



NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43 AND TEACHER RETIREES IN FLORIDA (TRIF) UNITS CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

NAME: NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43

PURPOSE: The Purpose of NYSUT Retiree Council 43 is to promote the aims and objectives of **NYSUT A Union of Professionals** and its affiliates and to:

- A.** Accept nominations for the Delegates and Alternates to NYSUT and its affiliates' Conventions and conduct elections for these positions in accordance with NYSUT procedures.
- B.** Provide representation for each local TRIF UNIT.
- C.** Further the best interests of NYSUT Retirees in Florida.
- D.** Act as a liaison between NYSUT, its affiliates and its retiree members in Florida.
- E.** Consider and vote on recommendations for resolutions to be submitted to the NYSUT Representative Assembly and to NYSUT affiliates.
- F.** Recommend and encourage TRIF UNITS to assist in NYSUT and its affiliates' activities.
- G.** Provide an opportunity for retirees who are not NYSUT Retiree Council 43 members to participate in a non-voting capability to further, advance and support NYSUT RC 43 goals and programs.
- H.** To promote sociability, friendship and contact among former colleagues.

AFFILIATIONS:

NYSUT Retiree Council 43 shall be affiliated with **NYSUT a Union of Professionals** and NYSUT affiliates.

SUPERIOR RULES:

These rules shall, at all times, be consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of NYSUT A Union of Professionals, and where inconsistent therewith, the higher authority of the State Organization shall be applicable.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in NYSUT Retiree Council 43 is open to any NYSUT Retiree who transfers from another Retiree Council or who is a Member-at-Large of NYSUT in Florida.

MEMBERSHIP IN TRIF UNITS:

- A.** Active membership in this organization shall be open to NYSUT member retirees.
- B.** Associate membership in TRIF UNITS shall be open to spouses or survivors of NYSUT retirees, to any other education-affiliated individual and/or to any person who supports the goals and programs of NYSUT A Union of Professionals.

PARTICIPATION FEE:

- A.** The NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Board of Directors shall establish a participation fee structure biannually which shall be based upon a financial report submitted by the Treasurer.
- B.** Any change in the yearly participation fee shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of the membership present at the March meetings of the TRIF UNITS.

GOVERNING BODY

- A.** The Executive Board of NYSUT Retiree Council 43 shall consist of five (5) Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer; Membership Chair AND two (2) ex officio members including the VOTE/COPE Chair and the ODDS 'n' ENDS Editor.
 - 1.** In addition to the NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Executive Board, the NYSUT RC 43 Board of Directors Annual Conference shall consist of two (2) Delegates and two (2) Alternate Delegates, duly elected from each affiliated TRIF UNIT.
- B.** The NYSUT RC 43 Board of Directors Annual Conference shall conduct the business of NYSUT Retiree Council 43 according to the guidelines set forth and administer whatever other functions that may be delegated to it by NYSUT A Union of Professionals.
- C.** Each TRIF UNIT shall have five (5) Officers: President; First Vice President, Second Vice President; Treasurer and Secretary.
- D.** All five Officers of the newly formed TRIF UNIT may attend the Annual Conference immediately following its formation.
- E.** Each TRIF UNIT is responsible to report to the President of NYSUT Retiree Council 43 the names and addresses of the duly elected Delegates and Alternate Delegates no later than April 30th of the even numbered years.

NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43 EXECUTIVE BOARD:

- A.** The Executive Board of NYSUT Retiree Council 43 shall consist of five (5) Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer; Membership Chair AND two (2) ex officio members including the VOTE/COPE Chair and the ODDS 'n' ENDS Editor.
- B.** Any Active member in good standing of NYSUT RC 43 may be nominated for an office.
- C.** Nomination is by letter of intent to the Chair of the Nominating Committee no later than June 30th of the even numbered year.
- D.** If more than one candidate for an office is nominated, ballots will be sent to all members of NYSUT-RC 43.
- E.** The nominee with the greatest number of votes shall be elected to that position. If no contest occurs, the nominee shall be declared elected and no balloting shall be needed.
- F.** The Term of Office for the NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Executive Board shall be for three (3) years and shall begin at the conclusion of the NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Annual Conference.
- G.** Vacancies:
 - 1.** If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall assume the office of President.
 - 2.** If any other office becomes vacant it shall be filled by election by the NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Executive Board until the next election is held by the membership of RC 43.

DUTIES OF NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: The President shall run the Executive Board and be the First Delegate to the annual NYSUT A Union of Professionals Representative Assembly, the biennial AFT Council and the Florida ARA meetings. The President shall also convene and run the Annual Conference of NYSUT Retiree Council 43.

VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in his/her incapacity or absence. The Vice President shall be the First Alternate Delegate to the NYSUT, AFT and ARA meetings.

SECRETARY: The Secretary shall be responsible to take, distribute and keep records of the minutes of the NYSUT RC 43 Board of Directors and Executive Board meetings. A permanent record of minutes and financial records shall be maintained.

TREASURER: The Treasurer shall collect and disburse funds on receipt of bills or vouchers. The Treasurer shall issue a written report to the NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Executive Board and to the Board of Directors at the Annual Conference of NYSUT Retiree Council 43.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: The Membership Chair shall be responsible for keeping records of all present and past members. She/he should develop strategies to promote membership in TRIF UNITS and NYSUT Retiree Council 43 by eligible retirees.

MEETINGS OF NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43:

NYSUT Retiree Council 43 shall meet at least once a year. The NYSUT Retiree Council 43 newsletter "Odds 'N' Ends" will announce the time, place and date of each such meeting.

TRIF UNIT OFFICERS:

The Officers of TRIF UNITS shall be: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The immediate Past President shall be a member ex-officio of the TRIF UNIT Board of Directors. The officers shall constitute the Board of Directors.

A. Duties of the President:

1. Preside at all meetings of the TRIF UNIT Board of Directors and General Membership.
2. Represent the organization with all local groups.
3. Appoint and establish the function of all committees with the approval of the TRIF UNIT Board of Directors.
4. Call all regular and special meetings of the TRIF UNIT Board of Directors and General Membership.
5. Fulfill such other duties as the office requires and as are consistent with this Constitution and Bylaws.

B. Duties of the Vice Presidents:

1. The First Vice President shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in his/her absence and shall perform such other duties as the President may designate.
2. The Second Vice President shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in the event the First Vice President is not able to perform such duties and shall perform other duties as the President may designate.

C. Duties of the Secretary and Treasurer:

1. The Secretary and Treasurer shall perform those duties usual to those offices and such other duties that may be required by the President or the Board of Directors.

D. Nominations

1. Nominations for TRIF UNIT Officers, Delegates and Alternate Delegates to NYSUT Retiree Council 43 shall be made in the following manner:
 - a. A nominating committee composed of no less than three (3) nor more than five (5) Active fee paying members shall be appointed by the President in January of each year in which elections are scheduled.
 - b. Nominations may also be made by letter of intent or from the floor.
 - c. The Nominating Committee will propose a slate of officers in February for election at the March meeting of the TRIF UNIT of the year in which elections are scheduled.
 - d. Any member in good standing is eligible for nomination for office.

TRIF UNIT ELECTIONS:

- A. Each member in good standing will be notified in writing of the time and place of elections at least fifteen (15) days prior to the election.
- B. Election shall be by secret ballot.
- C. The secretary shall preserve all election records, including ballots for a period of one (1) year.
- D. In the event there is no contest for a position of officer, the Secretary shall be instructed to cast one ballot for each such candidate, in lieu of the, above procedure.
- E. Term of office: Duly elected officers shall serve a three (3) year term commencing at the conclusion of the last business meeting of the year. Each officer shall remain in office until his/her successor assumes the office.
- F. Vacancies: If the office of President becomes vacant, the First Vice President shall assume the office of President. If any other office becomes vacant, it shall be filled by elections by the TRIF UNIT Board of Directors until the election is held by the General Membership.

TRIF UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- A. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the duly elected officers and the immediate past president.
- B. Duties: The Board of Directors shall.
 - 1. Act upon expenditures as may be required.
 - 2. Interpret the Constitution and Bylaws.
 - 3. Act on policy matters for the organization between the meetings of the General Membership.
 - 4. Make policy recommendations to the membership for their consideration.
 - 5. Perform all other duties as enumerated in this Constitution and Bylaws.
- C. The Board of Directors shall meet at least one (1) time during the year. Special meetings may be called by the President or by petition of a majority of the Board of Directors.

PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF MEMBERS:

- A. Every Active Member of this organization shall have equal rights and privileges to nominate candidates to hold office, to vote in elections or referendums, to attend General Membership meetings, to participate in deliberations and to vote upon the business of the organization.
- B. This organization shall show no discrimination toward any individual or group of individuals on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, creed, color, race, national origin, or political activities or beliefs.

AMENDMENTS:

- A. An amendment to this Constitution and Bylaws may be proposed by:
 - 1. A majority of the Executive Board of NYSUT Retiree Council 43.
 - 2. No fewer than ten (10) percent of the membership.
- B. A proposed amendment must be distributed in writing to each member at least 14 days before the ratification
- C. An amendment may be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a general membership meeting of each Unit.

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY:

- A. Meetings of all duly constituted bodies of this organization shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.
- B. The Newly Revised edition will be used, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and Bylaws.

ENABLING PROCEDURE:

This Constitution and Bylaws shall become effective upon ratification by a 2/3's vote of members in attendance at a TRIF UNIT meeting called for that purpose.

REVISED APRIL 1, 2016