

THE CONSTITUTION OF MOARK ASSOCIATION

Amended March 16, 2019

1. This association, when properly organized, shall have a moderator, vice moderator and clerk/treasurer, who shall be chosen by vote of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the association in order, state questions fairly, and take the vote; to have liberty of speech as other members provided his seat be filled; to have no vote unless the members be equally divided in which case, he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the vice moderator shall be to serve as moderator, automatically, if for any reason the moderator is unable to serve. The duty of the clerk/treasurer shall be to keep a fair and accurate record of all proceedings of the association and to take care of all association monies for which he/she is assigned responsibility and to give an annual report. A second vice moderator shall be elected along with the other officers to become vice moderator at the end of the session.
2. This association shall be composed of all ordained persons and such delegates as shall be chosen from the churches to represent them in the association.
3. Each church shall be entitled to three (3) delegates. A quorum shall consist of the delegates representing six (6) or more churches of MoArk Association.
4. Letters from the churches sent to the association shall contain the following information: (1) the number of members presently in fellowship, (2) the number received, (3) the number baptized, (4) the number dismissed, (5) and the names of the deceased since the last regular meeting of the association. Other information may be requested by the association.
5. We agree to do all business by vote of the majority of the members present, except in the reception of members, which shall be unanimous. Since the association is made up of churches, the vote of one delegate may not prevent the reception of a church into membership. A majority of the delegates of one church may prevent acceptance of a new member. In case of a negative vote, the association has the right to require that a

reason be given. It has the power to determine the validity of that stated reason. The association may override the negative vote if it determines that an injustice is about to be done.

6. This association shall mother a Presbytery consisting of ordained persons of the member churches and **we suggest it meet at least once a year.**
(Revised 3/16/2019)
7. We shall receive no church into fellowship with us who has been excluded from any association until the church has made an honest effort to satisfy the offended body.
8. In a situation where a difference arises between two members in a church and the church acts upon it and settles it, further action by the association is prohibited. However, in the event that any party be aggrieved, that party shall have the right to ask permission of the church to bring the matter to the association for settlement.
9. Any member in good standing shall have the right to act as moderator of the association, when elected by the body.
10. Any minister coming from another association and accepting the pastorate of General Baptist church or churches that belong to this association shall at the first regular session of the Presbytery thereafter have his credentials endorsed by said Presbytery, except in case of loss or destruction, in which case the Presbytery may extend time for recovery of credentials or the securing of a reissue from the ordaining Presbytery or some other Presbytery to which the applicant has subsequently belonged. In case of neglect or persistent refusal to comply with the provision, he will be considered out of order and his work rejected.
11. Any church desiring the ordination of a minister must make application to the Presbytery in writing with recommendation of the same.
12. Any church desiring the ordination of a deacon shall make formal request to the Presbytery for its approval. If the Presbytery approves, he may be ordained at that sitting.

13. Each church that represents in the association shall annually pay per member the amount of dues set by this association.
14. This constitution may be altered by a majority vote of three-fourths of the member composing this body. Any member church that becomes dissatisfied with any part of this constitution or with the Statements of Faith shall be entitled to a letter of dismissal.
15. This association will meet annually on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in March at 9:00 a.m. The exception being when Easter falls on the fourth Sunday in March. In this case the Association will meet on the Saturday before the third Sunday in March. (This provision may be changed by a resolution at any sitting of MoArk Association.)
16. The Executive Board of the MoArk Association of General Baptists shall operate in lieu of the Association when it is not in session to transact business on behalf of the Association. The Association shall have the right to vote on the dissolution of all or substantially all of the assets of the Association and the acquisition of real property and related indebtedness.
17. This body shall be guided by the General Baptist Doctrine and Usage and Worker's Handbook where no rules are found within the framework of this constitution.