



Constitution

of the

Houston Young Republicans

[Last Amended November 14, 2017]

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Article I: Name

Pursuant to rules promulgated under the Constitution of the TEXAS YOUNG REPUBLICAN FEDERATION, Article V, Section A, the name of this organization shall be “Houston Young Republicans”, hereafter referred to as “HYR”.

Article II: Purposes

HYR exists as a non-profit and educational organization. Its purposes are:

- A.** To advance the growth of the Republican Party by assisting in the election of Republican nominees to public office.
- B.** To discover and equip young Republican leaders to help build the future of the party.
- C.** To encourage awareness and active participation in the political process at all levels of government by members HYR and the community.
- D.** To support and promote the philosophies and ideals of the Republican Party of Texas and of young Republicans across Texas.

Article III: Powers

HYR is authorized to direct, manage, and control its business, property and funds, and do anything which is reasonably necessary and proper to carry out HYR’s purposes set forth in Article II.

Article IV: Definitions

- Section 1 Except where provided to the contrary herein, the term “member” refers to “Active Member”, “Associate Member”, and “Honorary Member” as defined in Article V.
- Section 2 The term “Executive Committee” refers to HYR elected officers, the immediate past President of HYR, and all current Committee Chairmen.
- Section 3 The term “Executive Board” means the elected officers of HYR.
- Section 4 The term “Assembly” refers to any meeting of HYR members conducted under Article X of this Constitution.

Article V: Membership

- Section 1 The membership of HYR shall be limited to the following classes: Active Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members.

Section 2 The requirements for Active Memberships, Associate Memberships, and Honorary Memberships in HYR are set forth below:

- A. ACTIVE MEMBER:** Any registered voter between the ages of eighteen (18) and forty (40), inclusive, who has completed the membership data, paid the yearly dues and publicly affirmed his political allegiance to the Republican Party.
- (i) The following membership data shall be required from those persons who wish to become Active members: full name, date of birth, complete address, zip code and telephone number or e-mail address.
 - (ii) Membership in HYR as an Active Member shall be valid once the person desiring same tenders his membership dues to any HYR officer, and submits to any HYR officer the membership data required by this Constitution.
 - (iii) Active Members shall have the right to vote on any matter pertaining to HYR business.
 - (iv) Any Active Member of an area College Republican association, who is between the ages of eighteen (18) and forty (40), inclusive, is eligible for HYR membership at the discretion of the HYR Executive Board.
- B. ASSOCIATE MEMBER:** Anyone unqualified for HYR membership, but who is interested in the activities of HYR may be awarded an Associate Membership under such terms and with such privileges as the Executive Board may determine.
- C. HONORARY MEMBER:** Anyone who, in the opinion of the Executive Board, deserves the special status of "Honorary Member", may be awarded such level of membership by HYR.

Section 3 Membership lists of HYR shall not be sold or otherwise distributed for purposes of solicitation. If any member uses or allows the use of the HYR membership information to be used for reasons of solicitation not of a political nature, said member can be removed from HYR as described in Article XI of this Constitution.

Article VI: Dues

Section 1 The fiscal year of HYR shall be the calendar year.

- Section 2 Dues for each member shall include the annual fee as assessed by the Texas Young Republican Federation.
- Section 3 The annual dues required for Active Members in HYR shall be determined by the Executive Board. Dues for Active Members shall vary from year to year, but shall be the same for all Active members. Dues for Associate Members and Honorary Members shall be also determined by the Executive Board.
- Section 4 Membership in HYR shall expire after December 31 of each year. Annual dues for renewing members are due by January 31. Dues for members who join HYR between January 1 and December 31 shall be assessed at a full year membership rate.

Article VII: Officers

- Section 1 The elected officers of HYR shall consist of a President, Vice President, Political Director, Communications Director, Treasurer, and Secretary. All elected officers must be Active Members of HYR.
- Section 2 The President shall preside over all HYR meetings. In the President's absence, the Vice President shall so preside. Thereafter, the chain of succession shall be Political Director, the Communications Director, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.
- Section 3 The President shall:
- A. Ensure the smooth operation of HYR through oversight of the Executive Committee.
 - B. Act as ambassador on behalf of HYR and its members in an official capacity befitting the image and philosophy of HYR.
 - C. Submit a report, whether written or verbal, at all regularly called meetings of the Executive Board.
 - D. Have the power to create committees, as well as appoint Committee Chairmen, committee members, TYRF Convention delegates and alternates, and any other assistants deemed necessary. Any such appointments shall take effect only upon approval of a simple majority of the Executive Board.
- Section 4 The Vice President shall plan monthly speakers/forums as part of the regular monthly meeting and serve as the facilitator for these meetings. In addition, the Vice President shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the President, the Executive Committee, or the Assembly.
- Section 5 The Political Director shall be responsible for coordinating all campaign activities and serving as the chief liaison between Republican campaign opportunities and the

membership. The Political Director shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the President, the Executive Committee, or the Assembly.

- Section 6 The Communications Director shall have all necessary authority and responsibility to coordinate all media-related activities for HYR. This shall include, but is not limited to, generating press releases; ensuring the publication of the newspaper articles and editorials; and, providing opportunities for a continued HYR presence on local radio and television stations. The Communications Director shall act as official spokesperson of HYR at the request of the President, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President, Executive Committee, or the Assembly.
- Section 7 The Treasurer shall be charged with the collection and disbursement of funds as authorized by the Executive Committee. He shall be signer of all checks written by the HYR checking account. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the President, the Executive Committee, or the Assembly.
- Section 8 The Secretary shall be charged with the recording of the minutes of the Executive meetings and meetings of the general assembly as described in the most recently revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order. The Secretary shall maintain a current record of the membership, according to the class and category of each member. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the President, the Executive Committee, or the Assembly.
- Section 9 If any elected office becomes vacant for any reason, the vacancy may be filled by the Executive Board for the remainder of the unexpired term. An office shall be deemed vacant should no candidate be elected to that office.

Article VIII: Elections

- Section 1 Any member desiring to run for officer of HYR must submit name and office to the Executive Board prior to the November General Assembly meeting. If said meeting is not held, the member must submit by November 30.
Requirements for potential officers are:
A. Must be an Active Member.
B. Dues must be paid at least thirty (30) days before the elections.
- Section 2 All officers shall serve terms of one (1) year, or until their successors are elected and take office. All officers shall be elected by ballot at the November HYR meeting. The Elections shall be determined by a simple majority of the votes cast. Elected officers shall take office at the first meeting of the following fiscal year. Immediately after the annual election, an officer of HYR, as determined by the Executive Board, shall forward the names of the newly elected officers to the Secretary of the Texas Young Republican Federation.

Section 3 No member shall be eligible to hold two elected offices simultaneously.

Section 4 No member shall be eligible to cast a ballot in any HYR election unless dues are paid at least thirty (30) days before the election

Article IX: Executive Board

Section 1 The Executive Board shall conduct all duties authorized by the Assembly, in addition to administering the general business of HYR; provided, however, that the Assembly shall have the authority to limit the authority of the Executive Board by the adoption of Standing Rules, and shall also have the authority to rescind any decision of the Executive Board at the next Assembly meeting following the Executive Board meeting during which said decision was made.

Section 2 A majority of the voting members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3 The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President, or at the call of two (2) voting members of the Executive Board.

Section 4 The Executive Board shall have the power to create a Political Action Committee (PAC) for the purpose of soliciting and disbursing funds to benefit the Republican Party and Republican candidates in general elections.

Section 5 The meetings of the Executive Board shall be open to all members of HYR, and any other individual specifically invited by a majority consent of the Board.

Section 6 Proxies must give written notice of said proxy. Written notice must be presented at the beginning of the Executive Board meeting.

Article X: Assembly Meetings

Section 1 Regular meetings of the Assembly shall occur once a quarter at minimum. The Executive Board shall determine the place and date of the meetings.

Section 2 A quorum shall consist of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Active members or a minimum of ten (10) Active members, whichever is smaller.

Section 3 Special meetings of the Assembly shall be held on the call of the Executive Board.

Article XI: Removal of Officers and Members

- Section 1 An officer may be removed from office if the officer in question ceases to be a member of HYR. An officer may be removed from office if the officer fails to attend two (2) consecutive meetings of the Executive Board, or two (2) consecutive meetings of general Assembly. Additionally, any officer may be removed from office by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Committee. Such officer shall have the right to appeal his removal as an officer at the next regular meeting of the Assembly. The Executive Committee's decision may be overturned by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members who vote at said Assembly meeting. The notice of such a vote must be contained in the written communication that announces the monthly Assembly meeting.
- Section 2 Any member may have his membership in HYR revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Committee. Such a person shall have the right to appeal his revocation of his membership at the next regular meeting of the Assembly. At any regular Assembly meeting, any member may have his privileges of membership restricted or suspended upon a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting members present. Such a vote can be taken at any regular Assembly meeting; provided, however, the notice of the vote must be contained in the written communication that announces the monthly Assembly meeting.

Article XII: Amendment Procedure

- Section 1 This Constitution is subject to amendment or repeal. This Constitution may be repealed or amended upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at any Assembly meeting; provided, however, that notice of the proposed amendment or repeal of the specified article(s) must be included in the newsletter which immediately precedes and announces the time and place of the Assembly meeting.
- Section 2 All amendments to this Constitution shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee of the Texas Young Republican Federation.

Article XIII: Parliamentary Authority

Except where inconsistent with this Constitution, all HYR meetings shall be governed by the most recently revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Article XIV: Texas Young Republican Federation Affiliation

- Section 1 HYR shall be a chartered club of the Texas Young Republican Federation, and shall at all times meet the constitutional requirements of that organization.

Section 2 The President shall appoint, with majority consent of the Executive Board, the delegates and alternates to the State Convention of the Texas Young Republican Federation. The President shall select the delegates from the list of those active members of HYR who are interested in becoming delegates and are committed to attending the State Convention.

Article XV: Dissolution

Section 1 Upon the dissolution of the Houston Young Republicans, any assets remaining thereafter shall be transferred to the Texas Young Republican Federation.

Section 2 In the event that the Texas Young Republican Federation is not then in existence, the assets shall be conveyed to an organization dedicated to the achievement of goals similar to those of the Texas Young Republican Federation.

Article XVI: Miscellaneous

Section 1 Neither the HYR, nor any of its officers in an official capacity, shall endorse a candidate in any race in which more than one Republican runs, except for those races for which an official Republican nominee has been selected by the Republican Party through a primary or other mechanism.

Section 2 HYR shall not be held responsible for unauthorized opinions of its members, no matter how or where expressed.

Section 3 The use of one gender in this Constitution shall include the other gender, the singular shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular, whenever and as often as may be appropriate.

Section 4 Any dispute or question concerning the interpretation or meaning of this Constitution shall be determined by a majority vote of the Executive Board after consulting the opinions of all available former HYR Presidents.

Section 5 This Constitution shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas.

Article XVII: Effective Date of This Constitution

Provided this Constitution is approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting members present at a regular Assembly meeting, this Constitution shall take effect on January 21, 1997.