

CONSTITUTION OF
YOUTH WORK ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

NAME

1.1 This Society shall be known as the **Youth Work Association (Singapore)**, hereinafter referred to as the “Society”.

PLACE OF BUSINESS

2.1 Its place of business shall be at **428 Pasir Ris Drive 6 #01-21 Singapore 510428** or such other address as may subsequently be decided upon by the Committee and approved by the Registrar of Societies. The Society shall carry out its activities only in places and premises that have the prior written approval from the relevant authorities, where necessary.

OBJECTS

3.1 Its objects are:

- a. To advance and promote the cause and development of youth work in Singapore by:
 - I. Promoting and participating in the education and training of those involved in the development, instruction, rehabilitation, support, mentoring, outreach, and care of youths and young people.
 - II. Providing for lectures, seminars and such other courses as would contribute to the professional development of the membership.
 - III. Engaging in the exchange of professional and technical knowledge and opinions through the conduct, sponsorship, or encouragement of research and publications, and through distribution of materials, including books papers or reports.
 - IV. Providing support of youth development initiatives in schools and the community via teacher/adult training, workshops, seminars and publications.



- b. To promote, advocate for and facilitate the professionalization and continuing professional development of youth workers in Singapore by:
 - I. Supporting effort aimed at raising public awareness and recognition of youth work as a profession
 - II. Maintaining a Youth Work Code of Professional Ethics for the guidance of the Society's members in observing and practicing strict rules of professional conduct.
 - III. Representing to the relevant authorities, when necessary, the views of the youth work profession.
 - IV. Facilitating the organization of in-service training courses and other activities for the development of youth workers

3.2 In furtherance of the above objects, the Society may

- a. Make appeals for and receive donations, subscriptions, fees, bequest, movable or immovable property, or gifts in any form or description whether cash, non-cash or material.
- b. Establish trust(s) and appoint trustees in accordance with and subject to the provisions of law applicable and in force for the time being in Singapore.
- c. Manage and/or invest all moneys, non-cash gifts and other properties received whether by way of donations, subscriptions, fees, bequest, or otherwise in any investments authorized by law applicable and in force for the time being in Singapore.
- d. Make gifts out of movable or immovable property, capital money or income arising from capital funds or other income received, whether by way of donations, subscriptions, fees, bequest, or otherwise in so far as such gifts made are not consistent with the intent and purpose of the trust(s) and/or the objects of the Society.
- e. Employ any agent(s) or staff to assist and to transact business done in pursuance of the objects of and on behalf of the Society and shall not be responsible for the default of any such agent or staff if employed in good faith.
- f. Delegate any of its power and duties to any sub-committee(s) consisting of such of its members or such other persons as it may appoint for such purpose without relinquishing its own accountability for such power or duties so delegated.
- g. To do all such things as shall be conducive to the attainment of the above objects.



MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION AND RIGHTS

4.1 The Society shall consist of:

- a. Ordinary Members
- b. Associate Members
- c. Student Members
- d. Honorary Members
- e. Overseas Members

4.2 **ORDINARY MEMBERS:**

Persons who have completed courses related to youth work that are recognized by the Society

AND / OR

who are involved in one or more of the following functions:

- a. Youth Engagement
- b. Youth Development
- c. Youth Outreach
- d. Youth Rehabilitation

4.3 **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Persons who are members of allied professions who shall satisfy the Committee that they have a legitimate interest in the aims of the Society.

4.4 **STUDENT MEMBERS**

Persons who are undergoing a course related to youth work that is recognized by the Society

4.5 **HONORARY MEMBERS**

Persons who, by reason of their eminence in the youth work profession or their substantial contribution to the profession of youth work or its practice, may be elected to Honorary membership by the Annual General Meeting on recommendation of the Committee.

4.6 **OVERSEAS MEMBERS**

Persons who qualify as members under 4.2 but are not residents of Singapore. An overseas member shall be liable to pay a subscription and shall enjoy all other privileges of membership but shall have no voting rights. He/she would not be included in any computation of a quorum.

4.7 Only Ordinary Members, who are above 21 years of age, shall have the right to vote and be eligible to hold office in the Society.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

51 A person wishing to join the Society should submit his particulars to the Secretary on a prescribed form.

52 A new member must be proposed and seconded by existing members. His name will then be posted on the notice board in the Society premises for one week at the end of which time the Committee will decide on membership, taking into consideration any objection raised.

53 A copy of the Constitution shall be furnished to every approved member upon payment of the entrance fee.

ENTRANCE FEES, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER DUES

6.1 The entrance fees and subscriptions shall be determined by the General Meeting on recommendation from the Committee from time to time.

6.2 Annual subscriptions are payable in advance within the first month of the year. If a member falls into arrears with his subscription or other dues, he shall be informed immediately by the Treasurer. If he fails to settle his arrears within four weeks of their becoming due, the President may order that his name be posted on the Society's notice board and that he be denied the privileges of membership until he settles his account. If he fails to settle his arrears for more than three (3) months, he will automatically cease to be a member and the Committee may take legal action against him provided that they are satisfied that he has received due notice of his debts.

6.3 Any additional fund required for special purposes may only be raised from members with the consent of the general meeting of the members.



6.4 The income and property of the Society whensoever derived shall be applied towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Association or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them.

SUPREME AUTHORITY AND GENERAL MEETINGS

7.1 The supreme authority of the Society is vested in a General Meeting of the members.

7.2 An Annual General Meeting shall be held within three months of the close of the financial year.

7.3 At other times, an Extraordinary General Meeting must be called by the President on the request in writing of not less than 25% of the total voting membership or thirty (30) voting members, whichever is the lesser, and may be called at anytime by order of the Committee. The notice in writing shall be given to the Secretary setting forth the business that is to be transacted. The Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened within two (2) months from receiving this request to convene the Extraordinary General Meeting.

7.4 If the Committee does not, within two (2) months after the date of the receipt of the written request, proceed to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, the members who requested for the Extraordinary General Meeting shall convene the Extraordinary General Meeting by giving ten (10) days' notice to voting members setting forth the business to be transacted and simultaneously posting the agenda on the Society's notice board.



7.5 At least two (2) weeks' notice shall be given of an Annual General Meeting and at least ten (10) days' notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting. Notice of meeting stating the date, time and place of meeting shall be sent by the Secretary to all voting members. The particulars of the agenda shall be posted on the Society's notice board four (4) days in advance of the meeting.

7.6 Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, voting by proxy shall not be allowed at all General Meetings.

7.7 The following points will be considered at the Annual General Meeting:

- a) The previous financial year's accounts and annual report of the Committee.
- b) Where applicable, the election of office-bearers and Honorary Auditors for the following term.

Any member who wishes to place an item on the agenda of a General Meeting may do so provided he gives notice to the Secretary one (1) week before the meeting is due to be held.

7.8 At least 25% of the total voting membership or thirty (30) voting members, whichever is the lesser, present at a General Meeting shall form a quorum. Proxies shall not be constituted as part of the quorum.

7.9 In the event of there being no quorum at the commencement of a General Meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned for half an hour and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum, those present shall be considered a quorum, but they shall have no power to amend any part of the existing Constitution.



MANAGEMENT AND COMMITTEE

8.1 The administration of the Society shall be entrusted to a Committee consisting of the following to be elected at alternate Annual General Meetings:

A President

A Vice-President A Secretary

A Treasurer

Six Ordinary Committee Members

Unless with the prior approval in writing of the Registrar or an Assistant Registrar of Societies, majority of the Committee Members shall be Singapore Citizens. In addition, the President, Secretary, Treasurer and their deputies shall be Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents. Foreign Diplomats shall not serve as Committee Members.

8.2 Names for the above offices shall be proposed and seconded at the Annual General Meeting and election will follow on a simple majority vote of the members. All office-bearers, except the Treasurer may be re-elected to the same or related post for a consecutive term of office. The term of office of the Committee is two years.

8.3 Election will be either by show of hands or, subject to the agreement of the majority of the voting members present, by a secret ballot. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

8.4 A Committee Meeting shall be held at least once every four months after giving seven (7) days' notice to Committee Members. The President may call a Committee Meeting at any time by giving five (5) days' notice. Majority of the Committee Members must be present for its proceedings to be valid.



8.5 Any member of the Committee absenting himself from three (3) meetings consecutively without satisfactory explanations shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Committee and a successor may be co-opted by the Committee to serve until the next Annual General Meeting. Any changes in the Committee shall be notified to the Registrar of Societies within two (2) weeks of the change.

8.6 The duty of the Committee is to organise and supervise the daily activities of the Society. The Committee may not act contrary to the expressed wishes of the General Meeting without prior reference to it and shall always remain subordinate to the General Meetings.

8.7 The Committee has power to authorise the expenditure of a sum not exceeding \$20,000 per month from the Society's funds for the Society's purposes.

DUTIES OF OFFICE-BEARERS

9.1 The President shall chair all General and Committee meetings. He shall also represent the Society in its dealings with outside persons.

9.2 The Vice-President shall assist the President and deputise for him in his absence.

9.3 The Secretary shall keep all records, except financial, of the Society and shall be responsible for their correctness. He will keep minutes of all General and Committee meetings. He shall maintain an up-to-date Register of Members at all times.



9.4 The Treasurer shall keep all funds and collect and disburse all moneys on behalf of the Society and shall keep an account of all monetary transactions and shall be responsible for their correctness. He is authorised to expend up to \$1000 per month for petty expenses on behalf of the Society. He will not keep more than \$1000 in the form of cash and money in excess of this will be deposited in a bank to be named by the Committee. Cheques, etc. for withdrawals from the bank will be signed by the Treasurer and either the President or the Vice-President or the Secretary.

9.5 Ordinary Committee Members shall assist in the general administration of the Society and perform duties assigned by the Committee from time to time.

AUDIT AND FINANCIAL YEAR

10.1 Two (2) voting members, not being members of the Committee, shall be elected as Honorary Auditors at alternate Annual General Meetings and will hold office for a term of two years only and shall not be re-elected for a consecutive term. The accounts of the Society shall be audited by a firm of Certified Public Accountants if the gross income or expenditure of the Society exceeds \$500,000 in that financial year, in accordance with Section 4 of the Societies Regulations.

10.2 They:

- a) Will be required to audit each year's accounts and present a report upon them to the Annual General Meeting.
- b) May be required by the President to audit the Society's accounts for any period within their tenure of office at any date and make a report to the Committee.

10.3 The financial year shall be from March to February.



TRUSTEES

11.1 If the Society at any time acquires any immovable property, such property shall be vested in trustees subject to a declaration of trust.

11.2 The trustees of the Society shall:

- a) Not be more than four (4) and not less than two (2) in number.
- b) Be elected by a General Meeting of members.
- c) Not effect any sale or mortgage of property without the prior approval of the General Meeting of members.

11.3 The office of the trustee shall be vacated:

- a) If the trustee dies or becomes a lunatic or of unsound mind.
- b) If he is absent from the Republic of Singapore for a period of more than one (1) year.
- c) If he is guilty of misconduct of such a kind as to render it undesirable that he continues as a trustee.
- d) If he submits notice of resignation from his trusteeship.

11.4 Notice of any proposal to remove a trustee from his trusteeship or to appoint a new trustee to fill a vacancy must be given by posting it on the notice board in the Society's premises at least two (2) weeks before the General Meeting at which the proposal is to be discussed. The result of such General Meeting shall then be notified to the Registrar of Societies.

11.5 The address of each immovable property, name of each trustee and any subsequent change must be notified to the Registrar of Societies.



VISITORS AND GUESTS

12.1 Visitors and guests may be admitted into the premises of the Society but they shall not be admitted into the privileges of the Society. All visitors and guests shall abide by the Society's rules and regulations.

PROHIBITIONS

13.1 Gambling of any kind, excluding the promotion or conduct of a private lottery which has been permitted under the Private Lotteries Act Cap 250, is forbidden on the Society's premises. The introduction of materials for gambling or drug taking and of bad characters into the premises is prohibited.

13.2 The funds of the Society shall not be used to pay the fines of members who have been convicted in court of law.

13.3 The Society shall not engage in any trade union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.

13.4 The Society shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.

13.5 The Society shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its members or not, in the name of the Society or its office-bearers, Committee or members unless with the prior approval of the relevant authorities.

13.6 The Society shall not raise funds from the public for whatever purposes without the prior approval in writing of the Assistant Director Operations, Licensing Division, Singapore Police Force and other relevant authorities.



AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

14.1 The Society shall not amend its Constitution without the prior approval in writing of the Registrar of Societies. No alteration or addition/deletion to this Constitution shall be passed except at a general meeting and with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at the General Meeting.

INTERPRETATION

15.1 In the event of any question or matter pertaining to day-to-day administration which is not expressly provided for in this Constitution, the Committee shall have power to use their own discretion. The decision of the Committee shall be final unless it is reversed at a General Meeting of members.

DISPUTES

16.1 In the event of any dispute arising amongst members, they shall attempt to resolve the matter at an Extraordinary General Meeting in accordance with this Constitution. Should the members fail to resolve the matter, they may bring the matter to a court of law for settlement.

DISSOLUTION

17.1 The Society shall not be dissolved, except with the consent of not less than three-fifths ($\frac{3}{5}$) of the total voting membership of the Society for the time being resident in Singapore expressed, either in person or by proxy, at a General Meeting convened for the purpose.



17.2 In the event of the Society being dissolved as provided above, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the Society shall be fully discharged, and the remaining funds will be disposed of in such manner as the General Meeting of members may determine or donated to an approved charity or charities in Singapore.

17.3 A Certificate of Dissolution shall be given within seven (7) days of the dissolution to the Registrar of Societies.

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