



LIONS DISTRICT 13-OH5, INC.

**(DISTRICT 13-OH5 OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS)**

CONSTITUTION

(As approved by the Lions District 13-OH5, Inc. District Cabinet on November 18, 2017)

LIONS DISTRICT 13-OH5, INC.¹

(DISTRICT 13-OH5 OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS)

CONSTITUTION

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¹ Lions District 13-OH5 is an incorporated Ohio Not For Profit Corporation, Charter No. 178799.

LIONS DISTRICT 13-OH5, INC.²

(DISTRICT 13-OH5 OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS)

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME

Section 1. This organization shall be known as **LIONS DISTRICT 13-OH5, INC., (the “District”)** and also known as District 13-OH5 of the International Association of Lions Clubs (hereinafter referred to as “Lions Clubs International”)

ARTICLE II

*PURPOSES*³

The Purposes of this District shall be:

- (a) To provide an administrative structure with which to advance the Purposes of Lions Clubs International in this District.
- (b) To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
- (c) To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.
- (d) To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.
- (e) To unite the members in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- (f) To provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.
- (g) To encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. MEMBERS: The members of this Organization shall be all Lions Clubs in the District chartered by the International Association of Lions Clubs. The boundary lines of this District shall be as follows: the Ohio counties of Champaign, Clark, Darke, Delaware, Franklin, Madison, Marion, Miami, Morrow, Pickaway, and Union.

Section 2. CAMPUS CLUBS: Any Lions Club in the District which is designated as a “Campus Club” by the Multiple District 13-Ohio Lions, Inc. Council of Governors shall be a Campus Club of the District.⁴

² Lions District 13-OH5 is incorporated as an Ohio Not For Profit Corporation, Charter No. 178799.

³ For reference see L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article II (mandatory provision).

⁴ See Multiple District Ohio Lions, Inc. Constitution Article 2.

ARTICLE IV
EMBLEM, COLORS, SLOGAN AND MOTTO⁵

Section 1. **EMBLEM:** The emblem of this association and each chartered club shall be of a design as follows:



Section 2. **USE OF NAME AND EMBLEM:** Use of the name, goodwill, emblem and other logos of the association shall be according to the guidelines established from time to time in the by-laws.

Section 3. **COLORS:** The colors of this association and of each chartered club shall be purple and gold.

Section 4. **SLOGAN:** Its Slogan shall be: Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety.

Section 5. **MOTTO:** Its Motto shall be: We Serve.

ARTICLE V⁶
DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Section 1. **OFFICERS:** The following shall be the Officers of the District:

- a. the District Governor,
- b. the Immediate Past District Governor,
- c. the First Vice District Governor,
- d. the Second Vice District Governor,
- e. the Region Chairpersons (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term),
- f. the Zone Chairpersons, and
- g. the Cabinet Secretary Treasurer (or the Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Treasurer).⁷

Each such officer shall be a member in good standing of a Lions Club in good standing in the District.

⁵ For reference see L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article IV (mandatory provision)

⁶ Placement of District Meetings, District Cabinet Meetings, Regions and Zones moved to the By-Laws Article IV.

⁷ The Officers listed as (a) through (g) are the minimum officers required for a district cabinet per L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VI Section 1.

Section 2. COMPOSITION OF DISTRICT CABINET: The District shall have a District Cabinet composed of the following:

- a. District Governor,
- b. Immediate Past District Governor,
- c. the First Vice District Governor,
- d. the Second Vice District Governor,
- e. the Region Chairpersons (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term),
- f. the Zone Chairpersons,
- g. the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer (or the Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Secretary Treasurer),
- h. Global Membership Team District Coordinator,
- i. Global Leadership Team District Coordinator,
- j. Global Service Team District Coordinator,
- k. LCIF District Coordinator,⁸ and
- l. Elected and appointed State and District Chairpersons and Trustees.

Section 2.1 Each member of the District Cabinet shall be a member in good standing of a chartered Lions Club in good standing in the District.

Section 3. ELECTION / APPOINTMENT OF DISTRICT CABINET: The District Governor, First Vice District Governor and Second Vice District Governor shall be elected at the annual convention of the District. The District Governor shall appoint, by the time he takes office, the Cabinet Secretary-Treasurer, one Region Chairperson for each region (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term), and one Zone Chairperson for each zone in the District, and such State and District Chairpersons as needed or required. The District Governor shall have the authority to determine whether the position of Region Chairperson will be utilized during the District Governor's term. If not so utilized, the position of Region Chairperson shall remain vacant during said District Governor's term.

Section 3.1 A Club Member Shall Be Appointed As A Region Chairman Or Zone Chairperson Only Over The Region Or Zone In Which His / Her Club Is Located⁹: If any Region Chairperson or Zone Chairperson shall cease to be a member of a Lions Club in the Region or Zone, as the case may be, to which he was appointed, his/her term of office shall thereupon cease and the District Governor shall appoint a successor to fill said office.

Section 3.2 No salary shall be paid to any officer of the District.

Section 4. REMOVAL: Members of the District Cabinet other than the District Governor, First Vice District Governor and Second Vice District Governor may be removed from office for cause by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire number of members of the District Cabinet.¹⁰

⁸ The District Cabinet Members listed as items (a) through (k) are the minimum cabinet members required under the L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VI, Section 2.

⁹ See Lions International By-Laws Article VIII, Section 7. .

¹⁰ L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VI, Section 4, mandatory provision.

**ARTICLE VI
RESERVED¹¹**

**ARTICLE VII
DISTRICT CONVENTION¹²**

Section 1. TIME AND PLACE: An annual convention of the District shall be held in each year to conclude no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the international convention at a place selected by the delegates of a previous annual convention of the District and at a date and time fixed by the District Governor. A meeting of the registered delegates of the District in attendance at the annual convention of the multiple District of which this District shall be a part may constitute the annual convention of the District.¹³

Section 2. CLUB DELEGATE FORMULA¹⁴: Each chartered club in good standing in Lions Clubs International and its district (single or sub- and multiple) shall be entitled in each annual convention of its district (single or sub- and multiple) to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members, who have been enrolled for at least one year and a day in the club or major fraction thereof, of said club as shown by the records of the international office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five (5) or more members. Each certified delegate present in person shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote only for each office to be filled by, and one (1) vote only on each question submitted to, the respective convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates voting on any question shall be the act of the convention. All eligible delegates must be members in good standing of a club in good standing in this District.¹⁵ Delinquent dues may be paid and good standing acquired up to fifteen (15) days prior to the close of credential certification, as such closing time shall be established by the rules of the respective convention.

Section 2.1 All Past District Governors of this District who on the date of any District Convention is a member in good standing of any Club in good standing in the District shall be considered a Delegate-At-Large and shall be irrespective and exclusive of any Delegate quota of their respective clubs, but nothing herein shall be construed to allow any person more than one (1) vote in connection with any question before the District Convention.¹⁶

Section 3. QUORUM: The attendance in person of a majority of the delegates registered at a Convention shall constitute a quorum at any session of the Convention.

¹¹ Placement of District Administrative Fund moved to By-Laws to be consistent with placement in LCI Model By-Laws.

¹² Placement of other District Convention Committees and administrative provisions moved to the District By-Laws Article V.

¹³ L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VII, Section 1 (mandatory provision, included verbatim).

¹⁴ L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VII, Section 2 (mandatory provision).

¹⁵ It is not required that a member be enrolled for a year and a day in order to qualify as a delegate. See L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VII, Section 2, footnote 6.

¹⁶ Delegate status may be granted to each Past District Governor who is a member of a Club in such District independent of the Club Delegate Quota hereinabove specified per L.C.I. By-Laws Article IX, Section 3.

**ARTICLE VIII
RESERVED¹⁷**

**ARTICLE IX
DISTRICT DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE¹⁸**

A. DISPUTES SUBJECT TO PROCEDURE: All disputes relative to membership, club boundaries, or interpretation, breach of, or application of the district (single or sub-) constitution and by-laws, or any policy or procedure adopted from time to time by the district (single or sub-) cabinet, or any other internal Lions district (single or sub-) matters that cannot be satisfactorily resolved through other means, arising between any clubs in the district (single or sub-), or any club(s) and the district (single or sub-) administration, shall be settled by the following dispute resolution procedure. Except as otherwise provided herein, any time limits specified in this procedure may be shortened or extended by the district governor, or, in the event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor, conciliators or the International Board of Directors (or its designee) upon a showing of good cause. All parties to any dispute subject to this procedure shall not pursue administrative or judicial actions during this dispute resolution process.

B. COMPLAINTS AND FILING FEE: Any Lions club in good standing within the association (the “complainant”) may file a written request with the district governor or, in the event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor (a “complaint”), with a copy to the Legal Division, asking that dispute resolution take place under this procedure. The complaint must be filed within thirty (30) days after the complainant(s) knew or should have known of the occurrence of the event upon which the complaint is based. The complainant(s) must submit minutes signed by the club secretary certifying that a resolution in support of filing the complaint has been adopted by a majority of the entire membership of the club. A copy of the complaint shall be sent to the respondent(s).

A complaint filed under this procedure must be accompanied by a US\$750.00 filing fee, or its equivalent in the respective national currency, payable by each complainant to the district (single or sub-) which shall be submitted to the district governor or, in the event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor, at the time the complaint is filed. In the event the complaint is settled or withdrawn prior to a final decision by the conciliators, US\$100.00 shall be retained by the district (single or sub-) as an administrative fee and US\$325.00 shall be refunded to the complainant and US\$325.00 shall be paid to the respondent (which shall be shared on an equal basis if there is more than one respondent). In the event the selected conciliators find the complaint to have merit and the complaint is upheld, US\$100.00 shall be retained by the district (single or sub-) as an administrative fee and US\$650.00 shall be refunded to the complainant. In the event the selected conciliators deny the complaint for any reason, US\$100.00 shall be retained by the district (single or sub-) as an administrative fee and US\$650.00 shall be paid to the respondent (which shall be shared on an equal basis if there is more than one respondent). In the event the complaint is not settled, withdrawn, upheld or denied within the time frames established by this procedure (unless an extension has been granted for good cause), then the entire fee will be automatically retained by the district (single or sub-) as an administrative fee and shall not be refunded to any party. All expenses incurred relative to this dispute resolution procedure are the

¹⁷ Placement of District Convention and Leadership Training Fund moved to By-Laws and Article VIII to be consistent with placement in L.C.I. Standard District By-Laws.

¹⁸ L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article VIII (mandatory provision, included verbatim).

responsibility of the district (single or sub-), unless established district (single or sub-) policy provides that all expenses incurred relative to this dispute resolution procedure shall be paid on an equal basis by the parties to the dispute.

C. RESPONSE TO COMPLAINT: The respondent(s) to the complaint may file a written response to the complaint with the district governor or, in the event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor, with a copy to the Legal Division, within ten (10) days of receiving notice of the complaint. A copy of the response shall be sent to the complainant(s).

D. CONFIDENTIALITY: Once a complaint has been filed, communications between the complainant(s), respondent(s), district governor or, in the event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor, and conciliators should be kept confidential to the extent possible.

E. SELECTION OF CONCILIATORS: Within fifteen (15) days of filing the complaint, each party to the dispute shall select one (1) neutral conciliator and the selected conciliators shall select one (1) neutral conciliator, who will serve as chairperson. The selected conciliators' decision relative to the selection of the conciliator/chairperson shall be final and binding. All of the selected conciliators shall be Lion leaders, preferably past district governors, who are currently members in good standing of clubs in good standing in the district (single or sub-) in which the dispute arises, other than a club which is a party to the dispute, and shall be impartial on the matter in dispute and without loyalties to any party to the dispute. Upon completion of the selection process, the conciliators shall be deemed appointed with all authority appropriate and necessary to resolve or decide the dispute in accordance with this procedure.

In the event the selected conciliators cannot agree on the selection of the conciliator/chairperson within the time frame noted above, then the selected conciliators shall be automatically deemed to have resigned for administrative reasons and the parties must select new conciliators ("the second team of selected conciliators") who shall then select one (1) neutral conciliator/chairperson in accordance with the selection procedures and requirements described above. In the event the second team of selected conciliators cannot agree on the selection of the conciliator/chairperson from within the district (single or sub-) in which the dispute arises, the selected conciliators may select one (1) neutral conciliator/chairperson who is a member of a club in good standing outside the respective district (single or sub-). In the event the second team of selected conciliators cannot agree on the selection of the conciliator/chairperson from within or outside the district (single or sub-) in which the dispute arises, then the past international director who most recently served on the International Board of Directors from within the district (single or sub-) in which the dispute arises or from an adjacent district (single or sub-), whichever is closest in proximity, shall be appointed as conciliator/chairperson. The time limits in this Section E may not be shortened or extended by the district governor or, in the event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor, or the conciliators.

F. CONCILIATION MEETING & DECISION OF CONCILIATORS: Upon being appointed, the conciliators shall arrange a meeting of the parties for the purpose of conciliating the dispute. The meeting shall be scheduled within thirty (30) days of the appointment of the conciliators. The objective of the conciliators shall be to find a prompt and amicable resolution to the dispute. If such conciliation efforts are unsuccessful, the conciliators shall have the authority to issue their decision relative to the dispute. The conciliators shall issue their decision in writing no later than thirty (30) days after the date on which the initial meeting of the parties was held, and the decision shall be final and binding on all parties. The written decision shall be signed by all the conciliators, with the dissent of any conciliator properly noted, and a copy of the written decision shall be provided to all parties, the district governor or, in the

event the complaint is directed against the district governor, the immediate past district governor, and, to the Legal Division of Lions Clubs International. The decision of the conciliators must be consistent with any applicable provisions of the International, Multiple District and District Constitutions and By-Laws and policies of the International Board of Directors, and is subject to the authority of and further review by the International Board of Directors at the sole discretion of the International Board of Directors or its designee.

Failure to comply with the final and binding decision of the conciliators constitutes conduct unbecoming a Lion and is subject to loss of membership privileges and/or charter cancellation.

ARTICLE X SUPREMACY

The Standard Form District Constitution and By-Laws shall govern the District unless otherwise amended so as not to conflict with the Multiple District and International Constitution & By-Laws and policies of Lions Clubs International. Whenever there may exist a conflict or a contradiction between the provisions set out in the District Constitution and By-Laws and the Multiple District constitution and by-laws then the multiple district constitution and by-laws shall govern. Whenever there may exist a conflict or a contradiction between the provisions set out in the District Constitution and By-Laws and the International Constitution and By-Laws, then the International Constitution and By-Laws shall govern.¹⁹

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

Section 1. AMENDMENT PROCEDURE: This Constitution may be amended only at a District Convention by resolution reported by the Convention Committee on Constitution and By-Laws and adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the vote cast.

Section 2. NOTICE: No amendment shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished in writing to each club, through regular post or authorized electronic means, no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the Annual Convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said Convention.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE: Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the Convention at which adopted unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

Section 4. AUTOMATIC UPDATE: When amendments to the International Constitution and By-Laws are passed at the International Convention, any amendments that would have an effect on this District Constitution and By-Laws shall automatically be updated in this district constitution and by-laws at the close of the convention.²⁰

¹⁹ See L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article V (mandatory provision, included verbatim).

²⁰ See L.C.I. Standard District Constitution Article IX Section 2 (mandatory provision, included verbatim).