

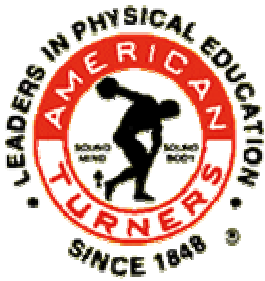
# CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT OF THE AMERICAN TURNERS

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS



This Constitution and By-Laws were adopted at the 130<sup>th</sup> Convention of The Central States District of The American Turners at Ft. Wayne, IN.- March 10, 2001.

Mark Royer, President  
Lynda Beha, By-Laws Chairman  
ATTEST: Dona Shafer, Secretary



# CONSTITUTION

## CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT OF THE AMERICAN TURNERS

### ARTICLE I Name and Purpose

**Section 1.** The Name of this organization shall be Central States District of the American Turners.

The American Turners is a federation of Turner Societies in the United States of America, organized to promote the ideals of the Constitution of the United States of America, Physical Education, and disseminate rational ideas in order to advance the Health, Happiness, Prosperity and Progress of Mankind.

### ARTICLE II Membership

**Section 1.** The Central States District of the American Turners is composed of the following Societies:

- Athenaeum Turners, Indianapolis, IN
- Central Turners, Cincinnati, OH
- Covington Turners, Covington, KY
- Fort Wayne Turners, Ft. Wayne, IN
- Louisville, Turners, Louisville, KY
- Michiana Turners, South Bend, IN
- River City Turners, Louisville, KY
- Southside Turners, Indianapolis, IN
- Toledo Turners, Toledo, OH

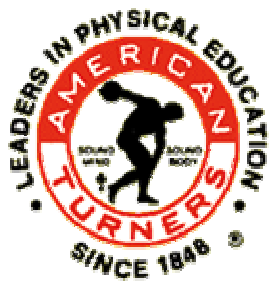
**Section 2.** Any other Turner Society may be admitted to membership in the Central States District of the American Turners provided that its constitution and by-laws do not conflict with the Declaration of Principles and the statutes of the American Turners.

### ARTICLE III The District Convention

**Section 1.** A convention of the Central States District of the American Turners shall take place every year in conformity with the rules and regulations described in the By-Laws following.

### ARTICLE IV The District Executive Committee

**Section 1.** Affairs of the Central States District of the American Turners shall be managed by an Executive Committee whose selection and duties are described in the By-Laws following.



# BY-LAWS

## CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT OF THE AMERICAN TURNERS

### ARTICLE I

#### Name and Purpose

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be Central States District of the American Turners. The American Turners is a federation of Turner Societies in the United States of America, organized to promote the ideals of the Constitution of the United States of America and physical education and disseminate rational ideas in order to advance the health, happiness, prosperity and progress of mankind.

### ARTICLE II

#### Membership

**Section 1.** Every Turner Society that wishes to join the District organization must pay an initiation fee of \$50.00, and if admitted during the first nine months of the year, also pay the national and district dues for the current year. Application for membership shall be considered for approval by the District Executive Committee of the American Turners.

**Section 2.** Every Society wishing to join the District must send with its application to the District Committee three copies of its by-laws, together with a resolution signifying its acceptance of the Declaration of Principles and Statutes of the American Turners and the constitution of the Central States District.

**Section 3.** Admittance to the Central States District shall not be definite until approved by the National Executive Committee of the American Turners.

**Section 4.** Societies that have been suspended or expelled may be readmitted if they meet all their obligations toward the District: subject, however, to the provisions of the three foregoing sections.

### ARTICLE III

#### District Convention

**Section 1.** The Convention of the Central States District shall take place every year in the spring, the time and place to be decided by the Societies at mid-winter conference or agreed upon by executive Committee.

**Section 2.** Every Society with 25 members or less shall be entitled to representation with one vote, and for each additional 25 members, or fraction exceeding one-half of 25, to one additional vote. Total of paid membership cards of the previous fiscal year shall be used as basis for representation.

**Section 3.** Every Society shall be obligated to send representatives to the District Convention. Any Society failing to send representative without valid excuse may be suspended from the District by resolution of the District Executive Committee. No Society vote can be cast by proxy.

**Section 4.** The number of delegates elected by any society shall not exceed the number of votes to which the society is entitled on the basis described in Section 2 of this Article. One delegate may represent all of the votes of his society. If any delegates should be absent, the remaining delegates of the Society may cast the full vote of the delegation.

**Section 5.** The District Secretary will notify each Society at least eight weeks before the date of the convention.

**Section 6.** The expenses of delegates to the District Convention shall be borne by the respective Societies.

**Section 7.** Members of the District Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer), shall not be eligible to serve as delegates, but may take part in the deliberations without a vote.

**Section 8.** All the officers of the District Executive Committee shall attend the Convention, and the traveling expenses incurred shall be paid out of the District Treasury.

**Section 9.** The Societies of the District are expected to send a list of delegates from the respective Society that will be attending the convention. An officer of the Society must certify this list of delegates.

**Section 10.** All recommendations and resolutions intended to be submitted to the Convention shall be sent to the District Executive Committee no later than four weeks before the Convention.

**Section 11.** Special Conventions may be called by the District Executive Committee in emergencies, upon the written demand of two-fifths of the Societies in the District. It shall be the duty of the District Executive Committee to call such special conventions, and to notify the Societies at least two weeks in advance.

**Section 12.** The District Convention shall be conducted as follows:

- a) Opening of the Convention by the District President or his representatives.
- b) Reading of reports of District Officers.
- c) The President will call the meeting to order and then call for nominations from the floor for Chairman of the Convention, and after nominations are closed, call for election of the Convention Chairman.
- d) The Chairman shall now ask for nominations from the floor for vice chairman, and secretary of the Convention, and after nominations are closed call for elections for each office.
- e) Reports of committees.
- f) Unfinished business
- g) New business
- h) Adjournment.

#### **ARTICLE IV** **District Executive Committee**

**Section 1.** The District Convention shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, and a Treasurer, each from a different Society if at all possible. These officers will make up the Executive Committee.

**Section 2.** The President of each Society, not represented by a member on the Executive Committee, shall appoint a representative from that respective Society to serve on the District Board of Directors. This appointment must be made and the Executive Committee notified with name of the representative within four weeks after the convention.

**Section 3.** The term of office of the District Executive Committee shall be a two-year term, however the appointed representatives on the District Board of Directors from the Societies may be changed or replaced by the respective Societies as needed.

## **ARTICLE V** **National Delegates**

**Section 1.** Delegates will be appointed from their Society to attend the National Convention of the American Turners.

**Section 2.** The expenses of the District's representation at the National Convention shall be borne by the District, and the amount of the appropriation fixed by the District Convention. Delegates who absent themselves from the sessions of the National Convention shall have no claim upon the appropriation.

## **ARTICLE VI** **Reports**

**Section 1.** The member Societies are required to furnish forty (40) copies of annual reports of their membership and activities to the District Convention.

## **ARTICLE VII** **Dues**

**Section 1.** To cover the expenses of administration an annual assessment is to be paid for each member of the District organization, the sum to be fixed by the District Convention.

**Section 2.** The total per capita tax is to be computed upon the basis of regulation as adopted by the National Executive Board.

**Section 3.** All District assessments must be paid ten days before the Convention of the current year. Should such District dues not be paid by the date of the Convention, the delinquent Society shall not be entitled to be seated as a delegate at the District Convention.

## **ARTICLE VIII** **District Tournaments**

**Section 1.** District Tournaments can be held anytime, except within thirty days of a National Turnfest.

**Section 2.** The location of the District Tournaments shall be determined by the District Convention, Societies not participating in the previous years event are not eligible to bid unless no other Society bids on the event.

**Section 3.** The date of the event as well as the arrangement of the program for the event shall be left up to the host Society. All District societies shall be notified 90 days in advance of the event date.

**Section 4.** The tournament rules, as approved by the District Convention, shall govern all contests.

**Section 5.** The host Society should provide awards and measuring devices for the District Tournaments, and publication of the event shall be published by the host Society 90 days in advance.

**Section 6.** It shall be the duty of the host Society to tabulate the performances of all Turners competing, with the markings of each umpire, and to record the same. Tournament results shall be sent to all Societies within thirty (30) days after the event. A report must be submitted within 30 days to the District Treasurer for any possible reimbursements.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Duties of the District Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer)**

**Section 1.** It is the duty of the District Executive Committee to bring the resolutions of the National and District Conventions to the early attention of the Societies.

**Section 2.** It shall look after all administrative business with punctuality, and guard the interests of the District in every particular.

**Section 3.** It shall be empowered to take action according to its best judgment, in any case not covered by the Constitution and By-laws, and shall report thereon to the next Convention.

**Section 4.** It shall hear all complaints and appeals, and decide them strictly in accordance with the Statues of the American Turners.

**Section 5.** The regular sessions of the District Executive Committee shall take place as deemed necessary by the President.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Duties of Officers**

**Section 1.** It shall be the Presidents duty:

- a) To conduct the meetings of the Executive Committee, and to see that the Statutes of the Turners and the Constitution and By-laws of the District are faithfully observed, and also it see that all mandates are carried out. He shall be ex-officio member of all committees.
- b) To call special meetings when he deems it necessary or when two-fifths of the members of the District Board of Directors ask for it.
- c) To call the District Convention to order and render to it a general report of all District activities.
- d) Receive the annual statistical reports of the Societies of the District, deliver one copy of them to the Secretary and forward a copy to the National Office.
- e) To guard the seal of the District, for the proper use of which he shall be responsible

**Section 2.** It shall be the Vice-presidents duty:

- a) To assist the President in performance of his duties and act in his place should he be absent.

**Section 3.** It shall be the Secretary's duty:

- a) To conduct the correspondence of the District
- b) To prepare the list of the delegates to the National Convention.
- c) To receive the annual statistical reports of the Societies of the District from the President.

- d) To submit to the District Convention a complete statistical report.
- e) To secure all documents pertaining to the District and National Committees, and send blank forms, reports, minutes, circulars, etc., promptly to the Societies of the District.
- f) To keep a record of all meetings of the District Executive Committee.
- g) To receive and file the minutes of the District Convention and any special conventions.

**Section 4.** The Treasurer shall perform the following duties:

- a) To collect promptly the assessments for the National and District dues, as well as any other obligations from the Societies of the District.
- b) To report at every meeting of the Executive Committee all receipts and expenditures. At every regular District Convention submit an annual report, together with books and papers.
- c) To open books to the District Executive Committee or individual members thereof upon request.
- d) To deposit all monies of the District Executive Committee in a bank designated by the Committee, and under the name of the District as its Treasurer.
- e) To pay all warrants issued in accordance with the provisions of these By-laws
- f) To render an annual report of "Cultural Activities to the District Convention.

## ARTICLE XI

### **Duties of the Committee Chairperson and their Committees**

**Section 1.** The Cultural Chairman shall perform the following duties.

- a) Visit Societies when instructed to do so by the Executive Committee, to observe, instruct, or promote cultural programs, and to report annually to the Executive Committee as to the status of Cultural Education of the member Societies of the District.
- b) Make suitable recommendations of programs of interest to Turners to the District Executive Committee for the promotion of cultural activities for the District and Local Societies.
- c) Assist the host Society to arrange cultural exhibits at District events.
- d) Collect copies of the local Societies quarterly reports of cultural education activities send to the National office and report this information to the District Executive Committee.
- e) In the event the National Turnfest is held within the District, the Cultural Chairman is to assist the National Cultural Chairman and the Turnfest Chairman.
- f) To render an annual report of Cultural Activities to the District Convention.

**Section 2.** The duties of the Physical Education Chairperson

- a) To visit the Societies when instructed to do so by the Executive Committee, to observe the physical instruction, and to report once during their term to the Executive Committee as to the status of physical training.
- b) Make suitable recommendations to the District Executive Committee for the promotion of physical training, and for the education of efficient class leaders

**Section 3.** The duties of the Bowling Chairman shall:

- a) Assist the host Society with the information, rules, advice and supervision necessary for a successful District Bowling Tournament.
- b) Enforce the rules of the Central States District Bowling Rules that shall govern all bowling tournaments
- c) Ensure the participants in District Tournaments are members in good standing for at least three months before the Tournament. Only card carrying American Turners, a son or daughter of a Turner member, under the age of 18, with a family membership will be eligible to participate in the District Bowling activities.

**Section 4.** The duties of the Golf Chairman shall be:

- a) To assist the host Society with the information, rules, advice and supervision necessary for a successful District Golf Tournament.

**Section 5.** The duties of the Athletic Chairman shall be:

- a) To assist the host Society with the information, rules, advice and supervision necessary for a successful Athletic event
  1. Softball
  2. Basketball
  3. Volleyball
  4. Any other field events.

## **ARTICLE XII** **Publicity Director**

**Section 1.** The Publicity Director shall be appointed by the Executive Committee shall have only an advisory voice not a voting voice in its deliberations.

**Section 2.** Publicity Director shall gather news from all Societies, Cultural Education, Physical Education and social activities from all Societies of the District through correspondence or by being present at meetings, social affairs, etc.

**Section 3.** Send a condensed report to Turner Topics each month.

**Section 4.** Give a report to the District annual Convention

## **ARTICLE XIII** **Complaints and Appeals**

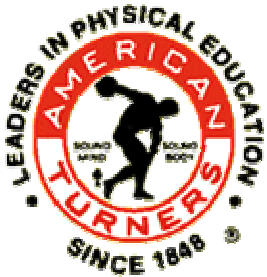
**Section 1.** The District Executive Committee in conformity with the Statutes of the American Turners shall hear all complaints and appeals.

## **ARTICLE XIV** **Robert's Rules of Order**

**Section 1.** Anything not covered in specificity in these By-laws will be governed in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

## **ARTICLE XV** **Changing of the By-laws**

**Section 1.** These By-laws may be changed, altered or amended by any District Convention, two-thirds of the total District votes being necessary for adoption.



# CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT THE AMERICAN TURNERS

OF

## HONOR AWARD

Revised 4/15/89, Pg.2, Para.2,  
District Convention Minutes

All applications for the Honor Award must be submitted to the District Executive Board sixty days before a District Convention. It must be submitted by the Board of Directors of the society in which the nominee(s) is a member. An analysis of the nominee's qualifications must accompany the application. After review by the District Board the application will be submitted to the District Convention to be acted upon. An applicant and spouse may receive the award jointly (1 plaque) providing each have been members for at least ten (10) years.

Since the District Honor Award is the highest award of the District, it is desirable to set certain minimum standards, which can be used to determine whether or not applicants are qualified to receive this award.

### **I. SOCIETY LEVEL**

An applicant must have been a member of the American Turners for at least the (10) years.

An applicant must have made an outstanding contribution toward the maintenance and promotion of the American Turner principles in his local society.

Being an officer in his/her local society does not necessarily qualify him/her. However, if as an officer, he/she has distinguished himself/herself on the society level in a manner, which has created awareness in his/her community of the importance of the American Turners in reference to the Physical and Cultural advantages available in a Turner society, this could become a qualification of considerable importance. The length of years as an officer or board member should be considered.

His/her contributions to the various aspects of the society program, such as physical education, cultural education, social activities and guiding the affairs of the society should be taken into consideration. His/her active participation in both physical and cultural education programs will be a desirable qualification.

### **II. DISTRICT LEVEL**

He/she should have taken an active part in District activities, such as conventions, play days, cultural exhibitions, bowling tournaments or other tournaments, either as a participant or worker in or director of such affairs.

### **III. NATIONAL LEVEL**

His/her participation in National Turnfests, tournaments, National Convention and any other National events should be considered. Contribution of articles to Turner Topics should be considered.

Lack of National participation does not necessarily disqualify him/her.