# CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF COVENANT CAMPS AND CONFERENCE CENTERS

#### **PREAMBLE**

The Association of Covenant Camps and Conference Centers, being committed to educating, supporting, and nurturing leaders in Christian camping in general and Covenant camping in particular, adopts this constitution for the better realization of these purposes.

#### ARTICLE I SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1. The following are the objectives of the Association:
  - a. To increase the awareness among Evangelical Covenant Church members, pastors, churches, and leaders of the role, educational opportunities, and ministry of Covenant Camps and Conference Centers.
  - b. To provide opportunities for the individual growth of camping leaders through supportive fellowship and the building up of one another.
  - c. To provide a forum for the sharing of ideas related to facilities, staff recruitment, staff development, and educational opportunities.
  - d. To improve the interpersonal, administrative, and program skills of camp leaders through educational opportunities and seminars.
  - e. To support the institutions and causes of the Evangelical Covenant Church and operate in cooperation with the Department of Christian Formation in areas related to camping ministry.
  - f. To encourage the development of educational opportunities and ministries such as: Elderhostel, outdoor education, continuing education units for pastors and church staff and lay people, and experiential educational opportunities such as with the use of ropes/challenge courses.

### ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the Association is open to all Covenant Camps and Conference Centers and all persons who are actively sharing in the ministry of Covenant camping and/or desire to support the Association.

- 2. Each member camp or conference center shall have two (2) votes and the voting delegates will be selected by the individual institution. Individual members shall have voice but not voting privileges in the Association.
- 3. The representative of the Covenant Department of Christian Formation shall be a member of the Association and its Board with voice and voting privileges. This person assumes the role of Executive Vice President of the board.

#### ARTICLE III OFFICERS

- 1. A Board of six (6) members shall be elected for no more than two successive 3 year terms and one member shall be appointed as representative of the Department of Christian Formation. Both director and program directors should be represented on the board. Elections shall be completed at the Annual Meeting each year. The Board may appoint an individual to fill an unexpired term.
- 2. The officers of the Association shall be elected within the Board immediately following the Annual Meeting. The officers shall be President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 3. The President shall preside at Association meetings. In the absence of the President, he/she will designate an interim President.
- 4. The Board shall be responsible for formulating the program for the annual meeting, developing resources and member benefits, compiling annual Covenant facility statistics, and conducting the business of the Association.

#### ARTICLE IV ANNUAL MEETING

- 1. The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held at a time and place named by the Board at a previous Annual Meeting.
- 2. Approval of any issue, by mail or at the Annual Meeting, shall require a majority of votes.
- 3. The Annual Meeting shall consist of a business meeting, educational seminars, devotionals, and fellowship opportunities.

#### ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

- 1. The Association, by appropriate bylaws, may create standing committees charged with such responsibility as the Association has the power to confer.
- 2. The Association may establish special committees to make recommendations on special

topics of camping concern.

3. Membership in the Association shall not be prerequisite to membership on any committee except the Board. Members of such committees who are not members of the Association shall have the privilege of speaking to the reports of their committees before the Association.

#### **BYLAWS**

#### 1. DUES

The dues for an individual camp or conference center are indexed to those set by Christian Camping International for its member camps unless the member institution operates for four weeks or less in which case the dues would be \$50.00. Individual memberships are \$10.00 per year. Dues are payable by April 1, annually.

#### 2. CONSTITUTIONAL AND BYLAW CHANGES

Any change in the Constitution and Bylaws shall require 30 days notice by mail before a vote is taken at the next Annual Meeting. Suggested changes shall be mailed out by the Board.

#### 3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The officers shall present a slate of candidates to the Annual Meeting for election to the Board. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor of the Annual Meeting. Geographical representation, camp size, and ability to participate shall be criteria to consider in making all nominations.

## 4. EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

The representative of the Department of Christian Formation, Executive Vice President, shall be named by the Executive Director of the Department with the consent of the Association Board.