

# ARIZONA YOUNG REPUBLICAN FEDERATION CONSTITUTION

As amended May 4, 2024.

# ARIZONA YOUNG REPUBLICAN FEDERATION CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE Recognizing that a federation is needed to represent the Young Republicans in the State of Arizona, we, Arizona Young Republicans that are dedicated to the advancement and pursuit of the Republican cause, do hereby establish the following Constitution for the Arizona Young Republican Federation.

## ARTICLE I: ARIZONA YOUNG REPUBLICAN FEDERATION

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the "Arizona Young Republican Federation", hereafter referred to as AZYRF.

## ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

- Section 1. The purpose of the AZYRF shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - A. To develop and maintain a statewide Young Republican federation.
  - B. To provide opportunities for Young Republicans throughout the state to contribute to the betterment of the United States of America, the State of Arizona, the various political subdivisions within Arizona, and the Republican Party.
  - C. To support the principles and objectives of the Republican Party and to secure the election of duly nominated Republican candidates.
  - D. To participate in the activities of the Young Republican National Federation or any successor national organization of Young Republicans that is formally recognized by the Republican National Committee (RNC).

Section 2. The AZYRF and its member clubs shall neither seek nor attempt to endorse any candidate that is not the Republican nominee for the general election.

## ARTICLE III: POWERS

- Section 1. The powers of the Federation shall be:
  - A. To organize, charter, supervise, assist, and coordinate Young Republican clubs throughout Arizona.
  - B. To direct, manage, supervise and control its business property and funds.
  - C. To do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes set forth in Article II.

## ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Members of the Arizona Young Republican Federation shall be anyone who meets all of the following conditions:
  - A. Live within the State of Arizona
  - B. Be between the ages of 18-40.
  - C. Be a registered Republican
  - D. Signify in which county they wish to maintain their Active Membership. A member can only claim Active Membership in one (1) County.
  - E. Attend at least 2 County Club Meetings per year in their chosen County.
  - F. The Federation as a whole may allow persons who cannot join or form a Chartered Club to become an "At-Large Member".
    - a. At-Large Members shall be residents of a County with no chartered Arizona Young Republican County, or where it would be otherwise prohibited to join a nearby Chartered Club.

- b. An At-Large Member shall be classified as an Active Member of the AZYRF and is entitled to all other rights and privileges of such membership, including voting rights at State and National conventions.
- c. At-Large Members shall pay any dues which the AZYRF may establish d. An At-Large Member shall NOT retain voting rights in a county-chartered Young Republican Club.
  - i. If they become eligible for membership in a county-chartered club, they shall join that club and complete all requirements for membership in that county. At that point, they shall retain membership of the Arizona Young Republicans and be recognized as active county members.
  - ii. A member may become eligible for reasons including, but not limited to, moving to a county with a chartered club or receiving their charter in the county in which they reside.
- e. Once a county reaches ten(10) Members at large, that county must apply for a charter within 6 months.

Section 2: Anyone who wishes to participate with the AZYRF regardless of age may be inducted as an Alumni over the age of 40, or as an associate member, and will be able to attend all YR events.

# ARTICLE V: CLUB CHARTERS

Section 1. The official program of the annual convention shall rotate its agenda on an odd/even yearly basis. The even years shall be run as Constitutional/Leadership Conferences; the odd years shall contain the elections of officers.

Section 2. Each Club which applies for and obtains a charter with the Federation therefore ratifies and agrees to be bound by this Constitution, the Bylaws of the Federation and any amendments to either of the aforementioned.

Section 3. Any chartered Club which fails to comply with this Constitution, the Bylaws of the Federation, or with any amendments to the aforementioned, may have its charter suspended or revoked by the Federation in the manner specified by the Bylaws.

Section 4. A voting member of one chartered Club may also be a non-voting member of another chartered Club.

Section 5. The Arizona Young Republican Federation does not typically endorse candidates in Republican primaries. However, in certain cases where the overwhelming majority of AZYRF members have voiced support for a particular candidate for State or Federal office only, the AZYRF may conduct a vote of the membership at any regularly scheduled AZYRF Convention or during a Special meeting. Any AZYRF endorsements MUST pass by a ¾ vote of AZYRF members voting by secret ballot.

Section 6. County Clubs are free to endorse candidates for local, state, and national office positions, in accordance with the bylaws of their organization. However, on the advice of the state executive board, it is highly recommended to remain neutral in primaries.

# ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Arizona Young Republican Federation shall be a Chair, Co-Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, National Committeeman, and National Committeewoman. Section 2. No person shall be eligible to serve as Chair until they have been a member of the Federation, as defined in Article IV, Section 1, for a period of six (6) months.

Section 3. No person shall be eligible to serve on the Executive Board until they have been a member of the Federation, as defined in Article IV, Section 1, for a period of three (3) months. Section 4. Any Executive Board member who fails to maintain membership in the organization as defined in Article IV, Section 1, will be deemed to have resigned from the Executive Board.

# ARTICLE VII: RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The Chair shall preside at all Conventions and all meetings of the Executive Board. They shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the organization and shall exercise general supervision over the work and activities of the Arizona Young Republican Federation.

A. The chair is the Chief Spokesperson for the Arizona Young Republican Federation, and has authority to designate a board member or other member to speak on behalf of the Arizona Young Republican Federation.

Section 2. The Co-chair shall, in the absence or inability of the chair to act, perform the duties of the chair.

- A. The Co-chair will advise the chair on duties and responsibilities of the organization.
- B. If the chair resigns, or is unable to perform their assigned duties set forth in Article VII, as determined by the two-thirds vote of the Executive Board, the Co-Chair will become acting chair until a vote by the Executive Committee confirming a new chair.
- Section 3. The Vice Chair shall oversee organization outreach and club development.
  - A. Duties include meeting in-person, virtually or otherwise with club chairs to discuss club work and activities. The Vice Chair will work with the chair to recruit new club members and clubs across the state.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive and account for the funds of the organization under the supervision and direction of the Executive Board.

A. If the Treasurer resigns, or is unable to perform the duties assigned in Article VII, a Vice-chair elected or appointed shall assume the duties of Treasurer, until such time as a new Treasurer is elected or appointed, as provided in the constitution and by-laws. Section 5. The Secretary shall record and publish minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and/or activities of the Arizona Young Republican Federation.

A. The Secretary shall make public the meeting minutes of the Arizona Young Republican Federation Executive Committee to all county chairs and will be available to any club member upon request.

Section 5. The State chair, National Committeeman and National Committeewoman shall represent the Arizona Young Republican Federation on the Young Republican National Federation National Committee. They shall develop and promote cooperation, unified action, and goodwill among Young Republican state organizations of the region and the nation.

# ARTICLE VIII: EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board of the Federation shall be composed of the following: The officers, as defined in Article VI above, and the chair of each duly chartered Club or their designee.

Section 2. Executive Board members, with the exception of the chair of each Club chartered with the Federation, shall be elected at the annual convention of the AZYRF in accordance with the Bylaws. Newly elected officers shall take office upon the adjournment of the annual convention in which they were elected, and shall serve until the next annual convention, or until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall have the control and management of all the affairs, property, and funds of the AZYRF and shall meet at least once a month at a time and place designated by the chair. Section 4. Members of the Executive Board may be removed from said board by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Board. Written notice of the proposed expulsion must be communicated by the Secretary to all members of the Executive Board at their last known email or address at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting at which expulsion action is to be taken.

Section 5. Any elected member of the Executive Board who has three (3) unexcused absences from regularly called Executive Board meetings will be deemed to have resigned from the Executive Board. Notification of excused absences must be given to the chair or Secretary.

Section 6. The Chair and Vice Chair of the State Executive Board shall not serve as Chairman of an AZYRF Chartered County.

Section 7. Statements made by the Arizona Young Republicans must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE IX: CONVENTIONS

Section 1. There shall be an annual convention of the AZYRF at a time and place designated by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall fix the time and place of the convention at least 60 days prior to its occurrence between April 1 and June 1 of each year. Each Young Republican Club, duly chartered with the Federation, shall be notified in writing at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the date fixed for the annual or special convention by the AZYRF Secretary.

Section 2. Each member of the Executive Board, as described in Article VIII above, shall automatically be a delegate to the convention and entitled to vote on all matters therein. All other convention delegates and alternates, excluding Board members, shall be delegates from their respective Clubs. The Clubs shall determine how their delegates and alternates are selected. All delegates and alternates shall be members of the AZYRF in accordance with Article IV of this Constitution and shall be members of their respective Clubs as of thirty (30) days prior to the convention and attended 2 meetings of their clubs.

Section 3. In the event of any dispute as to the number of delegates to which any Club is entitled, the Executive Board shall resolve the dispute, and its decision shall be final.

Section 4. At all conventions of the AZYRF, each delegate shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one (1) vote. Proxies shall not be permitted.

# ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES

Section 1. The AZYRF Chairman shall appoint the chairman, co-chairman, and all members of each standing committee with the approval of the Executive Board. The AZYRF Chairman, with the approval of the Board, may remove any committee chairman, co-chairman or committee member who fails to carry out his or her duties with respect to the committee and appoint a YR to fill such vacancy. No committee shall be authorized to bind or act on behalf of the AZYRF.

# ARTICLE XI: TENURE OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers and elective members of the Executive Board shall be elected at each duly convened Annual Convention of the AZYRF and shall hold office until their successors are elected and duly qualified. The chair of the Federation shall not be eligible for election to more than two (2) terms. Executive board members of the AZYRF are to be elected for a term period 4 of two (2) years. Once that term is completed the current board members are eligible to hold other executive office positions or run for the same position again.

Section 2. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for the election of each officer and elected member of the Executive Board.

Section 3. Any officer of the AZYRF or any member of the Executive Board may submit a written resignation to the chair of the Federation, and such resignation shall become effective upon receipt. Section 4. Vacancies in any elective position shall be filled for the unexpired term by a two-thirds vote of the Board at any regularly scheduled meeting or duly called special meeting. Notice of the proposed election shall be communicated to the Executive Board ten (10) days prior to such meeting Section 6.

## ARTICLE XII: BY-LAWS

Section 1. Bylaws consistent with this constitution may be adopted and amended from time to time by a majority vote of the delegates present at any regularly or specially called convention of the Federation. Section 2. This Constitution may not be amended at any convention unless notice of the proposed matter and purpose of any proposed convention is communicated to all members of the Executive Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the said convention.

## ARTICLE XIII: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Section 1. These articles may be altered, amended, supplanted, repealed, in whole or in part, or restated articles may be adopted from time to time by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at any regularly called or special convention of the Arizona Young Republican Federation.

# ARTICLE XIV: ADOPTION

Section 1. This Constitution shall take effect on June 5, 2021. This Constitution shall supersede any constitution that might heretofore have been adopted.

Austin Smith, State Chair Arizona Young Republican Federation

Charlotte Perez, Secretary Arizona Young Republican Federation

# AMENDED MAY 4TH, 2024

Charlotte Perez, State Chair Arizona Young Republicans

Hannah Toth, Secretary Arizona Young Republican Federation