



NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER YMCA ALUMNI BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: OUR MISSION: The mission of YMCA Alumni is to provide opportunities for members to **Connect, Travel, and Serve** while nurturing worldwide Christian fellowship.

ARTICLE II: OUR VISION: YMCA Alumni inspires its members, who have dedicated much of their lives to the programs and services of YMCAs, to benefit from companionship, camaraderie, and connection by building and strengthening relationships with one another and the Y Movement.

ARTICLE III: NAME and SERVICE AREA

Section 1. Name: The name of this organization shall be the New England Chapter of YMCA Alumni.

Section 2. Service Area: The New England Chapter service area includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

ARTICLE IV: PURPOSE & NATIONAL AFFILIATION

Section 1. Purpose: The purpose of the chapter is to encourage and maintain connections among YMCA retirees and their spouses/partners, to foster a spirit of companionship and helpfulness among chapter members, to preserve retirees' links to the YMCA Movement and to provide learning, service opportunities, social and adventure experiences for members. YMCA staff who are currently working are also welcome to join.

Section 2. National Affiliation: The New England Chapter is part of the YMCA Alumni which is incorporated in the State of Illinois as a not-for-profit organization for exclusively charitable and educational purposes with the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or as may hereafter be amended.

Article V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership Definition: Membership in this chapter is open to individuals who support the mission and purpose as evidenced by the payment of annual dues. Members must be former or current YMCA employees, spouses or surviving spouses, partners or significant others or surviving partners or significant others of former YMCA employees.

Section 2. Membership Categories:

- **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP** is defined by either paying annual dues, or by being excused from dues through the action of the board. Active Membership provides the privilege of voting, holding office and receiving both the New England Chapter and National YMCA Alumni newsletters and other communications.
- **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP** is defined by a member who is 90 years of age or older. Lifetime Members enjoy all the benefits of Active Membership with the annual membership dues waved.
- **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP** provides the same privilege as Active Membership and may be bestowed to any person at the discretion of the chapter board.

ARTICLE VI: FISCAL YEAR and DUES

Section 1. Fiscal Year: The chapter's fiscal year shall be January 1 to December 31 which coincides with the YMCA Alumni National Board.

Section 2. Membership Dues: The chapter board is responsible for setting the price of dues annually. When joining YMCA Alumni for the first time, the new member's dues are waived for the initial calendar year (beginning Oct 1st through the next calendar year ending December 31st). A member who leaves, and "reactivates" their membership within 5 years, is required to pay membership dues per the National YMCA Alumni Board. The portion of membership dues, owed to the national YMCA Alumni office, must be paid by December 31st of each fiscal year.

Article VII: CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS – OFFICERS and MEMBERS

Section 1. Responsible Party: The business affairs and overall management of the New England Chapter is the responsibility of the Chapter's Board of Directors.

Section 2. Officers: The officers of this chapter shall be President, Immediate Past President, Program Chair, Membership Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 3. Officer Positions & Descriptions: Responsibilities of the officers as outlined include:

- **President:** Responsible for the functioning of the chapter; presides over all gatherings/meetings; appoints committee chairs; serves as ex-officio member of all committees, ensures compliance of the chapter to 501©(3) regulations and maintains chapter by-laws (unless a Secretary is in office). By virtue of this office, is a member of the YMCA Alumni General Council and is the primary link between the YMCA Alumni Board of Directors and the chapter.
- **Immediate Past President:** Provides overall guidance and support to the President to ensure a smooth leadership transition. They communicate openly and honestly regarding challenges that might exist so that the chapter continues to grow and thrive.

The Immediate Past President may also serve in a named leadership role (i.e. committee chair, etc.) if interested and appointed by the President.

- **Program Chair:** Is responsible for coordinating and conducting a minimum of three-chapter events annually that focus on members expressed interests. Special emphasis should be placed on offering regional events to encourage participation by members who have limited travel ability or interest.
- **Membership Chair:** Has the overall responsibility for membership which includes Identifying, Recruiting, Engaging and Retaining members with the goal of growing membership. This position works cooperatively with the National YMCA Alumni Membership Director regarding chapter membership efforts.
- **Secretary:** Maintains accurate records of all business transacted by the chapter, maintains chapter by-laws and chapter policies and guidelines. These documents will be maintained by the President if a Secretary is not in office.
- **Treasurer:** Executes and maintains the financial business and records of the chapter. The Treasurer shall develop an annual budget, with input from committee chairs and board members, based on recent experience and future gathering/meeting and programs which is adopted by the chapter board. Maintains bank account(s) identified with YMCA Alumni tax Identification and files financial fiscal year reports with the YMCA Alumni Treasurer for inclusion in the National YMCA Alumni's annual IRS form 990. The Treasurer shall provide quarterly financial reports to the Board of Directors which include transactions, project balances and bank account statements. In addition, the Treasurer will provide an annual report for the Spring Chapter Meeting.

Section 4. Officer Terms: Chapter officers shall be two-year terms coinciding with the fiscal year of January 1-December 31. Chapter officers may serve up to 3 two-year terms.

Section 5. Officer Elections: Election of officers shall take place at the chapter's Winter meeting. The President shall appoint a Nomination Task Force not less than 90 days prior to the election. The Nomination Task Force shall propose a single slate to be announced through the chapter newsletter and/or other communication channels and voted on at a Winter meeting. Notice shall be given no less than two weeks prior to the election. Members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Officer Vacancies: Vacancies in any office except President shall be filled as quickly as possible by the Board of Directors for the balance of the term of the vacated office. Should the President be unable to continue in his or her post, either the Program Chair or Membership Chair shall assume the President's duties until a new President is confirmed by the Board of Directors to complete the unexpired term.

Section 7. Board Members: All other committee chairs, as well as the three Members-at-Large, will serve as members of the board. All board members may serve multiple two-year terms. Additional board members serving in these roles would include:

1. **Communications Chair:** Secures information from the board and other YMCA Alumni members and publishes the chapter newsletter according to the schedule and guidelines of the chapter. Works with the Marketing Company hired to support YMCA Alumni to ensure the newsletter is posted on the website and that other chapter information is posted on the national Facebook Page for members of the YMCA Alumni Board of Directors, and other chapters.
2. **Caring, Compassion and Celebration Chair:** Makes personal contact with members to express care and concern, provides support and offers available resources when necessary to support life circumstances and celebrates milestones in members' lives.
3. **Dominican Republic Housing Project Chair:** Coordinates the overall project of building homes in Santo Domingo, DR. Recruits volunteers to travel and do the home building, coordinates fund raising to cover the cost of supplies/construction, ensures the safety of all those involved. Manages public relations with the staff and volunteers in Santo Domingo and all YMCA Alumni members throughout the country to gain support to be successful.
4. **Members-at-Large:** Have the same rights and responsibilities as other board members. Their duties are as assigned by the President or a board committee chair.

Article VIII: COMMITTEES: The President may, at their discretion and support of the board, appoint committees and task forces as needed to support chapter goals as defined by the board.

Article IX: MEETINGS: The Board of Directors shall meet annually prior to or at the beginning of the new program/fiscal year to identify chapter goals and priorities for the upcoming year.

Article X: AMENDMENTS: These chapter by-laws may be amended by the Chapter Board of Directors provided due notice of such proposed amendments has been emailed to the board members no less than two weeks in advance of the meeting. Members present shall constitute a quorum.

BY-LAWS ADOPTED:

- *Created:* 1984
- *Revised:* October 1, 2013
- *Revised:* August 19, 2026