

CONSTITUTION
of
JOSHGEN MATIELAND SOCIETY
a society registered with the University of Stellenbosch

This Constitution was adopted by the Joshua Generation Church Society on 4 SEPT 2021 and approved by the Student Court on 2021.

Unless any part of this Constitution, or the Student Constitution, explicitly states a later date of application, all of the terms and conditions hereof come into effect on the date this Constitution is approved by the Student Court.

This Constitution is subject to the provisions of the Societies Council Constitution, Student Constitution, Stellenbosch University Institutional Statute, Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 and Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996, and is the binding Constitution for the JoshGen Matieland Student Society.

In the interpretation and application of this Constitution, those chapters, parts, sections or provisions marked with the Ω sign, indicates a fundamental chapter, part, section or provision, which can only be amended at an AGM as required by section 13.1.

1.1. **PREAMBLE & OBJECTIVES Ω**

1.2. The Society is a Christian student organisation aimed at unifying both students who do not have a spiritual home, and students who attend the Joshua Generation Church (the "Church") or its affiliates, and subscribe to the Church's ethos, Vision and Values, as set out more fully hereunder.

The society's Vision and Values and mission hinge on the following pillars:

Living out the vision and values of the Church through this student society, including specifically being a blessing to the Church locally and in the wider sense, and serving the local and translocal community, and being salt and light to the world; and

In addition, the purpose of the society is to utilise the structures already in place at the University of Stellenbosch to bring together like-minded Christian students to develop members both spiritually, emotionally and relationally with due regard to the vision and values set out in the Bible; and

1.2.2. To also provide on-going support and training to members to have a safe place/family amongst like-minded fellow Christian students, where they can flourish spiritually, emotionally and relationally; and

1.2.3. To develop relationships and provide spiritual input that develop and prepare members for life after their university attendance.

1.2.4. The Objectives of the Society are:

1.3. To preach, teach, honour, obey, advance and uphold Christian beliefs, Values, and practices, as set out in Scriptures, amongst like-minded Christian students. "Values" mean the Biblical values which define the Church, including, amongst others, its core beliefs, Vision and Values, and understanding and application of Scripture, as well as its nature, priorities and focus, as defined and interpreted herein, and by the Church and this Society.

1.3.1. To provide for Christian worship and fellowship, that God may be glorified, and His people pastored, strengthened and encouraged.

1.3.2.

To network with Societies and ministries with similar Values.

1.3.3.

To equip the Society, which shall include its members, affiliates and the relating ministries for works of service, to care for, and pastor people.

1.3.4.

To initiate or assist in benevolent work in our spheres of influence where the need arises, amongst others, to help the poor, elderly, widows and orphans and the sick, in practical ways, and to equip members of the Society, and others to be able to effectively do this.

1.3.5.

To preserve and promote the unity of the Society at all times, but never at the cost of any compromise of the truth of the Word of God and the Vision and Values.

- 1.3.7. This Constitution and its application internally must be interpreted in light of Scripture, as interpreted by the members of the Society, as affirmed in this Constitution's statement of faith, and in the event of a dispute, this Constitution and its application must be interpreted by the Student Court with due regard for the Holy Scriptures as interpreted by the Executive Committee of the Society.

BASIC PROVISIONS

Definitions

2. In this Constitution, unless the context indicates otherwise:
- 2.1.
- 2.1.1. "active member" means a member of the Society and the Church, with such a person being active in its affairs, as is more fully described in Clause 6.5 and 6.6;
 - 2.1.2. "annual general meeting" or "AGM" – means a meeting that is held annually to elect the Executive Committee, amend the Constitution and inform the members of the Society of previous and future activities;
 - 2.1.3. "extraordinary meeting" means such meetings as is called in terms of Clause 11.12 for the purposes set out in Clause 11.13;
 - 2.1.4.
 - 2.1.5. "ordinary majority" or "ordinary majority vote"– refers to 51% of votes of members present in a meeting where a quorum has been established;
 - 2.1.6. "decide", "adopt" or "elect" or "elected"– means by ordinary majority vote;
 - 2.1.7. "disciplinary committee" refers to the Society's disciplinary committee as constituted under Clause 12.2;
3. "University" – will refer to Stellenbosch University, unless stated otherwise;

STATUS OF THIS CONSTITUTION

All policies, regulations, rules, codes, documents, motions and decisions adopted by any person or structure of this Society are subject to this Constitution and invalid in as far as they are inconsistent with it.

3.1.

NAME OF THE SOCIETY

JoshGen Matieland (herein referred to as the "the Society") is a voluntary association of persons.

4.

4.1.

The use of the JoshGen and Joshua Generation Church (collectively referred to as the "Names") are registered trademarks and used under license from the Intellectual

4.2.

Property Holder ("IP Holder") and the Society shall cease using the Names and disassociate the Society from the Church and the IP Holder upon written notice from the IP Holder to that effect. The Society shall conclude a separate agreement with the IP Holder to regulate its use of their Names.

5.

VALUES AND STATEMENT OF FAITH

5.1.

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the inspired Word of God. It is our final authority for faith, life and for the governance of the Society and therefore is incorporated as part of this Constitution, but subject to the Student Constitution and the Societies Constitution.

5.2.

5.3.

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons, namely Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

5.4.

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Father, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

5.5.

We believe that God created mankind in His own image, male and female. Thereafter, sin entered the first man through disobedience, resulting in spiritual death for all mankind.

5.6.

We believe that Jesus Christ had to die a substitutionary death for the sins of mankind so that we could be reconciled back to God.

We believe in the bodily death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We believe in His ascension into heaven and His future return to earth.

We believe in the personality of the Holy Spirit, His regenerating work and abiding presence in the true believer. That the Holy Spirit indwells all true believers and that He has been sent to be the Comforter and Empowerer of the Christian Society, to produce the fruit of the Holy Spirit and give the gifts of the Holy Spirit according to the Scriptures.

5.7.
5.8.

We believe that all mankind will stand before God on Judgement day to give an account for their actions, words and motives of the heart.

5.9.

We believe in the regular practice of the breaking of bread and the taking of wine / grape juice to remind us of the new covenant established through Jesus Christ's death on our behalf. We believe in the baptism of believers by immersion in water, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

5.10.

We believe that all who repent of their sin and receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.

5.11.

We believe that all Christians are called to a life of holiness, devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ and service to Him.

5.12.

We believe in the priesthood of all believers.

5.13.

We specifically subscribe to the South African Charter of Religious Rights and Freedoms , which is deemed to be incorporated herein in its present form (October 2013), and is attached hereto for reference purposes.

5.14.

6.

6.1.

MEMBERSHIP

All persons who profess a sincere interest in becoming a member of the Society will be eligible to become a member if they subscribe to the Values and Statement of Faith as stated in section 5 above, and the Societies, Vision and Values, and continue to do so.

6.2.

6.3.

A minimum of 85% of registered members of the Society must be registered Stellenbosch University students.

The Society will not charge membership fees, except if decided otherwise at an AGM.

Membership lasts from the first day of the academic year until the last day of classes in the fourth term.

- 6.4. Persons who choose to associate with the Society as Members agree to do so on the basis of associational diversity under a Constitutional dispensation, so that they remain in accord with the Society's Statement of Faith, Objectives and the Vision and Values and support and uphold Scripture and this Constitution and that each such Member
- 6.5. is to actively involve himself/herself with and contribute to the work of the Society and the Church, so that the Society may function as a unified body, where each person who associates with it, plays their part in advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

- 6.6. If any Member ceases to participate in the life of the Society/Church and/or is absent from its meetings without valid reason for a period exceeding 2 months, and/or chooses to not comply with any of the obligations of membership, or Scriptural requirements, without valid reasons, that person may forfeit his/her membership of the Society. The Disciplinary Committee retains the right to suspend and/or terminate the membership of any member of the society in such circumstances, and also:

- 6.6.1. Where any allegation of unrepentant sin or heretic belief is brought against a Member (irrespective of their role/function), then the Disciplinary Committee shall make inquiry into the matter, whereafter they may act in accordance with Biblical principles and follow its process of discipline, if they deem such a course necessary; or

- 6.6.2. If a member is found guilty by the Disciplinary Committee of any serious misconduct towards the Society, its Members, or its good name, as outlined in the Code of Conduct.
- 6.7.

- 6.7.1. Considerations of fairness that should be taken into account when dealing with dismissals:

- 6.7.2.
- 6.7.3. Both parties must be heard and allowed to state their case;

A minimum of two warnings should be provided to the member;

After two warnings: proper written notice (minimum, one week before the opportunity to state their case) needs to be given to the member;

The Executive must inform the member of their rights in the matter and of their right to appeal to the Student Court within 30 days of the societies decision to dismiss a member.

6.7.4. The Executive Committee may further approve applications for membership to the society from members of the general public provided their participation as member is in accord with this Constitution.

6.8.

CODE OF CONDUCT

7. The Executive Committee must adopt a Code of Conduct in consultation with the Church Leadership, to lay down the rules of conduct and an internal disciplinary procedure for its members. The Code of Conduct must adhere to principles of ethical good governance with a special reference to accountability, transparency, democracy, and openness. This must be adopted by an ordinary majority of Members, and may be reviewed annually.

8. OFFICE BEARERS

8.1. The Society acknowledges Jesus Christ as the Head of the Society and it undertakes to manage all its affairs according to His Word (the Scriptures), as directed by the Holy Spirit from time to time.

8.2. Initially, the JoshGen Church leadership shall identify members to act as leaders (namely the Executive Committee) of the Society, subject to relevant Scriptural requirements, as being those persons recognised amongst the members as functioning in these positions from time to time, in pursuance of the Values and Objectives of the Society, and in accordance with Scripture.

8.3. Thereafter, the Executive Committee shall annually be elected at the AGM, which
8.4.1. occurs in the third academic term, as detailed in Clause 10.

General

Status of Executive Committee: The Executive Committee is the highest decision making body of the Society and stands under the authority only of the AGM.

Composition of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee consists of at least a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Financial manager, and Secretary, with their respective roles to be determined by the Society's Code of Conduct, and such other person as they may appoint at an AGM. Broadly speaking the

8.4.2.

8.4.2.1. Chairperson will act as the overseeing leader of the Society and its affairs;

8.4.2.2. The Vice Chairperson: shall support the Chairperson in the execution of their duties and oversee Sub-committees;

8.4.2.3. The Financial manager shall manage the Society's finances and matters related thereto;

8.4.2.4. The Secretary shall be primarily tasked with administration of the Society and recording its decisions, members, business dealings and affairs for reference purposes.

8.4.3.

Term of Office of the Executive Committee: The Term of office will be from their constituting meeting until the constituting of the following Executive Committee for an academic year as stipulated in section 6.4, except if specifically agreed otherwise at an AGM.

8.5.

Core functions of the Executive Committee

8.5.1. The core functions of the Executive include-

8.5.2. To specifically advance the Society's Objectives, Vision and Values set out herein and to comply with all prescriptions of this Constitution;

8.5.3. To lead, initiate and organise the work of the Society and communicate with its members, and associated organisations about its activities;

8.5.4. to consult with the Church on these matters, collaborate and serve that body of believers;

To represent members at -

8.5.4.1. National and international student bodies where appropriate; and/or

8.5.4.2. Attend all Executive Committee meetings.

Ending membership of Office Bearers

The membership of an office-bearer comes to an end when –

- 8.6.1.1. the member's term of office expires;
 - 8.6.1.2. the member dies;
 - 8.6.1.3. the member presents a written resignation to the Secretary upon at least 2 weeks' notice;
 - 8.6.1.4. the member is absent without reason from three (3) meetings as called by the Chairperson and/or Secretary;
 - 8.6.1.5. the Student Court (hereinafter referred to as the "Court") finds on application that the member has not complied with an order of the Court;
 - 8.6.1.6. members at either an AGM or Extraordinary meeting adopts a motion of no confidence in the member with an ordinary majority;
 - 8.6.1.7. the member is sentenced to imprisonment without the option of a fine in the Republic of South Africa or elsewhere; or
 - 8.6.1.8. the member is sentenced by the University's Central Disciplinary Committee with:
 - 8.6.1.8.1. permanent suspension from their portfolio(s); or
 - 8.6.1.8.2. suspension from the University for a fixed or unfixed period of time.
 - 8.6.1.9. the Disciplinary Committee makes a finding against that executive member in terms of section 12.6.
- 9.
- 9.1.

SUB-COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee may appoint members of the Society to Sub-Committees to assist and/or act on behalf of the Executive Committee by running specific portfolios entrusted to that particular Sub-Committee by the Executive Committee,

including, but not limited to: treasury, secretariat, operations, training, outreaches, media, IT director and legal advisor.

The Executive Committee will elect sub-committees as may be required amongst themselves at their first meeting by the end of February.

Each subcommittee must be accountable to a specific Executive Committee member and to the Executive Committee as a whole, and always subject to that committee's mandate and its limitations, as directed by the Executive Committee from time to time in writing.

Subcommittee members

may only incur expenses preapproved by the Executive Committee;

do not have the right to vote at Executive Committee meetings (as per Clause 11) but may enjoy the same participation and/or speaking rights in

meetings as Executive Committee members.

ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Every registered member of the society is also a registered voter in the election of a new Executive Committee.

The registered voters elect a new Executive Committee at the annual general meeting (AGM). The election takes place by means of a secret ballot, subject to the requirements of Clauses 11.5 to 11.11.

Only members who are also members of the Church are eligible for nomination, and the nomination must be received at the latest one week prior to the AGM at which the election will take place and every nomination must be seconded by at least 2 members.

The Chairperson is elected as the person with the most votes, and in the case of a tie in votes the decision shall be referred to the Church for a determination. In the case of nominations for specific positions on the Executive Committee, then the person who has the most votes for that position is appointed to that role.

A nominee who cannot be present during the election may stand as nominee in proxy and/or may vote in proxy if such proxy form is in writing and was delivered to the Secretary the day before the AGM. The absent nominee may appoint another person to present his/her motivation.

10.5. Vacancies

If any position on the Executive Committee becomes vacant for any reason, the Executive Committee as it then stands, will decide if –

10.6.

10.6.1. 10.6.1.1. the responsibility will be allocated to another member of the Executive Committee; or

10.6.1.2. to co-opt the member(s) with the highest number of votes in the Executive Committee election at the last AGM, at which they were nominated to join the Executive; or

10.6.1.3. to call an Extraordinary Meeting to fill that vacancy.

11. **MEETINGS**

Executive Committee Meetings

11.1.

Frequency: The Executive Committee meets at least once a month, or as determined otherwise by them, but they are not compelled to meet during official University examinations or holiday periods.

11.2.

Notice of Executive Committee meetings: Written notice of such meetings is to be given to members at least 2 business days (this excludes weekends) before the meeting and should at least state –

11.2.1.

11.2.2.

11.3.

the date, time and place of the meeting; and

11.3.1.

the complete agenda.

Quorum at Executive Committee meetings

Two-thirds of its members present in person or by written proxy (in favour of another Executive Committee Member) constitutes a quorum for the Executive Committee meetings.

No decision of the Executive Committee will be valid if at least two-thirds (2/3) of its members were not present at the meeting where the decision was tabled.

Members of the Executive may excuse themselves from a meeting by giving notice
11.3.2. in writing with justifiable reasons at least 1 day before the meeting delivered to the Secretary.

11.4. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

11.5. An annual general meeting (AGM) is the highest decision-making meeting of the Society, and takes place during the third academic term on a date determined by the outgoing Executive Committee.

11.6. Members are to be notified in writing of such AGM at least seven (7) business days (which excludes weekends) in advance and such notice must include the agenda for the meeting and invite members to submit additional agenda points by a stated date.

11.7. The Final Agenda must be sent to members at least two (2) business days before the AGM.

11.8. An AGM quorum is defined by 15 members or a quarter of members, whichever is lower.

11.9. If a quorum is not present, then the AGM must be postponed to a time, place and date for the same purpose within five (5) business days of that original AGM, upon the decision of an ordinary majority of those present, and irrespective of whether a quorum is achieved at the postponed AGM, it shall be deemed to have been met and validly constituted.

11.10. An AGM may be conducted in any format as decided by the Executive Committee as long as it allows for members to participate in the AGM in a meaningful manner.

The Chairperson will chair the AGM, but in the absence of the Chairperson, the Executive Committee will elect a Chairperson for the meeting amongst their members.

Extraordinary meetings

An Extraordinary Meeting will take place upon 7 business days' notice, at the written request of:-

the Disciplinary Committee; or

2 members of the Executive Committee; or

11.12.

Upon the written request of at least fifteen 15 members, delivered to the Secretary.

11.12.1.

11.12.2. The reasons for the request of an Extraordinary Meeting must contain the:-

11.12.3.

Name and surname of member(s) requesting the meeting, their office (if any), and all relevant information pertaining to their request for an Extraordinary Meeting; and

11.13.

11.13.1.

In the event of motions of no confidence all pertinent details must also be stipulated in the meeting request.

11.13.2.

A quorum for an Extraordinary Meeting is defined by the lower of 15 members or a quarter of members.

11.14.

If a quorum is not present, then the Extraordinary Meeting must be postponed to a time, place and date for the same purpose within 5 business days of that original Extraordinary Meeting, upon the decision of an ordinary majority of those present, and irrespective of whether a quorum is achieved at the postponed Extraordinary Meeting, it shall be deemed to have been met, with written notice to members confirming such Extraordinary Meeting at least five (5) business days before the meeting.

11.15.

11.16.

The Chairperson will chair the Extraordinary Meeting, and in the absence of the Chair the Executive Committee will elect a Chair for the meeting amongst their members.

12.

12.1.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

All Members

General: All conduct of members must be in line with Objects, Vision and Values set out in this Constitution, and the Code of Conduct contemplated herein. In addition

to this, members must also comply with the policies and procedures of the University and the general principles of the South African Constitution.

Disciplinary Committee

- 12.2. This committee shall meet on an *ad hoc* basis as and when its Chair receives a written complaint from either the Executive Committee or members, and the Committee members with the exception of the Vice-Chair of Executive Committee (who is elected annually at an AGM) shall hold such office for a period of two years, except if specifically stated otherwise;
- 12.2.1. Any three members of the Disciplinary Committee constitutes a quorum;
- 12.2.2. An ordinary majority is needed for a binding decision;
- 12.2.3. If not elected otherwise, then the Disciplinary Committee consists of:-
- 12.2.4. 12.2.4.1. Vice Chairperson of Society who shall act as Chairperson;
- 12.2.4.2. One member of the Society appointed by Executive Committee (and not on the Executive Committee);
- 12.2.4.3. The Church Pastor or his nominee; and
- 12.2.4.4. An independent person (not a member) appointed by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Church's Pastor.
- 12.2.5. 12.2.4.5. One member of the Society elected at the AGM
- 12.2.6. The Disciplinary Committee must be able to do their duty without fear or favour, and all members have a duty to proactively disclose any potential conflict of interest to the committee at the earliest possible juncture.
- 12.3. All members of the Disciplinary Committee must vote on each case and may not abstain from voting.

12.4. Types of disciplinary actions

The Disciplinary Committee may take any of the actions provided for in the Code of Conduct.

Procedure

Internal discipline

12.4.1.1. All matters of discipline must first be referred to the Disciplinary Committee by all sub-committees and/or members; and adjudicated upon as stipulated in the Code of Conduct.

12.4.1. 12.4.1.2. Any decision made by the Disciplinary Committee is subject to appeal in terms of section 12.4.1.3.

12.4.1.3. Appeal process:

12.4.1.3.1. An appeal must first be lodged with the Church Leadership within seven calendar days of the Disciplinary Committee's decision, and thereafter

12.4.1.3.2. any appeal against the decision of the Church Leadership (above) must be referred to the Student Court within 7 days of the Church making its finding on the matter, and

12.4.1.3.3. with due observance of the requirements set out in Clauses 6.7.1 to 6.7.4 above.

12.5. Grounds for discipline

12.5.1. Members can be disciplined for any conduct contrary to the spirit of this Constitution, the Objects, Vision and Values set out in this Constitution, including any conduct contrary to the Code of Conduct, of the Society.

12.5.2. Any violation of a University rule must be referred to its Central Disciplinary Committee. Concurrent disciplinary action by the Society will also take place during and/or after the findings of the Central Disciplinary Committee at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.

12.6.

Office-bearers

12.7.

General: This section applies to disciplinary action against all Executive Committee members, subcommittees and any other Office-bearer of any structure of the Society.

Types of Disciplinary actions

The Disciplinary Committee may take any of the actions provided for in the Code of Conduct.

Procedure:

Internal

12.7.1.

12.8.1.1. All matters for discipline must first be referred to the Disciplinary Committee by all structures and/or members of the Society; and adjudicated upon as stipulated in the Code of Conduct.

12.8.

12.8.1.

12.8.1.2. Any decision made by such Disciplinary Committee is subject to appeal under the procedures laid out in section 12.4.1.3.

External

12.8.2.

12.8.2.1. The society is subject to the disciplinary procedures in the Societies Constitution, Student Constitution, and the Code of Conduct applicable to Students.

Grounds for discipline

12.9.

12.9.1.

Office bearers can be disciplined for any conduct contrary to the spirit of this Constitution, including any conduct contrary to the Vision and Values, aims and Objectives, the Code of Conduct and mission statement of the Society.

12.9.2.

Any violation of a University rule must be referred to the Central Disciplinary Committee. Concurrent disciplinary action by the Society will also take place during and/or after the findings of the Central Disciplinary Committee at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee.

13.

13.1.

NORMAL AMENDMENT PROCESS

The following provisions of this Constitution are fundamental and may only be amended at an AGM with two-thirds (2/3) of members present and voting in favour of amendment upon having received 2 weeks' notice of such AGM: sections:1, 5 and 6. All members of the society must be notified regarding the time and place of such a meeting called for a constitutional amendment, and a minimum of 2 weeks' notice needs to be given to all members.

All provisions not mentioned in subsection 13.1 can be amended by two-thirds (2/3) members of the Executive Committee voting for the proposed amendment during an Executive Committee meeting but only after members have been given at least two (2) weeks notice during which time they may also deliver written commentary and/or objections to the Secretary.

13.2.

Constitutional amendments must take place at a reasonable time and place, and the notice given to voters needs to specify the reason for the proposed constitutional amendment.

13.3.