

St. Peter and St. Paul “O” Club By-Laws

Article I Names and Objectives

Section 1. This Club shall be known as The St. Peter & St. Paul “O” Club, Chapter No. 96 of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America.

Section 2. The objectives of this Club shall be:

- a. To promote and advance the social, educational, spiritual, moral and athletic activities of Orthodox Christians in America.
- b. To promote through its chapters practical means for its members to become acquainted and form enduring friendships.
- c. To inculcate primarily a sense of obligation to the Orthodox Church in America, learn the principles on the Faith and exemplify the Christian ideals as expressed by our Motto.

Section 3. The Motto of the Club shall be Pray, Study, Toil and be Temperate.

Section 4. The colors of this Club shall be maroon and gray.

Article II Membership

Section 1. Active Membership of this Club shall consist of persons of Eastern Orthodox Faith, of good character and community standing, and as otherwise defined in the By-Laws of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America. Active members are entitled to all the privileges and advantages of this Club and the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America.

Section 2. Honorary membership.

- a. Any person having performed some distinguished service, and who is not an active member of a chartered club, may be elected as an honorary member to this Club for a period of one year, at the expiration of which time and thereafter may be re-elected annually.
- b. An honorary member shall neither pay membership fee nor annual dues and shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Club except those of voting and holding office.

Section 3. Associate membership.

- a. Any person who is not a member of the Eastern Orthodox Faith, who, however is of good character and community standing, may be elected to associate membership in this Club.

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- b. Associate members may serve on committees and shall have all the privileges of active members, except the right to vote or hold elective office. Any associate member who has been a member in good standing of this Club, District and National Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America for at least two (2) consecutive years prior thereto shall be eligible to officially represent this Club or District in National and District Sports Tournaments.
- c. This Club shall be limited to one (1) associate member in its membership for each six (6) active members in the Club, and may carry no more than eight (8) associate members.
- d. An associate member in this Club shall pay a membership application fee and annual membership dues.

Section 4. Retaining Membership.

- a. Upon application and acceptance, applicant will be granted membership in the retaining chapter regardless of how many meetings she/he attends.
- b. She/he will not have the privilege of holding office or voting. However, she/he can partake in any discussion.
- c. She/He may make application for active membership at any time.
- d. A retaining member in this Club shall pay a membership application fee and annual membership dues.
- e. She/He may not be elected as a delegate to any district or National convention.

Section 5. Student Membership.

- a. A student attending an accredited school, full time, shall pay one-third of the annual membership dues.
- b. She/He shall have all the privileges and advantages of this Club and the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America.

Article III Admission to Membership

Active members shall be admitted to membership under the following procedure:

- a. A proposal for membership shall be submitted to the Recording Secretary upon a regular membership form, bearing an endorsement by an active member in good standing.
- b. Members shall be deemed accepted by a two-thirds vote in favor of acceptance. Any active member of a chartered Club in good standing with the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America may be transferred to this Club as provided in Article II, Section 1 (b) of the By-Laws of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America who will be voted upon in the regular manner prescribed.

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Article IV Discipline

Section 1. Any active member being four months in arrears in the payment of membership dues shall be deemed not in good standing and shall notified in writing by the Financial Secretary. Such member, upon payment of his back dues, within 30 days of notification shall be reinstated. Failure to comply will automatically suspend such member.

Section 2. A suspended member may make application for reinstatement to the Board of Directors, and by a two-thirds vote of that Board be reinstated.

Section 3. Any member charged with conduct unbecoming a Club member, and against whom such charges are sustained, after due and proper hearing before a Board of Inquiry, may be expelled from membership, by a two-thirds vote of the Club. All complaints shall be referred to the President, who shall immediately appoint a Board of Inquiry of at least three members in good standing, who shall conduct an investigation, submit a written report with their recommendations, if any, to the Recording Secretary within two weeks, which report shall be acted upon at the next regular meeting of the Club.

Section 4. Any person, whose membership in this Club has been terminated in any manner, shall forfeit all interest in any funds or other property belonging to the Club and all right to the use of the Club name, emblem, property or other insignia.

Section 5. Any active member who shall be absent without excuse from four business meetings in the club year shall be deemed not in good standing and shall be so notified in writing by the Recording Secretary. Such member, by attending the next business meeting or by making application for reinstatement to the Board of Directors, may, by a two-thirds vote of that Board be reinstated.

Article V Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Club shall be the Spiritual Advisor, President, a Vice-President, Treasurer, a Financial Secretary, a Recording Secretary, the Immediate Past President and a District Representative.

Section 2. Each elected officer shall be an initiated , active member in good standing and must have been a member of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America for at least one year prior to the election.

Section 3. All officers shall enter upon their official duties on the first day of January of each year and shall serve for a term of one year or until their successor shall have been duly elected.

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Section 4. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

- a. The Spiritual Advisor shall advise the Board and officers on all religious and moral questions. She/He shall look after the spiritual benefit and welfare of the membership of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America. He shall be appointed for a term of one year by the Executive board.
- b. The President shall be the executive officer of this Club, and shall preside over all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors. She/He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing and special committees. She/He shall appoint the Spiritual Advisor, the Sports Director, a correspondent to the Orthodox Christian Journal, a Sergeant at Arms and appoint committees and shall perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office of President.
- c. The Vice-President in the absence of the President, shall preside over all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors. The vice-President shall also perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office, or that may be assigned to him by the President or Board of Directors. The vice-President shall also supervise the activities of the junior Club.
- d. The Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary all dues paid into the Club, shall receive all other monies and deposit them in the official depository, and shall disburse them on the order of the President and one other Board member. His books at all times shall be open to the inspection of the President, the Board of Directors, are any authorized auditors. He shall make a report at the annual meeting of the Club and at such other times as the President or Board of Directors may require.
- e. The Recording Secretary shall keep the record of membership, attendance, and the minutes of the Club, Board of Directors, and shall present all the bills to the Board of Directors for approval. She/He shall submit to the proper officials and committees, or to the club, all communications received from the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America and District organizations.
- f. The Financial Secretary shall assume the duties of the Recording Secretary during the Recording Secretary's absence and shall keep the records of the membership fees and dues. He shall collect all funds due the Club and promptly turn them over to the Treasurer, taking receipt therefore. He shall also maintain a copy of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members and shall notify the membership of all meetings.
- g. The District Representative as a member of the District Board of Trustees, and the Board of Directors of this Club, shall present the views of the Club to the District and perform a like function for the District in relation to the club. She/He shall promote the growth of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America in adjacent territory and shall cooperate with any sponsoring committee of this Club. She/He shall act as a delegate at home to the District Convention and be permitted to cast a vote as a regular delegate.
- h. The Immediate Past President shall be an officer of the Board of Directors, shall act as the advisor of the President in relation to past matters, and shall be subject to any duty assigned by the President. She/He shall act as District Representative when none has been elected and in his stead during incapacitation.

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Article VI Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers as described in Article V. Section 1.

Section 2. All Directors shall enter upon their official duties on the first day of January following their election and shall serve for a period of one year, or until their successor shall have been duly elected.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall determine the policies and activities of the Club, approve the budget, approve bills, as stipulated in Article V., take counsel with committees and have general management of the Club.

Section 4. The board of Directors shall meet once each month or at the call of the President. At the discretion of the Board, the committee chairman shall meet with the Board of Directors in joint session.

Article VII Meetings

Section 1. This Club shall hold **no less than one business meeting each year**, on such day, time and place as shall be determined by the President. Any other meetings will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The **annual meeting** of the Club shall be the first regular monthly meeting in **November or December**. The membership of the Club shall be given at least **two week's notice of the day, date, time and place of the annual meeting**.

Section 3. A **quorum** shall consist of one-fourth of the membership.

Article VIII Nomination, Election and Vacancy of Offices

Section 1. The election of officers shall be held at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Election of officers shall be by secret ballot.

Section 3. The election shall be made in the following manner: A Nominating Committee of three members shall be appointed by the President, and approved by the Board of Directors, not later than July 1st. They shall contact and select candidates and make a report to the President on or before November 1st. They shall bring before the annual meeting, nominations for officers. Following the report of the Nominating Committee, other nominations may be made from the floor.

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Section 4. The nominee for each office receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.

Section 5. In case of a vacancy in the office of President the Vice-President succeeds to the office. In case of a vacancy in the office of Vice-President, District Representative, Treasurer, Recording Secretary or Financial Secretary, the vacancy shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Club, upon giving the membership one week’s notice.

Article IX National and District Obligations

Section 1. In full recognition of the value of national and district fellowship, and cooperation available to this Club, and its members through the privileges and rights of participation in the government and activities of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, and the District with which it is affiliated, it is hereby declared a major policy of this Club to exercise these privileges fully and to promptly and fully discharge all obligations imposed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians and the District By-Laws.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall provide for the prompt review, approval and the forwarding of all reports required or requested by the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America and by the District.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall provide for the prompt payment of all dues and other obligations to the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America and the District.

Section 4. Delegates to the convention of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America and of the District at which this Club is obligated to be represented shall be elected from the membership at dates sufficiently in advance of such meetings to comply with the By-Laws of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America and of the District. Any member of a local Club who is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America automatically becomes a delegate-at-large, with the rights of a regular delegate.

Section 5. A delegate or alternate to a convention shall be a member for one year before being elected.

Article X Public Activities

Section 1. The Club shall seek, by fair discussion at its meetings, and in other ways, to keep its members informed on all questions of importance and any proposed legislation affecting the Club.

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Article XI Revenue

Section 1. The **annual dues** shall be an amount equal to **National dues, District dues and \$3.00 for the Club.**

Section 2. Revenue from sources other than those defined in this article may be raised as recommended by the board of Directors and approved by the Club.

Section 3. The annual dues of each member of this Club automatically include the annual Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America dues and annual District dues, which, when due, shall be paid by the Club Treasury for all active members in good standing, except, that persons admitted to membership shall pay the current year’s Fellowship dues as a pre-requisite to membership.

Section 4. The new member fee that is required by the National is to be paid by each new member upon joining.

Article XII Finance

Section 1. The **fiscal year** of the Club shall begin on the **first day of January.**

Section 2. The Club’s books of account shall be audited at least once each year. The auditors shall be named by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall designate the official depositories.

Section 4. Withdrawals from Savings or checking accounts shall be on the signature of the Treasurer and any one of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Financial Secretary.

Article XIII Rules of Order

“Robert’s Rules of Order” shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specifically covered by these By-Laws.

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Article XIV Amendments

Any amendment to these By-Laws, if in conformity to the constitution and By-Laws of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the active members present at any meeting of the Club, provided written notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given to the members, at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

Article XV Approval of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America

These By-Laws and all amendments or additions shall not be effective unless approved by the Board of Executives of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America.