

Ajax-Pickering Young Liberals



Constitution

BE IT ENACTED as the Constitution of the Ajax-Pickering Federal Young Liberals as follows:

Ratified and Amended as per "ARTICLE IX" as of October 15, 2004

ARTICLE I – CITATION

The name of the Club shall be the Ajax-Pickering Federal Young Liberals

ARTICLE II – INTERPRETATION

1. In this constitution and in all resolutions of the Committee unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) "Club" means Ajax-Pickering Federal Young Liberals;
- b) "Committee" means the executive Committee of the Club;
- c) "OYL" means the Young Liberals of Ontario;
- d) "LPC(O)" means the Liberals Party of Canada (Ontario);
- e) "OLP" means the Ontario Liberal Party;
- f) "LPC" means the Liberal Party of Canada;
- g) "member" means a member in good standing of the Club;
- h) "officer" means an officer of the Executive Committee of the Club;
- i) "executive" means the officers of the Executive Committee of the Club;
- j) "constitution" means the constitution of the Club as amended.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Club shall be:

1. To facilitate and promote participation in the democratic process.
2. To promote and make more widely known Liberal principles and policies.
3. To assist in the election of Liberals to Parliament and the Legislature.
4. To develop and determine Liberal policy that reflects the concerns and ideas of club members.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

1. Eligibility

Any person who meets the requirements of the constitution of LPC(O), LPC and the OYL, and who duly applies for membership and pays the applicable fee, shall be admitted as a voting member of the Club.

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2. Transfer of Membership

Any person may transfer his membership from on OYL youth club to another in the same membership year provided he/she obtains the approval of the OYL Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V – THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Powers

Subject to a majority of votes cast at any general meeting, the affairs of the Club shall be managed and directed by the Executive Committee.

2. Composition

Elected voting members:

- a) the four (4) officers,

Voting member ex officio –

- b) the immediate past president,

3. Officers of the Committee

The officers of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a) the President
- b) the Vice-President
- c) the Treasurer
- d) the Membership Secretary
- e) the Administrator
- f) three (2) Directors

4. Qualification of Officers

The qualification of each officer shall be that he/she is a member of the Club.

5. Election of Officers

- a) All officers shall be elected by open ballot (unless otherwise duly motioned), and without the candidates in the room at the general meeting to elect officers.
- b) Candidates for office shall be nominated and seconded by the members present.
- c) The candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast for any position shall be considered elected. Successive ballots shall be taken if a majority for one candidate is not obtained on the first ballot. The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be omitted from the succeeding ballots.
- d) An absent member may be nominated for election proving a written acceptance is received and accepted by the chair of the meeting. Letters should contain either a signature of an individual, or have a printed e-mail identification on the letter. Challenges to the authenticity of such letters must be made prior to the election of officers and shall be ruled on by the chair.
- e) Voting for officers in absentia or by proxy is forbidden.
- f) Candidate for offices should give notice to the President seven (7) days prior to the general meeting for elect officers.

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6. Resignation of Officers

An officer may resign upon giving notice thereof in writing to the Committee, and such resignation becomes effective in accordance with its terms or upon its acceptance by the Committee.

7. Removal of Officers

- a) The members may remove an officer at any general meeting, provided the Committee is notified at least ten (10) days in advance of the general meeting at which a motion to remove is to be considered.
- b) A petition signed by not less than fifteen (15) members shall precipitate a motion of removal.
- c) An officer shall be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote cast upon the motion of removal so precipitated.
- d) Following the removal of an officer at a general meeting, the members may, pursuant to Article V (5) of this constitution, elect a qualified person to fill the vacancy.
- e) Offences justifying removal shall include failure to carry out specified constitutional duty or duties expressly assigned by the Committee pursuant to Article VI.
- f) Should an officer fail to attend three Committee meetings in succession, or five Committee meetings total, his position shall be declared vacant, unless the Committee grants the officer leave of absence.
- g) Should the report of an officer submitted at the Accountability Meeting be rejected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, his position shall be declared vacant, and the members may elect a qualified person to fill the vacancy.

8. Vacancies of Officers

Where a vacancy occurs by resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise as the case may be, and a quorum of executives remains, the Committee may appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy. If there is not a quorum of executives in office, the executives remaining shall forthwith call a general meeting to fill the vacancies, and, in default or if there are no executives then in office, the meeting may be called by a member of the Club or by the Executive Committee of the OYL.

9. Meetings of the Committee

Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least four times per year, at such place, at such time and on such day as the President or the Vice-President may determine. Notice of every meeting so called shall be given to each officer not less than seven (7) days prior to the time when the meeting is to be held, except that notice shall be unnecessary if a majority of executives have waived notice or otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting.

10. Quorum at Meetings of the Committee.

50% of all officers shall constitute quorum at all meetings of the Committee.

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ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

1. The President

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Club. He/She shall, if present, preside as chair at all executive and general meetings, except the general meeting to elect officers. The President shall be spokesperson for the Club; he/she shall, when necessary, liaise with other campus/riding organizations, and maintain communications with OYL, LPC(O), and OLP. And he/she shall otherwise be charged with the general supervision of the affairs of the Club.

2. The Vice-President

The Vice-President Federal shall liaise with LPC(O) and the federal riding association and MP in the ridings of Ajax-Pickering. He/She shall also assist the President in preparing the club for Federal election readiness. He/She shall also organize events and policy for the federal Party. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his/her office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

3. The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall maintain proper account of the Club finances. He/She shall deposit all monies received by the Club into the Club's bank account. He/She shall, under the direction of the Committee, supervise the collection and disbursement of the funds of the Club. He/She shall render to the Committee, whenever required, and to the members at every general meeting, and account of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and of the financial position of the Club. Together with the President, he/she shall affix his/her signature to checks against the Club's bank account. The Treasurer shall, after consultation with President and other officers, submit and annual budget to the Committee. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his/her office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

4. Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary shall coordinate membership renewal. He/She shall compile and maintain a current list of all the members of the Club. He/She shall distribute applications for membership, collect membership fees and transfer them to the Treasurer, and ensure compliance with Article II of this constitution. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to this office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

5. Administrator

The Administrator shall take the minutes of every committee or general meeting. The Administrator will liaise with the general public as required by the committee. He/She is required to keep and maintain the record of the actions of the club. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his/her office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

6. Director

A Director is a voting member of the committee to act as a liaison with the general membership of the club. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his/her office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee

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ARTICLE VII – POLICY FORMULATION

1. Policy resolutions passed at any general meeting of the Club shall be the policy of the Club, subject to subsequent rescission, modification or amendment by a new resolution passed at any general meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – GENERAL MEETINGS

1. Mandatory General Meetings

a) A general meeting shall be held during quarterly to receive and consider officer reports.

2. Calling of Additional General Meetings

Additional general meetings of the Club shall be held from time to time at such place, at such time and on such day as the Committee may determine.

3. Notification of General Meetings

Not less than fourteen (14) days advance notice of the general meeting to elect officer shall be given to all members of the Club. Failure to give such notice to OYL shall render the meeting a nullity if the OYL Executive Committee so declares. All members must be notified of all other meetings no less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting, unless under special considerations. Such considerations shall be deemed warranted by a majority of the Executive Committee.

4. Eligibility to Vote at General Meetings

Every person shall be entitled to vote at a general meeting who is a member of the Club not less than seven (7) days prior to the calling of the meeting, provided that an immediate past member of the Club may renew his membership at the meeting.

5. Eligibility to Vote at Delegate Selection Meetings

A member shall not be eligible to vote at a general meeting to elect delegates to a national convention of LPC unless he/she was a member at the time of the official call of the convention.

6. Quorum at General Meetings

Twenty percent (20%) of the members of the Club shall constitute a quorum at any general meeting of the Club. Quorum shall be determined at a meeting to elect officer by an individual calling for a quorum count, at which point the chair of the meeting shall make a ruling. If quorum is not present, a new meeting to elect officers shall be called for no later than twenty-one (21) days following the date of the scheduled meeting.

7. Submission of Club Data Following Annual General Meeting

Within two (2) weeks of the annual general meeting, the Club shall submit to the OYL the following:

- a) the constitution,
- b) the list of executives,

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- c) the list of membership,
- d) the minutes of the annual meeting,
- e) a list of those in attendance at the annual meeting.

8. Chair of Meetings for Election of Committee Members

Preceding the general meeting to elect members of executive committee a request a Chair, Secretary and Returning officer from the Ajax-Pickering Federal Liberal Riding Association (APFLA), should any of the positions not be filled by the APFLA, the committee may request anyone they see fit, providing they:

- Are a member in good standing of the APFLA and,
- Are NOT a member of the club.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

1. Notice and Submission of Amendments

Proposed amendments of the constitution, other than those proposed by a committee on the constitution, if there is one, must be submitted in writing to the President by at least two (2) members not less than two (2) weeks prior to the consideration of the amendments. A copy of the proposed amendments shall be mailed to each member together with notice of the general meeting at which the amendments are to be considered.

2. Amending Formula

The constitution may be amended at any general meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.