

# Alabama Baptist State Crusaders Department *Constitution*

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## **Preamble**

In keeping with the vote of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders, auxiliary to the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention in its Annual Session in Selma, Alabama, June 15 – 18, 1982, this Revised Constitution is herewith presented for the organization of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders, and its subordinate districts and chapters.

The Alabama Baptist State Crusaders Department of the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention, has the right and power to form a constitution as the basic laws of its action; and to enact such By-Laws, from time to time, as it may deem necessary for its own organization, and to make such rules, and prescribe such regulations for the conduct and administration of all subordinate districts and chapters as will promote the general good of the Baptist Crusaders in the State of Alabama, provided that it is in keeping with the Constitution and By-Laws of its parent body, the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention.

Therefore upon this principle the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders Department does hereby ordain, establish, and promulgate the following Constitution, By-Laws and Rules and Regulations for its organization in the future.

The following committee was appointed with plenary power to revise and publish the Constitution of the Alabama Baptist State Women's Convention:

Leverth Hedgemon, Jr., Tuscaloosa  
Willie C. Maye, Livingston  
Terrence Stanley, Dothan  
Reverend C. C. Suggs, Ministerial Advisor, Mobile  
Tommy E. Woods, State Counselor, Tuscaloosa

# *Constitution*

## Article I **Name**

Section 1 The name of the organization shall be the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders Department of the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention, auxiliary to the Alabama State Missionary Baptist Convention, Inc.

## Article II **Objectives**

Section 1 The objectives of this organization shall be:  
To provide religious training and enriching experiences for boys and young men in the state of Alabama, and To promote religious education and leadership training, and To develop understanding as a means for improving human and community relationships through Christ, and To promote Christian outreach, and To fellowship annually with the Crusaders of Alabama and other members of the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention.

## Article III **Affiliations**

Section 1 This organization shall function as a department within the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention, and

Section 2 This department shall work cooperatively with the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention.

## Article IV **Policies**

Section 1 The department shall carry on only those activities which are consistent with the policies of the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention.

Article V  
Elected and Appointed Officers

Section 1 Designation:

Officers of the State Crusaders Department shall be:

1. State Counselor
2. Assistant State Counselor
3. State Crusader-in-chief
4. State Chieftain-Elect
5. First Assistant State Chieftain
6. Second Assistant State Chieftain
7. Third Assistant State Chieftain
8. State Secretary
9. Assistant State Secretary
10. State Steward
11. State Treasurer
12. State Music Coordinator
13. Special Program Coordinator
14. Social Coordinator
15. Athletic Coordinator
16. Special Effort Coordinator
17. Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Coordinator
18. Art Coordinator
19. Publications Coordinator
20. Ushers Coordinator
21. Historian
22. Counselor's Chairperson
23. Counselor's Secretary
24. Ministerial Advisors

The Executive Board shall be composed of the State Counselor, the Assistant State Counselor, State Chieftain, Secretary, Treasurer, Steward, Music Coordinator, Athletic Coordinator, Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Coordinator, Ministerial Advisors, Publications Coordinator, Wing District Counselors, Wing District Chieftains, and three persons appointed by the State Counselor.

The Advisory Council shall be composed of the Counselors-Emeritus and the Chieftains-Emeritus.

Section 2 Elected Officials:

The elected officials are State Crusader-in-chief Elect, First Assistant State Crusader-in-chief, Second Assistant State Crusader-in-Chief, Third Assistant State Crusader-in chief, State Secretary, Assistant State Secretary, and State Treasurer.

All of the above officers shall be elected from the Senior Division, ages 15 – 17; except the Second Assistant State Crusader-in-chief, who shall be elected from the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; the Third Assistant State Crusader-in-chief, who shall be elected from the Junior Division, ages 9 – 11. The Assistant State Secretary shall be elected from either the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; or the Junior Division, ages 9 – 11.

In order to qualify for an elected office a candidate must have been affiliated with the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders Department for at least two consecutive years, should be active in his local district and local chapter, and must be a baptized member of the Baptist church.

The four Senior elective positions shall be held alternately by the four wing districts in the following rotating order: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest.

The elected officers shall be elected bi-annually.

The procedures for election of officers are listed in Article VI, Section 2 of this Constitution.

### Section 3 Appointed Officials:

The appointed officers are State Counselor, Assistant State Counselor, State Steward, Music Coordinator, Special Programs Coordinator, Social Coordinator, Athletic Coordinator, Special Effort Coordinator, Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Coordinators, Arts Coordinator, Publications Coordinator, Ushers Coordinator, Historian, Ministerial Advisor(s), Counselors' Chairperson and Counselors' Secretary.

All of the above named officers shall be appointed by the State Counselor, except the office of State Counselor. The State Counselor shall be appointed by the president of the parent body, the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention.

The State Counselor shall appoint workers from over the state who have demonstrated interest and dedication in the work.

All state officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for shall be appointed by the State Counselor.

Appointed officers will be appointed every election year by the State Counselor.

In order to qualify for an appointed office a candidate must have been affiliated with the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders Department for at least two consecutive years, should be active in the local district and local chapter, and must be a baptized member of the Baptist church.

Article VI  
**Election of Officers**

Section 1 Time of Elections:

Elections shall be held on Thursday during the Crusaders' annual session of the Alabama Baptist State Women's Convention.

Section 2 Procedures for Elections:

Each chapter will submit to their district the name and brief biographical sketch of their nominee for the Senior Office their wing district can seek that year, along with their nominees for the Junior Offices. The District Nominating Committee selects one nominee for each office – their Senior Office nominee and two Junior Office nominees. The committee submits those names and biographical sketches to the district counselor, who submits the same to the State Nominating Committee. The State Nominating Committee selects no more than two persons per office for the State Slate of Officers. The committee submits its report to the body on Thursday for reaction and approval.

In case no names are submitted from a wing for a particular office, the nominating committee shall submit names at its discretion.

No person can be selected to state office at their absence, only in case of sickness, death or extreme emergencies.

Section 3 The Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the State Counselor.

This committee shall be composed of a wing district counselor, or a representative from each wing district, and a chairperson.

The chairperson shall be a Spiritual Advisor selected by the State Counselor.

Section 4 Vacancies:

A vacancy occurring in an elective office shall be temporarily filled by majority votes of the appointed Nominating Committee until an election can be held.

Section 5 Re-Election:

No elected officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Article VII  
**Duties and Powers of State Officers**

Section 1. The State Counselor shall:

Have a general oversight of the work of the department. Maintain all power vested in him/her by the Alabama Baptist State Women's Convention. Attend annual Board Meetings and Conventions. Disseminate pertinent information received from the parent body. Plan and coordinate departmental functions. Act as an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2. The Assistant State Counselor shall:

At all times lend himself or herself to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the State Counselor. He/she shall serve in the absence of the State Counselor.

Section 3. The State Crusader-in-chief shall:

Preside over State meetings or at the discretion of the State Counselor, and see that each meeting is adjourned promptly at the specified hour. See that all officers perform the duties assigned to them. Strive for the overall success and advancement of the department. Lend himself at all times to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the State Counselor.

Section 4. The State Crusader-in-chief Elect shall:

At all times lend himself to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the counselor. Preside in the absence of the chieftain or at the counselor's discretion. Work as an apprentice to the Crusader-in-chief.

Section 5. The First Assistant State Crusader-in-chief shall:

Preside in the absence of his two major officers or at the discretion of the state counselor. Lend himself at all times to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the State Counselor. Lead the Intermediate Division. Work in training for a Senior leadership role.

Section 6. The Second Assistant State Crusader-in-chief shall:

Preside in the absence of his three major officers or at the discretion of the state counselor. Lend himself at all times to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the State Counselor. Lead the Junior Division. Work in training for a Senior leadership role.

Section 7. The Third Assistant State Crusader-in-chief shall:

Preside in the absence of his four major officers or at the discretion of the state counselor. Lend himself at all times to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the State Counselor. Lead the Junior Division. Work in training for a Senior leadership role.

Section 8. The Recording Secretary shall:

Maintain written minutes of all meetings and other records designated by the department. Be present and prompt at all meetings and neat, in order to keep organized and accurate records. Be able to read and write well.

Section 9. The Assistant State Recording Secretary shall:  
Perform the duties of the Recording Secretary in his absence. Be able to read and write well.

Section 10. The State Treasurer shall:  
Receive, record, and receipt all monies coming to the department. Turn over all monies to the State Steward. Maintain an accurate record of all transactions. Maintain books which agree/balance with those of the State Steward. Submit an oral financial report at the State Meeting. Work closely with the Steward to coordinate all financial matters.

Section 11. The State Steward shall:  
Sign checks for the department with mandatory signatures from the State Counselor. Bank and distribute all money. Receive all monies collected and give proper receipts for the same. Prepare a written, financial statement to be orally submitted at the annual State Meeting. Prepare a written, financial statement of the last fiscal year and distribute. Supervise the functions of the elected State Treasurer.

Section 12. The State Music Coordinator shall:  
Carefully plan the music for each session and the special program before the parent body. Serve as coordinator of the Music Staff. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 6 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the musical staff.

Section 13. The State Special Programs Coordinator shall:  
Carefully plan the special program presented before the parent body. Serve as coordinator of the Special Programs Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 1 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 14. The Social Coordinator shall:  
Serve as coordinator of the Social Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 2 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 15. The Athletic Coordinator shall:  
Carefully plan recreational and athletic activities for the organization. Serve as coordinator of the Athletic Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 6 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 16. The Special Effort Coordinator shall:  
Plan and coordinate the annual Special Effort Drive. Serve as coordinator of the Special Effort Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 3 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 17. The Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Coordinator shall:  
Serve as coordinator of the Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 7 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 18. The Art Coordinator shall:  
Coordinate the Art Contest. Serve as coordinator of the Art Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 7 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 19. The Publications Coordinator shall:  
Serve as coordinator of the Publications Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 8 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 20. The Ushers Coordinator shall:  
Select crusaders, and organize and coordinate their functions as ushers for all crusader sessions and state meetings. Head the Ushers Committee. Follow the guidelines listed in Article VIII, Section 5 of this Constitution in carrying out the other responsibilities of the committee.

Section 21. The State Historian shall:  
Keep records and keep the department informed of the past achievements of the State Crusaders Department.

Section 22. The State Counselors' Chairperson shall:  
Preside at the Counselors' meetings. Head the Counselors' Division. Strive to meet the objectives and purpose of the Counselors' Division as set forth by this Constitution. Plan an in-service training program for crusader counselors.

Section 23. The State Counselors' Secretary shall:  
Keep an accurate record of all counselors' meetings. Report recommendations and actions to the Executive Board. Keep a complete list of names and addresses of all counselors.

Section 24. The Ministerial Advisors shall:  
Give counsel and advice to counselors, chieftains, other officers and crusaders. Work closely with the State Counselor in presenting and instituting spiritual ideas for the department. Plan and arrange appropriate devotionals and Bible studies for all sessions and workshops. Reach out, motivate and capture others through prayer and the Word of God.

Article VIII  
**Standing Committees and Their Duties**

- Section 1. The Special Programs Committee shall plan the program to be presented before the parent body, make all arrangements, and insure that plans are well executed.
- Section 2. The Social Committee shall plan and arrange the annual Social Affair.
- Section 3. The Special Effort Committee shall plan all special effort affairs such as the Counselors' March, the Chieftains on Parade, and etc.
- Section 4. Registration Committee shall assist in the enrollment of delegates at the annual meeting.
- Section 5. The Ushers Committee shall function as ushers for state meetings.
- Section 6. The Music Committee, which shall be composed of members of the music staff, shall provide music for each session and for the annual special program before the parent body.
- Section 7. The Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Committee, which shall be composed of the coordinators of the Oratorical and Art Contests, the Art Coordinator, and other appointed officers, shall arrange presentation of all awards, gifts and scholarships.
- Section 8. The Publications Committee shall develop periodic newsletters, the annual guide and directory, and other official publications for the Baptist Crusaders.
- Section 9. The Athletic Committee shall plan, organize and arrange all recreational and athletic activities for the organization.

Article IX  
**Enrollment and Registration**

- Section 1. Personal Enrollment:  
Each counselor, crusader, Young Men Auxiliary member, Crusaders Parent Council member, and princess in attendance at the State Convention should register individually with the Crusaders' Department. Personal Enrollment fees may vary annually.
- Section 2. Chapter/ Church Enrollment:  
Each chapter at the State Convention should register with the Crusaders' Department. Chapter/ Church Representation fees may vary annually.
- Section 3. Local and Wing District Enrollment:  
Each local and wing district should register with the Crusaders' Department. Local and wing district representation fees may vary annually.
- Section 4. Special Effort:  
Each year monies are collected for a special project and to further support the state work. Each chieftain and each chapter counselor should register for the Chiefs on Parade and the Counselors' March Special Effort Contests. The Special Effort amount may vary annually.

Article X  
**Colors**

Section 1. The colors for this organization shall be white and blue. The white represents purity and the blue represents truthfulness.

Article XI  
**Uniform**

Section 1. The dress uniform for boys and male counselors shall be white shirt, navy blue tie and dark trousers. A matching coat is optional. The dress uniform for female counselors shall be navy blue dress and red corsage. The dress uniform for the chapter princess shall be white dress and a tiara.

Article XII  
**Membership**

Section 1. This organization shall be composed of boys and young men as follows:

- Junior Unit, ages 9 – 11;
- Intermediate Unit, ages 12 – 14;
- Senior Unit, ages 15 – 17
- Young Men Auxiliary, ages 18 – 35

Section 2. Boys younger than nine may be included as trainees.

Section 3. The units may meet and function separately or combined.

Article XIII  
**Annual Meetings**

Section 1. The Alabama Baptist Crusaders Department shall convene once annually during the regular session of the Alabama Baptist Women's State Convention.

Section 2. Time and place of the annual meeting will be designated by the president of the parent body.

Article XIV  
**Amendments**

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates to the Crusaders Department present at the time of voting.

Section 2. Any new proposal should be presented to the editor of the Crusaders' Newsletter prior to January 31 if it is to be considered in the June meeting.

Article XV  
**Subordinate Wing Districts, Local Districts and Chapters**

Section 1. Subordinate Wing District Departments:

The Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department has been divided into four (4) Districts representing the four wings of the state for the purpose of better administration of the affairs of the State Crusaders' Department. These said departments shall be known as the: Northwest District, Northeast District, Southwest District and Southeast District. In some areas, wing and district departments may convene with other youth groups.

Subordinate Wing District Departments shall be composed of the local districts and chapters within its section of the state.

Subordinate Wing District Departments shall convene at least once annually at the time of its parent body organization's District convention, an auxiliary of the Alabama Baptist State Women's Convention. Rules and regulations governing Subordinate Wing District Departments are listed in Appendix A of this constitution.

It is recommended that this constitution should be binding on all officers and members of each wing district.

Every wing district department has the right to make by-laws and regulations so long as they do not conflict with those of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders.

Section 2. Subordinate Local District Departments:

The Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department has been further divided through the division of its four (4) Wing District Departments into local district departments for the purpose of better administration of the affairs of the State Crusaders' Department. These said departments shall bear the name of their district associations.

Subordinate Local District Departments shall be composed of chapters from member churches within its district.

Subordinate Local District Departments shall convene at least once annually at the time of its parent body organization's District convention, auxiliary to both its wing district and the Alabama Baptist State Women's Convention.

Rules and regulations governing Subordinate Local District Departments are listed in Appendix A of this constitution.

It is recommended that this constitution should be binding on all officers and members of each local district.

Every local district department has the right to make by-laws and regulations so long as they do not conflict with those of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders.

Section 3. Subordinate Chapters:

A chapter shall be a bonafide Chapter of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department and should be governed by the rules and regulations of the state body.

Chapters shall be composed of boys and young men from Baptist churches whose ages range from 9 through 11 (Junior Division), 12 through 14 (Intermediate Division), 15 through 17 (Senior Division), and 18 through 35 (Young Men's Auxiliary). Units may be separated or combined. Associate members can be those who are not affiliated with the Baptist church.

Chapter meetings shall be once a week or as regularly as conditions permit.

Rules and regulations governing Chapters are listed in Appendix B of this constitution. It is recommended that this constitution should be binding on all officers and members of each chapter.

Because each chapter varies in its operations, each chapter has the right to make by-laws and regulations, which meets its needs, so long as they do not conflict with those of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders.

## **Appendix A**

For the Subordinate *Wing and Local District Departments* of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders

### **Article I Name and Style**

Section 1. This department shall be known as the designated Wing and Local District Crusaders' Department, auxiliary to the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department.

### **Article II Purpose and Objectives**

Section 1. The objectives of this department shall be:  
To aid in the betterment of the administrative affairs of the State Crusaders' Department.  
To better represent the crusaders in the state of Alabama.  
To further carry out the objectives and ideals of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department as set forth by this constitution.

### **Article III Affiliations**

Section 1. This organization shall function as a department within the designated wing or local district Women's State Convention and as an auxiliary to the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department.

Section 2. This organization shall work cooperatively with the designated wing or local district Women's State Convention and the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department.

### **Article IV Policies**

Section I. This organization shall carry on only those activities which are consistent with the policies of its parent body and the State Crusaders' Department.

Article V  
Elected and Appointed Officers

Section 1. Designation

Officers of the Subordinate Wing or Local Districts shall be:

1. District Counselor
2. Assistant District Counselor
3. District Crusader-in-chief
4. District Crusader Chieftain-elect
5. First Assistant District Crusader-in-chief
6. Second Assistant District Crusader-in-chief
7. Third Assistant District Crusader-in-chief
8. District Secretary
9. Assistant District Secretary
10. District Treasurer
11. District Steward
12. District Music Coordinator
13. District Special Program Coordinator
14. District Social Coordinator
15. District Athletic Coordinator
16. District Special Effort Coordinator
17. District Awards, Gifts and Scholarships Coordinator
18. District Art Coordinator
19. District Historian
20. District Counselors' Chairperson
21. District Counselors' Secretary
22. District Ministerial Advisor

The Executive Board shall be composed of the District Counselor, the Assistant District Counselor, District Chieftain, District Secretary, District Treasurer, District Steward, Music Coordinator, Athletic Coordinator, Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Coordinator, Ministerial Advisors, Publications Coordinator, and three persons appointed by the District Counselor. Chapter Counselors and Chapter Chieftains shall be members of the local District Executive Board.

Section 2. Elected Officials:

The elected officials are District Crusader-in-chief Elect, First Assistant District Crusader-in-chief, Second Assistant District Crusader-in-Chief, Third Assistant District Crusader-in chief, District Secretary, Assistant District Secretary, and District Treasurer.

All of the above named officers shall be elected from the Senior Division, ages 15 – 17; except the Second Assistant District Crusader-in-chief, who shall be elected from the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; the Third Assistant District Crusader-in-chief, who shall be elected from the Junior Division, ages 9 – 11. The Assistant District Secretary shall be elected from either the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; or the Junior Division, ages 9 – 11.

In order to qualify for an elected office a candidate must have been affiliated with the Wing or Local District Crusaders Department for at least two consecutive years, should be active in his wing and local district and local chapter, and must be a baptized member of the Baptist church.

Officers should be held alternately, if possible, by the various local districts or chapters to insure equal representation in leadership.

The elected officers shall be elected bi-annually.

The procedures for election of officers should generally follow those of the state Crusaders' Department as listed in Article VI, Section 2 of this Constitution.

### Section 3. Appointed Officials:

The appointed officers are District Counselor, Assistant District Counselor, District Steward, Music Coordinator, Special Programs Coordinator, Social Coordinator, Athletic Coordinator, Special Effort Coordinator, Awards, Gifts and Scholarship Coordinators, Arts Coordinator, Publications Coordinator, Ushers Coordinator, Historian, Ministerial Advisor(s), Counselors' Chairperson and Counselors' Secretary.

All of the above named officers shall be appointed by the District Counselor, except the office of District Counselor. The District Counselor shall be appointed by the president of Wing or Local District Baptist Women's State Convention.

All district officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for shall be appointed by the District Counselor.

Appointed officers will be appointed every election year by the District Counselor.

In order to qualify for an appointed office a candidate must have been affiliated with the Wing or Local District for at least two consecutive years, should be active in the local district and local chapter, and must be a baptized member of the Baptist church.

## Article VI **Election of Officers**

### Section 1. Time of Elections:

Elections shall be held during the annual session of the Local or Wing District's State Women's Convention.

Section 2. Procedures for Elections:

The District Nominating Committee selects one nominee for each office. The committee submits those names and biographical sketches to the district Nominating Committee. The district Nominating Committee selects no more than two persons per office for the District Slate of Officers. The committee submits its report to the body for reaction and approval.

In case no names are submitted for a particular office, the nominating committee shall submit names at its discretion.

No person can be selected to district office at their absence, only in case of sickness, death or extreme emergencies.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee:

The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the District Counselor.

This committee shall be composed of select district counselors or representatives from each district or chapter, and a chairperson.

The chairperson shall be a Spiritual Advisor selected by the District Counselor.

Section 4. Vacancies:

A vacancy occurring in an elective office shall be temporarily filled by majority votes of the appointed Nominating Committee until an election can be held.

Section 5. Re-Election:

No elected officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

## Article VII

### **Colors, Uniform and Membership**

Section 1. The colors for this organization shall be white and blue. The white represents purity and the blue represents truthfulness.

Section 2. The dress uniform for boys and male counselors shall be white shirt, navy blue tie and dark trousers. A matching coat is optional. The dress uniform for female counselors shall be navy blue dress and red corsage. The dress uniform for the chapter princess shall be white dress and a tiara.

Section 3. This organization shall be composed of boys and young men as follows:

- Junior Unit, ages 9 – 11;
- Intermediate Unit, ages 12 – 14;
- Senior Unit, ages 15 – 17
- Young Men Auxiliary, ages 18 – 35

Section 4. Boys younger than nine may be included as trainees.

Section 5. The units may meet and function separately or combined.

Article VIII  
**Annual Meetings**

- Section 1. The Wing or Local District Crusaders Department shall convene once annually during the regular session of its Women's State Convention.
- Section 2. Time and place of the annual meeting will be designated by the president of the Women's State Convention.
- Section 3. Wing or Local District Crusaders' Departments may meet quarterly or as often as needed.

Article IX  
**General Procedures, Guidelines and Programs**

- Section 1. Each local or wing district should be organized in structure as set forth in this appendix of the State Constitution and By-laws.
- Section 2. The guidelines and procedures for the divisions and programs in this department should follow those in the state department as set forth by its Constitution and By-laws.

**Appendix B**

For the Subordinate *Local Church Chapters* of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department

Article I  
**Name**

- Section 1. This chapter shall be known as the ( *Chapter Name* ) Chapter of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department of the ( *Church Name* ) Missionary Baptist Church.

Article II  
**Purpose, Objectives and Method**

- Section 1. The purpose of the crusaders' organization is to provide organized and attractive programs where boys and young men can grow spiritually, morally, socially, educationally and physically.
- Section 2. It is the objective of the crusaders' organization that each crusader will:  
Accept the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.  
Acquire a meaningful knowledge of the Holy Scriptures.  
Be able to apply the Word of God to his every day living.  
Be actively involved in the mission and ministry of the church.

- Section 3. The method by which the purpose and objectives will be met shall be through:
- Bible study conducted weekly or bi-weekly.
  - Training in Christian principles through various activities.
  - Recreational and sports activities held regularly.
  - Missionary projects planned and implemented.
  - Local, district, state, regional and national assemblies.

### Article III **Affiliations and Policies**

- Section 1. A chapter shall function as an auxiliary to the Mission Department of the designated Missionary Baptist church, and an entity of its local district, wing district, and state crusaders' departments .
- Section 2. This chapter shall work cooperatively with the Mission Department of the designated Missionary Baptist church, its local district, wing district, state women's conventions, and the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders' Department.
- Section 3. It shall carry on only those activities which are consistent with the practice and policies of the individual church, its Mission department, and those set forth by this constitution and by-laws.

### Article IV **Colors and Uniform**

- Section 1. The colors and uniform for the local chapter should be that of the Alabama Baptist State Crusaders as provided by its constitution and by-laws.

### Article V **Elected and Appointed Officers**

- Section 1. Designation:

Officers of the Chapter shall be:

1. Counselor
2. Assistant Counselor
3. Crusader-in-chief
4. First Assistant Chief
5. Second Assistant Chief
6. Third Assistant Chief
7. Chapter Recorder
8. Chapter Scribe
9. Chapter Steward
10. Historian
11. Parliamentarian
12. Chaplain / Devotional Leader
13. Outreach Leader
14. Chapter Herald

Section 2. The standing committees shall be:

- Program
- Membership
- Benevolence
- Publicity
- Recreation

Section 3. Because each chapter varies in operation, additional officers and committees may be elected or appointed as needed.

Section 4. Elected Officials:

All of the above officers are elected except the Counselor(s), who is generally appointed by the Mission president with the pastor's approval.

All of the above named officers shall be elected from the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; or the Senior Division, ages 15 – 17; except the Chieftain, who shall be elected from the Senior Division, ages 15 -17; the First Assistant Chieftain, who shall be elected from the Senior Division, ages 15 -17; the Second Assistant Chieftain, who shall be elected from the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; and the Third Assistant Chieftain, who shall be elected from the Junior Division, ages 9 – 11. The Scribe shall be elected from the Intermediate Division, ages 12 – 14; or Junior Division, ages 9 – 11.

In order to qualify for an elected office a candidate must be active in the local chapter, and must be a baptized member of the Baptist church.

The elected officers shall be elected annually.

Section 3. Appointed Officials:

In addition to the Counselor, who is appointed by the Mission president, all coordinators, committees and their chairpersons, are appointed by the Counselor.

The Assistant Counselor(s) may be appointed by the Senior Counselor with the Mission president's approval.

All district officers whose appointment is not otherwise provided for shall be appointed by the District Counselor.

Appointed officers will be appointed annually.

In order to qualify for an appointed office a candidate must be active in the local chapter, and must be a baptized member of the Baptist church.

## Article VI **Election of Officers**

Section 1. Time of Elections:

Generally, elections should be during or after the annual session of the local district association.

Section 2. Manner of Election:

Officers may be elected by nomination from the floor, a nominating committee, or by acclamation. The procedure of elections is left to the discretion of the chapter.

Article VII  
**Duties of Officers**

- Section 1. The Counselor shall have general oversight of the work of the chapter and shall be ex-officio member of all committees.
- Section 2. The Assistant Counselor shall at all times lend himself or herself to the responsibilities of the department as so designated by the Senior Counselor. He/she shall serve in the absence of the Counselor.
- Section 3. The Crusader-in chief shall preside at all chapter meetings. He shall strive for the success of the chapter and shall direct overall business. He shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
- Section 4. The First Assistant Chief shall preside in the absence of the Crusader-in-chief or at the chief's discretion. He shall serve as the chairman of the Program Committee, and shall lead the Senior Unit.
- Section 5. The Second Assistant Chief shall preside in case his two major officers are absent. He shall serve as chairman of the Membership Committee, and shall lead the Intermediate Unit.
- Section 6. The Third Assistant Chief shall function as a chieftain-in-training, presiding in case All other Chiefs are absent or at their discretion. He shall serve as chairman of the Benevolence Committee, and shall lead the Junior Unit.
- Section 7. The Chapter Recorder shall record the minutes of each meeting and any other records designated by the chapter. He should be accurate, regular in attendance, and neat in order to keep records well.
- Section 8. The Chapter Scribe shall correspond with other chapters and local district, wing district and state officers, and report as directed. He shall perform the duties of the recording secretary in the absence of the recorder.
- Section 9. The Chapter Steward shall keep an account of all monies received and spent, and report the same to the chapter as directed. He shall aid in the teaching of good stewardship of money and enlist every member in the principles of tithing.
- Section 10. The Historian shall keep records and keep the chapter informed of the past achievements of the Crusader program.
- Section 11. The Parliamentarian shall know the basic rules of how to conduct a meeting and shall keep the meetings in order.
- Section 12. The Chaplain / Devotional Leader shall carefully plan the music and devotion for each meeting.
- Section 13. The Outreach Leader shall plan witnessing activities to bring others to Christ.
- Section 14. The Chapter Herald shall see that each meeting is announced in advance. He shall serve as chairman of the Publicity Committee.

Article VIII  
**Membership**

Section 1. This organization shall be composed of boys and young men as follows: Junior Unit, ages 9 – 11; Intermediate Unit, ages 12 – 14; Senior Unit, ages 15 – 17; Young Men Auxiliary, ages 18 – 35.

Section 2. Boys younger than nine may be included as trainees.

Section 3. The units may meet and function separately or combined.

Article IX  
**Meetings**

Section 1. The chapter meetings shall be once a week or as regular as conditions permit.

Section 2. The Order of Service:

The Opening Hymn

Scripture and Prayer

Consecration Hymn

The Pledge Service (as directed in the Guide)

Bible Lesson

Remarks, Crusader-in-chief

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Reports from Committees

Unfinished Business

New Business

Dismissal for Unit Work (Projects, crafts, memory drills, demonstrations, etc.)

Reassemble

Remarks from Counselor(s)

Offering or Roll Call for Dues

Pastor's Closing Remarks

Dismissal with Watchword

Article X  
**General Procedures and Guidelines**

Section 1. Memory drills should generally include motto, goal, pledges, appropriate scriptures for oration, etc.

Section 2. The Crusader Standards should be used to evaluate the progress and achievement of individual chapter members. Refer to the Guide for requirements.

Section 3. The chapter should follow closely the suggestions for Bible Lessons and monthly activities listed in the Guide.

Section 4. The chapter should busy themselves in carrying out the true mission of Christ.

## **Appendix C**

### **Procedure for Establishing A New Chapter**

1. The president of the Mission Department should get consent from the pastor.
2. The pastor along with the sponsoring group should appoint a well-qualified adult person as Senior Counselor.
3. Call a meeting of all boys and young men of the church.
4. Discuss the goals and objectives of the chapter.
5. Elect officers as are set forth in Appendix B, Articles V and VI of this constitution.
6. Invite the District Counselor or a local counselor to help in initial planning.
7. Send the name of the chapter, along with the name, address and telephone number of the Senior Counselor to the State Counselor, Wing District Counselor and the local District Counselor.
8. Proceed with regular meetings and activities, using the Guide and this constitution and by-laws for direction.