

**Constitution of The Original United CHarter Youth TOUCHY**  
**Temple Dor Dorim**  
**Submitted, March 1999, by Joshua Brandfon**  
**Amended and Adopted, August 2000, by the TOUCHY Executive Board**  
**Retyped October 2007, by Lauren Marks-Cabanas- Youth Director**  
**Amended and Adopted, ( ) by Lauren Smith**  
**Retyped (), by Amy Wulwick – Youth Director**

PREAMBLE

We the members of The Original United CHarter Youth (TOUCHY), members of the North American Federation of Temple Youth - Southern Tropical Region NFTY-STR, the Reform Jewish Youth Movement of North America, in order to secure the existence and perpetuation of a strong and meaningful Reform Jewish Youth experience are based upon the principles of:

- A commitment to God and Torah as a means of personal, emotional and spiritual fulfillment
- The unity of the Jewish People
- The centrality of the State of Israel to the strength and survival of the Jewish people
- The ethical teaching and obligations of Reform Judaism
- The obligation of free choice through knowledge, basic to our observance of Jewish tradition and law
- The obligation to work for social justice and equality for all
- The encouragement of alternate modes of Jewish experience as a valid and essential means of reaching out to the personal needs and objectives of all Reform Jewish youth
- The need for chevre (community) to provide an outlet for the individual humanistic needs of all Jews
- The obligation to the strength and survival of the Jewish people based on the realistic development of our past and present history;

Do hereby ordain and establish this constitution of  
The Original United CHarter Youth – Temple Dor Dorim

**ARTICLE ONE NAME AND AFFILIATION**

**Section A:** This organization shall be known as The Original United CHarter Youth represented as TOUCHY.

**Section B:** This Federation is an affiliate of the North American Federation of Temple Youth Southern Tropical Region known as NFTY-STR. TOUCHY affirms its commitment to NFTY-STR and The Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) realizing that NFTY is an affiliate of the URJ.

## **ARTICLE TWO PURPOSES**

**Section A:** To unite the Reform Jewish youth of the community in a youth-oriented organization to collectively benefit and pursue our common goals by establishing an environment of friendship, commitment to individuality, awareness and informed choice.

**Section B:** To forge individual identity through awareness of our Judaic heritage and beliefs, development of sociopolitical ideology, encouragement of social action, and dedication to the principles of the Reform Jewish Youth Movement.

**Section C:** To serve as the voice of Reform Jewish Youth in our community in the URJ and NFTY, taking our place in the Jewish community and preparing ourselves for current and future responsibilities as adult members of both Jewish and secular society.

**Section D:** To promote awareness of Reform Judaism and the tenets of Reform Jewish youth throughout the community.

**Section E:** To reconcile the historic beliefs of Reform Judaism with the beliefs of contemporary Reform Jewish youth, and make it the moral and social values of our Judaism functional attributes of our daily lives.

**Section F:** To guide and support NFTY-STR , NFTY, and the URJ in the execution of it's aims and purposes.

## **ARTICLE THREE MEMBERSHIP**

**Section A:** Any Jewish youth is eligible for membership in TOUCHY. Admission as a member of TOUCHY automatically includes an option for membership to NFTY-STR and NFTY.

**Section B:** The individual members of TOUCHY are members of NFTY-STR and NFTY shall be accorded the full privileges thereof.

**Section C:** Any TOUCHY member may have it's membership terminated, suspended or otherwise abridged for extreme violation of the TOUCHY constitution and by-laws, failure to pay dues, violations of the code of conduct, or any other reason determined by the TOUCHY Board and Youth Director. The TOUCHY Youth Director shall enforce all such suspensions.

1. Any abridging of the privileges of membership in TOUCHY shall require notification by the TOUCHY President and TOUCHY Youth Director to all parties involved.
2. Any such actions taken by the TOUCHY President and TOUCHY Youth Director may be formally appealed in writing to the

TOUCHY Board. Such appeals shall take precedence over all pending business at such time as the appeal is presented.

## **ARTICLE FOUR TOUCHY EXECUTIVE BOARD AND TRUSTEES**

**Section A:** The TOUCHY Executive Board shall conduct the business of this organization

**Section B:** The TOUCHY Executive Board shall consist of, in ranking gavel order, President, Programming Vice President, Social Action Vice President, Religious and Cultural Vice President, Communications Vice President, Membership Vice President, Fundraising Vice President, Historian, TOUCHY advisor and TOUCHY Youth Director. These and only these officers shall be voting members of the Executive Board, unless the President and Youth Director for a special situation grant special permission.

**Section C:** Only members of TOUCHY and Temple Dor Dorim will be able to hold any board position in this organization.

**Section D:** This organization shall have a board of trustees, unless it is determined by the TOUCHY President and the Youth Director that it is not needed. This board shall consist of grade representatives and members at large. These trustees shall not have voting privileges on the TOUCHY Executive Board.

**Section E:** The full-voting members of the Executive Board shall be the Programming VP, Social Action VP, Religious and Cultural VP, Communications VP and the Membership VP, Fundraising VP & Historia. All appointed board members shall have voting rights, while the Youth Director has advisory powers only. The TOUCHY President will not vote except to break voting ties.

## **ARTICLE FIVE DUTIES OF TOUCHY OFFICERS**

**Section A:** It shall be the duty of the PRESIDENT

1. To call and preside over all TOUCHY meetings
2. To guide the TOUCHY board in the proper execution of their aims and purposes
3. To supervise the TOUCHY board with the Youth Director and take responsibility for all decisions made by them
4. To consult regularly with the Youth Director
5. To be directly responsible with the Youth Director for the execution and implementation of the constitution of this organization and any adjunctive rules, including the NFTY code of conduct
6. Keep the lines of communication open between TOUCHY and NFTY-STR

7. To attend all TOUCHY events, if possible, or to appoint a representative board member if not able to attend.
8. To serve as a liaison between TOUCHY and the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders in ATID
9. Contacts and stays in touch with local area youth groups' Presidents to plan co-events and exchange ideas
10. To attend all Temple Dor Dorim Board of Trustee meetings.
11. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, district regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
12. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities.
13. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section B:** It shall be the duty of the PROGRAMMING VICE PRESIDENT

1. To take the place of the president when so required
2. To educate all members of TOUCHY on the range of programs NFTY-STR has to offer, and be a resource for materials and information for those programs
3. To work with TOUCHY board to create a yearly event calendar after becoming familiar with past events
4. To plan Fall and Spring membership events with President and Youth Director
5. To serve as a resource for TYG programming
6. Contacts and stays in touchy with local area youth groups, programming vice president to plan co-events and exchange ideas
7. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, district, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
8. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities
9. To attend 80% of TOUCHY events, if possible, or to appoint a representative board member if not able to attend.
10. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section C:** It shall be the duty of the SOCIAL ACTION VICE PRESIDENT

1. To keep all members of TOUCHY informed of various Social Action issues and the NFTY Social Action theme
2. To be a source of information on the NFTY Mitzvah Corps project, Camp Jenny, and to encourage TOUCHY members to apply

3. To implement a Social Action project in some way giving back to the congregation and the community
4. To attend 80% of TOUCHY events, if possible, or to appoint a representative board member if not able to attend
5. To attend all Temple Dor Dorim Social Action Committee meetings
6. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities
7. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section D:** It shall be the duty of the RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL VICE PRESIDENT

1. To keep all members of TOUCHY informed on various Religious and Cultural issues and the NFTY study theme
2. To be responsible for all Judaic and Religious programming including cultural events to correspond with Jewish Holidays or life cycle events
3. To attend 80% of TOUCHY events, if possible, or to appoint a representative board member if not able to attend
4. To oversee the planning and implementation of all worship services at TOUCHY events
5. To oversee the planning and implementation of AT LEAST one Creative Service per year
6. To work to keep a file of all services written and used during the year
7. To keep in close contact with NFTY-STR's RCVP
8. To maintain communication with Temple clergy in order to use them as resources and schedule them for program participation
9. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, sub-regional, district, regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
10. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities
11. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section E:** It shall be the duty of the COMMUNICATIONS VICE PRESIDENT

1. To take minutes at all TOUCHY Executive Board and general meetings
2. To be responsible for all telephone, email and other source of communication
3. To write thank you notes from TOUCHY when deemed necessary
4. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, district regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others

5. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities
6. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section F:** It shall be the duty of the MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT

1. Create programs and strategies that seek to increase and retain membership.
2. Personally contact potential members to encourage them to join.
3. Periodically attend K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> –5<sup>th</sup> grade activities to offer a presence and to assist with programming.
4. Periodically attend ATID activities to offer a presence and to assist with programming.
5. Welcome new members and develop mechanisms for successful integration into the chapter.
6. Work closely with Youth Director to develop membership.
7. Consult with the Youth Director and President to determine membership goal for the coming year.
8. Address the needs of each grade level represented in TOUCHY.
9. To help Youth Director and Communication V.P with sending out monthly mailing updates to all Youth Groups Members
10. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, district regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
11. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities
12. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section G:** It shall be the duty of the FUNDRAISING/TREASURE VICE PRESIDENT

1. Responsible to stay in contact with the Youth Director regarding the Vending Machines.
2. Help make deposits to the Controller with Vending Machine Income.
3. Attend all board meetings
4. Sell snack every Wednesday (when there is Religious School) from 4-5 pm or responsible to finding a replacement if cannot attend
5. Hold at least 2 fundraising events per year approved by the TOUCHY board
6. To work with and help create at least 1 fundraising event per year approved by ATID board
7. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, district regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
8. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities



9. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section H:** It shall be the duty of the HISTORIAN VICE PRESIDENT

1. Responsible for taking pictures at every function and turning in the film to the Youth Director
2. Maintain a current photo album
3. Post pictures on bulletin boards inside and outside the Youth Lounge keeping them maintained throughout the year
4. Submitting pictures to the Youth Director each month to be placed into the Temple bulletin
5. Create a slide show that will be shown at the TOUCHY banquet at the end of the year
6. Putting together a collage of past pictures of events to be sent out each month in our Monthly Mailing
7. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, sub-regional and regional level and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
8. Work with Communication V.P in updating our TOUCHY Facebook page with pictures of past events.
9. To serve as a role model for all members of TOUCHY on a local, district regional, national, and international level, and to appropriately represent TOUCHY to others
10. To take on any additional duties which may be necessary to fulfill any of the above responsibilities
11. Mandatory to attend one NFTY-STR Regional Event during the term on board

**Section I:**

The duties of the trustees shall be implemented on an as need basis. They are to take on any assigned responsibilities in order to ensure the smooth operations of the organization, including but not limited to phone calls, emails, newsletters, scrapbooks, and etc

**ARTICLE SIX TOUCHY EXECUTIVE BOARD AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

**Section A:** The business of the Federation shall be conducted in at least one meeting per month of the full assembly of the TOUCHY Executive Board with one additional meeting per month of the general membership

**Section B:** All full meetings of the assembly of the TOUCHY Executive Board shall require a quorum of 80% of the eligible delegates to meet. Should a quorum fail at any point, that meeting is suspended until a quorum of the full assembly can be formed.

**Section C:** The TOUCHY President shall call and preside over all TOUCHY Board meetings and general membership meetings. Should the President unable or unwilling to call a meeting and a quorum exists; two-thirds of the voting delegates may petition the next highest available gavel officer of the Executive Board to call and preside over the meeting. At any time during that meeting, however should a higher ranking gavel officer seek the gavel it must be passed to that officer immediately.

**Section D:** All members of TOUCHY have a right to attend any General Membership meeting. Only the Executive Board members, TOUCHY Trustees and the TOUCHY Youth Director have the right to attend Executive Board Meetings at the discretion of the TOUCHY President.

**Section E:** Any TOUCHY member in attendance at any meeting shall have the right to speak, provided the member has obtained the floor in an appropriate manner from the presiding officer.

**Section F: The following rules apply to all resolutions and amendments**

1. Resolutions or amendments intended to be presented in any session must be sent in to the Youth Director and TOUCHY President. They may be proposed by a TOUCHY Executive Board Member or a general member, and will be given to all voting members prior to the next meeting.
2. Resolutions or amendments may be introduced in any session, but a simple majority of the Executive Board may force dismissal of a resolution or amendment from the General meeting agenda. Such removed resolutions or amendments then take immediate precedence over all other matters at the beginning of the next Executive Board Meeting.
3. The Executive Board may, by a two-thirds majority, elect not to present a resolution or amendment to the general membership if the resolution or amendment pertains to sensitive material that could damage individual reputations or the sanctity of the Federation. Any other resolution or amendment that is evaluated by the Executive Board must be presented to the general membership, regardless of the recommendations or opinions of the Executive Board, at the next general meeting.
4. Resolutions or amendments affirmed by the Executive Board may be considered to be conditionally adopted in the interim between the Executive Board and the next general membership meeting. At that time, resolutions or amendments require an affirmative two-thirds majority of the Executive Board to be officially enacted.

**Section G:**

The order of business at any TOUCHY meetings shall be determined by the TOUCHY President and the Youth Director, except where this constitution mandates otherwise.



**Section H:**

The rules of order used in all TOUCHY meeting shall be based on the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order as deemed necessary to the board.

**ARTICLE SEVEN BUDGET AND DUES**

**Section A:**

The membership dues of TOUCHY shall be established by the TOUCHY Executive Board, and shall include the cost of NFTY-STR dues. Dues are to be paid by November 1<sup>st</sup>, as established by the Executive Board with penalties incurred according to the mandates of the Executive Board and TOUCHY Youth Director. A member must notify the TOUCHY President and Youth Director at least two weeks before any dues deadlines if special arrangements regarding payments are required.

**Section B:**

Any expenditure by a youth group member for TOUCHY purposes must Be turned in to the Youth Director with a store receipt for reimbursement

**ARTICLE EIGHT ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS**

**Section A:**

Election of TOUCHY executive officers shall occur during the month of March. The TOUCHY President shall be the arbiter of elections, which shall be the last order of new business of the session. Votes shall be counted in seclusion by the TOUCHY President. TOUCHY Youth Director and one unbiased individual as determined by the TOUCHY Youth Director.

**Section B:**

All candidates shall be required to declare intent to run for TOUCHY office in a letter of intent and fulfill any other requirements as established by the TOUCHY President and TOUCHY Youth Director. All candidates shall have the opportunity to speak before the general membership and participate in a meet the candidates session prior to elections. Campaigning in ANY form, is strictly forbidden and violation of any rules or procedures established may lead to dismissal of candidacy.

**Section C:**

Officers shall be elected in gavel order. President, Programming VP,

Social Action VP, Religious and Cultural VP, Communications VP, and Membership VP. Following these trustees shall be elected.

**Section D:**

TOUCHY officers may not sit on the NFTY-STR board.

**Section E:**

The TOUCHY Youth Director shall have the authority to appoint TOUCHY Executive Board Members.

**Section F:**

The term of office for all officers shall be August-May.

**Section G:**

TOUCHY members who are “paid” Youth Group Members in good standing according to TOUCHY and Temple Dor Dorim are eligible as voting members in TOUCHY board member elections.

**ARTICLE NINE RESIGNATION AND DISMISSAL OFFICERS**

**Section A:**

TOUCHY elected or appointed officers may resign their position by Written notification to the TOUCHY President and Youth Director. When Such notification is voted and accepted by the TOUCHY Executive Board, it shall be considered final dismissal from office. The TOUCHY President shall appoint an interim officer immediately, who shall then be confirmed by the TOUCHY general membership. Resignation of appointed officers requires written notification to the TOUCHY President and Youth Director and is immediate and final.

**Section B:**

] Dismissal procedures shall take place when a TOUCHY officer has extremely violated the TOUCHY Constitution or Code of Conduct, shown a profound and continued lack of responsibility and leadership, or acted in a disruptive or destructive manner.

1. The TOUCHY President, in consultation with the TOUCHY Youth Director shall immediately remove an officer when deemed necessary. The President shall immediately notify all other Executive Board Members of the dismissal. At the next Executive Board meeting, the Exec. Board shall hear the President’s case and vote on the suspension, with the evaluation of dismissal taking precedence over all pending matters. Upholding the President’s suspension requires a 2/3 majority.
2. Any Executive Board or general member may file an impeachment charges with the President to begin dismissal procedures against an

elected Exec. Board member by written notification signed by at least three other members, a board member shall be considered suspended, and at the time of the next meeting the dismissal shall be evaluated in the same manner as if the President had initiated the dismissal. The three members shall be available to present their case as opposed to the President.

3. Should the Executive Board uphold a dismissal of an elected officer, regardless of the means of initiating dismissal procedure, such action may, if the removed officer desires, be appealed to the TOUCHY Executive Board. The Board shall evaluate the dismissal and may by a simple majority, nullify the dismissal.
4. Appointed Executive Board members or trustees may be removed unilaterally by the TOUCHY President and the Youth Director. Such removals may be appealed to the Executive Board.
5. Any in-appealed dismissal or appointed dismissal must be reported to the TOUCHY general membership at the next session.
6. The TOUCHY President shall appoint an interim officer immediately, who shall then be confirmed by the TOUCHY general membership. Resignation of appointed officers requires written notification to the TOUCHY President, the Youth Director and is immediate and binding.

#### **ARTICLE TEN ENABLING CLAUSES**

**Section A:** Upon its approval by 2/3 of the TOUCHY general membership, this Constitution shall be the Constitution of The Original United CHarter Youth, and any previous Constitutions, by-laws or resolutions, together with any amendments attached, are hereby repealed.

**Section B:** Any policy circumstance, or procedure not provided for this Constitution shall be left to the discretion of the voting members of the TOUCHY Executive Board, TOUCHY President and Youth Director.

Approved this second day of August, 2000. By the TOUCHY Executive Board

Amanda Simon, President

Andrew Levie, Programming Vice President

Lisa Katovsky, Social Action Vice President

Josh Bradfon, Religious and Cultural Vice President

Michelle Medintz, Communications Vice President

Judy Zipper, Advisor

Rabbi Norman Lipson DD

