

Proposed addition

1. Add names of the original authors of KCS Constitution to the front inside cover of the KCS Constitution. The Names are (Rajan Kalladanthiyil, Chacko Poovathumkal and James Mukalel)

ARTICLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 6. MEETINGS

Current terms

A. GENERAL BODY MEETINGS

1. A General Body meeting is a formal gathering of general members. There shall be a minimum of two (2) General Body meetings conducted in each calendar year. 2. The semi-annual General Body meeting of the Society shall be held on the second Saturday in the month of May. The annual General Body meeting shall convene on the second Saturday in the month of December.

Proposed Amendment

1. A General Body meeting is a formal gathering of general members. There shall be a minimum of two (2) General Body meetings conducted in each calendar year. (2) A General Body meeting of the Society shall be held In the month of May and the another General Body meeting shall convene in the month of December with at least 30 days' notice.

Proposed addition

2. If there is a state-declared emergency, the executive board may opt to conduct the General Body meeting through online electronic platforms. However, constitutional amendments may only be passed at an in-person General Body meeting.
3. Executive Board may call emergency general body meetings with 7 days' notice.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENTS

Current terms

1. Any proposed amendments to this constitution and by-laws must be communicated to the KCS Executive Board at least 6 month prior to general election for the Executive Board
2. These proposals must be reviewed and approved by a three fourth majority of the Executive board before they are presented to the Board of Directors for review.
3. After the Board of Directors have reviewed and approved these proposals with a two-third majority, these proposals must be added for referendum to vote in the following general election for the Executive Board.
4. All such proposals must be communicated to the KCS members at least one month prior to the general election for the Executive Board.
5. If an election is not held or an election is averted due to an undue hardship or act of God or any other reason; (a) A special general body may be convened for the purpose of amendments and the amendments will be effective only by two-third majority of the people present; or (b) a referendum can be conducted through United States mail/electronic media in which case the amendments can only be effective if the following conditions precedent occur: (1) proper notice either written or by publication or by electronic media is timely given to the members; (2) a minimum of 51% of the total eligible members have mailed votes for the referendum with a postmark date within 30 calendar days of the election. The tabulation of the votes will occur on 40 calendar dates from the election, to allow for mailing times. A two-third majority vote in the affirmative would still be required of those responding under this process.

Proposed Amendment

Whenever a constitutional amendment is proposed: 1. A committee should be formed from the KCS General Body to review the constitution. Members shall be notified about the formation of the committee and names of the committee members through official email. 2. Any proposed amendments to this constitution and by-laws must be reviewed

and approved unanimously by the Executive Board before they are presented to the legislative board for review. 3. Proposals must be shared with the legislative board for review at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Any proposed amendments to this constitution and by-laws must be reviewed and approved with a two thirds (2/3) majority by the KCS legislative board before they are presented to the Board of Directors for review. 4. After the Board of Directors have reviewed and approved these proposals with a two-thirds majority, a KCS general body meeting should be called for final approval of recommendations. 5. The quorum required to pass a constitutional amendment is the lesser of either ten percent (10%) of the total KCS membership or three hundred (300) members. A two thirds majority of the vote is required for the proposed amendment(s) to pass.

ARTICLE II
THE ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
A. BRANCHES

There shall be four different branches of the Board of Directors, also known as the Board of Trustees: (1) The Executive Board, (2) the Legislative Board, (3) the Liaison Board, and (4) the Building Board. No branch shall exercise power properly belonging to any other branch. The General Body formed by the general members of the society shall have the overall power over all the branches, except the Building Board. National Council members articulated in section C below shall also be members of the board of directors.

Proposed Amendment

There shall be five different branches of the Board of Directors, also known as the Board of Trustees: (1) The Executive Board, (2) the Legislative Board, (3) the Liaison Board, (4) the Building Board (4) National Council members articulated in section C (5) President or Chairman or chief coordinators of satellite units or sub units articulated in Article IX. only one nominee from each satellite unit shall serve as part of the board.

Immediate Past President and Secretary shall serve in the subsequent Board of Directors in an ex-officio capacity as past executives. If the President and or Secretary of an outgoing Executive Board are unable to continue in the Board of Directors for the following term, the Vice President or Joint Secretary or Treasurer will be eligible for replacement in the given order.

The term length for all Board of Directors members, except for the Legislative Board, shall be two years or until their current position is replaced, whichever comes first.

Proposed addition

SECTION 1.C. DIRECTOR BOARD MEETINGS

The Executive Board shall call a meeting of the KCS Board of Directors before every General Body meeting, unless it is an emergency General Body meeting. Board of Director meetings can be conducted using live video conference technology. However, two in-person Board of Directors meetings must be conducted within a year.

Proposed addition

SECTION 1.D. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REMOVALS

- (1) Any member of the Board of Directors that has not taken their oath of office within ninety (90) days of the start of their term will be automatically terminated from the KCS Board of Directors and their respective positions in any branch of the KCS Board. Exceptions can be made only if prior arrangements are made in writing with the Executive Committee.
- (2) Any member of the Board of Directors that has missed three consecutive board meetings will be automatically terminated from KCS Director board and their respective positions in any branch of the KCS Board of Directors. Exceptions can

be made only if prior arrangements are made in writing with the Executive Committee.

- (3) Once terminated from the Board of Directors position the same member will not be eligible to run for KCS Executive Board or National Council positions until serving another full term;

SECTION 2. ELECTIONS AND GUIDELINES

Current terms

(1) All nominations in the prescribed form with 2 sponsors from KCS members shall be submitted to the Liaison Board chairman on or before August 30th of the election year.

Proposed Amendment

2 (1) All nominations shall be submitted in the prescribed form with two (2) sponsors that are KCS members, to the Liaison Board Chairman on or before August 30th of the election year. The Candidate must present the nomination form to the Liaison Board (or chair-approved member) in person. Exceptions can be made when there is an emergency situation like death, sickness, etc. In such situations, candidates must notify the Liaison Board Chairman in writing and make alternate arrangements to submit the nomination forms.

Current terms

2 (2). A nomination fee of \$250 as a donation to the KCS is required with each application for nomination.

Proposed amendments

2. (2) A nomination fee of \$350 as a donation to the KCS is required from each candidate applying to an Executive position. (2) A nomination fee of \$250 as a donation to the KCS is required from each candidate applying to the position of National Council member and Liaison Board Chairman. (3) A nomination fee of \$150 as a donation to the KCS is

required from each candidate applying to the position of Liaison Board Vice Chairman, Liaison Board Member and Legislative Board Member.

Proposed addition

The minimum age required to assume any office positions in the KCS Executive Board, Liaison Board, Legislative Board and National Council will be twenty-one (21) on the date of nomination.

ARTICLE III THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Treasurer. All the executive powers shall be vested in the Executive Board. One of the nominated members of the Executive Board shall be under the age of thirty-four (34).

SECTION 1. TERMS

The officers of the Executive Board shall hold office for two years. The oath of office shall occur on the second Saturday of December following the election on election years and their two year term commencing on the same date. The office of the President shall be limited to two, two-year terms. No individual can consecutively or collectively hold the position of President for more than four years total.

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY

Current terms

Each Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidate should be at least 30 years of age and a member in good standing of the society for at least three consecutive years. Moreover, they must have a minimum of two years prior experience as a member of any Board of Directors of KCS. The candidates for the positions of the Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer should be members in good standing of the society for at least three consecutive years. Moreover, they, with the exception of a youth member, mentioned

above, in the executive board, must have a minimum of two years prior experience as a member of any Board of Directors of KCS.

Proposed Amendment

1. Each Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidate should be at least thirty (30) years of age and a member in good standing of the society for at least three (3) consecutive years, at the time of nomination. 2. The candidates for the positions of the Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer should be members in good standing of the society for at least three (3) consecutive years. 3. Candidates for President and Secretary must have a minimum of two (2) years prior experience as a member of the Board of Directors of KCS (any branch). 4. All other Executive Board candidates, with the exception of one young adult candidate under the age of thirty-four (34) as mentioned above, must have a minimum of one (1) year prior experience as a member of the Board of Directors of KCS (any branch).

3. ELECTIONS

Current terms

Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates shall run for their office as a team in the general election following democratic process of election, using secret balloting, if needed. The newly elected President, in consultation with the Vice President shall nominate eligible members from the General Body meeting specifically called for that purpose, for the positions of Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer and they shall be sworn in to their respective offices along with the President and Vice President at the same General Body meeting on the second Saturday in December, following the biannual election process. The election of the Executive Board shall be conducted in alternate years in such a way that it shall not coincide with the election of the Liaison Board

Proposed amendments

Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates shall run for their office as a team in the general election following democratic process of election, using secret balloting, if needed. At the time of nomination, Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates must declare their nominees to the positions of Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer and also must submit nominations along with the required fees. The newly elected President and Vice President along with their nominees for the positions of Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer shall be sworn in to their respective offices at a General Body meeting in the month of December, following the biannual election process. The election of the Executive Board shall be conducted in alternate years in such a way that it shall not coincide with the election of the Liaison Board.

ARTICLE IV THE LEGISLATIVE BOARD

SECTION 3 – ELECTIONS

Proposed additions

Every calendar year, each ward's legislative board members meet and select a lead Legislative chair from each ward. The lead will be responsible to report activities in their ward to the Board of Directors, at least twice a year.

ARTICLE V KCCNA NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Current terms

SECTION 1 – GENERAL

1. The National Council members are representatives of the KCS for and within the Knanaya Catholic Congress of North America (KCCNA).

- 2. The five (5) Executive Board Members plus seven (7) additional council members, as articulated in Article II § (1)(C), shall be members of the National Council during their terms of office. The seven additional National Council members (5 in the general category and 2 with specific designation) shall be elected through a democratic process for a term of two years to run concurrent to the term of the Executive Board.
- 3. The five (5) candidates in the general category with the highest votes will be appointed as delegates/members to the KCCNA National Council.
- 4. The two remaining seats will have specific designations: one seat shall go to a youth representative between the ages of 23-34 to represent the community youth and the second one shall go to a female representative to represent community women. The youth and women representatives shall be elected through democratic process of election. This provision shall not be construed as a limitation to the number of female or youth candidates, only a minimum.
- 5. In the event all or some of the required number of candidates for National Council are not available, the Executive Board shall nominate eligible social body members to fill the vacant seats either temporarily or permanently.
- 6. All National Council members must have been social members of KCS for a minimum of 3 years in good standing and moreover, they must have a minimum of two years' experience prior to the nomination as a member of any Board of Directors of KCS.
- 7. A Regional Vice President (RVP) to represent the region within the jurisdictional boundary of KCS shall be selected from among the 12 current National Council members at their first meeting following their oath of office.
- 8. All members designated on behalf of KCS to the National Council members shall maintain the best interest of KCS Chicago and its membership constituency.

Proposed amendments

4. The two remaining seats will have specific designations: one seat shall go to a youth representative between the ages of 21 - 34 to represent the community youth and the second one shall go to a female representative to represent the community of women. The youth and women representatives shall be elected through democratic process of

election. This provision shall not be construed as a limitation to the number of female or youth candidates, only a minimum.

6. All National Council members must have been social members of KCS for a minimum of three (3) years in good standing. All National Council members except for youth representatives and women representatives, must have a minimum of one (1) year experience prior to the nomination as a member of the Board of Directors of KCS (any branch).

Proposed addition

1 (9). Duties and Responsibilities

D) KCCNA RVP for the region and local National council members must meet with the Board of Directors before and after the KCCNA National Council meeting promptly to discuss the National Council meeting agenda and the outcomes.