

JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION



YOUTH DEPARTMENT BYLAWS

Revised March 2012'

JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION YOUTH DEPARTMENT BYLAWS

I. NAME

The name shall be the Jamaica Baptist Union Youth Department hereinafter called the JBUYD.

II. OBJECTIVES

In support of the Jamaica Baptist Union and its objectives, the Youth Department, through its various functions, shall attempt to achieve the following objectives:

1. To inspire witness among young people and engage them in ministry of missions and evangelism by:
 - a) informing its member bodies concerning new forms and spheres of work and witness and
 - b) the use of the Jamaica Baptist Union, Caribbean Baptist Fellowship and Baptist World Alliance publications and other forms of communication.

2. To challenge young persons to maintain an ongoing personal relationship with God as the basis for meaningful involvement in the life of the church.

3. To foster better relationships and fellowship among Baptist youth and others.
4. To support and strengthen the activities of regional Youth Fellowships, Uniform Groups, Student Affairs, Young Adult Groups and any other group dedicated to the development of youth.
5. To facilitate a forum for expressing the views of the young people and for the discussion of issues related to wholesome development.
6. To educate the young people on the history and beliefs of the denomination in corroboration with the training arm of the Jamaica Baptist Union.
7. To provide training ground for future church leaders.
8. To seek in all matters to be supportive and work in close cooperation with the Jamaica Baptist Union.

III METHOD OF OPERATION

The Youth Department will operate throughout Jamaica through the:

- a. National Youth Conference
- b. Youth Department Executive Committee
- c. The Officers
- d. Any other youth related ministry
- e. The Jamaica Baptist Union Assembly

- f. National Youth Committees (Youth Fellowships, Students Affairs, Uniform Groups, Young Adult Fellowships)

IV. AGE LIMITS

(a) Youth Fellowships

The membership shall NORMALLY be 12 – 35 years of age

(b) Young Adult Fellowships

The membership shall NORMALLY be 21 – 40 years of age

(c) Uniform Groups

The membership shall NORMALLY be 5 – 18 years of age

V. GENERAL MEETINGS

1. National Youth Conference

The National Youth Conference will normally be held in November each year and shall be composed of: (a) All Parish Presidents; (b) Members of Youth Department Executive Committee; (c) two delegates from each Youth Fellowship (d) Associate General Secretary for Youth and Training and other JBU staff.

Method of Operation

- a. The National Youth Conference will be the highest decision making body of the Youth Department.
- b. The participants shall be youth and youth workers.

- c. Its responsibilities include evaluating the stewardship of JBUYD, approving the plans and programmes to be implemented by the JBUYD and the biennial election of the Youth Department Executive Committee.

2. Jamaica Baptist Union Assembly

The JBUYD shall participate in the programme of the Annual General Assembly through its representatives namely its chairman and appointed parish youth delegates. There shall be one youth sectional meeting during the Jamaica Baptist Union General Assembly.

VI. YEAR OF THE DEPARTMENT

The year of the Department shall be October 1 – September 30.

VII. FUNDS

- a. The JBUYD shall be funded by:
 - i. the Jamaica Baptist Union and the financial procedure of the JBU shall be applicable to the JBUYD
 - ii. any other source approved by the JBU
- b. The funds of the JBUYD shall be managed by its' Treasurer
- c. All financial reports shall be made available to the
 - i. Annual Assembly of the JBU
 - ii. JBU Executive Committee

- iii. National Youth Conference
- iv. JBUYD Executive Committee

VIII. NATIONAL COMMITTEES

There shall be four such committees, namely:

- a. National Youth Fellowship Committee (NYFC)
- b. National Young Adults Committee (NYAC)
- c. National Students' Affairs Committee (NSAC)
- d. National Uniform Groups Committee (NUGC)

1. National Youth Fellowship Committee (NYFC)

a. Membership

The Committee shall be comprised of the Vice Chairman, Parish Youth Association Presidents and any other appointed person(s)

b. Functions

The Committee shall...

- i. Ensure that the objectives of the JBUYD are achieved through the planning and implementation of programmes and activities.
- ii. Work closely with other arms of the JBUYD
- iii. Make quarterly reports to the JBUYD Executive Committee
- iv. Establish and support youth fellowships and other youth related ministries at all levels.

c. Meetings

The NYFC shall meet at least once per quarter including an annual retreat.

d. Area Councils

Area 1 (Purple)	Portland, St. Thomas
Area 2 (Yellow)	Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Catherine
Area 3 (Green)	Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth
Area 4 (Blue)	St. Mary, St. Ann, Trelawny
Area 5 (Red)	St. James, Hanover, Westmoreland

2. National Young Adult Committee (NYAC)

a. Membership

The NYAC shall be comprised of the Vice Chairman, parish Young Adult Group Presidents and any other appointed person(s).

b. Functions

The Committee shall...

- i. Ensure that the objectives of the JBUYD are achieved through the planning and implementation of programmes and activities.
- ii. Work closely with other arms of the JBUYD
- iii. Make quarterly reports to the JBUYD Executive Committee
- iv. Establish and support Young Adult fellowships.

c. Meetings

The NYAC shall meet at least once per quarter.

3. National Students' Affairs Committee (NSAC)

a. Membership

The membership shall be comprised of the Vice Chairman, at least one Baptist student from each tertiary institution and any other appointed person.

b. Functions

The Committee shall...

- i. Maintain an ongoing ministry to students to provide spiritual oversight and to provide the means whereby students can relate with churches and Pastors who will be a support group
- ii. Promote fellowship among Baptist Students of tertiary institutions
- iii. Enable students to discern how in fulfilling their vocation, they are practicing discipleship
- iv. Promote a sense of the missionary enterprise among students
- v. Plan and promote Students Leadership Conferences and student Mission programmes.

c. Meetings

The Student Affairs Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.

4. National Uniform Groups Committee (NUGC)

a. Membership

The Committee shall be comprised of the Vice Chairman, representatives of Baptist uniform groups and any other appointed person(s).

b. Functions

The Committee shall...

- i. Ensure that the objectives of the JBUYD are achieved through the planning and implementation of programmes and activities.
- ii. Work closely with other arms of the JBUYD
- iii. Make quarterly reports to the JBUYD Executive Committee
- iv. Plan and implement programmes which engender Christian values and pass on to members – life skills, leadership skills and personal development skills

c. Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.

IX. OFFICERS

1. The Officers of the JBUYD shall be the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and the Vice Chairmen, Associate General Secretary of Youth and Training and other staff appointed by the Union, the Chairman Elect and the Immediate Past Chairman.
2. The Officers shall be elected biennially by the National Youth Conference.
3. The Officers shall serve a two-year term, but no more than two consecutive terms. Where an officer resigns or no longer is able to fulfill assigned duties, the vacancy shall be filled temporarily as appointed by the JBUYD Executive Committee.

X. THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Membership
 - a. The Youth Department Executive Committee shall be comprised of the following:
 - i. Officers of the JBUYD
 - ii. Assistant Secretary
 - iii. Parish Youth Association Presidents
 - iv. Commission Chairmen
 - v. Four members at large elected by the annual youth conference
 - vi. JBU Nominated Representatives

- b. All members of the JBUYD Executive Committee shall be elected by the National Youth Conference, except Parish Youth Association Presidents who should be duly nominated and endorsed by their respective Parish Youth Associations, JBU staff, and JBU nominated representatives.

2. Meetings

Meetings shall be called by the Secretary on the instruction of the Chairman. Meetings are presided over by the Chairman and where he or she is absent, by one of the Vice Chairmen. Fifty one percent of the total membership shall constitute a quorum and the committee shall meet at least once per quarter.

3. Nominations

- a. Nominations may be received from the Nominations Committee and from delegates of the National Youth Conference
- b. The Officers shall constitute the Nominations Committee
- c. The Nominations Committee shall seek approval from the nominees and relevant persons (e.g. pastors) prior to the election.

4. Elections

- a) All members of the JBUYD Executive Committee are elected biennially by ballot except the Chairman Elect who is elected in the alternate year.

- b) Where persons are elected from the floor at the National Youth Conference approval will be sought before appointment.
- c) Parish Representation on the JBUYD Executive Committee will be treated as an office and as such where Parish Youth Association presidents are elected subsequent to the installation of the standing Executive Committee, the newly elected Parish President will assume the position on the Executive Committee immediately following the Parish election process.

XI. REPRESENTATION ON THE JAMAICA BAPTIST UNION COMMITTEES

The Chairman of the JBUYD will normally serve and represent the Department in all Committee meetings of the JBU during his/her period of office.

XII. AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments of these Bylaws may come from any member of the JBUYD. They must be submitted in writing to the Chairman and a copy sent to the Associate General Secretary, Youth and Training. All proposed amendments shall be discussed by the JBUYD Executive Committee, circulated three months prior to the National Youth Conference and voted on during its annual business meeting.
2. All amendments shall be reported to JBUYD Executive Committee of the Jamaica Baptist Union.

ⁱ Printed by Jamaica Baptist Union, 2b Washington Boulevard, Kingston 20 Jamaica