



Constitution and Bylaws

Amended: 22 July 2023

CONSTITUTION

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be "The Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia."

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the general interests of the Order of DeMolay in Georgia by fostering The development of inter-chapter interest, by providing opportunities for the exchange of ideas and information between the chapters and by the distribution of information throughout the membership. All acts of the Association shall be in strict accordance with the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of DeMolay International and subject to the ratification by the Executive officer in Georgia.

Article III: Membership

Section 1: Composition

The Association shall consist of Chapters of the Order of DeMolay in Georgia that are in good standing with the International Supreme Council of the Order of DeMolay, DeMolay International and the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia at the time of the annual convention of this Association.

Section 2: Delegates

Each Chapter shall be entitled to ten (10) votes on any issue which may come before this Association and as provided in the By-Laws. Each Chapter delegation shall consist of the three (3) Chapter Councilors and seven (7) other members of the Chapter. Only those members of the chapter who have completed their proficiencies will be considered voting delegates. The number of votes of a Chapter delegation will be reduced by one (1) for each regularly elected and installed Councilor not present. No voting by proxy is allowed and no chapter delegation may substitute members of another chapter delegation for its own members,

Section 3: Others in Attendance

Members of the Advisory Councils and such other members of the Order as may be designated by the Chapter Advisor and approved by the Executive Officer may attend the sessions of the Association, but shall not have the privilege of voting.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1: Designations

The Officers of the Association shall be a State Master Councilor, Deputy State Master Councilor, and Appointed Officers titles as Chairmen of a functional area.

Section 2: Qualifications

- All candidates for elected State Office shall be Past Master Councilors of a chapter in Georgia. They shall have completed all five parts of the Leadership Correspondence Course, the Georgia Leaders Academy, and hold the designation of Representative DeMolay. All candidates for elected state office must have attained the age of 16 by the time of election.
- All applicants for appointed State Office shall be Master Councilors or Past Master Councilors of a chapter in Georgia. They shall have completed all five parts of the Leadership Correspondence Course and hold the designation of Representative DeMolay.



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- The State Chapter Advisor for the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia shall be appointed by the Executive Officer and shall serve at his pleasure for an amount of time to be arranged by the Executive Officer and the State Chapter Advisor.
- Candidates for the office of State Master Councilor must have served as Deputy State Master Councilor unless the currently serving Deputy State Master Councilor is unable to advance or receives a vote of no confidence.

Section 3: Selection and Term

The State Master Councilor and Deputy State Master Councilor shall be elected as provided by the By-Laws of the Association. The State appointed officers shall be appointed as provided by the By-Laws.

Article V: Executive Committee

There shall be a Board of Directors whose selection and duties shall be provided in the By-Laws.

Article VI: Finances

Funds for the operation of the State Association shall be provided by dues, assessments and contributions from all chapters of the Order of DeMolay in the Jurisdiction of Georgia. Upon their formation, chapters of the Order of DeMolay in Georgia shall automatically become members in the Association and pay the required dues and assessments as provided by the By-Laws.

Article VII: Meetings

The Association shall meet once each year for election and convention purposes. It may meet on other occasions for business and/or pleasure at such time and place as may be authorized by the Executive Officer.

Article VIII: Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at an annual convention meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority provided that the proposed amendment shall have been approved by the Executive Officer and presented in manner consistent with requirements outlined in the By-Laws of the Association, which shall include, but is not limited to submission to the member chapters at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

BY-LAWS

Preamble

In order to better coordinate the efforts of all DeMolay Chapters in the State of Georgia and to promote the interest of DeMolay in the State, and to bring said Chapters into closer unity for the betterment of all concerned, these By-Laws are hereby ordained and established.

Article I: Rights and Duties of Members

Section 1: Attendance

Active members of chapters, senior members, advisors, Master Masons, parents and invited guests may register to attend the sessions and functions of the Association.

Section 2: Voting

- Delegates eligible to vote on matters coming before the State Association are defined in the Constitution of the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia
- The Chapter Representative or Chapter Representative Protem shall announce, upon a roll call of chapters, the results of the respective chapter's polling. Each chapter is entitled to have a maximum of ten (10) voting

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delegates present at the stated session provided the chapter shall have paid its respective per capita tax and insurance assessment, at least sixty (60) days prior to the State Conclave, based on its membership as reported by the International Supreme Council, DeMolay International, in its final membership report for the preceding year. The chapter shall also have filed its Annual Chapter Report and its annual Advisory Council Registration with the Executive Officer for the current year within the allotted time.

Section 3: Participation

- Active members of chapters who are registered at the meeting may participate in all competitive and other events, except as specified in these By-Laws
- Only members eligible to hold office and participate in degree work in their local chapters may participate in Conclave degree work

Section 4: Senior Members

Senior members who are not members of a Chapter Advisory Council may attend all sessions and functions of the meeting. However, such senior members may not participate in activities restricted to active members, nor may they serve as one of a chapter's voting delegates or in any manner attempt to influence the outcome of any pre-election or election activities.

Section 5: Advisors

- An advisor, registered for the convention, must attend the Annual Session with the members of each chapter represented. He must be a member of the Advisory Council of the chapter or other registered advisor approved by the Advisory Council of the Chapter.
- No Advisor may represent more than one chapter at any state DeMolay function. An individual active member of DeMolay may attend with a chapter of which he is not a member, with the approval of the Advisory Councils of both chapters involved. However, he must register and participate only as a member of the chapter with which he attends and is subject to the supervision of the Advisor(s) of that chapter. The Advisor supervising the chapter delegation to the session must be present during the election of officers and votes on other matters that come before the body.

Article II: Annual Reports and Advisory Council Registrations

Annual Advisory Council Registrations and Annual Financial Reports are due in the offices of the International Supreme Council, DeMolay International as defined in the By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations of DeMolay International. Failure to submit reports in a timely fashion penalizes the entire State. Chapters who are negligent or careless in tending to these duties and who, by their actions, have penalized other chapters that have met their responsibilities in a prompt, efficient and timely fashion, may be denied part or all of their voting strength at the State Conclave. This action may be authorized and taken by the Executive Officer. Chapters that fail to comply with the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of DeMolay International, regarding these or other matters shall be considered to be operating outside of the regulations and subject themselves to suspension and possibly dissolution for their actions. Such chapters may not be permitted to hold meetings or any other functions until they are in compliance with those regulations.

Article III: Duties of Officers

Section 1: State Master Councilor

- The State Master Councilor shall preside at the business sessions of the Association and shall be the titular head of the Order during his term of office. He shall appoint committees as provided in these By-Laws and may make such visits as are expedient and within the limitations of the general fund as determined by the Executive Officer. He shall consult with and report to the Executive Officer on an agreed upon schedule, but in no case shall it be less than monthly. The State Master Councilor shall have no authority which affects any individual Chapter or member of the Order, except as provided by these By-Laws.
- The State Master Councilor shall be responsible for appointing the appointed State Officers with the approval of the Executive Officer.

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Section 2: Deputy State Master Councilor

The Deputy State Master Councilor shall assist and serve the State Master Councilor and perform such duties as may be assigned him, and in the absence of the State Master Councilor, he shall preside over the meetings and activities of the Association.

Section 3: Appointed State Officers

The Appointed State Officers shall be designated as "Chairman" of a functional area and work under the supervision of the Director of that functional area. They shall also perform such duties as may be assigned.

Article IV: Finances

Section 1: General Fund

There shall be a General Fund which shall be maintained by per capita dues of five dollars (\$5.00) per member per year to be increased by the Consumer Price Index as reported by the United States Congressional Budget Office, not to exceed five percent (5%) annually. Each chapter shall pay this per capita assessment on the basis of the Annual Report of the International Supreme Council, DeMolay International, for the preceding year. This per capita tax shall be paid by each chapter to the State Association immediately upon receipt of a statement of amount due. New chapters, instituted after January 1 of that year until the opening day of the State Conclave, shall be required to pay one dollar (\$1.00) per capita as its membership is reported at the time of the institution. Any chapter not paying its per capita tax by the last day of the month preceding the annual Conclave shall have no voice in any matter.

Section 2: Convention/Conclave Fund

The net proceeds of all Association-sponsored functions (annual Conclave, B.L.A.S.T., etc.) including the profits from program ad sales shall be placed in the General Fund of the Association to help defray the expenses of other Georgia DeMolay-sponsored activities and administrative and operational costs.

Section 3: Elected Officer Financial Support

The registration fee to the annual Conclave of the Association and the annual B.L.A.S.T. (Educational Weekend) shall be paid by the State Association for the State Master Councilor, Deputy State Master Councilor, State Sweetheart and her chaperone. The State Association shall also pay the travel expenses, registration fees, and an expense allowance of at least fifty dollars (\$50.00) each for two (2) delegates to the International DeMolay Congress Session each year as a per diem based on the Internal Revenue Service per diem rate and geographic differential.

Section 4: Delegation Secretary

- Delegation Secretary shall be a Senior DeMolay serving as a Registered Advisor under 26 years of age by appointment of Executive Officer approved as a call item for vote by the delegates. The State Master Councilor shall submit no less than two candidates for consideration to the Executive Officer within thirty (30) days of taking office. The Executive Officer may select a qualified person outside the State Master Councilor's nomination list when the best interest of the Association is served.
- Duties of the Delegation Secretary shall be as follows: take all session minutes, produce annual proceedings, and produce communications pertaining to the annual business of the Association. No other duties may be placed on the individual outside of the annual meeting of the Association in their capacity of Delegation Secretary.

Article V: Committees

Section 1: Special Committees

Subject to approval by the Executive Officer, the State Master Councilor may appoint special committees from the membership in general. Their duties shall be assigned. Their term shall expire at the close of the term of the



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State Master Councilor making the appointment. The State Master Councilor is permitted to appoint any members from the State Association to serve on his committees subject to the approval of the Executive Officer.

Section 2: Election Committee

This committee shall consist of three Active DeMolays and an Advisor. The members of the committee shall come from different Chapters. It shall be the duty of this committee to supervise the collection and tabulation of votes on matters coming before the State Association. Its members shall act as tellers during the election or in any other matter on which a vote is taken. The committee shall provide such materials and equipment as is necessary for conducting the election or other voting. The committee shall be appointed by the State Master Councilor and approved by the Executive Officer.

Article VI: Appendant Organizations

State organizations of related groups, such as a Priory of the Order of Knighthood, a Court of Chevaliers, a body of Representative DeMolays, a Preceptory of the Legion of Honor and/or others may be permitted when approved by the Executive Officer. Time shall be allotted on the program at state meetings for these groups, if requested. However, their activities should be confined to degree work and election of officers. No dues may be assessed by these organizations, except as approved by the Executive Officer.

Article VII: Suspensions

A Chapter whose state assessments have not been paid by the time of the Annual Conclave shall be suspended from participation in the meeting. A suspended Chapter may be reinstated by the payment of dues for the current year and one year preceding, but without voting privileges.

Article VIII: Appeals

Appeals from the ruling of the Election Committee may be made to the Executive Officer, whose decisions will be final.

Article IX: Quorum

A Quorum shall consist of a majority of the registered delegates of the chapters present at the meeting and one (1) of the elective State Officers.

Article X: Nominations and Elections

Section 1: Nominations

The nominations and elections of the State Elective Officers will be held at the Annual Conclave as a special order of business. These officers must be elected by secret ballot of the delegates with a simple majority of the votes cast necessary to elect. A simple majority shall consist of 50% of the votes cast plus one (1).

Section 2: Application for Office

Each candidate will furnish to the Executive Officer, no later than one month prior to the annual conclave, a letter or resolution from his chapter endorsing his candidacy. A candidate for any elected office may be allowed to campaign for office, after receiving approval from the Executive Officer, by means of visitation, word of mouth, the distribution of business cards no larger than 2 in. x 3.5 in., and/or social media. A campaign advisor shall be appointed by the Director of State Officers, to ensure that the virtues of DeMolay are upheld by all candidates during the campaign. Candidates may not incur more than one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) in campaign expenses, excluding travel costs. A record of campaign expenses must be furnished to the Executive Officer if requested.

Section 3: Confidence Vote

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- The Deputy State Master Councilor shall undergo a confidence vote by secret ballot of the delegates at the annual conclave and shall be elected to the office of State Master Councilor after receiving at least a majority of affirmative votes.
- In the event the Deputy State Master Councilor does not receive a majority of affirmative votes, the election will be open to all who qualify for elective office, including the Deputy State Master Councilor.

Article XI: Qualifications

As described in Article IV, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia.

Article XII: Vacancies

- Any State Officer who shall permanently remove his residence from the State of Georgia or shall leave the state with the declared intention of an absence of four months or more, unless approved in advance by the Executive Officer, shall be required to resign from office. The vacancy so created shall be filled by any qualified DeMolay at the discretion of the State Master Councilor with the approval of the Executive Officer, except as otherwise set forth in these By-Laws.
- Should the office of State Master Councilor become vacant, the Deputy State Master Councilor shall be installed as State Master Councilor.
- Should the office of Deputy State Master Councilor become vacant, the State Master Councilor shall appoint a new Deputy State Master Councilor with the approval of the Executive Officer.

Article XIII: State Sweetheart

Section 1: Selection Process

Provided approved candidates are available from which to choose, a State Sweetheart shall be elected at each annual Convention as a special order of business. The State Sweetheart must be elected by secret ballot of the delegates with a simple majority of the votes cast necessary to elect. A simple majority shall consist of 50% of the votes cast plus one (1).

Section 2: Contestants

Each Chapter shall be allowed one candidate for State Sweetheart per year. All candidates must follow the approval process and conform to the rules spelled out in the Sweetheart Handbook. Candidates must adhere to the decisions of the individual on the Executive Officer's staff designated to handle matters related to the State Sweetheart program. Candidates for State Sweetheart must be between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty (20) years of age, inclusive, at the time they assume the crown. No person who has previously held the designation of State Sweetheart shall be entitled to compete for the title of State Sweetheart a second time.

Article XIV: Executive Committees

Section 1: Board of Directors

- The Board of Directors shall assist the Executive Officer in the administration and management of the programs and activities of DeMolay in the jurisdiction of Georgia. The members of this board shall be appointed by the Executive Officer at his discretion, and they shall serve as his principal assistants in specific areas of responsibility assigned to them. The Executive Officer shall preside over all meetings of this board. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once during the month of July, and at other times throughout the year when called by the Executive Officer.
- Members of this Board shall take office immediately upon acceptance of their position after notification by the Executive Officer.

Article XV: Approval



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No action, law or resolution enacted by the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia shall be binding upon any Chapter within the jurisdiction except with the full approval of the Executive Officer in Georgia, of the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay.

Article XVI: Rules of Order

In the absence of any provision to the contrary in the Constitution or these By-laws, all meetings shall be guided by the parliamentary rules and usages contained in the current edition of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, Revised.

Article XVII: Amendments

These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at an annual Convention of the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Executive Officer for consideration at least 60 days prior to the annual Convention, approved by the Executive Officer for presentation to the Association and then circulated to the member Chapters at least thirty (30) days before the annual Convention.