

BYLAWS
of the
FLORIDA CAMPERS ON MISSION
A Cooperative Member of National Campers on Mission, Inc.,
A Not for Profit 501(c)(3) Corporation
In cooperation with the
FLORIDA BAPTIST CONVENTION, SBC
(Revision Fall 2024)

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this organization shall be “FLORIDA CAMPERS ON MISSION”

ARTICLE II: Objectives

Florida Campers on Mission (hereinafter referred to as FLCOM) is a fellowship of Christians who strive for opportunities to share their faith and love of Jesus Christ while camping or participating in mission activities.

- To bear witness to the saving power of Jesus Christ as recorded in God’s Holy Word, John 3:16-18.
- To communicate through word and deed the good life in Jesus Christ.
- To be genuine and sensitive in relation to other people.
- To use our talents and skills in the furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- To assist churches and associations in planning COM projects
- To encourage participation in regional, state and national COM rallies.

Florida Campers on Mission Statement of Faith

These core beliefs make up the foundation upon which all our ministry endeavors are based.

1. We believe the Bible to be inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God. 1 Thes 2:13; 2 Tim 3:15-17
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Matt 28:19; John 10:30; Eph 4:4-6; Luke 3:21-22
3. We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood on the cross, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. Matt 1:23; John 1:1-4; and 1:29; Acts 1:11 and 2:22-24; Rom 8:34; I Cor 15:3-4; 2 Cor 5:21; Phil 2:5-11; Heb 1:1-4 and 4:15.
4. We believe that all people everywhere are lost and face the judgment of God, that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, and that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit. Luke 24:46-47; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Rom 3:23; 2 Cor 5:10,11; Eph 1:17 and 2:8,9; Titus 3:4-7.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose indwelling enables the Christian to live a godly life. John 3:5-8; Acts 1:8 & 4:31; Rom 8:9; 1Cor 2:14; Gal 5:16-18; Eph 6:12; Col 2:6-10.

6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of eternal life and the lost unto the resurrection of damnation and eternal punishment. 1Cor 15:51-57; Rev 20:11-15.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers; the Lord Jesus Christ and that all true believers are members of His body, the church. I Cor 12:12,27; Eph 1:22,23.
8. We believe that the ministry of evangelism (sharing and proclaiming the message of salvation is only possible by grace through faith in Jesus Christ) and discipleship (helping followers of Christ grow up into maturity in Christ) is a responsibility of all followers of Jesus Christ. Matt 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Rom 10:9-15; 1 Peter 3:15.
9. We believe God's plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only within the context of marriage, that God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason, we believe that marriage is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female, Gen 2:24; Matt 19:5,6; Mark 10:6-9; Rom 1:26,27; 1Cor 6:9
10. We believe that we must dedicate ourselves to prayer, to the service of our Lord, to His authority over our lives, and to the ministry of evangelism. Matt 9:35-38; 22:37-39; 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Rom 10:9-15; 12:20,21; Gal 6:10; Col 2:6-10; 1Peter 3:15.
11. We believe that human life is sacred from conception to its natural end; and that we must have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellowmen; Ps 139:13; Isa 49:1; Jer 1:5; Matt 22:37-39; Rom 12:20,21; Gal 6:10

ARTICLE III: Membership

Membership shall be free and open to all born-again Christians (those who have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior). No membership fees, dues or subscription shall be requested of members; however, a freewill mission love offering container may be available at all rallies for those who may wish to make a donation.

A member is one who has requested membership with FLCOM, has completed an enrollment form and returned it, and agrees with the objectives set forth in these bylaws. All members shall be required to complete an online background check, must complete the Skills list form, sign that they agree with the FLCOM statement of Faith and submit all three to the FLCOM President or Vice President.

FLCOM Lifetime membership and COM Ambassador membership are available for those members who are no longer able to participate in COM projects. These members shall continue to receive the Chapter Newsletter and online communications. They are encouraged to attend rallies and regional activities and to serve as prayer warriors and encouragers for members of COM. They are asked to promote COM in their churches and promote new members to join.

ARTICLE IV: Rights and Responsibilities of Members

- Each member is entitled to an equal voice and vote in the ministry and business of the organization.
- Each member is eligible for consideration as a candidate for an elective office.
- Each member is responsible for conducting himself/herself in a way that is favorable to Christian witness.
- No member shall use COM membership to receive discounts or favors for personal gain

- Each member should openly identify himself/herself with other members and should display the COM emblem when possible.
- Members should inform their Regional Wagon Master or Regional Chaplain of any prayer requests or special needs.

ARTICLE V: Relationships

FLCOM shall work in close relationship with the National COM Coordinators and the Florida Baptist Convention, SBC Community Ministries Team. The Community Ministries Catalyst serves as liaison between FLCOM and the FBC for reasons of calendaring and budgeting, and shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee and all other working committees. FLCOM shall, through its Regional Wagon Masters, seek to develop a closer working relationship with Associational Missions Strategist.

ARTICLE VI

FLCOM is a self-governing body with the power vested in its members. Each member shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Decisions affecting FLCOM shall be determined by majority vote of the members present or by common consent at a scheduled Business Meeting.

FLCOM shall not establish or maintain affiliation with any body or organization whose faith and practice violates the principles of faith and practice found in the Bible or set forth in these by-laws.

ARTICLE VII: Officers

The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, State Wagon Master, Regional Wagon Masters, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, State Project Director, State Project Recorder, Chaplain, Webmaster and any other officers as may be deemed necessary by the membership to carry out the responsibilities of FLCOM.

These officers shall serve on the Executive Committee and any eight (8) officers present shall constitute a quorum of that committee. Officers, both elected and appointed, shall serve a period of 2 years and may be extended by a vote of the Executive Committee. The State Project Recorder and the State Project Director are an exception to this rule.

ARTICLE VIII: Committees:

Every committee should meet at least once a year. Committee meetings can be in person or via electronic means. Voting may also be done in person or via electronic means.

Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall consist of elected, appointed, and the chairpersons of standing committees. The Executive Committee shall:

- Meet prior to the State Rally for the purpose of planning, promoting, calendaring, and coordinating the FLCOM rally and mission projects
- Serve as a sounding board for the President, other officers, and committees seeking to discuss agenda items of the coming business meeting

- Help the Finance Committee establish the budget
- Encourage members to send in their project reports

Nominating Committee:

Shall consist of the State Wagon Master, who serves as chairman, and the Regional Wagon Masters. The chairman shall be responsible for presenting the persons to be nominated to fill each position at the state rally. All persons nominated shall be willing and able to comply with the applicable officer's job descriptions which are a part of these bylaws. Vacancies that occur and positions not filled at the rally may be filled by appointment of the President, In addition, the Nominating Committee shall:

- Ensure all nominees are qualified to handle the position responsibilities
- Present nominees for discussion at the next state rally Executive Committee Meeting
- Present nominees to membership for election at the next state rally business meeting

Finance Committee:

Shall consist of five (5) members, the Vice President, Treasurer, State Wagon Master and two (2) appointed by the president. The finance committee shall prepare an annual operating budget to be presented for the upcoming year. The books shall be audited upon the change of Treasurer and at least every two (2) years by a committee of three (3) members including the Vice President and two (2) others members appointed by the President. The audit process shall comply with written guidelines that each member of the audit team shall sign and date upon completion of the audit.

At the State Rally, discuss with the Executive Committee the budget needs for completion of the audit. At the State Rally, discuss with the Executive Committee the budget needs for the next two years. Said budget shall cover all COM expenditures.

The Finance Committee shall also:

- Prepare proposed two-year budget before state rally
- Review and make recommendations in budget form of projected mission expenditures, and funds for the wagon master
- Discuss committee-prepared budget with Executive Committee at the State Rally.
- Modify budget as required and present proposed budget at State Rally business meeting for adoption.
- Submit a formal funding request to the Florida Baptist Convention before December 1, for the next fiscal year of each two-year cycle
- Negotiate with the Florida Baptist Convention for funds they will provide for postage, printing, State Rallies, etc., and request these funds at the proper time
- Review request for mission funds and make recommendations keeping in mind that the FLCOM President may authorize up to two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for project needs when FLCOM members are involved, without bringing up the request for a vote at a FLCOM Business Meeting. Requests for donations by any religious organization simply because they have a financial need or budget shortfall is

not a valid request. A valid request is one that helps meet a specific need for a tangible item on a project. The project must have FLCOM members involved and on site.

Examples:

You are at a church and there is a shortage of material you need to hold a VBS, etc.

You are at a church with limited resources and a door is rotting away and needs replacement

You are on a construction site installing electric cable and need a cable cutter. Remember to obtain prior authorization for the expenditure.

Audit Committee:

- Audit records of the Treasurer, comparing income and expenditures against budget and available funding
- Verify accuracy of banking records
- Each member shall sign and date the audit verification form

ARTICLE IX: Officers' Job Descriptions

In addition to specific duties as listed below, all officers shall:

- Attend all Florida State and National COM rallies unless providentially hindered
- Make sure all members are aware of bylaws
- Ensure the organizational operations comply with the bylaws
- Encourage members to submit the project reports
- Attend as many regional events as possible

President:

- Maintain contact and consultation with the Team Strategist, Church and Community Ministries Team, of the Florida Baptist Convention
- Preside at the Florida COM Business Meetings and at the Executive Committee sessions and verify a quorum at meetings
- Prepare an agenda for Executive Committee meeting and distribute it to the committee members prior to meeting so they can be prepared for discussion. Agenda should cover planning, promoting calendaring and coordinating FLCOM rallies and mission projects
- Prepare an agenda for the business meeting and post it one day before meeting so members can be prepared for discussions
- Serve as an ex-officio member of all standing committees and Ad Hoc committees of FLCOM
- Be responsible to see that the FLCOM bylaws are kept up to date and are followed in all matters of ministry and organization. There shall be a revised printing of these bylaws at least every seven (7) years.
- Encourage the membership to understand and follow the bylaws
- Cooperate with the National COM Coordinator
- Appoint someone to keep the membership roster and skills list up to date
- In the event that the National rally is being hosted by FLCOM the President can appoint a National Rally Chairperson. The President shall assist in the planning, securing a place and planning the program with the National COM Coordinator and the National Rally Chairperson.

- Appoint two people to serve on an audit committee with the Vice President, at each change of the Treasurer, or at least every two years.
- Authorize mission expenditures of \$200 or less
- Ensure that the data on the FLCOM website remains current and that the information on the National COM website that pertains to FLCOM be current

Vice President:

- Assist the President in all of his/her duties
- Assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President or when the President can no longer conduct the duties of that office
- Act as Parliamentarian using “Roberts Rule of Order Revised”
- Serve as chairperson of the Finance Committee
- Audit the financial records at each change of treasurer using a committee of himself/herself and two persons appointed by the President
- Assist the region in which a National Rally in Florida shall be held in securing a place and in planning the program with the National COM Coordinator

Recording Secretary:

- Keep minutes of all business and Executive Committee meetings in proper order and on file for reference at any time
- Give to the President a copy of any minutes of a meeting

Treasurer:

- Serve on the Finance Committee
- Receive and disperse revenues according to budget and availability of funding
- Contact Finance Committee when the budget needs adjusting
- Prepare and give a financial report at state rally
- Keep all financial records

State Chaplain:

- Inform members of prayer needs
- Forward serious prayer requests to National COM for distribution nationwide
- Coordinate with Regional Chaplains to ensure all prayer requests are received and distributed to the general membership for prayer
- Conduct memorial service at the state rally
- Keep state officers apprised of all prayer requests
- Will be furnished a current roster

Corresponding Secretary:

- Correspond with the membership as the need shall be; sick cards, thank you notes, etc.
- Develop a listing of specific events that trigger correspondence and provide the listing to the incoming Corresponding Secretary
- At state rally business meetings, remind the membership to keep you informed of all such events

State Wagon Master:

- Ensure that all Regional Wagon Masters are aware of their responsibilities
- Ensure that all Regional Wagon Masters are aware of state rallies, missions & projects
- Inform the President and Vice President of Wagon Master activities.
- Serve as a member of the Finance Committee
- Assist the region designated to host a National Rally in Florida in securing a place and in planning the program with the National COM coordinator
- Hold a Wagon Masters' meeting at each State Rally to plan, coordinate and organize Wagon Masters' work for the next year
- Be responsible for identifying places in Florida where COM members can camp overnight for free while traveling to and from projects. A statewide listing is to be developed and kept current.

Regional Wagon Master:

- Attend Executive and Business Meetings at the State Rally
- Encourage members to recruit and train new COM members
- Encourage members to seek "Commissioning" in their local church prior to leaving on mission/project
- Arrange time and plan the program for the rallies in our region
- Appoint a Regional Chaplain
- Appoint a Regional Project Coordinator, and other officers as needed
- Coordinate and promote mission projects within the region
- Make sure all regional officers understand and complete their roles
- Promote COM to the Directors of Missions and churches within your region
- Contact each new member in your region via mail, phone, email, and/or a personal visit to make them feel welcome. At rallies, draw them into your region activities and answer any questions they may have about COM.
- Monitor the region roster and keep it current
- Contact members when they move, get sick, have a family member die, or celebrate a major life event, and keep the State and Region Chaplains informed of such events
- Keep the members of your region informed of projects, activities, and events via email, or "snail mail" for those without email
- Submit regional information to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the chapter newsletter
- Keep state officers aware of what is happening in your region

State Project Recorder:

- Compile reports of completed projects received from members
- Send project reports summaries to Florida Baptist Convention and National COM Coordinator during the month of February
- Send report to FLCOM President every six (6) months (March and September)

State Project Director:

- Attend all State and National Rallies if possible
- Attend as many regional events as possible, sharing projects/mission/ministry needs at each event
- Keep an active distributable listing of projects/mission/ministry needs in the state
- Distribute information on local, state and national mission ministry projects
- Be familiar with mission possibilities, encourage and promote mission activities
- Develop policy, procedures and guidelines for working out projects
- Help put together mission action teams for various project

- Work with President and Wagon Masters regarding local, state and national mission and ministry projects.
- Encourage a more active project role by Wagon Masters
- Encourage more project participation

Webmaster:

- Shall be appointed by the President
- Webmaster is the only person to make changes to the FLCOM web page
- Works closely with the President to maintain an accurate, up to date, and informative web page which will be easy to navigate by all members
- Shall attend the Executive Committee meetings

Roster and Ministry Skills Recorder:

- Shall be appointed by the President
- Keeps the roster and Skills list up to date
- Makes current roster and skills list available to President, Vice President, State Wagon Master, Regional Wagon Masters
- Provides State Chaplain current roster

ARTICLE XI: Code of Ethics

All members of FLCOM shall abide by the following code of ethics:

- To be mindful of our responsibility to God concerning our actions
- To live and act in such a manner that reflects Jesus in our lives
- To maintain our campsite/parking area in a proper manner
- To abide by park rules at all times
- To assist other campers when the opportunity presents itself

ARTICLE XII: Amendments

These bylaws may be amended at any regular Executive Committee meeting held at a Florida COM state rally by a two-thirds majority vote of members present in person, providing a written notice of the proposed amendment(s) was sent to the Executive Committee members not less than 30 days before the rally at which a vote shall be taken.