

## Wisconsin DeMolay Bylaws

*Parliamentarian's Note: 1) Bylaws as of August 6, 2024, approved by the Executive Officer. 2) Article VII: Congress, section 1, was amended by the Congress Review Board to state "...prior to the Congress' legislative session" in response to Amendment 6-2024.*

### **Article I: Name**

1. The name of this organization shall be Wisconsin DeMolay.

### **Article II: Purpose**

1. The purpose of Wisconsin DeMolay is to assist the Executive Officer and His staff for the mutual benefit of all chapters, the welfare of DeMolay in general, and to help DeMolay members realize more vividly that they are members of a global organization that adheres to principles that inspire and assist members in becoming outstanding individuals.
2. This body shall be governed primarily by the by-laws and Rule and Regulations of DeMolay International followed by the direction of the Executive Officer and these By-laws.

### **Article III: Congress**

1. This body shall consist of all chapters in the State of Wisconsin (operating under letters temporary or full charter.)
2. This voting body shall consist of up to three (3) representatives from each chapter, consisting of their principal officers or their proficient proxies; up to three (3) representatives from the State Officers; and up to three (3) representatives from each chapter operating under Letters Temporary, consisting of their principal officers or their proficient proxies.
3. This Congress shall have jurisdiction over legislation to the bylaws and state elections, with the legislative session taking place at the Annual Convention.

### **Article IV: Officers & Elections**

1. Elected officers shall be the State Master Councilor, State Senior Councilor, State Junior Councilor, State Chaplain, and State Marshal, as elected at the Special Communication. Appointed officers shall be the District Master Councilor(s) and any other individual DeMolay(s) the State Master Councilor assigns a duty to, with permission from the State Officer Advisor and Executive Officer.
2. Candidates for elected and appointed state offices must:
  1. Be present or past Chapter Master Councilors
  2. Complete all parts of the Leadership Correspondence Course
  3. Be an active member of DeMolay at the time of the special communication
  4. Serve at the will and through the final approval of the Executive Officer

3. Candidates for the office of State Master Councilor must have served a minimum of one (1) term as an elected State Officer.
4. Candidates must complete and submit the application form and other required materials for Office by the posted deadline. This application includes the following signatures of authorization: the candidate, his parent(s) or guardian(s) and the Chapter Advisor from his Chapter (or Chairman if Chapter Advisor is the parent or guardian).
5. All elections of officers at both State and Chapter levels, in the Jurisdiction, shall be completed without the use of Negative Campaigning. Each position shall be attained through the merit of service to the Order on the respective levels.
6. The election of State Officers shall take place during a Special Communication by written ballot by at least 60 days prior to the Congress with the voting body. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary for each election. In the event no candidate obtains a majority vote, subsequent ballots will be used to determine the official candidate.
7. At the Installation of the State Master Councilor the calendar of State Events will be made available to the chapters, but subject to change and addition if necessary.
8. The term of office for all elected and appointed State Officers will be one (1) year or until their successors are duly installed. The State Master Councilor may appoint Active DeMolay to elected positions in case of vacancy, with approval from the Executive Officer.
9. Any elected or appointed State Officer may be disciplined or removed from any office by the State Master Councilor and Executive Officer for failure to perform duties, violations of obligations, landmarks, or standards of DeMolay International or for the general good of Wisconsin DeMolay.
10. No State Master Councilor or State Sweetheart shall be allowed to serve more than one (1) term as such.
11. The number and composition of the State Officer Corps may be modified at the discretion of the Executive Officer.

#### **Article V: Meetings & Events**

1. Notice for all State Events shall be dated no later than six (6) weeks prior to the start of the event.
2. The required state level events for each year are as follows: Convention, Sweetheart Weekend, Honors Day, DeMolay Prom, Ritual Tournament, and State Officer elections. Convention will be held in either July or August and Sweetheart Weekend will be held in February or March.

#### **Article VI: Districts**

1. Prior to the beginning of his term the State Master Councilor shall determine districts for the state under the approval of the Executive Officer.
2. The Districts shall ideally consist of no fewer than three chapters within the same area.

3. The State Master Councilor may appoint District Master Councilors to function as liaisons and contact persons for that district. The State Master Councilor has the authority to remove and reappoint a District Master Councilor during his term, with the approval of the Executive Officer.
4. The District Master Councilor must be a member of a chapter within his District, or reside within the geographical boundaries of the District he is appointed to represent.
5. Districts shall have numbers determined with one (1) starting at the Northern and Western most location and moving first east and then south at the discretion of the State Master Councilor and Executive Officer.

#### **Article VII: Congress Rules**

1. The rules and structure of Wisconsin DeMolay may be modified via amendment or resolution proposed by a chapter. Any and all legislation must be submitted to the Executive Officer and the State Officers at least thirty (30) days prior to the Congress' legislative session.
2. Amendments modify, add, or delete, the general rules and structure of Wisconsin DeMolay. Resolutions describe the application of bylaws on a year-to-year-basis.
3. Amendments will require a two-thirds (2/3) majority for ratification. Resolutions will require a simple majority (50% plus one) for authorization.
4. The proceedings of Congress shall be published and distributed to all members of this body no later than thirty (30) days following the end of the annual Congress session.

#### **Article VIII: Honors & State Awards**

1. At Sweetheart Weekend, Wisconsin DeMolay must present a Robert E. Simon Advisor of the Year award.
2. At Convention, Wisconsin DeMolay must present a DeMolay of the Year award.
3. At Convention, Wisconsin DeMolay may present a Squire of the Year Award.
4. All other official honors and awards must be presented at Honors Day.

#### **Article IX: International Supreme Council**

1. Bylaws for Wisconsin DeMolay shall be consistent with the Statutes of DeMolay