

PROPOSED REVISION TO
THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE
PROVINCIAL CIRCLE
OF THE
ONTARIO COLUMBIAN SQUIRES

Amended & Approved by Provincial Circle
Ontario Squires Convention 2006 (0)
Ontario Squires Convention 2009 (1)

PREAMBLE

We the Columbian Squires of Ontario determine:

to attain unity of purpose and progress throughout the Province of Ontario, and

to further promote and propagate the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Holy Catholic Church through our youthful example of genuine Catholic Leadership, and

to unite our strength for better achievement of the purpose of the Columbian Squires.

Whereas no previous document has ever been drafted to formally attest to our unity or proclaim our aims;

Therefore Have Resolved to combine our efforts under the able leadership of the executive of our Provincial Circle, and

Do hereby establish and consent to the document known hereafter as the Constitution of the Provincial Circle of the Columbian Squires.

Article I

Names and Definitions

1. The organization of young Catholic gentlemen from the ages of ten (10) to eighteen (18) as of July 1 to June 30, under the sponsorship and supervision of the Knights of Columbus, shall hereby be known as the Columbian Squires.
2. The members of the Provincial Body of the Columbian Squires shall be:

All registered members of a circle in Ontario, recognized by the Supreme Board of Directors, as well as the Provincial Father Prior and the Provincial Chief Squire of the previous year.
3. *Affiliate* shall be defined as past Provincial Board officers, Area Chairmen and State Board officers. This applies even when an affiliate is a parent or circle Counsellor to a Squire.
Article I, Section 3 added June 6, 2009 (1)

Article II

Objectives

1. The objectives of the Provincial Body of the Columbian Squires shall be:
 - A. To uphold and maintain the Charter of the International Organization of the Columbian Squires;
 - B. To provide representation, either delegated or communicated, in the International Organization;
 - C. To promote, in co-operation with the Knights of Columbus, the well being and advancement of the Columbian Squires and their principles;
 - D. To unite more closely all articles and members for the mutual welfare and advancement of youth.

Article III

Composition of the Provincial Circle

1. The Ontario Provincial Circle shall be composed of:
 - A. An Executive of the Provincial Body (henceforth known as the Provincial Board), composed of:
 - a) a Provincial Father Prior
 - b) a Provincial Chief Squire
 - c) a Provincial Deputy Chief Squire
 - d) a Provincial Notary Squire
 - e) a Provincial Bursar Squire
 - f) a Provincial Marshall Squire
 - g) a Provincial Sentry Squire
 - B. Up to four (4) delegates from each circle in good standing, as provided for in the Laws and Rules for State Circles.

Article IV

Powers and Duties of the Provincial Body and Provincial Circle

1. The duty of the Provincial Body is to act as the responsible agent for the Columbian Squires in the entire Province and on an international level, at all times.
2. The powers of the Provincial Circle when assembled at Convention under the supervision of the Ontario Squires Chairman of the Knights of Columbus (henceforth to be known as the State Squires Chairman), shall be:
 - A. To receive and review all requests, suggestions and demands of any circle of individual member of the Province.
 - B. To recognize all circles and members of the Provincial Body in good standing with the Supreme Board of Directors as defined within the Laws and Rules.
 - C. To withdraw recognition of any member or circle of the Provincial Body not in good standing with the Supreme Board of Directors as defined within the Laws and Rules.
 - D. To levy a tax or taxes upon any Circle or individual Squire of the Provincial Body for any legitimate purpose or object.
 - E. To amend this Constitution as outlined in Article Ten of this document.
 - F. To enact and/or amend the By-laws subject to this Constitution as well as in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations prescribed by the Supreme Board of Directors.
 - G. To elect members to the respective offices of the Provincial Board as per the formula outlined in Article Nine of this document.

Article V

Powers and Duties of the Provincial Board

1. The Provincial Board (in general) shall:
 - A. Administer and implement the objectives set forth in this Constitution as supplemented by any duly approved resolution of the Provincial Circle.
 - B. Upon election assume its power on the following July 1st, and review all unfinished business from Convention.
 - C. Hold an Executive (i.e. Provincial Board) meeting at least four (4) times during its term of office and prior to the calling to order of the Annual Convention.
 - D. Prepare the Agenda for the Annual Convention to be held during its term of office, in co-operation and consultation with the Convention Committee.
 - E. At its discretion recognize outstanding contribution and participation of individual Circles or Squires of the Provincial Body.
 - F. Have the power to enact a By-law or By-laws for the remainder of its term of office for the benefit of the Provincial Body.

2. The Provincial Father Prior shall:
 - A. Be the Chaplain and Spiritual Director of the Provincial Body.
 - B. Be an Ex-officio Officer of the Board, and as such shall be entitled to a vote.
 - C. Be appointed by the State Squires Chairman, on behalf of the State Deputy.

3. The Provincial Chief Squire shall:
 - A. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the Provincial Body.
 - B. Call to order and preside over (as a chairman) all Provincial Board meetings and all functions of the Annual Convention.
 - C. Have no vote at Provincial Board Executive meetings or General meetings of the Provincial Circle, except where his vote will effect the outcome.
 - D. Execute all policies of the Provincial Board and Provincial Circle
 - E. Prepare an agenda for all Provincial Board Executive meetings and all General meetings of the Provincial Circle.
 - F. Act as signing officer along with the State Squires Chairman and Provincial Bursar Squire.
 - G. Be responsible for appointing chairmen of various Provincial Board committees, upon consultation with the State Squires Chairman.
 - H. Appoint, with the approval of the Provincial Board and the State Squires Chairman, any Squire of the Provincial Body to fill a vacated office on the Provincial Board, with the exception of the office of Provincial Father Prior.
 - I. Delegate reasonable duties to any member of the Provincial Board in accordance with their respective duties.

4. The Provincial Deputy Chief Squire shall:
 - A. Discharge and exercise the powers of the Provincial Chief Squire in the absence of the latter or in the event of his resignation.
 - B. Act as a substitute chairman for any meeting, workshop or committee, where needed.
 - C. Perform any other duties delegated to him by the Provincial Chief Squire.

5. The Provincial Notary Squire shall:
 - A. Record and file the minutes of all meetings of the Provincial Board and Provincial Circle.
 - B. Be responsible for all delegated correspondence of the Provincial Body, Provincial Circle and Provincial Board.
 - C. Make available at all meetings of the Provincial Circle copies of the previous Provincial Circle's minutes.
 - D. Report on all activities of the Provincial Board in writing for use by the Knights of Columbus Ontario State Board and the Provincial Body.
 - E. Perform any other duties delegated to him by the Provincial Chief Squire.

6. The Provincial Bursar Squire shall:
 - A. Arrange for payment of all bills authorized by the Provincial Board.
 - B. Keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the Provincial Board.
 - C. Be responsible for closing the Financial Books of the Provincial Board at the end of his term in office, and shall present a fully audited financial statement to the Provincial Circle General Meeting.
 - D. Act as a signing officer along with the State Squires Chairman and the Provincial Chief Squire.
 - E. Present an up-to-date Financial Statement at every meeting of the Provincial Circle and Provincial Board.
 - F. Send a receipt to all circles upon payment of Provincial Taxes.
 - G. Perform any other duties delegated to him by the Provincial Chief Squire.
 - H. Make available to all circles of the Provincial Body, the audited financial statement of his term of office.

7. The Provincial Marshall Squire shall:
 - A. Be responsible for advising the Chairman (generally the Provincial Chief Squire) of correct procedure, as defined in Article VII of this document, at all Provincial Board and Provincial Circle meetings.
 - B. Be acquainted with Parliamentary Procedure, as defined in Article VII of this document, and shall be responsible for maintaining these rules at all Provincial Board and Provincial Circle meetings.
 - C. Be responsible to the Provincial Board for its Ceremonial Robes and Paraphernalia.
 - D. Perform any other duties delegated to him by the Provincial Chief Squire.

8. The Provincial Sentry Squire shall:
 - A. Guard the decorum of all Provincial Board and Provincial Circle meetings.
 - B. Perform any other duties delegated to him by the Provincial Chief Squire.

9. The Immediate Past Provincial Chief Squire shall:
 - A. Serve on the Provincial Board in an advisory capacity.
 - B. Perform any other duties delegated to him by the Provincial Chief Squire.

Article VI

Powers and Duties of the State Squires Chairman

1. The State Squires Chairman shall:
 - A. Co-ordinate all Columbian Squire activities for the Provincial Body.
 - B. Give approval on behalf of the Knights of Columbus to any proposed, solved constitutional activity of the Provincial Body.
 - C. Act as a signing officer along with the Provincial Chief Squire and the Provincial Bursar Squire.

Article VII

Meetings

1. Meetings of the Provincial Circle shall:
 - A. Be held annually at the Provincial Convention.
 - B. Include in their agenda:
 - a) The International Pledge of the Columbian Squires.
 - b) Introduction of Provincial Board Officers, Guests and Dignitaries.
 - c) Minutes of the previous Provincial Circle meeting.
 - d) Reports of Provincial Board Officers and Committees.
 - e) New and Old Business.
 - C. Require a quorum of voting delegates at the scheduled time of the meeting for the meeting to continue.
 - D. Follow and maintain Parliamentary Procedure in accordance with “Robert’s Rules of Order.”

2. Meetings of the Provincial Board shall:
 - A. Be called at the discretion of the Provincial Chief Squire and according to Article V, Section 1, Part C.
 - B. Include in their agenda:
 - a) Introduction of Guests and Dignitaries.
 - b) Minutes of the Previous Provincial Board Meeting.
 - c) Reports of Provincial Board Officers and Committees.
 - d) New and Old Business.
 - C. Follow and maintain Parliamentary Procedure in accordance with “Robert’s Rules of Order.”

3. The Official Prayer of the Columbian Squires of Ontario is the Prayer of Saint Francis and shall be recited at all meetings of the Provincial Circle.

Article VIII

Voting Rights at Provincial Circle Meetings

1. The following members will have voting privileges at Provincial Circle meetings:
 - A. Each member of the Provincial Board shall have one (1) vote. The Provincial Chief Squire, as chairman, shall vote only where his vote will effect the outcome.
 - B. Each circle in good standing with a delegate or delegates attending as provided for in the Laws and Rules of State Circles, shall have four (4) votes, regardless on the number of delegates present.

Article IX

Elections to the Provincial Board

1. Elections to the Provincial Board, held annually at a general meeting of the Provincial Circle, shall:
 - A. Be conducted by means of a secret ballot.
 - B. Use a “Drop Down” format, which has the following characteristics:
 - a) If any one (1) candidate gathers a simple majority of votes then that candidate will be deemed elected.
 - b) If no candidate gathers a simple majority of the votes, and there are three (3) or more candidates being voted on, then the candidate with the least number of votes must drop off the ballot.
 - c) Any unsuccessful candidate may seek, without re-nomination, any remaining election position.
 - C. Take place as the last order of business on the Agenda of the last day of Convention.
 - D. The Chairman of the Elections shall be provided with the written consent of each and every nominee to office to accept the post before time.
 - E. Have Area Chairmen act as scrutineers throughout.
2. Campaign promotional material shall not be permitted until after the close of the first business session of the Convention at the discretion of the Area Chairmen.
3. Candidacy for any position on the Provincial Board is open to all members of the Provincial Body who are present during Convention and will not surpass the age of eighteen (18) before the coming July 1.

Article X

Amendments

1. Amendments to this document and the By-laws of the Provincial Circle shall:
 - A. Be submitted to the Provincial Board, as outlined in the By-laws of the Provincial Circle, and drafted in a Resolution.
 - B. Be considered, reviewed and put to question before the Provincial Circle at Convention.
 - C. Come into effect immediately following approval by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Board of Directors following the referral of the States Squires Chairman.
 - D. Require a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present at the meeting in which the amendments are presented and put to question.