

# **YMCA Central Leaders School Constitution**

## **NAME AND PURPOSE**

The name of this school shall be the YMCA Central Leaders' School.  
The purpose of this school shall be to provide meaningful training in leadership and fellowship for the growth and well being of the participants.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To gain insight into how classes and programs in the YMCA function.
2. To gain and develop self-confidence, self-respect, and self-worth through positive interaction with others.
3. To learn the role of the YMCA movement in today's society.
4. To develop, clarify, and strengthen personal values.
5. To encourage individual commitment to spiritual, mental, and physical health.
6. To come to learn, and return to serve.
7. To cherish all of the YMCA core values: "Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility."

## **ELIGIBILITY**

1. They must be an active member in a Leaders' Club and have the approval of the local YMCA Professional Director.
2. They must meet all the membership qualifications of their club.
3. Leaders may attend Leaders' School from age 12 through the summer they graduate or the summer after the 18th birthday, whichever is first.
4. In any circumstance, the School Director(s) has the right to accept or refuse any application.

## **HOUSE RULES**

All leaders and staff will be encouraged to abide by the following guidelines while at the Leaders' School:

1. You are responsible for your own learning.
2. Avoid put-downs and bullying including joning, flaming, and roasting.
3. You have the right to pass, including non-expression.
4. Speak for yourself.
5. Expect unfinished business.

## **COUNCIL ELECTION PROCEDURES**

1. Eligibility - all leaders who plan on attending Leaders' School the next year and who will attend at least one-half or more of the Rallies may run for council.
2. Verbal nominations for council will be accepted from the floor in values group meetings on Thursday.
3. Nominees will be allowed to speak briefly to their values group on their qualifications.
4. Elections will be held by secret ballot. The winner will be the council member for the next year; the first runner-up will be listed as the alternate. When a tie occurs, either for the council position, or the alternate position, the values group must vote again to break the tie. If a tie happens the second time, then the decision must be brought to council for the final decision. Coin tosses and other methods for breaking ties within the values group are not accepted.
5. The President and Vice President are voting council members.
6. The President and Vice President forfeit all rights to appoint members to council upon their own will.

### **DUTIES OF ACTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

1. To serve the school by:
  - a. Assisting with evening activities.
  - b. Actively participating in council meeting at each full day of Leaders' School and at Rallies.
  - c. Submitting any new ideas of which they might hear.
  - d. Reviewing and voting on the Constitution.
  - e. Promoting spirit and encouraging involvement throughout the year.
2. Term of office: From the day of election through the remainder of the week, throughout the following year and complete week of the following year's Leaders' School.
3. If a council member decides to leave council during the week of Leaders' School, their position will not be refilled.

### **ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT**

1. Those running for an office must have two previous years at Leaders' School plus one of the following:
  - a. One year on council.
  - b. One full term as President or Vice President of home club.
2. All applications for office are to be given to the School Director by noon on Wednesday.
3. Each applicant will be interviewed by council and officers on Thursday during council meeting.
4. Each applicant must be nominated by another leader. Both will give a short speech to the school after Vespers on Thursday. A non-officer may nominate a person for each position.
5. Elections will be held by secret ballot during Morning Med on Friday. New officers will be announced Friday after Vespers.
6. Candidates may not be nominated by a presiding officer.

### **DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT**

1. Promote the YMCA Leaders School.
2. Preside over and conduct all council activities.
3. Organize all standing committees.
4. Meet with staff at organization and planning sessions.
5. Remember that they represents the entire school and therefore should consider all suggestions and opinions of Leaders.
6. Organize the revision of the Constitution with the council previous to the following Leaders School.
7. Publishes the Korney Ear with the Vice President.
8. Establishes and heads the Standards Committee.

### **DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT**

1. Assume all duties of the President in the event of their absence, resignation, or removal from office.
2. Serve regularly as the President's co-officer.
3. Communicates with all standing committees and reports back to council.
4. Makes all council-related school announcements.
5. Meets with the staff at organization and planning sessions.
6. Publishes the Korney Ear with the President.
7. Sits on the Standards Committee.

### **COUNCIL VOTING PRIVILEGES**

1. All members of council have voting privileges.
2. Past officers who attend Leaders' School may participate in council meetings as an active member.
3. Council members who have already served two years may not run again but may choose to retain a position on council as an active member.
4. All votes put before council can attain passage through a majority vote of those council members in attendance.
5. Any council member who neglects her/his present duties may be removed from council by a majority vote.
6. Council Members must actively participate (in person or call in) in the majority of council meetings or their alternate will be appointed to fulfill the remainder of the Council Member's term. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by a majority vote of the Council.

### **SUCCESSION OF COUNCIL AND OFFICERS**

1. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President will succeed her/him and appoint a member of council to serve as the President's assistant.
2. In the absence of the Vice President, the President will appoint a member of council to serve as the President's assistant.
3. Council vacancies will be refilled by the alternate for the departing Council member. Honorary Council Members will not be replaced.
4. If Council members are elected as officers, their alternate will be placed on Council.

### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

1. Appointed annually by the school President, but have the right to pass.
2. Members are in charge of enforcing the Central Leaders School Constitution, Rules, and Expectations.
3. Decide appropriate consequences for violations of Constitution rules and other infractions committed by Leaders.

### **APPOINTMENT OF FLOOR LEADERS**

1. Floor Leaders are appointed by the School Directors in accordance with seniority. They will be informed in advance and have the right to pass.
2. Floor Leaders are in charge of wake-up calls.
3. Promote school spirit and enthusiasm.
4. Check rooms at lights out.
5. Lead floor meetings.

### **AWARDS**

1. All those who attend this Leaders' School can nominate leaders for the following awards:
  - a. Honor Leader: Award is given to a leader who displays the qualities of a truly dedicated leader. They is trustworthy, congenial, and giving.
  - b. Rookie Honor Leader: Award is given to a leader with similar qualities as the Honor Leader, although They must be a first year leader.
  - c. Spirit Award: Award is given to a leader who projects a positive attitude and encourages spirit amongst all leaders. They is friendly and energetic. This award recipient will take the spirit of Leaders' School back to their home YMCA and enthusiastically apply new knowledge back home.
2. Nominations are to be given to the School Directors by Thursday at dinner.
3. Final decisions will be made by the staff.

### **RATIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

1. The Constitution shall be reviewed annually by the new Council Members and be complete before the school.
2. After its revisions, the Council Members vote for acceptance of the new Constitution. A majority vote of those participating is required for its ratification.
3. The new Constitution must be displayed or given to all leaders on the first day of the school.
4. All ratifications are in effect upon passage.



