

The Order of



Sons of Pericles



Bylaws Bylaws

Junior Auxiliary of the
American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association
(AHEPA)

Preamble

In order to facilitate the meetings of chapters, to establish internal governing procedures, and to clarify ambiguity and vagueness within the constitution, the Supreme Convention of the Sons of Pericles adopts these Bylaws.

Article 1: Interpretation

In the event that these Bylaws and the Sons of Pericles Constitution are diametrically opposed, the Constitution is controlling. All Bylaws that are consistent with either the spirit of the Constitution of the Sons of Pericles, or specific sections of the AHEPA Constitution that apply to the Sons of Pericles, shall be held valid and binding on the Order.

These Bylaws are considered to be acts on par with acts taken by the Supreme Convention of the Sons of Pericles. Therefore, they are Supreme and shall be followed by all members of the Sons of Pericles.

The Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Pericles shall be the interpreter of these Bylaws. Decisions rendered by the Supreme Lodge of the Sons are appealable to the National Advisory Board. Such appeals must be in writing, sent to the Chairman of the National Advisory Board as well as the Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles.

Article 2: Membership

(See Constitution Article V)

A. 'Sons At Large'

A chapter of the Sons of Pericles shall be composed of at least eight members. In the event that there are not eight interested members in the area, potential members can join as 'Sons at Large.' An 'At Large' member shall be initiated like a regular member.

An 'At Large' member cannot exist when there is an active, local chapter. If a chapter is formed in an area where there is an At-Large member, the member must transfer into the new or reactivated chapter.

An 'At Large' member is entitled to join a chapter within his district. If he chooses not to join a chapter, or if there is no chapter in the district, then the 'At Large' member must strive to create a chapter in his area.

These 'At Large' members are full members of the Sons of Pericles and entitled to all of the privileges of Brotherhood.

B. Membership, In General

A candidate for membership into the Sons of Pericles must fill out the official application, available on www.sonsofpericles.com, in its entirety.

The form must be forwarded to the Supreme Lodge within a reasonable time of initiation, either by mail or e-mail. The pertinent information will be entered into the Sons of Pericles roster.

A member may transfer out of a chapter for good cause. Such transfer fee is \$5.00, which may be waived by the Supreme Lodge on a year-by-year basis.

C. Dues

A member is in good standing if he has submitted per capita tax for the given year to the Supreme Lodge, or if the Chapter is in receipt of the dues and has had a reasonable opportunity to forward it to the Headquarters or the Supreme Lodge.

Dues are to be remitted to a Supreme Lodge member by December 31st. If the Supreme Lodge decides to extend this deadline, it may for cause.

Dues are \$20 per member (also known as per capita tax). A chapter may collect additional funds, but a district may not without permission of the Supreme Lodge and the National Advisor. If a chapter collects more funds, it must be approved by a majority vote of the chapter.

A Canadian member's per capita tax is \$25, payable in Canadian funds.

Article 3: Chapters

(See Constitution Articles XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX)

A. Membership, in Chapter

A Son is considered a member of the chapter in which he was initiated, or in which he transferred.

A chapter exists by virtue of issuance of a Charter by Supreme Lodge.

New chapters shall be started as follows:

1. A chapter should also be sponsored by a local AHEPA chapter, if one exists locally.
2. The petition for charter must be signed by at least eight persons.
3. The following must be remitted to the Supreme Lodge:
 - (a) Completed Petition for Charter
 - (b) Completed Applications
 - (c) Charter Fee (verify with Supreme Lodge)
 - (d) Initiation Fee (if applicable)
 - (e) Per Capita Tax (currently \$20/member)

4. Upon approval of the petition by the Supreme Lodge, the Supreme Lodge will initiate the chapter, or materials and authorization will be forwarded to the local AHEPA chapter or to any other authorized agent of the Supreme Lodge for initiation.

Reactivation of chapters shall be as follows:

1. Contact headquarters or the Supreme Lodge liaison.
2. Send in per capita tax.
3. The chapter must keep the same number, but may vote to change its name if two-thirds of the members so vote.
4. Eight members are required to reactivate a Sons Chapter.
5. Upon organization of the chapter, members will elect officers and report the relevant info to headquarters.

B. Election of Officers

Chapter elections should be held by June 30th of each year. With permission of the Supreme Lodge, chapter elections can be delayed for good cause. Every effort must be made to have elections by August 31st. If this provision is used in bad faith by chapter officers, the Supreme Lodge can take disciplinary action. This provision does not apply to newly chartered or newly reactivated chapters, having their first elections after activation or reactivation.

Chapters shall elect the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. The President may appoint the following additional officers: Assistant Secretary, Master of Ceremonies, High Guardians, High Priest and Inner Guard, with duties as described in the Constitution.

A quorum to elect officers shall be eight members, or three-fifths of the total number of members, whichever is lower, unless specified by the Supreme Lodge. For chapters with less than fifteen members, quorum is as follows:

8 – 9 members → 5 members must be present
10 – 11 members → 6 members must be present
12 – 14 members → 7 members must be present

Only members that are in good standing for two months prior to elections, and new members one month prior to elections, shall be eligible to vote for new officers. Good standing is defined as having dues paid to headquarters, or paid to the Chapter if the Chapter has had reasonable time to forward the dues to headquarters or the Supreme Lodge.

No elected officer, with the exception of the Secretary, shall be able to hold office for two terms in succession.

Candidates shall be nominated from the floor and shall be voted upon by ballot.

Any officer other than the President who fails to complete his term shall have his office declared vacant, and the President shall appoint a member to full the remainder of the term. If the officer is President, the Vice President shall become President.

Chapter Officers must follow the 'Chapter Officer Duties.' These Duties can be revised by the Supreme Lodge at any time and are considered on par with these Bylaws.

C. Meeting Procedure

Meetings may be ritualistic, or business meetings. Business meetings are to be run under the rules of parliamentary procedure.

Any AHEPAN may attend a Sons of Pericles meeting. However, only dual members or Local Advisory Board members may ask the presiding officer for permission to address the floor. Other AHEPANS shall in no way partake in the discussions without a special request from the presiding officer.

Chapters shall have at least one regular meeting a month. Quorum shall be eight members, unless the total chapter membership is less than fifteen members. In that case, quorum shall be five members.

D. Local Advisory Board

The chapter of the Sons of Pericles shall present a list of eligible AHEPANS to serve as the Local Advisory Board. The list should clearly indicate who is to serve as Chairman of the Local Advisory Board. The list of AHEPANS presented by the Sons shall be two (2) members of the AHEPA and in good standing. Every effort should be made by the Local AHEPA Chapter to adhere to the Sons list in order to ensure a harmonious relationship between the Sons and AHEPA. The President of the Local AHEPA Chapter has the right to appoint an AHEPAN to the Local Advisory Board. Should he waive this right, the Sons of Pericles Chapter may choose a third member of the Local Advisory Board.

Article 4: Districts

(See Constitution Article XIV)

A. Membership, in District

A Son is considered a member of the District in which his chapter is located. If he is 'At Large,' he is a member of the District that encompasses his state.

An active District shall be composed of a minimum of three active chapters.

If there are less than three active chapters in a given District, then **Section C** below applies.

B. District Officers

If a District is an active District, it is entitled to elect a District Lodge at the District Convention.

The District Convention shall be held at the same time as the AHEPA Family District Convention, unless exigent circumstances makes this impracticable.

In order to be elected District Governor, a member must have served as an elective District Lodge officer, or as District Contact (see **Section C** below).

The District Convention may vote to combine the office Lieutenant Governor with the office of Secretary or Treasurer, if it is needed to fill all offices on the District Lodge. Such combinations shall be approved by the Supreme Lodge and the National Advisor.

C. Inactive Districts

A District with two, one or no active chapters is considered an 'Inactive District.'

An inactive District is eligible to have members serve in the capacity of 'District Contact.'

A 'District Contact' is an unelected position, appointed by the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Pericles.

A District Contact shall strive to make the District active again by initiating members, collecting dues and acting in the capacity of a District Lodge member.

With the permission of the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Pericles, there can be more than one District Contact.

A District Contact shall not be considered a 'District Office' within the meaning of Article XVII, Section 9 of the Sons of Pericles Constitution.

A District Contact shall be advised by the AHEPA District Advisor to the Sons of Pericles.

Once a District is active, at the next District Convention a District Lodge shall be elected and the District Contact shall relinquish power.

A District Contact is reappointed, if necessary, by the Supreme Lodge of the Sons of Pericles.

Both District Contacts and Officers shall adhere to the 'District Officer Rules,' in the Governors' Manual and available from any Supreme Lodge member. The 'District Officer Rules are amendable by the Supreme Lodge at any time.

Article 5: National Project (See Constitution Article XX)

Chapters are required to submit at least \$50 for the Sons of Pericles National Project. Chapters are strongly encouraged to donate more.