

**THE BYLAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE**  
**SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS**

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## ARTICLE 1 MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.1 Membership:** Male persons and female associates of good moral character, principles, and ideals, and desirous of perpetuating the goals of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, hereafter referred to as “National Society”, and its programs, may become members of the National Society upon the payment of dues to the National office. A policy statement will set the dues rates for the various membership classes. Membership in the National Society shall be comprised of the following classifications:

**1.1.1 Annual, Life, and Initial First-Year Memberships:** Annual Members are those members who pay National dues annually. Life Members are those members who have paid the Life Membership fee. Initial First-Year Membership is a one-time only, first-year National membership paid at a reduced rate. On the first anniversary of the Initial First-Year Membership, it will convert to an Annual or Life Membership.

**1.1.2 Honorary Members:** Honorary Membership is granted by the National Board to the current President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Honorary Members shall not be entitled to vote on matters concerning the National Society nor hold any Chapter or National Society office.

**1.1.3 At-large Members (Worldwide Pioneer Chapter):** Annual, Initial First-Year, Associate, and Life Members who are unaffiliated with a fixed-location Chapter are At-large Members. These individuals are members of the Worldwide Pioneer Chapter. This Chapter functions primarily online.

**1.1.4 National Society Heritage Sustaining Membership:** Those members who regularly donate a fixed amount, as approved by the National Executive Council and National Board, in addition to their national dues, will be designated as National Society Heritage Sustaining Members.

**1.1.5 Chapter Associate Members:** Chapter Associate Members are Widows of Deceased Members, and female members of a sponsored student Chapter as described in section 4.1.2. Chapter Associate Members shall not be entitled to vote on matters concerning the National Society nor hold any Chapter or National office. Chapter Associate Members will continue to have full fellowship in their chosen Chapter, based on payment of the applicable National dues rate in effect and applicable Chapter dues.

**Section 1.2 Membership Rights and Privileges:** Members may join any Chapter they choose or as many to which they are willing to pay Chapter dues. All members as defined in Section 1.1 shall receive a subscription to Pioneer Magazine, the official publication of the National Society.

**Section 1.3 National Society Dues:** The amount of all membership dues and method of payment thereof shall be approved by the National Board with at least 30 days notice to all Chapters.

## ARTICLE 2 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**Section 2.1 Membership:** The National Executive Council shall consist of the National President, the National President-elect, the Immediate Past National President, the National Treasurer, and the National Secretary. The National President shall conduct the meetings of the National Executive Council.

**Section 2.2 Duties:** The National Executive Council shall give direction to the daily operations of the National Society within the established guidelines and policies of the National Board. On a regular basis, the National Executive Council shall train, supervise, and evaluate the performance of all approved National Society officers and staff.

**Section 2.3 Appointments to the National Executive Council:** The National President, with the advice and consent of the other elected officers, may recommend individuals to fill vacancies in the National Secretary and National Treasurer positions.

### ARTICLE 3 NATIONAL BOARD

**Section 3.1 Membership:** The National Board shall consist of the National Executive Council and all Area Vice Presidents. All members of the National Board must be current on their national dues to the National Society.

**Section 3.2 Powers, Duties, and Authority:** The National Board shall approve the appointment of the National Treasurer, National Secretary, General Counsel, any Area Vice President, and members of National Committees. The National Board shall approve all appointments to fill vacancies that may exist in any National Society office, appointed or elected. The National Board, acting with a majority of National Board members present and following a hearing, may remove from elected or appointed National Society office, anyone who, in the opinion of the National Board, has failed in his duties or is causing irreparable harm to the National Society. The National Board shall establish financial policies to give direction for the administration and investment of National Society funds. All appointed officers and employed staff serve at the discretion of the National Executive Council who will make recommendations to the National Board for consideration and approval of any changes. The National Board shall establish general operating policies and guidelines for conducting the affairs of the National Society.

**Section 3.3 Terms of Office:** Terms for the elected National Officers shall commence at the National Encampment, to be held annually during the month of September.

**3.3.1 National President:** The National President shall be elected to a three-year term. During the first-year term he shall serve as the National President-elect, during the second-year term as National President, and during the third-year term as Immediate Past National President.

**3.3.2 Area Vice Presidents:** An Area Vice President will serve a term of 2 years, effective in the month of September. An Area Vice President may be reappointed at the end of their term.

**Section 3.4 Meetings:** The National Board shall meet monthly, or, subject to the call of the National President, at such time and place as the National President shall direct.

**3.4.1** Written notice of all meetings shall be given to each National Board member stating the date, place, time, and the purpose of said meeting at least one week prior to the meeting.

**3.4.2** The National Board may transact meetings and business via electronic means, e.g., email, telephone, social networking, etc.

**Section 3.5 Quorum, Proxies, and Action:** A majority of the National Board members shall

constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All voting at National Board meetings shall be only by National Board members present, including those on an electronic connection. No voting by proxy shall be permitted. Any action by a majority of the National Board members present shall be the decision of the National Board.

## ARTICLE 4 CHAPTERS

**Section 4.1 Membership of Regular Chapters:** The National Society shall serve within communities through groups of members known as regular Chapters. All members of a proposed chapter must be members of the National Society. A regular Chapter, generally, shall be geographically organized and shall function as a Chapter when approved as such by the National Board. Each Chapter shall receive support from the National Board in the form of training, visits, communication, and encouragement.

**4.1.1 Qualifications:** Ten or more National Society Members are required to establish a Chapter. After an application has been received for a new Chapter and approved by the National Board, a charter shall be issued. Where possible, each new Chapter shall be sponsored by an active Chapter that will give guidance and support to the new Chapter. Each Chapter may choose its own name. It may establish its own Chapter membership dues. Chapters may adopt their own bylaws that are not in conflict with the National Bylaws.

**4.1.2 Student Chapters:** A Student Chapter may be established at any institute of higher learning. A regular active Chapter may sponsor the Student Chapter. Permission must be secured from the institution and approved by a designated faculty advisor. Students of any gender may be invited to join a Student Chapter. The Student Chapter members shall not be entitled to vote in matters concerning the National Society or hold any office in the National sponsoring Chapter. Members of Student Chapters may serve as ex-officio members of a sponsoring Chapter's board.

**4.1.3 Online Chapter:** With the recommendation of the Executive Council and approval of the National Board, the National Society may organize online Chapters.

**Section 4.2 Officers:** Chapter officers must be members of the National Society and be current on their Chapter dues. Chapter officers normally include a President, President-elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such committee chairmen and other Chapter Board members as will meet the needs of the Chapter. Chapter officers shall be elected by Chapter members or appointed by the Chapter Board members. All officers will be sworn in annually prior to taking office and will take office no later than the chapter meeting in January.

**Section 4.3 Responsibilities:** Each Chapter shall conduct its affairs in harmony with the National Bylaws, Mission Statement, programs, and goals of the National Society. Chapters that collect any National Society dues or fees should remit all monies collected to the National office within two weeks after collection.

**Section 4.4 Division and Dissolution of Chapters:** Chapters may be divided to form two or more Chapters. Upon the division of a Chapter, all funds will be divided pro rata according to the number of members in each Chapter. If a Chapter is dissolved by action of the National Board, all assets, records, and holdings shall be turned over to the National Society. A Chapter may be dissolved by the National Board if it becomes inactive and lacks membership sufficient to sustain

the Chapter. Members from a dissolved Chapter may join a nearby Chapter or become a member of the Worldwide Pioneer Chapter.

**Section 4.5 Organization of Chapters into Areas:** To facilitate communications between the Chapters and the National Board and to provide for local training of Chapter officers, the National Board may establish geographical areas consisting of several Chapters. Each area will be assigned an Area Vice President. The area designations will be reviewed by the National Board at least every two years.

## ARTICLE 5 NATIONAL OFFICERS AND STAFF DUTIES

**Section 5.1 National President:** The National President is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Society. He shall supervise and direct all business affairs of the National Society, including meetings of the National Executive Council, the National Board, the Chapter Presidents Council, and the business meetings at the National Encampment. He shall recommend individuals to the Executive Council for advice and consent, and then forward for approval to the National Board, individuals to serve as the National Treasurer, the National Secretary, the General Counsel, members of the Finance Committee and Area Vice Presidents. He is responsible for supervision and training of Area Vice Presidents, assisted by the other members of the National Executive Council. With the approval of the National Board, he shall appoint persons to fill any vacancy in any National Society office until a successor is duly elected or appointed. At his discretion, an appointed National officer may hold more than one office. The National President shall oversee the National Encampment. He shall sign all certificates of membership and official documents. He shall be the agent of the National Society as directed by the National Board. He shall require an annual review of the National Society's financial statement information. He shall furnish the reviewed financial statements to the National Board and to any member in good standing who may request the reviewed statements. He shall make periodic reports to the National Board and the general membership of the National Society, and generally perform all duties incidental to the office of National President.

**Section 5.2 National President-elect:** The National President-elect shall perform the duties of the National President in his absence. He shall assume the office of the National President in the event of the National President's death or disability or upon resignation of the National President, or, upon a determination by the National Board, that the National President is unable to act in his position. He will then complete the National President's term and his own term. He is a member of the National Executive Council and the National Board. He shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the National President.

**Section 5.3 Immediate Past National President:** The Immediate Past National President shall be a member of the National Executive Council, the National Board, and the Past National Presidents Council. He shall give such assistance and advice as are inherent in his position. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the National President. He shall serve one year as chairman of the Past National Presidents Council and as the chairman of the National Nominating Committee.

**Section 5.4 Area Vice President:** Experienced leaders are nominated for Area Vice President after receiving recommendations from any member of the National Society in the area to be represented. A candidate may nominate himself. The National President will submit a

recommendation to the National Executive Council for advice and consent. The National Executive Council will review and forward its recommendations to the National Board for approval by majority vote. These leaders are given a specific assignment to work with Chapters in a geographic area or to direct a National Society program such as Pioneer Magazine or the Library. The general title of these officers is Area Vice President. The individual title is Area Vice President – (the name of their specific National Assignment such as “Idaho North”, “Utah South”, “Monuments”, “Pioneer Stories”, etc.)

**5.4.1 Qualifications:** A candidate for Area Vice President must have served at least one year as a Chapter President or, otherwise, has demonstrated leadership ability and support of the Mission Statement of the National Society prior to assuming office. He must be an active member of a Chapter in the Area where he will serve as an Area Vice President, or if assigned to a National Society Program, have demonstrated interest or familiarity with the Program.

**5.4.2 Area Vice Presidents Assigned to Chapters:** These Area Vice Presidents serve as a communication link with the Chapters they serve. They represent their designated Chapters on the National Board and represent the National Board to their Chapters. They are responsible for training officers and board members of their Chapters continuously throughout the year. Area Vice Presidents shall visit each designated Chapter’s Board meetings at least quarterly and Chapter meetings as often as practical. The National Executive Council may appoint an Area Vice President to serve as Chapter President for At-large Members, known as the Worldwide Pioneer Chapter, with the approval of the National Board.

**5.4.3 Area Vice Presidents Assigned to Direct National Society Programs:** These Area Vice-Presidents serve as directors of specific National Society programs and as a communication link between programs and Chapters.

**Section 5.5 National Treasurer:** The National Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of the National Society and is the custodian of and responsible for all cash funds and securities of the National Society. He is to execute the financial policies of the National Society as adopted by the National Board. He is chairman of the Finance Committee that shall oversee accounting procedures, initiate the preparation of annual budgets for the National Society, and prudently invest idle operating funds and all endowment funds in accordance with the Investment Policy established by the National Board. The National Treasurer shall attend meetings of the National Executive Council and National Board and make monthly reports of the National Society financial activities to these bodies. He shall prepare and submit all necessary reports to governmental and taxing authorities.

**5.5.1 Finance Committee:** The Finance Committee shall consist of the National Treasurer (as chairman), the National Executive Council, the Publisher of the Pioneer Magazine, and a Member-at-large as recommended by the National President and approved by the National Executive Council. Other members and advisors may be invited as non-voting members and advisors to the committee.

The committee should meet as frequently as deemed necessary by the National Treasurer, but at least quarterly. They should review the monthly operating reports, the quarterly investment reports and make recommendations to the National Executive Council on matters relating to the financial operation of the National Society.

**Section 5.6 National Society Employees:** (otherwise referred to as Staff) The National Executive Council shall select and hire employees as required for the efficient operation of the National Society. Responsibilities of these employees may include, but are not limited to, office, secretarial, managerial, building scheduling, custodial, managing the National Society's website, and performing such other duties as may be required.

**Section 5.7 General Counsel:** The General Counsel is the Chief Legal Officer of the National Society. He shall advise the National President on all legal matters, compliance with government regulatory and taxation matters, and compliance with the Bylaws of the National Society. He shall perform other duties as directed by the National President.

**Section 5.8 National Secretary:** The National Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the records and minutes of the National Executive Council and National Board comply with all requirements under law and are kept and preserved for reference as required.

## ARTICLE 6 PIONEER MAGAZINE

**Section 6.1 The Magazine:** The Pioneer Magazine is a quarterly publication of the National Society. Its purpose is to publicize and support the Mission Statement of the National Society with content that recalls the history and values of the pioneers who settled the Utah Territory and the western U.S. The magazine may also note pioneering events of later times and other places as appropriate if the events and people so noted are consistent with the heritage and values of the founding pioneers of the Utah Territory and the western U.S.

**Section 6.2 Editorial Board:** The Pioneer Magazine Editorial Board oversees the publishing of the quarterly Pioneer Magazine. The Editorial Board consists of the Area Vice President – Pioneer Magazine (herein after referred to as Publisher), the Editor-in-Chief, and other Editorial Board members as appointed. The current National President is a standing member of the Editorial Board. The Publisher will be chairman of the Editorial Board and will preside at all meetings, and in his absence, the Editor-in-Chief will preside. If circumstances permit, the Editorial Board will meet monthly. The Publisher and Editor-in-Chief will work together to make decisions of content and style, but the Publisher will have the final decision-making authority and responsibility on all such matters. The Editorial Board members will have assigned responsibilities concerning the production of the Pioneer Magazine.

**6.2.1 Publisher:** The Publisher is recommended by the National President who submits recommendations to the National Executive Council for advice and consent. The National Executive Council will forward its recommendations to the National Board for final approval. The Publisher must be a member of the National Society. The Publisher will not have a specified term of office but may be replaced with the recommendation of the National Executive Council and by a majority vote of the National Board.

The Editor-in-Chief and other Editorial Board members are appointed by the Publisher and approved by the National Board.

The Publisher will have responsibility for managing the financial and business affairs of the Pioneer Magazine. He will set the dates and times for Editorial Board meetings and will work to ensure that the Pioneer Magazine is printed closely to its intended quarterly schedule.

**6.2.2 Annual Budget:** The National Executive Council, in conference with the Publisher, will determine an annual budget for the Pioneer Magazine as part of the annual National Society budget process, and present the annual budget to the National Board for approval. The Publisher is responsible for working within the approved budget.

**6.2.3 Editor-in-Chief:** The Editor-in-Chief reports to the Publisher and is responsible for working with the Editorial Staff in obtaining and organizing content, overseeing style and appearance, and working with the Publisher in producing the Pioneer Magazine.

## ARTICLE 7 COUNCILS

**Section 7.1 Past National Presidents Council:** The Past National Presidents Council consists of all past National Presidents of the National Society. The Immediate Past President shall be the chairman. This Council's general responsibility is to give advice to the National Executive Council. The Past National Presidents Council shall consider matters brought to it by the National Executive Council including the establishment of Areas. It may generate recommendations concerning the operation of the National Society through its chairman to the National Executive Council. It shall assist annually in the nomination of the National President-elect by selecting three of its members to serve for the current year on the National Nominating Committee, and by recommending persons to be considered for this position. The Past National Presidents Council may make recommendations to the National President for persons to fill vacancies in National appointed positions. It shall meet upon the call of its chairman.

**Section 7.2 Chapter Presidents Council:** The Chapter Presidents Council shall be comprised of all current Chapter Presidents. Other Chapter officers and National Board members may be invited to attend the meetings depending upon the agenda items. The National President shall preside at meetings of the Council and may invite a Chapter President to conduct. These meetings will be held at least once a year. The National President shall establish the time and date. In addition to receiving training from members of the National Board, the Chapter Presidents Council will consider concerns of Chapters or matters from the National Board and may make recommendations to the National Board.

## ARTICLE 8 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

**Section 8.1 Election of National Officer(s).** The National Society shall conduct an annual election to choose a President-elect to serve as a member of the National Executive Council for three years, progressing annually from President-elect to President, and from President to past President. The nominations and election will be conducted in full compliance with the procedures and policies specified in this Article.

**Section 8.2 National Nominating Committee:** Nominees for the position of National President-elect shall be selected by a committee comprised of three (3) members selected from the Past National Presidents Council, three (3) members of the National Executive Council, one (1) current Area Vice President, and the Immediate Past National President, who will serve as the chairman of this Committee, but will vote only in the case of a tie vote. The chairman shall determine the time and place for the meetings of the Committee and shall give notice of such meetings in a timely fashion. The Committee shall consider all candidates nominated for



National President-elect by any current active member of the National Society and shall select two candidates who meet the requirements for the office of National President-elect as described in Section 8.3 and are deemed most qualified. If a nominee shall withdraw before the National Encampment, the Committee shall nominate another candidate.

**Section 8.3 Requirements of Office for National President-elect:** A candidate for the office of National President-elect must have served for one year in at least one of these offices: Area Vice President or Chapter President. He must be an active member of a Chapter, be current in the payment of his dues, and must give written consent to his nomination stating that he will be able to discharge the duties of National President-elect.

**Section 8.4 Nominations:** Nominations for the office of National President-elect may be submitted by any active member of the National Society. Self-nominations are also welcome. No later than April 1st of each year an announcement will be transmitted to every member that nominations are open and encouraged. Acceptance by a nominee must be confirmed and validated by completion of an acceptance form and submitted to the National Society by April 30. A copy of the nominee's personal summary and a written statement of the nominee's interest in serving as National President-elect, neither of which shall exceed one typewritten page, is necessary to complete the nomination process.

**Section 8.5 Selection of Candidates:** No later than May 15th the National Nominating Committee shall meet and, through personal interview and review of nominee documents, select the two nominees to be the finalist candidates in the National Society's general election. The finalist candidates' personal summary shall be made available through the Trail Marker Newsletter and communication to all Chapter Presidents and members, according to current election policy.

**8.5.1 Ratification:** If only one valid nomination for National President-elect is submitted by April 30, the National Nominating Committee shall recommend to the National Board that the candidate should be declared the National President-elect. The general membership of the National Society will be informed of the fact that there is only one candidate for President-Elect and of the National Board's intent to declare the candidate as President-Elect. The members shall be given the opportunity to ratify this intent. Following the ratification of the nominee, the National Board shall declare the candidate as National President-elect by Acclamation.

**Section 8.6 General Election:** The general election will take place during the month of August. No later than August 1st an official ballot and the personal summary for each of the two candidates shall be mailed to every active National Society member of record. Voting will occur by returning the official ballot to the National Society Headquarters, postmarked by August 31st.

**Section 8.7 Vote Tabulation:** No later than September 10<sup>th</sup>, all votes shall be tabulated. The two candidates will be notified of the results at the discretion of the Nominating Committee. Public announcement of the election results and swearing in of all new National executive officers will be held at the National Encampment. The term of office for the Elected Members of the National Executive Council will begin and end with the National Encampment each September.

**Section 8.8 Postponement of Annual Election.** Should unusual conditions exist, an Area Vice President may, at least thirty days prior to the official commencement of voting as required in Section 8.7, make a motion to the National Board that the National election be postponed for one year, and that the current members of the Executive Council continue in their positions until the next election. A two-thirds majority of the National Board is required to approve this motion. Members of the Executive Council may not make the motion for postponement.

**8.8.1 Veto of Postponement.** The National President shall have the extraordinary right within fifteen days to veto the approval of a postponement.

## ARTICLE 9 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

**Section 9.1 National Encampment:** The National Society shall meet annually in a National Encampment, in the month of September, and at a place determined by the National Board. The National President shall give supervision to the Chapter organizing the National Encampment under the guidelines and policy approved by the National Board.

**Section 9.2 National Encampment Host:** The National Encampment shall be held at a location selected by a Chapter whose proposal to host the event has been accepted and approved by the National Board. A Chapter desiring to sponsor a future National Encampment must submit a proposal to the National Executive Council at least 90 days prior to the first day of the current year's National Encampment.

**Section 9.3 National Encampment Expenses:** The expenses of the National Encampment shall be met by registration fees charged to those who attend. Any profits or losses from the National Encampment shall be divided equally between the National Society and the sponsoring Chapter. The National Society shall advance an operating fund, the amount to be determined by the National Executive Council, which shall be repaid prior to the equal sharing of profits/losses after the National Encampment.

## ARTICLE 10 RULES OF ORDER

**Section 10.1** Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall guide the proceedings of the business meetings of the National Society except when the National Board or National Executive Council votes to "suspend the rules".

**Section 10.2** When official action must be taken all votes will occur during an electronic arrangement, a physical meeting of the National Board, or a combination in which a quorum is present, and all parties can hear the proceedings.

## ARTICLE 11 SEAL

The seal of the National Society shall be affixed to all membership certificates and other documents as prescribed by the National Executive Council or as required by these Bylaws. The seal shall bear the inscription "Corporate Seal, National Society, Sons of Utah Pioneers, 1933."

**ARTICLE 12 AMENDMENT**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the National Board members present at any regular or a special meeting of the National Board. Notice of intent to amend must be given to National Board members two weeks prior to the meeting.

MOVED AND ADOPTED by the National Board of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.

Certified by:

L. Nate Pierce, National President *L. Nate Pierce*

Date: *17 JAN 2024*

Val C. Parrish, National President-elect *Val C Parrish*

Date: *17 Jan 2024*

John Clayton, Past National President *John Clayton*

Date: *1-27-24*

John E. Elggren, National Treasurer *John E Elggren*

Date: *1-27 / 2024*

Paul Wright, National Secretary *Paul Wright*

Date: *January 17, 2024*