THE

CONSTITUTION

of

All Hallows Old Boys

Association (AHOBA)

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Preamble

WE, the Alumni of All Hallows Seminary, Onitsha, both the ordained and the lay, recalling with joy our common experience and the heritage in our Alma Mater; **AWARE** of the enormous contribution which this Alma Mater has made to our social, intellectual, moral and spiritual development; **DETERMINED** to maintain close solidarity among ourselves; and **HAVING RESOLVED** to sustain our links with our Alma mater, **DO HEREBY** make, enact and give to ourselves the following Constitution to guide our Association:-

SECTION I: NAME:

1. The association shall be known and addressed as **ALL HALLOWS OLD BOYS ASSSOCIATION (AHOBA).**

SECTION II: THE STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION:

2. The association shall be composed of the **National Body** (run by the executive) as well as the **Branches** (formed along the major cities) and the **Sets** (to be identified by the year of entry into the Seminary) – which are affiliated to the National Body.

SECTION III: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

3. The aims and objectives of the association shall be:
   i. To create the forum for the promotion of the well-being and the fellowship of the members.
   ii. To project our group image as Old Boys of All Hallows, Seminary.
   iii. To give support to the Alma Mater.

SECTION IV: MEMBERSHIP:

4. Membership shall be open to:
   i. Any person who is a past student of All Hallows Seminary, Onitsha.
   ii. Those from other schools but who have spent at least one full year of induction programme in All Hallows, seminary, if they so desire.
   iii. Those who were candidates for the priesthood in this institution which existed under various names and in various locations since 1924.

   The registration fee of one thousand naira (~~₦~~1,000.00) per individual shall be paid through the Set or Branch to the National Body. The members shall be known and addressed as **AHOBITES.**

SECTION V: LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

5. Membership shall be lost:
   i. If a member acts in a manner clearly opposed to the aim and objectives of the association;
   ii. If a formal/public act he renounces his membership of the association.

SECTION VI: OFFICERS

6. The association shall have the following national officers:
   i. President
   ii. Vice President
   iii. Secretary
   iv. Assistant Secretary
   v. Treasurer
   vi. Financial Secretary
   vii. Public Relation Officer (P.R.O) I & II

SECTION VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS:

(a) **The President:**

7. The president shall have the duty:
   i. To call meetings of the association in accordance with the provisions of the constitution:
   ii. To summon emergency meetings when necessary.
   iii. To preside over such meetings.

(b) **The Vice President:**

8. The Vice President shall:
   i. Carry out the duties of the President in the absence of the latter.
   ii. Any other duties that may be assigned to him by the president from time to time.

(c) **The Secretary:**

9. It devolves on the secretary:
   i. To prepare and dispatch to members, circular letters for meetings, in agreement with the president.
   ii. To record the minus of the meetings and keep the documents of the Association;
   iii. To receive and reply to correspondences, in the name of the association, usually in constitution with the President or following the result of the discussions by the members in a general meeting.

(d) **The Assistant Secretary:**

10. The Assistant Secretary shall:
   i. Assist the Secretary in his duties;
   ii. Acts for the Secretary in the absence of the latter.

(e) **The Treasurer:**

11. The Treasurer shall:
   i. Receive from the Financial Secretary and bank all moneys belonging to the association within 14days.
   ii. Keep an imprest account not exceeding ₦5,000.

(f) **Financial Secretary:**

12. The Financial Secretary:

i. Receive all moneys paid to the Association, issue receipts to the payers and transfer the money to the Treasurer for banking, within 7 days.

ii. Keep receipts of all expenditures incurred on behalf of the Association.

iii. Keep an accurate and up-to-date written account of the Association's incomes and expenditure, and shall render such an account once a year at a general meeting.

iv. Keep an accurate list of individual members as these are registered with the National Body.

(g) **The P.R.O I and P.R.O II:**

13. The P.R.O I and P.R.O II shall:

i. Help the Secretary to disseminate information about meetings;

ii. Publicize the activities of the Association in the understanding with the Executives or with the President in an emergency.

SECTION VIII: ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

14. Every financial member shall be eligible for election into any office, through proper nomination and subsequent voting by members. Members shall not decline nomination except for a reason acceptable to at least two-third of the members present at the elections.

15. The person who obtains the highest number of votes shall be deemed to have been elected into the office in question.

16. A tie in the second instance shall be broken by the presiding officer who shall have the right to cast a deciding vote during the election.

17. Elections shall be by secret ballot.

SECTION IX: DURATION OF OFFICE

18. Officers shall remain in their posts for a period of three years after which the house shall be dissolved and another election conducted.

19. A member shall be eligible for re-election into the same office only for a second term.

SECTION X: TERMINATION OF OFFICE:

20. An office shall be deemed vacant by:

i. **Resignation:**

An officer may resign his post –

a. If he is to live outside Nigeria for a period exceeding 12 months.

b. If a prolonged ill-health prevents him from carrying out his duties efficiently.

c. For any other reason which at least two-third of the members present judge to be genuine and cogent.

ii. **Removal from office:**
An officer shall be removed from his post;

a. If he fails to attend general meeting for two consecutive times without sufficient reason made known to the Association.
b. If he is inefficient in his duties to the Association. In the latter case, a vote of no confidence is moved on the officer and if supported by at least two-third majority of the members present, he is deemed to have been removed from his post.

SECTION XI: BY-ELECTION

21. A vacant post can be filled by conducting a by-election in accordance with the provisions of section VIII above.

SECTION XII: COMMITTES:

22. The association shall function by the use of an Executive Committee, and (when necessary), Ad Hoc Committees set up too handle specific issues.
23. The Executive committee shall consist of the National Officers of the association plus the President and Secretary of each of the branches. The seminary may appoint a member of the staff as an Alumni Officer who shall liaise between it and the association. Such an officer shall be accredited to the association and shall be an ex-officio member of the National Executive Body.

SECTION XIII: FINANCE:

(a) **Sources of fund:**
24. The sources of fund shall include:

i. Registration fee of ₦1,000.00 (One Thousand Naira) per individual.
ii. Annual Dues: Every member pays an annual due of one thousand naira (₦1,000.00).
iii. Special levies whenever the need arises. They shall be discussed and agreed upon by the Executive or in a general meeting.
iv. Donations from members and non-members alike.
v. Loans from financial institutions, other bodies or persons as agreed by the general body.

(b) **Mode of Payment:**
25. Fees or Annual dues shall be paid through the branches or sets to be remitted to the national body.

(c) **Banking and Disbursement**:
26. The money of the association shall be deposited in a bank approved by it.
27. The signatories shall be the President, the Treasurer and the Secretary. The President and any other two signatories can be lawfully effect a withdrawal.
28. All disbursements on behalf of the association must be dully approved by the President.

SECTION XIV: BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

29. Members shall enjoy the maximum fellowship and support of one another in times of joy and times of sorrow.

30. In the case of a member's death, all the members especially his set/branch shall endeavor to be present at the funeral/burial and play distinguished roles: they will read funeral oration and lay a wreath. His wife or parents or chief mourner shall be given a condolence purse of ₦50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Naira).

31. If a member is bereaved of a parent or wife, the condolence arrangement will devolve on the set/branch concerned or as may be directed by the National body. All other members must however, endeavor to be present at the funeral ceremonies. A condolence purse of ₦20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Naira) shall come from the central secretariat to support the set/branch efforts.

32. Every year, on or around November 1st, a Holy Mass shall be offered for the benefit of all the living members of the association; a Mass shall be caused to be offered at All Hallows Seminary for the benefits of all the deceased members.

SECTION XV: ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION:

33. The association shall undertake the following activities:

i. Meetings.
ii. National Convention
iii. Support of the Alma Mater

(a) Meetings:

34. The Executive Committee shall twice yearly around the months of March and September, to plan and discuss vital issues.

35. There shall be one general national meeting every year, around the time of the All Hallows Feast or at a time to be agreed on, and there shall also be National Delegate Conference in which every set and branch must be dully represented. Annual dues may be collected during such meetings.

36. Sets and Branches shall meet more regularly according to need.

37. One-third of the total number of the registered members or half of the number of affiliated sets or Branches shall be deemed to have formed the Quorum for the National Meeting.

(b) **National Convention**:

38. There shall be a convention for all every 3 years. Special activities shall arranged for such occasions in the Alma Mater. Members shall use it to meet the current students and interact with them.

(c) Support of the Alma Mater:

39. The National Executive shall see to it that the Association relates effectively to, and supports the Alma Mater by:

i. Being involved in the solving specific problems of the institution in order to enhance its glory.

ii. Arranging prizes sponsored by individual members or from the Association's purse, etc. to encourage Seminarians and promote interest in certain areas of academic endeavor and seminary life.

SECTION XVI: AMMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION:

40. Any part of this constitution should be subject be amendment.
41. The meeting in which the amendment shall be made must be given adequate publicity.
42. The proposed amendment must first be circulated, to reach members at least four weeks before the date of the meeting.
43. Two-third majority support of members present shall be necessary to adopt the amendment.

This Contitution was adopted on 31st October, 2018

Prof. Fidelis U. Okafor (National President)

Rev. Fr. Barr. Justin Ileka (Asst. National Secretary)