 6.

That an annual meeting of the incorporators, their associates and successors, shall be held once in every year after the year of incorporation, at such time and place as shall be prescribed in the bylaws, when the annual reports of the officers and executive board

shall be presented and members of the executive board elected for the ensuing year. Special meetings of the corporation may be called upon such notice as may be prescribed in the bylaws. The number of members which shall constitute a quorum at any annual or special meeting shall be prescribed in the bylaws. The members and executive board shall have power to hold their meetings and keep the seal, books, documents, and papers of the corporation within or without the District of Columbia.

SECTION 7.

That said corporation shall have the sole and exclusive right to have and to use, in carrying out its purposes, all emblems and badges, descriptive or designating marks, and words or phrases now or heretofore used by the Boy Scouts of America in carrying out its program, it being distinctly and definitely understood, however, that nothing in this Act shall interfere or conflict with established or vested rights.

SECTION 8.

That on or before the first day of April of each year the said Boy Scouts of America shall make and transmit to Congress a report of its proceedings for the year ending December thirty-first preceding.*

SECTION 9.

That Congress shall have the right to repeal, alter, or amend this Act at any time.

Approved 15 June 1916

WOODROW WILSON

*As amended August 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88-504, 78 Stat. 636.

CONGRESSIONAL REPORT IN SUPPORT OF ACT TO INCORPORATE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

House Report No. 130, Sixty-Fourth Congress
First Session

February 7, 1916.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Gard, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitting the following report (to accompany H. R. 755).

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 755) to incorporate the Boy Scouts of America and to protect its insignia, having carefully considered the same, beg leave to submit the following report with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

The Boy Scout movement is not one seeking to promote a juvenile military system, but is intended to supplement and enlarge established modern educational facilities in activities in the great and healthful out-of-doors where may be the better developed physical strength and endurance, self-reliance, and the powers of initiative and resourcefulness, all for the purpose of establishing through the boys of today the very highest type of American citizenship.

It tends to conserve the moral, intellectual, and physical life of the coming generation, and in its immediate results does much to reduce the problem of juvenile delinquency in the cities. The movement has grown rapidly during the past few years, until it is now organized in practically every community of 4,000 inhabitants and over and in many smaller communities of the United States. During the past two years Boy Scouts have demonstrated the value of the education and training they received as an auxiliary force in the maintenance of public order and in the administration of first-aid and practical assistance in times of great public emergencies. Their services on the occasion of the Ohio floods, at the Gettysburg reunion, in the inaugural ceremonies of President Wilson, and at the recent memorable reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic

in Washington attracted Nationwide attention and received general commendation, particularly from the American National Red Cross and the officials of the Federal and State Governments. The importance and magnitude of its work is such as entitle it to recognition and its work and insignia to protection by Federal incorporation.

The Scout scheme is based upon the methods involved in educating the boy. It is a scheme of placing the boy on honor. In addition to requiring him to live up to a standard or code of laws which insure development of character along proper lines, it requires him to study in order to pass certain tests of qualification. The passing of these various tests is recognized by the award of appropriate badges or medals and insignia.

If any boy can secure these badges without meeting the required tests, the badges will soon be meaningless, and one of the leading features of the Scout program will be lost; likewise, with the uniform that designates the Scout. At the present time this is protected by the use of insignia—a seal woven or stamped into the cloth. All of these various badges and insignia are at present protected by the patent laws, but under the patent laws such protection is available for a limited period only. The passing by Congress of this bill will, it is believed, provide the organization with proper protection for its distinctive insignia, the integrity of which is essential to the maintenance of the movement, and protect it from those who are seeking to profit by the good repute and high standing and popularity of the Scout movement by imitating it in name alone.

The identical language of this bill was incorporated in the bill with amendments thereto, known as H.R. 19907, which was reported from the Committee on the Judiciary on February 3, 1915, with a recommendation that it, as so amended, do pass.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. GENERAL

NAME

SECTION 1.

The name of the corporation is Boy Scouts of America. For convenience in these Bylaws the corporation is sometimes referred to as the “Corporation.”

PURPOSE

SECTION 2.

The purpose of the Corporation is as set forth in the original certificate of incorporation under the laws of the District of Columbia, dated February 8, 1910, and restated in the Act of Incorporation enacted by the Congress of the United States of America on June 15, 1916, as follows: “That the purpose of this Corporation shall be to promote, through organization and cooperation with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred virtues, using the methods which are now in common use by Boy Scouts.” In achieving this purpose, emphasis shall be placed upon its educational program and the oaths, promises, and codes of the Scouting program for character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical fitness.

SEAL; DESIGNATING MARKS

SECTION 3.

Clause 1. The seal of the Corporation shall be in the form of a circle enclosing the universal badge with the motto “Be Prepared” underneath the badge and the words “Boy Scouts of America” around the circle and shall be used only as authorized.

Clause 2. In accordance with provisions of the Charter, the Corporation shall establish and maintain policies to regulate the use of the seal and all other emblems and badges, descriptive and designating marks, and words or phrases associated with or referring to the Boy Scouts of America or any of its affiliates. Such policies may permit the use of the Boy Scouts of America designating marks by third parties as long as such are (i) consistent with the values and purpose of the Corporation, and (ii) pursuant to written agreement between the user and the Corporation. Administration of such policies is the responsibility of the Chief Scout Executive, who may delegate such duties to an officer or employee of the Corporation.

NATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

SECTION 4.

The principal office of the Corporation shall be located in the City of Irving, County of Dallas, in the State of Texas, and shall be known as the National Service Center of the Boy Scouts of America.

FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 5.

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be the calendar year.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 6.

Establishment

Clause 1. In accordance with the provisions of the Charter, the Executive Committee may establish and amend Rules and Regulations for the further governance and guidance of the Boy Scouts of America including its local councils and affiliates.

Amendment

Clause 2. The Rules and Regulations and amendments thereto shall normally be adopted by resolution of the Executive Committee.

Amendment—Reporting Changes to the Executive Board

Clause 3. Any amendment to the Rules and Regulations shall be reported to the members of the Executive Board at its next meeting and unless such amendment is altered or canceled by the Executive Board at such meeting, it will be as effective as if it had been originally adopted by the Executive Board.

PRIORITIES

SECTION 7.

General

Clause 1. These Bylaws shall be consistent with the Charter. The Rules and Regulations shall be consistent with the Charter and the Bylaws. In the event of any conflicts or inconsistencies, the Charter shall govern primarily and the Bylaws secondarily.

Specifics

Clause 2. All statements contained in official publications of the Boy Scouts of America, its local councils and affiliates, including (but not limited to) handbooks, pamphlets, instructions, magazine articles, bulletins, manuals, and letters, which may, from time to time, be issued for clarification or explanation of official language shall be consistent with the language and intent of the Charter, the Bylaws, and the Rules and Regulations. Any contradictory or inconsistent language is unauthorized and without effect.

ARTICLE II. THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

GENERAL

SECTION 1.

In accordance with the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of the Act of Congress, approved June 15, 1916, entitled “An Act to Incorporate the Boy Scouts of America and for Other Purposes,” giving the incorporators therein named the power to provide for the election of their associates and successors, the incorporators, and all persons who were duly elected and qualified as members of the National Council herein provided for their successors duly chosen, shall constitute the corporate membership of the Boy Scouts of America, to be known and designated collectively as the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

SECTION 2.

General

Clause 1. The National Council of the Boy Scouts of America shall consist of elected and ex officio members as provided for in these Bylaws. All members, except honorary members and commissioned professional Scouters, may vote.

Eligibility Requirements

Clause 2. No person shall be eligible for membership on the National Council who is not a citizen of the United States or has not taken the preliminary legal steps to become a citizen of the United States.

Clause 3. A commissioned professional Scouter is ineligible for voting privileges on the National Council.

The Election and Designation

Clause 4. Members of Executive Board. All persons elected members of the Executive Board shall upon their election become members of the National Council for the term of their election as members of the Executive Board.

Clause 5. Members of Regional Executive Committees and Area Commissioners. Persons serving as members of a regional executive committee and area commissioners shall be members of the National Council during their respective terms.

Clause 6. Local Council Representatives. The duly elected president and council commissioner of a local council shall, during their terms of office, be members of the National Council. Each local council may, in addition, elect one of its members as a member of the National Council for every 5,000 youth members (Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturers), or major portion thereof (2,501 or more), enrolled as of December 31 of the preceding year according to the records of the Corporation. Local councils shall certify as to the election of National Council members so elected and to their terms on forms provided for that purpose.

Clause 7. Members at Large. Members at large of the National Council may be elected by the National Council at its annual meeting to serve for 1 year. Persons who become members of national committees and members of regional committees as defined under article V, section 2 hereof, shall be members at large of the National Council during their respective terms.

Clause 8. Honorary Members. Honorary membership in the Boy Scouts of America shall consist of such citizens of the United States as may be elected thereto by the National Council for terms of 1 year in the furtherance of the program of the Boy Scouts of America.

Credentials of Members

Clause 9. The National Council shall issue certificates of membership and voting credentials to all voting members of the National Council indicating their right to participate and to vote at the annual meeting of the National Council. Votes shall be cast in person at the meeting and not by proxy.

MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

SECTION 3.

Regular Meetings

Clause 1. General. The National Council shall meet annually inside or outside of the District of Columbia at such time and place as may be determined by the Executive Board, for the purpose of delivering the annual reports of the officers and various committees of the National Council, electing members at large and honorary members of the National Council and regular members of its Executive Board, and transacting such other business as may come before the meeting. The Executive Board shall determine what business is appropriate to come before the meeting. The Executive Board may, in its sole discretion, present matters of significance to the movement for a binding referendum vote of the National Council at the annual meeting and any such matter shall be described in the required notice of the annual meeting.

Clause 2. Notice. A notice of the annual meeting shall be mailed or sent by electronic mail to each member of the National Council at least 30 days in advance thereof, indicating the time and place of the meeting.

Special Meetings

Clause 3. Special meetings of the National Council may be called by the Executive Board at any time and shall be called within 90 days upon the request of at least 5 percent of the members of the National Council (such request specifying the object of such a special meeting) to be held at such place as the President shall determine, provided, however, that a notice of such meeting, indicating the place and object thereof, shall be mailed to each member of the National Council at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The business of the meeting shall be limited to the matters included in the notice of the meeting.

Quorum

Clause 4. Five percent of the members of the National Council present in person shall constitute a quorum for all purposes.

Voting

Clause 5. At any meeting of the National Council, each member present shall be entitled to one vote.

Guests

Clause 6. Honorary members of the Boy Scouts of America and such other persons as may be specially invited may attend meetings of the National Council but shall have no vote.

ARTICLE III. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

POWERS, DUTIES, AND INTERPRETATION

SECTION 1.

Authority of Executive Board

Clause 1. The Executive Board shall, in accordance with the provisions of its Charter and these Bylaws, be the governing body of the Corporation, manage its affairs, elect its officers, and be the final reviewing authority with respect to all matters whatsoever which may arise at any level within the Scouting movement, which in its judgment should be reviewed.

Interpretation

Clause 2. For the purpose of these Bylaws, the phrase “the whole Executive Board” shall mean the number of members on the Executive Board at the time actually holding office and vacancies shall not be included. The Executive Board shall have the following reserved powers that may not be delegated to a committee: amending these Bylaws; changing the mission or purpose of the Corporation; approving nominations to and filling vacancies on the Executive Board and its standing committees; electing officers; approving any merger or dissolution; approving the sale, mortgage, pledge, or transfer of substantially all of the assets of the Corporation; increasing or materially changing the indebtedness of the Corporation beyond any previously authorized level; or authorizing distributions from the Corporation.

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 2.

The Executive Board of the Corporation shall consist of:

Regular Members

Clause 1. Not to exceed 64 regular members who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Corporation for 1-year terms.

Regional Presidents

Clause 2. Regional presidents whose terms as members of the Executive Board shall be the same as their respective terms of office as regional presidents. Each regional president who is a regular member of the Executive Board at the time of becoming a regional president shall continue as a regular member of the Executive Board until the end of the term of such, whereupon the individual shall become a regional member provided that at such time the member is still regional president. Nothing herein contained shall prevent a regional member from being elected as a regular member of the Executive Board.

Youth Members

Clause 3. Those persons who shall be registered youth program participants may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board to serve for a specified term of up to 1 year. A youth program participant may be reappointed for a second 1-year term. The aggregate number of youth program participants shall at no time exceed five.

Special Members

Clause 4. The Chairman of the Advisory Council, the President of the National Eagle Scout Association, the Chairman of the Order of the Arrow Committee, and the Chairman of Learning for Life shall serve as ex officio voting members of the Executive Board during their 1-year terms.

Immediate Past President

Clause 5. The Immediate Past President shall be an ex officio voting member of the Executive Board.

ELECTION OF REGULAR MEMBERS; ELECTION, VACANCIES

SECTION 3.

Clause 1. At each annual meeting of the National Council, regular members of the Executive Board shall be elected to serve for a term of 1 year or until their successors have been elected and have qualified.

Clause 2. Where vacancies occur, because of resignation or otherwise, of members before the expiration of their term of office, such vacancies may be filled for the unexpired period of the term by nomination by the Nominating Committee and confirmation by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Executive Board.

MEETINGS

SECTION 4.

Regular Meetings

Clause 1. The Executive Board will meet at least three times annually at such times and places as may be designated by the Executive Board, with no more than one meeting during any calendar quarter. One meeting a year shall coincide with the National Council annual meeting.

Clause 2. Each Executive Board member must attend a minimum of one board meeting during each term in office. In the event a board member fails to meet this minimum requirement, said board member's position shall be vacated unless the Executive Board specifically votes to retain the board member as a member of the Executive Board in accordance with the Charter and Bylaws. Any vacancy created under this clause may be filled in accordance with the Charter and Bylaws of the Corporation.

Special Meetings

Clause 3. Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called at any time by the President or by 10 or more members. The call of the meeting shall state the purpose, and no other business not included in the notice of the call shall be transacted.

Notice

Clause 4. A notice of all Executive Board meetings shall be mailed to each member at least 2 weeks in advance of any such meeting.

Quorum

Clause 5. One-half of the members of the Executive Board, present in person, shall constitute a quorum.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**SECTION 5.**

Electronic communications, records, and signatures may be used in connection with all matters contemplated by these Bylaws except to the extent prohibited by applicable law. Except as may be specifically set forth herein, the parties may use and rely upon electronic communications, records, and signatures for all notices, waivers, consents, undertakings, and other documents, communications, or information of any type sent or received in connection with the matters contemplated by these Bylaws. An electronically transmitted (but not oral) document will be deemed to satisfy any requirement under these Bylaws or applicable law that such document be “written,” “in writing,” or the like. An electronic signature or electronically transmitted signature by any person on any document (properly authenticated) will be deemed to satisfy any requirement under these Bylaws or applicable law that such document be “signed” or “executed” by such person. An electronic transmittal or communication (but not oral) of a document will constitute delivery of such document. Neither the Corporation nor any member, Executive Board member, or any committee thereof may contest the authorization for, or validity or enforceability of, electronic records and electronic signatures, or the admissibility of copies thereof, under any applicable law relating to whether certain agreements, files, or electronic records are to be in writing or signed by the party to be bound thereby.

TELECOMMUNICATION MEETINGS**SECTION 6.**

The Executive Board or any committee or subcommittee thereof may meet by telecommunication. Action taken at any such meeting shall be recorded and the record signed by all members participating and filed as the official minutes of such meeting. All notice and quorum requirements shall apply to such meetings provided that the signing of the record of the action taken shall constitute a waiver of notice by persons so signing.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL**SECTION 7.**

Clause 1. There shall be a National President’s Council, composed of members of the Executive Board who, because of their tenure, experience, and particular expertise, would be of assistance to the President of the Corporation in assessing the effectiveness of programs and offering advice and counsel on issues affecting the Scouting movement.

Clause 2. There shall be no more than 20 members of the National President’s Council who shall be appointed by the President each year for 1-year terms and who shall meet from time to time upon request of the President.

Clause 3. Members of the National President’s Council may elect to continue to serve as special members of the Executive Board of the Corporation with full voting privileges, but they will not serve as regular members, as that term is defined in section 2, clause 1 of this article.

COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**SECTION 8.****General**

Clause 1. The committees of the Executive Board shall consist of an Executive Committee, and other designated committees to be known as standing and support committees, which shall, though separately structured, have such powers as shall be conferred or authorized by these Bylaws. In addition, the President shall appoint special committees, and may, from time to time, create ad hoc committees, teams, and task forces for the purpose of handling special assignments, with the advice of the Chief Scout Executive and confirmation by the Executive Board.

Clause 2. Duties and Quorum. The duties, responsibilities, and membership qualifications shall be prescribed in these Bylaws, in the Rules and Regulations, and/or by resolution of the Executive Board. Except as otherwise herein provided, a majority of the members of any committee or subcommittee, exclusive of ex officio members, present in person shall constitute a quorum. Once a quorum is present the departure of one or more members shall not invalidate the meeting.

Executive Committee

Clause 3. Delegation of Authority to Executive Committee. Except for the powers reserved to the Executive Board, the duty and authority to manage the affairs of the Corporation shall be vested in the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may not take any of the actions specifically reserved to the Executive Board in section 1 of this article.

Clause 4. National Key 3. The President, National Commissioner, and Chief Scout Executive shall be known as the National Key 3. The National Key 3 shall be responsible for addressing issues which arise between meetings of the Executive Committee and for addressing such other matters and having such responsibilities as set forth by the Executive Committee. The National Key 3 will report to the Executive Committee on its significant actions at the Executive Committee’s meetings.

Clause 5. Membership. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the active officers of the Corporation, the regional presidents, and the immediate past president, who must be members of the Executive Board by election or position at the time of election to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall not have less than 12 nor more than 25 members. The President shall serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Clause 6. Meetings. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the President and shall be called by the President within 30 days upon the request of three or more members of the Committee. It shall be the general practice of the Executive Committee to meet at least three times annually. All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held on at least 15 days’ written notice or 5 days’ notice by telephone or email. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Standing Committees

Clause 7. The standing committees, which are advisory to the Executive Board, shall be as follows: Audit Committee, Development

Committee, Finance Committee, Human Resources Committee, Information Delivery Committee, Marketing Committee, National Adventures Committee, Nominating Committee, Operations Committee, Regional Presidents' Committee, and Supply Committee. Standing committees shall be chaired by vice presidents with the exception of the Nominating Committee and the Audit Committee. The chairman of the Audit and Nominating committees shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Board. These vice presidents shall have the responsibility of coordinating the efforts of their related support committees. All standing committee members shall be appointed by the President and shall be members of the Executive Board.

Clause 8. Standing committees shall be governed by committee charters setting forth the committee's scope, roles, and responsibilities and in accordance with any specific provisions of these Bylaws. Committees shall develop strategic goals, recommendations, and action steps as appropriate to be provided to the Executive Committee. Standing committees shall be supported by a staff member assigned by the Chief Scout Executive who shall have primary administrative responsibility for coordinating the efforts of the committees and preparing reports and recommendations. The vice president of each standing committee shall report action items and resolutions to the Executive Committee and, when requested, the Executive Board at their meetings. The Chief Scout Executive is responsible for the execution of strategies and recommendations of the committees approved by the Executive Committee or the Executive Board.

Support Committees

Clause 9. A Vice President in charge of a standing committee may, from time to time, appoint support committees to provide assistance to his or her standing committee. The chairs of these support committees shall be appointed for a period of one year by the designated vice president, who is chair of the related standing committee, subject to the approval of the President and confirmation by the Executive Board. All support committee members shall be appointed by the chair of the respective support committee and may include individuals who are not members of the Executive Board. Support committees shall be governed by committee charters setting forth the support committee's role and responsibilities. Support committees shall develop strategic goals, recommendations, and action steps as appropriate to be provided to the corresponding standing committee. Support committees shall be supported by a staff member assigned by the Chief Scout Executive who shall have primary administrative responsibility for coordinating the efforts of the support committees and preparing reports and recommendations. The chairman of each support committee shall present reports to the corresponding standing committee.

Clause 10. International Committee. The International Committee is also a support committee, which will develop and recommend policies with respect to assigned areas of responsibility, will review the progress and needs of the Corporation in such areas, and will recommend appropriate action to the Executive Board through the international commissioner. The International Commissioner may serve as chairman of the International Committee.

Special Requirements for Nominating Committee

Clause 11. General Duties. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, with no ex officio members. The Nominating Committee shall make nominations at the annual

meetings of the National Council for members at large and honorary members of the National Council, and regular members of the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee shall make nominations for officers, honorary officers of the Corporation, and members of the Advisory Council at a regular meeting of the Executive Board.

Clause 12. Appointment of Nominating Committee Members. The members of the Nominating Committee and its chairman shall be appointed by the President from the members of the Executive Board subject to the approval of the Executive Board. Each member shall be eligible for reappointment for not more than one additional term. No member of the Nominating Committee shall be eligible for nomination as an officer or member of the Executive Committee. The committee shall be appointed annually at least 6 months prior to the next regular meeting of the National Council.

Clause 13. Submission of Names. The names of possible candidates may be submitted by members of the National Council in writing to the Nominating Committee for its consideration. The Nominating Committee will submit nominations:

- (a) To any meeting of the National Council for members at large and honorary members of the National Council and for members of the Executive Board.
- (b) To the Executive Board to fill vacancies in its membership as prescribed in article III, section 3, clause 2.
- (c) To the Executive Board for election of members of the Advisory Council.
- (d) To the Executive Board for honorary officers, and, prior to the annual meeting of the National Council, for officers of the Corporation, regional presidents, and members of the Executive Committee.

Clause 14. The Nominating Committee shall be given full information concerning all such candidates, together with advice from the officers and the Chief Scout Executive.

Clause 15. The Nominating Committee shall review and, subject to the Nominating Committee's approval, accept nominations from the regional nominating committees for regional presidents who shall be elected in the same manner as other members of the Executive Committee.

Clause 16. A member of the Executive Board whose position has been vacated pursuant to article III, section 3, clause 2 shall be renominated to the Executive Board only with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Clause 17. Committee Procedures.

- (a) On request of any member of the Nominating Committee, voting shall be by written ballot.
- (b) During the actual voting for the selection of officers and members of the Executive Board, the Nominating Committee may, on an affirmative vote of the majority of its members, meet in executive session.
- (c) A majority of the members of the Nominating Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Special Requirements for Audit Committee

Clause 18. The Audit Committee is hereby authorized by the Executive Board, as specifically detailed in the subsections below, to fulfill the Executive Board's fiduciary responsibilities relating to accounting and financial matters, financial reporting practices, and internal accounting and financial controls. The chairman and members of the Audit Committee shall be knowledgeable on financial matters. The Audit Committee Chairman and members shall be appointed for a period of 1 year by the President and shall be confirmed by the Executive Board. The Audit Committee shall:

- (a) Recommend independent auditors to the Executive Committee for its selection.
- (b) Recommend to the Executive Board the approval and issuance of the Annual Report of the Treasurer together with the audited financial statements.
- (c) Discuss with the independent auditors the scope of their audit and their fees.
- (d) Discuss with the independent auditors, the internal auditor, and the appropriate administrative officers the Corporation's accounting principles, policies, practices, and reporting policies and practices.
- (e) Discuss with the independent auditors and the internal auditor the results of their audits.
- (f) Discuss with the independent auditors, the internal auditor, and the administrative officers the adequacies of the Corporation's accounting, financial, and operating controls.
- (g) Discuss with the administrative officers, the internal auditor, and the independent auditors any proposed accounting policies which are of sufficient significance to be passed upon by the Executive Board.
- (h) Report to the Executive Board Audit Committee recommendations and observations with regard to significant financial and accounting matters brought to its attention.

Special Committees

Clause 19. Budget Committee. The Budget Committee shall be a special committee with the primary responsibility to develop and present the annual budget of the Corporation to the Executive Committee. The committee shall be chaired by the treasurer and shall consist of the officers of the Corporation plus additional members as appointed by the President.

Clause 20. Resolutions Committee. The Resolutions Committee is a special committee authorized to review and determine whether any resolution proposed by a member of the National Council is appropriate for discussion at the National Council annual business meeting or whether any such matter should be referred to another committee or dealt with in some other appropriate manner.

Clause 21. International Committee. The International Committee is a special committee authorized to represent the Corporation in connection with the World Scouting Organization and to support other international initiatives authorized by the Executive Committee.

Advisory Council

Clause 22. There shall be an Advisory Council to the Executive Board composed of members of the National Council and United States citizens who, because of experience, have a particular expertise that would benefit the national movement and are elected to membership on the Advisory Council by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Executive Board present at any meeting. The Advisory Council shall meet annually.

Clause 23. There shall be a chairman of the Advisory Council who shall be an ex officio voting member of the Executive Board and be appointed by the President with the approval of a majority of the whole Executive Board, to serve for a term not exceeding 1 year or until a successor has been appointed and has qualified.

Clause 24. The Advisory Council shall be responsible to the Executive Board, acting in an advisory capacity on matters of major national concern. The Advisory Council also may be requested by the Executive Board to carry out specific projects.

Clause 25. Members of the Advisory Council shall receive notice of all such meetings of the Executive Board and be entitled to attend but not to vote.

Subcommittees, Advisory Panels, Task Forces, and Consultants

Clause 26. From time to time as may be required, any standing committee may:

- (a) Subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, appoint one or more subcommittees to maintain a continuing review of, and to give the standing committee advice concerning, a specific area within the standing committee's general area of responsibility. The chairman of each such subcommittee shall be a member of either a group or support committee and, whenever prudent, of the Executive Board. Other members need not be members of the standing committee or the Executive Board.
- (b) Subject to the approval of the officers of the Executive Board, appoint temporary task forces or advisory panels, whose members need not be members of the standing committee, to offer advice, opinions, and recommendations on specific matters referred to them for consideration.
- (c) With the approval of the President and Executive Committee, employ or appoint consultants who need not be members of the standing committee or of the National Council to provide expert testimony or counsel on specific matters. Consultants shall not be entitled to vote on committee matters.

The vice president of the standing committee shall appoint the chairman and approve all members of a subcommittee, task force, or advisory panel.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

GENERAL

SECTION 1.

The active officers of the Corporation shall be the President, the President-Elect, one or more vice presidents, the Treasurer/Vice President of Finance, one or more assistant treasurers, the National Commissioner, the International Commissioner, and the Chief Scout Executive. These officers, with the exception of the Chief Scout Executive, shall be elected annually by the Executive Board to serve for 1 year or until their successors have been elected and have qualified. The Chief Scout Executive shall not serve after attaining the age of 65 years. An individual normally will not (a) serve as President for more than two 1-year terms or (b) serve in any other particular office for more than four terms.

PRESIDENT

SECTION 2.

The President shall serve as chairman of meetings of the National Council, chairman of the Executive Board, chairman of the Executive Committee, and as a member ex officio of all committees, other than the Nominating Committee, and shall perform such duties as are or may be assigned by the Executive Board.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

SECTION 3.

There shall be a president-elect who shall be elected annually and who shall perform such functions as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee. The President may designate the president-elect to serve as the President during the President's absence or inability to serve. In the case of the President's inability or failure to make such a designation, the Executive Board may do so. The president-elect shall perform other functions as may be assigned by the President and the Executive Committee.

VICE PRESIDENTS

SECTION 4.

There shall be one or more vice presidents elected annually, one of whom shall be designated as the international commissioner. Vice presidents shall be the chairman of their assigned standing committees and perform such additional functions as may be assigned to them by the Executive Committee. The Executive Board may designate one of the vice presidents to serve as President only during the absence or inability of both the President and the President-Elect.

TREASURER/VICE PRESIDENT AND ASSISTANT TREASURERS

SECTION 5.

The Treasurer/Vice President of Finance shall monitor the financial affairs of the Corporation which shall be under the direction of the Chief Financial Officer who by utilizing a system of internal controls shall be responsible for the recording and deposit of all receipts of the Corporation, for the proper disbursements of its cash, and for control over all property of the Corporation, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, however acquired.

The Treasurer/Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer shall present annually to the Executive Committee and Executive Board a complete and detailed statement of all income and expenses during the prior year together with a statement of assets, liabilities, reserves, and funds of the Corporation as at the end of that calendar year, these statements first having been duly audited by independent public accountants approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer/Vice President of Finance shall serve as chairman of the Budget Committee.

NATIONAL COMMISSIONER

SECTION 6.

The national commissioner shall (a) be an officer of the Corporation, (b) represent the Boy Scouts of America in national affairs, (c) be the chief morale officer of the Boy Scouts of America, and (d) represent the commissioner service team.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONER

SECTION 7.

The international commissioner shall represent the Boy Scouts of America in international affairs and shall serve as a member, and may be chairman, of the International Committee.

CHIEF SCOUT EXECUTIVE

SECTION 8.

Clause 1. The Chief Scout Executive shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Board and shall serve as the secretary of the National Council, Executive Board, and Executive Committee and shall be an ex officio nonvoting member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, except where otherwise provided by action of the committee in question, and except in the case of the Executive Committee of which the Chief Scout Executive shall be a voting member.

Clause 2. The Chief Scout Executive shall serve as the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall have general direction of the administrative work of the Corporation, subject to these Bylaws, the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America, and to the authority and direction of the Executive Committee.

Clause 3. The Chief Scout Executive may execute, on behalf of the Corporation, all documents, deeds, or notes duly authorized to be executed and shall be the custodian of the seal of the Corporation, and may affix the same duly attested to such documents, deeds, or notes as may require it. As to notes, such countersignature shall be required as the Executive Board shall direct.

Clause 4. The Chief Scout Executive may delegate to any staff officer or employee authority in writing to execute such leases, contracts, and other instruments as the Chief Scout Executive may deem desirable.

Clause 5. The Chief Scout Executive shall see that notices are sent to those elected as members of the National Council and officers of the Corporation and to those appointed as members of the committees and shall likewise cause notices to be sent out of all meetings for which provision is made herein.

Clause 6. The Chief Scout Executive shall submit a report at each meeting of the Executive Board relative to the work of the Corporation and to the status of the Scouting movement throughout the nation, inviting attention to matters of particular interest and informing the Executive Board concerning any problems of which the Executive Board should be advised, together with recommendations and suggestions for the good of the movement requiring action by the Executive Board.

Clause 7. The Chief Scout Executive shall prepare an annual report of the Boy Scouts of America for each calendar year and with the approval of the Executive Board shall transmit it to Congress, as required by the provisions of the federal Charter, and shall present it to the National Council at the time of its annual meeting.

Clause 8. The General Counsel of the Corporation shall serve as assistant secretary of the Corporation, subject to any delegation of authority or limitation thereof by the Chief Scout Executive.

HONORARY OFFICERS

SECTION 9.

Honorary President and Vice Presidents

Clause 1. The President of the United States may, during term of office, be elected to be the Honorary President of the Boy Scouts of

America. In addition, living former Presidents of the United States and other citizens who have rendered distinguished service to our country through work for young people may be elected to be honorary vice presidents. Such election shall be by the Executive Board upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee for such terms as the Executive Board shall specify.

Other Honorary Officers

Clause 2. The Executive Board may from time to time create such other honorary offices as it may deem to be in the best interest of the movement.

The offices shall be filled by election by the Executive Board upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee to serve for 1 year or until their successors have been elected and qualified and shall perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the President and Chief Scout Executive.

American citizens whose achievements are of such an exceptional character as to capture the imagination of youth and stimulate their enthusiasm for the program of the Boy Scouts of America may, upon the unanimous recommendation of the Executive Board, be elected by the National Council to become honorary officers. Honorary officers are under no obligation to render active service.

ARTICLE V. REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

REGIONS

SECTION 1.

General

Clause 1. Geographical areas within and without the United States shall be divided into administrative units to be known as regions. The number of such regions, their geographical boundaries, and their designation shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Responsibilities

Clause 2. Each region shall have a regional executive committee that is responsible for the achievement of approved goals and for the effective operation of each of its councils. The region is responsible for assessing and improving the performance of each council in the region. The region may issue conditional charters to councils within the region as deemed appropriate. Subject to the approval of the National Key 3, the region may realign councils and their territories and issue transitional charters. The region is responsible for assuring sufficient qualified volunteer and professional leadership in each area and council.

REGIONAL COMMITTEES

SECTION 2.

Organization

Clause 1. Subject to these Bylaws, the Rules and Regulations, and the general control of the Executive Board, each region shall implement national policy and program through a regional committee.

Membership

Clause 2. Regular Members. The membership of the regional committee shall consist of members of the National Council residing in the region and such additional members as may be elected by the regional committee.

Meetings

Clause 3. Each regional committee shall meet once a year at such time and place as the regional executive committee or president may direct.

REGIONAL BOARD

SECTION 3.

General

Clause 1. The regional board, consisting of the regional executive committee plus not more than 50 regular members at large elected annually by the regional committee, shall be the body of the region that reviews matters regarding the Scouting movement as presented or requested by the regional executive committee. Each member at large must hold some specific committee or other regional assignment.

Clause 2. Each regional board member must attend a minimum of one board meeting each calendar year during each term in office. In the event a board member fails to meet this minimum requirement, said board member's position shall be vacated unless the regional executive committee specifically votes to retain the board member as a member of the regional board.

Youth Members

Clause 3. Youth program participants may be appointed by the regional president with the approval of the regional board to serve as members of the regional board, subject to the following criteria:

- (a) The term of appointment shall be for 1 year.
- (b) A youth program participant may be reappointed for a second 1-year term.
- (c) At no time will the aggregate number of youth members exceed five.

Meetings

Clause 4. Each regional board shall meet at least annually at such times and places as the regional president may direct for planning of regional events and activities and for meetings of the regional standing committees for training and planning council service.

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 4.

General

Clause 1. The regional executive committee shall consist of the elected officers, including the regional president, regional commissioner, regional vice presidents, the area presidents, and the chairmen of the regional standing committees as appointed by the regional president, and the regional director. The regional executive committee shall have and may exercise the authority over all matters to which the region is assigned responsibility. The regional presidents shall provide recommendations and report to the Executive Committee on actions taken in connection with the issuance of conditional charters. Any realignment of council territories and issuance of transitional charters shall be approved in advance by the National Key 3. Any recommendation on charter revocation must be made to the Executive Committee.

Meetings

Clause 2. Each regional executive committee shall meet twice annually at such times and places as the regional president may direct.

Authority to Require Council Improvement Plans

Clause 3. The regional executive committee shall have the authority to require councils to adopt improvement plans so as to achieve goals established by the region and aligned with the goals of the Corporation. The improvement plan may be accompanied by a conditional charter.

Regional Key 3

Clause 4. The regional president, regional commissioner, and regional director shall be known as the regional Key 3. The regional Key 3 shall be responsible for addressing issues which arise between meetings of the regional executive committee and for addressing such other matters and having such responsibilities as set forth by the regional executive committee. The regional Key 3 will report to the regional executive committee on its significant actions at the regional executive committee's meetings.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

SECTION 5.

The regional director of field operations shall serve as secretary of the regional committee, the regional board, the executive committee, and the standing committees.

REGIONAL OFFICERS

SECTION 6.

Regional President

Clause 1. One member of each regional committee shall be elected regional president, who shall be a citizen of the United States of America, be elected annually by the regional board, and become a member of the Executive Board and Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws. In the event of a vacancy in the regional presidency, the regional executive committee will nominate a successor to the national Nominating Committee to serve until the next regional election. The regional president may appoint a member of the regional executive committee as a substitute.

Regional Vice Presidents

Clause 2. One or more regional vice presidents may be elected to carry out responsibilities as may be assigned by the regional board.

Regional Commissioner

Clause 3. The regional commissioner shall be elected annually and shall (a) be an officer of the region; (b) provide support to areas in membership, charter renewal, and training; and (c) support commissioner service.

Area President

Clause 4. One member from each area of the region shall be elected annually as area president. Area presidents will report directly to the regional president. In the event of a vacancy in an area presidency, the regional president will appoint a successor subject to the approval of the regional executive committee.

Area Commissioner

Clause 5. Each area commissioner shall be elected annually and shall (a) report to the regional commissioner; (b) provide support to councils in membership, charter renewal, and training; and (c) support commissioner service.

Elections

Clause 6. Elections shall be by majority vote of those persons voting. On request of 10 members, voting shall be by secret ballot.

REGIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 7.

Nominating Committee

Clause 1. Except as otherwise provided, the regional and area officers and commissioners and regional executive committee shall be nominated and elected by a regional nominating committee and election process operating in the same manner as is required for similar national positions.

Clause 2. Timing. The nominating committee will be appointed and the chairman designated by the regional president at the time of the annual elections or within 30 days following such elections to serve until the next elections.

Clause 3. Nominees. Persons to be nominated and elected annually shall include the regional president, regional vice presidents, area presidents, and members of the regional board.

Clause 4. Suggestions. At least 120 days prior to the regional elections, members of the regional committee will be invited to submit in writing names of persons to be considered for regional committee membership.

Clause 5. Report. The report of the nominating committee will be submitted to all eligible voters in writing at the time of elections.

Other Regional Committees

Clause 6. Regional standing committees shall reasonably mirror national standing committees applicable to the region and the chairmen of those committees may serve as members of the counterpart national committee as requested by the chairman of the national committee. The regional executive committee may authorize other regional support committees as may be warranted and select chairmen. The chairman of any regional support committee may serve as a member of any counterpart national committee as requested by the chairman of the national committee.

AREA COMMITTEES

SECTION 8.

Clause 1. The area executive committee, and specialists, council presidents, and National Council members from the local councils in the area, shall constitute the area committee. The area executive committee, with the approval of the regional Key 3, may approve the establishment of area committees consistent with the regional committee structure and task forces to address assigned matters on a temporary basis, including providing assistance in the realignment of council territories within the region.

Clause 2. The area president, area commissioner, and area director shall be known as the area Key 3. The area Key 3 shall be responsible for addressing issues assigned to them by the regional executive committee.

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

SECTION 9.

Clause 1. There shall be an advisory council to the regional board composed of members who because of experience have a particular expertise that would benefit the movement through the region and are elected to membership on the advisory council by a two-thirds vote of the members of the regional board present at any meeting.

Clause 2. Members of the advisory council shall be relieved of the obligation of regular attendance at meetings of the regional board, but shall receive notice of all such meetings and be entitled to attend, but not to vote.

ARTICLE VI. LOCAL COUNCILS

GENERAL

SECTION 1.

Clause 1. Charters. In order to accomplish its purposes and to carry out its programs, the Corporation will charter local councils each with jurisdiction over a prescribed geographical area. All local council charters shall be issued for a period not exceeding 1 year ending June 30 and may be renewed annually upon application, accompanied by reports based upon operations for the preceding calendar year, together with such other evidence as may be required, showing a satisfactory effort to meet the responsibilities of a local council as herein provided. Such charters shall be contingent on such local councils' fulfilling the basic purpose of the Scouting movement within their specified territory in a sustainable manner, in accordance with these Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the Corporation.

Clause 2. Constructive Trust on Council Properties. All funds raised and property owned by local councils in the name of Scouting shall be subject to and used in accordance with the principles of a constructive trust for the benefit of Scouting as set forth in the Rules and Regulations of the Corporation. Upon termination of a local council charter or dissolution of a council, all rights of management and ownership of local council property shall become vested in the National Council for use in accordance with the

Rules and Regulations of the Corporation. Local council articles of incorporation and bylaws shall include or be revised to incorporate this provision at the time of chartering or the next charter renewal.

Clause 3. Audits. The National Council shall have the right to audit all records of local councils for compliance with national rules, regulations, and policies. Any report made following an audit shall be shared with the council president, commissioner, and Scout executive. The regional executive committee shall have the right following any audit to take such action as it deems appropriate to correct any deficiencies or violations of any national rules, regulations, policies, or charter agreement.

APPLICATIONS

SECTION 2.

Applications for new charters shall be accompanied by a copy of the proposed Local Council Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the council incorporating terms approved and required by the National Council and evidence showing that it will be for the best interests of the youth of the community and the Scouting movement to have a chartered council and that those who are making the application are in a position to perform the functions of the local council in a manner which would justify the issuance of a charter.

CONDITIONS AND TERMINATION

SECTION 3.

Charters to local councils shall be issued by the Corporation. The regional executive committee may at any time add such conditions to a local council charter as it may deem appropriate. Subject to the approval of the National Key 3, the regional executive committee may issue a council a transitional charter in advance of the realignment of territory assigned to a local council. The Key 3 will report on any such transitional charter to the Executive Committee as soon thereafter as feasible under the circumstances. The regional executive committee may, with the approval of the Executive Committee, refuse to renew a local council charter in any instance where it deems such action advisable in the interests of Scouting.

REVOCAION OF CHARTER

SECTION 4.

The Executive Committee may revoke the charter of a local council at any time for failure to comply with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, or policies of the Corporation.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LOCAL COUNCIL

SECTION 5.

Clause 1. It shall be the responsibility of each local council to make sure that the general principles of advancement are understood and carried out by the units in the council area.

Clause 2. It shall make Scouting training available to all members of chartered organizations and community groups using the Scouting program while maintaining standards in policies, protecting official badges and insignia, and reviewing and making recommendations regarding unit leadership and finances.

Clause 3. The local council shall supervise advancement procedures to make sure that they are carried out in such a way as to ensure strict adherence to the requirements and standards as set forth in the Rules and Regulations and the official publications of the Boy Scouts of America. The local council shall organize the necessary unit, district, and council procedures to make sure that youth members have an opportunity to advance and receive recognition promptly. It shall provide training for leaders in the principles and conduct of advancement.

Clause 4. No local council Cub Scouter, Varsity Scouter, Venturing leader, or Scouter shall have authority to increase or diminish requirements and standards established by the Corporation.

Clause 5. Every local council shall operate in a sustainable manner as determined by the regional executive committee and measurement standards established by the National Council. Local councils shall adhere to the policies established by the Corporation regarding the use of the seal and all other emblems and badges, descriptive and designating marks, and words or phrases associated with or referring to the Boy Scouts of America, or any of its affiliates. No local council, including employees or Scouting volunteers, may authorize any third party to trade on the goodwill and reputation of the Boy Scouts of America.

Clause 6. The powers and responsibilities of local councils shall be controlled by these Bylaws and by the Rules and Regulations.

INCORPORATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

SECTION 6.

General

Clause 1. Local councils duly chartered by the Boy Scouts of America shall, wherever possible, become incorporated under the laws of their respective states pertaining to nonprofit corporations and pursuant to and consistent with these Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America. The National Council may issue a prescribed form for local council articles of incorporation and bylaws, adoption of which shall be a condition of the issuance or renewal of the charter.

Approval of Documents

Clause 2. Proposed corporate articles and bylaws of local councils, and any amendments of such articles or bylaws, shall be submitted to the Corporation's National Service Center for review and approval in advance of adoption. When corporate articles are found to be in proper form, a certificate of approval, with consent to incorporate, for Scouting purposes under the name agreed upon, shall be furnished in behalf of the Boy Scouts of America. This certificate shall be attached to the corporate articles when filed by the local council with the state authorities. Any changes to the bylaws of the local council shall be approved in advance by the National Service Center, and any changes to the requirements for local council bylaws established by the Executive Committee shall be incorporated into the local council bylaws.

ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION

SECTION 7.

Clause 1. The membership of each local council shall consist of a chartered organization representative from each chartered organization and additional members at large from within the territorial boundaries of the local council, totaling a minimum of 100 adults. When a council is incorporated, its incorporators shall be its initial members. Thereafter its members shall be elected annually by the council membership.

Clause 2. The executive board of each local council shall consist of (a) not fewer than 25 nor more than 50 members elected by the local council from among its active members; plus (b) the officers of the Corporation including the Scout executive, who shall have no vote; (c) the chairs of the committees of the executive board; (d) the chairs of each district committee, upon being approved by the executive board; and (e) not more than two youth members, who shall be registered Boy Scouts or Venturers appointed by the council president with the approval of the executive board to serve for a term of 1 year. The executive board shall be the governing body of the council and shall be responsible for its operations and its assets.

Clause 3. The council membership annually shall elect its officers of the council, which will consist of a president, one or more vice presidents, a treasurer, and a council commissioner. The officers of the council shall be nominated and elected by a council nominating committee and election process operating in the same manner as is required for similar national positions.

ARTICLE VII. YOUTH MEMBERSHIP

GENERAL

SECTION 1.

Those eligible to participate in programs designed for youth and young adults shall collectively be known as “youth program participants.” Youth membership in the Boy Scouts of America is open to all who meet the membership requirements. Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, and Varsity Scouting are for boys. Venturing is for young men and young women. Those youth program participants who are at least 18 years of age and eligible to participate in programs designed for youth shall be referred to as “adult program participants.”

MEMBERSHIP, ADVANCEMENT, AND ACHIEVEMENT

SECTION 2.

Both membership in Scouting and advancement and achievement of leadership in Scouting units are open to all boys and, where authorized, young women, without regard to race or ethnic background, and advancement and achievement of leadership in Scouting is based entirely upon individual merit.

ARTICLE VIII. ADULT LEADERSHIP

GENERAL

SECTION 1.

Leadership Qualifications

Clause 1. General. No person shall be approved as a leader unless, in the judgment of the Corporation, that person possesses and demonstrates the moral, educational, and emotional qualities deemed necessary for leadership and satisfies such other qualifications as it may from time to time require.

Clause 2. Authority of Region. The regional Key 3 shall have the right to take action against any local council volunteer Scouter found to have violated any rule, regulation, or policy of the National Council, including expiring the registration of any such Scouter. Any council volunteer whose registration is expired shall be deemed to have resigned any appointed or elected officer or board position on any council, area, or regional executive board or committee. This provision shall not be construed to limit (a) the ability of a local council to request action or (b) the authority of the National Council to take action with respect to any member or adult leader determined to be unsuitable for membership or leadership or of the Chief Scout Executive to establish the process for any such action.

Clause 3. Positions. The Executive Committee or regional executive committee may limit the registration of any volunteer adult Scouter to such position(s) as it deems to be in the best interests of Scouting and such person shall not be allowed to register in any position other than the designated position(s).

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

SECTION 2.

General

Clause 1. Status. The commissioned status of professional Scouters is separate and distinct from their employment. The commissioning of a Scouter does not in itself entitle a professional to be appointed to or to retain a position. The appointment of an individual to a position in Scouting does not in itself entitle him to receive a commission.

Professional Scouters

Clause 2. General. A corps of qualified and trained professional Scouters is essential to the success of the whole Scouting movement. To secure and retain such people for service in the national and local councils, their professional status must be clearly defined. Commissioned professionals must be eligible for, apply, and be accepted as a Scouter before they are eligible for commissioning or employment.

Clause 3. Commissioning and Decommissioning. The Executive Committee may establish requirements to be met by any person seeking to become or remain a professional Scouter. The Chief Scout Executive is responsible for the commissioning and decommissioning of all professionals and, in the absence of requirements established by the Executive Committee, shall exercise discretion in administering the commissioning and decommissioning process. The Chief Scout Executive shall separately issue commissions to certify qualified professionals to serve as council Scout executives. The Chief Scout Executive may refuse to certify as qualified or remove the certification of any council Scout executive when, in the sole discretion of the Chief Scout Executive, it is determined that they are no longer qualified to hold that certification. Except for newly employed, pre-commissioned professionals, no person may be employed in a professional capacity by any local council or by the Corporation who does not hold a currently valid commission.

Employment

Clause 4. Rules and Guidelines. The Executive Committee, subject to the provisions of these Bylaws, shall establish rules and regulations covering the employment, training, promotion, tenure, demotion, and retirement or discharge of all professional and other employees of the Corporation and of all professional employees of the local councils.

Clause 5. Authority of the Chief Scout Executive. The Chief Scout Executive is, subject to these Bylaws, the Rules and Regulations, and the decisions of the Executive Board, authorized to appoint and remove all employees of the Corporation and to direct their work.

ARTICLE IX. POLICIES

POLICIES

SECTION 1.

Declaration of Religious Principle

Clause 1. The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no member can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God. In the first part of the Scout Oath the member declares, "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law." The recognition of God as the ruling and leading power in the universe and the grateful acknowledgment of His favors and blessings are necessary to the best type of citizenship and are wholesome precepts in the education of the growing members. No matter what the religious faith of the members may be, this fundamental need of good citizenship should be kept before them. The Boy Scouts of America, therefore, recognizes the religious element in the training of the member, but it is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious training. Its policy is that the home and the organization or group with which the member is connected shall give definite attention to religious life.

Activities

Clause 2. The activities of the members of the Boy Scouts of America shall be carried on under conditions which show respect to the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion, as

required by the twelfth point of the Scout Law, reading, "Reverent. A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others."

Freedom

Clause 3. In no case where a unit is connected with a church or other distinctively religious organization shall members of other denominations or faiths be required, because of their membership in the unit, to take part in or observe a religious ceremony distinctly unique to that organization or church. However, no church or religious organization holding a valid charter shall be required to accept as youth members or adult leaders any person whose espoused personal beliefs are in conflict with the chartered organization's religious principles.

Leaders

Clause 4. Only persons willing to subscribe to these declarations of principles shall be entitled to certificates of leadership in carrying out the Scouting program.

Clause 5. Rules and Regulations approved by the Executive Board or Executive Committee shall be considered no less important to the Corporation merely because they are not specifically set forth in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE X. PROGRAM

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1.

The program shall be one designed to achieve objectives in character development, citizenship training, leadership, and mental and physical fitness.

In its several phases the program shall be adapted to the groups into which youth members are divided and shall be as set forth from time to time in these Bylaws and in the Rules and Regulations of the Corporation.

In all activities, emphasis shall be placed upon practice in daily life of the principles of the Scout Oath. In association with suitable adult leadership, members registered in Scouting will be guided to develop traits of character which are expressed in self-reliance, consideration of and help to others, personal courage, and above all in lives of useful citizenship.

ARTICLE XI. BUSINESS

FINANCE

SECTION 1.

Expenses

Clause 1. The necessary expenses of the Corporation shall be met from the receipts from annual registration fees and contributions; from the proceeds from sales of publications and supplies; and from such other sources as may be determined by the Corporation.

Contributions

Clause 2. Contributions shall be solicited in the name of the Boy Scouts of America only through or by the authority of the Corporation, and shall be limited to the National Council or chartered local councils, in accordance with these Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Corporation. Youth members shall not be permitted to serve as solicitors of money for chartered organizations, for the local council, for the National Council, for corporate sponsors, or in support of other organizations. Adult members and youth members shall not be permitted to serve as solicitors in support of personal or unit participation in local, national, or international events.

Fundraising

Clause 3. Youth members may sell products as part of an approved fundraising project if (i) the nature of the product is consistent with the values and purpose of the Corporation; (ii) the value of the product is commensurate with the price at which it is offered; and (iii) it is in accordance with the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Corporation. Furthermore, any product that is sold or offered for sale as part of an approved fundraising project and bears any emblems, logos, brands, or other designating marks associated with the Boy Scouts of America must be manufactured by a BSA licensee authorized by the Corporation to use such designating marks in that manner on those specific products. No youth member shall engage in such sales of products for more than 12 total weeks during any one 12-month period.

Deposit of Funds

Clause 4. All funds shall be deposited in such depositories as shall be approved by the Executive Board.

Custody of Securities

Clause 5. The securities of the Corporation shall be deposited in any such deposit vault or vaults or with such bank or banks, trust company or trust companies, or such other depositories, and access thereto shall be provided as may from time to time be determined by the Executive Board. Access to the securities may be had as provided in the Rules and Regulations or by resolution of the Executive Board and not otherwise.

They may be examined or withdrawn by such officer or officers or other employees of the Corporation as may from time to time be designated by the Executive Board. The Executive Board by resolution may authorize any two members of the Executive Board of the Corporation to have access to the securities for the purpose of audit or such other purpose as it may specify in the resolution.

Checks, Notes, Etc.

Clause 6. Except as otherwise provided by law or in these Bylaws, all checks, drafts, notes, bills of exchange, or other orders, instruments, or obligations for the payment of money shall be signed by such officer or officers, employee or employees, or agent or agents of the Corporation as shall be specified by the Executive Board.

DEEDS, CONTRACTS, BONDS, ETC.

SECTION 2.

Authority to Execute Documents

Except as otherwise provided by law or in these Bylaws, such officer or officers, employee or employees, or agent or agents of the Corporation as shall be specified by the Executive Board shall sign, in the name and on behalf of the Corporation, all deeds, bonds, contracts, mortgages, and other instruments or documents, the execution of which shall be authorized by the Executive Board, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

ARTICLE XII. SPECIAL SITUATIONS**EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS**

SECTION 1.

From time to time the Executive Board may wish to authorize experimental programs to determine how best to achieve the purpose of the Boy Scouts of America under changing conditions. If such experimental programs are in any manner inconsistent with these Bylaws, the programs shall be adopted only in accordance with the procedures established in the Rules and Regulations.

OVERSEAS SCOUTING

SECTION 2.

General

Clause 1. To further its objectives of extending membership privileges to citizens of the United States in other parts of the world, the Corporation authorizes the registration of youth members and leaders and the establishment of units in areas lying outside of the jurisdiction of any local council.

Policy of Cooperation

Clause 2. To foster and strengthen the close and friendly relationship that exists between the Boy Scouts of America and other Scout associations, members and leaders of units will work in close harmony with their fellow Scouts and Scouters in the area.

Services

Clause 3. Administration, organization, program, and training services shall be furnished by the International Division of the Corporation with the cooperation of region, area, or council where such can be utilized.

Deviations

Clause 4. To the extent feasible, the provisions of the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and policies of the Corporation relating to its domestic units shall apply to Direct Service units. It is recognized that as the application of certain of these may be impractical, their waiver or modifications will be permitted. Also due to varying conditions, it is recognized that such waiver and modification could result in nonuniform application as between units.

Any deviations will be authorized by the Executive Board, whose authority may be delegated to a committee or subcommittee. Major deviations of a general nature normally will be incorporated into the Rules and Regulations.

LEARNING FOR LIFE

SECTION 3.

Clause 1. To further the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to meet and serve the needs of youth and communities, the Corporation authorizes the establishment of an affiliated separate corporation to be known as Learning for Life, to work in cooperation with our nation's schools and businesses.

Clause 2. Learning for Life is a nontraditional, nonmembership, educational outreach program that takes place during or after school hours and is not part of the traditional Scouting program.

Clause 3. Exploring is Learning for Life's workforce development career program for young men and women who meet the participation requirements.

Clause 4. Exploring is based on five areas of emphasis: career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education, and leadership experience. Local community organizations initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community.

Clause 5. The program, organization, and administration of and qualifications for participation in Learning for Life shall be established by Learning for Life.

ARTICLE XIV. INDEMNIFICATION

INDEMNIFICATION

SECTION 1.

The Corporation shall indemnify any person who was, is, or is threatened to be made a named defendant or respondent in any action, suit, or proceeding, civil or criminal (a “Proceeding”), because such person, or a person of whom such person is the legal representative, (i) is or was a member of the Executive Board, a committee of the Executive Board, a subcommittee of a committee of the Executive Board, or an officer of the Corporation; or (ii) while a member of the Executive Board, a committee of the Executive Board, a subcommittee of the Executive Board, or an officer of the Corporation, is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, agent, or employee of another corporation or organization, to the fullest extent that a nonprofit corporation may grant indemnification to such a person under applicable law, without subjecting the Corporation to any income or excise tax under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding provision or provisions of any subsequent United States Internal Revenue law or laws; provided, however, that any right to indemnification from the Corporation under this provision shall not extend to any matter as to which such person shall have engaged in wanton or willful misconduct in the performance or neglect of a duty owed to the Corporation.

Any right to indemnification under this provision shall be a contract right and shall include the right to be paid by the Corporation expenses incurred in defending such Proceeding in advance of its final disposition to the maximum extent permitted under applicable law. Any person who has requested an advancement of expenses under this provision and has not received such advance within 30 days of such request, may thereafter bring suit against the Corporation to recover the unpaid amount of such claim and, if successful in whole or in part, shall be entitled to be paid also the expense of prosecuting such claim. In any such action, the burden of proof shall be on the Corporation to prove the claimant is not entitled to such payment. The rights conferred herein shall not be exclusive of any other right which any person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, bylaw, vote of the Executive Board or a committee or subcommittee thereof, agreement or otherwise. This provision shall not be deemed to limit any power or exclude any right of the Corporation to provide any additional or other indemnity or right, or to maintain insurance or a similar arrangement for or on behalf of any person. If this provision should be invalid or ineffective in any respect, the validity and effect of this provision in any other respect shall not be affected.

ARTICLE XV. WAIVERS AND AMENDMENTS

WAIVERS

SECTION 1.

Whenever any notice is required by these Bylaws or by any law to be given to any member of the National Council, member of the Executive Board, or any committee or any officer, such notice except as otherwise provided by these Bylaws or by any law may be given personally or by fax or electronic mail addressed to the person at such person’s place of business, if any, or (to the extent applicable) at such address as has been given to the Corporation as the home address of the person; or the notice may be given in writing by mail, in a sealed wrapper, postage prepaid, addressed to such person at such address. Any notice given by fax or electronic mail shall be deemed to be given when it shall have been delivered for transmission and any notice given by mail shall be deemed to have been given when it shall have been deposited in a post office, in a regularly maintained letter box, or with a postal carrier. A waiver of any such notice in writing, signed by the person entitled to such notice as required, shall be deemed the equivalent thereof, and the presence at any meeting of any person entitled to notice thereof shall be deemed a waiver of such notice as to such person.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

SECTION 2.

Procedures

Clause 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Executive Board by the affirmative vote of a majority of the whole Executive Board; upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Executive Board; or when the proposed amendment has been sent to the members of the Executive Board at least 15 days in advance of the meeting.

Promulgation

Clause 2. All changes in the Bylaws, when made, shall be announced to the national and local councils in such manner as the Executive Board shall direct.

INDEX

A

Access to securities, 19
Activities, policy on, 18
Adult leadership, 17
Adult program participants, 17
Advancement, principles of, 16
Advancement standards, 16
Advisory Council, 11
 election to, 11
 meetings of, 11
 members of, 11
Amendment
 Bylaws, 4, 20
 Rules and Regulations, 6
American National Red Cross, 5
Annual meeting, National Council, 4, 7, 8
Annual report to Congress, 4, 13
Approval of documents, 16
Area committees, 15
Area executive committee, 15
Assets, 3
Assistant treasurer, 12
Audit Committee, 9–10, 11
Audits, 15
Authority of Executive Board, 8
Authority to execute documents, 19

B

Badges and insignia, protection of, 5
Bank or banks, 19
Bequest, 3
Bills of exchange, 19
Bonds, 19
Boy Scouting, 5
Boy Scouts of America
 annual report, 4, 13
 governing body, 4, 8, 16
 handbooks, 6
 membership, 8
 name, 3, 6
 National Service Center, 6
 official publications, 6, 16, 18
 policies, 18
 program, 18
 purpose, 3, 6
 seal, 3, 4, 6
Budget Committee, 11, 12
Business, 18–19
Bylaws, amendments to, 4, 20

C

Certificate of approval to incorporate, 16
Certificate of stock, 3
Changes in bylaws, 4, 20
Character development, 5, 6, 18
Chartered organization representative, 16
Checks, 19
Chief Scout Executive, 12–13, 17
Citizenship, 18
Citizenship training, 6, 18
Civil suit, 20
Commissioned leadership, 17
Commissioning, 17
Congress, 3–4, 5, 6
Congressional report, 5
Consistency, 6, 16
Constructive trust, 15
Contracts, 12, 19
Contributions, 18
Cooperation with Scout associations, 19
Corporate membership, 7
Corporation property, 3–4, 12
Council improvement plans,
 authority to require, 14
Council property trust, 15
Courage, 3, 6, 18
Criminal suit, 20
Custody of securities, 19

D

Debts, 3
Declaration of religious principle, 18
Decommissioning, 17
Deeds, 12, 19
Deposit of funds, 19
Depositories, 19
Deposit vault or vaults, 19
Development Committee, 9–10
Deviations, 19
Devise, 3
Direct Service units, 19
District of Columbia, 3, 4, 6
Dividends, 3
Documents, approval of, 16
Documents, authority to execute, 19
Drafts, 19

E

Education, 5, 17, 19
Educational activities, 5
Election of members of
 Executive Board, 7, 8, 13
Election, regulations for, 4
Electronic communications, 9
Emblems and badges, 4
Employment of professionals, 17
Equity, 3
Executive Board, 4, 8–11
 ad hoc committees, 9
 Advisory Council, 11
 advisory panels, 11
 appointment of committee, 9–10
 Audit Committee, 9–10, 11
 committees of, 9–11
 consultants, 11
 Development Committee, 9–10
 duties of committees, 9
 election of regular members, 8
 electronic communications, 9
 ex officio members, 8
 Finance Committee, 10
 Human Resources Committee, 10
 Information Delivery Committee, 10
 International Committee, 10, 11
 interpretation of, 8
 Marketing Committee, 10
 meetings of, 8
 membership, 8
 National Adventures Committee, 10
 Nominating Committee, 10
 notice of meetings, 8
 Operations Committee, 10
 quorum, 8
 regional members, 8
 regional presidents, 8
 Regional Presidents' Committee, 10
 regular meetings, 8
 reporting changes to, 6
 special committees, 11
 special meetings, 8
 standing committee chairmen, 10
 standing committees, 9–10
 subcommittees, 11
 Supply Committee, 10
 support committees, 10
 task forces, 9
 telecommunication meetings, 9
 vacancies, 4, 8, 10
 “whole Executive Board, the,” 8
 youth members, 8

Executive Committee, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12
duties of, 9
meetings, 9
membership, 9
quorum, 9
Expenses of corporation, 18
Experimental programs, 19
Exploring, 19

F

Federal charter, 3–4, 13
Finance, 19
Finance Committee, 10
First aid, 5
Fiscal year, 6
Fitness, mental and physical, 6, 18
Freedom, religious, 18
Fundraising, 19

G–H–I–J

Gift, 3
Governing body, 4, 8, 16
Honor, 5
Honorary officers, 13
Human Resources Committee, 10
Incorporation of local councils, 16
Indemnification, 20
Individual merit, 17
Information Delivery Committee, 10
Initiative, 5
Insignia, 5, 16
Instruments, 12, 19
Intellectual life, 5
International commissioner, 12
International Committee, 10, 11
International Division, 19
Juvenile delinquency, 5

K–L

Key 3,
area, 15
national, 9, 13, 14, 16
regional, 14, 15, 17
Leadership, 6, 18
Leadership qualifications, 17
Leaders' principles, 18
Learning for Life, 19–20
Liabilities, 3, 12
Liens, 4
Local councils, 16
application for new charters, 15
audits of, 15
charters to, 15
executive boards, 16

incorporation of, 16
officers, 16
operation of, 16
organization of, 16
powers of, 16
responsibilities of, 16

M

Marketing Committee, 10
Medals, 5
Mental fitness, 6, 18
Military system, 5
Moral life, 5
Mortgages, 4, 19
Motto, 6
Movement, Scouting, 5, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17

N

Name of the corporation, 3, 6
National Adventures Committee, 10
National commissioner, 12
National Council, 7
annual meetings, 7
certificates of membership, 7
corporate membership, 7
elected members, 7
eligibility requirements, 7
Executive Board members, 7
ex officio members, 7
general meetings, 7
guests, 7
honorary members, 7
local council representatives, 7
meetings, 7
members, 7
members at large, 7
notice of meetings, 7
quorum, 7
request for special meeting, 7
Resolutions Committee, 11
special meetings, 7
voting, 7
voting credentials, 7
National President's Council, 9
National Service Center, 6
Nominating Committee, 10, 14
Notes, 12, 19
Number, governing body, 4

O–P

Officers, 12–13
Operations Committee, 10
Overseas Scouting, 19
Patent laws, 5
Patriotism, 3, 6
Payment of money, 19
Personal courage, 18
Personal estate, 3
Physical fitness, 6
Policies, 18
President, 12
President-elect, 12
Priorities, 6
Professional leadership, 17
Professional Scouters, 17
Program, 18
Program objectives, 18
Property, 3, 4, 12
Publications, official, 6, 16, 18
Public emergencies, 5
Purpose, 3, 6

Q

Qualifications, governing body, 4
Quorum
annual or special meeting, 8
Executive Board, 4
Executive Committee, 9
National Council, 7
Nominating Committee, 10

R

Real estate, 3
Red Cross, 5
Regional advisory council, 15
Regional board, 13–14
meetings, 14
youth members, 14
Regional committees, 13
meetings, 13
organization of, 13
regular members, 13
Regional director, 14
Regional executive committee, 14
meetings, 14
members, 14
Regional officers
area commissioner, 14
area president, 14
elections, 14
regional commissioner, 14
regional president, 14
regional vice presidents, 14

Regional organization, 13–15
Regional Presidents' Committee, 10
Regional standing committees, 15
Regions, 13
Regulations, 6
Regulations for election, 4
Religion, policy on, 18
Religious freedom, 18
Report to Congress, 4, 13
Resolutions Committee, 11
Resourcefulness, 5
Responsibilities of regions, 13
Revocation of charter, 16
Rules and Regulations, 6

S

Scoutcraft, 3, 6
Scouting movement, 5, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17
Scout Oath, 17
Seal, 3, 4, 6, 12
Self-reliance, 3, 5, 6, 18
Signatures for payment, 19
Solicitors of money, 18
Special committees, 11
Special meetings, 4, 7, 8
Special situations, 19–20
Standing committees, 4, 9-10, 14-15
Support committees, 10
Suit, 3, 20
Supplies, sales of, 18
Supply Committee, 10

T

Telecommunications, 9
Termination of charters, 16
Term of office, governing body, 4, 8
Tests, 5
Training boys, 5
Treasurer/Vice President of Finance, 12
Trust company or companies, 19
Trust, constructive, 15

U-V-W-Y

Uniforms, badges, and insignia, 5
Vacancies
 Executive Board, 4, 8, 10
 honorary officers, 13
Varsity Scouting, 17
Venturing, 17
Vice presidents, 12
Waivers, 9, 19, 20
Wilson, Woodrow, 4
Youth membership, 17
Youth members not to solicit money, 18
Youth program participants, 17



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