

# CONSTITUTION AND GUIDELINES- AREA CANADA and CARIBBEAN

## ARTICLE I - NAME AND AFFILIATION

### SECTION I

This organization shall be known as Area Canada and Caribbean of the International Association of Y=s Men=s Clubs. Its Motto, general Purpose and Objectives are defined by the International Constitution of the International Association of Y=s Men=s Clubs.

### SECTION II

This organization recognizes a formal affiliation with the National Association of YMCA=s of Canada. (YMCA Canada), and Caribbean.

### SECTION III

This organization recognizes the Y=s Menettes Clubs of Area Canada and Caribbean as established as per Article III, Section 3 of the International Constitution.

## GUIDELINES

101 This Constitution may not stand in conflict with the International Constitution.=

102 Legally adopted changes in the International Constitution shall be binding on this constitution immediately upon proclamation, pending formal action to amend this document.

103 Y=s Men=s Clubs include: Y=s Men=s Clubs, Y=s Women=s Clubs, Y=s Men=s and Women=s Clubs or Y Service Clubs.

## ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

### SECTION I Purposes

The International Association of Y=s Men=s Clubs is a worldwide fellowship of persons of all faiths working together in mutual respect and affection, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, and with a common loyalty to the Young Men=s Christian Association, striving through active service to develop, encourage and provide leadership to build a better world for mankind.

### SECTION II Objectives

In addition to the International Objectives, the specific objectives of Area Canada and Caribbean are:

A. To encourage, promote and foster organization and maintenance of Y=s Men=s Clubs throughout Area Canada and Caribbean.

B. To co-ordinate the activities of all Regions and provide supplementary training materials and personal leadership development.

## ARTICLE III - DEFINITION OF AREA AND REGIONAL BOUNDARIES

### SECTION I

Area Canada and Caribbean shall encompass all the Provinces and Territories of Canada and the Caribbean islands.

### SECTION II

Area Canada and Caribbean shall be divided into four Regions, the Western Canada Region, the Central Canada Region, the Maritimes Region, and the Caribbean Region with the following boundaries:

- A. The Western Canada Region shall include the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, and the Yukon, Northwest and Nunavut Territories.
- B. The Central Canada Region shall include the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.
- C. The Maritimes Region shall include the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador.
- D. The Caribbean ( Caribbean Region ) shall include the Island countries that surround the Caribbean Sea.

### GUIDELINES

301 Where circumstances warrant, certain clubs within the defined boundaries may (with consent of the Area Council and the Regions concerned) for administrative purposes affiliate with another Region of Canada or the United States Area. This consent to affiliation shall be considered by members of Area Canada and Caribbean and shall be subject to Article XI, Section 3 of the International Constitution..

## ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

### SECTION I

The membership of this Area shall consist of affiliated local Y=s Men=s Clubs, Y=s Women=s Clubs, Y=s Men and Women=s Clubs and Y Service Clubs.

## SECTION II

The membership of each local club shall be as defined by the International Constitution.

## ARTICLE V - LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

### SECTION I

The legislative authority of Area Canada and Caribbean shall be vested in the Area Council.

### SECTION II

The members of the Area Council shall be the Area President, the Immediate Past Area President, and the Area President Elect. Additional members of Council shall be the four Regional Directors and the four Regional Directors Elect , the Area Director of Y=s Menettes, the Area Secretary, the Area Treasurer and Area Youth Representative. In case of any one or more not being in attendance an alternate can be appointed.

### SECTION III

The Area Council shall meet twice a year, once in October and another in March ( one of these is to be an in-person meeting ). Other meetings of the Area Council may be called by the Area President or may be requested by any Council member and convened upon approval of at least fifty percent (50%) of the Council membership.

### SECTION IV

Six members of the Area Council shall constitute a quorum.

### SECTION V

The Area President shall preside at all meetings of the Area Council, but shall not have a vote, except in the event of a tie vote, the Area President shall then cast the tie-breaking vote.

### SECTION VI

In the event of the incapacity of the Area President to preside, the Area President-Elect or the Immediate Past Area President shall assume such functions.

## GUIDELINES:

501 The Area Director of Y=s Menettes shall be elected by a process to be determined by the Area Y=s Menettes.

502 The Area President may appoint support staff to the Area Council, who may attend Area Council meetings without vote.

503 Legislative terms shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th.

504 Minutes of meetings of the Area Council shall be transmitted to each member of the Council within thirty (30) days of the meeting.

505 Regional Constitutions and/or Guidelines shall not be in conflict with the Area and International Constitutions. These Constitutions and/or Guidelines or any revisions of them must be submitted to the Area and International Councils for approval.

506 YMCA Liaison officer, appointed by the National Council of YMCA=s of Canada, shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Area Council as an official observer in a non-voting capacity.

507 Any member of a local club, under Article 1V, shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the Area Council and may be recognized by the chair to speak on the business during the meeting.

508 The Treasurer shall have a financial statement prepared for each Council Meeting

509 If a Regional Director and / or Regional director Elect is unable to attend an Area Council Meeting, their Region can appoint alternates. Where this is not possible, the Area President can appoint members to represent that Region.

## ARTICLE VI - ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

### SECTION I

A. Executive officers of this organization shall be an Area President, Area President-Elect, Area Secretary and Area Treasurer.

B. The Area President shall serve a two 2 term of office coincident with a term as a member of the International Council.

C. The Area President-Elect, following one (1) year in office will automatically assume the office of Area President.

### SECTION II

Each club, with voting Privileges on International issues, may submit one (1) nominee for each International Council Member to be elected from its Area, to the International office and the current member of the International Council representing its Area, at least ninety (90) days prior to the election date. Forty five (45) days prior to the election date the International office shall present to the clubs a maximum of three (3) nominees for each office as decided by the nominating committee

in conjunction with each Area President concerned, at least one (1) of which must be the nominee receiving the greatest number of nominations from the clubs. Each club shall have one (1) vote for each International Council member to be elected from its Area and the person receiving the highest number of votes for each office in a mailed ballot returned to the International office prior to the election date, will be elected.

## GUIDELINES

601 A club without voting privileges on International issues is defined in International Guidelines 409 and 410.

602 Upon request of the Regional directors to Y=s Men=s International, Clubs without voting privileges on International issues may receive exemptions to International Guidelines 409.

603 A member of a club without voting privileges on International issues may not be nominated to stand for election of International Council.

## SECTION III

In the event of the death or inability of the Area President to serve, the Area President-Elect shall, with the approval of the International President, assume the office of the Area President. In the event the Area President-Elect has not been selected, the Immediate Past Area President or Past Area President shall with the approval of the International President, re-assume the office of Area President until an election can be conducted or an appointment made in accordance with Article IV Section 6 of the International Constitution.

## ARTICLE VII - FINANCE

### SECTION I

The Area Council shall determine a uniform financial share on a per capita basis that each member club shall pay in support of the Area operating expenses.

### SECTION II

Each Region shall collect all International, Area and Regional dues on a semi-annual basis and remit International and Area dues to the Area Treasurer respectively.

### SECTION III

The Area Council shall approve an operating budget at least thirty (30) days before or not later than sixty (60) days after the beginning of each fiscal year. The fiscal year shall coincide with the legislative year, July 1 through June 30.

### SECTION IV

The Area President shall be responsible for implementing the operating budget.

## ARTICLE VIII - CONVENTIONS

### SECTION I

Area Conventions shall be held biennially in odd-numbered years and shall be developed, planned and executed under the leadership and supervision of the Area Council, which may delegate all or part of this responsibility.

#### GUIDELINES:

801 Area Conventions, in so far as possible, should be hosted on a regularly rotating basis by each Region.

802 The Area Council shall approve a convention site and preliminary budget at least one (1) year previous to the dates of the convention.

803 An Area Convention representative will be appointed by the Area President to meet regularly with the Convention Host Committee, to insure and report to the Area President that general standards and guidelines and program objectives for the Area conventions are followed.

804 The Host Convention Committee shall adhere to the Convention Guidelines as specified in the Canadian Area Convention Guidelines document.

## ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

### SECTION I

Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be voted on at an Area Council providing thirty (30) days notice of motion being given in writing to each Council member and Area President.

### SECTION II

This constitution may be amended upon two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the Area Council at a duly constituted meeting.

#### GUIDELINES

901 Guidelines may be amended at any duly constituted meeting of the Area Council, by a simple majority affirmative vote of the Council members present and voting.

Amended - April, 1986; Amended - January, 1989; Amended - January, 1990  
Amended - January, 2004; Amended - July, 2006; Amended - July 2008;  
Amended - July, 2009



