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From the Director of Generation Joshua

Dear GenJ Member,

In 2005, a new idea at Generation Joshua birthed what is known today as Generation Joshua Clubs, or more affectionately, GenJ Clubs. The goal of the national GenJ office was to help/equip Christian young people to engage in their local communities. The GenJ Clubs, though still young, have grown from vision to reality in more than 25 states already.

There are many possible reasons why you are reading this handbook. Perhaps you want to start your own club. Perhaps you are already a member of a club and would like to learn more about how the clubs run. Perhaps you are a GenJ member who is just curious about what clubs are all about. Whatever the case may be, you have come to the right place!

This handbook is the ultimate resource for clubs. This document contains everything from how to start a club, to what it means to be a member, to suggested activities, to how to handle the media. The table of contents provides a quick reference.

As always, we welcome input from our members. If you have any questions or comments about this handbook or the clubs in general, please e-mail us at GenerationJoshua@hslda.org or call 540-338-8608.

Stay Strong and Courageous,

[Signature]

William A. Estrada, Esq.
Director of Generation Joshua
From the Deputy Director

Dear Club Member,

This handbook is designed to be your first resource when you have questions concerning the Generation Joshua Clubs, their functions, duties, responsibilities, and processes. We have endeavored to create a resource that you can turn to for answers to the common questions we get, as well as a few of the unusual questions you may have.

However, if you have any questions that you can’t find the answer to, please let me know at GenJClubs@hslda.org or by phone at 540-338-8608. For now, let’s take a look at the mission and historical inspiration of Generation Joshua.

In Christ,

Joel D. Grewe
Generation Joshua Deputy Director
Historical Context and Inspiration for GenJ Clubs

Alexander Hamilton’s Vision

Alexander Hamilton was a well-known Founding Father. He served as an aide to General Washington in the American Revolution, was a leader during the Constitutional Convention, wrote many of the Federalist Papers, and helped to create the Federalist Party. Towards the end of the 18th century, the Federalist Party began suffering from internal divisions. Many people blamed Hamilton, who strongly disliked the current president, John Adams. Though both were Federalists, they split their supporters and divided the party.

The party division resulted in turmoil and anger that Hamilton found distasteful. He decided that the political system needed strong leaders who would demonstrate Christian principles. Following a bitter election in 1802, Hamilton was inspired with an idea that he believed would restore unity and purpose to the nation: the Christian Constitutional Society. He envisioned a society that would support both the Christian religion and the Constitution of the United States by actively engaging the culture. In a letter to James Bayard in April of 1802, Hamilton laid out the details of his plan. Following are portions of Hamilton’s letter.

Hamilton’s Letter to Bayard
April 16, 1802

Your letter of the 12th instant has relieved me of some apprehension . . . I am glad to find that it is in the contemplation to adopt a plan of conduct. It is very necessary; and, to be useful, it must be efficient and comprehensive in the means which it embraces, at the same time that it must mediate none which are not really constitutional and patriotic. I will comply with your invitation by submitting some ideas which, from time to time, have passed through my mind. . . .

Let an association be formed to be denominated “The Christian Constitutional Society.” Its objects to be:

1st. The support of the Christian religion.
2d. The support of the Constitution of the United States.

Its organization:

1st. A council, consisting of a president and twelve members, of whom four and the president to be a quorum.

2d. A sub-directing council in each State, consisting of a vice-president and twelve members, of whom four, with the vice-president to be a quorum.

3d. As many societies of each State as local circumstances permit to be formed by the sub-directing council.

The meeting at Washington to nominate the president and the vice-president, together with four members of each of the councils, who are to complete their own numbers respectively.

Its means:

The diffusion of information. For this purpose not only the newspapers, but pamphlets, must be largely employed, and to do this a fund must be created; five dollars annually, for eight years, to be contributed by each member who can really afford it (taking care not to burthen the less able brethren), may afford a competent fund for a competent term. It is essential to be able to disseminate gratis useful publications. Wherever it can be done, and there is a press, clubs should be formed, to meet once a week, read the newspapers, and prepare essays, paragraphs, etc.

2d. The use of all lawful means in concert to promote the election of fit men; a lively correspondence must be kept up between the different societies.

3d. The promoting of institutions of charitable and useful nature in the management of Federalists. The populous cities ought particularly to be attended to; perhaps it would be well to institute in such places 1st, societies for the relief of emigrants; 2d, academies, each with one professor, for instructing the different classes of mechanics in the principles of mechanics and the elements of chemistry. The cities have been employed by the Jacobins to give an impulse to the country; and it is believed to be an alarming fact that, while the question of presidential election was pending in the House of Representatives, parties were organizing in several of the cities in the event of there being no election, to cut off the leading Federalists and seize the government.
The foregoing to be the principal engine. . . . This is the general sketch of what has occurred to me. It is at the service of my friends for so much as it may be worth.

Alexander Hamilton believed that the natural motives and instincts of man are not inherently good. As he explained in his letter, men are often governed by vicious passions that overcome good motives. As a result, the masses can often be persuaded to side with one party or philosophy that is not acting in the best interests of the whole society. The solution Hamilton saw was the creation of the Christian Constitutional Society. The plan was to disperse information to the public, encourage the election of men of solid character, and promote beneficial institutions throughout the country.

In the same manner, Generation Joshua hopes that GenJ Clubs will train and educate society about the principles that guide our nation and encourage these newly equipped citizens to effectively influence America for Christ.
Generation Joshua Club Constitution

Article I. Name

Each Generation Joshua Club shall have a name that shall distinguish it from other Generation Joshua Clubs across the United States.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of the Generation Joshua Club is to train youth to be effective, well-rounded citizens for Christ, to equip them with the tools necessary to preserve liberty and promote self government, and to assist them in impacting their local communities, states, and nation.

Article III. Membership

Members of Generation Joshua are welcome to join any club operating throughout the United States unless special exception is made.

Article IV. Management

1. The governance of the club shall be vested in the duly elected governing body known as the club cabinet. It shall consist of, at minimum, the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer.

2. New offices may be added to the club cabinet by two-thirds majority vote of club members.

3. The club cabinet shall not exceed more than seven officers.

4. The club shall have an adult sponsor who is a parent or guardian of a current club member. The sponsor shall assist the club as needed, specifically ensuring safety of the members.

5. As club members come from different denominational backgrounds, those backgrounds shall be respected and the pursuit of biblical unity shall be maintained.

Article V. Meetings

1. All meetings shall be conducted according to Robert’s Rules of Order Simplified.

2. The club shall meet a minimum of nine times per year during nine different months for regular business meetings.
3. Special meetings of the club or the club cabinet may be called as needed, with at least forty-eight hour notice to all members of the club, at the discretion of the club president and adult sponsor, or two members of the club cabinet.

**Article VI. Bylaws**

1. The club may enact bylaws for the management and operation of the club.

2. All bylaws shall require a majority to pass.

3. All bylaws shall be submitted to Generation Joshua with the minutes of the meeting.

4. Generation Joshua retains the authority to override or edit club bylaws if necessary.

**Article VII. Elections**

1. The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and any other club officers shall be elected in the first meeting of the year by a majority of club members.

2. When a club forms, elections may be postponed up to three months by majority vote of club members.

3. Once the club has been in operation for one year, it shall set a specific month for elections to be held each year. That date may only be changed by a majority vote of club members.

4. The terms of all club officers shall be limited to one year. An officer may run for re-election.

5. A member may not hold any one office for more than two terms.

6. The officers shall be nominated and seconded to appear on the ballot.

7. Election of officers shall be done by secret ballot. The adult sponsor and one club member who is not a candidate for election shall count and certify the ballots.

8. Upon notification of a vacancy from an elected position, a special election shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Article VIII. Duties of the President**

1. Model excellent moral character and commend club members to do likewise.

2. Oversee club operations.

4. Act as a liaison between other clubs and Generation Joshua.

5. Stay aware of the latest developments of Generation Joshua.

6. Arrange the location of club meetings.

7. Work with adult sponsor as necessary to pursue club goals and objectives.

8. Ensure that club minutes are promptly submitted to Generation Joshua.

9. Organize the program for each meeting.

10. Delegate responsibilities as needed with the consent of the delegatee.

**Article IX. Duties of the Vice-President**

1. Model excellent moral character and commend club members to do likewise.

2. Assist the club president with activities and responsibilities.

3. Manage club assignments that have not been delegated.

4. Chair club meetings upon absence of the president.

5. Advise in all rules and matters pertaining to parliamentary procedures according to Robert’s Rules of Order Simplified.

6. Oversee the coordination of club activities.

7. Ensure that a complete and accurate club roster is submitted to Generation Joshua each October and April.

8. Assume the responsibilities of the president when the president is absent.

9. Delegate responsibilities as needed with the consent of the delegatee.

**Article X. Duties of the Secretary**

1. Model excellent moral character and commend club members to do likewise.

2. Record decisions and activities of the club.
3. Maintain contact with Generation Joshua.

4. Bring previous minutes and records to each meeting.

5. Record the minutes, elections, and committee appointments from each meeting.

6. Read minutes from the previous meeting and any other minutes requested by the club at each meeting.

7. Receive and distribute any mail or correspondence to the appropriate officer.

8. Notify club members of meetings and events at least one week in advance.

9. Ensure availability of supplies needed for club activities and meetings.

10. Submit the minutes of each meeting to Generation Joshua following the format provided.

11. The minutes shall be submitted within one week of the meeting.

12. Maintain a complete record of membership, including names, addresses, emails, phone numbers, and other contact information for each club member.

13. Submit a list of officers and committee members to Generation Joshua.

14. Assume the responsibilities of president in the absence of the president and vice-president.

15. Delegate responsibilities as needed with the consent of the delegatee.

**Article XI. Duties of the Treasurer**

1. Model excellent moral character and commend club members to do likewise.

2. Ensure the safe, accurate, and prompt handling and accounting of all funds held by the club.

3. Oversee the revenue obtained from fundraising activities conducted by the club.

4. Ensure that the president, treasurer, and adult sponsor have access to the club’s bank account.

5. Deposit any money received by the club into the club’s bank account within two weeks of receipt of funds.

6. Report at each meeting the funds available to the club and cash inflows and outflows
from the previous month.
7. Submit the treasurer’s report to Generation Joshua with the minutes of each meeting.
8. Distribute funds upon majority vote.
9. Restrict the use of funds to non-partisan activities.
10. Assume the responsibilities of president in the absence of the president, vice-
president, and secretary.
11. Delegate responsibilities as needed with the consent of the delegatee.

Article XII. Additional Offices
1. New offices may be instituted by majority vote of club members.
2. New offices shall be reported to Generation Joshua with a statement of the purpose and duties of the office.
3. New offices shall be filled according to requirements outlined in Article VII.
4. Officers shall be elected to new offices by majority vote of club members.
5. Officers elected to new offices shall model excellent moral character and commend club members to do likewise.
6. When officers are absent, they may delegate responsibility with the consent of the delegatee.

Article XIII. Committees
1. Standing or special committees may be formed as needed by majority vote of club members.
2. All committees shall operate according Robert’s Rules of Order Simplified.
3. When forming a committee, the number of members necessary for the committee shall be decided by a majority vote of club members.
4. Committees shall abide by the guidelines and responsibilities pre-established by the club.
5. Committee members shall be nominated and seconded to appear on the ballot.
6. Members shall fill the committee positions starting with the member who received the most votes until the appropriate number of positions is filled.

7. Committees shall choose a chairman from within their membership.

8. Committees shall report on their activities at each meeting.

9. A summary of the committee reports shall be submitted to Generation Joshua with the minutes of each meeting.

10. Upon completion of a special committee’s responsibilities, the committee shall dissolve.
Starting a GenJ Club

So, you want to start a club? Great! This section will not only give you an overview of what is required to start a club, but also give you hints and suggestions on how to find members, locate the perfect meeting place, and many other important details.

Geographic Requirements

When a new club wants to form, the geographic location of other clubs must be considered. New clubs may not be formed to compete with existing clubs. Any new club wanting to form within twenty miles of an existing club must obtain approval from Generation Joshua. This rule is designed to maximize the impact of clubs as well as protect clubs that are already in operation.

Membership Requirements

In order to start a club, you must first be an active member of Generation Joshua. If you already are an active member, please skip to the next section. If you are not, you can become a member a few different ways. The easiest way is to log onto www.generationjoshua.org and click on the “Join” link on the left side of your screen. Fill in the form to become a member. You may also print out the form and mail it to Generation Joshua. After you’ve submitted the membership form and payment, you are free to proceed in setting up your club, even if you have not yet received your welcome e-mail.

Note: Memberships take approximately 3–5 business days to process after they are received. Delays in processing may occur during conference season (April to August).

Five Member Rule

In order for your club to become official, you must fill out the GenJ Club Application Form accompanying the Handbook. It must be submitted to Generation Joshua prior to your second official meeting. This form requires the names of five founding members between the ages of 11–19. These individuals must be or apply to be members of Generation Joshua by the second meeting.

Club Name

The GenJ Club Application Form asks for the official club name. If you do not know what this will be yet, please write: GenJ Club of _______ County. Fill in the name of the county where the club will be located. This will be your official name until you submit to Generation Joshua the Club Name Change Form accompanying the Handbook.
**How Generation Joshua Can Help**

If you want to start a club, but do not know five people in your area, Generation Joshua can help! Generation Joshua has the ability to e-mail active members in your area. Simply send an e-mail to GenerationJoshua@hslda.org expressing interest in forming a club in your area. Here is a sample e-mail:

Dear Generation Joshua,

My name is John Smith, and I am interested in starting a Generation Joshua Club in the Grand Rapids, MI area. Interested individuals can contact me at JohnSmith@hslda.org or call (555)-555-5555.

Sincerely,
John Smith
Hometown, MI

**Other Suggestions**

There are many ways that you can attract members to your club. Here are some ways to find potential members.

*Speak at your local homeschool group or youth group meetings. Share your passion to impact your local community through civic involvement.*

*Write an open letter to your homeschool or youth group newsletter, expressing your desire to start a club. Explain the other benefits of Generation Joshua membership as well.*

*Attend a local homeschool conference and volunteer at the Generation Joshua booth, or distribute brochures to other teens walking around the exhibit hall. Note: Be sure to check with the convention hosts to see if distribution of brochures is acceptable.*

*For those who seem hesitant about joining your club, invite them to come to your next meeting just to “check it out.” If they seem to enjoy the meeting, ask them if they would like to visit again or become a club member.*

**Adult Sponsor**

All clubs must have at least one adult sponsor who is a parent or guardian of a current club member who will be present for club meetings and activities. See the Guide for Adult Sponsors for compete adult sponsor guidelines.
**Legal Information**

**Important Note about Churches, Libraries, and Other Nonprofit Buildings**

Federal tax law allows nonprofit (501c(3)) organizations to be tax exempt. People who donate to these entities can write off their donation as a tax deduction and the entity does not need to pay taxes. Churches, libraries, and similar entities are almost always tax exempt.

This means that only non-partisan activities may take place within these buildings. Failure to do this could result in the church or library losing its tax exempt, nonprofit status.

So what are non-partisan activities? Non-partisan means any activity that does not directly benefit any candidate or party. Some examples are listening to a talk by Congressman Smith on his experiences in the Congress; Voter Registration Drives; talking about issues such as marriage, immigration, and abortion; discussing civics and history, etc.

Partisan activities, on the other hand, include making phone calls for Congressman Smith’s re-election bid, making campaign signs for Congressman Smith, planning how to help Congressman Smith’s re-election, or even listening to Congressman Smith talk about his re-election bid. Partisan activities can only occur in places other than nonprofit buildings and should be done only with the permission of the manager of the building.

Note that some churches and libraries may rent space on an equal availability basis. You may be able to hold partisan activities on the premises if you have rented the space at the fair market value. Again, check with the manager of the building and check with Generation Joshua first.

If you have any questions and concerns or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Generation Joshua.

**Legal Status of GenJ Clubs**

Legally, your GenJ Club is considered an unincorporated or voluntary association. This means that as long as the club has an annual operating budget of under $25,000, it does not have to deal with the government. It is important to note that all activities of the club as an unincorporated association cannot directly or indirectly benefit any candidate or political party. All partisan activities (activities that directly or indirectly benefit a candidate or political party) must be conducted as private citizens and not on behalf of the club or Generation Joshua. So for example, if your club decides to make phone calls on behalf of Congressman Smith, the phone calls must be conducted in accordance with the guidelines above, and you must identify yourself by your name and not as a member of your GenJ Club or Generation Joshua.
Preparing for Your First Meeting

You’ve submitted your club application. Now what? Well, you still have a lot of work to do! The first club meeting is often the hardest to set up for because neither you nor your other club members know what to expect. Hopefully this section of the Handbook will make the process a bit easier.

Set a Date and Time

Connect with as many founding members as you can and set a date and time at least two weeks in advance. You should set aside a minimum of one hour for your first club meeting, though two hours would be a better amount of time.

Find a Location

The possibilities of locations to meet are endless. Some clubs meet in one of the members’ homes, some meet in local libraries or churches, and other clubs meet in less traditional places, such as parks or restaurants. Be sure to secure permission of whatever place you plan to use prior to your meetings.

Important Note about Churches, Libraries, and Other Nonprofit Buildings:

This is a very important point that bears repeating.

Federal tax law allows nonprofit (501c(3)) organizations to be tax exempt. People who donate to these entities can write off their donation as a tax deduction, and the entity does not need to pay taxes. Churches, libraries, and similar entities are almost always tax exempt.

This means that only non-partisan activities may take place within these buildings. Failure to do this could result in the church or library losing its tax exempt, nonprofit status.

So what are non-partisan activities? Non-partisan means any activity that does not directly benefit any candidate or party. Some examples are listening to a talk by Congressman Smith on his experiences in the Congress; Voter Registration Drives; talking about issues such as marriage, immigration, and abortion; discussing civics and history, etc.

Partisan activities, on the other hand, include making phone calls for Congressman Smith’s re-election bid, making campaign signs for Congressman Smith, planning how to help Congressman Smith’s re-election, or even listening to Congressman Smith talk about his re-election bid. Partisan activities can only occur in places other than nonprofit buildings and should be done only with the permission of the manager of the building.
Note that some churches and libraries may rent space on an equal availability basis. You may be able to hold partisan activities on the premises if you have rented the space at the fair market value. Again, check with the manager of the building and check with Generation Joshua first.

**Recruit, Recruit, Recruit**

As with any organization, there will always be people that decide that they cannot continue participating in the club. That is why it is important to keep recruiting even after you have your founding five members. Get as many people as you can to attend the first meeting, even if many of them are just “trying it out.” In addition, the more people that are involved in your club, the more possible activities and potential civic connections may be available to your club.

**Find a Speaker**

If you are looking for a way to start off with a bang, try recruiting a special speaker to be the keynote speaker for your first meeting. He or she could be a state or local elected official, a longtime community activist, or perhaps a representative from a local family organization. The important point is to find someone engaged in the civic or political arena who is willing to share their experiences. Most individuals will be honored to speak at your first meeting.
Normal Club Meetings

Begin with Prayer

Each meeting shall begin with prayer. Prayer should focus on issues that are of cultural, social, or political significance (e.g. repentance of national sins, guidance for government officials, requests for revival, or specific prayer for political elections). We are reminded of God’s promise in II Chronicles 7:14: “If My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer should be followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. The pledge should be recited at every meeting.

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Discussion of a Current Event in Relation to Scripture

Each meeting shall have a discussion about a current event and how it relates to Scripture and biblical principles. This discussion should be led by the chaplain or president unless a replacement is appointed. (See page 32 for information on the optional office of chaplain.)

Membership Induction Ceremony

Once the discussion is complete, the chaplain and president shall lead new members through the induction ceremony, if applicable.

Club Program or Speaker

Each meeting should have a special program or event. This may be an outside speaker, a member’s presentation on a subject he or she has been researching, or an activity for the entire club to participate in, i.e., a debate, discussion about a political issue, skit, or game.

Minutes by Secretary

After the club program or speaker, the secretary shall read the minutes of the previous meeting for club approval.
Treasurer’s Report

After the minutes have been read, the treasurer’s report shall be given. This report must be given at all meetings of the club and also submitted to Generation Joshua. A brief treasurer’s report in a meeting should look something like this. “Last month we had $10.00. We took in $8.00 this month, spent $6.00 on snacks, and now have a total of $12.00.” When sending the treasurer’s report to Generation Joshua, please use the Treasurer’s Report Form accompanying the Handbook or be sure the report includes all the same information.

Committee Reports

Once the treasurer’s report has been read, the committees appointed by the club may give their reports. If no action has been taken by a committee, the spokesman for that committee may simply say, “Nothing to report.” If the committee has taken action, the spokesman may proceed to share their findings, results, and recommended action, if any. Generally, a committee report should be as concise as possible. The floor may then be opened for discussion. Committees are generally appointed to look into specific activities that a club may wish to pursue, to organize activities, or to find out more information regarding a particular topic.

Old Business

After the committee reports, old and deferred business shall be brought before the club to be dealt with, dismissed, or deferred as the club sees fit. The secretary shall ensure that all items of business deferred from the last meeting shall be brought to the attention of the members.

New Business

When all old business has been dealt with, the club members shall be allowed to bring up new items of business for general discussion and decision. New business refers to any topic that is brought up for discussion that is not still pending under old business. Theoretically, a topic could be included under new business that was dealt with under old business in a previous meeting if that matter needs to be amended. Anyone—a club member, officer, or the adult sponsor—may bring up new business. It is recommended that anyone desiring to bring up new business notify the president ahead of time to help him schedule the meeting. However, after the scheduled new business is discussed, other new business may be brought up by making a motion to consider the new topic.

Some ideas for new business include establishing a new committee, changing the membership or specific role of a committee, ideas for club activities, or fundraising suggestions.
Adjournment

To adjourn means to close the meeting. After the discussion of all new business is concluded, and as long as the club has not scheduled any meeting activity after the discussion of new business, the president or acting chairman may adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn must be made to end the meeting. It must be seconded, may not be made when a member has the floor, may not be debated or amended, and requires a simple majority vote to pass.
Guide to Club Elections

Whether you are a new club or an established club, elections are a major component of any GenJ Club. These recommendations may be helpful in understanding how to hold elections, but are not requirements.

For an election to run smoothly, the first order of business is to nominate members to particular offices. Any member (except the presiding officer) can nominate himself or herself or another member. This nomination must then be seconded by another member. Once all nominations for an office are complete, the floor may be opened for discussion, debate, and speeches. Following these, the club will vote on the nominees.

All that is needed to elect a nominee is a majority vote, or fifty percent plus one. If none of the nominees receive a majority of the votes, a second vote should be held between the two nominees with the most votes.

The ballots should be counted and certified by the adult sponsor of the club. It is wise to elect club officers in the following order: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and then any additional officers. Club officers are elected for a term of one year. At the end of the year, they may run for re-election if they so desire. However, no person may hold the same office for more than two years.

Before club elections are held for the first time, the club coordinator should be the acting chairman of the club. Once the club has been operating for over a year, the club should choose a specific month for annual club elections.
Guide to Being President

Congratulations! You are now the president of your club! The very first thing you should do is read the list of presidential responsibilities in the Club Constitution in Article VIII. Once you’ve done that, come back here for more advice!

Finding a Meeting Place

As the president, meetings may end up being held at your home. If that is not feasible, see if another member or your adult sponsor is willing to open their home, or look for businesses or organizations that would be willing to host you. The local Republican or Democrat party may have headquarters they would let you use. Other locations could include churches or businesses. If you are meeting in a church, school, or library, there are restrictions on your activities.

Important Note about Churches, Libraries, and Other Nonprofit Buildings

You may have already seen this in other portions of the handbook, but it is important enough to bear repeating.

Federal tax law allows nonprofit (501c(3)) organizations to be tax exempt. People who donate to these entities can write off their donation as a tax deduction and the entity does not need to pay taxes. Churches, libraries, and similar entities are almost always tax exempt.

This means that only non-partisan activities may take place within these buildings. Failure to do this could result in the church or library losing its tax exempt, nonprofit status.

So what are non-partisan activities? Non-partisan means any activity that does not directly benefit any candidate or party. Some examples are listening to a talk by Congressman Smith on his experiences in the Congress; Voter Registration Drives; talking about issues such as marriage, immigration, and abortion; discussing civics and history, etc.

Partisan activities, on the other hand, include making phone calls for Congressman Smith’s re-election bid, making campaign signs for Congressman Smith, planning how to help Congressman Smith’s re-election, or even listening to Congressman Smith talk about his re-election bid. Partisan activities can only occur in places other than nonprofit buildings and should be done only with the permission of the manager of the building.

Note that some churches and libraries may rent space on an equal availability basis. You may be able to hold partisan activities on the premises if you have rented the space at the fair market value. Again, check with the manager of the building and check with Generation Joshua first.
Running a Meeting

As the president, you are responsible for making sure the meeting runs smoothly. However, you do not want to be the only person doing anything at your meeting! Follow the outline for club meetings found on page 18 and make sure you include others in the activities that take place during a club meeting. There are several ways to do that.

Pledge of Allegiance

Make sure you have arranged to personally bring or have someone else bring a flag. You can hold the flag, assign one person to do so, or rotate who holds it each month. In addition you can rotate among club members as to who leads the pledge.

Discussion of a Current Event

You do not want to give a 20-minute lecture or speech on the current event! Involve the other members. It is helpful to have a few questions to generate discussion. You don’t need anything fancy. It is often sufficient to ask “What did you think of ____?” You may want to e-mail the current event to members before each meeting and ask each member to come prepared to give a two-minute speech on what they learned. You could ask the members to come up with questions for the meeting. Ultimately, what you decide to do is up to you. The point is to find something that works for your club and includes all the members.

Finding a Speaker

While it is not always necessary to invite someone outside of your club to speak, it is often exciting and beneficial to do so. Brainstorm with the club members. Ask them who they would like to hear from, and see if they know anyone who would like to come. If a member already knows a person that your club would like to have come, assign that member to contact the person. In the end, however, it is up to you to follow up with the potential speaker or with the member to ensure your speaker will be there at the next meeting.

The places you can find potential speakers are almost unlimited. Speakers could include city councilmen, state or federal Congressmen, staffers or interns for local Congressmen, judges, or another city or state official. It is also helpful to invite guests from various political parties to speak about the way local government works. Other speakers could include pastors, representatives from pro-life or pro-family organizations, groups that support lower taxes, the right to bear arms, or who are concerned about education or immigration. There are many options for you to consider as you select the right speaker for each meeting.

When you contact a speaker, make sure you know what they plan to talk about, how long they want to take, and see if you can determine their ideological leanings. If the speaker disagrees with everything the club and its members stand for, still invite him! Just warn
the speaker and your members that they may hear things they disagree with and to be respectful.

If it is not possible to find a speaker, you may choose to have one or more of the members present a program for the club. You could have a debate on important issues, give impromptu speeches, or research candidates and give presentations. The list could go on. Just remember, have fun and learn!

**Be Familiar with Robert’s Rules of Order**

As president, you should understand the basic structure and layout of a meeting. It is a good idea to know how to introduce new business, deal with old business, vote, open the floor, and close the floor. Don’t sweat the small stuff, but do keep order throughout your meeting.

**Stay Connected**

Make sure that the monthly reports are sent to Generation Joshua. While the secretary will do the minutes and the treasurer will fill out the treasurer’s report, it is your responsibility to make sure they are sending them in.

You may also decide to connect with other clubs and presidents. E-mail them, call them, and ask them for advice, help or encouragement. Learn what they’re doing and how they’re doing it. Some of them have done this for a while and will have great new ideas you never thought of. The Generation Joshua Forums are also a great way to connect with others.

**Work with Other Members**

Again, you don’t want this to be your club. Involve as many people as you can. Stay in touch with each other throughout the month. Plan volunteer activities and fun events where you can get together. It might be a good idea to sit down with your cabinet and discuss the goals and plans for your club for the year. Make sure each person understands their responsibilities and is anxious to be involved in other ways as well. Together, you can come up with ideas that you can present to the club. Work with your adult sponsor if you need ideas or help. Stay active, be involved, and include everyone you can. Then you will be an effective president and can make a difference in our culture!
Guide to Being Vice-President

Congratulations! You have just been elected vice-president of your Generation Joshua Club. What do you do next? First, go read Article IX of the Club Constitution.

The biggest job for the vice-president is to assist the president. Now you’re probably thinking, “Assist the president? I know that already. But what does that mean practically?” Here are some ideas to get you started.

Stay Connected

Stay connected with your club, your community, and other Generation Joshua Clubs. Talk to your fellow club members, and see what ideas they have for your club and what they’d like to get done. Keep your eyes open in your community. This means read the newspaper—find out if your local food pantry is in need of food or of volunteers. Read the bulletin boards at local stores—find out if there is a parade coming up that your club could take part in. Talk to people in the community. Are they upset about the recent increase in school tax or how poorly the roads are taken care of? Think about having your club write a letter to the editor of your newspaper about these issues. Finally, talk to leaders in other clubs. They may have some excellent ideas for additional ways that you can be involved in your community.

Stay Up-to-Date

Stay up-to-date with what is going on in Generation Joshua. Read your weekly email updates and visit the website regularly. Keep track of the GenJ Blog, which is updated on a daily basis. Know when a Student Action Team is approaching or if a Teen Track event is going to be held in your state.

Robert’s Rules of Order

While the president usually runs the meetings, it strengthens the club to have a vice-president who is also familiar with how Robert’s Rules of Order work. That way, if you have to run a club meeting in the president’s absence your meeting will not disintegrate into confusion. Undoubtedly, every club will have times when there is confusion over an application of Robert’s Rules of Order. The vice-president is best situated to be the club’s parliamentarian, capable of explaining the Rules and their application.

Help Out

As much as possible, the vice-president should assist the president with the club’s monthly meeting. Especially in the case of a small club, the vice-president can help with the club program. You could speak about a current event, lead the devotional, or lead the club in prayer. Don’t leave the president responsible for running every last detail of the meeting!
Guide to Being Secretary

Now that you have been elected secretary, you are probably wondering what to do. You should first read the duties of the club secretary in Article X of the Club Constitution. As is evident, the majority of the secretary’s duties relate to club minutes. There are three things to consider regarding the minutes for your club.

Supplies

The first step is to consider what supplies you will need. Find out what means of taking notes works best for you. Whether you use a laptop, legal pad, notebook, or loose paper, find what works for you and stick with it. If you are using paper, bring a couple of pens with you. There is nothing worse than taking notes with a bad pen or having your pen stop working in the middle of a meeting. Simply experiment with different implements and find some supplies that work well for you.

What to Record

The second thing to think about is what you should take notes on to record in the minutes. Generation Joshua strongly encourages the secretary to submit the following items in the minutes: a synopsis of the current events discussion (including what current event was discussed and some of the main positions expressed); a list of the members inducted at that meeting, if applicable; a synopsis of the program or the speech given at that meeting; a brief summary of the committee reports given; and a list of both the old and new business that was discussed, some of the opinions raised regarding each issue, and the club’s ultimate decision on each matter. The most important thing to include in the minutes is what decisions were reached on the issues that are raised. While this may sound like an overwhelming amount of things to look for, it can go a long way towards creating an actual record of what happened in the meeting, which is the whole purpose of taking minutes.

Submit the Minutes

To submit your minutes, please e-mail them to the Clubs Coordinator at GenJClubs@hslda.org, or fax it to Generation Joshua at (540) 338-8606.
Guide to Being Treasurer

Congratulations! You should first read the duties of the club treasurer in Article XI of the Club Constitution. The treasurer has a great deal of responsibility in ensuring that club funds are treated carefully and ethically. Openness and honesty are imperative, as you will likely handle all of the club’s money.

Work with a Group

It is important that you make sure that the president and adult sponsor have access to the club’s bank account. You should work with them to open or update your club’s bank account. You will probably be required to have the adult sponsor help you open or update the bank account, as banks will not deal with a minor in this regard.

Fundraising

As the treasurer, work with the president and other club members to plan fundraising events that can bring in funds to cover club costs such as pizza parties, copies of the U.S. Constitution, travel to historical/government locations, and more.

Legal Issues

Remember, donations to your club are not tax deductible. Becoming tax deductible would require incorporating your club, complying with detailed IRS regulations, and more. If someone wishes to receive a tax deduction for their donation, they would need to donate to the Homeschool Foundation, Generation Joshua fund.

Club money cannot be given to a candidate or political party. There are strict election laws that govern contributions to candidates, both at the federal and local level. Donating club money to a candidate or political party could result in your club needing to file extensive reports or more. If you want to donate to a candidate or political party, it is best to use your own funds.

Remember, Home School Legal Defense Association and Generation Joshua are not responsible for any lost funds from your club.
Guide to Being Chaplain

Congratulations! As the chaplain of your club, you have been elected to a very important role. There are many responsibilities and privileges that come along with the office of chaplain. While this is not a mandated constitutional office, it is a crucial and serious position.

**Prayer**

Every club meeting should begin with prayer. As the chaplain, you will be expected to lead that prayer. Be aware of important events taking place or leaders in our nation that need prayer. Present those to the club and allow all the members to spend some time in prayer for those matters. Be accepting of other prayer requests as well. You don’t need to be the only one who prays, but it is helpful if you begin and end each prayer time. Start the group with prayer and then when everyone else has finished, you can also be the last person to pray.

**Devotional**

One good idea to introduce to your club is the possibility of going through a small devotional at each meeting. You could pick out a Scripture that you read that week, mention something your pastor spoke about in church, or use devotional books. *Courage to Run* and *Our Daily Bread* are both short devotionals that provide significant applications to everyday life. If possible, it is always beneficial to find a Scripture or devotional with a theme of civic involvement. When preparing your devotional, remember to keep it short (five to ten minutes will work fine) and avoid controversial topics. The devotional is meant to be an encouragement and a lesson, not a source of contention or strife. Finally, it is always good to end a time of devotion with prayer.

**Current Event**

Every month, the club leadership will receive an email from Generation Joshua outlining a current event for your club to discuss. The current event must be addressed from both a constitutional and biblical perspective. As chaplain, your responsibility is to find Scriptures relevant to the current event, bring them up in the meeting, and then guide the discussion. Again, remember to avoid theological controversies. It is fine to debate the issue, but do not allow it to become personal. Preparing for the current event may take a little bit of time, so be sure you contact the president and find out the current event beforehand.

**Be a Leader and a Peacemaker**

While club meetings will be a time of fun and enjoyment, it is important to understand the significance of the club’s work as well. Members of the club have an important opportunity and responsibility to influence the culture for Christ. As the chaplain, it is your responsibility to set that standard and remind others of their influence. At the same
time, remain humble in your role. 1 Peter 5 provides an important reminder for spiritual leaders. “Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be . . . eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.” As the “shepherd” of your club, your responsibility is to be a humble, willing example to the other members of the club.

One part of being an example may at times include acting as a peacemaker. If there are difficulties, complaints, or problems in the club, the number one thing to remember is do not aggravate the problem! Do not join others in grumbling or complaining, and don’t make a big deal out of nothing. If someone is upset, remain calm and help them see both sides of an issue or remind them of the good points. If something is a real problem, don’t try to deal with it all on your own! Go to your adult sponsor whenever necessary and ask for help. If there is a problem with one particular person, take them with you to speak to your sponsor. Do not bring up a problem in front of the whole club. Deal with the issue quietly and resolve it as quickly as possible. Remember, you are all brothers and sisters in Christ and should be able to settle any problems lovingly and with grace.

For more assistance in dealing with difficult matters, please see the section on grievances, and remember, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”
Matthew 5:9
Guide to Club Activities

A club will have many exciting opportunities to lobby on specific issues and volunteer in various activities. Here are some ideas to get you started.

Finding the Right Community Service Activity

As you look for ways to volunteer and help in your community, keep in mind the number of people available and what resources you have. Once you know that, here are some things to consider.

You can volunteer at local organizations, such as homeless shelters, pregnancy centers, or children’s homes. You can also collect supplies, such as food, baby items, toys, and clothing for the respective organizations. It is always important to call the group first and find out where they need your help.

Fundraising can be helpful for many organizations if you feel your club would be successful at that. You may want to visit nursing homes or veteran’s hospitals to talk to the residents. Perhaps you could organize a play or musical program to perform. You can find a needy family in your neighborhood or church and help them with repairs or painting. There are many things your club can do to make a difference in the community. It’s up to you to go out and find them!

Fundraising

Your club may want to raise money to cover small expenses or short trips to learn more about the government. A few ideas include selling any items that the club has purchased for members (if you have extras), car washes, bake sales, or simply asking local organizations to support you.

Get Involved in the Local Political Process

As club members learn more about the civic and political process, they will be more excited about getting connected with local elections and political proceedings. The possibilities for involvement are almost limitless. Here are just a few ways to get started.

Campaigns

IMPORTANT NOTE: While Generation Joshua highly recommends that all of their members become active in exercising their civic duties, a club may not officially endorse, campaign for, or otherwise support a particular candidate. Since your club is an unincorporated association, club activities cannot directly or indirectly benefit any candidate or political party. All partisan activities (activities that directly or indirectly benefit a candidate or political party) must be conducted as private citizens and not on behalf of the club or Generation Joshua. So for example, if your club decides to make phone calls on behalf of Congressman Smith, the phone calls must be conducted in
accordance with the guidelines above, and you must identify yourself by your name and not as a member of your GenJ Club or Generation Joshua.

Now for the fun part . . .

If you are just getting started and wouldn’t know how to work on a campaign if your life depended on it—don’t worry! The first thing you should do is call your local party leadership (information can generally be found online) and ask them if there is a pro-family candidate that you could work for. They will probably be more than happy to give you names of people who need help.

Once you contact the candidate, remember to be available wherever they need you. This could include putting together yard signs, putting up the yard signs, folding literature, passing out literature at events, walking door-to-door to register voters, conducting surveys, giving out information, helping set up for campaign events, making phone calls, doing research, sign waving, and much, much more.

As you can tell, the possibilities are almost limitless. If you are willing to do any of those things, the candidates will be thrilled to have your help. Even if club members can only work a few hours a week, every activity that you do will make a difference on Election Day.

**Voter Registration Drives**

Voter Registration Drives are a great way to get involved in your community, talk to people about important issues, and have fun! Some locations where you could hold a Voter Registration Drive (VRD) include schools, state and county fairs, gun shows, churches, naturalization ceremonies, and Christian concerts or events. When conducting a VRD, make sure you are prepared. Bring along voter registration forms, applications for advance voting, and party platforms. For more information, see the Voter Registration Guide at www.GenerationJoshua.org.

**Political Meetings**

Political meetings take place on a regular basis and provide an opportunity for you to learn about important events and issues in your area. You may also be able to meet people that will help you become more involved in the community. Some meetings you may want to attend include party meetings, candidate forums, lectures by community leaders, speeches by elected candidates and city council meetings.

**Personal Visits, Phone Calls, Letters, and E-mails**

Personal visits, letters, and phone calls are the most effective way to influence people and events in your community. Emails can also be effective, particularly if many people take the time to personally write an email. Here are a few ideas of people you can influence through your communication.
Elected Officials

Every time an elected official receives a letter or phone call from a constituent, they assume there are many other people who feel the same way who have not taken the time to call or write. Calling and writing to your elected officials is effective! Personal visits are the most effective because they show the elected official that the issue was worth a significant amount of your time and attention. Emails are generally the least effective, because of their ease of use.

Businesses or Organizations

If a local business or organization is doing something you don’t like, let them know! You never know the effect you can have unless you try. Also note that it is very helpful to a business to tell them when they have done something that you do like. Positive reinforcement goes a long way and helps insulate a company from an occasional negative complaint.

Television Stations

Many TV stations have an opinion line or polls they want people to participate in. If you have a few minutes to leave a message about something important happening in your community, you may end up hearing your voice on the air! There is usually also an email address for public response and opinions. Use it!

Generation Joshua

Finally, find ways to spread Generation Joshua’s name! Talk to friends, plan club events for other young people, and work at Generation Joshua booths at homeschool conferences.

These ideas and recommendations are just a starting place for your club. There is so much to do and so many ways to get involved. Be creative, go out there, and make a difference!
Guide to Handling Funds

Step by Step Instructions for Acquiring an EIN

An Employer Identification Number (EIN) is also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number, and is used to identify a business entity. Generally, businesses need an EIN. Since your club is not a business, you do not need an EIN number, unless you are going to open a bank account in your club’s name. The following instructions will help you in obtaining an EIN number.


2. On the left-hand side under Online Tools, click on “Online EIN Application”

3. Click “Apply Online Now”

4. Click “Begin Application”

5. Select “View Additional Types including Non-Profit/Tax-Exempt Organizations” and click “Continue”

6. Select “Other Non-Profit/Tax Exempt Organizations” and click “Continue”

7. Click “Continue”

8. Select “Banking purposes” and click “Continue”

9. Select “Individual” and click “Continue”

10. Fill in your first name, last name, and Social Security number.

11. Select “yes” and click “Continue”

12. Fill in your street, city, state, zip code, and phone number. Ignore the rest of the page and click “Continue”

13. Fill in the name of your club, the county, the state, and the start date. Click “Continue”

14. Select “No” in answer to all questions and click “Continue”

15. Select “Other” and click “Continue”

16. Select “Organization (such as religious, environmental, social or civic, athletic, etc.)” and click “Continue”
17. Select “Social or civic” and type “youth civics club” and click “Continue”

20. Continue to follow the on-screen prompts to complete the transaction. Make sure that you record your EIN number.
Guide for GenJ Clubs in Co-ops

If you are in a co-op, clubs are an excellent tool to help further the education and development of your students. There have been several co-ops that have incorporated a club into their regular meetings. By doing so, they have utilized many of the opportunities Generation Joshua provides, especially the Student Action Teams (SATs) and civics curriculum.

Co-ops that wish to form a club must hold monthly club meetings and should maintain all aspects of the clubs as prescribed in the Club Constitution. This should include electing officers, inviting guest speakers, discussing current issues, planning community activities, and all the other requirements explained in the other portions of the Handbook. The clubs are open to all Generation Joshua members and those who wish to participate should not be required to pay co-op dues, unless they participate in other elements of the co-op.

All co-op students are welcome to participate in a club if they are Generation Joshua members and between the ages of 11–19. The cost for each student or teacher is $25 for HSLDA members and $35 for non-HSLDA members.

A club in a co-op may provide members with a unique opportunity to participate in normal club activities and also learn from the civics curriculum.

Although the courses are all on-line, teachers who want to discuss the material in the co-op class may choose to print off the readings. You may go over them in class, hand them out to the students ahead of time, and have them prepare for a weekly discussion, or any other way you feel provides a good learning environment for the students.

In addition to civics, club members may want to participate in a Student Action Team (SAT). Each election season, Generation Joshua and HSLDA will endorse a number of candidates for state or federal races. Generation Joshua will then find interested members to send to work on those races. Students participate in activities such as phone banking, sign waving, walking door to door, and anything else that needs to be done on a campaign. Generation Joshua covers all expenses for students to be able to work on these races. In 2004, Generation Joshua participated in 9 races with over 500 members involved in the SATs. We won 8 of the races we participated in. In 2006 Generation Joshua was involved in 12 campaigns, and in 2007, Generation Joshua students helped elect Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal. In 2008, we worked on 22 different races in 14 different states.
Guide to Being an Adult Sponsor

Congratulations on helping to start a new club or sponsoring an existing one. Generation Joshua Clubs could not run without the parents and adults that make it possible, so thank you! This guide is meant to outline and clarify some of the roles of an adult sponsor.

Who Can Be an Adult Sponsor?

Anyone who is the parent or guardian of a current Generation Joshua member can be an adult sponsor.

What Is the Time Commitment?

Clubs generally hold meetings once a month. Each meeting should only last for a few hours. However, you may need to be available more often to supply transportation and oversee group activities. Depending on the involvement level of your club, the time commitments may vary. Feel free to encourage other parents and guardians of GenJ Club members to assist and be involved.

What Are the Responsibilities of an Adult Sponsor?

An adult sponsor works closely with the president and cabinet of the club to organize club activities, oversee club meetings, and act as a go-to person when members have any questions or problems. As the sponsor, you may need to help students come up with ideas for activities, provide information to make those activities possible, and encourage members to make the phone calls to potential speakers or candidates. Most of your involvement will likely take place during club meetings. While most of those responsibilities are divided among the cabinet, you will likely be asked to help in various ways.

Involvement in Club Activities

Encourage the students to come up with ways to be civically involved on their own. Once they have a few ideas, you may want to help them narrow down their choices, see what is really possible, and help them make a final decision on details such as dates, location, and time commitment. As the club sponsor, you will likely be responsible for coordinating any transportation required for group activities.

Involvement in Club Meetings

It is possible that club meetings will be held in your home. If that is not feasible, the president may ask for help in finding a good meeting location. You may use the homes of other members, find a business that will donate the space, or look into other options. During nice weather, you could even meet in a park or other outdoor location. Please keep in mind that meeting in a church, school, or library imposes some restrictions on your club’s activities.
While the president will lead the club meetings, you will want to stay in the room for
several reasons. Try to keep the club meeting running on schedule. If the members have been discussing the current event for quite some time and show no signs of stopping, you may want to gently interject and help them wind down. There may be questions regarding the logistics of running a meeting. It would be helpful to familiarize yourself with Robert’s Rules of Order to help ensure that meetings stay calm and orderly. It may be necessary to deal with conflict during a meeting. If two or more members have a hard time getting along, you may need to take them aside and talk with them. If a discussion is causing strong feelings, you may want to put a stop to that discussion for the time being. Please read through the Guide to Handling Grievances and also the Adult Supervisor Training Handbook for specific information on how to handle such problems.

**Important Note about Churches, Libraries, and Other Nonprofit Buildings**

Federal tax law allows nonprofit (501c(3)) organizations to be tax exempt. People who donate to these entities can write off their donation as a tax deduction, and the entity does not need to pay taxes. Churches, libraries, and similar entities are almost always tax exempt.

This means that only non-partisan activities may take place within these buildings. Failure to do this could result in the church or library losing its tax exempt, nonprofit status.

So what are non-partisan activities? Non-partisan means any activity that does not directly benefit any candidate or party. Some examples are listening to a talk by Congressman Smith on his experiences in the Congress; Voter Registration Drives; talking about issues such as marriage, immigration, and abortion; discussing civics and history, etc.

Partisan activities, on the other hand, include making phone calls for Congressman Smith’s re-election bid, making campaign signs for Congressman Smith, planning how to help Congressman Smith’s re-election, or even listening to Congressman Smith talk about his re-election bid. Partisan activities can only occur in places other than nonprofit buildings and should be done only with the permission of the manager of the building.

Note that some churches and libraries may rent space on an equal availability basis. You may be able to hold partisan activities on the premises if you have rented the space at the fair market value. Again, check with the manager of the building and check with Generation Joshua first.

**How Much Involvement Is Allowed?**

As the sponsor, you will want to meet regularly with the cabinet and leaders of the club. You can answer their questions, help them define the goals of the club and encourage them in their vision. Any concerns, ideas and suggestions should be brought up in cabinet
meetings. If you want to introduce new business in a meeting, it would be best to introduce it first to the cabinet and allow a member to introduce the matter. If you did not have a chance to speak to the cabinet before a meeting, if the member forgets to introduce the business or if you think of something important during a meeting, you may introduce new business. However, the adult sponsor may not vote in the meetings.

You are also welcome to participate in discussions and activities the club may have during their meetings. The key to your involvement in discussions and decisions is to remember that the purpose of the club is to train youth to be effective citizens. Encourage them to think through issues, discuss things on their own, and come up with ideas among themselves. Your involvement, though important, should be rather limited. Of course, always be ready to provide insight when asked or when members obviously need help.

**Opening a Bank Account**

You may be asked to help set up a bank account for the club. If the financial situation of the club warrants the need for a bank account, the Adult Sponsor will need to assist the Treasurer in its creation. Furthermore, acquiring the EIN number (discussed on page 34) requires an adult.

**Changing Adult Sponsors**

If for some reason an adult sponsor is no longer able to perform their role, sponsors may be changed. The new sponsor must be a parent or guardian of one of the current members of the club. If an adult volunteers to take the position, a regular or voice vote may be held among the members. A simple majority is sufficient to elect a new sponsor. If more than one adult is interested in becoming the sponsor, adults must be nominated and a vote held.

For example: the current adult sponsor decides that she is no longer able to attend all the meetings and be active in the club. At the next meeting, she tells the club and lets them know they will need a new adult sponsor. All the members go home and talk to their parents about who should be the next sponsor. When the next meeting comes, Bobby announces that his mom would like to be the new sponsor while Sarah says that her dad is interested as well. At this point, each parent must be nominated by one of the members. The vote may then be held by secret ballot and whichever parent receives a majority wins.

Once the new sponsor accepts the position, the new sponsor must fill out the New Sponsor Form accompanying the Handbook and have the former sponsor, the president, and the secretary sign the form. The form should then be faxed to Generation Joshua at 540-338-8606.
Important Dos and Don’ts for Adult Sponsors

Under no circumstances should a female adult counsel a male student privately or a male adult counsel a female student privately. If a student must be counseled privately, the adult sponsor should wait until either the student’s parents arrive or until an adult of the same gender arrives.

Unless there is a bona fide emergency, adults should avoid touching students. Adults and club members should also be informed of this policy and should refrain from unnecessary touching of the opposite gender, except for such things as a welcoming hug, high-fives, etc. In every situation, respect for privacy should be given the utmost consideration.

Two adult leaders should always be present at any Generation Joshua activity outside of standard business, such as field trips, picnics, lobbying, etc. Should one of the adult leaders at a Generation Joshua event have to leave the area for a brief or extended time or emergency situation, a second adult should always be available to monitor the students.

Whenever official Generation Joshua activities require students and adults to spend the night somewhere (this should only occur with the Student Action Teams), separate accommodations should be arranged for males and females, and students and adults. Students may never share a room with an adult to whom they are not related. The only form of co-ed room sharing that can occur is between family members (i.e., a mom is an adult sponsor and her son is a student on the trip, or multiple brothers and sisters are on the same trip). Additionally, adults should only enter a student’s room of the opposite gender in case of an emergency.

If a student is acting inappropriately at a club event and needs immediate attention, take the student aside to talk to him or her. Remember to always be visible to others; you can be off to the side of a room and still carry on a private conversation. Adult supervisors are not allowed under any circumstances to participate in corporal punishment of Generation Joshua students. It is never appropriate for an adult to physically discipline a disruptive child unrelated to them.

Definitions abound as to what is modest and what is not. Generation Joshua expects that a certain level of modesty be displayed by all involved in any Generation Joshua event.

Older students will occasionally be recruited to assist adult leaders. Although the older students are close in age to the other Generation Joshua members and are most likely friends with them, they should never go off alone with younger members.
Guide to Handling Grievances

“Argh! I can’t stand this!”

You may have heard someone say that before. It is the opening line for many problems—right before it goes from a disagreement to a full-blown argument or miniature war. Such behavior is neither becoming to Christians nor conducive to running an efficient and successful club. Because that is the case, we have designed a series of procedures and principles to help resolve differences, ensure fairness, and promote biblical unity.

Remember what Mathew 18:15-17 says. “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”

The first thing we must understand is that we live in a fallen world where people make mistakes and sin. Everyone, except Jesus Christ, has sinned and will continue to sin. As a result, we must work hard to remember to address each other with grace, love, and compassion. If there is a personal disagreement or conflict among members outside of club meetings, it should be dealt with using biblical principles and generally, not within the context of the club.

However, there may be times when club members disagree with each other over actions, positions, policy, or words spoken. These conflicts do arise within the settings of the club. Thus, a specific system of mediation and a judicial system have been agreed upon.

In the event that a disagreement cannot be resolved through one-on-one discussion, it falls to the adult sponsor to be the mediator. Their responsibility is to work with the offended parties and ensure unity and stability in the club. If the matter is not decided to the satisfaction of the parties involved, they may request a review of the disagreement from Generation Joshua. Generation Joshua will request each side to present their case, find out the decision of the adult sponsor, and the reasoning for their decision. Generation Joshua acts as the supreme jurisdictional body in these instances.
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Action of Second Continental Congress, July 4, 1776 The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America

WHEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the Separation.

WE hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness--That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to suffer, while Evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a Design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their Right, it is their Duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future Security. Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the Necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The History of the present King of Great-Britain is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World.

HE has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good. HE has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

HE has refused to pass other Laws for the Accommodation of large Districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the Right of Representation in the Legislature, a Right inestimable to them, and formidable to Tyrants only.

HE has called together Legislative Bodies at Places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public Records, for the sole Purpose of fatiguing them into Compliance with his Measures.

HE has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly Firmness his Invasions on the Rights of the People.

HE has refused for a long Time, after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the Dangers of Invasion from without, and Convulsions within.

HE has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that Purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither, and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

HE has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

HE has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries.

HE has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harrass our People, and eat out their Substance.

HE has kept among us, in Times of Peace Standing Armies, without the consent of our Legislatures.

HE has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

HE has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

FOR quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:
FOR protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:
FOR cutting off our Trade with all Parts of the World:
FOR imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:
FOR depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:
FOR transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:
FOR abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies:
FOR taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:
FOR suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all Cases whatsoever.
HE has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.
HE has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People.
HE is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation.
HE has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Executioners of their Friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.
HE has excited domestic Insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our Frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known Rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all Ages, Sexes and Conditions.
IN every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the Ruler of a free People.
NOR have we been wanting in Attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from Time to Time of Attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the Ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which, denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace, Friends.
WE, therefore, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the Rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly Publish and Declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great-Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as FREE AND INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm Reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article I.

Section 1. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

[Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which maybe included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons.]1 The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, [chosen by the Legislature thereof,]2 for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; [and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.]3

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

1 Changed by section 2 of the Fourteenth Amendment.

2 Changed by the Seventeenth Amendment.

3 Changed by the Seventeenth Amendment.
Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section 4. The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be [on the first Monday in December,]4 unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Section 5. Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been encreased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

Section 7. All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitations prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

Section 8. The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

4 Changed by section 2 of the Twentieth Amendment.
To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over an Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock Yards and other needful Buildings;—And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

Section. 9. The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or Enumeration herein before directed to be taken.  

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay Duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law, and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

Section. 10. No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender

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5 See Sixteenth Amendment.
in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it's inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Control of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

Article. II.

Section. 1. The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

[The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the Presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like Manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.]^6

The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.

[In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by Law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.]^7

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:--

``I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

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^6 Changed by the Twelfth Amendment.
^7 Changed by the Twenty-Fifth Amendment.
Section 2. The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

Section 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

Section 4. The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

Article III.

Section 1. The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

Section 2. The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;--to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;--to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;--to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;--to Controversies between two or more States;--[between a State and Citizens of another State;--]8 between Citizens of different States,-- between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, [and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.]

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment; shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

Section 3. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted.

8 Changed by the Eleventh Amendment.
Article. IV.

Section. 1. Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State; And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Section. 2. The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

[No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.]

Section. 3. New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Section. 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

Article. V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of it's equal Suffrage in the Senate.

Article. VI.

All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

Article. VII.

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

9 Changed by the Thirteenth Amendment.
done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth In Witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,

G . Washington—Presid. and deputy from Virginia

**New Hampshire**
- John Langdon
- Nicholas Gilman

**Massachusetts**
- Nathaniel Gorham
- Rufus King

**Connecticut**
- Wm. Saml. Johnson
- Roger Sherman

**New York**
- Alexander Hamilton

**New Jersey**
- Wil: Livingston
- David Brearley
- Wm. Paterson
- Jona: Dayton

**Pennsylvania**
- B Franklin
- Thomas Mifflin
- Robt Morris
- Geo. Clymer
- Thos. FitzSimons
- Jared Ingersoll
- James Wilson
- Gouv Morris

**Delaware**
- Geo: Read
- Gunning Bedford jun
- John Dickinson
- Richard Bassett
- Jaco: Broom

**Maryland**
- James McHenry
- Dan of St Thos. Jenifer
- Danl Carroll

**Virginia**
- John Blair
- James Madison Jr.

**North Carolina**
- Wm. Blount
- Richd. Dobbs Spaight
- Hu Williamson

**South Carolina**
- J. Rutledge
- Charles Cotesworth Pinckney
- Charles Pinckney
- Pierce Butler

**Georgia**
- William Few
- Abr Baldwin

Attest William Jackson Secretary
AMENDMENTS
TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Amendment I. 10

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II.

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III.

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV.

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V.

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb, nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Amendment VI.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

Amendment VII.

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise reexamined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII.

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

10 The first ten Amendments (Bill of Rights) were ratified effective December 15, 1791.
Amendment IX.

The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X.

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Amendment XI.\(^{11}\)

The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State.

Amendment XII.\(^{12}\)

The Electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;--The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;--The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. [And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth PA day of March next following, then the Vice President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President—]\(^{13}\) The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice President, shall be the Vice President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice President of the United States.

Amendment XIII.\(^{14}\)

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

\(^{11}\) The Eleventh Amendment was ratified February 7, 1795.

\(^{12}\) The Twelfth Amendment was ratified June 15, 1804.

\(^{13}\) Superseded by section 3 of the Twentieth Amendment.

\(^{14}\) The Thirteenth Amendment was ratified December 6, 1865.
Amendment XIV.\textsuperscript{15}

\textbf{Section 1.} All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

\textbf{Section 2.} Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

\textbf{Section 3.} No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

\textbf{Section 4.} The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

\textbf{Section 5.} The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Amendment XV.\textsuperscript{16}

\textbf{Section 1.} The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

\textbf{Section 2.} The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XVI.\textsuperscript{17}

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

Amendment XVII.\textsuperscript{18}

The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State

\textsuperscript{15} The Fourteenth Amendment was ratified July 9, 1868.

\textsuperscript{16} The Fifteenth Amendment was ratified February 3, 1870.

\textsuperscript{17} The Sixteenth Amendment was ratified February 3, 1913.

\textsuperscript{18} The Seventeenth Amendment was ratified April 8, 1913.
may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

Amendment XVIII.19

[Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.]

Amendment XIX.20

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XX.21

Section 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Section 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

19 The Eighteenth Amendment was ratified January 16, 1914. It was repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment, December 5, 1933.
20 The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified August 18, 1920.
21 The Twentieth Amendment was ratified January 23, 1933.
Amendment XXI.\textsuperscript{22}

\textbf{Section 1.} The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

\textbf{Section 2.} The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

\textbf{Section 3.} This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Amendment XXII.\textsuperscript{23}

\textbf{Section 1.} No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

\textbf{Section 2.} This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

Amendment XXIII.\textsuperscript{24}

\textbf{Section 1.} The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

- A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

\textbf{Section 2.} The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXIV.\textsuperscript{25}

\textbf{Section 1.} The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

\textbf{Section 2.} The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXV.\textsuperscript{26}

\textbf{Section 1.} In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

\textsuperscript{22} The Twenty-First Amendment was ratified December 5, 1933.
\textsuperscript{23} The Twenty-Second Amendment was ratified February 27, 1951.
\textsuperscript{24} The Twenty-Third Amendment was ratified March 29, 1961.
\textsuperscript{25} The Twenty-Fourth Amendment was ratified January 23, 1964.
\textsuperscript{26} The Twenty-Fifth Amendment was ratified February 10, 1967.
Section 2. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Section 3. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

Section 4. Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

Amendment XXVI27

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment XXVII28

No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

27 The Twenty-Sixth Amendment was ratified July 1, 1971.
28 Congress submitted the text of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the States as part of the proposed Bill of Rights on September 25, 1789. The Amendment was not ratified together with the first ten Amendments, which became effective on December 15, 1791. The Twenty-Seventh Amendment was ratified on May 7, 1992, by the vote of Michigan.
About the Staff

Will Estrada
Generation Joshua Director Will Estrada works to give youth across the country hands-on experience impacting government. In addition, he serves as HSLDA’s Director of Federal Relations, lobbying for homeschooling freedom in Washington, D.C., where he meets with elected officials and their staff. Will received his JD from Oak Brook College of Law in 2006 and is licensed to practice law in California. He and his beautiful wife, Rachel, are both homeschool graduates and enjoy working to inspire young people across America to stand for what’s right.

Joel Grewe
Joel Grewe is the Deputy Director of Generation Joshua. He has a degree in Government, specializing in International Relations, from Eastern Washington University. He travels the country representing Generation Joshua at homeschool conferences and workshops, presenting the necessity of Christian youth being involved in politics. He is married to his beloved Christie and now lives in Virginia. He has worked in youth ministry and demographic research for the past decade.

Michael Zeller
A graduate from Patrick Henry College with a degree in History, Michael Zeller is excited to be serving with Generation Joshua as it equips young people for the future. His heart is to encourage young people to turn their hearts to Christ as their first love. As the GenJ Program Administrator, he helps coordinate GenJ clubs across America to be involved in their communities. Michael has a passion for revival in America and is an active member of his church. He hopes that he will never stop learning about God and serving Him.