

GENESIS JUNKANOO ORGANIZATION

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

NOW KNOW YE THEREFORE:

We the members of **GENESIS JUNKANOO ORGANIZATION** acknowledge God in all our dealings.
We stand for the Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of the Individual.

WE DO HEREBY PROCLAIM IN SOLEMN PRAISE the Establishment of
GENESIS JUNKANOO ORGANIZATION,

AND DO HEREBY PROMISE TO:

- Let every member develop their minds and bodies based on moral and ethical standards.
- Let every member to do their best to help liberate the mind of the citizens of this nation and let knowledge and truth be a guiding principle.
- Let every member keep their bodies free from abuse of substances that will break us down and we commit ourselves to building stronger, healthier bodies needed to build ourselves and this nation.
- Let every member understand the importance of forgiveness and learn to use their energy to build faith, hope, love friendships and bonds of unity.

1. Name

1.1 This Organization will be called **GENESIS JUNKANOO ORGANIZATION**.

2. Aims and Objectives

2.1 The aim of the Genesis Junkanoo Organisation will be to pursue the following charitable objectives:

- To promote art, culture, outreach and community development, business development, training, and education throughout our local communities;
- To implement and execute plans to ensure said promotion thereby socially, economically and physically enhancing and enriching the lives of each member and persons in the wider community;

- To provide such opportunities and services as the Organization can provide in a way that is fair to all members of the Organization and in the best interest of the Organization;
- To develop sharp minds, good moral character and healthy bodies in the Organization and the community.

2.2 Genesis Junkanoo Organization shall not distribute any income or assets directly or indirectly to its members. This clause shall not prevent the Organization from paying a member in good faith for goods or services provided to the Organization at fair and reasonable rates, or making a payment to a member in carrying out the Organization's charitable purposes. However, no member of the Executive Steering Team shall be paid or remunerated in any way for providing service to the Organization in that capacity.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 The members of the Organization are the initial members, and any other person that the Executive Steering Team of the Organization admits to membership, in accordance with this Constitution and the Bylaws of the Organization.

3.2 The Executive Steering Team shall ensure all members receive fair and equal treatment. Each member will be subject to the Constitution, Bylaws and Code of Conduct of the Organization and upon joining the Organization, will be deemed to have accepted the Organization's Constitution, Bylaws, and Codes of conduct and practice.

3.3 Members will be enrolled in one of the following categories:

3.3.1 **Ordinary Members** - individuals that are financial and fully paid up on membership fees and are actively involved in the Organization.

3.3.2 **Founding Members** – Ordinary Members identified by the EST as having played a key role in the formation and early development of the Organization or that have been honoured for long and outstanding service to the Organization.

3.3.3. **Associate Members** - individuals that may or may not be actively involved in the Organization but provide meaningful service.

3.3.4 **Junior Members** - individuals that have not attained the age of 18 years but are active in the Organization.

3.3.5 **Life/Senior Members** – Ordinary members that have been honoured for long and/or outstanding service to the Organization.

3.4 The Organization shall establish and maintain a current register of members that shall be kept by the Secretary. The Register of members will note for each member:

- 3.4.1 Name,
- 3.4.2 Address,
- 3.4.3 Email address for the service of notices,
- 3.4.4 Date the member was entered on to the Register, and
- 3.4.5 Where applicable, the date the member was removed from the register.

5. MANAGEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION

5.1 The affairs of Genesis Junkanoo Organization shall be managed by an Executive Steering Team (or “EST”) comprised of:-

- 5.1.1 the Chairman
 - 5.1.2 the Vice-Chairman
 - 5.1.3 the Treasurer
 - 5.1.4 the Secretary
 - 5.1.5 the Legal Counsel
 - 5.1.6 the Costume & Design Director
 - 5.1.7 the Fundraising Director
 - 5.1.8 the Marketing Director
 - 5.1.9 the Operations & Asset Management Director
 - 5.1.10 the Outreach & Community Development Director
 - 5.1.11 the Parade Management Director
 - 5.1.12 the People’s Committee Director
 - 5.1.13 the Public Relations Director
 - 5.1.14 the Sponsorship Director
 - 5.1.15 the Frontline Director
 - 5.1.16 the Choreographed Dance Director
 - 5.1.17 the Brass Director
 - 5.1.18 the Beller Director
 - 5.1.19 the Drum Director

5.2 The Executive Steering Team shall be responsible for pursuing the Organization’s aims and objectives and adopting and implementing new policy, codes of practice and rules to inform the Organization’s daily operations. The EST may appoint consultants and/or advisors as and when necessary to conduct its business.

5.3 The Executive Steering Team shall ensure the rules of the Organization are observed and shall take disciplinary action in relation to members who fail to comply with the Organization’s Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct and regulations or whose behaviour is contrary to the ethos of the Genesis Junkanoo Organization.

6. FINANCE

6.1 The financial year of the Organization will begin on 1st April and end on 31st March of the following year.

6.2 All funds received or generated by the Organization will be held in a bank account in the Organization's name at an accredited recognized financial institution within the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

6.3 The Executive Steering Team will be generally responsible for the finances of the Organization and will ensure that the Organization's financial records are kept in accordance with best practices then in effect in the financial industry.

6.4 The Executive Steering Team shall cause a report of the Organization's financial affairs to be prepared and presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

7.1 The Organization shall hold an Annual General Meeting no later than 31st March of each year. The Secretary will give notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM), no less than seven (7) days in advance to all members.

7.2 The AGM will receive reports from the Executive Steering Team including a report of the Organization's financial affairs from the Treasurer.

7.3 The Secretary shall prepare minutes of the proceedings and resolutions of the AGM within fourteen (14) days of the AGM.

8. GROUP ELECTIONS

8.1 There shall be elections for elected posts on the Executive Steering Team of the Organization every three (3) years. Persons elected shall be elected for a three (3) year term.

8.2 Elections for the Executive Steering Team shall be by secret ballot and shall be presided over by an independent committee selected by the People's Committee.

8.3 No person shall be eligible for either election to the EST or to serve on the EST unless he is a fully paid up financial member of the Group.

8.4 The conduct of group elections shall be fair, impartial and transparent. The outcome of elections shall be final and shall not be subject to challenge outside the Organization.

9. DISCIPLINE

9.1 All members of the Organization are expected to adhere to the tenets of its Constitution, Bylaws and Code of Conduct and regulations and to act in accord with the Organization's aims and objectives.

9.2 The Executive Steering Team shall exercise control and supervision over all members of the EST, Committees of the Group and members of the Group at large and reserves the right to suspend or remove any member who behaves in a manner contrary to the ethos of the Group.

10. BRAND MANAGEMENT

10. All logos, slogans and group paraphernalia are the intellectual property of GENESIS JUNKANOO ORGANIZATION LIMITED. Any person or entities, including members of or sections of the Organization, wishing to sell any group paraphernalia or to use the Organization's logos must secure the written authorization of the Executive Steering Team. Any party in breach of this policy will be subject to sanction, including but not limited to legal process.

11. DISSOLUTION

11.1 A resolution to dissolve the Organization can only be passed at an EGM through a majority vote of more than 75% of the financial members then on the Register of Members.

11.2 In the event of dissolution, all the assets of the Organization shall be delivered or transferred to the legal firm that represents the Organization to be held in trust to settle all outstanding debts owed by the Organization.

11.3 Upon settling of the Organization's debts, and subject to any applicable legislation or Court Order, all surplus assets after the Organization is wound up are to be distributed to a charity identified by the Founding Members having purposes similar to, or inclusive of, the charitable aim and objectives of the Genesis Junkanoo Organization.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

12. The Constitution can only be changed by majority vote of 75% of the members at an AGM or EGM at which no less than 75% of the financial members then on the Register of Members is present.

13. DECLARATION

WE THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF GENESIS JUNKANOO ORGANIZATION DO HEREBY ADOPT AND ACCEPT THIS CONSTITUTION AS A CURRENT OPERATING GUIDE REGULATING THE ACTIONS OF ITS MEMBERS.