



## **Constitution of the United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order**

Revised December 13th, 2024

### **Article I: Mission Statement**

United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order traces its founding to the original Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order, an affiliate of the *International Workers Order* founded in 1930 by working class Jewish-Americans in the secular, non-Zionist Jewish tradition.

We recognize that anti-semitism is used by the bosses, both within and without the work place, to divide working people. In society, elevated forms of anti-semitism opens the door to fascism.

Fascism is the most chauvinistic and the highest form of exploitation of the working class. Bosses and fascists use anti-semitism as a form of scapegoating. We organize with all peoples that want to see the end of anti-semitism, fascism, racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia. We welcome all ethnic Jewish People to join us as we promote secular Jewish culture and traditions.

## **Article II: Membership**

### **Section 1: Individual membership**

- Individuals that agree with the main principles and objectives in the Mission Statement and pay regular membership fees to the National Committee (not clubs) are members of the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (UJPFO)**.
- All members need to be involved in their regional club.
- A member in good standing is any individual that has paid the membership fee to the National Committee (not clubs) within the previous 12 months and who has neither resigned their membership nor been expelled for cause.
  - § A member in good standing shall have all the rights of membership, including prior notice of all club meetings and the national meeting of members, the right to attend, to speak according to Robert's Rules of Order and to vote at club meetings, and the right to accept appointments for various positions in the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (UJPFO)**.
- Reasonable cause for expulsion includes, but is not limited to, actively agitating against the principles and policies of the organization.

### **Section 2: Club membership**

- **Rights of clubs:**

- § Will be given a charter from the Executive Committee.

- § Shall have one representative on the National Committee of the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (UJPFO)**.

- § Club representatives to the National Committee shall be selected by the club and approved by the Executive Committee.

- § Shall be represented by voting delegates at the National Convention of the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (UJPFO)** Convention every four years.

§ The number of voting club delegates shall be determined by a formula established by the Executive Committee based on the proportional size of the number of club members in good standing. In no case shall any formula be established which results in a club being unrepresented at the National Convention.

○ **Responsibilities of clubs to members:**

§ A club is required to give prior notice to all members in good standing of regular club meetings.

§ A club may not deny a member in good standing the right to attend, to speak according to Robert's Rules of Order, or to vote at regular club meetings.

○ **Responsibilities of clubs to the national organization:**

§ All clubs of the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (UJPFO)** shall be responsible for adhering to and executing the general policies and programs of the National Committee of **UJPFO**. Each certified club chair shall be responsible for giving regular reports about its meetings and activities to the Executive Committee and shall raise funds needed for the regular operation of the national organization of **UJPFO**. No club shall make public statements or take public positions on behalf of **UJPFO** unless directed by the Executive Committee.

○ **Membership dues and fees:**

§ All individual membership fees are collected by the Executive Committee annually.

**Article III:** General Membership meetings occur as the National Committee sees fit. Meetings are open to all members. The meetings are managed by the **UJPFO** Executive Committee.

**Article IV:** Standing committees are established as the National Committee sees fit. Examples of standing committees include the Research committee and the Brochure committee.

**Article V:** The National Committee is the governing body of **UJPFO**. The National Committee is authorized to make decisions on all business and policy matters.

1. Duties and expectations. The National Committee approves policies, procedures, and plans for the organization; accepts proposals from the membership; brings in new

members; and raises funds. National Committee members are also expected to participate in **UJPFO** activities such as: managing and attending general, district, club, committee, and National Committee meetings; volunteer staffing; fundraising and events; and publicizing **UJPFO** activities. The National Committee's overall responsibility is to help committees, districts, and clubs reach their goals and keep **UJPFO** "on track" by dealing with the administrative needs of the organization.

**The National Committee will be led by an executive consisting of at least three people, including, at minimum, a chair and a secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer position can be divided among two people in the form of a financial secretary position and a recording secretary position.**

2. Meetings. The National Committee will meet at least twice a year. A simple majority of the number of National Committee members shall constitute a quorum. National Committee members are expected to attend at least half of the National Committee meetings during the year.

3. Officers of the National Committee include the Chair, Vice-Chair, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Media Secretary, and Outreach Secretary.

a. **Chair:** The chair acts as the spokesperson for the organization, schedules meetings, invokes meetings of the executive committee for, and presides over, the National Committee and general meetings.

b. **Vice-Chair:** The vice-chair also works closely together with the chair and is expected to fill the role of chair when the chair is unable to perform their duties. They need to have records of all members of **UJPFO** including their email address and phone numbers. The vice-chair ensures that members are notified about meetings and that the agenda and related materials are shared. The vice-chair will fulfill or delegate any secondary secretary role (Financial, Outreach, Press).

c. **Recording Secretary:** The secretary takes minutes at meetings, distributes them to Executive Committee members within 48 hours, and keeps files of minutes on record.

d. **Financial Secretary:** They are tasked with reviewing finances and communicating with the National Committee on budgetary issues including dues payments.

e. **Outreach Secretary:** Is responsible for contacting and networking with other organizations promoting views aligned with those of **UJPFO**.

f. **Press Secretary:** Is responsible for dealing with the news including social media.

4. The National Committee will elect officers to the above positions.

## **Article VI: Districts and Clubs**

Districts are geographical subdivisions of national **UJPFO**.

Clubs are subdivisions of districts that are, at minimum, the entire district of major urban areas, or other areas where **UJPFO** members are concentrated.

Districts are expected to hold organizational meetings quarterly, and clubs are expected to hold regular meetings (minimally once a quarter; clubs should meet more frequently during election cycles) to be attended by their executive committee, including at minimum a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Recording Secretary (other possible roles include Membership Secretary, Financial Secretary, Press Secretary), and their general body. Additionally, the executive committee will meet separately and regularly to establish the agenda for the following general meeting. In both meetings a simple majority shall constitute a quorum.

## **Article VII: National Convention**

The National Convention is the primary decision-making body of the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (UJPFO)**. The National Convention is the highest body of the **United Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order**. It will meet every five years in person and/or by video conference. Club Delegates will elect the National Committee for the next four years.

Clubs will elect delegates (See Article II; Rights of Clubs) for the National Convention.

## **Article VIII: Activities and funds**

The Executive Committee will vote to approve expenditures. The National Chair and National Financial Secretary may directly approve expenses under a predetermined limit as defined by the National Committee. The National Committee as a whole must approve any expenses which would create a major change in the budget.

The constitution and the by-laws may be amended by the National Committee of **UJPFO**, subject to two-thirds majority. At the next National Convention, these changes will be voted on for final approval, again requiring a two-thirds majority of National Convention delegates.

**Article IX: Jewish Peoples Schule**

**UJPFO** is responsible for operating and setting the curriculum for the Jewish Peoples Schule (School).

**Article X: Jewish Life**

**UJPFO** is responsible for producing Jewish Life, the publication of the UJPFO.