

# Christian Homeschool Connection By-Laws and Guidelines

## **Statement of Purpose**

1. To represent the homeschool community in a manner that honors Jesus Christ.
2. To keep the members informed of any pertinent national, state or local homeschool current events such as seminars, conferences and legal issues.
3. To provide members an outlet for the exchange of teaching techniques and curriculum information, and support through social interaction by sponsoring various activities and events on a local basis.
4. To help promote public awareness and acceptance of home education.

## **Membership information**

### **Membership requirements:**

1. Membership is open to anyone who is interested in or actively engaged in home education.
2. Each member will have submitted a completed membership form and payment. Payment amount to be determined annually by the CHC board.
3. If applicable, both husband and wife must sign the membership form.

### **Membership benefits:**

- Weekly e-mail letters via homeschool-life web site. [www.chc1.net](http://www.chc1.net)
- Emergency e-mail for variety of reasons
- HSLDA membership discount
- Krannert Center group-rate ticket orders.
- Social events and activities
- Special speakers
- Scholastic centered events
- ...and participation in field trips and other as members provide.

### **Membership Responsibilities**

1. To represent CHC in a manner that honors Jesus Christ.
2. Members are responsible for educating their own children.
3. Members are responsible for exercising parental control over their children's behavior at events and activities where CHC members are gathered.
4. Make changes in membership information (e-mail, phone etc...) using the family edit profile section on the CHC web site.

### **Membership Service Opportunities:**

Although service is not a requirement of membership, CHC members are encouraged to use their skills and talents to aid, encourage, and inspire others. Many hands make light work.

## **CHC Leadership Information**

CHC is a parent-controlled organization. Three to five couples act as a governing board. These couples are responsible for policy decisions and the day-to-day functioning of CHC, such as book keeping, membership database, etc... It is required that they abide by the Statement of Purpose and the following Leadership Statement of Faith.

### **The Leadership Statement of Faith**

We believe the Bible to be the infallible work of God, the supreme and final authority for all faith and life.

We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through his shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, and His imminent bodily return in power and glory.

We believe man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and therefore is lost and only those who put their faith in Jesus Christ alone can be saved.

We believe that salvation is a gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose substitutionary death on the cross paid the penalty for man's sin.

We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to convince men, indwell, guide, instruct, and empower the believer for godly living and service.

We believe in the spiritual unity of believers through our common faith in Jesus Christ and that individual doctrinal differences which may exist should not hinder the unity of Christian home educators.

### **Board Requirements:**

1. Only couples (husband and wife) may be board members.
2. Board Members must sign the CHC leadership statement of faith.
3. Board members have homeschooled their children at least two years.
4. Board members have been a member of CHC for at least one year.

### **Board Terms of Service:**

1. Board couples will be seated as the result of an election held by the current board, requiring a unanimous "yes" vote.
2. A minimum of 3 to a maximum of 5 couples will serve on the board at any one time.
3. Couples serve either 1 or 2 years, in rotation of staggered terms as determined by the board.
4. There is no limitation on the number of terms, consecutive or otherwise, that a couple may serve.

### **Board Duties:**

1. Abide by the Leadership Statement of Faith.
2. Work towards fulfilling the objectives of the Statement of Purpose.
3. Place limitations upon or altogether prohibit any activity that is deemed to be in conflict with the Statement of Purpose or the Statement of Faith.
4. Elect board officers on an annual basis.
5. Day-today functioning of CHC, such as book keeping, membership database, etc. These duties are divided between officers as determined by the board.
6. If necessary, revise the CHC by-laws and guidelines (with the exception of those items stated in the section titled, Limitations of Board Leadership). The board evaluates the framework and policies annually, appealing to the Lord for His direction and wisdom. The general framework may change and policies are added or improved upon as needs in the group warrant. Members are encouraged to give input as desired at any time.
7. If warranted, provide for the Dissolution and orderly shut down of the Christian Homeschool Connection Organization.

### **Limitations of Board Leadership:**

1. Prohibit from revision or eliminating either the Statement of Purpose or the Leadership Statement of Faith.
2. Prohibited from revision or elimination either of the first 2 requirements for persons considering serving on the CHC board.

### **Benefits of Leadership**

1. The opportunity to serve others.
2. Interaction with state and national leaders in the homeschool movement.
3. Paid attendance to the ICHE Leadership Conference. (Up to two couples)

### **Volunteer Coordinator Guidelines**

Volunteer coordinators are the heart and soul of CHC. Any event or activity that takes place during the course of the year happens because someone wanted it enough to happen and didn't wait for others to do the work. Great ideas and grandiose plans are worthless unless you are willing to roll up your shirtsleeves and make personal sacrifices of time and energy.

At the beginning of the CHC calendar year lists of potential volunteers are compiled from the membership forms and given to individual Volunteer Coordinators for each CHC event or activity. From this pool of names, the Volunteer Coordinators may, if the need arises, contact other members to seek assistance in performing their duties.

### **Volunteer Coordinators Duties:**

1. If a Coordinator position is not currently filled, members are expected to notify the CHC board of their intentions to fill that position as soon in the year as

- possible. The CHC year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year to June 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.
2. Coordinators should give as much lead time as possible when promoting an event or activity.
  3. Are expected to notify the CHC board of any expected costs of any activity that they coordinate.
  4. May be required, if necessary, to secure a venue, organize volunteer helpers, obtain refreshments and supplies, provide timely notices for publication, maintain a list of participants, and coordinate the day-of-event activities including set-up and clean-up.
  5. Are expected to be responsible in the carrying out of their duties, or to find their own substitutes if they cannot perform the duties for which they have volunteered.

*Note: The CHC board may place limitations upon or altogether prohibit any activity that is deemed to be in conflict with the Statement of Purpose, or the Leadership Statement of Faith.*

## **Publication Guidelines**

### **CHC Web Site**

The CHC web site is the primary source of information for members. Information for classes, field trips, meetings, special events, speakers etc. is assembled on the web site calendar. [www.chc1.net](http://www.chc1.net).

If you wish to submit any item for the web site, please follow these guidelines:

1. On the CHC web site you will see three ways in which you may submit an event.
  - If you have a date for your event it may be submitted through the calendar date. Click on
  - If you have an event that you feel needs more information or a page for members to retrieve information from pick either a field trip form, found under fieldtrips or an event and activity forms, found under the events and activities section. These forms are submitted to the Web Director and he/she will develop the pages and get them onto the web site for our members.
2. Advertisements are welcome and are free of charge to our members, however please limit them only to homeschool related sales or services. You may advertise your own business on your own private family web site found under your family profile on the CHC web site.
3. The Web Director maintains editorial control over the content of any item submitted for publication and will reduce items of unnecessary length or content. In most cases edited items will be returned for review and approval before publishing.

4. If you have a change of e-mail, address or phone number you may edit your family profile on the web site, [www.chc1.net](http://www.chc1.net). On the left hand menu down at the bottom you will see edit my family profile

**Forum and Classified sections of the web site:**

When posting a thread on the forum, choose your category in which your notice fits. Type your thread, check spelling and click submit. *Items put on this forum must be homeschool related items.* Only the Web Director may remove or change a thread once it is submitted to the group. To contact him/her email: [chc-1@comcast.net](mailto:chc-1@comcast.net)

When posting in the classified section these items that are being sold need to be coming from you. Please do not submit classified ads for friends. *The items placed on or requested on this forum may be homeschool related and non-homeschool related.* Only the web Director may remove or change a thread once it is submitted to the group. To contact him/her, email: [chc-1@comcast.net](mailto:chc-1@comcast.net)

**Family Information:**

The information that is published on the CHC web site is secure through [homeschool-life.com](http://homeschool-life.com). You are in control of what information is visible to all the other members in CHC. Please change your family settings as you see fit.

Your log in name and password to get into the membership side of the web site are confidential. Please do not share these with anyone. If you lose either of these the Web Director can retrieve these for you. Please contact him/her at [chc-1@comcast.net](mailto:chc-1@comcast.net)

CHC will not, under any circumstances, sell lists or personal information to any party, or give personal information out to anyone other than CHC members and that only under this condition; that the information given is strictly limited to what has already been published under the family directory on the web site.