

BYLAWS

1. Name: This organization shall be called: [REDACTED]
2. Affiliation: This organization shall be considered a national conference of the international body (General Conference) of [REDACTED] and shall adhere to whatever rules or bylaws of the international body apply to it.
3. Location of office:
 - 3.1. The location of the office of this organization is: [REDACTED]
 - 3.2. Location shall be subject to change, and is to be determined by the committee or council.
4. Membership
 - 4.1. Members shall consist of:
 - a) Individuals (necessary when for example they have no local church)
 - b) Duly recognized churches.
 - 4.2. Members shall be accepted or rejected by a majority vote of the council or committee and in the case of individuals shall be subject to prior baptism.
 - 4.3. Member churches shall have as a minimum qualification for acceptance of individual members, that they accept Christ as their personal Savior, understand and are in harmony with the Seventh Day Adventist Fundamental Principles of 1889, and covenant to keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.
 - 4.4. Member churches shall have some roll or record by which their membership is kept.
 - 4.5. Member churches shall consist of a minimum of three individuals, with at least two of them not from the same household.
 - 4.6. Member churches and individuals shall not be members of another religious organization.
5. Conducting Business
 - 5.1. Regular business shall be conducted by a committee, and an annual council session. Special sessions may be called by the chairman when the committee deems necessary.
6. Council
 - 6.1. The council shall meet once a year at a time and location decided upon by the committee.
 - 6.2. The council shall be made up of representatives chosen by the individual member organizations.
 - a) Each church may be represented in the council by one representative for up to 10 members, plus one representative for each additional 10 members.
 - b) The representatives shall supply written evidence of their election to the annual council session.
 - 6.3. Delegates at large.
 - a) Ministers ordained or duly recognized by this church shall be council delegates at large.
 - b) The outgoing committee members shall be council delegates at large.

- 6.4. The council shall be chaired by the outgoing chairman of the committee.
 - 6.5. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% plus one of the council members to conduct business.
 - 6.6. For online decisions, members shall have up to two weeks to cast their vote.
7. Responsibilities and limitations of the council
- 7.1. The council when convened shall have the power by majority vote to make all decisions relative to the conduct of the affairs of the church, including acquiring, buying, or selling properties, accepting or rejecting requests of membership in the organization, hiring Gospel workers, secretaries or others. It shall have the power to authorize the disbursement of funds for any purpose it deems necessary in harmony with its mission as stated in the articles of its Charter, to make contracts, to organize meetings, and to organize institutions for Education, health, or otherwise. Its powers shall not be limited except in any other place in this document, to promote the mission of the church, as stated in its charter. These powers shall not be construed to limit the powers of the individual member groups to do the same types of activity.
 - 7.2. The council shall have the power to replace any of the trustees by a 2/3 majority vote.
 - 7.3. Elections of officers shall be held at the annual council session.
8. Committee
- 8.1. The committee members and its number shall be determined by the council and shall include the officers of the body.
 - 8.2. The committee shall meet at least quarterly.
 - 8.3. A quorum shall consist of at least 50% plus one of the committee members to conduct business.
 - 8.4. For online decisions, members shall have up to two weeks to cast their vote.
9. Responsibilities and limitations of the committee
- 9.1. The committee shall conduct all the affairs of the church between sessions of the council meetings, including acceptance of new member individuals and groups, or impeaching and/or replacing an officer or committee member and including every other thing that pertains to the business of the church except changing the by-laws.
10. Officers
- 10.1. Officers shall be chosen by the council, and shall consist of a:
 - a) Chairman
 - b) Vice Chairman
 - c) Secretary
 - d) Treasurer
 - e) Auditor
 - 10.2. Term of office shall be one year.
 - 10.3. Duties of officers
 - a) The officers and remaining members of the committee shall be responsible to carry out the decisions of the council, between sessions.
 - b) The chairman shall organize committee meetings, and be responsible to chair the meetings.
 - c) The Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of the chairman in his absence

- d) The secretary shall keep and submit reports when requested by the council or committee, of member group names, committee and council members, officers, minutes, proposals, decisions, resolutions etc. of the committee and council meetings. Duties of the vice-chairman shall fall to the secretary in his absence.
- e) Treasurers shall submit reports at each regular committee and council meeting, and when asked. Treasurer shall assist the auditor to educate treasurers of local churches on how to keep books properly.
- f) Auditor shall audit the books of this conference and the books of the local churches annually and submit a report at the council session. And with the assistance of the treasurer shall educate the local treasurers as needed.

11. Funding

- 11.1. Member entities shall systematically give 100% of tithes collected to this body, unless they are supporting their own worker, in which case they shall make arrangements with the committee to give as they are able, above that which is needed to support their worker.
- 11.2. Member entities shall systematically give at least 10% of their General or non allocated donations received to this organization.
- 11.3. Funding shall come from these sources as well as any other donations.

12. Amendments

- 12.1. The Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the Council.

13. Impeachment/Dis-fellowshipment

- 13.1. Individual members may be dis-fellowshipped by a 2/3 majority vote of the committee present for open sin following the guidelines of Matthew 18.
- 13.2. Individual members of the member church entities shall only be disfellowshipped by their local entity where they hold their membership.
- 13.3. Member churches may also be expelled from this organization by a 2/3 majority of the committee or council present.
- 13.4. Officers or committee members may be impeached by a 2/3 majority vote of the committee present.

14. Beliefs

- 14.1. It is understood that “new light” does not contradict the established faith, or undermine the foundation or pillars of our faith revealed in the Word of God and Testimony of Jesus. We believe that the Word of God is our creed. The attached 1889 Fundamental Principles of the Seventh Day Adventists, however, most closely defines our current beliefs.
- 14.2. We believe that the spiritual gift of prophecy was given to Ellen G. White, and we hold to the teachings that the Spirit has brought to light through her ministry, revealed in the works she published while alive. This includes much counsel in regard to temperance and healthful living.
- 14.3. In harmony with these teachings, we do not believe in the use of vaccines, for the reasons set forth in the article attached, entitled "A Little Light on a Dark Age Medical Practice.”