

Standing Rules of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Adopted November 21, 2000 and Amended September 16, 2003, November 15, 2005,
November 18, 2008, March 2, 2010, and June 15, 2010)

These Standing Rules, having been adopted by the action of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley at its stated meeting of November 21, 2000, and amended September 16, 2003, November 15, 2005, November 18, 2008, March 2, 2010, and June 15, 2010, shall be effective on June 15, 2010, and hereby replace and supersede any and all other standing rules of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.

A. The Mission Statement of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley:

1. As members of the larger Body of Christ and the Presbytery of Scioto Valley, God calls us to live out the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. We do this by building partnerships, communicating with and supporting congregations and leaders, and reaching out into the world with the love of Christ.

B. Authority

1. These Standing Rules are intended, and shall be interpreted, to facilitate the Presbytery's efforts to carry out its mission, consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), particularly Chapters 9 and 11 of the Form of Government, the Code of Regulations of the Presbytery, and the Bylaws of the Presbytery.
2. The parliamentary authority shall be the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, except as provide for in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

C. Meetings of the Presbytery

1. Membership: In addition to the membership mandated by G-11.0100 of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.):
 - a. Each elder elected to be moderator, vice-moderator, stated clerk, treasurer, member of council or chair of a standing committee shall be enrolled as a member of Presbytery during his or her term of office.
 - b. Pursuant to G-11.0100 of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA), in redressing any imbalance of ministers and elder members of the Presbytery, priority shall be given to seating as members Certified Christian Educators who have been ordained as elders and who are employed full time by a congregation in the Presbytery, and Commissioned Lay Pastors who have been assigned to moderate a session of a congregation in the Presbytery.

2. Notice of Business:

- a. The following categories of business for the Presbytery shall be disclosed to minister members of the presbyteries and congregations at least five days in advance of any meeting of the Presbytery, and shall not be acted on at meetings of the Presbytery unless such notice is given:
 - i. Examination of a candidate for ordination;
 - ii. Dissolution of a call if the action is not concurred with by the pastor and congregation;
 - iii. Dissolution of a congregation;
 - iv. Sale, purchase or mortgage of real property owned by the Presbytery, except for requests from congregations to sell, purchase or mortgage property held in trust for the Presbytery by a congregation;
 - v. Election of an officer of the Presbytery, chair of a standing committee, Council or General Assembly or Synod commissioners;
 - vi. The creation of an administrative commission;
 - vii. Approval or disapproval of proposed amendments to the Constitution of the PC(USA);
 - viii. Proposed overtures to the General Assembly;
 - ix. Adoption or amendment of a budget;
 - x. Changes to policies of the Presbytery; or
 - xi. Approval of the Nominating Committee's plan for selection of General Assembly and Synod commissioners.
- b. All other business brought by the Council, Trustees or standing committees of the Presbytery may be brought without advanced notice to the Presbytery.
- c. Any new business brought by a member of Presbytery shall be submitted in writing to the stated clerk and announced to the Presbytery.

D. Nominating Committee

1. The Nominating Committee of the Presbytery shall be responsible for nominating and presenting for election candidates for the following positions and terms:
 - a. Moderator (who shall normally be the current Vice-moderator) for a one-year term;
 - b. Vice-moderator for a one-year term;

- c. Stated clerk (in consultation with the Staff Services Committee) for a three-year term;
 - d. Treasurer (in consultation with the Board of Trustees) for a one-year term;
 - e. Twelve members of Council for three-year terms in equal classes: six at-large members (3 elders and three ministers) and six members (one elder and one minister from each of the three geographical regions of the Presbytery);
 - f. The chair and twelve members of the Board of Trustees for three-year terms in equal classes;
 - g. The chair and 24 members of the Committee on Ministry;
 - h. The chair and 18 members of Committee on Preparation for Ministry;
 - i. The chair and six members of the Committee on Representation;
 - j. The chair and nine members of the Staff Services Committee;
 - k. The chair and six members of the Bills and Overtures Committee (in addition to the commissioners to the most recent General Assembly);
 - l. The chair and nine members of the Certified Lay Professionals Committee;
 - m. The chair and nine members of the Review of Session Records Committee;
 - n. The members of the Permanent Judicial Commission, for six-year terms in three equal classes; and
 - o. Chairs of all other standing committees.
2. All terms will be for three years unless otherwise provided. Individuals are eligible to be re-elected to a second three-year term. No one may serve more than six consecutive years.
 3. That for purposes of electing regional members of Council the Presbytery's churches be divided as follows:
 - a. Northern Group: Bremen-Bethel, Delaware Concord, Delaware First, Delaware Liberty, Delaware Old Stone, Delaware West Berlin, Fredericktown First, Granville First, Homer, Howard Millwood, Iberia, Jacksontown Fairmont, Johnstown, Lancaster First, Lithopolis Bloom, Lewis Center Berlin, London First, Marion First, Marion Forest Lawn, Marion Lee Street, Marysville First, Marysville New California, Mt. Gilead First,, Mt. Vernon First, Newark First, Newark Hanover, Newark Second, Newark Woodside, Ostrander, Pataskala First, Pataskala Jersey, Pataskala Outville, Plain City, Sunbury Condit, Utica, West Rushville, Rushcreek
 - b. Metropolitan Group: Columbus Bethany, Columbus Bethel, Columbus Boulevard, Columbus Broad Street, Columbus Brookwood, Columbus Calvin, Columbus

Central, Columbus Christ, Columbus Covenant, Columbus Crestview, Columbus Eastminster, Columbus Fairmoor, Columbus Glen Echo, Columbus Hoge Memorial, Columbus Indianola, Columbus Korean, Columbus Old First, Columbus Overbrook, Columbus Ramseyer, Columbus Shady Lane, Columbus St. Andrew, Columbus West Second Avenue, Columbus Westminster, Dublin, Gahanna Mifflin, Galloway, Grove City, Groveport, Hilliard, New Albany, Pickerington Prince of Peace, Reynoldsburg First, Reynoldsburg Parkview, Westerville Central College, Westerville First, Westerville Northside Fellowship, Worthington, Worthington Highlands

- c. Southern Group: Amanda, Amesville, Athens First, Athens Alexander, Bainbridge, Bloomingburg First, Chillicothe First, Circleville, Frankfort, Frankfort Concord, Gallipolis First, Greenfield First, Greenfield Pisgah Mt. Pleasant, Harrisonville, Ironton First, Jackson First, Kingston Mt. Pleasant, Kingston Whisler, Logan First, McArthur, Middleport First, Nelsonville First, Oak Hill, Oak Hill Bethel, Oak Hill Horeb, Oak Hill Moriah, Oak Hill Sardis, Portsmouth Central, Portsmouth First, Portsmouth Second, Sedalia Midway, South Salem, Stewart New England, Washington Court House First, Washington Court House McNair Memorial, Waverly First, Wellston First, Wilkesville First.
4. The Nominating Committee, no later than the last stated meeting of the Presbytery held in the third quarter of the calendar year, shall present for approval by the Presbytery a plan for election of commissioners to the Synod and the General Assembly (if the General Assembly is scheduled to meet) for the following year.

E. Council

1. The Presbytery Council, in consultation with the Presbytery's congregations, will initiate discernment of Presbytery mission and how it will be achieved, and will present these to the Presbytery for approval.
2. The elected membership of the Council shall consist of :
 - a. Six at-large members (3 elders and 3 clergy) nominated by Presbytery's Nominating Committee and elected by Presbytery; and
 - b. Six members (one elder and one pastor from each of the three geographical regions of the Presbytery nominated and elected in the same manner.
3. The ex officio membership of the Council (with voice and vote) shall consist of:
 - a. The most recent past Moderator of the Presbytery, who shall serve as the Moderator of Council;
 - b. The Moderator of the Presbytery, who shall serve as the Vice-Moderator of Council;
 - c. The Vice-Moderator of the Presbytery;
 - d. The Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery;

- e. The Moderator of the Committee on Ministry;
 - f. The Moderator of the Staff Services Committee;
 - g. The President of the Presbytery Board of Trustees;
 - h. The Executive Presbyter;
 - i. The Associate Executive Presbyter; and
 - j. The Stated Clerk.
4. Council shall serve as the prime communicator with congregations and committees of the Presbytery concerning vision, mission, and program and will serve as a coordinator of all committee actions being referred to Presbytery for action.
 5. Each member of Council will serve as a liaison to one or more Presbytery committees and will be the person bringing regular reports on each committee's work to each Council meeting.
 6. Council, with input from the Board of Trustees, committees and congregations, shall be responsible for preparing the final budget proposed to the Presbytery.
 7. Council will establish and administer a process each year to enable all committees of the Presbytery to set goals and to measure results intended to further the mission of the Presbytery.

F. Committees

1. The Presbytery, in addition to committees required by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in G-9.0902a, shall have the following standing committees:
 - a. Congregational Nurture;
 - b. Mission Partnerships;
 - c. Higher Education;
 - d. Self-Development of People;
 - e. Peacemaking and Justice;
 - f. New Church Development;
 - g. Church Transformation;
 - h. Staff Services;
 - i. Certified Lay Professionals;

- j. Bill and Overtures; and
 - k. Session Records Review.
2. Each committee, including the Presbytery Council and the Board of Trustees, may create subcommittees or task forces as its needs demand.
 3. Each committee will set goals and will measure results for its activities to be consistent with the mission of the Presbytery.
 4. The Council may approve the formation of additional committees in the Presbytery, which may be made standing committees by action of the Presbytery.

G. Delegation:

1. The Committee on Ministry is delegated the authority to take all actions, between stated meetings of the Presbytery, that may be delegated to that committee under G-11.0502h of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA), provided that all actions taken are reported to the next stated meeting of the Presbytery.
2. The Board of Trustees is delegated all authority as provided for in the Code of Regulations of the Presbytery and the Bylaws of the Presbytery. The following additional authority is delegated:
 - a. With the concurrence of the New Church Development or Church Transformation Committee, as appropriate, to approve, between stated meetings of the Presbytery, requests from congregations to sell, lease, purchase or mortgage property as required by G-8.0500 of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA), provided that:
 - i. All actions taken under G-8.0500 shall state the reason action was necessary before a stated meeting of the Presbytery and
 - ii. No funds from the sale of property shall be disbursed until after the next stated meeting of the Presbytery.
 - b. Through a committee of six individuals (three appointed from the Board of Trustees, one of whom will be designated the chair, and three appointed by the Presbytery Council), and in consultation with the Treasurer and Business Manager, to manage the current financial operations (with authority to amend the current fiscal year budget) and to develop future fiscal year budgets, provided that:
 - i. All actions to amend the current year budget, including the reasons for the actions, shall be reported to the next stated meeting of the Presbytery; and
 - ii. Recommendations for future year budgets will be forwarded in a timely manner to the Board of Trustees for recommendation to the Presbytery for final adoption.

3. The Moderator of the Presbytery is delegated the authority
 - a. To appoint installation commissions, investigating committees, and committees of counsel;
 - b. Upon approval of a call by the Committee on Ministry or the Presbytery, to appoint an installation commission.
 - c. Whenever circumstances require the appointment of an investigating committee or a committee of counsel, the Moderator of the Presbytery shall make such appointments and report them to the Stated Clerk, who shall announce the appointments at the next stated meeting of the Presbytery.

H. Policies

1. The Presbytery may from time to time adopt such policies as may be necessary to effectively and consistently carry out the Presbytery's constitutional responsibilities or ministry initiatives. Policies may be proposed by any entity of the Presbytery referenced in these standing rules.
2. Policies shall be adopted by a majority vote of presbyters present and voting at a properly noticed meeting subsequent to the meeting at which the proposed policy was presented for first reading.
 - a. The sponsoring entity may receive comment and make additions, deletions and corrections to the proposed policy between the first and second readings, provided that all substantive (non-editorial) changes are noted in the call to the second meeting.
 - b. Presbytery may approve amendments to a policy at the time of debate.
 - c. The sponsoring entity may withdraw a proposed policy prior to the second reading or postpone the second reading to the next stated meeting.
3. All policies, unless otherwise noted, will take effect upon Presbytery approval, and will remain in force until the Presbytery, by a majority vote, amends the policy, adopts a replacement policy, or rescinds the policy.
4. The Stated Clerk shall maintain an accurate compilation of all Presbytery policies. The Stated Clerk will annually review all policies in force at the time to ensure that they are in compliance with and are not contradictory to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or the Presbytery's Articles of Incorporation, Code of Regulations, Bylaws, Standing Rules or other adopted policies.
5. The Stated Clerk, upon receipt of changes to the *Book of Order*, shall review all policies for accuracy of constitutional citations. As long as the substance of the changes to the *Book of Order* does not change the substance or intent of the policies, the Stated Clerk

will report the editorial changes to the Presbytery and make the changes to the policies as published. Changes of a substantive nature will require presentation to and approval by the Presbytery as provided above.

I. Miscellaneous

1. Review: The Presbytery shall appoint a committee to review the efficacy of the provisions of these Standing Rules not less than every three years.
2. These standing rules shall, to the extent possible, be interpreted to maintain consistency with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including any amendments thereto. To the extent these standing rules cannot be interpreted consistent with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), including any amendments thereto, the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall control the proceedings of the Presbytery. Annually, the Stated Clerk shall report whether any amendment to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is inconsistent with these standing rules, and if so, **to** propose appropriate amendments to these Standing Rules to insure consistency between the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and these standing rules.
3. These standing rules shall, to the extent possible, be interpreted to maintain consistency with the Code of Regulations of the Presbytery, including any amendments thereto. To the extent these standing rules cannot be interpreted consistent with the Code of Regulations of the Presbytery, including any amendments thereto, the Code of Regulations shall control the proceedings of the Presbytery.
4. These standing rules shall, to the extent possible, be interpreted to maintain consistency with the Bylaws of the Presbytery, including any amendments thereto. To the extent these standing rules cannot be interpreted consistent with the bylaws, including any amendments thereto, the bylaws shall control the proceedings of the Presbytery.
5. Amendment:
 - a. These Standing Rules may be amended, subject to the bylaws of the Presbytery, the Code of Regulations of the Presbytery, the Charter of the Corporation, the laws of the state of Ohio and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), by approval of the Presbytery at any stated or special meeting of the Presbytery by a majority vote of those present, provided that a full reading of the proposed changes or a distribution by any printed or electronic means of the same shall have been made in connection with the call of the meeting.
 - b. These Standing Rules may not be amended contrary to or so as to not include the provisions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).