

The Mauritius Scouts Association



CONSTITUTION

(1971, AMENDMENTS 1998, 2005, 2017, 2022)

Approved under a resolution passed

at the extraordinary meeting of the Mauritius Scouts Council held on 22nd May 2022

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1. Establishment

- 1.1 This document shall be the Constitution of the Mauritius Scouts Association, hereinafter called the Association, by virtue of Section 5 of the Mauritius Scouts Association Act, as amended.
- 1.2 The President of the Republic of Mauritius shall be invited to be the Patron of the Association.
- 1.3 In the event that the President is not available to become the Patron, the Vice President may be invited to be the Patron or any other distinguished citizen whose patronage, encouragement and support are specially recognized and registered by the Mauritius Scouts Council.
- 1.4 Potential candidate for patronage should not be a voting member of the Mauritius Scouts Council.
- 1.5 The Association shall consist of the following organs:
 - i. The Mauritius Scouts Council
 - ii. The National Scout Board
 - iii. The National Executive Committee
 - iv. The Secretariat
- 1.6 The Headquarters of the Association shall be the Baden Powell House, Trianon, Mauritius, or at any other place as may be determined by the Mauritius Scouts Council.
- 1.7 The Association is a voluntary, non-political, educational movement for young people in accordance with the Association's aims and objectives.

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 The aim and objective of the Association pursuant to Section 4 of the Mauritius Scouts Association Act shall be:
 - i. To promote the welfare of the scout movement.
 - ii. To develop good citizenship among young people by forming their character, training them in habits of observation, inculcating loyalty, patriotism and thoughtfulness for others.
 - iii. To teach young people to perform useful services to the public and to promote their physical, mental and spiritual development.

3. The Scout Method

- 3.1 The Scout Method is a system of progressive self-education through the interaction of all the following elements:
 - i. The Scout Promise and Law
 - ii. Learning by Doing
 - iii. Personal Progression
 - iv. Team System
 - v. Adult Support
 - vi. Symbolic Framework
 - vii. Nature
 - viii. Community Involvement

3.2 The Scout Method is practiced by creating a meaningful educational experience for young people. It should be used in a way that is consistent with the Scout Movement’s Purpose and Principles. It is further described in a relevant policy adopted and reviewed from time to time by the World Scout Conference.

4. Motto

4.1 The Motto of the Association is: **Be Prepared.**

5. The Promise

5.1 On investiture, the Scout makes the following promise

English version	French version
On my honour, I promise that I will do my best, to do my duty to God, and to my country, to help other people, and to keep the Scout Law	Sur mon honneur, je promets de faire de mon mieux pour servir Dieu et mon pays, d’aider les autres et d’observer la loi scout

5.2 On investiture, the Cub Scout makes the following promise:

English version	French version
I promise that I will do my best to do my duty to God, and to my Country, to help other people, and to keep the Cub Scout Law	Je promets de faire de mon mieux pour servir Dieu et mon pays, d’aider les autres et d’obéir à la loi de la meute.

6. The Laws

6.1 The Scout Law shall be:

English version	French version
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A Scout is to be trusted.2. A Scout is loyal.3. A Scout is friendly and considerate.4. A Scout is a brother to all Scouts.5. A Scout has courage in all difficulties6. A Scout makes good use of his time and is careful of his possessions and property.7. A Scout has respect for himself and for others.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Un Scout inspire confiance.2. Un Scout est loyal.3. Un Scout est amical et compréhensif4. Un Scout est le frère de tout autre scout.5. Un Scout affronte les difficultés avec courage.6. Un Scout fait bon usage de son temps et prend soin de ses biens et de ceux des autres.7. Un Scout se respecte et respecte les autres.

6.2 The Cub Scout Law shall be:

English version	French version
A Cub Scout always does his best, thinks of others before himself, and does a good turn every day.	Un louveteau fait toujours de son mieux, pense d'abord aux autres, et fait une bonne action tous les jours.

7. Membership

7.1 Membership of the Association shall be voluntary and open to all persons residing in the Republic of Mauritius, without any discrimination as to admission to gender, race, creed, religion, social status or colour and who accept and adhere to the principles of the Movement as propounded in the Scout or Cub Promise and law.

8. Principles

8.1 The Scout Movement is based on the following principles:

- i. **Duty to God:** Adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of the duties resulting there from.
- ii. **Duty to others:** Loyalty to one's country in harmony with the promotion of local, national and international peace, understanding and co-operation. Participating in the development of society with recognition and respect for the dignity of one's fellows and for the integrity of the natural world.
- iii. **Duty to self:** Responsibility for the development of oneself.

9. External Relations

9.1 The Association is a national organization and shall be registered with the World Organization of the Scout Movement and shall adhere to its constitution.

9.2 The Association and all its members shall endorse and adhere to the principles and policy of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

9.3 The Association shall to the best of its ability carry out its obligations to the World Organization of the Scout Movement and promote friendship and co-operation with other recognized National Scout Organizations of the World.

9.4 The Association shall promote friendly relations with other national organizations of a non-political character having similar aims.

9.5 The Association shall make provisions to ensure that Scouting names, logos and brand are legally protected in the Republic of Mauritius under the copyright or trade laws, in accordance with the World Organization of the Scout Movement licensing terms of the World Scout Brand.

9.6 The Association shall participate regularly in World Scout Conferences and Regional Scout Conferences.

10. Religion

- 10.1 The Association recognizes all religions and expects every Scout to understand his/her duty to his/her religion.
- 10.2 Every Scout shall show tolerance and respect for the religious convictions of others.
- 10.3 Each invested member of the movement shall be encouraged to make every effort to progress in his/her understanding and observance of his/her Promise (namely, to do my best to do my duty to God), to belong to a religious body and to carry into daily practice his/her belief.
- 10.4 Subject to the permission of the District Commissioner and/or Sponsoring Authority concerned, attendance by Scouts of various forms of religion at a combined service shall be allowed and such attendance shall be on a voluntary basis.

11. Politics

- 11.1 The Association shall not be connected with and/or influenced by any political body.
- 11.2 As an independent association within a sovereign country, the internal management of the Association shall not be subject to control by any Ministry or Department of Government, or parastatal bodies or foreign bodies.
- 11.3 No member of the Association shall influence or involve the Association in any question of a political nature nor shall he/she take part as a scout or in a scout uniform in any meeting, gathering or other occasion associated with any particular political party.

12. Military

- 12.1 The Association is not a military body and shall not be considered as such.

13. The Mauritius Scouts Council

- 13.1 The Mauritius Scouts Council is the supreme body governing the Association and shall consist of the following members:
 - i. The Group Scout Leaders of the Association, with voting rights allocated to group members duly registered with the annual membership fees duly paid at latest by the end of the financial year set as per the Finance Policy.
 - ii. One representative for each religious denomination with a Scout Bureau recognized by the Association, with voting rights
 - iii. The Chief Scout, with voting rights, who shall act as the chairperson of the Mauritius Scouts Council
 - iv. The Deputy Chief Scout, without voting rights
 - v. The Chief Commissioner, without voting rights
 - vi. The Deputy Chief Commissioner, without voting rights
 - vii. The remaining members of the National Scout Board, without voting rights
 - viii. The remaining members of the National Executive Committee, without voting rights
 - ix. The members of the National Youth Scout Council (NYSC), without voting rights
 - x. The members of any District Executive Committee, without voting rights

- xi. The Administrative Secretary, as the Secretary of the Mauritius Scouts Council without voting rights
- 13.2 The Mauritius Scouts Council shall hold an Annual General Meeting. Every four years, the Mauritius Scouts Council shall hold a National Scout Conference to discuss and vote on the strategic plan of the Association over the next four years.
- 13.3 The Chief Scout, the Chief Commissioner or the National Scout Board shall call an extraordinary meeting within three months of a request for such meeting made in writing by not less than two third of the voting members of the Mauritius Scouts Council or by a resolution passed in a meeting of the National Scout Board for any matter of general importance and interest to Scouting. The Chief Scout or the Chief Commissioner may also call for an extraordinary meeting at his or her own discretion for any urgent matter that requires the attention of the Mauritius Scouts Council.
- 13.4 Over two thirds of the voting members of the Mauritius Scouts Council shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Mauritius Scouts Council. With the provision of a delay of the start of the meeting by one hour, in case there is no quorum, the meeting shall be postponed for fifteen days. The next meeting shall take place notwithstanding the number of voting members present at the meeting.
- 13.5 The National Scout Board shall decide the agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the Mauritius Scouts Council which shall be communicated to the Administrative Secretary for notice to members of the Mauritius Scouts Council forty five days before the meeting.
- 13.6 Any motion to be put to the Annual General Meeting shall be communicated to the National Scout Board for review thirty days before the Annual General Meeting. The Administrative Secretary shall circulate the details of the motions to members of the Mauritius Scouts Council fifteen days before the meeting.
- 13.7 The Administrative Secretary shall circulate the documents to be received by the Mauritius Scouts Council at the Annual General Meeting to members of the Mauritius Scouts Council fifteen days before the meeting.
- 13.8 In case of an extraordinary meeting of the Mauritius Scouts Council, the notice shall be sent fifteen days before the meeting.
- 13.9 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to any member entitled to receive such notice shall not invalidate anything done at such meeting.
- 13.10 Voting by proxy will not be allowed.
- 13.11 Each voting member of the Mauritius Scouts Council shall be entitled to one vote and in the event of equal voting, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- 13.12 Motions and policies of the Association shall be adopted by a simple majority of votes cast, except for motions relating to section 25.3 of this Constitution.
- 13.13 Functions of the Mauritius Scouts Council
- The functions of the Mauritius Scouts Council shall be as follows:
- i. To receive and adopt the Annual Report of the Association submitted to it by the National Scout Board.
 - ii. To receive and adopt the Annual Financial Statements and the Annual Budget of the Association
 - iii. To receive from the Chief Scout the reports of various committees set up by the National Scout Board.
 - iv. To receive from the Chief Commissioner the reports from the National Commissioners.
 - v. To fix the date and place for the following year's Annual General Meeting.
 - vi. To deal with such other business as notified to members in the notice convening the meeting.

- vii. To consider, if the Mauritius Scouts Council deems it fit in view of the urgency of the matter, to add on the agenda of any meeting, any other business of which written notice has been given to the National Scout Board prior to the meeting.
- viii. To appoint External Qualified Auditor/s.
- ix. To receive and adopt the policies of the Association.
- x. To appoint the members of the Independent Electoral Committee.
- xi. To appoint the members of the Appointment Committee.
- xii. To recommend the Chief Scout to the Patron for appointment

14. The National Scout Board

- 14.1 The National Scout Board shall be the managing body of the Association. It exercises a leadership role and provide the strategic direction of the Association. It shall act as the representative of the Mauritius Scouts Council between its meetings.
- 14.2 The National Scout Board shall consist of the following members:
- i. The Chief Scout, with voting rights, who shall act as the chairperson of the National Scout Board
 - ii. The Deputy Chief Scout, with voting rights
 - iii. The Chief Commissioner, with voting rights
 - iv. The Deputy Chief Commissioner, with voting rights
 - v. One independent member from each of the six Districts of the Association, with voting rights
 - vi. Two youth members of the National Youth Scout Council (NYSC), with voting rights
 - vii. The National Finance Commissioner, without voting rights
 - viii. The Administrative Secretary, without voting rights
- 14.3 One independent member from each of the six Districts under section 21.1 shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the District by secret ballot for a term of four years. The election process shall be as follows:
- i. Notice of the election shall be sent thirty days prior to the election by the Administrative Secretary.
 - ii. Nominations for candidates to the National Scout Board shall reach the Secretariat in writing not later than fifteen days before the election, by which date the list of nominations shall be closed.
 - iii. Candidates shall send a profile disclosing personal motivation to stand for election, personal vision for the Association, experience, competencies and any prior criminal conviction to the Secretariat fifteen days prior to the election.
 - iv. The Administrative Secretary shall circulate the profiles of the candidates to the voting members ten days before the election.
 - v. On the day of the Annual General Meeting, a two-round election shall be conducted
 - vi. The two candidates who received the most votes in the first round shall proceed to the final round. In case of a tie, the first round shall be conducted again.
 - vii. The candidate receiving the most vote in the final round shall be elected as independent member to the National Scout Board. In case of a tie, the final round shall be conducted again.

- viii. Each voting member shall have one vote per round.
- 14.4 The eligibility criteria for candidates for the election of independent members to the National Scout Board shall be as follows:
- i. Candidates shall be at least twenty-five of age on the day of the election.
 - ii. Candidates shall be duly registered members with the annual membership fees duly paid at latest by the end of the financial year set as per the Finance Policy.
 - iii. Candidates shall not hold any position in the National Executive Committee, any District Executive Committee or at group level at the time of nominations.
 - iv. Candidates shall not hold the position of Administrative Secretary at the time of nominations.
 - v. Candidates shall not be a member of the Independent Electoral Committee at the time of nominations.
 - vi. Candidates shall not be nominated in more than one election at a time.
 - vii. Any member who has served two consecutive terms on the National Scout Board may only be eligible for re-election after a lapse of four years.
- 14.5 An Independent Electoral Committee shall be set up by the National Scout Board to oversee the process for the election of independent members. The National Scout Board shall recommend the list of members of the Independent Electoral Committee to the Mauritius Scouts Council. The responsibilities of the Independent Electoral Committee shall be as follows:
- i. To verify the eligibility of candidates
 - ii. To supervise the voting process during the election
 - iii. To investigate any irregularity in the election
 - iv. To provide a report of the election to the Mauritius Scouts Council
- 14.6 The two youth members of the NYSC shall be appointed for a non-renewable term of two years and shall be representative of both genders and include the chairman of the NYSC.
- 14.7 The Administrative Secretary shall act as the Secretary of the National Scout Board.
- 14.8 The National Scout Board may solicit any advisor or independent counsel it deems necessary to carry out its duties, including veteran leaders and experienced professionals.
- 14.9 The National Scout Board shall meet at least four times a year.
- 14.10 Over half of the voting members shall form a quorum.
- 14.11 A resolution of the National Scout Board shall be passed if it is agreed to by a majority of the voting members present.
- 14.12 Each member of the National Scout Board shall be entitled to one vote and in the event of equal voting, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. No member shall vote by proxy.
- 14.13 Notwithstanding any paragraph of this section, any religious body/sponsoring authority who may wish to bring to the attention and for consideration of the National Scout Board any matter which ought to be presented and substantiated by that religious body/sponsoring authority, may be allowed to do so at any meeting of the National Scout Board after prior notice in writing to the chairman of the National Scout Board.
- 14.14 Any member who is absent for the three consecutive meetings without reason, his or her seat shall be considered as vacant.

14.15 In the event of suspension, resignation or death of an elected independent member of the National Scout Board, the National Scout Board may decide fill the vacancy by co-option by appointing to the National Scout Board the candidate who was the runner-up of election during which the independent member was elected, until a new election is conducted at the next Annual General Meeting of the District.

14.16 Function of the National Scout Board

The functions of the National Scout Board shall be as follows:

- i. To act on behalf of the Mauritius Scouts Council between its meetings and to give effect to its decisions.
- ii. To promote the welfare of the Scout Movement
- iii. To communicate to the Chief Commissioner in writing any resolution passed relating to the general administration of the Association.
- iv. To convene and establish the agenda of the Annual General Meeting and National Scout Conference of the Mauritius Scouts Council.
- v. To ensure that the management of the funds of the Association by the National Executive Committee are in line with the budget adopted at the Annual General Meeting of the Mauritius Scouts Council and the development of the Association and to approve any request not in line with the budget.
- vi. To recommend to the Mauritius Scouts Council for consideration, approval and adoption of the Budget, Annual Audited Statements of Account, Annual Balance Sheet and the Annual Report at the Annual General Meeting.
- vii. To frame, amend, delete, alter and add By-Laws of the Association provided all such by-laws do not conflict in any respect with any of the section of this Constitution, the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association and the laws of the Republic of Mauritius.
- viii. To call for reports from the Chief Commissioner or any National Commissioner or District Commissioner on any matter when they deem it necessary, providing a notice of no less than thirty days for such request.
- ix. To review and recommend the policies of the Association to the Mauritius Scouts Council for consideration, approval and adoption.
- x. To recommend the list of potential members of the Independent Electoral Committee and of the Appointment Committee to the Mauritius Scouts Council for validation.
- xi. To set up an Appointment Committee for the appointment of the Chief Scout, the Deputy Chief Scout, the Chief Commissioner and the Deputy Chief Commissioner.
- xii. To set up appropriate sub-committees regarding the recruitment of all paid staff including the Administrative Secretary and to decide upon recommendations of the said sub-committees.
- xiii. Upon the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner, District Scout Council and District Commissioner concerned, to register Groups and to issue warrants, signed by the Chief Scout and the Chief Commissioner and similarly to remove any Group from the register and to withdraw the warrants of any such officers.
- xiv. To delegate any of its powers and functions to any Committee of the Association for such period, for such purpose and on such terms as may be deem and withdraw such delegations.
- xv. To establish and maintain a National Headquarters Office.
- xvi. To delegate any of its functions to the Executive Committee as it may deem desirable for the effective, efficient and diligent dispatch of business.

- xvii. To publish the Constitution and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association as adopted by the Mauritius Scouts Council.

15. The National Executive Committee

- 15.1 The National Executive Committee (“NEC”) is the executive body of the Association coordinating the tasks of all National and District Committees. It shall be composed of all National Commissioners and District Commissioners as listed in the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association.
- 15.2 The Committee shall be chaired by the Chief Commissioner and in his or her absence, by the Deputy Chief Commissioner.
- 15.3 The National Executive Committee shall meet every two months preferably at the Headquarters or at any other place determined by the Chief Commissioner.
- 15.4 The Administrative Secretary shall act as the Secretary of the National Executive Committee.
- 15.5 Any warranted Leader and any member of the Mauritius Scouts Association shall, at the request of the Chief Commissioner, attend the meeting of the National Executive Committee to advise or report on matters concerning the welfare of the Association.

15.6 Functions of the National Executive Committee

The functions of the National Executive Committee are:

- i. To ensure regular and effective management of the day-to-day business of the Association, through continuous evaluation, assessment, monitoring, co-ordination of activities of National Commissions and Districts
- ii. To prepare and submit the policies of the Association to the National Scout Board for review.
- iii. To establish, update and implement appropriate policies and procedures for each National Commission and for the Association
- iv. To ensure that risks facing the Association of whatever nature are properly assessed and appropriate control measures are implemented.
- v. To prepare the yearly national programme of activities
- vi. To organize activities at national level
- vii. To prepare and submit the annual budget to the National Scout Board for review and to the Mauritius Scouts Council for approval.
- viii. To organize and monitor expansion and quality of Scouting
- ix. To publish and diffuse communication materials amongst the Association’s members via the Secretariat
- x. To run a Scout Shop providing badges, books, uniform accessories and other scouting items
- xi. To develop and implement a training programme for adults
- xii. To carry on publicity, produce and monitor publications, organize meetings, demonstrations, rallies, conferences and other joint undertakings where the interests of the Association are concerned;
- xiii. With the concurrence of the Chief Commissioner, to register District Scout Councils or to remove them from the register, after consideration from the National Scout Board.

16. Chief Scout

- 16.1 The Chief Scout shall be appointed for a term of four years by the Patron upon the recommendation of the Mauritius Scouts Council.
- 16.2 The National Scout Board shall set up an Appointment Committee, chaired by the outgoing Chief Scout, of no less than five members to submit a suitable candidate to the Mauritius Scouts Council for its consideration. The Appointment Committee shall be independent and representative of the diversity of the Association.
- 16.3 Notice of the vacancy shall be sent by the Administrative Secretary. The criteria for the appointment shall be determined by the National Scout Board, which shall imperatively include the following:
- i. a mature, experienced and duly registered adult member of the Mauritius Scouts Association, with the annual membership fees duly paid at latest by the end of the financial year set as per the Finance Policy;
 - ii. at least twenty five years of age;
 - iii. of excellent character, conduct and integrity;
 - iv. strong leadership skills; and
 - v. fully committed to the spirit of scouting and the scout method.
- 16.4 To all intent and purposes, the appointment of the Chief Scout should be based on merit over the criteria set above or otherwise.
- 16.5 The appointment of the Chief Scout shall be for a period of four years, which may be renewable subject to the approval of the Mauritius Scouts Council for one consecutive term of four years. In any case, the Chief Scout shall not be entitled to serve for more than two terms of four years.
- 16.6 The duties and functions of the Chief Scout shall be:
- i. To act as Chairman of the National Scout Board and the Mauritius Scouts Council and of any other committee as decided by the National Scout Board.
 - ii. To foster and encourage the Scout Movement in the Republic of Mauritius and seek to gain the highest standard of effective Scouting throughout the Association in all respects.
 - iii. In the exercise of his or her duties and functions under section 16.6 (ii), the Chief Scout may visit at his or her own discretion any Scout Group, District Committee or National Commission and may respond to any invitation to visit or attend any activity or meeting.
 - iv. To hold a meeting with the Chief Commissioner at least once a month; and in any circumstance where the need arises for any urgent matter concerning the affairs of the Association, and at his own discretion, to invite any member of the Association at this meeting.
 - v. Subject to paragraph 16.6 (vi) below, take appropriate interim measures in any case of urgency concerning the affairs of the Association and in such circumstance to call a special meeting of the National Scout Board within fifteen days.
 - vi. For ratification or approval of interim measures taken in accordance with section 16.6 (iv) and (v) or in appropriate cases, for consideration of any issue subject matter of a meeting under section 16.6 (iv) above requiring a decision of the National Scout Board.
 - vii. To bring to the attention of the National Scout Board any decision taken, including any urgent decision, pertaining to the affairs and the smooth running of the Association at its next meeting.
 - viii. To delegate any of the powers and functions of the Chief Scout to the Deputy Chief Scout for such period, for such purpose and on such terms as may be deemed and withdraw such delegations.

- ix. To call a special meeting of the National Scout Board for any urgent decision which requires the approval of the National Scout Board.
- x. To call a special meeting of the National Executive Committee for any urgent decision which requires the approval of the National Executive Committee.
- xi. To hold a joint meeting between the National Scout Board and the National Executive Committee at least once every six months to align the strategic orientation and execution of the Association.
- xii. To sign warrant of all adult appointments.
- xiii. To exercise such duties and functions that may be decided by the National Scout Board from time to time.

17. Deputy Chief Scout

- 17.1 The Deputy Chief Scout shall be appointed by the National Scout Board upon the recommendation of the Appointment Committee chaired by the Chief Scout.
- 17.2 The National Scout Board shall set up an Appointment Committee of no less than five members, which shall be independent and representative of the diversity of the Association.
- 17.3 Notice of the vacancy shall be sent by the Administrative Secretary. The criteria for the appointment shall be determined by the National Scout Board, which shall imperatively include the following:
 - i. a mature, experienced and duly registered adult member of the Mauritius Scouts Association, with the annual membership fees duly paid at latest by the end of the financial year set as per the Finance Policy;
 - ii. at least twenty five years of age;
 - iii. of excellent character, conduct and integrity;
 - iv. strong leadership skills; and
 - v. fully committed to the spirit of scouting and the scout method.
- 17.4 To all intent and purposes, the appointment of the Deputy Chief Scout should be based on merit over the criteria set above or otherwise.
- 17.5 The appointment of the Deputy Chief Scout shall be for a period of four years, which may be renewable upon consideration of the National Scout Board for one consecutive term of four years. In any case, the Deputy Chief Scout shall not be entitled to serve for more than two terms of four years.
- 17.6 Functions of the Deputy Chief Scout shall be to carry out such duties or responsibilities that may be assigned to him or her by the National Scout Board and the Chief Scout
- 17.7 In the absence of the Chief Scout or in the event of there being no Chief Scout at any time or inability to exercise his or her duties and functions, subject to the approval of the National Scout Board, the Deputy Chief Scout shall act as interim Chief Scout until resumption of duty of the Chief Scout or appointment of a new Chief Scout.
- 17.8 In the absence of the Deputy Chief Scout or inability to exercise his or her duties and functions, the National Scout Board may on the recommendation of the Chief Scout appoint any member to act as interim Deputy Chief Scout on such terms and condition as the National Scout Board may deem it fit for a period not exceeding three months.

17.9 In the absence of both the Chief Scout and the Deputy Chief Scout or inability to exercise their duties and functions, the National Scout Board shall appoint suitable members of the Association to act as interim Chief Scout and interim Deputy Chief Scout on such terms and condition as the National Scout Board may deem it fit for a period not exceeding three months.

18. Chief Commissioner

18.1 The Chief Commissioner shall be appointed for a term of four years by the National Scout Board upon the recommendation of an Appointment Committee chaired by the Chief Scout.

18.2 The National Scout Board shall set up an Appointment Committee of no less than five members, which shall be independent and representative of the diversity of the Association.

18.3 Notice of the vacancy shall be sent by the Administrative Secretary. The criteria for the appointment shall be determined by the National Scout Board, which shall imperatively include the following:

- i. a mature, experienced and duly registered adult member of the Mauritius Scouts Association, with the annual membership fees duly paid at latest by the end of the financial year set as per the Finance Policy;
- ii. at least twenty five years of age;
- iii. of excellent character, conduct and integrity;
- iv. strong leadership skills; and
- v. fully committed to the spirit of scouting and the scout method.

18.4 To all intent and purposes, the appointment of the Chief Commissioner should be based on merit over the criteria set above or otherwise.

18.5 The appointment of the Chief Commissioner shall be for a period of four years, which may be renewable subject to the approval of the National Scout Board for one consecutive term of four years. In any case, the Chief Commissioner shall not be entitled to serve for more than two terms of four years.

18.6 The Chief Commissioner shall be responsible to the Chief Scout.

18.7 The duties and functions of the Chief Commissioner shall be:

- i. To act as Chairman of the National Executive Committee and of any other committee as decided by the National Scout Board.
- ii. To foster and encourage the Scout Movement in the Republic of Mauritius and seek to gain the highest standard of effective Scouting throughout the Association in all respects.
- iii. The Chief Commissioner may attend any meeting either upon invitation or on his or her own volition in special circumstances where the affairs and smooth running of the Association are at stake or otherwise concerned.
- iv. In the exercise of his or her functions under section 18.7 (iii), the Chief Commissioner shall inform the Chief Scout of his or her intended intervention.
- v. To meet the Chief Scout at least once a month; and in any circumstance where the need arises for any urgent matter concerning the affairs of the Association.
- vi. To bring to the attention of the Chief Scout any decision taken, including any urgent decision in the exercise of his or her functions as under this section and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association.

- vii. To chair an Appointment Committee of no less than five persons, which shall be independent and representative of the diversity of the Association, for appointment at the National level.
- viii. To recommend the District Commissioner to the District Scout Council for appointment.
- ix. To supervise and coordinate the work of the National Commissioners and District Commissioners.
- x. Together with the Chief Scout, to sign warrants of all adult appointments except for the Chief Scout, the Deputy Chief Scout and the Chief Commissioner.
- xi. To organize the management and operation of the Association and to implement projects to meet the goals and objectives set by the Mauritius Scouts Council and of the National Scout Board.
- xii. To implement the resolutions passed by the National Scout Board relating to the general administration of the Association.
- xiii. To enforce the rules of the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association and, wherever applicable, exercise his or her functions in compliance with those rules.
- xiv. To delegate responsibilities to his or her Deputy Chief Commissioner or to a National Commissioner to assist him or her in the exercise of his or her functions, under section 18.7 (xi) and section 18.7 (xii) for such purpose and on such terms as may be deemed and withdraw such delegations.
- xv. To be responsible for the registration of groups and members of the Association, the establishment of Scout Districts, and such measures for the purpose of ensuring the good conduct of members of the scout movement in the Republic of Mauritius and smooth running of the Association.

19. Deputy Chief Commissioner

- 19.1 The Deputy Chief Commissioner shall be appointed by the National Scout Board upon the recommendation of the Appointment Committee chaired by the Chief Commissioner.
- 19.2 The National Scout Board shall set up an Appointment Committee of no less than five members, which shall be independent and representative of the diversity of the Association.
- 19.3 Notice of the vacancy shall be sent by the Administrative Secretary. The criteria for the appointment shall be determined by the National Scout Board, which shall imperatively include the following:
 - i. a mature, experienced and duly registered adult member of the Mauritius Scouts Association, with the annual membership fees duly paid at latest by the end of the financial year set as per the Finance Policy;
 - ii. at least twenty five years of age;
 - iii. of excellent character, conduct and integrity;
 - iv. strong leadership skills; and
 - v. fully committed to the spirit of scouting and the scout method.
- 19.4 To all intent and purposes, the appointment of the Deputy Chief Commissioner should be based on merit over the criteria set above or otherwise.
- 19.5 The appointment of the Deputy Chief Commissioner shall be for a period of four years, which may be renewable upon consideration of the National Scout Board for one consecutive term of four years. In any case, the Deputy Chief Commissioner shall not be entitled to serve for more than two terms of four years.
- 19.6 Functions of the Deputy Chief Commissioner shall be to carry out such duties or responsibilities that may be assigned to him or her by the National Scout Board and the Chief Commissioner.

- 19.7 In the absence of the Chief Commissioner or in the event of there being no Chief Commissioner at any time or inability to exercise his or her duties and functions, subject to the approval of the National Scout Board, the Deputy Chief Commissioner shall act as interim Chief Commissioner until resumption of duty of the Chief Commissioner or appointment of a new Chief Commissioner.
- 19.8 In the absence of the Deputy Chief Commissioner or inability to exercise his or her duties and functions, the National Scout Board may on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner appoint any member to act as interim Deputy Chief Commissioner on such terms and condition as the National Scout Board may deem it fit for a period not exceeding three months.
- 19.9 In the absence of both the Chief Commissioner and the Deputy Chief Commissioner or inability to exercise their duties and functions, the National Scout Board shall appoint suitable members of the Association to act as interim Chief Commissioner and interim Deputy Chief Commissioner on such terms and condition as the National Scout Board may deem it fit for a period not exceeding three months.

20. The Secretariat

- 20.1 The Secretariat shall serve as the administrative body of the Association.
- 20.2 The Secretariat shall comprise the Administrative Secretary and such staff as the Association may require.
- 20.3 The Administrative Secretary shall be responsible to the Chief Scout with dotted line to the Chief Commissioner.

21. Districts

- 21.1 For the purpose of ensuring a better administration and management and to foster better harmony among scouts in Mauritius and Rodrigues, the Association shall operate in a regional organization system, which shall be called a District. The Association shall consist of the following:
- i. North District
 - ii. Port-Louis District
 - iii. Moka/Flacq District
 - iv. Lower Plains Wilhems/Black River District
 - v. Upper Plains Wilhems/South District
 - vi. Rodrigues
- 21.2 The allocation of groups falling under these Districts shall be specified under the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association.

22. Finance

- 22.1 The spirit of the Association is that Scouts should not earn money. Scouts in uniform must not take part in any street sales or collections of money either for their own funds or for those of others. The Association depends financially on the contribution of its own members, on public support and any other form of sponsorship.
- 22.2 Appeals to the Government, to the public and any other bodies in respect of funding and/or any donation in kind shall be made in conformity to the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association.
- 22.3 Illegal methods of raising funds are prohibited and shall include any act which is contrary to the code of conduct of the Association

23. Accounts and Audits

- 23.1 The Mauritius Scouts Council shall cause proper books of accounts to be kept of all money received and expended and of all its assets and liabilities.
- 23.2 The books of accounts shall be kept at the Headquarters of the Mauritius Scouts Association or such other place as the Mauritius Scouts Council may direct and shall be open to the inspection of any member of the Association on application.
- 23.3 The Mauritius Scouts Association shall have one or more banking accounts, which shall be operated jointly by any two of the following:
- i. The Chief Commissioner, in his or her absence, the Deputy Chief Commissioner
 - ii. The National Finance Commissioner and
 - iii. In any case where any two of the above is incapacitated or unable to perform his or her functions, a National Commissioner as designated by the National Scout Board.
- 23.4 The National Finance Commissioner shall lay at each Annual General Meeting of the Mauritius Scouts Council the following set of documents as per the financial year of the Republic of Mauritius:
- i. The Balance Sheet
 - ii. Income & Expenditure Account
 - iii. Bank Account balances
 - iv. Cash flow
 - v. Budget for the coming year
 - vi. And/or any other relevant document.
- 23.5 An External Qualified Auditor shall make a certified report to the Mauritius Scouts Council on the accounts examined by him or her and such report shall be attached to the annual Balance Sheet.
- 23.6 The National Finance Commissioner shall submit the statement of accounts and an updated budget on a quarterly basis to the National Executive Committee.
- 23.7 Mauritius Scouts Association Bank Account is to be operated by any two of the following: (1) Chief Commissioner, (2) Deputy Chief Commissioner, (3) National Finance Commissioner, (4) a board's member with a portfolio of finance.

24. Actions and Proceedings

- 24.1 The Mauritius Scouts Association shall sue or be sued in the name of the Association acting by and through the Chief Commissioner. All notices should be served at the seat of the Association.

25. Interpretation, By-Laws and Amendments

- 25.1 The interpretation of the provisions of this Constitution by the National Scout Board shall be final.

- 25.2 The National Scout Board shall have power to make by-laws, and to vary or cancel the same, to carry out the objects of this Constitution and provide for the effective conduct of the affairs of the Mauritius Scouts Association provided all such by-laws do not conflict in any respect with any of the Section of this Constitution, the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association and the laws of the Republic of Mauritius.
- 25.3 Any alteration, addition, deletion, or amendment to this Constitution and to the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association shall be made by a majority of two thirds of voting members present.
- 25.4 A two-month notice of the proposed alteration, addition, deletion or amendment shall be sent in writing to all members of the Mauritius Scouts Council, setting out the proposed changes.
- 25.5 This Association shall be dissolved pursuant to the provision of the Mauritius Scouts Association Act.

_____ **END OF DOCUMENT** _____