



## **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG ISRAEL**

Ratified October 6, 1997  
Amended May 21, 2013

[www.youngisrael.org](http://www.youngisrael.org)

*This constitution was ratified by the constituent Young Israel Branches on October 6, 1997 and amended by the constituent Young Israel Branches effective on May 21, 2013*

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## ARTICLE ONE

Name Sec. 1.1 The Organization shall be known as the National Council of Young Israel.

## ARTICLE TWO

Aims and Purposes Sec. 2.1. The aims and purposes of the Organization shall be to foster and maintain a program of spiritual, cultural, social and communal activity towards the advancement and perpetuation of traditional, Torah-true Judaism; and to instill into Jewish youth an understanding and appreciation of high ethical and spiritual values of Judaism and demonstrate the compatibility of the ancient faith of Israel with good citizenship.

Sec. 2.2. The Organization shall promote cooperation among the constituent branches now existing and which may hereafter be formed, and the establishment of a close bond of kinship to the end that their individual and common problems may more easily be solved, and shall act as the federated and central body for the Young Israel movement so that its influence as a force in Jewry may be felt and recognized in America and the world over.

Sec. 2.3. The Organization, for the furtherance of its ideals, shall organize, sponsor, promote and incorporate into its body branches wherever and whenever the need arises.

## ARTICLE THREE

### Membership and Affiliation\_

Sec. 3.1. Membership in the Organization is conferred herewith upon all duly accredited branches groups at the time of the adoption hereof.

Sec. 3.2. Any synagogue group now duly accredited or hereafter granted membership status in the Organization shall be known as a "branch" of the National Council of Young Israel.

Sec. 3.3. Any synagogue group shall be eligible for membership in the Organization which shall

- a. agree to be known as "Young Israel" or "Young Israel Synagogue" with a following descriptive phrase;
- b. have as one of its main activities, a synagogue 1) conducting traditional Orthodox services in accordance with halacha, with proper decorum and congregational singing; 2) free of commercialism; 3) to which, with the exception of the High Holy Days, no admission charge shall be made; and 4) which shall have services on every Sabbath and Jewish Holiday.
- c. have youth activities program;
- d. have as its President, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurer and Delegates to the Delegates Assembly - regular, alternate and at-large only Sabbath observers;
- e. follow halacha in all dealings by and between the group, its members, its rabbi, its officers and directors, other branches of the Organization and the Organization; and
- f. declares itself in full sympathy with the aims and purposes of the Organization and agrees to be bound by its constitution and bylaws.

Sec. 3.4. Any synagogue group which shall hereafter desire to become a branch of the Organization shall first furnish to the Admissions Committee a copy of a corporate resolution of the synagogue group satisfactory to the Organization, an application for sub-affiliate admission to the Organization, a certified copy of its constitution and bylaws containing all language required herein and containing the following language "[name of synagogue group] agrees to be bound by and follow the constitution of the National Council of Young Israel," a list containing the names and addresses of its officers and members, a list of all its activities and the address where such activities take place.

a. The Admissions Committee shall investigate all submitted information plus any other facts deemed by it necessary to determine the eligibility of the synagogue group. If found qualifying, the synagogue group shall be recommended to the Organization for sub-affiliate status.

b. If granted sub-affiliate status, such synagogue group shall so continue for at least one year, unless terminated prior thereto by the Delegates Assembly. During any period of sub-affiliation such synagogue group shall have and bear all rights and obligations of a branch of the Organization.

c. If after one year of sub-affiliation of such synagogue group the Admissions Committee shall be satisfied that the synagogue group has complied with all the requirements for admission herein, it shall recommend to the Delegates Assembly that the synagogue group be duly admitted as an accredited branch.

d. Any synagogue group not qualifying for admission after having achieved sub-affiliate status or which shall revoke its application for admission during the period of its sub-affiliate status, shall for all periods thereafter have no rights or obligations of a branch and any interim status shall be deemed revoked.

Sec. 3.5. No branch shall become a member or affiliate of any other organization without express recommendation of the Board of Directors and approval of the Delegates Assembly, by a two-thirds vote of those members who are present and voting at a meeting thereof. No such proposal shall be considered at a meeting unless the meeting notice thereof shall set forth the proposal on the agenda.

Sec. 3.6. a. There shall be a Women's League as an affiliate of the Organization consisting of representatives of Sisterhoods or Women's Leagues of Young Israel branches.

b. All Officers of the Women's League shall be Sabbath Observers.

c. The President and 1st Vice President shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Delegates Assembly.

Sec. 3.7. a. There shall be an Intercollegiate Council as an affiliate of the Organization consisting of college groups, united in an Intercollegiate Council, which groups shall bear the name "Young Israel of College (or University)." Use of such name shall not confer branch status upon any group.

- b. The constitution, by-laws and all amendments thereto shall first be submitted to the Intercollegiate Council for approval.
- c. The Board of Directors reserves the right to annul, cancel or discontinue any action or activity of the Intercollegiate Council or any of its groups deemed contrary to the best interests of Young Israel.
- d. A member of the Board of Directors of the Organization shall be appointed to supervise all functions and attend all meetings of the Intercollegiate Council.
- e. The president of the Intercollegiate Council shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Delegates Assembly.
- f. All elected officers of the Intercollegiate Council shall be Sabbath observers.

Sec. 3.8. American Friends of Yisrael Hatzair (Young Israel in Israel) as an affiliate of the Organization shall be entitled to act as the American representative of Yisrael Hatzair, the Young Israel movement in Israel, and to coordinate activities, fund-raising and publicity in the United States between the Organization and Yisrael Hatzair.

Sec. 3.9. There shall be a Young Israel Council of Rabbis as an affiliate of the Organization consisting of current and retired Rabbis of branches.

- a. The Young Israel Council of Rabbis shall elect officers and conduct activities in consultation with the Board of Directors.
- b. The Young Israel Council of Rabbis shall establish a Halacha Committee to determine various halachic issues, including those contemplated herein. Whenever the term halacha is used in any article herein it shall mean halacha as determined by the Halacha Committee of the Young Israel Council of Rabbis.

## ARTICLE FOUR

Officers Sec. 4.1. The officers of the Organization shall be: President, Chairman, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, no less than four nor more than six Associate Vice Presidents residing in Greater New York, no less than four and no more than six Associate Vice Presidents residing outside Greater New York, representing the various regions of the National Council of Young Israel and who shall reside in their respective region, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary.

Sec. 4.2. All officers of the National Council shall

a. be Sabbath Observers; and

b. have been, prior to their election to office, an officer of an accredited branch of the Organization, or a member of the Board of Directors of the Organization, or served as a chairman of a standing committee of the Organization, in each case at least one year, except that the President shall have held such a position for two years.

Sec. 4.3. The offices of President, Chairman, 1st Vice President and Second Vice President shall be filled by male delegates only.

Sec. 4.4. No two of the following officers shall be members of the same branch: President, Chairman, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

Sec. 4.5. Officers shall be nominated and elected bi-annually at a regular meeting of the Delegates Assembly, and shall serve for two years or until successors shall have been newly elected.

Sec. 4.6. Nominations:

The Nomination Committee shall present its list of nominees all of whom shall meet the requirements for the offices they have been nominated for and shall have assented to hold office. At the regular meeting of the Delegates Assembly at which elections are scheduled to be held, nominations may also be made of other qualified individuals whose names shall have been listed in a written Petition of Nomination signed by 25 qualified delegates each representing a different branch which shall have been listed in the petition, listing the name or names of persons they wish to nominate, and that the person is qualified to hold the position they have been nominated for. The nominee may not be one of the signatories of the petition and must assent to hold office. Any such Petition of Nomination must have been submitted, in writing, duly signed, to the President and Chairman at least 5 days prior to such meeting. Any proposed nomination made by reference to a Petition of Nomination must be seconded by a qualified delegate who may not be a signatory of the Petition of Nomination.

Sec. 4.7. Duties of Officers:

- a. President - He shall be in charge of and responsible for all the activities of the organization; shall call and preside at all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors; shall appoint and have power to remove all chairman and members of the standing and temporary committees; and shall sign checks of the Organization's regular and special fund bank accounts. The president shall also have the power to act in all cases of emergency. With the advice and approval of the Board of Directors, he shall prepare, and submit to the Delegates Assembly, the Annual Budget, not later than August 31. He shall, in the absence of the Chairman, call and/or preside at meetings of the Delegates Assembly.
- b. Chairman- He shall call and preside at all regular and special meetings of the Delegates Assembly and shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and may sign checks of the Organization's regular or special fund bank accounts.
- c. 1st Vice President - He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees. In the absence of the President from active duty he shall assume the duties of the President; and shall call and/or preside at all regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors. He shall, during the unavailability of the Treasurer, countersign checks signed by the President or the Chairman. He shall, in the absence of the Chairman and the President, call and preside at meetings of the Delegates Assembly.
- d. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - He shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees and in the absence of the President and 1st Vice President from active duty, shall assume the duties of the President; and in the absence of the Chairman, President and/or the 1st Vice President, shall call and/or preside at the meetings of the Delegates Assembly.
- e. Associate Vice Presidents - They shall act as liaison officers between the Organization and the branches.
- f. Treasurer - shall countersign checks signed by the President or Chairman and shall see that all monies received by the Financial Secretary for the Organization or any of its special funds are deposited forthwith in the appropriate bank account.
- g. Financial secretary - shall keep records of all incomes and expenditures of the Organization; shall bill for and collect all financial obligations of the branch to the Organization; shall prepare and render a semi-annual and annual financial report to a meeting of the Organization, respectively; and shall periodically inform the Board of Directors concerning branch delinquencies in financial obligations.
- h. Recording Secretary - shall record the minutes of the meetings of the Delegates Assembly and Board of Directors and shall transcribe them in a separate bound book which shall be available at such meetings.

## **ARTICLE FIVE**

### **The Delegates Assembly**

Sec. 5.1. The legislative body of the Organization shall be known as the Delegates Assembly and shall consist of:

- a. Delegates duly elected or accredited by the constituent branches as hereinafter provided.
- b. All National Officers;
- c. All past Presidents of the Organization, as long as they shall be members of a branch.

Sec. 5.2. The duties, powers and rights of the Delegates Assembly shall be:

- a. To approve and adopt the annual budget.
- b. To hear and discuss reports of the Board of Directors on committee activity and as to further appropriations of funds.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, to engage a National Director, Executive Vice President and/or any and all directors of activities and any changes thereof.
- d. Upon recommendation of the Board of Directors, to determine all major policies of the Organization.
- e. To admit new branches and to discipline or expel branches as elsewhere provided herein.
- f. To nominate and elect officers of the Organization.

Sec. 5.3. The Delegates Assembly shall meet not less than three (3) times per annum, but not during the months of July and August, and may be called to a special session at any time by the Chairman or, in his absence, the President or the next ranking officer acting in his stead, or by written petition of fifty delegates representing at least fifteen (15%) percent of the constituent branches, in which case it shall be mandatory upon the Chairman or the next ranking officer to call such a special session.

Sec. 5.4. Any one or more delegates or any committee thereof may participate in a meeting of the Delegates by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment, allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear and speak to each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting [ratified by Board and Delegates 6/16/2004].

## **ARTICLE SIX**

### **The Board of Directors**

Sec. 6.1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the following members:

- a. All National Officers
- b. All past Presidents of the National Council.
- c. The chairmen of all committees as provided for elsewhere herein.
- d. The President of the Young Israel Council of Rabbis.



Sec. 6.2. The Board of Directors shall:

- a. recommend the annual budget of the Organization to the Delegates Assembly;
- b. hear and discuss reports of the various committees;
- c. approve necessary appropriations of funds in addition to those approved in the annual budget. Any such appropriation shall be reported to the Delegates Assembly at its next regular meeting.
- d. approve any and all new projects of the Organization and any major changes in any existing one.
- e. approve all major functions and fund-raising endeavors to be undertaken by the Organization.
- f. take any and all action which the Board of Directors deem in the best interests of the Organization.

Sec. 6.3. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month except in the months of April, July and August.

Sec. 6.4. The Board of Directors shall have the power to delegate any and all of its rights, powers and responsibilities to an Executive Committee which shall consist of 5 to 9 of its members appointed from time to time by a majority of the Board of Directors present and voting at a regular meeting thereof.

Sec. 6.5. The President shall preside at all Board of Directors meetings.

Sec 6.6. Any one or more members of the board of any committee thereof may participate in a meeting of the Board or committee thereof by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment, allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear and speak to each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting [ratified by Board and Delegates 6/16/2004].

## **ARTICLE SEVEN**

### **Delegates**

Sec. 7.1. Delegates to the Delegates Assembly shall be duly elected or appointed by the constituent branches as follows:

- a. Two delegates for the first one hundred members of each constituent branch.
- b. One delegate for each additional hundred members.
- c. A minimum of two delegates for each constituent branch having less than one hundred members.
- d. The President of every constituent branch shall be an accredited branch delegate, exclusive of the regular number of branch delegates.

Sec. 7.2. Every constituent branch shall have the right to elect together with its complement of delegates, one alternate delegate, who shall be invited to all Delegates Assembly meetings, but shall vote only in the absence of a regular delegate from the branch.

Sec. 7.3 All delegates commence their term of office at the bi-annual election meeting and shall serve until the next bi-annual election.

Sec. 7.4 The voting rights of a delegate who shall be absent from three consecutive meetings of the Delegates Assembly within any one term shall automatically be suspended. The delegate shall have the right to apply for reinstatement at the next Delegates Assembly meeting. If the members of the Delegates Assembly shall not be satisfied that the absences were justifiable, such delegate shall permanently forfeit the position of delegate and any other office that person may be holding.

Sec. 7.5. The Financial Secretary shall certify to the Organization the membership enrollment of the branches of the Organization during the month of March of every year, and such figures shall be used in determining the size of branch delegations.

## **ARTICLE EIGHT**

### **Finances**

Sec. 8.1. Each and every constituent branch shall pay to the Organization, as and for dues obligations an amount as fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors. The minimum annual obligation of a branch shall be \$500.00. The branch obligations shall cover the period from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year and shall be payable in advance.

Sec. 8.2. Any branch failing to meet its financial obligations as aforementioned, shall be reported to the Cooperations Committee for appropriate action.

## **ARTICLE NINE**

### **Discipline**

Sec. 9.1. All matters of branch discipline shall be initiated in, and heard by the Cooperations Committee. Charges may be referred by any two national officers of the Organization or by any ten delegates representing different branches. All charges shall be in writing and a copy thereof shall be forwarded by the Chairman of the Cooperations Committee by registered mail to the President of the branch or branches concerned.

Sec. 9.2. The Cooperations Committee shall refer charges of a halachic nature to the Halacha Committee of the Young Israel Council of Rabbis and shall conduct hearings on all non-halachic charges and shall permit the presentation of testimony and other evidence to substantiate or refute the charges.

Sec 9.3. The Young Israel Council of Rabbis shall act upon any matter referred to it by the Cooperations Committee and issue a final report or halachic decision to the Cooperations Committee within 60 days of said referral. The Halacha Committee may, at any time, refer any matter back to the Cooperations Committee. If a report or halachic decision is not rendered by the Halacha Committee within such 60-day period, the Halacha Committee

shall be deemed to have determined that the matter may, in accordance with halacha, be appropriately heard and determined solely by the Cooperations Committee under Section 9.2.

Sec. 9.4. The Cooperations Committee shall file its report and/or the report of the Halacha Committee with the President and Chairman, who shall place the matter on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Delegates Assembly or at a special meeting thereof, the meeting notice of which shall set forth such agenda.

Sec. 9.5. The Delegates Assembly shall have the power to expel, suspend or otherwise discipline or make any directions, monetary or otherwise, or impose conditions upon any branch, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting at a meeting referred to in Section 9.4 hereof .

Sec. 9.6.a.

A branch may be suspended or otherwise disciplined when:

- i. it shall act in contravention of the letter or spirit of this constitution or any bylaws; or
- ii. it shall act in any manner unbecoming a branch of Young Israel; or
- iii. it shall fail to execute, or it shall act in contravention of any motion or resolution duly passed by the Delegates Assembly, whether specific or general.

b. Suspension includes, without limitation, suspension of all voting rights accruing to the delegates of the suspended branch. Suspension or discipline may include, without limitation, suspension of the right of the branch to use the names National Council of Young Israel or Young Israel in relation to its name or activities.

Sec. 9.7. A branch may be expelled, suspended or otherwise disciplined when:

- a. it shall violate the Constitution as provided under Article 3 or Article 8 herein; or
- b. it shall refuse to abide by a disciplinary decision or direction of the Delegates Assembly under Section 9.6 of this article.

Sec. 9.8.a. The Delegates Assembly may expel, suspend or discipline any delegate for good cause shown upon two-thirds vote of the membership of the Delegates Assembly present and voting at a meeting thereof.

b. The Board of Directors may expel, suspend or discipline for good cause shown, any member of the Board of Directors upon two-thirds vote of the membership of the Board of Directors present and voting at a meeting thereof.

c. No proposed action to be taken under subsection a or b of this Section 9.8 shall be considered at a meeting unless the meeting notice thereof shall set forth the proposal on the agenda.

## ARTICLE TEN

### Committees

Sec. 10.1. The Admissions Committee shall receive, investigate and make recommendations to the Delegates Assembly, upon all applications by prospective branches, that the committee finds qualified pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution for admission to the Organization. This Committee shall also initiate and assist in the formation of new branches.

Sec. 10.2. The Anniversary Dinner Committee shall be in charge of the annual fund raising project or Dinner of the Organization, and shall make its recommendations for the annual dinner or other project and all awardees and guests of honor to the Board of Directors.

Sec. 10.3 The Auditing Committee shall cause to be conducted, an annual audit of the books and records of the Organization and/or affiliate and/or subsidiary organizations and/or divisions.

Sec. 10.4. The Benevolent Committee shall carry out with approval of the Board of Directors all matters pertaining to benevolent rights and privileges of the membership.

Sec. 10.5. The Building Committee shall provide for the maintenance of the Organization headquarters, and with the approval of the Board of Directors advise and carry out any and all plans for

- a. raising additional funds for the improving and extension of the Organization headquarters;
- b. effecting any construction in the Organization headquarters.

Sec. 10.6. The Cooperations Committee shall deal with all matters of branch discipline, as outlined elsewhere herein.

Sec. 10.7. The Conference, Convention and Education Committee shall deal with any and all classes, lectures, all phases of education of the Organization and any conferences and conventions to be held by the Organization. It shall also coordinate and advise upon branch education programs.

Sec. 10.8. The Endowment Fund Committee shall consist of the Trustees of said fund and shall be governed under the legislation heretofore passed creating the body and outlining its functions. It shall raise monies for the Endowment Fund and as trustees shall loan such monies to needy branches as it deems necessary and prudent.

Sec. 10.9. The Law and Legislation Committee shall

- a. with the approval of the Board of Directors draft and promote governmental legislation which will serve the purposes of the Organization and cooperate with other agencies in the drafting and furtherance of such legislation; and
- b. it shall keep the Board of Directors informed as to pending legislation.

Sec. 10.10. The Communications Committee shall issue the Organization's periodical and supervise the Organization's public relations operation, with a view towards bringing to the membership and the Jewish community the activities and the message of Organization and towards effecting a closer kinship among the members of the constituent branches.

Sec. 10.11. The Youth Committee shall deal with any and all youth groups in the various branches, the national and branch directors of activity and club leaders. It shall lay special emphasis upon the preparation of the youngsters for their responsibilities and duties as Torah-true Jews.

Sec. 10.12. The Nomination Committee shall be appointed by the President two months prior to each of the bi-annual elections of the Organization. It shall nominate qualified persons for office at the bi-annual elections of the Organization.

Sec. 10.13. The committees listed in sections 10.1 10.12 of this article shall be standing committees. The President may appoint, with the approval of the Board of Directors, additional committees and liaisons with the various departments and affiliates of the Organizations. The Board of Directors may add, remove or replace standing committees from time to time.

Sec. 10.14. All committees, through their chairs, shall prepare and submit to the President, in the month of May of every year, a complete written report of their committee's activity for the current year, embodying therein, in addition to the accomplishments of the committee, suggestions and recommendations.

## **ARTICLE ELEVEN**

### **Amendments and Revisions**

Sec. 11.1. The Constitution may be amended as follows:

Any proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to the President, and shall either bear the signatures of at least fifty delegates representing twenty-five (25%) percent of the branches of the Organization or shall bear the recommendation of the Board of Directors and the subsequent adoption of a resolution by two thirds of its members present and voting at a regular meeting thereof. The proposed amendment shall be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Delegates Assembly, the meeting notice of which shall set forth the said proposed amendment.

a. A two-thirds vote of the members of the Delegates Assembly, present and voting at the meeting at which the amendment appears on the agenda, shall be necessary to approve any amendment to the Constitution.

b. Upon approval by the Delegates Assembly, an amendment shall become part of the Constitution when two-thirds of the branches of the Organization shall have ratified it by majority vote at their respective meetings.

c. Those branches which shall not have dis- approved of a proposed amendment within three months after its submission to them, shall be deemed to have ratified said amendment as if duly adopted.

Sec. 11.2. The Constitution may be revised as follows:

a. Upon the recommendation of the Board and the subsequent adoption of a resolution by the Delegates Assembly by two thirds of its members present and voting at a regular meeting thereof, that the Constitution be revised, the President shall appoint a Constitution Committee to study, report and recommend a revised, proposed Constitution for adoption.

b. the proposed revised Constitution shall be approved and ratified in accordance with the provisions outlined in this article for any amendment to the Constitution.

## ARTICLE TWELVE

### Miscellaneous Provisions

Sec. 12.1. A quorum for a meeting of the Delegates Assembly shall consist of at least twenty-five persons eligible to vote at a meeting of the Delegates Assembly, at least 15 of whom are to be delegates representing seven or more branches. A meeting opened in the presence of a quorum shall continue until duly adjourned by motion regardless of the absence of a quorum thereafter.

Sec. 12. 2. The presiding officer of the Delegates Assembly herein provided for, shall prepare and follow the agenda for every meeting. No matter shall be entertained or discussed before the completion of the prepared agenda, unless first approved by a majority of the members present and voting at a meeting of the body.

Sec. 12.3. A quorum for a meeting of the Board of Directors shall consist of at least ten members representing five or more branches. A meeting opened in the presence of a quorum shall continue until duly adjourned by motion regardless of the absence of a quorum thereafter.

Sec. 12.4. ~~In the event that a branch is dissolved or expelled, all its assets, both personal and real, shall become the property of the Organization.~~ **Repealed by Amendment effective May 21, 2013.**

Sec. 12.5. Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in any national office, the President may nominate a person to fill the vacancy upon approval of the Board of Directors by a majority of its members present and voting at a regular meeting thereof. Such nominee shall fill the vacancy until the next scheduled election.

Sec. 12.6. Parliamentary rules and procedure shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order (revised), upon request and approval a of majority in attendance at a meeting, a copy of which shall be in the possession of the recording secretary at all meetings.

Sec. 12.7. No branch shall require, as a qualification for membership or as a condition for continued membership, membership in any other local or national organization.

Sec. 12.8 (a) Subject to the provisions of Sections 12.8(b) and 12.8(c), below, a branch may resign from membership in the Organization so long as the branch: (1) resigns from membership in the Organization in accordance with the constitution, bylaws, and governing provisions of the branch electing to resign; (2) provides written notice of its resignation to the Organization which sets forth how the branch's decision to resign from the Organization complies with the constitution, bylaws, and governing provisions of the branch electing to resign; (3) together with its written notice, pays any dues and other monies owed to the Organization as of the date of the notice; (4) together with its written notice, agrees in writing to immediately cease using the name "Young Israel" in connection with its synagogue, in all formats and for all purposes, and provides signed documentation, in the form required by the law applicable to the branch and ready to be filed, that the branch is changing its name to a name that does not include, incorporate, or refer to "Young Israel."

(b) If a branch is: (1) no longer able to have services on every Sabbath; or (2) is in the process of seeking to dissolve, close, merge, or liquidate or dispose of its assets, that branch may not resign from membership in the Organization unless the branch complies with all of the requirements set forth in Section 12.8(a), above, presents to the Organization a written plan for disposition or liquidation of the assets of the branch, both personal and real, and that plan is consented to by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board of Directors of the Organization present and voting at a meeting thereof, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(c) Any assets of a branch, whether personal or real, shall become the Property of the Organization if: (1) any such assets would otherwise be forfeited to a state or government entity as a result of the dissolution, closure, merger, or liquidation of the branch; or (2) the branch seeks to dissolve, close, merge, or liquidate or dispose of its assets and that branch either consists of fewer than 40 member families or is no longer able to have services on every Sabbath, unless the branch presents to the Organization a written plan for dissolution, closing, or disposition or liquidation of the assets of the branch, both personal and real, and that plan is consented to by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board of Directors of the Organization present and voting at a meeting thereof, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) Branches whose constitution or bylaws includes a provision that is similar or identical to the previous version of Section 12.4 need not abide by that provision to the extent that it is inconsistent with Section 12.8 and may amend their constitution or bylaws to make that provision consistent with Section 12.8.