

**BY-LAWS OF  
THE TEXAS FEDERATION OF  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA**

**(Organized September 22, 1935)**

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this Federation shall be “The Texas Federation of the Theosophical Society in America.”

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSES**

The purpose of this Federation is to form a solidarity of Lodges and Study Centers through which those Lodges and Study Centers can unite in co-operation and co-ordination of their forces for the extension of Theosophy and Universal Brotherhood, and the strengthening of the activities of each individual Lodge and Study Center.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Federation shall include only those Theosophical Lodges and Study Centers in the State of Texas whose charters have been granted by The Theosophical Society with International headquarters in Chennai, India, and issued through the American Section of that Society at Olcott, Wheaton, Illinois.

**ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS**

The officers of the Federation shall be President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Elections shall be held at the annual Federation meeting of each year. One person may hold both offices of Secretary and Treasurer. All officers and board members shall be members (in good standing) of the Theosophical Society in America. Newly elected officers shall take office on July 1st. The term of office shall be one official federation year; that is, July 1 to June 30, inclusive.

**ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board of the Federation shall be composed of two duly elected board member from each Lodge and Study Center of the Federation, and Officers as stated in Article IV.

**ARTICLE VI – ELECTION OF BOARD DELEGATES AND FEDERATION OFFICERS**

Before the annual meeting of the Federation, each Lodge and Study Center shall elect two of its members who are in good standing, to the Executive Board of the Federation to serve for the ensuing year.

In the course of the business meeting, the Board shall elect the President for the following year. The President shall appoint the remaining officers as described in Article IV.

## **ARTICLE VII – POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The duties of the Executive Board shall be to devise ways and means of carrying out the purposes of the Federation and to act as general business director of the organization.

## **ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

THE PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Federation and shall act as Chairman of the Executive Board and perform such other duties as pertain to that office.

THE SECRETARY shall keep the records of all the meetings of the Federation and perform such other duties as pertain to that office.

THE TREASURER shall keep the financial records of the Federation and receive and disburse all funds, subject to the approval of the President and ratification by the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE IX – FEES OR DUES**

There shall be a registration fee for the annual Federation meeting which will be determined by the Hosting Lodge or Study Center.

## **ARTICLE X – MEETING OF FEDERATION AND EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Meetings of the Federation shall be held annually between April 15th and June 20th and at such other times as may be decided upon by the Executive Board. At least thirty (30) days notice shall be provided to the members.

The place of meeting shall be determined by the Convention or by the Executive Board.

A meeting of the Executive Board shall be held at each regular meeting of the Federation but such business as may be necessary between meetings shall be conducted by correspondence and ratified at the next regular meeting of the Board.

## **ARTICLE XI – VOTING AUTHORITY**

All members of the Theosophical Society shall be eligible to attend the meetings of the Executive Board and all members of the Executive Board shall be eligible to vote. The elected board members shall represent the electing Lodge or Study Center at business meetings and shall make a report to the electing Lodge or Study Center of the Federation proceedings. Ordinarily each Board member shall have ONE vote. However, any Board member may vote the proxy of any absent Board member. In such a case, the attending Board member may have TWO votes. This will assure an equal number of votes for each Lodge or Study Center, even though only one representative is present.

A majority of the voting members present shall constitute a quorum for conducting business.

## **ARTICLES XII – AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these By-Laws may be made by notice signed by two or more member Lodges or Study Centers, submitted in writing to the Secretary and President at least 45 days before the annual meeting of the Federation. The Secretary shall immediately provide copies of the proposed amendments to all member Lodges and Study Centers. Amendments shall take effect if passed by a two-thirds vote of the delegates and Executive Board members present at that Federation meeting and approved by a majority of members present.

## **ARTICLE XIII – RULES OF ORDER**

The Rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the Federation in all cases in which they are applicable and when not inconsistent with these By-Laws or the standing Rules of the Federation.

Amended in 1953 and 1960

Ongoing Revisions on the By-Laws: April 2014, August 2015, April 2016