

Labour Youth Maynooth University Society Constitution

Article 1: General

1.1 Name: Labour Youth Maynooth University *affirm. LYMU*

1.2 Objectives: LYMU shall carry out the objectives of article 4 of the Labour Party constitution.

1.3 Standing Orders: LYMU shall adapt the “Society Supplementary Standing Orders” as its prime standing orders but also the “Labour Party Branch Standing Orders” set out by the party executive as secondary standing orders.

1.4 Policy: The LYMU Policy Document is an integral part of this constitution with an exemption on supplementary standing orders

1.5 Affiliation : The Society is affiliated to Labour Youth as the Maynooth University branch and to the Labour Party as a Labour Youth branch.

Article 2: Officers of the Executive Committee

2.1 Chairperson

1. Shall keep order in meetings
2. Shall call meetings
3. Is the prime spokesperson for the society
4. Shall lead the society
5. Shall represent the society
6. Shall draft an agenda with the General-Secretary
7. Shall take charge of the executive

2.2 General-Secretary

1. Shall take minutes of meetings
2. Shall assist the chairperson
3. Shall organise meetings and events
4. Shall keep the executive in order
5. Shall make sure every member votes in the National Conference
6. Shall become acting Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.
7. Shall be the acting Chief Whip at Conference.

2.3 Treasurer

1. Shall keep accounts
2. Shall do the audits
3. Shall manage the finances
4. Shall be elected by the executive, from a pool of current officers.

2.4 Communications Officer

1. Shall be responsible for maintaining and management of social media
2. Shall be responsible for media output including videos, pictures, and posters.
3. Shall be responsible for communications internal and external
4. Shall be responsible for external correspondence
5. Shall be responsible for relations with other societies and organisations

2.5 Oifigeach na Gaeilge

1. Shall be responsible for Irish Campaigns
2. Shall be responsible for linking in with Irish Societies

3. Shall be responsible for translating campaigns into Irish

2.6 1st Year Officer

2.7 Women's and Trans Officer*

1. Shall keep in contact with Labour Women
2. Attend Labour Women's council meetings, conferences and other events,
3. Report to every meeting on the activities of Labour Women
4. Encourage and support women members, in particular new women members, of the Branch

2.8 Equality Officer

1. Shall keep in contact with Labour Equality
2. Attend Labour Equality council meetings, conferences and other events,
3. Report to every meeting on the activities of Labour Equality
4. Encourage and support LGBT, Ethnic Minority and Disabled members, in particular new members, of the Branch.

2.9 Events and Campaigns Officer

1. Shall organise social events.
2. Shall organise seminars and special events.
3. Shall organise external events with other branches.
4. Shall be in charge of running and organising campaigns

2.10 International Officer

1. Shall keep in contact with Labour International
2. Attend Labour International council meetings, conferences and other events,
3. Report to every meeting on the activities of Labour International
4. Encourage and support International members, in particular new members, of the Branch.

Article 3: Annual General Meeting / General Meeting

3.1 Time: The AGM shall be called once a year at a date set by the executive committee.

3.2 Agenda: The Agenda shall be that of the labour branch standing orders determined by the executive board.

Article 4: Society Supplementary Standing Orders

4.1: All elections will be done in the Proportional Representation Single Transferable Vote

4.2: A Special General Meeting may be called if it gets the signatures of 2/3 of members or the Majority of the committee or the Chairperson

4.3: The Society shall place no quotas on the basis of Gender, Sexual Orientation, Race, Religion, Creed, Background or Culture

4.4: A meeting can be called by a member with 6 signatures.

4.5: Vacancies occurring in any elected office shall be filled by a by-election.

4.6: An AGM has to be called once a year.

4.7: The Business for the AGM shall be that of the labour branch standing orders determined by the executive board.

4.8: Procedural motion (G) may be moved at any meeting to remove a member of the executive.

4.9: Points of order maybe made at any Meeting or AGM, the secretary has to respond to this point of order if the chair deems it in order

4.10: a member with the support of 10% of members present may on a point of order call a quorum count. In the event of the meeting being inquorate, the Chairperson shall adjourn that session until the meeting becomes quorate.

4.11: If an amendment is carried, the mover thereof shall become the mover of the amended substantive motion. The following procedural motions may be moved:

- A. A motion that the question be now put;
- B. A motion that the question be not put;
- C. A motion that the question be taken in specific parts;
- D. A Constitutional Amendment ;
- E. A challenge to the Chairperson's ruling;
- F. A motion of no confidence in the Chair.
- G.A motion of no confidence in any elected officer
- H.A motion to eject a member from a meeting

4.12. Procedural motions shall require a seconder, and cannot be proposed during a point of order or during the act of voting or during a speech.

4.13. The proposer of any procedural motions may speak to it for one minute followed by one speaker against it for one minute. The proposer of the substantive motion shall have priority in speaking against procedural motions except in the case of procedural motions (E) and (F) where the Chairperson shall have priority. The motion shall then be put to a vote without discussion.

4.14. When procedural motions (E) or (F) is proposed the Chairperson shall immediately leave the chair until it is determined. If procedural motions (E) is carried the Chairperson shall rule in accordance with the procedural motion. If procedural motions (F) is carried, the Chairperson to whom it relates shall not take the Chair for the remainder of the session

4.15 .The Chairperson may refuse to put any procedural motion if one of similar effect and related to the same subject matter has been defeated within the previous fifteen minutes.

4.16 .If procedural motion (a) is carried, the Chairperson shall allow the proposer the right of reply before proceeding to the vote.

4.17 .Only one procedural motion may be proposed at any one time; amendments may not be proposed to procedural motions.

4.18 .A point of order shall take precedence over all other business except the act of voting, unless it relates to the conduct of the vote. It may be raised by any member provided they raise the point immediately and states that they are rising "on a point of order" and specifies the matter to which the point of order relates. A point of order shall relate only to the procedure adopted or to the conduct of the meeting.

4.19 .Points of information may be raised by any member who states that they are rising on such a point, and such member may be heard if the speaker gives consent. Points of information shall be limited to 15 seconds, such time to be taken from the time allowed to the speaker.

4.20 .The method of voting shall be by show of member's hands, each member having one vote.

4.21 .Suspension of standing orders may be used to facilitate business which is not on the agenda and that can only be introduced by suspension of Standing Orders. Standing Orders, other than this order and Standing Order number one may be suspended upon a motion to that effect being passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. Such motions shall require a seconder, shall state the purpose for which it is sought to suspend Standing Orders and the maximum period for which they are to be suspended, and shall be put to a vote without discussion. They may not be proposed while a member is speaking on a point of order or during the act of voting. Only that business for which Standing Orders are suspended may be discussed during the suspension.

4.22: A Quorum is 50%+1 of members registered at that meeting

4.23: Amendments to this constitution may be proposed at the AGM. The amendments shall take effect within 7 days of the AGM unless a lesser period is stipulated in the motion moving the resolution.

4.24: An Emergency motion can be proposed at any time during a Meeting or AGM, They can be a motion on any of the A-F motions, but need a 2/3 majority to pass

Article 5: Elections

5.1: Elections are done in secret ballot by means of single transferable vote

5.2: Candidates are allowed observe votes or be represented

5.3: The Acting Chairperson and Acting General-Secretary are the counters.

Article 6: Membership

6.1: There shall be Two Classes of Membership

1. Full Member :

a. Cost : €10

b. Can fully participate in the Labour Party and Society

c. Has full voting rights in Labour Youth and Labour Party

d. Is an automatic member of YES, IUSY, PES, SI and PA

2. Society Member :

a. Cost : €2

b. Can fully participate in Labour Youth and the Society

c. Has full voting rights at Labour Youth Conference

d. Is an automatic member of YES and IUSY

6.2: Membership shall be open to any Alumni, Staff or Student in Maynooth University

6.3: Full membership is subject to the constitution of the Labour Party

6.4 : The executive committee may award life membership to a outgoing society member, these shall be known as honorary or life members, and they for the purposes of this constitution, act as a Society member. The executive committee may revoke or suspend life membership.

Article 7 : The Whip

7.1: The branch shall debate and vote on which motions to put forward and which motions it will specifically oppose, support or abstain from at National Youth Conference before they are submitted to Standing Orders. This vote shall be binding (See 9.2 and 9.3)

7.2: The branch shall have a two-line whip on branch members voting at National Youth Conference on policy motions tables by other branches..

7.3: The branch shall have a three-line whip on branch committee members voting at National Youth Conference on policy motions tabled by the branch, upon breaking the whip, that committee member is deemed to have resigned their office.

7.4: The branch shall have a three-line whip on branch members voting at National Conference during National Youth Executive elections, a delegate who breaks the whip will be barred from being an official delegate of the branch to one consecutive National Conference. A committee member breaking the whip on NYE elections will be deemed to have resigned from their office.

7.5: It is in the central committees' complete discretion as to the enforcement of the whip.

7.6: The branch shall hold a hustings OR debate on which candidates it will support (if any) for the National Youth Executive elections, the result of the caucus vote will be binding (See 9.4)

Article 8 : The Central Committee

8.1: The Central Committee shall consist of :

1. The General Secretary
2. The Chairperson
3. The Treasurer

8.2: The General Secretary shall be the Chairperson of the Central Committee.

8.3 : The Central Committee shall be the chief organising body of the branch.

8.4: The Finance committee must be always unanimous.

8.5: The Finance committee shall approve all expenditure.

8.6: The Chairperson and Treasurer are the 2 bank signatories.

8.7: One signatory is mandated to be used where possible.

Approved by the Labour Youth Maynooth University Society, at their Annual General Meeting, May 2nd 2018.

Amended by the Labour Youth Maynooth University Society, at their Annual General Meeting, October 2019.