

# New York State Chapter, Order of DeMolay Constitution

## PREAMBLE

The New York State Chapter is formed for the purpose of coordinating the efforts of all DeMolay Chapters in New York State and promoting the interest of DeMolay in the Jurisdiction through inter-Chapter relations. It will function under the authority and supervision of the Executive Officer of the Jurisdiction of New York of DeMolay International (DI).

## ARTICLE I – Name

The name of this Chapter shall be “The New York State Chapter, Order of DeMolay.” It may be hereafter referred to as the “State Chapter.”

## ARTICLE II – Purposes

### Section 1

To organize as one State Chapter the Chapters of the Order of DeMolay in New York State.

### Section 2

To provide the means by which the members of New York DeMolay can exchange ideas and experiences, which would help cultivate a greater sense of fraternity among them and their related fraternal organizations.

To provide opportunities for improving leadership ability through leadership training sessions, and providing avenues for the practical application of such training within the New York DeMolay organization.

To provide an opportunity for relaxation and entertainment which is in the best interests of New York DeMolay.

### Section 3

To sponsor and encourage inter-Chapter and intra-Region exercises in: ritual, sports, and other activities that will strengthen the Order in this Jurisdiction.

## ARTICLE III – Meetings

## Section 1: Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting of the State Chapter shall be held at the Annual State Convention. The State Executive Committee with the approval of the State Chapter Advisor will set the meeting time and place. The State Master Councilor shall cause due notice to all Chapters at least 60 days prior to the date of such Convention. Such notice shall consist of an electronic notification to the chairman and chapter advisor of the Chapters in New York.

## Section 2: Special Meetings

The State Executive Committee, with the approval of the State Chapter Advisor, may call special meetings of the State Chapter. They may be called to confer degrees, to institute new Chapters and for such other purposes as the State Chapter Advisor may approve.

## Article IV: Votes in State Chapter

Section 1: Purposes: The State Chapter shall meet to:

- a) To formulate and decide all matters of policy for the State Chapter.
- b) To provide advice and consent to the State Executive Committee.
- c) To be the clearing house and the body of origin for all amendments to the State Chapter Constitution and By-laws.
- d) To nominate and elect the officers of the State Chapter.

## Section 2: Membership:

### 1. Good Standing

- a) The membership of the State Chapter shall be all Chapters located in the Jurisdiction of New York, which are either chartered or operating under Letters Temporary.
- b) All Chapters are considered to be in good standing with the State Chapter unless they are delinquent in one of the following:
  - i. Filing of an Annual Advisory Council Registration
  - ii. Filing of Form 10s
  - iii. Filing of Officer Address Reports
  - iv. Paying their annual Insurance Premium, if any is assessed.
    - v. Holding of an Annual Meeting of the Chapter Advisory Council
  - vi. Filing of an annual Financial Statement
  - vii. Meet all other requirements of a chapter in good standing as set forth in the By-laws, rules and Regulations of DeMolay International
  - viii. Hosting a youth protection program at least once every six months and providing notice.
  - ix. In any other manner determined by the Executive Officer and State Master Councilor

## 2. Voting Delegates

- a) Definition: Each Chapter that meets the definition in Section 2 shall be eligible to have voting delegates provided:
  - i. The chapter has at least one Active DeMolay registered and present at the meeting of the State Chapter.
  - ii. The chapter has completed the New York DeMolay Voter Registration Form with the State Executive Committee by the deadline.
  - iii. Each Chapter is entitled to three votes and may have one person cast all of their votes.
  - iv. Delegates will elect a Region Master Councilor for their Region only.
  - v. If a delegate has dual membership, that delegate can only represent and be a delegate for one Chapter
- b) Qualifications: Delegates desiring to vote at the State Chapter in the Annual/Special State Meeting must:
  - i. Have completed their obligation proficiency
  - ii. Be in good standing with their Chapters

## Section 3: Meetings

### 1. Types of Meetings

- a) Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting of the State Chapter shall be held at a date selected by two-thirds of the State Executive Committee. The State Master Councilor shall cause due notice to all Chapters at least 60 days prior to the date of such meeting.
- b) Special Meeting: The State Executive Committee, with the approval of the State Chapter Advisor, may call special meetings of the State Chapter.

### 2. Attendance

- a) Any active member of the Order of DeMolay, any DeMolay holding a Majority Certificate or a Senior DeMolay Certificate, any Master Mason in good standing or any individual authorized by DeMolay International By-laws, Rules and Regulations shall be eligible to attend a meeting of the State Chapter.

### 3. Executive Session

- a) An Executive Session may be held, with only those eligible to vote being present, the State Chapter Advisor, the Executive Officer and those designated by them.

## Section 4: Voting

### 1. Voting in State Officer Elections

- a) Refer to Article II, Sections 3 and 4 of the State Chapter By-laws
2. Voting on Changes to the State Chapter Constitution
  - a) Refer to Article IX, Section 2 of the State Chapter Constitution
3. Voting on Changes to the State Chapter By-laws
  - a) Refer to Article VIII, Section 2 of the State Chapter By-laws
4. Tie Vote
  - a) In the event of three tie votes, on the fourth ballot the State Master Councilor shall be entitled to cast a vote.

#### Section 6: Rule

1. Parliamentary Procedure: The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be the guide to all questions of parliamentary procedure where the same is not covered by any provision of the State Chapter Constitution, the State Chapter By-laws or DeMolay custom.
2. Other Regulations: The By-laws, Rules and Regulations of DeMolay International shall be the guidelines to all questions concerning this Article. Any language or amendments which appear in the State Chapter Constitution or By-laws which are inconsistent or contradictory to the By-laws, Rules and Regulations of DeMolay International shall automatically be declared null and void.

### ARTICLE V – Officers

#### Section 1: Elective Officers

1. The Elected Officers of the State Chapter shall be:
  - a) State Master Councilor
  - b) Deputy State Master Councilor
  - c) One Region Master Councilor to serve each Region

#### Section 2: Eligibility

Refer to the New York State By-laws for Eligibility.

#### Section 3: Petition for Forced Election

1. A Petition for Forced Election may be called no later than 60 days before the election by:

- a) A petition signed by no fewer than 20 active DeMolays, in good standing, with a minimum of two from each Region.
- b) 3/4ths vote of the State Executive Committee
- c) All subject to the consent of the Executive Officer.

#### Section 4: Tenure of Office

The elective officers of the State Chapter shall be elected at the annual meeting and serve until the subsequent annual meeting when their successors may be elected and installed.

#### Section 5: Removal from State

If any State Officer removes from this State, the office, which he holds, shall there by become vacant. Removal from State shall be determined by the Executive Officer, in consultation with the advisors in charge of each region and State Chapter Advisor.

A vacancy may be filled consistent with Article IV, Section 2 of the State Chapter By-laws.

### ARTICLE VI – Allegiance

The State Chapter acknowledges its allegiance to DeMolay International and the Executive Officer. The State Chapter also acknowledges the power of the Executive Officer to dissolve the State Chapter at his pleasure by virtue of the fact that the Executive Officer has authority over DeMolay in the Jurisdiction of New York.

### ARTICLE VII – Administration

#### Section 1: State Executive Committee

1. The members of the State Executive Committee shall be:
  - a) State Master Councilor
  - b) Deputy State Master Councilor
  - c) Region Master Councilors
  - d) All appointed State Officers

The State Executive Committee shall, oversee the work of all its subcommittees and take care of all other matters not otherwise provided for in the Constitution or the By-laws and shall, between meetings of the State Chapter, transact all business for the State Chapter.

#### Section 2: State Chapter Advisor

The Executive Officer shall appoint a State Chapter Advisor who shall act as the Executive Officer's Representative for all purposes stated in this Constitution and By-laws unless the Executive Officer

shall otherwise direct. The Executive Officer may from time to time appoint other Advisors to assist the State Chapter Advisor, from the recommendation(s) of the State Chapter Advisor.

### Section 3: Vote and Approval

Each member of the State Executive Committee shall be entitled to cast one vote on every question that comes before the State Executive Committee. In the event of a tie vote, voting shall be repeated until a majority is achieved.

## ARTICLE VIII – Amendments

### Section 1: Amendment Proposals and Procedures

1. Amendment Proposals: Amendments to the Constitution and/or By-laws must be submitted formally (meaning word processed) and must be post marked or received via an electronic means no later than 75 days prior to the Annual/Special meeting at which they are to be considered for a vote.
  - a) Any amendment proposals received after that date will be held over until the following meeting.
2. Amendment Procedures: Any amendment proposals received shall be transmitted to the State Executive Committee for review, consideration, and formatting.
  - a) Subsequently, a meeting of the State Executive Committee shall occur no fewer than 60 days prior to the Annual/Special meeting, the purpose of which shall be to review those amendment proposals put forth that year, if any, and vote on whether or not they are to be transmitted to the Chapters for consideration.
  - b) Those amendments being found favorable by a simple majority vote of the State Executive Committee, and by the Executive Officer, shall be transmitted to each Chapter such that each Chapter shall have a minimum of 50 days to pose questions or ask for clarification on any and/or all proposed amendments which shall come before the State Chapter at its annual meeting.

### Section 2: Vote and Approval

Amendments to the Constitution may be made by a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present and voting on the question, subject to the approval of the Executive Officer.

### Section 3: Amendment Timeline

This is the true and correct copy of the New York State Chapter, Order of DeMolay Constitution as adopted at the First Annual Meeting on August 25, 1968.

- Amended at the Second Annual Meeting on August 14, 1969
- Amended at the Third Annual Meeting on August 27, 1970

- Amended at the Ninth Annual Meeting on July 31, 1976
- Amended at the Sixteenth Annual Meeting on August 12, 1983
- • Amended at the Special Meeting on January 21, 1984
- Amended at the Twentieth Annual Meeting on August 1, 1987
- Amended at the Twenty-Second Annual Meeting on August 22, 1989
- Amended at the Special Meeting on December 1, 2001 by the Division Councilors of New York, as per convention resolution 34-01
- Amended at the Special Meeting on January 13, 2002.
- Amended at the Special Meeting on February 28, 2009
- Amended at the Special Meeting on March 29, 2014
- Amended by the Executive Officer with the concurrence of the State Master Councilor in the absence of a Congress Session on February 1, 2015
- Amended at the Fifty-First Annual Meeting on August 4, 2018
- Amended at the Fifty-Third Annual Meeting on August 12, 2020

## Appendix A

### New York State Chapter Constitution Glossary of Terms

Acknowledges - admitting or accepting that something exists, is true, or is real

Affirmative - indicating agreement or giving assent

Consistent - agreement, harmony, or compatibility

Coordinating - a complex enterprise in which numerous people are involved and bring their contributions together to form a coherent or efficient whole  
 Delinquent - neglecting a duty, commitment, or responsibility

Designated - to formally choose somebody for a job, position, or duty

Entitled - to give somebody the right to have or to do something

Executive Officer: - This term refers to the person designated to serve as Executive Officer or Personal Representative of the Grand Master of DeMolay International.

Favorable - expressing approval or admiration

Fraternalism - showing friendship and mutual support between people or groups with the same interests or aims

Independent – not influenced or controlled by others in matter of opinion, conduct, etc.

Proxy - somebody authorized to act for another person

Removes - to transfer somebody or something to another place, or change a place of residence

Successor - somebody or something that follows another and takes up the same position

Supervision - to be in charge of a group of people engaged in an activity or task and keep order or ensure that they perform it correctly

Tenure - the length of time that an official position is occupied