



**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS  
BRAZORIA COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS**

*Adopted 8/22/2023*

## **Mission Statement**

Knowing that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction, BCYR exists to organize and engage Young Republicans across the county, promote the next generation of GOP leadership on the state and local level, and translate timeless Conservative principles into the hearts and minds of young voters.

## **Article I - Name**

The name of the organization shall be the "Brazoria County Young Republicans," hereinafter referred to as "BCYR" or the "Organization."

## **Article II - Purpose**

The purpose of BCYR shall be to support the principles and objectives of the Republican Party; from time-to-time work for the election of all duly-nominated Republican candidates; and promote, develop, and maintain a strong, vital Young Republican organization in Brazoria County.

## **Article III - Federation**

BCYR shall remain a club of the Texas Young Republican Federation, hereinafter the "State Federation" or "TYRF," and shall be subject to the Constitution and By-Laws of said Federation.

## **Article IV - Meetings**

- A. BOARD MEETING — A Board Meeting shall be held by the Board of Directors ("Board") at a location, date, and time to be determined by the Board.
- B. SPECIAL MEETING — Special Meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman or a majority of the Board.
- C. REGULAR MEETING — BCYR shall hold a Regular Meeting every first Saturday of July at a location, date, and time to be determined by the Board, wherein Elections of Officers shall be conducted.
- D. QUORUM — A majority of Officers, including both elected and appointed, shall constitute a quorum at a Board Meeting or Special Meeting. Fifteen percent (15%) of the Active Members of BCYR shall constitute a quorum at a Regular Meeting.
- E. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER — Except where inconsistent with this document, the rules of the newest revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall apply and be considered the supreme parliamentary procedure for all of BCYR's proceedings.

## **Article V - Membership**

- A. ACTIVE MEMBERS — Any citizen of the United States, whose primary residence is in Brazoria County, who has at least attained the age of eighteen (18) but is no more than forty (40) years of age inclusive and registered to vote, is eligible for Active Membership in BCYR. Annual dues for Active Members shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a single person, forty dollars (\$40.00) for a married couple, and ten dollars (\$10.00) for a student (subject to approval). Applicants for Active Membership shall submit their dues along with their application, at which time they shall become a member of BCYR; thereafter, dues are payable on April 1st of each year, and payment of dues shall constitute a renewal of membership.
- B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS — Any person who does not qualify for active membership, or who qualifies to be an Active Member but wishes to be an Associate Member, is eligible for Associate Membership in BCYR. Associate Members shall abstain from participating in voting at BCYR proceedings, and holding office in BCYR, but can serve in an appointed position by the Chairman. Annual dues for Associate Members over forty (40) shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) and five dollars (\$5.00) for those under eighteen (18).
- C. CONTRIBUTING AND HONORARY MEMBERS — There shall be four (4) tiers of contributing membership based upon the amount of annual contribution to BCYR, which shall be designated as the following:
  - a. BRONZE — One hundred dollars (\$100.00) per year.
  - b. SILVER — Two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) per year.
  - c. GOLD — Five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per year.
  - d. PLATINUM — One thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or more, per year.

Honorary membership shall be bestowed upon those persons chosen for this honor by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the Board. Only those Contributing and Honorary Members, who are also Active Members, may vote or hold office in BCYR.

- D. EXPULSION — The Board may, by an affirmative vote of not less than three-fourths of Board Members present and voting at any Meeting of BCYR, expel from BCYR any member for any act of conduct deemed adverse and hostile to the best interests of BCYR; provided, however, that before any vote on the expulsion may be taken, the following specific steps must have occurred:
  - a. The specific charges against the Member in question must be presented to the Board by a Member;
  - b. The Board must notify the Member of said charges and must give said Member a fair and reasonable opportunity to respond to the same; and
  - c. The Board must thereafter pass a resolution in favor of expulsion.

## **Article VI - Officers**

- A. GENERAL PROVISIONS —
  - a. All officers shall hold office from the day of their election and until their duly-elected successors take office or until the office is declared vacant, as set forth below.

- b. Each term shall be two (2) years in duration, and no Officer shall serve more than two (2) terms in the same office.
- c. Officers shall serve without compensation, without exception.
- d. A vacancy in an office prior to the expiration of the term shall be filled by an appointment of the Chairman and is thereafter subject to election, if applicable, at the next Regular Meeting. If the Office of Chairman becomes vacant, an appointment may be made by the Board of Directors.
- e. Officers are expected to attend all meetings, and advance notice is required if an Officer is to be absent. Officers that are absent from more than two (2) consecutive Board Meetings without good cause will face expulsion at the next Board Meeting unless granted a reprieve by the Board of Directors.
- f. All titles listed in Section B are the permanent titles of the BCYR. Officers appointed by the Chairman that are not listed in Section B are temporary and will expire on the date of Elections in the following year.

**B. EXECUTIVE BOARD; TITLES AND DUTIES —**

- a. **CHAIRMAN**— The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the BCYR and is the head officer of the Board of Directors and shall be tasked with keeping order and decorum during all meetings. The Chairman may not vote at any meeting unless in the case of a tie. The Chairman shall have the power to appoint persons and committees, create or terminate official positions, modify existing job descriptions, supervise activities of BCYR, set an agenda for meetings, bestow honors, and perform any and all other duties inherent to said office.
- b. **VICE CHAIRMAN**— In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall perform the duties thereof. The Vice Chairman shall work in close coordination with the Chairman regarding duties delegated to them both. The Vice Chairman shall perform those duties and responsibilities delegated to him by the Chairman or by this document.
- c. **TREASURER** — The Treasurer shall receive, expend, and account for the funds of the BCYR under the supervision and control of the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records of the BCYR and file them with the Secretary when necessary. The Treasurer shall maintain a checking account on behalf of the BCYR, and both the Treasurer and the Chairman must be signatories of said account; however, only one signature is required to issue checks. If there is a vacancy in this office at any time, the Chairman is subject to the duties and responsibilities herein.
  - i. All requests for reimbursement for expenditures by members of the Board must be submitted to the Treasurer within sixty (60) days of the purchase, along with a receipt of said purchase. The Treasurer shall file this request with the Secretary, and the reimbursement may be subject to declination by the Board.

- d. SECRETARY — The Secretary shall record the votes and minutes of all proceedings of the BCYR, maintain a roster of all present members, and shall perform such other duties as may be designated by the Chairman. If there is a vacancy in this office at the time of any meeting, the Vice Chairman shall be subject to the duties and responsibilities herein.
    - i. All agendas, appointments, resolutions, amendments, expulsions, or other correspondence of the BCYR shall be filed with the Secretary in writing not less than seven (7) days prior to the next Board Meeting of the BCYR. The Secretary shall, upon receipt, file all necessary correspondence digitally, if applicable, and shall present them to the Board at the next Board Meeting.
  - e. CHAIRMAN EMERITUS — The Chairman Emeritus shall be the immediate past Chairman of the BCYR unless he or she has declined to do so, or if removed from their position, or if expelled from the BCYR. They will assume this position immediately upon the inauguration of the new Chairman and shall serve until their successor ceases to be Chairman. The Chairman Emeritus shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Board tasked with advising the new Chairman and Board of Directors on all matters of the BCYR.
- C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS — The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Board and non-voting officers appointed by the Chairman. The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Club, subject to the approval of the Membership, and confirm the Chairman's creations and appointments of non-voting Board positions.
- a. DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP — The Director of Membership, or "Membership Director," shall be responsible for recruiting new members, retaining and renewing memberships of those currently enrolled, and maintaining up-to-date records of those members currently enrolled and shall file such records with the Secretary not less than seven (7) days prior to the Regular Meeting in July.
  - b. DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS — The Director of Communications shall be responsible for all forms of communication, whether digital or otherwise, on behalf of the BCYR. This includes but is not limited to, updating the BCYR website, maintaining BCYR accounts on various social media platforms, creating or allocating content to post on said platforms, writing letters on BCYR's behalf, issuing Press Releases when the Board deems it necessary, et cetera. All letters or other forms of written correspondence must be filed with the Secretary.
    - i. The Director may, with approval of the Board, hire a Digital Media Creator to be compensated for their services in an amount not to exceed that set by the Treasurer unless otherwise stated by the Board. A Digital Media Creator may not be compensated if they serve on the Board of the BCYR, in accordance with Article VI, Section A(c).

## **Article VII - Election of Officers**

- A. IN GENERAL — At the Regular Meeting of the BCYR in July, an Election of Officers shall take place. The Chairman and Treasurer shall be elected in the first year, and the Vice Chairman and the Secretary in the second year. Once a Chairman has been elected, that Chairman shall then appoint a Director of Membership, Director of Communications, and any other offices he or she may establish, and inform them of their duties. The new Chairman shall recognize the Chairman Emeritus and inform him/her of their role in the Organization.
- B. NOMINATIONS — Nominations for each elected and appointed officer shall be taken from the floor and a second shall be required. Nominees must meet the qualifications as set forth in Article VI and must accept their own nomination. Nominations may be accepted before the Regular Meeting if written and filed with the Secretary prior to the meeting. Notices for elections shall be posted for the general public at least four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled Meeting.
- C. VOTING — The Secretary shall preside over the election during the voting process, unless otherwise agreed to by the Members present. Only those persons who are Active Members of BCYR shall be eligible to vote. Voting in a race with one candidate may be decided by a voice vote. Voting in all contested races shall be by secret ballot and filed with the Presiding Officer. A Member is not permitted to change their vote once filed. The Presiding Officer shall tally and announce the results of all ballots. If no candidate obtains a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot shall thus be ordered and held immediately at the behest of the Presiding Officer. If no member is elected after the second ballot, the outgoing Board shall decide the winner by a majority vote. If a tie is to take place, the same rules shall apply.

## **Article VIII - Miscellaneous**

- A. STATE CONVENTION — A majority of the Board of Directors shall select the delegates and alternates to represent the BCYR at the Texas Young Republican State Convention, the number of which is to be determined by the TYRF based on the BCYR's level of membership.
- B. DEFEDERATION — If, for any reason, the State Federation were to consider the revocation of BCYR's membership, in accordance with Article V, Section 2 of the TYRF Constitution, the Chairman shall, immediately upon receipt of the written notice, call a Special Meeting, and is compelled to speak at the TYRF hearing in defense of BCYR. If the revocation is ultimately decided, the Chairman shall forfeit their position and the Vice Chairman will assume the duties thereof until BCYR is re-federated and a Chairman is elected.
- C. ENDORSEMENTS — The Board of Directors shall have the authority to endorse any candidate they feel has a proven record of conservative principles and causes, except in the Republican Primary, by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the Board.
- D. NON-DISCRIMINATION — The BCYR opposes any type of discrimination based on race, sex, nationality, or religious belief. The right of any person to join BCYR shall not be abridged on account of the same.

- E. INTERPRETATION — Any dispute or question concerning the interpretation or meaning of this document shall be determined by the Chairman Emeritus. Said interpretation is subject to rescission by the rest of the Board.
- F. AMENDMENT — Any proposed amendment to this document shall be filed with the Secretary and presented to the Board in writing. At the next Board Meeting, the Secretary shall read the said amendment, the Chairman shall discuss the ramifications of such an amendment, and the Board shall vote upon the amendment as written. If the amendment is agreed to, it shall be added to the Constitution by the Secretary prior to the commencement of the next Board Meeting.
- G. RATIFICATION — Ratification of this document requires a three-fourths vote of the Board and Active Members at the next Regular Meeting. If ratified, this document shall rescind and replace BCYR's current constitution, rendering said document null and void.

**APPROVED and AGREED TO this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month) 2023.**