



# **BYLAWS**

**Approved: August 2025  
YMCA ALUMNI Board of Directors**

## **MISSION**

To provide opportunities for members to connect, travel and serve, while nurturing a worldwide Christian fellowship.

## **VISION**

YMCA ALUMNI inspires its members, who have dedicated much of their lives to programs and services of YMCAs throughout the United States, to benefit from companionship, camaraderie, and connection by building and strengthening relationships with one another and with the YMCA movement.

## **PREAMBLE**

YMCA ALUMNI is incorporated in the State of Illinois as a not-for-profit corporation for exclusively charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 now in effect or as may hereafter be amended.

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# BYLAWSS OF YMCA ALUMNI

## ARTICLE I NAME AND PURPOSE

**Section 1. Name.** The name of the corporation will be YMCA ALUMNI.

**Section 2. Purpose.** The purpose of YMCA ALUMNI is to offer opportunities for YMCA retirees to experience educational, social, and charitable opportunities.

## ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1. Membership in YMCA ALUMNI.** YMCA ALUMNI members are 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. Membership eligibility is at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Section 2. Dues.** Annual memberships are from January 1st through December 31<sup>st</sup> payable during membership renewal period as determined by the Board. The amount shall be determined by the Board of Directors, while the chapter portion of the dues shall be established by local chapters of YMCA ALUMNI.

**Section 3. Voting.** Each YMCA ALUMNI member shall be entitled to one vote on matters submitted to the membership. No proxy votes will be accepted.

**Section 4. Membership in Chapters.** Qualifications for membership in chapters are to be consistent with the qualifications for membership in YMCA ALUMNI as defined by Article II, Section 1.

## ARTICLE III CHAPTERS

**Section 1. Purpose of Chapters.** Members within a defined geographical area may form a chapter to help members implement the purpose of YMCA ALUMNI as outlined in Article I, Section 2.

**Section 2. Requirements for Chapters.** The Board of Directors of YMCA ALUMNI shall approve local chapters that meet these requirements:

- A. There shall be at least an annual chapter meeting with the election of chapter officers to coincide with the terms of the YMCA ALUMNI officers.
- B. There shall be at a minimum an annual chapter newsletter for all members of the chapter communicating news and activities of the chapter.
- C. There shall be a set of chapter bylaws, consistent with the bylaws of YMCA ALUMNI and approved by the YMCA ALUMNI Board of Directors. Any subsequent changes and revisions of the bylaws shall be reviewed and approved by the YMCA Alumni Board of Directors.
- D. Local chapters will prepare an annual budget for the upcoming year.

**Section 3. Organization of New Chapters.** Any cluster or group of members may, with the assistance and approval of the board of directors, organize a separate chapter.

**Section 4. Mergers of Existing Chapters.** Chapters wishing to merge must have approval of their respective chapter boards, their membership and the Board.

**Section 5. Administration of Chapters.** Each chapter must be approved by the Board of Directors of YMCA ALUMNI and comply with the mission, purpose and bylaws of YMCA ALUMNI and comply with the mission, purpose and bylaws of YMCA ALUMNI including the reporting of the chapter's budget and other chapter financial information required for completion of the year-end IRS 990 and in compliance with the requirements as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Membership reporting and renewal administration will be conducted by the National Membership Director and Assistant Treasurer for all chapters. Local chapters will determine their own local activities, as well as how to fund these local activities.

**Section 6. General Council.** The General Council shall be composed of the members of the Board of Directors, the presidents of all the chapters or their designee(s). Each chapter gets one vote. Functions of the General Council shall be assigned from time to time by the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IV AFFILIATED GROUPS**

**Section 1. Affiliation.** YMCA ALUMNI may, from time to time, affiliate with kindred groups compatible with the mission and purpose of YMCA ALUMNI; and, if such affiliated groups agree to comply with YMCA ALUMNI bylaws and reporting requirements; and, such affiliation receives a majority vote of the Board of Directors Such representatives may provide periodic reports of the activities of the affiliated group(s) to the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. General Powers and Duties.** The property, business affairs and overall management of YMCA ALUMNI is vested in the Board of Directors. Board members act as trustees of the organization's assets and must exercise due diligence and oversight to ensure that the organization is well managed and that they are complying with their fiduciary responsibility.

**Section 2. Number of Elected Directors.** The number of elected directors of YMCA ALUMNI shall be six (6). Each elected director shall serve as an officer of YMCA ALUMNI as follows:

- A. One director shall be elected and serve as the president of YMCA ALUMNI.
- B. Three directors shall be elected and serve as regional vice presidents of YMCA ALUMNI, one for the eastern United States, one for the central United States and one for the western United States.
- C. One director shall be elected and serve as the secretary of YMCA ALUMNI.
- D. One director shall be elected and serve as the treasurer of YMCA ALUMNI.

**Section 3. Election and Term of Office.** The directors shall be elected by the General Council as set forth in Article VII hereto for a term of three (3) years. Officers shall hold office until their successors shall have been elected and qualified or until their death, resignation, or removal. Directors need not be residents of the State of Illinois but must be active members of YMCA ALUMNI.

**Section 4. Immediate Past President.** The Immediate Past President of YMCA Alumni shall serve as a voting member of the YMCA Alumni Board of Directors.

**Section 5. Appointed Directors.** Assistant Treasurers may be appointed by the President, subject to approval by the Board of Directors. In addition, up to six members-at-large may be appointed by the President, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

**Section 6. Regular Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at such places and times as may be designated by the Board of Directors without other notice than these bylaws.

**Section 7. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at any time on the call of the President or at the request in writing of any five (5) directors. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be held at such places, either within or without the State of Illinois, as shall be specified or fixed in the call for such meeting or notice thereof.

**Section 8. Notice of meetings.** Notice of each special meeting shall be sent via postal mail or email by or at the direction of the Secretary to each director, addressed to her/him at her/his residence or usual place of business, at least twenty-one (21) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held. Notice may be waived in writing by a director, either before or after the meeting. Attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting except where the director attends the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called nor convened.

**Section 9. Quorum.** A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors. The act of the majority of directors present, at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless an act of a greater number is required by law, the Articles of Incorporation of YMCA ALUMNI or these bylaws.

**Section 10. Meetings in dispersion.** Directors may participate in and act in meetings of the Board of Directors in dispersion (telephone or video conference call) to facilitate the administration of YMCA ALUMNI. The same protocols applicable to physical meetings shall apply, including quorum requirements.

**Section 11. Powers of the Board of Directors.** The Board of Directors shall determine operating policies, establish organizational emphasis and goals, seek ways to strengthen chapters, and advance the usefulness of YMCA ALUMNI to its members in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation of YMCA ALUMNI and these Bylaws. It shall have the authority to:

- A. Adopt a plan for the distribution of the assets of YMCA ALUMNI or for dissolution.
- B. Recommend to members any act required by the Articles of Incorporation of YMCA ALUMNI or by statute to be approved by the members.
- C. Fill vacancies on the Board of Directors or on any of its committees.
- D. Elect, appoint, or remove any board member, or any member of a standing committee.
- E. Adopt, amend, or repeal these bylaws or the Articles of Incorporation of YMCA ALUMNI.

- F. Adopt a plan of merger or consolidation with another corporation; or authorize the sale, lease, exchange, or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property or assets of YMCA ALUMNI.
- G. Approve affiliations with the organizations with a mission and purpose compatible with YMCA ALUMNI's as determined by the Board of Directors of YMCA ALUMNI.
- H. Terminate an affiliation with an organization.

**Section 12. Committees.** The Board of Directors and/or the President may appoint committees as deemed appropriate. All committees of the Board of Directors must have one or more board members. The chair of each standing committee must be an active member of YMCA Alumni.

**Section 13. Policies.** The Board of Directors shall distribute and sign annually the Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower policies. The Secretary shall retain signed copies of these policies.

## **ARTICLE VI OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Designation, Election and Term of Office.** The officers shall be a president, three vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and such additional appointed officers and assistant officers as the Board of Directors may authorize.

Officers shall be elected by the General Council, as set forth in Article VII herein, to hold office until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, or until their death, resignation, or removal.

Appointed Directors shall be voting members elected by and serving at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Section 2. President.** The President shall maintain general supervision of the policy and program of YMCA ALUMNI and shall preside over meetings of the Board of YMCA ALUMNI, either personally or through some other officer designated by her/him. The President shall be the chief executive officer of YMCA ALUMNI and shall have general and active management of the business of YMCA ALUMNI. She/he shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried out. She/he shall execute the bonds, mortgages, and other contracts. She/he shall have general supervision of all other officers and directors of YMCA ALUMNI and shall see that their duties are properly performed.

She/he shall, from time to time, report to the Board of Directors all matters within her/his knowledge which the interests of YMCA ALUMNI may require to be brought to its notice. She/he may appoint committees and their composition. She/he shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned to her/him from time to time by the Board of Directors. The President may appoint additional members to the Board of Directors with the approval of the Board as set out in Article V, Section 5. The President shall insure that policies outlined in Article V, Section 13 are executed annually.

**Section 3. Vice Presidents.** The Vice Presidents shall be Eastern, Central and Western, representing their respective areas of the USA.

Upon consensus of the board, one of the Region VPs shall have all the powers and perform all the duties of the President in the absence or incapacity of the President to the extent delegated by the Board of Directors. They shall perform, also, such other duties as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Secretary.** The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the members, unless notice thereof be waived and shall supervise the custody of all records of all meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees, and the members. The Secretary shall be responsible for recording minutes of all meetings of the total membership, the Board of Directors, and the General Council. The Secretary shall be responsible for transferring all records and files to the incoming Secretary. The Secretary shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned to her/him from time to time by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall distribute and sign annually the Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower policies. The Secretary shall retain signed copies of these policies.

**Section 5. Treasurer.** The Treasurer will be a person who is well trained and experienced in accounting and finance as evidenced by having served in a significant finance position in the YMCA and/or holds a CPA certification. The Treasurer shall have general supervision of YMCA ALUMNI finances and provide such counsel, support and consultation to chapters as needed. The Treasurer will keep a complete account of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses in accordance with best accounting practices of a 501(c)(3) organization, and in compliance with not-for-profit public reporting requirements.

The Treasurer will manage the process for receipting and disbursement of all YMCA ALUMNI funds, including its chapters and affiliates. He/she will provide regular financial reports to the YMCA ALUMNI Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be responsible for transferring all records and files to the incoming Treasurer. The Treasurer shall ensure a financial review is conducted every three years by a qualified independent CPA appointed by the President.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **ELECTIONS, RESIGNATIONS AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Nominating Committee.** The President shall appoint a nominating committee to be chaired by the immediate past president. The nominating committee shall also, through an early notice in the official newsletter, invite all members to submit names for consideration by the nominating committee. If one or more members of the nominating committee is/are unable to serve, the President has the power to appoint replacements from the YMCA ALUMNI membership.

**Section 2. Selection of Nominees.** The nominating committee shall select one candidate for each position considered to be qualified and capable for the offices of President, Vice President East, Vice President Central, Vice President West, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominees must be active members of YMCA ALUMNI and have had some chapter or previous YMCA leadership experience.

The nominating committee shall make certain each person selected meets all requirements specified in the Articles of Incorporation and these bylaws and is willing to accept nomination and to serve if elected. The terms of office of the three Region Vice Presidents shall be staggered so that only one ends a term in any given year.

**Section 3. Election Procedure.** Names of nominees for the six elective positions shall be placed on a ballot by the nominating committee for a vote by the General Council. The ballot shall include each person's acceptance to run for the designated position and a resume of their career and retired life.

**Section 4. Voting Responsibility.** The elected directors (who are the officers of YMCA ALUMNI) shall be elected by the General Council at a regular or called meeting of the Council, or by mail or electronic ballot as follows:

- A. The President shall be elected by members of the General Council.
- B. The Vice President East shall be elected by members of the General Council representing chapters in the eastern USA.
- C. The Vice President Central shall be elected by members of the General Council representing chapters in the central USA.
- D. The Vice President West shall be elected by members of the General Council representing chapters in the western USA.
- E. The Secretary shall be elected by members of the General Council.
- F. The Treasurer shall be elected by members of the General Council.

**Section 5. Term of Office.** The term of office of the directors, appointed directors and officers of the Corporation shall be for three (3) years, or until their successors have been chosen.

**Section 6. Resignation.** Any director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board of Directors or the President or Secretary of YMCA ALUMNI. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein; and, unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

**Section 7. Removal.** One or more of the board members may be removed for cause at a meeting of members by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the board members present and voting. Written notice of such meeting shall be delivered to all board members. Such notice shall state that the purpose of the meeting is to vote upon the removal of one or more board members named in the notice, and only the named board member(s) may be removed at such meeting.

**Section 8. Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or any other cause, shall be filled by the Board of Directors at an annual or regular meeting or at a special meeting called for such purpose. Each person elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of her/his predecessor in office.

## **ARTICLE VIII OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER**

**Section 1. Official Newsletter.** Under the supervision of the Board of Directors, YMCA ALUMNI shall publish an official newsletter, free of charge to the members.

## **ARTICLE IX FINANCES**

**Section 1. Fiscal Year and Budget.** The fiscal year shall be January 1 to December 31. In advance of each fiscal year, the Treasurer shall prepare a budget of estimated income and expenditure for the following year for the approval of the Board of Directors.

**Section 2. Financial Review.** The Treasurer shall ensure a financial review is conducted every three years by a qualified independent CPA appointed by the President.

## **ARTICLE X AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1. Method of Amendment.** These bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new and other bylaws may be made and adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The proposed alterations, amendments, repeals, or additions shall be published in the official newsletter or published on the YMCA ALUMNI website, or by email at least thirty (30) days prior to enactment. Such notices may be paraphrased for clarity. Amendments to chapter bylaws must be consistent with national bylaws and approved by the Board of Directors. See Article III.

## **ARTICLE XI DISTRIBUTIONS**

**Section 1. Distributions.** The Board of Directors of YMCA ALUMNI may authorize, and YMCA ALUMNI may make distributions of its money, property, or other assets, other than upon dissolution and final liquidation, subject to the limitations of Section 4 of this Article XI only:

- A. To any person or organization who or which has made payments to YMCA ALUMNI for goods or services, as a fractional repayment of such payments, provided all such persons or organizations in any category are repaid on an equal pro rata basis; or

- B. To any person or organization as a repayment of his, her or its contribution of an amount not to exceed the amount of the contribution, provided that any assets held for any charitable, religious, benevolent, educational or similar purpose or held upon a condition requiring return, shall continue to be so restricted.

**Section 2. Payments in Furtherance of Purposes.** Any payment or transfer of money, property, or other assets in furtherance of any of the purposes of YMCA ALUMNI shall not be deemed a distribution for the purposes of this Article XI, and this Article XI shall not be construed as limiting the purposes and powers of YMCA ALUMNI.

**Section 3. Determination of Distributions.** All distributions by YMCA ALUMNI permitted by this Article XI shall be at the option of YMCA ALUMNI only and at such amount or amounts, within the period or periods, and on such terms and conditions, not inconsistent with the purpose of YMCA ALUMNI and statute, as are fixed by the Board of Directors of YMCA ALUMNI.

**Section 4. Limitations on Distributions.** No distribution under Section 1 of this Article XI may be made if after giving it, it would result in:

- A. YMCA ALUMNI becoming insolvent; or
- B. The net assets of YMCA ALUMNI becoming less than zero; or
- C. YMCA ALUMNI becoming unable to carry on its corporate purpose.

## **ARTICLE XII INDEMNIFICATION**

**Section 1. Indemnification.** Each person who was or is a party to or is threatened to be made a party to or is involved in any action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative (hereinafter a "proceeding"), by reason of the fact that she/he, or a person of whom she/he is the legal representative, is or was a director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of YMCA ALUMNI or is or was serving at the request of YMCA ALUMNI as a director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, shall be indemnified and held harmless by YMCA ALUMNI to the fullest extent authorized by the laws of Illinois as the same now or may hereafter exist (but, in the case of any change, only to the extent that such change permits YMCA ALUMNI to provide broader indemnification rights than said law permitted YMCA ALUMNI to provide prior to such change) against all costs, charges, expenses, liabilities and losses (including attorneys' fees,

judgments, fines, ERISA excise taxes or penalties and amounts paid or to be paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such person in connection therewith and such indemnification shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of YMCA ALUMNI or to serve at the request of YMCA ALUMNI as a director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise and shall inure to the benefit of her/his heirs, executors, and administrators.

The right to indemnification conferred in this section shall be a contract right and shall include the right to be paid by YMCA ALUMNI the expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition, if authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case, upon receipt by YMCA ALUMNI of an undertaking, by or on behalf of such director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) to repay all amounts so advanced, unless it shall ultimately be determined that the director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) is entitled to be indemnified under this section or otherwise.

**Section 2. Payment of Claims.** If a claim under Section 1 of this Article XII is not paid in full by YMCA ALUMNI within thirty (30) days after a written claim has been received by YMCA ALUMNI, the claimant may at any time thereafter bring suit against YMCA ALUMNI to recover the unpaid written amount of the claim and, if successful in whole or in part, the claimant shall also be entitled to be paid the expense of prosecuting such claim.

It shall be a defense to any action (other than an action brought to enforce a claim for expenses incurred in defending any proceeding in advance of its final disposition where the Board of Directors has authorized the advancement of expenses and the required undertaking has been tendered to YMCA ALUMNI) that the claimant has failed to meet a standard of conduct which makes it permissible under Illinois law for YMCA ALUMNI to indemnify the claimant for the amount claimed, but the burden of proving such defense shall be on YMCA ALUMNI. Neither the failure of YMCA ALUMNI to have made a determination prior to the commencement of such action that indemnification of the claimant is permissible in the circumstances because she/he has met such standard of conduct, nor an actual determination by YMCA ALUMNI that the claimant has not met such standard of conduct, nor the termination of any proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall be a defense to the action or create a presumption that the claimant has failed to meet the required standard of conduct.

**Section 3. Right Not Exclusive.** The right to indemnification conferred in this section shall not be exclusive of any other right which any person may have or hereafter acquire under any bylaws agreement, vote of disinterested directors or otherwise.

**Section 4. Insurance.** YMCA ALUMNI may maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of YMCA ALUMNI or another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise against any expense, liability or loss, whether YMCA ALUMNI would have the power to indemnify such entity against such expense, liability or loss under Illinois law.

**Section 5. Reimbursement of Expenses as Witness.** To the extent that any director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of YMCA ALUMNI is by reason of such position, or a position with another entity at the request of YMCA ALUMNI, a witness in any proceeding, she/he shall be indemnified against all costs and expenses actually and reasonably incurred by her/him or on her/his behalf in connection therewith.

**Section 6. Amendment.** Any amendment, repeal, or modification of any provision of this article shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director, officer, contractor, chapter president(s) and chapter treasurer(s) of YMCA ALUMNI existing at the time of such amendment, repeal, or modification.

## **ARTICLE XIII MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1. Depositories.** All funds of YMCA ALUMNI not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of YMCA ALUMNI in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors may designate.

**Section 2. Checks, Drafts, Notes, Etc.** All checks, drafts or other orders for the payment of money and all notes or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of YMCA ALUMNI shall be signed by such officer or officers, or agent or agents, of YMCA ALUMNI and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Director

**Section 3. Delivery of Notice.** Any notices required to be delivered pursuant to these Bylaws shall be deemed to be delivered when transferred or presented in person or deposited in the United States mail addressed to the person at his, her or its address as it appears on the records of YMCA ALUMNI, with sufficient first-class postage prepaid thereon.

## **ARTICLE XIV: DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION**

**Section 1:** Following an affirmation vote by the Board of Directors by two-thirds (2/3) of its members voting (in-person or digital vote), the Board of Directors shall call a special meeting for the sole purpose to voluntarily dissolve this corporation. At that time, after all liabilities and obligations have been paid, all assets along with all minutes and records will be distributed for exempt purposes consistent with status into the custody of an appropriate 501(c)(3) organization or agency designated by the Board of Directors. Every attempt will be made to satisfy the corporation's mission.

Adopted: Amended:

October 13, 1995

October 1997

September 2002

August 2005

November 2009

October 2012

January 2017

October 2020

August 2025