New York Metropolitan Region: United Synagogue Youth
Regional Constitution

Preamble

We, the members of the New York Metropolitan (METNY) Region of the United Synagogue Youth (USY), of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, realizing that all Jewish youth must continuously strive for the perpetuation and strengthening of Judaism and cognizant of the historical and cultural background of the Jewish people, do hereby ordain and establish and Constitution of the New York Metropolitan Region of the United Synagogue Youth in order to further these principles.

Article I: Aims, Purpose and Objectives

Section 1: Aim

The New York Metropolitan Region of the United Synagogue Youth shall attempt to offer opportunities for Jewish youth to strengthen their identification with Judaism and the Synagogue, an agency of communal Jewish life. METNY Region of USY seeks to develop a spiritual, cultural, and social program based on personality development through individual encounters, needs, and interests of its members. The Jewish Youth of the Region will firstly demonstrate and experience the Jewish way of living, through study, prayer, action and fellowship, leading to personal fulfillment and growth while meeting their spiritual and social needs, and secondly make a significant contribution to their synagogue, community, society, and the Jewish People.

Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of the Region shall be to serve the chapters (the core unit or the region) within its jurisdiction. This task may be aided through the divisions within the region.

Section 3: Objectives

A. These aims can be accomplished through programs conceived and directed by elected and appointed members with assistance and guidance from staff members hired by the region or volunteering for the region. These programs should be directed towards motivating and inspiring members to fulfill their individual goals and the goals of the METNY Region and USY.

A. METNY Region of USY therefore dedicates itself to:

1. Jewish education by encouraging its members to engage in various methods of Judaic study, and to establish new study programs within their chapters and communities. It is by no means enough to study Judaism but in accordance with the goals of the conservative movement study should be related to contemporary Jewish life and secular social life.
2. The observance of the Sabbath and Holidays in a traditional manner by encouraging its members to attend services and join their families in

observing the Sabbath and Holidays even if it is necessary to absent oneself from school, school activities, secular social gatherings and work.

3. The observance of Kashrut, a sanctifying of the individual experience, by encouraging all members to observe Kashrut in their private lives and by requiring the chapters and divisions to observe the laws of kashrut at all functions.
4. Religious observance through the fulfillment of the mitzvoth (commandments), both ethical and ritual, so as to encourage the individual to make an intelligent choice as to the degree of his/her personal observance in later years.
5. Prayer, as a medium of individual and communal communication and personal fulfillment.
6. The State of Israel and or the Zionist movement by encouraging its members to partake in programs to support Israel (programs that aid the development and success of the State of Israel in any and every way possible), by sponsoring Israeli awareness and educational programs, and by promoting a Zionistic attitude at all possible times.
7. The strengthening of the synagogue, an agency of communal life, by encouraging all members to participate in synagogue programs and affairs. (The Region encourages the establishment of teen congregations and tight knit communities within the synagogue).
8. The world community by taking an active stand against prejudice, bigotry and hatred, since we, as Jewish youth, understand the suffering of others (based on previous history) and dedicate ourselves to human welfare and a united world.
9. Supporting and encouraging the Jewish community at large, by encouraging spiritual support for Israel, by cooperating with other Jewish organizations (youth and adult); by participating in the affairs of the local Jewish community; by providing financial and rehabilitative aid for Jews whenever needed.
10. Self-expression by encouraging its members to make creative contributions to the Jewish tradition through innovation and experiment in worship and ritual, as well as self-expression in the fields of art, literature, music and drama. Also, by encouraging its chapters to sponsor religious, cultural, social and athletic activities.
11. Developing fun and friendship among its members in order to fill the self-evident need for the establishment and growth of meaningful relationships.
12. International USY by promoting participation in International Convention, USY Pilgrimage, USY on Wheels, Nativ, USY High and all USY International clubs (Heschel, Hechalutzim, 613 and UDAFE).

<u>Section 4: Standard</u>

A. JUDAIC STANDARD AT EVENTS

At all USY functions the following standards shall be imposed: kashrut, and the observance of Shabbat and Jewish holidays.

D. OTHER STANDARDS

No use of drugs or alcohol, or any unwanted illegal conduct by a USY shall be accepted at a USY function. No such smoking at any USY function by a USY member is acceptable. The region discourages smoking entirely and programs shall be instituted to bring this to all USYers. Staff members shall not smoke except in designated areas when such areas are available. The policy of discouraging smoking shall be applied equally to all staff, USYers, and Kadimanicks at all USY and Kadima programs.

Article II: Membership

Section 1

Jewish youth groups of United Synagogue which are members of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and which submit a statement certifying that they are in agreement with the aims and objectives of USY as set forth in international and regional constitutions. Members of USY shall be between the ages thirteen to nineteen provided that no such member shall have graduated from High School. No chapter shall discriminate in the admission of eligible members. All people who meet the requirements mentioned above shall be eligible for membership in the New York Metropolitan Region of the USY on the condition that:

1. Each chapter have a minimum of six (6) members.
2. The number of chapters within each synagogue shall be limited. Two synagogues may combine to form one chapter if necessary to attain the minimum amount of members.
3. Membership is open to Jewish youth only (as defined by the Rabbinical Assembly).
4. Each chapter, synagogue and division must provide its members with facilities for religious and/or cultural studies.

Section 2: Chartering

A. Charters shall be granted to those groups who fulfill the basic and initial requirements as set forth by the international and regional constitution.

B. Charters shall be granted according to the following procedure:

1. International groups shall petition for membership to the regional office, which shall make acknowledgment upon receipt. The petition must contain the signatures of a minimum of six (6) members who wish to join the Region, the congregation's Rabbi, and a volunteer who wishes to act as a Chapter youth Director.
2. Arrangements shall be made for the group to be observed by the Divisional field worker and a divisional officer. The Divisional field worker, and a Divisional officer shall determine if the chapter is qualified to meet the aims of the Region.
3. If it is decided by the Divisional field worker and a divisional officer that this new chapter is capable of meeting the aims of the region, they will submit a written statement (application) to the Regional Executive Board and the Regional Director of the Youth Department. The Regional president, Regional Vice presidents and the Regional Director of the Youth Department shall consider the statement approve or deny the chapter membership in the region.
4. If the regional executive board and regional director approve the chartering of the group, the regional office shall forward the application to the international office with a

recommendation for chartering. However, in no case shall the application form any group be forwarded to the international office without the approval of the USYer who observed the group.

4. Groups may be affiliated with the region for a period of one (1) year under the status of observer group. If they maintain members and create a successful chapter under this status their charter may be approved. However, if after a period of twelve (12) calendar months, they have not advanced to the position of chartered group, their affiliation with the regional organization will be terminated.

Section 3: Observation

A. Every charter group shall be observed annually by a representative of the regional board for the purpose of ascertaining whether the group is maintaining the aims and objectives of USY as set forth in the constitution, by laws, and regulations of the international and regional organization

Section 4: Suspension

A. An affiliated group may be censored or suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote (excluding abstentions) of the Regional Board for a violation of the Constitution, laws, rules, regulations, or orders of this organization. This vote must be held off if a plenary session of the Region is to occur within a month from the date when the issue is raised. If the chapter's charter suspension is voted down by the Regional Board then the issue may be raised again (through petition of the Regional president and or three regional Board members) at the next plenary session.

B. When a plenary session votes on the suspension of a chapter, the votes of the chapter concerned shall be counted.

C. The Regional Executive Board can recommend the suspension of a chapter not having paid its Tikun Olam Donation for any fiscal year or that is in any other way delinquent in fulfilling its obligations, after written notification of intent to suspend by the Regional Director or Regional President has been presented to the Advisor, Youth Committee Chairman, Rabbi and USY President of the chapter in question.

D. The length of any suspension shall depend on the severity of the offense and shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the Regional Board members present and voting; no suspension shall exceed six (6) months without being submitted for review by the Regional Board, in which case, a two-thirds vote of the board members present and voting is necessary to rescind the suspension.

E. A suspended group shall be denied, for the period of its suspension, all privileges accorded to group's member and shall not be permitted to attend functions of the national, regional or divisional organizations.

Section 4: Reinstatement

A. Any group that has been suspended may be reinstated before the expiration of its suspension by a two-thirds vote of the Regional board.

B. A group shall be automatically reinstated to full membership and privileges at the conclusion of its suspension period unless the suspension is renewed by a two-thirds vote of the Regional Board members present and voting.

Article III: Dues

Section 1: Amount

A. Each charted group shall pay international and regional dues per annum.
B. Regional dues may be altered by a majority vote of the regional board or by a two thirds (2/3) approval at a plenary session.
C. No dues shall be required of a group that has been suspended for more than one year.

Section 2: Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the New York Metropolitan Region of USY shall begin on July 1, and end on June 30 the following year.

Section 3: Arrears/ Outstanding Debt

All groups that have not paid their dues by November 20th shall be regarded as not in good standing. This status will change only when all arrears, past and present, have been paid. Chapters not in good standing shall be denied the rights and privileges granted to chapters in good standing, i.e., the right to participate in regional and divisional activities.

Section 4: Payment of Dues

A. All chapters are obligated to submit dues for all members affiliating with their youth group according to the prescribed procedure.
B. This includes submitting dues for all persons who submit dues after the prescribed deadline. Chapters are morally obligated to submit these dues immediately after the individual pays them.
C. Failure to comply with the above will result in the suspension of these negligent chapters and their members' banishment from all Divisional, Regional, and International USY activities.

Article IV: Regional Structure

Section 1: The Regional Executive Board

A. The Regional Executive Board of the METNY Region shall consist of a President, Israel Affairs (IA) Vice President, Ritual Education Cultural (REC) Vice President, Social Actions/Tikun Olam (SA/TO) Vice President, Membership/Kadima (MEM/KAD) Vice President, and Communications (COMM) Vice President.

Section 2: The Regional Board

A. The Regional Board of the METNY Region shall consist of the Regional Executive Board members and the Divisional Presidents. The Divisional Presidents shall counted as equals to the Vice Presidents and shall be required to meet the standards for service on the Regional Executive Board. When conflicting meetings or events are scheduled the Divisional Presidents will be required to serve their division before the region and be present at their division's meetings.
B. All Regional Board members will be elected according to the provisions in this Constitution.

C. The Regional Board shall act as an advisory body to the President while carrying out the duties specifically enumerated in this Constitution.
D. Except for the President, who votes in the event of a tie, all members of the Regional Board have one (1) vote.
E. Absentee votes may be written or phoned into a meeting providing the Regional Officer who is absent calls or writes in the vote himself and is knowledgeable of the fact of the issue at hand.
F. The Regional Executive Board shall function from their installation at Spring Regional Convention until discharged from office, and the following year's board is installed at the next Spring Regional Convention.

1. The Regional Executive Board shall meet: at least four (4) times during their term. The Regional Executive Board must meet one (1) time during Regional Encampment. The Divisional Presidents must be present at two (2) of the four (4) scheduled Executive Board meetings and may be present at the remaining two (2) meetings.
2. Meetings of the Regional Executive Board may be called by the President or by petition of three (3) of its members.
3. Meetings of the Regional Board may be called by the President or by written petition of four (4) of its members.
4. A quorum must be present before business may be conducted at any Regional Executive Board meeting or any Regional Board meeting.
5. A quorum shall consist of 2/3 of the members of the Regional Executive Board for an Executive Board Meeting or 2/3 of Regional Board for a Regional Board meeting.
6. Any decision of the Regional Board shall be by a majority vote unless otherwise specified in this Constitution.
7. If practically possible, meetings of the Divisional Executive Board shall be open to Regional Board members for observation and input. Regional Executive Board members shall have no vote in Divisional Executive Board meetings.
8. The Executive Board shall have the power to interpret this constitution, the contents thereof and all regulations, rules and orders of this organization, and shall have the power to provide for the proper administration of the METNY Region of USY; to enact procedures to insure compliance with this constitution and all rules made in pursuance thereof; to take such action actions as may be necessary and proper for the general good and welfare of the METNY Region of USY and its members; and to act on all matters subject to its approval in accordance with this constitution and all regulations, rules and orders of this organization.
9. The regional Executive Board shall have the power to, by a 2/3 vote, overrule any decision by a Division in direct violation of Regional rules.

G. The Regional Executive Board shall have the power to refuse any appointments made by the President by a simple majority vote.
H. If a Regional Executive Board member misses two (2) regularly scheduled meetings consecutively, or three (3) meetings during their term of office, the President shall have the power to revoke this members vote on the Regional Executive Board.

I. If a Regional Executive Board member is found continuously in violation of the standards before them, their voting rights will be terminated, at the discretion of the Regional USY Director and Regional USY President, and Censure and/or Impeachment Proceedings will be initiated.

Section 2: The Regional General Board

A. Each year, the Regional Executive Board shall, in accordance with Article IV, Section 1D, approve all Presidential appointments to various committees. These appointed committee chair people shall be members of the Regional General Board. Regional General Board members will be picked based on merit.

1. All Regional Committees will consist of individuals chosen following their application to the Regional Executive Board for consideration. Regional General Board members will be chosen based on merit.
2. Applications for the Regional General Board shall be available to all members no later than forty-five (45) days after installation. These appointments of chair people shall be made no later than the Regional Executive Board meeting at Encampment under the condition that applicants are qualified for the committee.
3. If vacancies in the Regional General Board still exist, applications for the vacant position must be filled no later than three (3) weeks after Encampment.

B. The members of the Regional Executive Board, Divisional Executive Boards, members of the Regional General Board, as well as all International Board members form the New York Metropolitan Region during their term on International Board shall have the power to:

1. Interpret this Constitution and the contents thereof, and all by-laws, rules, regulations, and resolutions of the Region.
2. Overrule any vote of the President or the Regional Executive Board, by a 2/3 vote including two (2) votes by members of the Regional Executive Board.

C. The Regional Board shall function from its first meeting as a body, to take place prior to or at Encampment, until discharge and the installation of the next Regional Executive Board at Regional Convention of the following year.

D. If a Regional General Board member misses two (2) regularly scheduled meetings in a row, three (3) during his term of office, or is considered to be unhelpful, their suspension must be brought before the Regional Executive Board for a vote.

Section 3: Regional Projects

A. Within forty- five (45) days following both Spring Regional Convention and Encampment, the Regional President shall send out questionnaires to all members to inform them, of positions open to work on Regional Projects, or to find people who have new projects that they would like to initiate.

B. All projects must be reviewed by the Regional Executive Board.

C. All projects chair people will be responsible to one of the Regional Vice Presidents or to the Regional President.

D. During the year, the President, with the approval of the Regional Executive Board, shall appoint projects chair people deemed necessary.

E. Any vacancies created by resignations or other circumstances during the calendar year, shall be filled by the President after those appointments have been approved by the Regional Executive board.

Section 4: Regional Constitution

With the exception of the International Constitution and the laws, resolutions, and regulations of the International Organization, the Regional Constitution shall be the supreme law of the Region. Any Chapter or Division of the Region shall pass no laws, resolutions, or regulations, which are in conflict with the Regional Constitution. It shall be the responsibility of the Regional Executive Board and the Regional Board to determine when this section has been violated.

Article V: Regional Officers

Section 1: Officers of the Region

A. The Officers of the New York Metropolitan Region of USY shall be: President, Israel Affairs (IA) Vice President, Ritual Education Cultural (REC) Vice President, Social Actions/Tikun Olam (SA/TO) Vice President, Membership/Kadima (MEM/KAD) Vice President, Communications (COMM) Vice President and the four Divisional Presidents.
B. Only the President and the Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected at Regional Elections.

Section 2: Standards for Officers

A. STANDARDS FOR THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

The Regional Executive Board members (Regional President, Regional Vice Presidents) and the Regional Board members (The Divisional Presidents), as representatives of USY shall:

1. Observe Shabbat and Jewish holidays with regard to the response of the Rabbinical Assembly pertaining to travel, and by refraining from all school examinations and public functions thereon. (The Jewish holidays include Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Pesach, Shavuot, Sukkot, and Simhat Torah…more will be added)
2. Observe the dietary laws wherever possible, in private and at all times in public. USY'ers from non-Kosher homes are not expected to be in a position to make changes in their private lives, but are required to observe the laws of Kashrut in public.
3. Participate in some mode of Judaic study for not less than three hours a week and not less that four religious services monthly, three of which must be on Shabbat.
4. Participate actively in the affairs of the chapter, division and in all the activities of the region.
5. It is expected that leaders of the organization will refrain from relationships which can be construed as interdating.
6. It is expected that the leaders of the organization refrain from the illegal use of drugs and the use of alcohol.

B. STANDARDS FOR DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Divisional Executive Board Members (Divisional Vice Presidents), as representatives of USY shall:

1. Observe the Sabbath and Jewish Holidays at all times in public and where possible in private.
2. Observe the dietary laws where possible in public and in private. USY'ers from non-Kosher homes are not expected to be in a position to make changes in their private lives, but are required to observe the laws of Kashrut in public.
3. Participate in some mode of Judaic study for not less than 1 hour weekly and attend not less than two religious services monthly, one of which must be on the Sabbath.
4. Participate actively in the affairs of the chapter, region, and in all the activities of the division.
7. It is expected that leaders of the organization will refrain from relationships which can be construed as interdating.
5. It is expected that the leaders of the organization refrain from the illegal use of drugs and the use of alcohol.

The USY president and director shall make every effort to assure that the regional USY leadership adheres to these basic standards.

Section 3: Eligibility For Office

A. Candidates for Regional President shall be all of the following:

1. Have been members of a USY Chapter for at least fourteen (14) months prior to Regional Elections.

2. A member of a Regional Executive Board anytime during their time in USY, Divisional Executive Board for one (1) calendar year prior to Regional Elections, a Regional General Board member for one (1) calendar year prior to Regional Elections or a Chapter President for one (1) calendar year prior to Regional Elections.

B. Candidates for the Vice Presidential positions shall be all of the following:

1. Have been members of a USY Chapter for at least fourteen (14) months prior to Regional Elections.

2. A member of a Regional Executive Board anytime during their time in USY, Divisional Executive Board for one (1) calendar year prior to Regional Elections, a Regional General Board member for one (1) calendar year prior to Regional Elections or a Chapter President for five (5) months prior to Regional Elections.

C. Members of the Regional Board (the President, Vice Presidents, and Divisional Presidents) will observe the standards above-mentioned.

D. Candidates for Regional Executive Board will be required to sign, along with their parent(s), a document that contains all of the religious requirements of Board service. A violation of these terms will be grounds for censure and/or impeachment.

E. All candidates shall act as dugmaot (examples) and shall strive to achieve the highest ideals of Conservative Judaism.

Section 3: Duties and Powers

A. President

1. The President is given the executive powers of the Regional Organization and is its accredited representative.
2. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Regional Executive Board, Regional Board, and over all plenary sessions at Regional functions.
3. The President can call meetings of the Regional Executive Board, and Regional Board.
4. The President can appoint all Projects and Events Chair-people with the approval of the Regional Executive Board.
5. The President shall report at Spring Regional Convention as to the State of the Region, and shall make recommendations for improvement.
6. The President shall have the power to appoint and remove all committee chairmen at will after consultation with the Regional Executive Board.
7. The President shall have the power to establish committees as herein provided with the approval of the Regional Executive Board.
8. The President shall serve as a member ex-officio of all committees.
9. The President shall take such action, as deemed necessary in an emergency, for the general good and welfare of New England Region USY and its members.
10. The President shall oversee, along with the regional executive board, the planning of regional conventions and events, along with the convention chair(s).

B. Israel Affairs Vice President

1. The Israel Affairs Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out his duties.
2. The Israel Affairs Vice President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all special and standing committees.
3. The Israel Affairs Vice President shall replace the President in the event of his absence of incapacity, resignation or removal until a new president is appointed.
4. The Israel Affairs Vice President shall be responsible for overseeing any committees as determined by the President in consultation with the Regional Executive Board.
5. The Israel Affairs Vice President shall be responsible for spreading awareness of events occurring in Israel, knowledge of the State of Israel, enthusiasm and support for the State of Israel, and shall encourage USY'ers to participate in USY Israel Programs on the Chapter, Divisional, Regional and international level.
6. The Israel Affairs Vice President shall work directly with the Israel affairs committee, and with each divisional vice president that is responsible for Israel affairs.

C. Ritual/Education/Cultural Vice President

1. The Ritual/Education/Cultural Vice President shall have the duties, rights, and powers of the President in the absence of both the President and Executive V.P., or in the event of their absence or incapacity, resignations, or impeachments.

2. The Ritual/Education/Cultural Vice president shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees, as deemed necessary by the President.
3. The Ritual/Education/Cultural Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out his duties.
4. The Ritual/ Education/Cultural Vice President shall work directly with the Regional Ritual/Education Committee and with each divisional Ritual/Education Vice President.
5. For all Regional functions, shall be responsible for all aspects of religious and educational programming in conjunction with the appropriate staff.

D. Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President

1. The Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President shall have the duties, rights, and powers of the President in the absence of the President, Executive VP, and the Religion/Education VP, or in the event of their absence or incapacity, resignation or impeachments.
2. The Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees as deemed necessary by the President.
3. The Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out his duties.
4. The Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President shall work directly with the Regional SA/TO Committee and with each Divisional SA/TO Vice President.
5. The Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President Shall be responsible for the implementation of all aspects of Social Actions and Tikun Olam programming in the Region.
6. The Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President Shall keep a record of all funds raised for Tikun Olam and oversee their allocation.

E. Membership/Kadima Vice President

1. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall assume the responsibilities of the President and/or Executive, Ritual/Education, SA/TO Vice Presidents in the event of their absence or incapacity, resignations or impeachments.
2. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees as deemed necessary by the President.
3. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out his duties.
4. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall be responsible for the collection of dues, assessments, affiliation fees, and other moneys of the Region.
5. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall be responsible for obtaining complete Chapter Membership Lists and for the distribution of Membership Cards.
6. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall by December 1, prepare a preliminary listing of the standing of Chapters in respect to the payment of International and Regional Dues, and shall have said list distributed to all affiliated groups as well as to Regional and Divisional Membership Committees.
7. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall by February 15, prepare a final listing and shall distribute it in the same manner as the above-mentioned list in the preceding clause.

8. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall work directly with the Regional Membership/Kadima Committee and with each Divisional Membership/Kadima Vice President.
9. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall oversee Kadima (with assistance from the USY regional Kadima Advisor) and shall be the liaison between Kadima and USY.
10. The Membership/Kadima Vice President shall coordinate outreach programs to chapters in the Region.

F. Communications Vice President

1. The Communications Vice President shall assume the Responsibilities of President and or Executive, Ritual/Education, SA/TO, Membership/Kadima Vice Presidents in the event of their absence or incapacity, resignations or impeachments.
2. The Communications Vice President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees as deemed necessary by the President.
3. The Communications Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out his duties.
4. The Communications Vice President shall work directly with the Regional Communications Committee and with each Divisional Communications Vice President.
5. The Communications Vice President shall have responsibilities regarding On-Line Communication (ie. Listserver and Web-Page), Newsletters, Yearbook, Slide Shows, Regalia, and other related programming.
6. The Communications Vice President Shall keep accurate records of all meetings of the Regional Executive Board and Regional Board, and will issue minutes to the Regional Youth Director, the Regional Executive Board, and other appropriate persons.

Article VI: Election Of Regional Officers

Section 1: Nominations

A. Notification of intention to run for Regional Office is by petition only.
   1. Petitions must contain seventy (70) signatures.
   2. No more than fifteen (15) may come from a single chapter, and no more than thirty (30) may be from one Division.
   3. Petitions shall be sent to the Regional President postmarked no later than the day designated for the submission of petitions.

B. Nomination of candidates at Regional Elections
   1. At Regional Elections, nominations will be heard for announced candidates by predetermined speakers for thirty (30) seconds.
   2. There will be no nominations from the floor unless the office has no predetermined candidates.

Section 2: Elections

1. All Regional Officers shall be elected and installed at Spring Regional Convention and shall hold office until their successors have been duly installed.

2. In Order for elections to take place, members from all four divisions within the Region must be present.
3. The order of nominations and elections shall be: President, Israel Affairs Vice President, Ritual/Education/Cultural Vice President, Social Actions/Tikun Olam Vice President, Membership/Kadima Vice President, and Communications Vice President.
4. Any Presidential candidate that is defeated shall be allowed to drop down as a candidate for a lower office only once.
5. The President shall conduct the election procedures, unless he is a candidate, in which case the Israel Affairs Vice President shall preside.
6. Each delegate shall cast his own vote by secret ballot.
7. All appeals on election procedure shall be referred to the Regional Director and Regional Officer presiding at elections for an official ruling.
8. All ballots shall be collected and counted by the Regional Director, Divisional Fieldworkers, appointed staff and one representative of each candidate in the particular election. The Regional President may be present at vote counting unless he or she is a candidate.
9. A candidate shall be required to obtain a simple majority of all ballots cast, excluding abstentions and excluding blank ballots, in order to win election. If no candidate has won a majority, the name of the candidate polling the least votes in each succeeding election shall be eliminated until a candidate has obtained a majority of the votes cast. If by the third ballot vote no majority has been reached (a tie has occurred), the President shall cast the deciding vote to break the tie of the two (2) candidates leading the polling.
10. The presiding officer shall announce the results or a run off election.
11. There shall be no voting by proxy.
12. The Regional USY director, and Regional USY President, based on membership of the Chapters, shall determine voting quotas. The Regional president shall have the right to consult members of the Executive board to set voting quotas.

Section 3: Vacancies

A. In the even that there should be a vacancy in the office of the President the Executive Vice President shall automatically assume the Presidency, and shall serve in this capacity for the remainder of the term.
   1. If the Executive Vice President was unable to assume the Presidency, then the Religion/Education Vice President would become Acting President either for the remainder of the term or until the Executive Vice President was able to assume the presidency.
   2. The succession to the title of Acting President shall be the same as the order of the election of Regional Officers.
B. Any vacancy on the Regional Board shall be filled at the discretion of the President, provided it is with the advice and consent of the Regional Executive Board.

Section 4: Impeachment and Censure

A. A request of resignation, impeachment, and/or censure proceedings against any Regional Officer may be initiated by a 2/3 vote, including abstentions and excluding blank ballots, of either the Regional Board.

B. These charges must be presented in writing to the person asked to resign or facing impeachment and/or censure, whereupon he may submit his answer to the charges within fifteen (15) days. Both the charges and any answer to these charges must be made public at the discretion of the Regional Director.
C. A 2/3 vote of the Regional Board, including the vote of the individual under consideration and all abstentions but excluding blank ballots, shall be necessary to approve any motion for censure and/or impeachment.
D. Impeachment is defined as removal from office and the banning of becoming a candidate for any other office in USY.
E. Censure is defined as suspension of a board member's vote on the Regional Board. He or she may still continue to carry out their duties. The President (unless involved in the censuring) and Regional Director will define the time of censure. If censure is removed then the board member will regain their vote on Regional board and will be eligible again to run for office in USY.