



GONZAGA COLLEGE SJ

CONSTITUTION of the PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

1. TITLE

The Association shall be known as: Gonzaga College S.J. Parents' Association

2. STATUS

The Association shall be a representative body for the parents and guardians of all pupils attending Gonzaga College. The Association shall operate at all times in accordance with the wishes, and subject to the authority, of the Board of Management of Gonzaga College which in accordance with the Articles of Management – 1989 (Appendix 1) is charged with "the conduct, management and financial administration of the school ... subject to general supervision and control of the Trustees for the time being."

3. MEMBERSHIP

Save as provided in section 6, all parents and guardians of children attending Gonzaga College are deemed to be members of the Association.

4. OBJECTIVES

- (a) To become aware of and embody the ethos of the College and its Ignatian influence so that all can advance in a spirit of co-operation and mutual support to the benefit of parents, College and pupils.
- (b) To support and initiate activities which advance the academic, physical, social and spiritual development of all pupils in accordance with the Mission Statement and overall objectives of Gonzaga College as approved by the Board of Management (hereinafter referred to as "the Board").
- (c) To provide opportunities for discussion, information and consultation about matters of common interest to parents, teachers and pupils of Gonzaga College.
- (d) To submit, as it deems fit, for consideration by the Board from time to time, matters arising from such discussion, information and consultation.
- (e) To consider matters of educational interest; provided always that no reference shall be made whether by name or otherwise to any specific student, parent, guardian, member of staff or member of the Board.

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / GENERAL MEETINGS

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in September. All members shall be entitled to speak and vote at such meeting. Notice of motions for consideration shall be submitted not later than seven days prior to such meeting and shall be circularised to the entire parent body in advance of the meeting.
- (b) A committee of the Association, to be known as the Parents' Council, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) Other General Meetings of the Association may be held at the request of the Parents' Council (or of at least 50 members). All members shall be entitled to attend, speak and vote at such General Meetings.
- (d) Parents' and guardians' representatives on the Board shall be elected at either the Annual General Meeting or other General Meeting of the Association.

6. PARENTS' COUNCIL

- (a) The Parents' Council shall consist of 15 members, 12 elected, one appointed and two ex officio. Two members shall be elected to represent each year each year at the Annual General Meeting from among the members in each of First, Third and Fifth Year. No person shall represent more than one Year. The Board of Management will nominate one of their number as a member of the Council. In addition the Parent Representatives on The Board shall be deemed ex officio members of the Council without voting rights at Council meetings.
- (b) Elected members of the Council shall serve until the first meeting of the Council following the Annual General Meeting in the year second following their election, always provided that any member of the Council shall cease to be a member if their child is no longer attending the College, save that this shall not apply to a member of the Council whose child has ceased to attend the College at the end of the Sixth Year. The person appointed by the Board of Management shall serve for such period of time as the Board may determine.
- (c) In the event of a casual vacancy among the elected members of the Council, the Council shall, after such consultations as it deems necessary, co-opt a member from the relevant Year and the person co-opted shall serve for the remainder of the term of office.
- (d) No person other than a Parent Representative on the Board, shall remain a member of the Council for more than two consecutive years, nor shall they be re-elected or re-appointed before the Annual General Meeting in the year second following their ceasing to be a member of the Council.
- (e) The Council shall appoint a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and other such officers, as it considers necessary at its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting in each year.
- (f) The Council shall meet at least once each term of the academic year.
- (g) A Quorum at a meeting shall consist of 5 elected persons.
- (h) The Council may invite to attend its meetings such persons as it wishes and the Headmaster will be invited to attend the meetings.

7. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to this Constitution may be made only after prior approval of proposed amendments by the Board. The Constitution of the Association shall then be amended only by two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the Annual General Meeting or General Meeting called for this purpose. Notice of any proposed amendment shall be circularised in advance to all parents.

8. DISSOLUTION

The Board of Management may at any time dissolve the Association, the Council or any sub-committees of the Association or Council.

Amended March 2001