



## Tzafon Region: United Synagogue Youth

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### REGIONAL CONSTITUTION

#### PREAMBLE

We, the Tzafon Region of the United Synagogue Youth, affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, in order to strengthen Jewish identity through increasing awareness of local, national and international issues affecting Jews, Israeli issues, Judaic knowledge, promoting Tikkun Olam, fostering lasting friendships, and ensuring the safety and welfare of our members, also recognize the fact that youth must perpetuate Judaism and are cognizant of the historical and cultural background of our people, do hereby establish this as the constitution for Tzafon Region USY.

#### ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Tzafon Region of United Synagogue Youth of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

#### ARTICLE II: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

##### **Section I – The Aim**

The aim of Tzafon Region USY is to offer opportunities to Jewish youth to continue and strengthen their identification with Judaism and with the Synagogue as the central agency of Jewish life, as well as with Israel in keeping with the Zionist tradition. In furthering this aim, Tzafon Region USY seeks to develop a program based on the personal development, needs and interests of the Jewish teenager as they relate to the principles of Conservative Judaism and strives to equip its teenage members with the tools necessary to incorporate that tradition into everyday life.

##### **Section II - The Objectives**

###### **A. Study**

A knowledge of the Jewish heritage and ideals is essential to creative Jewish living. Therefore, Tzafon Region USY dedicates itself to the ideals of Jewish learning by:

1. Encouraging its members to attend existing institutions of learning.
2. Encouraging its members to read books of Jewish interest and to undertake a program of individual study (Home Study Program).
3. Encouraging its chapters to establish programs of group study.
4. Encouraging its members to further their interest in Jewish areas.

###### **B. Observance of Shabbat and Festivals**

The observance of the Sabbath and the Holidays is of basic importance. Therefore, Tzafon Region USY dedicates itself to strengthening the Sabbath and Holidays by:

1. Encouraging its members to attend services on Holidays and Sabbath.
2. Encouraging its members to join in the Sabbath and the Holiday meals and rituals.
3. Encouraging its groups to sponsor programs in the spirit of the Sabbath and Holidays.
4. Requiring its chapters to schedule their activities so as not to conflict with the law or spirit surrounding the observance of Shabbat and Festivals.

### **C. Prayer**

Prayer is one of the three pillars of Jewish life – Torah (study), Avodah (prayer) and Gemilut Hasidim (good deeds). Tzafon Region USY believes that the Jewish teenager should experience the feelings of kinship and power arising out of public worship and the feelings of the nearness of God arising out of public devotion. Therefore, Tzafon Region USY

1. Requires of its members proper conduct and etiquette during religious services, so as to reflect the appropriate respect due to prayer.
2. Encourages all chapters to hold at least one USY-led service each program year.

### **D. Kashrut**

The observance of dietary laws has inculcated Jewish values and facilitated Jewish survival. Therefore Tzafon Region USY:

1. Requires that its chapters observe the dietary laws at all their functions.
2. Urges its members to observe Kashrut in their lives.
3. Requires the strict observance of the dietary laws of Kashrut at all Regional functions.

### **E. The Synagogue**

The Synagogue is the center of Jewish life. Therefore, Tzafon Region USY is dedicated to strengthening the synagogue by encouraging chapters to increase participation of its members in synagogue programming through:

1. Encouraging members to attend and participate in regular Shabbat and weekday services
2. Having members of USY, wherever and whenever feasible, participate in Synagogue services.
3. Having members of USY regard themselves as youth members of the adult congregation and as such participate in the congregational functions, as well as focusing their own programs around the synagogue.

### **F. The Jewish Community**

No Jewish youth organization is sufficient unto itself. It must share concern for an activity on behalf of all Israel. To this end, Tzafon Region USY dedicates itself to:

1. Cooperating with other groups for the purpose of maintaining and protecting moral and religious standards and ideals throughout the Jewish (and local) Community.
2. Participating in the affairs of the local Jewish community.
3. Accepting its share of responsibility for Jewish rehabilitation and philanthropy wherever it is needed.
4. Dedicating itself to strengthening the ties between Israel and American Jewry.
5. Dedicating itself to the establishment and preservation of full religious freedom in the United States and the world.

### **G. Centrality of the State of Israel**

The State of Israel, the Jewish homeland, should remain among the forefront of the concerns of world Jewry. Because of its connection to Jewish spirituality and the history of our people and its importance to Jewish continuity, promoting awareness and love for Israel shall remain a principal objective for Tzafon. Therefore, Tzafon shall:

1. Encourage its members to study and become knowledgeable of current events in Israel as well as of Jewish history in order to perpetuate accuracy in opinion and to educate other Jews and non-Jews;
2. Encourage its members to express solidarity with the State of Israel and work to secure its survival;
3. Endeavor to dedicate one regional convention per year to the study or discussion of the State of

Israel;

4. Strongly encourage its members to participate in summer programs, college freshman programs, and/or independent trips to Israel so that they may attain a personal connection with the Holy Land.

#### **H. The Kinship of Humanity**

The welfare of humanity is the concern of the Jews. Therefore, Tzafon Region USY dedicates itself to cooperating on the local, national and global levels to:

1. Work for democracy.
2. Work for world-wide understanding.
3. Work for human welfare.
4. Work for world peace.

#### **I. The Chapter**

Understanding that at the core of Tzafon Region is its chapters, Tzafon strives to help foster their development by requiring all chapters to:

1. Participate in regional and international functions wherever possible by sending representatives;
2. Have at least one fundraising program for Tikkun Olam and one Social Action program yearly.

In turn, Tzafon shall:

1. Provide leadership programming for its members at regional events;
2. Provide programming and leadership assistance to chapters;
3. Assist members in finding financial aid so that they are not prevented from attending regional or international events on the basis of need.

### **Article III - Membership**

#### **Section I – CHAPTER ELIGIBILITY**

Jewish Youth groups of Conservative Synagogues within the borders of the Tzafon Region USY as defined by the International organization are eligible to become chapter members of TZAFON REGION USY provided that:

- A. The youth groups are in agreement with the aims and objectives of USY as set forth in this Constitution.
- B. The youth groups apply for International membership.
- C. The sponsoring synagogue is affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

The age limits of chapter members shall extend from 9<sup>th</sup> grade through completion of high school. The chapters may set its own age requirements within these limits. As Kadima is the Junior Youth arm of Tzafon USY, Kadima is Internationally from 6<sup>th</sup> grade thru 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. To insure(or ensure) that all eligible youths are served by Kadima and USY within the community, any chapter modifications of the age limit must be approved by the Regional Executive Board and the Regional Director of Youth Activities.

#### **Section II – AFFILIATION**

Any group eligible for membership within the requirements of this Constitution must request by written application affiliation with TZAFON REGION USY. The affiliation is subject to the approval of the Executive Board and the Regional Director of Youth Activities within one month of the reception of said application. The chapter shall pay an initiation fee of \$25.00.

### **Section III – REQUIREMENTS OF GOOD STANDING**

- A. Chapters to be regarded as chapters in good standing of TZAFON REGION USY must meet the following requirements:
1. Pay regional dues by November 1st or two weeks prior to Fall Kallah.
  2. Each chapter shall have the power to elect its officers, levy dues upon its members, and perform any functions necessary and proper for the general good and welfare of its members
  3. All chapter officers and board members must be members in good standing in their respective chapters
  4. Plan and execute a minimum of three programs per program year that reflect the collective aims and objectives of Tzafon Region USY.

### **ARTICLE IV: DUES AND FEES (Used to be Article V)**

#### **SECTION I -- Amount**

All chapters shall pay regional and international dues at a per capital rate to be determined by the International Office and upon recommendation of the Regional Director of Youth Activities or Board. The amount for dues will be valid until the time that the International office and/or the Regional youth commission and/or Executive board determines a new amount.

All chapters will be notified of any change in the amount of dues by July 1<sup>st</sup> .

#### **SECTION II -- Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year for dues goes from July 1<sup>st</sup> thru June 30<sup>th</sup> .

### **ARTICLE V: ORGANIZATION**

#### **SECTION I: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

##### **A. The Executive Board of TZAFON REGION USY shall consist of the offices of:**

1. President
2. Israeli Affairs Vice President
3. Religious/Education Vice President
4. Social Action/Tikun Olam Vice President
5. Membership/Kadima Vice President
6. Communications Vice President

##### **B. Qualifications**

1. Any person shall be eligible for the office of President provided that:
  - a. they have been a member of a chapter for the most recent fiscal year, and has been a member in good standing of their home chapter.
  - b. they have been a voting Regional Executive Board Member and/or Chapter President for the most recent fiscal year
2. Any person shall be eligible for the offices of Israel Affairs Vice President, Religious/Education Vice President, Social Action and Tikun Olam Vice President, Membership/Kadima Vice President and Communications Vice President provided that:
  - a. they have been a member of a chapter for the most recent fiscal year and has been a member of good standing with the International and Regional organizations for the most recent fiscal year.
  - b. they have been a voting Regional Board Member (General or Executive) or Chapter Board Member for the most recent fiscal year.
3. No Regional Officer may hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.
4. No person shall hold more than one Regional office at a time.

**C. Expectations of Regional Executive Officers (Formerly Duties of Regional Executive Board)**

It shall be the duty of all Regional Executive Officers to uphold the Constitution of Tzafon Region USY and to comply with all regional regulations to the fullest extent. Regional Executive Officers shall at all times meet the following personal standards:

1. Officers are expected to attend 100% of regional functions.
2. Officers are expected to attend 75% of chapter functions.
3. Officers are expected to have Regular shabbat and/or weekday service attendance, with a goal of at least 4x monthly.
4. Officers are expected to have the ability to read Hebrew.
5. Supervised study of Judaica for at least 2 hours a week.
6. Officers will observe Shabbat and Jewish Holy Days with regard to the responsum of the Rabbinical Assembly pertaining to travel, and by refraining from all school exams and public functions thereon. (The Jewish Holidays include Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Pesach, Shavuot, Sukkot and Simhat Torah.)
7. Officers will observe Kashrut wherever possible in private and at all times in public.
8. Officers will strive to model healthy Jewish dating choices. These include recognizing the importance of dating within the Jewish community and treating each person with the recognition that they were created Betzelem Elohim (in the image of God).
9. Officers will refrain from the illegal use of drugs and the illegal use of alcohol, or from being where the illegal use is present.
10. Officers will foster a safe and inclusive community. USY leaders should serve as the embodiment of USY's Zero Tolerance policy towards bullying, and create a welcoming environment.
11. Officers are expected to hold themselves and each other to the highest ethical standards. This includes refraining from Lashon Hara (gossip) and treating others with Kavod (respect).
12. The International Youth Commission, USY President, Director, all regional Youth Commissions, Presidents, and Directors shall make every effort to assure that our USY leaders adhere to these basic standards.
13. Failure of a Regional Executive Officer to comply with the personal standards set forth above can result in suspension or impeachment from office, under the procedure set forth in Article V, Section IV of this Constitution.

**D. Duties of the Executive Board (Moved from Section II in original document)**

1. The Executive board shall have the power and responsibility to make all rules and transact all business necessary for the proper functioning of Tzafon Region USY. This shall include a special appointment power whereby the Executive Board and the Regional Director of Youth Activities may appoint an executive officer for the purposes of: Special Programming/New Programming. The officer will serve for a one-year term. This executive officer must meet the eligibility requirements of a Vice President as per Article V, Section I, C.
2. The Executive Board shall have the primary responsibility for programming at Regional events.
3. Meetings of the Executive Board will be regularly scheduled, or can be called by the President or upon petition of 2/3 of its members. A representative of the Regional Youth Commission may be present in an advisory capacity at any meetings of the Executive Board.
4. A quorum of 2/3 of the Executive Officers is necessary to conduct a meeting of the Executive Board.

**E. Executive Board Positions by Role**

In addition to specific roles listed below, each officer shall be responsible for aiding each chapter in programming of their specialty; maintaining communication with all chapter counterparts and remaining in contact with International counterparts and Central staff.

**1. PRESIDENT**

- a. Shall call meetings of the Executive Board and Regional Board
- b. Shall preside over the meeting of the above, and over Regional Conventions
- c. Shall appoint all Regional General Board members subject to approval of the Executive Board.
- d. Shall oversee all Regional General Board positions.
- e. Shall create any new General Board Positions, subject to the approval of the Executive Board
- f. Shall report as to the state of the Region and make recommendations for its improvement
- g. Shall be vested with the executive power of the region and shall be its official representative.
- h. In the event of an emergency, with the consent of the Regional Youth Director and Youth Commission Chair, take actions necessary to ensure the proper functioning of the region, without the special approval of the Executive Board, or Full Regional Board until a meeting may be called.
- i. During the incapacitation of the President, the Regional Executive Board will meet and vote on a new Regional President from among the members of the Regional Board. Thus they will also choose another USY member to fill the previous duties of the board member chosen to fulfill the President's duties.

**2. ISRAEL AFFAIRS Vice President**

- a. Shall work with the Israel Affairs general board to promote Israel activities and programming.
- b. Shall work with the Israel Affairs general board to promote the Israel education and awareness on chapter and regional levels.
- c. Shall work to increase regional membership and activism in HeChalutzim

**3. RELIGIOUS/EDUCATION Vice President**

- a. Shall work on both the chapter and regional levels to develop and implement all aspects of religious and educational programming.
- b. Shall work with the Religious/Education general board and direct them concerning religious and educational programming.
- c. Shall be in charge (with assistance of Religious/Education general board) of coordinating all of the religious services at all Regional Functions in conjunction with the Regional Youth Director and hosting synagogue.

**4. SOCIAL ACTION/TIKUN OLAM Vice President**

- a. Shall be responsible for the implementation of all aspects of Social Action on the chapter and regional levels and serve as the overseeing officer of the Tikun Olam Program with assistance from Social Action/Tikun Olam general board members.
- b. Shall provide resources to counterparts for the implementation of Social Action and Tikun Olam Programs in the chapters
- c. Shall be in charge (with Tikun Olam general board) of all Regional Tikun Olam Fundraising.
- d. Work to increase membership and activism in the 613 Mitzvah club.

**5. MEMBERSHIP/KADIMA Vice President**

- a. Shall be responsible for the implementation of all aspects of USY and Kadima membership expansion and retention throughout the Region.
- b. Shall provide creative membership expansion and retention ideas and Kadima related programs to the chapters.
- c. Shall be responsible for developing and coordinating any Kadima days/overnights with the assistance of the Regional Youth Director, the rest of the Regional Board and host chapter USY board.
- d. Shall work with the Membership general board in the planning of activities at conventions

## **6. COMMUNICATIONS Vice President**

- a. Shall be responsible for recording and publishing the proceedings of the Executive and General Boards and any delegate assemblies of the Tzafon Region.
- b. Shall issue news releases to local papers and/or USY publications
- c. Shall be responsible for compiling lists of Regional, General and Chapter Boards as well as all advisors throughout the Region.
- d. Shall be responsible for promoting all Regional events on all forms of Printed or Social Media.
- e. Shall oversee the publication of the Regional Yearbook and/or Video with assistance of general board members.
- f. Shall assist in development of Regalia with assistance of general board members.

## **SECTION II. General Board (Used to be section IIA – Regional Chairman and Co-Chairmen)**

Upon installation, the Executive Board assumes full responsibility of their roles including meeting to appoint Regional General Board members;

### **A. Definition of Regional General Board**

The "FULL" Regional General Board shall consist of elected Executive officers, chapter presidents and any General board members appointed by the elected Executive officers.

Any person shall be eligible for a general board position provided that:

1. they have been a member of a chapter in good standing for one year and he/she has been a member in good standing for the most recent fiscal year.
2. they have attended at least one regional event within the most recent fiscal year.

### **B. Application**

Any person interested in serving in a general board position must complete and submit the application put forth by TZAFON REGION USY by the pre-established deadline.

### **C. Selection**

The General Board positions shall be selected and appointed by the Executive Board and the Regional Director of Youth Activities at a special Executive Board Meeting to be held no later than 60 days after the Regional Election. In the event that a Regional Board position can not be filled within 60 days after the Regional Election, the Regional Executive Board and the Regional Director of Youth Activities withhold the right to fill the position at any point during the remainder of the fiscal year or progress with the position unfilled.

### **D. Application**

Any person interested in serving in a general board position must complete and submit the application put forth by TZAFON REGION USY by the pre-established deadline

The Executive board may appoint as many chairs as deemed necessary.

### **E. Meetings**

Meetings of the full Regional Board shall be held at least two times a year, to be called by the President and/or scheduled into the yearly event calendar.

1. Any additional Meetings of the Regional Executive Board and or Full Regional Board may be called by the President at their initiative or by petition by 2/3 to the President;
2. International officers and the immediate past President of Tzafon Region may have the right to attend and to debate at Executive Board meetings, but not to cast votes.
3. A representative of the Regional Youth Commission is invited to be present in an advisory capacity at any and all meetings of the Regional Board.
4. All meetings will be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order where applicable.
5. A quorum consisting of 2/3rds of the Regional Board shall be necessary to conduct a business meeting.

## **F. Term**

The term for general board positions will be from the time of appointment by the newly elected Regional Executive Board until the following Regional Convention, or until the committee is disbanded by the President with the approval of the Regional Executive Board.

## **SECTION III – Impeachment**

Any Regional Officer may be suspended for gross neglect of duty or misconduct by a 2/3 vote of the Regional Executive Board and with the consent of the Regional Director. The period of suspension is to be determined by the Executive Board.

- A. The Executive Board may issue a written warning to any Executive Officer for gross neglect of duty or misconduct by a majority vote. A warning may be issued for violating any of the following:
  1. Repeated absence from General and/or Executive Board meetings;
  2. Repeated absence from Regional Programs;
  3. Lack of effort in performing prescribed duties of job;
  4. Breaking the laws of kashrut or Shabbat as stated in the Constitution;
  5. Breaking any Federal, or State law through the use of drugs and/or alcohol, or being caught with any contraband at a USY event;
  6. Violating the rules and regulations of any USY event;
- B. These charges must be submitted to the President unless this individual is the subject of the charges in which case the charges should be submitted to the Israel Affairs Vice-President;
- C. The General Board has the power to issue a written warning as described above by a 2/3 vote;
- D. Any Executive Officer who, after receiving a written warning, continues their violation may be suspended or expelled by a 2/3 vote of the Executive Board (not including the officer in question), in addition to the consent of the Regional President and the Regional Director. Said officer has thirty days to respond to the charges;
- E. For violations of warnings (5) and (6) above, a written warning may not be required for the removal of an officer;
- F. All Executive Board members, upon taking position, shall sign a contract stating that they have read, understood, and will follow these rules. This contract shall be collected and enforced by the Regional Director in cooperation with the entire Executive Board.

## **SECTION IV – VACANCIES (Originally Article VIII)**

### **1. PRESIDENT**

In the event that there is a vacancy in the office of President, the Regional Executive Board shall meet and vote on a new Regional President from among the members of the Regional Executive Board. Thus, they will choose a USY member to fulfill the previous duties of the Regional Executive Board member chosen to fulfill the President's duties.

### **2. OTHER VACANCIES**

In the event that there is a vacancy in any of the other Regional Executive Offices, the President shall appoint an eligible member, including any members of the Regional Board, to serve the remainder of the term. This appointment must be approved by the Regional Director of Youth Activities, and can be vetoed by the Plenary Council by a 3/4ths vote. Upon a majority vote of the Regional Executive Board the appointed person shall assume office immediately.



## **SECTION V – REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

1. The Regional Director shall assist in coordinating all Regional business and shall act as an advisor to all Regional Executive and General board members.
2. When dealing with an issue that falls under the duties or powers of a Regional Officer as described above, the Regional Director shall consult with said officer.
3. All complaints against the President shall go to the Regional Youth Director.

## **SECTION VI -- Regional Programs**

### **A. ENCAMPMENT**

1. Held at the end of each summer, traditionally at Ramah Poconos
2. Open to both Kadima and USY participants
3. Programmed by the Executive Board and any chosen co-chairs (if desired) in concert with other participating Regional Executive Boards, if applicable.

### **B. REGIONAL BOARD/LEADERSHIP DAY**

1. Open to full Regional General Board, Executive Board and Chapter Presidents
2. Generally held in the Fall prior to Fall Kallah
3. Has as its goal Leadership training and program planning for the program year
4. Generally programmed by the Regional Executive Board with support of the Regional Director.

### **C. FALL KALLAH**

1. Shall occur in the fall of each year
2. Held at a Host Synagogue
3. Open to all paid USYers from throughout the region and host city 8<sup>th</sup> grade Kadimaniks.
4. Planned by Executive Board with support of General Board members on a theme decided by the Executive Board.

### **D. KADIMA DAY/OVERNIGHT(S)**

1. Shall occur in the fall of each year
2. Held at a Host Synagogue
3. Open to all paid Kadimaniks from throughout the region.
4. Planned by Executive Board and Kadima Regional general board, as well as the host chapter USY board as led by the Regional Membership/Kadima Vice-President.

### **E. SOCIAL ACTION/TIKUN OLAM EVENT**

1. Generally occurs in the Winter of each year
2. The format of the event changes based on the planning of the Social Action/Tikun Olam Vice President and General Board members.
3. Depending on the activity, may be open to all USY and Kadimaniks, or just USYers.

### **F. SPRINTER KALLAH**

1. Shall occur in the Winter of each year, generally February or March
2. Held at a Host Synagogue
3. Open to all paid USYers from throughout the region, in addition to any 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Kadima.
4. Planned by Executive Board with support of General Board members on a theme decided by the Executive Board.

### **G. KINNUS GADOL**

1. Shall occur in the Spring of each year
2. Held either at a camp or a Hotel, depending on time of Convention

3. Open to all paid USYers and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Kadima from throughout the region.
4. Planned by Executive Board with support of General Board members on a theme decided by the Executive Board.
5. At this time, elections are to be held as detailed below in the Constitution and the new board is to be installed and assume responsibilities thereafter.

#### **H. Additional Events**

Any Additional Conventions/Events may be added to the calendar on the initiative of the Executive Board.

### **Article VI - Elections**

Each Year, elections are to be held at Regional Convention. All officers shall be elected annually at that time, and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and installed. Installation shall take place at Regional Convention

#### **Section I – CANDIDACY**

Any members interested in running for an Executive Board office must complete and submit the application issued by Tzafon Region USY by the stated deadline, generally least one month prior to the date of the election. On said form, he/she must fill in the required data which shall be:

The position desired; candidate may request one position only;

Qualifications for said office;

Recommendations/ signatures of approval :

Parent/Guardian

Chapter President

Chapter Advisor/Director

Rabbi

All candidates must then attend a meeting, along with at least one parent, to discuss the rules and expectations of being an Executive Board member.

#### **SECTION II – PROCEEDINGS**

- A. The order of elections shall be in the order listed in Article V, Section A of this Constitution.
- B. All candidates must meet the qualifications stated previously in Article V, Section B of this Constitution
- C. Every candidate must be nominated by another USYer in good standing. The nomination speech may not exceed thirty seconds and ends as soon as the candidate's name is said;
- D. Candidates shall provide the Regional President with their qualification sheet at least three weeks prior to Regional Convention. The President will then distribute copies of the qualifications to voters during the Regional Convention;
- E. Candidate's speeches will be limited in length to five minutes for Presidential candidates and three minutes for all other offices. The order of speakers will be determined by alphabetical order according to the last name of the candidate for each position;
- F. After all of the candidates for an office have given their speeches, USYers will vote for the office. No USYer who has not heard all of the speeches for an office will be permitted to vote for that office;
- G. To be elected, a candidate must obtain a simple majority of the votes cast. If more than two candidates are seeking the same office and none receive a majority of the votes, the candidate

receiving the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated following each ballot until one candidate shall receive a majority.

- H. In the event that an office has no candidate, the remainder of the newly elected Executive board shall appoint an eligible USYer to the office within 30 days following Regional Convention.
- I. Presidential candidates shall be permitted to be a candidate for no more than two different offices at the election. All vice-presidential candidates shall be permitted to be a candidate for only one office;
- J. In the ballot counting room at the Regional Convention, there shall be one observer for each candidate to oversee the counting of the ballots.

### **Section III – Regarding Elections**

- A. All qualification “Brag” sheets for candidates will be shared publically no less than 2 weeks prior to conventions.
- B. A candidate may not use any Chapter or Regional funds for a political campaign at any time, and no political campaigning is permitted during the Convention.

## **Article VI - REGIONAL CONVENTIONS**

### **SECTION I:**

There shall be at least one Regional Convention during the fiscal year. Time and place of the convention must be decided by the Regional Director of Youth Activities

All members in good standing, may attend. Each participant is required to attend the convention in its entirety, unless they have prior approval from the Regional Regional Director of Youth Activities.

### **SECTION II:**

Voting Requirements at any convention (mainly for Kinnus Gadol) shall be composed as follows:

- A. Chapters in good standing, shall be entitled to voting delegate representatives in accordance with the following:
  - 1-15 members – 3 voting delegates
  - 16-30 members – 4 voting delegates
  - 31 or more members – 5 voting delegates
- B. The Regional Officers each have one vote.
- C. The Regional General Board members shall each have one vote.
- D. No person shall have more than one vote. There will be no voting by proxy.
- E. No chapter may participate in Regional elections if they have not submitted their Tikun Olam donation into the International Office prior to the election.

### **SECTION III: TRANSPORTATION**

- A. All attendees may travel to and from Regional Conventions by their own means of transportation providing they, in addition, pay the cost of the Regional transportation. USYers are not permitted to drive cars to/from Regional Convention.
- B. The term “Regional Conventions” with regard to transportation arrangements includes but is not limited to: Encampment, Fall Kallah, Regional Board/Leadership Day, Sprinter and Kinnus Gadol.

## **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

### **SECTION I: Consideration**

Any member in good standing of an affiliated chapter of TZAFON REGION USY may propose an amendment to the TZAFON REGION USY Constitution by submitting the request in writing to the Regional President and Regional Director of Youth Activities.

## **SECTION II: Also Consideration**

Each delegate of the Full Regional Board shall be given a copy of the proposed amendments at least 3 weeks prior to a Full Regional Board meeting.

## **SECTION III: VOTING**

Upon receiving 2/3rds vote of the delegates present and voting, the proposed amendments shall be added to the Constitution, if passed.

## **SECTION IV: Effectiveness**

The new amendment shall take effect at the close of the Full Regional Board meeting at which it was proposed.

## **SECTION V: Also Effectiveness**

The Executive Communications Vice President must incorporate all passed amendments into the body of the Tzafon Region USY Constitution within a month after the amendments are passed, or the end of the Executive Communications Vice President's term, whichever comes first.

## **SECTION VI:**

Grammatical errors may be corrected in this Constitution with the consent of the Regional Executive Board, provided that no content is changed.

## **ARTICLE VIII: INTERNATIONAL SUPREMACY**

The Constitution of the International USY shall be the supreme law of this organization.

No laws, resolution, or regulations shall be passed by TZAFON REGION USY, which shall interfere or be in direct conflict with the policy of the International Organization. The Regional Executive Board shall determine which laws are in violation of this Article.

The International Executive Board shall have the sole power to interpret this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION**

This Constitution shall be ratified in a manner determined by the Regional Executive Board as defined in the existing Tzafon Region USY Constitution. Upon ratification, this Constitution shall go into effect immediately, fully replacing the jurisdiction of the previous Constitution.

## **ARTICLE X: CONSTITUTION AVAILABILITY**

A master copy of this Constitution, including all bylaws and amendments shall be kept at the Tzafon Regional Office, available to any person upon written request and available online on our Website..

**LAST DATE UPDATED: After work by the entire 2014-2015 Tzafon USY Regional Executive Board: Ari Jaffe, Ezra Goldmeer, Noah Halle, Avi Presberg & Caitlin Garbo, and suggestions/corrections by the Full board, it was ratified by the full Board on 4/12/2015.**