



BYLAWS

GENERAL

Official name of the organization: East Brunswick Youth Council

Address of organization: 350 Dunhams Corner Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Statement of purpose:

The purpose of the Youth Council is to offer an open forum to foster communication, education and information concerning youth and youth-related issues. The Youth Council provides students in grades 9-12 with social activities in a safe and positive environment, while promoting individual self-esteem and leadership through participation in meetings, events and community service projects.

Youth Council promotes a comprehensive risk avoidance message to the youth for five harmful risk behaviors that are inextricably linked: alcohol, drugs, sex, tobacco and violence. Teens, provided with consistent and sound messages, are capable of making positive choices to avoid these risk behaviors

Procedure for amending the bylaws: Submission of proposed changes must be made in writing and submitted to the Executive Board and Adult Advisory Board before change(s) are voted on.

MEMBERS

Qualification for membership: Membership is available to all East Brunswick **residents** between grades 9-12 (regardless of the high school association).

Admission procedure: Open enrollment from September through May

Dues obligation of members: \$15.00 per year. All dues will be collected no later than October 31. Dues will be collected upon joining for new members.

Notice requirement for general membership meetings: A minimum of one week prior to meeting.

Quorum requirements: 1/3 (33%) of the voting members

Frequency of meetings and meeting procedures: A minimum of 3 (three) general meetings per calendar year.

Circumstances under which members may be expelled: If a member has missed 2 (two) consecutive general meetings or has not paid their dues they will be *expelled*. Members are encouraged to e-mail EBYouthCouncil@aol.com if they cannot make a meeting at least 24 hours prior to the meeting date.

Voting procedures: All votes must be made in person at a general meeting. Absentee votes will not be accepted. Allowances can be made at the discretion of the President for voting by e-mail, phone, etc. Each member is entitled to one vote.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board is for individuals who want to plan and lead events for members. Executive Board members serve for one school year.

Executive Board members focus on further enhancing the community by serving as links between teens and all others, and by developing ideas, implementing teen programs and encouraging teen involvement.

Number of members: 12

Qualifications for a position appointment: Good attendance, participation in activities and events, and commitment to the Youth Council.

Only incoming seniors can hold the position of President and incoming juniors can hold the position of Vice President.

Terms of office and term limits: Board members shall be appointed for a one year term. There are no term limits. Board member terms will run from September 1 through August 31.

Selection process: All candidates who wish to serve on the Executive Board must submit an Executive Board Application to East Brunswick Youth Council, 350 Dunhams Corner Road, East Brunswick, NJ 08816. Executive Board members will be appointed by the Adult Advisory Board by June 1.

Process for filling vacancies: Any vacancy in a position on the board, which is caused by resignation or removal, shall be filled for the balance of the term by appointment of the remaining Executive Board and Adult Advisory Board.

Frequency of meetings: The Executive Board must meet *before* every general meeting.

Quorum requirements: Majority of votes.

Circumstances under which directors may be removed: Performance, attendance, and by the majority of votes by other Executive Board members or Adult Advisory Board.

OFFICERS

Qualification for holding office: Must be a member of Youth Council.

Duties of officers:

Presidents

- Shall preside at meetings
- Can appoint special committees as needed
- To inform members if they are not meeting attendance requirements
- Oversee and help chairs
- Youth Council presentations

Vice Presidents

- To perform all duties and responsibilities of the President in the absence of the President.
- To serve in such capacities as assigned by the President
- Oversee and help chairs
- Youth Council presentations

Chair of each: Social and Recreation, Environmental, Community Service, Youth Advocating for Animals, Reaching Out to Kids in Need, and Ski & Snowboard.

- Organizing diverse events and activities
- Responsible for holding meetings and setting goals
- Chairs will be responsible for attendance and minutes of meetings
- Communication through newsletters, mailings, e-mails and phone calls
- Chairs need to serve as a role model
- Chairs will work to provide a friendly environment
- Representation at general meetings

Social & Recreation

To organize a variety of fun social & recreational programs and trips in a safe and positive environment.

Environmental

To collect and share information related to a wide variety of environmental issues and to organize volunteer projects or workshops for educational purposes as well as providing service to the community. Must sponsor a minimum of one environmental awareness program per year.

Community Service

To organize community service projects that will provide an opportunity for members to unselfishly give their time in order to improve the quality of life for people in need; also to make a difference by contributing their time, energy and talents to strengthen our community.

Reaching out to Kids in Need

The program is a compassionate response to homelessness. Reaching Out to Kids in Need has a partnership with Ozanam Family Shelter and Naomi's Way Transitional Housing Program. The program reaches out to families with children moving out of the shelter. While in the shelter they save every penny they can in order to move out. When they move out, they are placed into **unfurnished** apartments or homes. Youth Council adopts the families and assists with getting in-kind donations from furniture, toiletries, household items, and many other much needed items. The families receive support so they can start a new.

Youth Advocating for Animals

The mission is to educate students and the community about animal welfare issues. We seek to teach others about animals and improve the living conditions of animals around us.

School Issues/Education Ad Hoc Committee

Address any school issues that may be brought up and sponsor an alcohol and/or drug awareness program.

Human Relations Liaison

Liaison will help collect and share information related to diversity issues that will foster good will, cooperation and develop a sense of community with the Township's Human Relations Council.

APPENDIX I

Code of Behavior

APPENDIX II

Ski and Snowboard

APPENDIX III

Volleyball/Basketball/Dodgeball