

By-Laws
Temple Beth-El of Chicago Men's Club
Northbrook, Illinois

Article I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Men's Club of Temple Beth-El of Chicago, Northbrook, Illinois.

Article II – MISSION STATEMENT

The Temple Beth-El Men's Club is a fellowship of adult male members of Temple Beth-El, which exists for the primary purpose of fostering a male oriented social agenda, within the framework of supporting our synagogue and the greater Jewish community.
Mission statement ratified by a quorum of the general membership on 11/13/05

Article III - PURPOSES

1. As an affiliate of Temple Beth-El, to strengthen, promote, and advance the objectives and activities of the congregation.
2. Through its activities to promote Jewish interests and deeper commitment of its members.
3. To instill among its members and other laymen a more thorough knowledge and appreciation of our Jewish heritage, and the centrality of Israel in the lives and history of the Jewish people.
4. To educate our members and encourage them to conduct their lives in the spirit of the Mitzvot of Tzedakah (justice and charity), Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), and Pikuah Nefesh (saving a life).
5. To provide stimulating educational, social and cultural activities for its members and to build ties within the Jewish community and the general community in which we live.
6. To conduct annual fundraising activities to allow the Men's Club to engage in the Mitzvah of Tzedakah.
7. To cultivate leadership among our membership to assume positions of responsibility in the Men's Club and our Congregation.

Article IV - MEMBERSHIP

1. Eligibility
 - a. Male members of the Congregation (in good standing) and males 21 years of age and over who are members of the household of a member of the Congregation (in good standing).

- b. Jewish males 21 years of age and over not affiliated with the Congregation. Men's Club members not affiliated with Temple Beth-El may not serve as President or Vice President of the Men's Club.
 - c. Honorary Membership - The Executive Committee may extend honorary membership at its discretion.
- 2. Members in Good Standing

Any eligible man (as defined in the above paragraph) who pays the annual dues shall be considered a member in good standing.
 - 3. Suspension and Expulsion

The Executive Committee is empowered to act on suspension and expulsion of Men's Club members for offenses detrimental to the congregation or community. 30 day written notice must be provided to the member.

Article V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1. Composition
 - a. The Executive Committee shall consist of all the elected officers of the club and up to three additional members appointed by the President.
 - b. The following officers shall constitute the Executive Committee:
 - President
 - Vice Presidents (3 total; 2 elected + the immediate past president)
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - At-Large Officers (7 total; 4 elected + 3 selected by President)
- 2. Term

All officers, including the President, shall serve a one-year term. Officers, including the President, may be elected to serve no more than three consecutive terms.
- 3. Duties

The officers of the Club shall perform such duties as are usually incumbent upon officers of similar organizations and shall be subject at all times to the direction and control of the general membership. The President shall assign the specific areas of responsibility to each officer.

4. Removal

Officers including the President may be removed for cause by a quorum of the full membership. 30 day written notice of such removal shall be sent to the officer to be removed and the full membership.

5. Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs among the officers, the nominating committee shall be reconvened to select a replacement. The replacement will complete the term of the open position.

6. Powers

- a. In cases where the office of President is vacant, the Treasurer shall assume the responsibilities until such time as a replacement is selected. In the absence of the President the Treasurer shall preside at Executive Committee and General Membership meetings.
- b. The Executive Committee is authorized to act on matters that do not require quorum of membership approval. Matters specifically requiring a quorum of the full membership are indicated in other sections of these By-laws.
- c. In emergencies, the Executive Committee may act on all other matters, subject to ratification by a quorum of the membership. An emergency is considered an event or issue affecting the immediate health, welfare or safety of Temple Beth-El, a member of the community or the State of Israel.
- d. The Executive Committee shall plan and guide the day-to-day affairs of the Club, examine program and project proposals and make recommendations to the membership.

Article VI - MEETINGS

1. Executive Committee Meetings

- a. The Executive Committee shall hold regular meetings at least four times a year.
- b. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President or at the request of three members of the Executive Committee.
- c. Half plus one, the number of members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Committee.

2. General Membership Meetings
 - a. General membership meetings shall take place no less than four times per year.
 - b. There shall be an annual meeting of the Club membership during May or June on a date designated by the President for the purpose of ratifying the slate of officers.
 - c. Special membership meetings may be called by the President or by ten general members of the Men's Club to consider amendments to these By-Laws or other matters that must be considered before the next annual meeting.
 - d. Notice in writing of all Club membership meetings shall be given at least two weeks in advance of the date of the meeting. This written requirement may be met by insertion in an issue of the synagogue newsletter, a post card or e-mail to all Men's Club members dated at least two weeks prior to the meeting.
 - e. Twenty percent (20%) of the number of members in good standing, as certified by the Men's Club Secretary, shall constitute a quorum in order to conduct official Men's Club business.

Article VII - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

1. Nominating Process
 - a. At least three months before the annual membership meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of five members of the Men's Club. The Immediate Past President shall serve as chairman of the Committee.
 - b. With the exception of the Immediate Past President, no other current Men's Club officers may serve on the Nominating Committee.
 - c. Should the Immediate Past President not be able to serve, the nominating committee will select its own chairman.
 - d. The Nominating Committee shall arrange for its slate of nominees to be printed in the synagogue newsletter (or any Men's club communication distributed to all of its members), so that it is received by members at least ten days before the annual membership meeting.

2. Election

The election of officers shall be held at the annual Men's Club membership meeting. Further nominations will be permitted upon the submission of a petition signed by ten members in good standing of the Men's Club. Contested elections shall be by plurality votes and shall be by secret ballot. The term of office of the newly elected officers and directors shall commence immediately upon their election.

Article VIII - COMMITTEES

1. Standing Committees

The President shall appoint chairmen to serve on program and event committees based on the approved annual calendar.

2. Ad Hoc Committees

The President may appoint from time to time such ad hoc committees as may be necessary to further the purposes of the Club and shall appoint the chairmen of such committees.

Article IX - FINANCES

1. Fiscal Year

Consistent with the Fiscal Year of Temple Beth-El, the Men's Club fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and shall end on June 30 of the following year.

2. Budget

The Treasurer shall submit a budget for the ensuing fiscal year no later than July 31 of the fiscal year for consideration by the Executive Committee. The budget will be submitted to the membership for approval at the first full membership meeting of the fiscal year. A simple majority of a quorum of the membership is required to approve the budget.

3. Dues

- a. Dues shall be annual and payable at the beginning of the fiscal year.
- b. The Executive Committee shall determine the membership dues fee.
- c. The Executive Committee may waive payment of dues in whole or in part under special circumstances.
- d. A grace period of three months will be allowed during which time a member is still considered a "member in good standing".

4. Expenditures
 - a. The President may authorize expenditures not to exceed \$250 without prior approval of the Executive Committee.
 - b. Non-budgeted expenditures in excess of \$250 require Executive Committee approval.
 - c. Expenditures in excess of \$2,000 require the approval of a quorum of the membership.

5. Tzedakah
 - a. As outlined in Article III-Purposes, the Men's Club, as an institution, shall engage in the Mitzvah of Tzedakah. Any member in good standing may offer a resolution during a regular monthly meeting to fund a program, project or institution supporting:
 - i. Temple Beth-El
 - ii. The Jewish community at-large
 - iii. The State of Israel
 - iv. A program or organization supporting social-welfare needs in the Chicago Metropolitan area.
 - v. Humanitarian causes of national or international significance supported through reputable registered not-for-profit organizations.
 - b. A simple majority of a quorum of the members in good standing is required to approve such a motion.

6. Financial Reporting

The Treasurer shall prepare a financial report for presentation at each monthly general membership meeting to include income, expenditures and investments.

Article X - REPRESENTATION

Consistent with the synagogue By-laws, the President of the Men's Club, or a designee, shall serve as an "affiliate representative" on the Temple Beth-El Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Nominating Committee.

Article XI - AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws were adopted, and may be thereafter amended, after due consideration by the Men's Club Executive Committee and by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a general Men's Club membership meeting. Twenty percent (20%) of the membership (in good standing) shall constitute a quorum.

These By-Laws have been ratified by a quorum of the Men's Club membership on this day, the 5th of November 2006.