

Multiples of America
(also known as National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs, Inc.)
Connecting and Supporting Multiple Birth Families

BYLAWS 2025-2026

Revised July 1980, Amended 7/81, 7/82, 7/83, 7/84, 7/85, 7/86, 7/87, 7/88, 7/89, 7/90, 7/91, 7/92, 7/93, 7/94, 7/95, 7/96, 7/97, 7/99, 7/00, 7/01, 7/02, 7/04, 7/05, 7/06, 8/07, 7/08, 8/09, 8/10, 7/11, 7/12, 7/13, 7/14, 7/15, 7/16, 7/17, 7/19, 7/20, 2/21, 7/21, 6/22, 7/23, 7/24, 7/25

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. Section 1. The name of this Organization is THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF MOTHERS OF TWINS CLUBS, INCORPORATED, doing business as MULTIPLES OF AMERICA, and hereinafter referred to as the National Organization.

The name of this Organization is THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF MOTHERS OF TWINS CLUBS, INCORPORATED, and hereinafter referred to as the National Organization.

Section 2. **Founded** in Canton, Ohio, June 1960. Articles of Incorporation filed September 1961, Wayne County, Ohio; reincorporated August 1976, Montgomery County, Maryland.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. The National Organization is organized exclusively to:

- a) **Cooperate with and participate in projects** conducted by researchers and doctors in medical and psychological research with multiples and/or siblings.
- b) **Educate parents, teachers and others** having direct responsibility and interest in the special aspects of child development which relate especially to multiples.
- c) **Make available educational material and research data** in periodic publications and discussion at the annual convention.

Section 2. **No part of the net earnings** of the National Organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons except that the National Organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payment and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in ARTICLE II, Section 1.

Section 3. **No substantial part of the activities** of the National Organization shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the National Organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the National Organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this National Organization shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purpose of this Organization.

Section 4. **Dissolution**, if necessary, of the National Organization shall be by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the member clubs. In the event of dissolution, any funds and assets remaining in its possession shall be distributed to an organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Such organization shall be by recommendation of the Executive Committee with approval of two-thirds (2/3) vote of member clubs.

Section 5. **ARTICLE II, Section 1, 2, 3, and 4** are requirements to retain IRS classification and not subject to change.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. **Club Membership**

- a) Mothers/Parents of Multiples Clubs agreeing and conforming to the requirements
 - 1) Payment of application fee of \$30.00 (nonrefundable).
 - 2) Remittance of annual dues (nonrefundable) for every member of the club.
 - 3) Acceptance of Bylaws, Standing Rules and Official Procedures.
 - 4) Member clubs shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion or creed, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual preference or orientation, gender identification, citizenship status, or other legally protected status.
- b) Dues
 - 1) The fiscal year is August 1 through July 31.
 - 2) Dues not received by October 1 shall result in forfeiture of membership.
 - 3) A club applying for reinstatement within the same fiscal year after forfeiting membership shall pay a reinstatement fee of \$35.00 and the current dues.
 - 4) Annual dues within the U.S.A. shall be: \$15.00 per capita.
 - 5) Annual dues outside the U.S.A. and requiring foreign postage rates shall be: \$25.00 per capita.
 - 6) Dues for additional members may be submitted at any time through March 31st, with member receiving back issues of Multiple Connections.
 - 7) Club will be credited with delegate votes based on paid membership through March 31st.
- c) Withdrawal, Expulsion and Reinstatement
 - 1) A club in good financial standing may withdraw from the National Organization by majority ballot vote of its members in good standing. The National President shall be notified in writing.
 - 2) A member club may be expelled for conduct detrimental to the National Organization as determined by the Executive Committee, according to the procedure provided in Standing Rule V.
 - 3) Reinstatement of club membership as in Article III, Section 1.a. and Article III. Section 1.b.

Section 2. **Affiliate Membership**

- a) **Eligibility.** Any interested individual or professional.
- b) Dues.
 - 1) Payment of application fee of \$10.00 (nonrefundable).
 - 2) Remittance of annual dues of \$30.00 within the U.S.A.
- c) Benefits.
 - 1) Subscription to Multiple Connections.
 - 2) Access to online resources in Members Only section of National Organization's website.
 - 3) Member rate to attend Convention.
 - 4) Member services and support through Executive Office.
- d) No voting privileges.
- e) **Not eligible to serve** in elected office.
- f) An Affiliate Member may be expelled for conduct detrimental to the National Organization as determined by the Executive Committee, according to the procedure provided in Standing Rule V.

Section 3. **Direct Membership**

- a) **Eligibility.** Any interested parent or guardian of multiples whose club has disbanded or there is no local member club in their area that meets prospective member's needs.

- b) **Dues.**
 - 1) Remittance of annual dues of \$15.00 within the U.S.A.
- c) **Benefits.**
 - 1) Subscription to Multiple Connections.
 - 2) Access to online resources in the Members Only section of National Organization’s website.
 - 3) Member rate to attend Convention.
 - 4) Member services and support through Executive Office.
- d) **No voting privileges**
- e) **Not eligible to serve** in an elected office.
- f) A Direct Member may be expelled for conduct detrimental to the National Organization as determined by the Executive Committee, according to the procedure provided in Standing Rule V.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. **Officers**

- a) The elected officers shall be a President, Communication and Marketing Vice President, Events Vice President, Finance Vice President, Media and Publication Vice President, and Research and Membership Development Vice President.

- b) **The appointed officers** shall be Advisor and Parliamentarian. All shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the elected officers. The Advisor shall be a Past President.

Section 2. **Qualifications**

- a) A candidate for elected office shall:
 - 1) Be a member in good standing of a member club for at least one year.
 - 2) Have a qualified resume on file with the Nominating Committee exhibiting the qualifications required for office as detailed in Procedures and Job Descriptions.
 - 3) Have served on the Board of Directors or a National Committee within the immediately preceding three (3) years.
- b) A candidate for President shall have served on the Executive Committee the year immediately preceding election. In the event no qualified candidate on the Executive Committee can commit to serve as President, the position can be filled by a Past President or a member who has previously served on the Board of Directors within the last five years.

Section 3. **Term of Office**

- a) Elected officers, shall serve a one-year term and may be re-elected for up to 4 consecutive one year terms (Total 5 years). One full term must pass before that candidate is eligible to serve in that position again; however, candidates may immediately serve in any other position for which they are qualified.
- b) Officers assume duties at the close of convention at which they are elected.
- c) The Elected Nominating Chair and Elected Nominating Committee shall serve a one-year term and may be re-elected for a consecutive one-year term. One full term must pass before the candidate is eligible to serve in that position again.

Section 4. **Vacancies**

- a) In the event that the President is unable to finish their term for any reason, the Advisor shall take on the roles and responsibilities of the President in an interim capacity, until the following annual election when a new President shall be elected in accordance with the organization’s bylaws.
- b) Vacancy in any position other than President shall be filled by the Executive Committee as soon as feasible.

- c) Should the term of office served in filling a vacancy exceed one half the term of office, it shall be considered a full term and the regulation concerning tenure shall apply.
- Section 5. **Duties of Officers shall include** (detailed duties and procedures shall be outlined in Official Procedures).
- a) **President:** Official representative of the National Organization on all levels; has general supervision of the affairs of the National Organization between meetings of the National Organization and Board of Directors; will preside at all meetings of the National Organization and Board of Directors; will appoint additional committee workers and special committees except those otherwise provided for in these bylaws or the order creating same; shall be ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; and shall sign documents and checks as required.
- b) **Communication and Marketing Vice President:** Officer responsible for all meeting minutes, as well as is responsible for all formal correspondence, serving as custodian of official records, administrator of social media in conjunction with the Media and Publication Vice President.
- c) **Events Vice President:** Officer responsible for all convention functions and coordinating other organizational events
- d) **Finance Vice President:** Officer responsible for budget oversight and financial reports; serves as the liaison with Executive Director, bookkeeper, and auditor for all finance matters; coordinates product, promotion and sales items; and provides monthly budget updates to the Board of Directors.
- e) **Media and Publication Vice President:** Officer responsible for varied and integrated communication products and services including all print and electronic publications. Provides electronic news for distribution to social media outlets in conjunction with the Communication and Marketing Vice President.
- f) **Research and Membership Development Vice President:** Officer responsible for member club support and statistics, collaboration with outside researchers, coordination and expansion of research, and acquiring new research partners.
- g) **Advisor:** Shall, when consulted, advise any member; shall be the Officer in Charge of the Enrichment, Development and Growth Endowment (EDGE) Committee and shall supervise installation preparations. Shall serve as supervisor of Nominating Chairman and liaison between same and Board of Directors. Is responsible for preparing and sharing performance evaluation summaries with the Nominating Committee.
- h) **Parliamentarian:** Shall counsel the members, Board of Directors or Committees concerning proper parliamentary procedure; receive and present all resolutions and changes to the bylaws or standing rules; shall be Officer in Charge of Bylaws and Rules and Procedures Committees; supervise convention credentials, voting and tellers.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. **Executive Committee**

- a) Shall consist of the elected and appointed officers. Voting members shall be the President, Media and Publication Vice President, Communication and Marketing Vice President, Research and Membership Development Vice President, Finance Vice President and Events Vice President.
- b) The Advisor and Parliamentarian shall serve on the Executive Committee in an advisory capacity.
- c) Shall have power and supervision of the affairs of the National Organization except that of modifying action of the National Organization; shall examine and present the budget and serve in an advisory capacity to the President.
- d) Shall meet upon call of the President or upon written request of two (2) members of the Executive Committee. Two-thirds of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

- e) Voting by USPS mail or electronic mail shall be permitted.
- Section 2. **Board of Directors**
- a) Shall consist of the Executive Committee and Chair of all Standing Committees.
 - b) Shall have general supervision of the affairs of the National Organization except that of modifying action of the Executive Committee and the National Organization.
 - c) Shall hold at least two meetings per year; one immediately following convention. Special meetings may be called by the President or upon written request of four (4) Board of Directors members. In an emergency, a Board of Directors meeting may be canceled by the President with approval of the Executive Committee. Two-thirds of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum. Voting members shall be the elected officers.
 - d) Board of Directors meetings shall be open to the general membership.
 - e) Appointed Officers, Appointed Chair of Standing Committees and Committees shall be appointed yearly, and may not serve more than five (5) consecutive years in the same position. One term must pass before the member is eligible to serve in that position again; however, members may immediately serve in any other position for which they are qualified.
 - f) No more than three (3) Past Presidents may serve on the Board of Directors concurrently.

ARTICLE VI. RESIGNATIONS AND REMOVAL

Section 1. **Resignations**

- a) In the event an elected or appointed individual is unable to fulfill/continue duties, the President and Officer in Charge shall each receive a letter of resignation.
- b) Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee as soon as feasible.

Section 2. **Removal**

- a) In the event of misconduct or failure to perform duties, an elected or appointed individual may be removed.
- b) Removal shall be according to General Procedures.
- c) Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee as soon as feasible.

ARTICLE VII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. **Nominations**

- a) Nominating Committee shall consist of a chair and five (5) committee members elected by the voting body at convention; the five (5) committee members shall each represent a different district. No more than two (2) Past Presidents may serve on the Nominating Committee concurrently.
- b) Nominating Chair: Shall be Officer in Charge of the Nominating Committee and oversee preparation of slate; shall be responsible for the preparation of the eligibility lists, and shall actively recruit members to serve in elected and appointed positions.
- c) Committee: To be eligible, shall have attended a previous convention within the last five years, have served on a National Committee, and have a qualified volunteer form on file with the Nominating Committee. Committee shall be elected by plurality vote. The nominee receiving the sixth (6th) highest number of votes shall be the alternate.
- d) At least thirty (30) days prior to the annual convention, the Nominating Committee shall present to the membership an official list of nominees for each elected office.
 - 1) Additional nominations may be made from the convention floor.
 - 2) Nominees must meet qualifications per Article IV, Section 2.
 - 3) Nominees must be in attendance at convention to be nominated from the floor.
 - 4) Nominees presented on the official slate must be in attendance at convention unless a hardship is approved by the Board of Directors, prior to convention. The slated President must always be in attendance due to duties that transfer at convention.

Section 2. **Voting Body**

a) The voting body shall consist of:

- 1) **Board of Directors** shall each receive one (1) non-transferable vote.
 - 2) Delegates
 - a) Delegates from member clubs in good standing on a basis of two votes per 25 members or less, plus one vote for each additional 25 members or majority fraction thereof.
 - b) A delegate may represent one club only.
 - c) One delegate may carry all the votes, however, a valid credential form must be on file for each vote.
 - 3) **Past Presidents** of NOMOTC in good standing, and not carrying a Board of Director vote shall each receive one (1) non-transferable vote.
 - 4) **Alternate** filling the vacancy created by absence or withdrawal of delegate from delegate status.
 - 5) **Electronic and USPS mail.** Business items that require a vote of delegates may be held Via USPS mail or electronic voting with a minimum of 30 days' notice with the opportunity for discussing electronically or otherwise.
- b) Clubs joining during the year shall have full delegate privileges including delegate votes based on paid membership through March 31st.

Section 3. **Elections**

- a) Election shall be by ballot unless there is only one nominee for an office. In such case the Chair will declare the nominee elected by general consent.
- b) Majority elects on the first ballot. If a second ballot is necessary, plurality shall elect.
- c) Tie vote shall be re-balloted; a second tie shall be decided by lot.

Article VIII. Enrichment, Development and Growth Endowment (EDGE)

Section 1. **Mission of the EDGE:** The National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs, Inc.

Enrichment Development and Growth Endowment (EDGE) is established to provide funding to projects outside of the regular operations of NOMOTC in furtherance of the purpose of NOMOTC.

- a) The general membership will approve the guidelines for management and distribution of these funds.

Section 2. **Committee**

- a) **Enrichment, Development and Growth Endowment (EDGE) Chair** shall be elected by the voting body at convention and shall serve for a three year term and may be re-elected for one consecutive three year term. To be eligible, must have served as a National Worker in good standing for at least 3 years and have a qualified volunteer form on file with the Nominating Committee exhibiting the qualifications required for office as detailed in Procedures and Job Descriptions.
- b) The **Enrichment, Development and Growth Endowment (EDGE) Committee** shall consist of the elected Chair, the current Finance Vice President and three (3) other appointed members.
- c) Three (3) members to be appointed by the Board of Directors to serve a 3 year term, with the option to be reappointed for one additional 3 year term. To be eligible each appointed member shall have a qualified volunteer form on file exhibiting the qualifications required for office as detailed in Procedures and Job Descriptions. The terms of the committee members shall be staggered so as to have at least one vacancy on the committee each year.

ARTICLE IX. MARGE AINSWORTH SCHOLARSHIP (Scholarship Committee)

- Section 1. **Mission of the Scholarship Committee:** The National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs, Inc. Marge Ainsworth Scholarship is named in honor of NOMOTC's 1st President. Established in 2015 to identify qualified students from multiple birth families, recognize their accomplishments, and help them achieve their post-secondary education goals. Two scholarship categories are available: one for Multiples and one for Parents of Multiples.
- Section 2. **Committee**
- a) **Scholarship Committee Chair** shall be elected by the voting body at convention and shall serve for a three year term and may be re-elected for one additional term. To be eligible, must have served as a National Worker in good standing for at least three (3) years and have a qualified volunteer form on file with the Nominating Committee exhibiting the qualifications required for office as detailed in the Procedures and Job Descriptions.
 - b) **The Scholarship Committee** shall consist of the elected Chair, the current Finance Vice President and three (3) other appointed members.
 - c) Three (3) members to be appointed by the Board of Directors to serve a three year term, with the option to be reappointed for one additional three year term. To be eligible each appointed member shall have a qualified volunteer form on file exhibiting the qualifications required for office as detailed in Procedures and Job Descriptions. The terms of the committee members shall be staggered so as to have at least one vacancy and one returning member on the committee each year.
 - d) Shall not be eligible, nor their children, for the Marge Ainsworth Scholarship while serving on the committee.

ARTICLE X. National Workers

- Section 1. The Board of Directors shall appoint National Workers to Positions on an annual basis.
- Section 2. **Duties**
- a) National Workers shall be responsible for completing duties to support the mission of the National Organization.
 - b) National Workers shall work under the direction and supervision of a Vice President who will be their Officer in Charge (OIC).
 - c) National Workers shall be assigned tasks in Communication/Marketing, Events, Finance, Media/Publication, and Research and Membership Development.

ARTICLE XI. CONVENTION

- Section 1. **There shall be an annual convention** the last week of July, based on dates available and financial status, to conduct the business of the organization. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee may order a change of these usual convention dates.
- Section 2. **Quorum** shall be the majority of delegates registered from a minimum of twenty-five (25) clubs.
- Section 3. **Convention location**
- a) Based on the organization's financial status and safety considerations, with input from members, the convention location and format will be decided by the Board of Directors.
- Section 4. **Convention**
- a) Convention shall be under the supervision of the Events Vice President who shall be elected by the Membership.
 - b) An Events Department shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to carry out the necessary convention planning and functioning.

ARTICLE XII. EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Section 1. The site of the Executive Office shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. **Staff:**

- a) An Executive Director shall serve under contract, salary to be reviewed annually by the Executive Committee. Contract may be terminated by either party for valid reasons with 90-days' notice in writing.
- b) The Executive Director shall supervise and maintain the Executive Office according to law, contract, procedures, and the Executive Committee. She will assure that the President, Finance Vice President, Executive Director, current Convention Chair, and current Convention Treasurer shall be bonded in an amount to be determined by the Executive Committee, with fees paid by the National Organization.
- c) Assistance, as needed, to work under direction of the Executive Director, shall be approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with the approved budget.

ARTICLE XIII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern this Organization in all instances not covered by these bylaws, standing rules or the official procedures.

ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENT

Section 1. **These bylaws may be amended** at any convention by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting, providing notice in writing has been sent to all member clubs at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

Section 2. **In an emergency**, if there has not been sufficient time for the sixty (60) days previous notice, these bylaws may be amended by three-fourths (3/4) vote of those present and voting, providing said amendment is presented at one business meeting of the convention and voted upon at a later business meeting.

- a) Emergency is defined as an event or occurrence that would be of detriment to the organization and/or hinder its ability to conduct business, as determined by a 3/4 vote of the Executive Committee.