

BROWARD CHRISTIAN HOMESCHOOLERS, INC.

BYLAWS

Section A: Organization Matters, Purpose and Statement of Faith

1. **Name:** The name of the corporation is Broward Christian Homeschoolers, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "BCH").
2. **Meetings:** Meetings of BCH's membership and its Board of Directors may be held at such times and places within the State of Florida as may be designated by the Board of Directors.
3. **Location of the Principal Office:** The principal office of BCH shall be located at 1215 Lincoln Street, Hollywood, Florida 33019, or at such other place as may be designated by the Board of Directors from time to time. Notification of a change in the location of the principal office shall be communicated by the Board of Directors to the membership within thirty (30) days of such change. Notification may be made via (1) announcement at a regularly-scheduled meeting of the membership; (2) telephonic or electronic means; and/or (3) BCH's newsletter.
4. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Christ-centered organization is to support families involved or interested in home education by providing encouragement, fellowship, information and activities. BCH strives to glorify God by serving one another, working together as one body with love and without division, and drawing our direction and strength from our Lord Jesus Christ.
5. **Statement of Faith:** BCH is a non-denominational Christian Homeschool Support Group adhering to the following:

WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the verbally inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God and that it is the final authority regarding Christian life and faith (II Tim 3:16; II Peter 2:21).

WE BELIEVE in the Trinity, that there is one God, eternally existent in Three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (Genesis 1:1; John 10:30, 37 & 38; Hebrews 11:3; Romans 9:5; John 1:1; Isaiah 44:6).

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is God manifest in the flesh and in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood; in His literal bodily resurrection; in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:35; John 2:11, 11:25; Acts 1:11; Hebrews 4:15, 7:25; Revelation 19:11-16).

WE BELIEVE that man may receive salvation from the penalty for sin, by grace through faith alone in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. Any and all of man's works are ineffectual for salvation. "*For by grace you are saved through faith; and this not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works; lest any man should boast.*" (John 3:3-6, 16-19, 5:24; Romans 3:19, 23, 10:9-13; Ephesians 2:8 & 9; Titus 3:5 & 6).

WE BELIEVE in the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. (Ephesians 5:18, 4:30; I Corinthians 3:16, 6:19 & 20).

WE BELIEVE in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 8:9, I Corinthians 12:12-13, Galatians 3:23-28).

Section B: Membership

1. Dues:

- a. All persons who support BCH's purpose and who are current in their paid dues for a fiscal year shall enjoy the privileges of membership for that fiscal year.
- b. The Board of Directors shall, each year, set the amount of dues to be paid in the following year, and the method of payment.
- c. Payment of dues shall be acknowledged by a representative of the Board of Directors through conveyance to the payor of a membership certificate or a certificate of renewal.
- d. The Board of Directors shall reserve the right to grant membership without full payment of dues to persons for whom full payment of dues would, in the determination of the Board of Directors, constitute a financial burden.
- e. Dues shall not be prorated and are not refundable.

2. Definition of Member and Membership:

- a. As a condition precedent to BCH membership, all members must agree to abide by BCH's Statement of Faith as set forth herein and the purpose thereof.
- b. Membership adheres to the person or nuclear family in whose name the dues are paid.
- c. A member of BCH is a person in whose name a membership is recorded or the spouse of such person.
- d. The general membership is comprised of all members of BCH.
- e. No member may transfer a membership or any privileges arising therefrom.
- f. BCH's Board of Directors may, for any reason in its sole discretion, deny or cancel membership in BCH.
- g. All BCH members must sign a form of Release for BCH-related events in form and substance and at such times as prescribed by BCH's Board of Directors.
- h. All BCH-related activities, special events, resources, publications, newsletters and the like must be first approved by BCH's Board of Directors, which may withhold approval in its sole discretion.

3. Voting:

- a. Each member shall be entitled to a single vote on any general ballot conducted by BCH.
- b. For purposes of this section, a general ballot is any ballot or election in which the membership may vote.
- c. Ballots or elections undertaken by the Board of Directors within its duties, as defined infra, are not considered general ballots.

4. Fiscal and Membership Year:

- a. The fiscal year of BCH shall begin on the first day of July and end on the last day of June of each calendar year.
- b. The membership year of BCH shall be the same as BCH's fiscal year.

Section C: BCH Meetings and Elections

1. **Meetings of the Board of Directors:** BCH's Board of Directors shall meet on a monthly basis at a place and time to be determined by the Board of Directors.
2. **Exemption from the requirement to hold meetings:** The Board of Directors is exempt from the monthly meeting requirement in those months where no new business exists. In no instance, however, may the Board of Directors meet less than once per quarter in any fiscal year.
3. **Requirement that BCH hold Meetings of the General Membership:** BCH shall hold a meeting of the general membership on a monthly basis except for the months of January, July and August. Waivers to monthly planned meetings would be weather conditions that would be hazardous.
4. **Time, Location and Notification of Meetings of the General Membership:** The time and location of the meeting of the general membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Notification of the time and location of such meetings shall be made by the Board of Directors to the membership via (a) announcement at a regularly scheduled meeting of the general membership; (b) telephonic or electronic means; and/or (c) BCH's newsletter.

Section D: Directors and Officers Requirements

1. **Directors' Membership Eligibility:** Members of the Board of Directors must (a) be members in good standing of BCH; (b) be a "born again" Christian (as described in John 3:3); and (c) agree in writing to support and conform to BCH's Statement of Faith.
2. **Residence:** Members of the Board of Directors must reside in the area represented by BCH.
3. **Active Home School Teacher:** Members of the Board of Directors must (a) be the parent or guardian of at least one child between the ages of 4 and 19 years, who currently resides in the member's home, and who has lived in the member's home continuously for a minimum of two (2) years immediately preceding his or her election; (b) have personally and legally, as defined by the Florida Statutes, provided the primary education of a child for a minimum of two (2) years immediately preceding his or her election; and (c) be a BCH member for at least two (2) years.
4. **Nominations:** Nomination of a member for election to the Board of Directors may be made by any BCH member.
5. **Validation of Eligibility:** The Secretary will verify that incumbent nominees are members in good standing of BCH. The Secretary or designee will provide all non-incumbent nominees with a Nominee Questionnaire, which must be completed and returned to the Secretary or designee along with two (2) written letters of recommendation within fifteen (15) business days of the date the Nominee Questionnaire is provided. The Board of Directors shall review the Nominee Questionnaire and letters of recommendation to verify each nominee's qualifications as provided by these Bylaws. The current Board of Directors will cast their vote on which nominee will be elected to BCH's Board of Directors.

6. **Additional Requirements:** Nominees for the post of Chairman must have served a minimum of two (2) consecutive years as a member on the Board of Directors immediately prior to his or her election as Chairman.
7. **Resignation:** Any Director or officer may resign at any time in his or her discretion. In such event, the Board of Directors may elect a successor Director as they deem appropriate and in the best interest of BCH.

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Section E: Board of Directors

1. Composition:

- a. The affairs of BCH shall be governed by the Board of Directors, consisting of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and at least one additional Director. All members of the Board of Directors shall have equal voting rights.
- b. The Board of Directors shall elect the Officers, pursuant to the provisions contained herein, from among the Board of Directors.
- c. The Board of Directors may create other offices as required in their discretion.

2. Advisory Board:

- a. Members of the Advisory Board must (a) be members in good standing of BCH; (b) be a "born again" Christian (as described in John 3:3); and (c) agree in writing to support and conform to BCH's Statement of Faith.
- b. Advisors will be appointed to an Advisory Board as determined necessary by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
- c. Advisors will be individuals that have been involved with home education for a minimum of seven (7) years.
- d. Duties: Advisors will be available to give their advice and opinions to BCH's Board of Directors in matters concerning BCH. Advisors may be called by BCH's Board of Directors in disputes or conflicts among members of the Board of Directors and/or BCH members to help resolve such disputes or conflicts and may be asked to attend meetings of the Board of Directors.

3. Removal:

- a. In the event the Board of Directors desires to remove a member of the Board of Directors for cause:
 - i. the Board of Directors will submit charges against the Director to him or her in writing;
 - ii. the Board of Directors will give such Director reasonable notice of a meeting of the Board of Directors where such charges will be discussed and considered;
 - iii. the Director will have the opportunity to respond to such charges at such meeting;
 - iv. the Board of Directors will endeavor to resolve such charges taking into account the requirements of Section G hereof; and
 - v. if the Board of Directors is unable to resolve such charges, then cause will be established by a three-fourths (3/4ths) majority vote of the Board of Directors, and the charges will be submitted to the Advisory Board for consideration and action.

- b. If cause has been established and the charges are submitted to the Advisory Board,
 - i. the Advisory Board will review and consider the charges and endeavor to resolve the charges in accordance with the requirements of Section G hereof; and
 - ii. a three-fourths (3/4ths) vote of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board will be required for removal, where three-fourths (3/4ths) or more of the members of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board shall vote for removal.
 - c. If the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board, acting together as provided above, are unable to resolve the charges, then such charges will be submitted to the BCH's general membership to be considered and acted on at a duly-called special meeting of the general membership where notice of the meeting is given as provided herein, including the charges that are to be presented for consideration and action. In such event, at such special meeting where a quorum of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of BCH's general membership is present, a three-fourths (3/4ths) vote of BCH's general membership then present will be required for removal.
 - d. An individual who has been removed from the Board of Directors shall be disqualified from holding any office within BCH.
 - e. The Board of Directors may reinstate a member's right to hold office, by a three-fourths (3/4ths) vote of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board, where three-fourths (3/4ths) or more of the members of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board vote for reinstatement. If the motion for reinstatement fails to receive three-fourths (3/4ths) or more of the votes of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board, the Board of Directors will be barred from conducting subsequent reinstatement proceedings for a subsequent twelve (12) month period.
 - f. In the event the Board of Directors desires to remove a member of the Advisory Board for cause: it may do so by a three-fourths (3/4ths) majority vote of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board.
4. **Filling of Vacancies:** When the office of any Board of Directors or officer becomes vacant, the Board shall conduct an election consistent with the provisions provided herein.
5. **Compensation:** No member of the Board of Directors or officer shall receive compensation for any service he or she may render to BCH. However, any member of the Board of Directors or officer may be reimbursed for his or her actual expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties under requirements and procedures established by the Board of Directors.
6. **Meetings:** Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least once per month, with the exception of holidays and summer months, as determined by the Board of Directors. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be at such a place and time as may be fixed by the Board of Directors or the Chairman. Notice of regular Board of Directors meetings shall be given consistent with the Bylaws. Meetings of the Board of Directors will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
7. **Quorum.** A majority of the total number of members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

8. **Actions by the Board by Unanimous Consent:** The Board of Directors shall have the right to conduct BCH business at times other than scheduled meetings in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.
9. **Powers:** The Board of Directors shall have the power to:
 - a. Exercise all powers, duties, and authority vested by the laws of the State of Florida and not reserved thereby to BCH's general membership; and
 - b. Delegate authority to the Chairman and/or other officers to act on behalf of BCH.
10. **Duties:** It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to:
 - a. Cause to be kept a complete record of all its acts and corporate affairs and to make same available for inspection by BCH members upon reasonable request;
 - b. Supervise all officers and agents of BCH and see to it that their respective duties are properly performed;
 - c. Organize and hold monthly meetings for BCH's general membership as provided herein;
 - d. Hold a monthly meeting of the Board of Directors as provided herein;
 - e. Promote membership in BCH, collect dues, and maintain records of membership; and
 - f. Hold such events and other programs from time to time as they may determine to be beneficial to BCH's general membership.

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Section F: Duties of the Officers

1. **Chairman.** The Chairman shall:
 - a. Preside at all meetings of BCH and of the Board of Directors;
 - b. See that orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried out;
 - c. Represent BCH and/or the Board of Directors as instructed by the Board of Directors;
 - d. Perform all responsibilities delegated by the Board of Directors;
 - e. Render an annual report to BCH's general membership;
 - f. See that, unless waived by the Board of Directors, an annual review of BCH's financial records is conducted by a CPA or a review committee and shall report on the review to the Board of Directors; and
 - g. Serve notice of all meetings of BCH's general membership and of the Board of Directors and shall maintain membership records, provided that these duties may be delegated to other BCH members.
2. **Vice-Chairman.** The Vice-Chairman shall:
 - a. Act in the name, place, and stead of the Chairman in the event of the Chairman's absence, inability, or refusal to act; and
 - b. Exercise and discharge such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.
3. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall:
 - a. Record the votes and keep the minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Board of Directors and of BCH's general membership;
 - b. Keep the corporate seal of BCH and affix it on all papers requiring said seal; and
 - c. Perform such other duties as required by the Board of Directors.

- 4. Treasurer.** The Treasurer (or his or her designee) shall:
- a. Receive and deposit, within ten (10) banking days, all monies of BCH in BCH's bank accounts;
 - b. Disburse such funds as directed by resolution of the Board of Directors;
 - c. Sign all checks, drafts and promissory notes of BCH;
 - d. Keep proper books of account;
 - e. Make available to the membership all financial records as required by the Board of Directors or the laws of the State of Florida;
 - f. Present an itemized fiscal report at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors; and
 - g. Format an annual budget prepared and approved by the Board of Directors and an annual statement of income and expenditures to be presented to BCH's general membership with printed copies available for distribution.

Section G: Dispute & Conflicts

In the event that there is a dispute or conflict among members of the Board of Directors, including but not limited to, those arising in connection with Section E 3 hereof, the dispute or conflict will be discussed among the Board of Directors (or the Board of Directors and Advisory Board acting together in accordance with Section E 3 b, as the case may be) who will attempt to resolve such dispute or conflict using Biblical guidelines, including the manner of dispute resolution as provided in Matthew 18.

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Section H: General

In furtherance of its purposes, BCH shall exercise those powers permitted by Corporations Not for Profit under the laws of the State of Florida.

Section I: Distribution of Assets Upon Dissolution

Upon dissolution of BCH, all BCH assets remaining after paying or making provision for payment of all of BCH's liabilities, shall be distributed exclusively for the purpose or purposes of BCH, in such a manner, or to such an organization or organizations chartered and operated exclusively for any one or more of the exempt purposes and as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 and as from time to time amended (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section J: Limitations

No part of the net earnings of BCH shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, Board of Directors or other private persons, except BCH shall be authorized and empowered to make reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purpose or purposes of BCH. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, BCH shall not carry on any activities that are not permitted to be carried on by (a) a corporation exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c) (4); or (b) a corporation,

contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Laws).

Section K: Miscellaneous

1. Check Signing. All checks shall require the signature of the Treasurer or the Chairman; provided that the Board of Directors may provide for alternate signatures.

2. Purchases. The Chairman may make purchases of up to One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150) from petty cash, at his or her discretion, without prior approval of the Board of Directors. Notwithstanding, notice of receipts from and expenditures relating to such purchases will be submitted to the Treasurer via e-mail with ten (10) days from such purchases, and the receipts and expenditures from such purchases will be submitted to the Treasurer within twenty-one (21) days from such purchases (or such longer period approved by the Board of Directors).

3. Special Events.

a. If any BCH-related event (other than a planned fundraising event) is held and/or coordinated by a member of the Board of Directors, and funds are received and/or expended not exceeding One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150), then such event will not require processing by the Treasurer. Notwithstanding, notice of receipts from and expenditures relating to such event will be submitted to the Treasurer via e-mail within ten (10) days from the event, and the receipts and expenditures from such event will be submitted to the Treasurer within twenty-one (21) days from the event (or such longer period approved by the Board of Directors).

b. If any BCH-related event is held and/or coordinated by other than a member of the Board of Directors, then

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- i. such event must be first approved by the Board of Directors as required by Section B2h hereof; and
 - ii. notice of receipts from and expenditures relating to such event will be submitted to the Treasurer via e-mail within ten (10) days from the event, and the receipts and expenditures from such event will be submitted to the Treasurer within twenty one (21) days from the event (or such longer period approved by the Board of Directors).

4. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by three-quarters (3/4) vote of the Board of Directors.

5. Superiority of Articles. In the event there is any conflict between BCH's Articles of Incorporation and these Bylaws, then the Articles of Incorporation shall prevail.

6. Home Education Program. For the purposes of the Bylaws, a home education program and homeschool program are used interchangeably. A home education program is any parent-directed educational program regardless of modality.

7. **Indemnity.** BCH shall indemnify and hold all members of the Board of Directors, collectively and individually, all councils and committees composed of Board of Directors, BCH members, collectively and individually, and all other elected, appointed, employed or volunteer representatives of BCH harmless of and from any and all claims, liabilities, demands, judgments, costs, attorney's fees, charges and/or expenses of whatsoever extent and nature arising from the acts and omissions of same, except to the extent that BCH or its afore-described representatives cause such claims, liabilities, demands, judgments, costs, attorney's fees, charges, and/or expenses by their own gross negligence or willful misconduct. Further, BCH understands and acknowledges that BCH and its afore-described representatives have assumed such assignment, function, office, and/or capacity upon the express understanding, agreement and condition that they be so indemnified and held harmless to the extent described and provided for herein.

8. **Emergency Provisions:** In the event the Board does not meet the composition as described in Section E, the remaining member(s) of the Board shall assume all responsibilities of the Board and see to it the board consists of at least three members as soon as practical. Additionally, this/these individual(s) shall run the organization to the best of his/her/their ability as per the organization's bylaws and Florida law, but may make exceptions for areas of the organization's bylaws such as, but not limited to, Section D, Section E, Section F and Section K. These include functions of the organization such as board and officer appointments, check writing, bylaw amendments, and anything else deemed necessary and appropriate for successfully running the business and activities of the organization.

Certification

The undersigned hereby certify (a) they are the duly-chosen and acting Directors of the Broward County Christian Homeschoolers, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation; and (b) the foregoing Bylaws constitute the Bylaws of said corporation as duly adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors held on September 17, 2008, in Hollywood, Broward County, Florida.

Broward Christian Homeschoolers, Inc., by:

Director

Director

Director

Director

Director

Director

Director

Director

Director

Director