

PNBC Constitution and By-Laws Proposed Amendments

Constitution

Proposed Amendments

Article II

PNBC Mission Statement and Objectives

[omit Section. 1 The objectives of the Convention shall be to encourage, support and promote Christian Evangelism; Christian Missions; Christian Education, including the necessary publication and distribution of literature; Christian Stewardship; Benevolence; Human Freedom and such other Christian work as the Convention may determine.]

[add Section. 1 The Mission of PNBC shall be to equip Pastors and Churches to be effective in ministry and collectively lifting our voice on behalf of the voiceless all over the world.]

[omit Section. 2 In the pursuit of these objectives, the Convention may function through such auxiliaries or departments, boards, agencies, commissions, committees, or other designated structures, as it shall determine.]

[add Section. 2 This mission shall be accomplished through encouraging, supporting, and promoting Christian Evangelism, Christian Missions, Christian Education, including the necessary publication and distribution of literature, Christian Stewardship, Benevolence, Human Freedom and such other Christian work as the Convention may determine.]

[add Section. 3 In pursuit of our mission, the Convention may function through such auxiliaries or department, boards, agencies, commissions, committees or other designated structures, as it shall determine in a manner which promotes the mission of the PNBC in the 21st Century, consistent with evolving and commonly accepted practices and efficiencies.]

Article V.

Officers

Section 1. The **[add “elected”]** officers of the Convention shall be President; Vice President; **[omit “a Second Vice President”]** a Vice President for each approved region, who shall serve as presiding officer of the respective regions; **[omit General Secretary]** Recording Secretary, one or more Assistant Recording Secretaries, and Treasurer **[omit Historian and Editor]**. They shall perform duties as are common to such offices and as are specifically described in the By-Laws of the Convention.
(Effective August 2022)

Section 2. Any member of the Convention, clergy or lay, male or female shall be eligible to hold any office of the Convention. [add “provided he or she meets the following eligibility requirements to be determined by the nominating committee:

- (1) Possesses the character consistent with Christian principles as found in the Word of God;
- (2) Is a member in good standing of a 1% church that is registered with the PNBC.
- (3) Provides a letter of intent to seek office to the nominating committee not later than the January Meeting of the Executive Board prior to the annual session of the Convention in which he/she intends to seek office.]

Section 3. All [add elected] officers of the Convention, and of the Departments of the Convention and members of the Executive Board, shall be elected by the Convention, annually, as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Convention; and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified, except General Secretary and the Editor of the Convention.

Section 4. In case of death, disability or removal from the office of the President and [omit “and” add “and/or”] Vice President of the Convention [omit Second Vice President], the General Secretary of the Convention shall call a meeting of the Executive Board of the Convention, and the Executive Board shall select for the Convention a President and [omit “and” add “and/or”] Vice Presidents [omit Vice Presidents add Vice President] from among the Vice Presidents of the Convention presiding over the respective regions of the Convention, to serve until the next annual session of the Convention.

Section 5. Tenure. [Add Elected] Officers of the Convention and of the Auxiliaries or Departments of the Convention shall not exceed themselves in office consecutively, more than three (3) times until at least one year has elapsed beginning 1990; except that the General Secretary of the Convention and the Editor of the Official Organ of the Convention shall not be considered elected officers of the Convention, [omit “but rather appointments to be made annually by the Executive Board and approved by the Convention”] , [add “who shall serve by recommendation of the Convention’s Personnel Committee, subsequent hiring by the Executive Board, and approval by the Convention.”] and that the Dean of the Congress succeed in office three consecutive times or a term of four years before observing the one year lapse for eligibility to be re-elected.

Article VI

Executive Board

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board of the Convention consisting of **[omit all elected officers of the Convention, the Presidents or heads of each Convention approved Auxiliary or all Boards, and Committees of the Convention, the General Secretary, Past General Secretary with a minimum of five (5) years service, and one (1) person chosen by each State Convention or State Delegation.] [add the President, Vice President, Regional Vice Presidents, General Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Trustees, and the Vice-Presidents at Large of each department.]**

Section 3. The Executive Board shall name an Executive Committee from among its members, including the **[omit President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Regional Vice Presidents, the Vice-Presidents At-Large, General Secretary and the Treasurer.] [add President, Vice President, Regional Vice Presidents, General Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian to be convened in emergency circumstances in lieu of the Executive Board.]**

Section 4. The Executive Board shall appoint the following standing committee: Personnel; Planning and Evaluation; and Finance and Property. **[add “and Executive Committee.”]**

Article X

Commissions and Committees

Section 2. The President of the Convention, **[omit “on the first day of the annual session of the Convention] [add on the day after the final session of the Convention during the Executive Board meeting,]** shall appoint a Nominating Committee composed of one member from each State Body; the Nomination Committee shall elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Assistant Secretary. (Amended August 12, 1977)

Article XIII

Amendments

Section 1. The Constitution may be amended at any annual session of the Convention by a two-thirds vote of all votes cast by the eligible delegates present and voting; provided, that said amendment or amendments shall be proposed, read and distributed to the delegates on the first day of the Convention and the time set when voting shall take place on the same day when the amendment is proposed. **[add “An amendment to the Constitution shall not be made unless the proposed amendment has been filed with the General Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual session during which a vote upon it is to be taken.”]**

By-Laws

Article I

Qualifications for Membership

Section 1a. Each Baptist Church, admitted to the Convention, shall contribute to the Convention at least one percent (1%) of its operating receipts of the previous year. Only those members who pay 1% of their operating receipts by the end of the preceding fiscal year are eligible to be elected and hold office in the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. Each Church shall be entitled to the following number of delegates to the Annual Session:

Any member church having a congregational membership of less than 1,500 may, after paying at least one percent (1%) of its operational budget and having received its allowable voting delegates under this membership formula, may increase its voting delegates to 15, by paying **[omit \$100] [add \$200]** additional for each such voting delegate.

Section 1b. Every Baptist Convention, admitted to the Convention, shall contribute to the Convention annually the sum of **[omit \$500] [add \$1,000]** and be entitled to 2 voting delegates. Every Baptist Fellowship admitted to the Convention, shall contribute to the Convention annually the sum of **[omit \$250] [add \$500]** and be entitled to 2 voting delegates. Every Baptist Association, shall contribute to the Convention annually the sum of \$300 and be entitled to 1 voting delegate.

Section 2. Any person, who is a member of a Baptist Church that is a member of the Convention, who contributes the sum of **[omit \$1,000] [add \$2,000]** to the Convention in the course of any Convention year shall be granted a life membership in the Convention. (While life-time members are excluded from registration fees they may be subject to renewal fees as deemed appropriate by the Convention.)

Article II

Duties of Officers

[add Section 11. The Parliamentarian upon appointment by the President, shall be responsible for ensuring that the officers and members of the Convention adhere to and uphold the constitution and bylaws of the Convention. The Parliamentarian shall give clarity in parliamentary procedure and ensure that the constituents of the Convention follow those policies according to “Robert’s Rules of Order.” The Parliamentarian shall review and study the constitution and bylaws and standing rules annually. The Parliamentarian should advise the presiding officer when requested on matters where clarity is needed.]

The Parliamentarian shall assist the Convention at assemblies in the interpretation of and adherence to the Convention’s constitution, bylaws, and rules of order, and shall enforce appropriate conduct of participants in meetings.]

Article III

Executive Board

Section 2. The Executive Board shall appoint the following Standing Committees to facilitate the work, programs, and mission of the Convention:

- a) Personnel Committee
- b) Planning and Evaluation Committee
- c) Finance and Property Committee
- d) Executive Committee

The **[omit Chairperson] [add President]** of the Executive Board may appoint other special committees that are deemed necessary and proper to the function of the Convention. Persons who are non-members of Executive Board may be appointed on Committees when special expertise or talent is required.

[add Section 5. Vote by proxy shall be allowed only in the instances where a Board member files a written request to the General Secretary at least (30) days prior to a meeting of the Executive Board. The written request for vote by proxy must identify the person to whom the Board member has delegated his or her vote. The request must contain a statement certifying that the Board member is fully advised of the material information and issues concerning the vote, that he or she enters his or her vote by proxy knowingly and intelligently, and that his or her proxy has been instructed in which way to vote.]

Article XI

Convention Procedures

[omit Section 2. Messengers to be entitled to vote must exhibit registration badges. Unless the presiding officer or five messengers request the messengers to vote by

standing, messengers shall vote by voice, yea for the affirmative and nay for the negative.]

[add Section 2. A Nominating Committee should be established to confirm that all candidates seeking elected office meet the qualifications for holding office as stated in Article V, Section 2 of the constitution.]

[add Section 2a. The Nominating Committee shall report on the first day of the annual session of the Convention at which time it shall present a slate of officers to be elected and the date and time of elections. Also the Nominating Committee may receive nominations from the floor after presenting the slate.]

[add Section 2b. For the purpose of voting delegates must be certified and clearly identified by the Nominating Committee prior to casting a ballot.]