

United Bermuda Party

CONSTITUTION

FOREWORD

The first Constitution of the United Bermuda Party, together with a form of Branch Constitution, was adopted at a Meeting of the Central Council on 23rd April, 1965.

On 26th January, 1966 the Central Council amended the Party Constitution in several respects, and although the affairs of the Party were conducted in accordance with the provisions of the amended version thereafter, the amendments were not ratified by a sufficient number of Branch Executive Committees to allow them to become operative formally.

Further substantial revisions of the Party and Branch Constitutions were approved by the Central Council on 21st July, 1971 and became operative on 29th October, 1971.

The Central Council, at a meeting on 20th November, 1975 adopted further amendments to the Constitution, all of which were ratified on 13th February, 1976 when two further minor amendments were approved.

On 15th March, 1977, 23rd March, 1977 and 26th March, 1977 substantial revisions were adopted by the Central Council arising from recommendations of the 1976 Post Election Committee Report, all of which became effective on 28th March, 1977.

Minor revisions were effected on 17th March, 1983 and 5th December, 1985, altering the financial year end of the Party and increasing the number of Deputy Chairmen respectively.

The 1966 edition, as amended after four Special General Meetings of the Central Council, was formally adopted on 5th May, 1986.

Amendments to Sub-clauses 8(3) and 8(4) of the Branch Constitution were formally adopted by the Central Council at a Special General Meeting on Thursday, 27th April, 1989.

At a Special General Meeting of the Central Council on 10th February, 1992 further amendments to Clauses 8(3) and 9(4) of the Branch Constitution were unanimously agreed. At a Special General Meeting of the Central Council held on the 26th November 1996, a series of substantive amendments were made to Clauses 4(1), 4(3), 4(6) of the Party Constitution and Clause 3(3) and 4(1) of the Branch Constitution. A number of minor clarification amendments were also made to improve readability of the Constitution.

The Central Council, at a Special General Meeting held on 22nd November 1999 adopted a series

of substantive amendments for the selection of candidates in bye- elections and certain other circumstances. A number of minor amendments were also made.

At a Special General meeting held on 13th February 2001 and continued on 7th April 2001, the Central Council adopted reformatted and revised Party and Branch Constitutions, which introduced the concept of the Regional Organizations and the Disputes Tribunal, these amendments to have effect on 1st June 2001.

At a Special General meeting held on 22nd October 2009, the Central Council adopted a revised Party and Constitution, to have effect on 22nd October 2009.

UNITED BERMUDA PARTY

CONSTITUTION

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UNITED BERMUDA PARTY

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the Party shall be the "**UNITED BERMUDA PARTY**".

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

- (i) The United Bermuda Party believes that all persons possess a common humanity with equal rights and freedoms as set out in the Bermuda Constitution.
- (ii) The Aims and Objectives of the Party shall be:
 - (a) to promote the social, moral, economic and political welfare of the people of Bermuda;
 - (b) to develop and maintain unity and understanding among the people of Bermuda;
 - (c) to ensure freedom under the law, and to ensure freedom of opportunity for all;
 - (d) to protect and uphold the rights of every person under the Bermuda Constitution;
 - (e) to strive for and maintain economic and political stability within the framework of a free market economy; and
 - (f) to provide the people of Bermuda with a sound, responsible democratic Government by the election of sufficient of its members as parliamentary representatives to form the Government.

3. CORE VALUES

- (a) Selflessness
We will make decisions solely on the basis of the public interest. None of our members will make decisions to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, members of their family, or their friends.
- (b) Openness:
We will be open about all the decisions and actions that we take. We should provide reasons for our decisions, and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly requires it.
- (c) Objectivity:
We will be open-minded and unbiased in carrying out public business, including making appointments and awarding contracts. In recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, we will make choices purely on merit.

- (d) Honesty:
We have an obligation to declare any private interests relating to public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts in a way that protects the public interest.
- (e) Accountability:
We will be accountable to the public for our decisions and actions, and must submit ourselves to scrutiny appropriate to the office.
- (f) Integrity:
We will adhere to our Code of Conduct. We will not place ourselves under any financial or other obligation to individuals or organizations that might compromise the performance of our official duties.
- (g) Leadership:
We will promote and support our values and principles by leadership and example.

4. CORE PRINCIPLES

- (a) We believe the strength of our Island depends on supporting and encouraging each person's dignity, potential, freedom, ability and responsibility.
- (b) We believe in equal rights, fairness, justice and equal opportunity for all members of our community.
- (c) We believe that free enterprise and encouraging individual initiative has brought and will continue to bring our Island opportunity, economic growth and prosperity.
- (d) We believe government must practice fiscal responsibility and function on behalf of the betterment of our people.
- (e) We believe the proper role of government is to foster an environment of promise for individual and family success. We believe the most effective, responsible and responsive government is government closest to the people.

5. METHODS

The Party shall

- (i) establish and maintain a Central Party organization as provided for in this Constitution;
- (ii) establish and maintain a Branch of the Party in each constituency;
- (iii) secure the election to the House of Assembly of as many United Bermuda Party candidates as possible;
- (iv) provide and utilize channels of communication within the Party;
- (v) encourage full and free discussion at all levels within the Party; and
- (vi) promote a framework in which young people may participate in the affairs of the Party

6. MEMBERSHIP

(i) Qualification

Membership in the Party shall be open to any resident of Bermuda who subscribes to the Aims and Objectives of the Party and who agrees to conduct their political activities in accordance with the terms of this Constitution.

(ii) Procedure and Initial Subscription

Shall be revised from time to time by the Party Officers and approved by Central Executive.

An applicant for membership shall sign an application form confirming that the applicant subscribes to the Aims and Objectives of the Party and is not a member of any other political party in Bermuda. On such form being received by any Officer of the Branch in the constituency where the applicant resides, together with the relevant subscription amounts, such applicant shall become a member of the Party and receive a membership card.

(iii) Subscriptions

Subscriptions may be for any multiple yearly period up to but not exceeding five years. The subscription fees owing shall be such sums as the Central Executive may from time to time determine, and shall, except in the case of the initial subscription, be due on or before 31st October of the year in which the membership expires. For the avoidance of doubt, membership shall be deemed to continue up to and including 31st October of each year.

(iv) Membership Roll

It shall be the responsibility of members to ensure that their names are on the membership roll in the Branch in which they are registered parliamentary electors and to produce proof of party membership at meetings involving votes by members. Upon the residence of a member changing from one constituency to another constituency, it shall be the duty of such member to inform the Branch Chairmen of the respective constituencies of the change.

(V) Voting at Party Meetings

At any meeting of the Party only those members who are registered as parliamentary electors and members of the Party shall be entitled to vote.

(vi) Discipline

This section shall apply to all Party Members.

(a) Upon the receipt of a written application from either:

(i) a Branch pursuant to the provisions of Clause 6 of the Branch Constitution with respect to any member (including a Member of the House of Assembly), or

(ii) from five members of the Central Council who are paid up members of the Party,

the Central Executive shall meet to consider whether to discipline by suspension or expulsion a member of the Party for undesirable conduct.

(b) The Central Executive shall not suspend or expel any member of the Party unless such member shall have been given a reasonable opportunity to attend such a meeting.

(c) Any such decision by the Central Executive shall be approved by a resolution adopted by two-thirds of those present at a meeting held for the purpose

(d) Any determination by the Central Executive to suspend or expel a member from the Party shall be final and conclusive.

(e) During any period of suspension, the suspended member shall not have any of the rights or privileges of membership of the Party.

(f) Any member who is suspended for a specific term may, upon application, have their membership renewed during the period of suspension with approval of the Central Executive by a resolution adopted by two-thirds of those present at the meeting held for that purpose.

(g) Any member who is expelled from the Party shall only be eligible for renewed membership with approval of the Central Executive by a resolution adopted by two-thirds of those present at the meeting held for the purpose.

7. ORGANIZATION

(i) Party Structure

The Party structure shall consist of the following bodies:

- the Party Leader and the Deputy Party Leader
- the Central Council
- the Central Executive
- the Officers of the Party
- the Disputes Tribunal
- the Campaign Committee
- the Branch Candidate Selection Committees
- the Constitution Committee

(ii) Supplemental Structure

These bodies shall be aided and assisted by the following groups:

- the Fund Raising Committee
- the Nomination Committee
- Young United Bermuda and
- such other committees as from time to time may be appointed by the Central Executive or Campaign Committee.

8. CENTRAL COUNCIL

(i) Composition

The Central Council of the Party shall consist of:

- the Regional Chairmen
- the Branch Delegates
- the Party Members of the Senate
- the Officers of the Party
- the President of Young United Bermuda

(ii) Branch Delegates

The Branch Delegates shall be the Branch Chairman, Elected Parliamentary Representative or Adopted Candidate for the Branch, in that order.

A Branch without elected Parliamentary Representative and/or which does not have a sufficient number of Adopted Candidate shall elect the required number of Delegates to bring the total number of its Delegates on the Central Council to two.

Where there is no branch and only Regions, the Regional Chairman shall appoint as many persons as required to fill the vacancies on Central Council save and except for any Special General Meeting of the Central Council held for the purpose of electing the Party Leader or the Deputy Party Leader.

Such names should be provided to the Party Secretary (or to the person delegated by the

Secretary) 72 hours prior to the Central Council meeting. The Party Chairman has discretion to fill positions left unfilled after this time period save and except for any Special General Meeting of the Central Council held for the purpose of electing the Party Leader or the Deputy Party Leader.

(iii) Alternate Delegate

A member of the Branch Committee may be appointed as an Alternate Delegate by the Branch Chairman. Any person serving as an Alternate Delegate shall have all the privileges and responsibilities of a Delegate, but shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting other than in the absence of any of the Branch Delegates.

(iv) Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Central Council shall be held not later than 15th December in each year, at such time and place as may be designated by the Chairman, for the purpose of considering the Chairman's Report and the Treasurer's Report, electing Officers, appointing Auditors and considering such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

(v) Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Secretary shall notify members of the Central Council in writing fourteen (14) days in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

(vi) Special General Meetings

Special General Meetings shall be convened by the Secretary whenever requested to do so by the Chairman or by at least ten (10) members of the Central Council.

(v) Notice of Special General Meetings

The Secretary shall give at least seven (7) days notice in writing to all members of the Central Council of any Special General Meeting of the Central Council, indicating the reason for the meeting.

(vi) Quorum

One-half of the total eligible membership of the Central Council shall constitute a quorum. If posts are unfilled the quorum shall be one-half of the filled positions. If at a Central Council meeting a quorum is not obtained within 20 minutes of the time such meeting was to commence, the Chairman can seek a resolution that a quorum is present if at least 30 eligible members are present.

(vii) Voting

Subject to the provisions of Clause 23 hereof, all decisions of the Central Council shall be by vote of a simple majority of the members present.

7. CENTRAL EXECUTIVE

(i) Composition

The Central Executive shall consist of

the Officers of the Party
the Regional Chairmen
two Parliamentary Members appointed by the Party Leader
the President of Young United Bermuda

(ii) Alternate Delegates

Other than the Officers, a member of the Central Executive who is unable to attend a Central Executive Meeting shall appoint an Alternate to attend such meeting(s) with the same privileges and responsibilities. It shall be the responsibility of the member to advise the Alternate and the Executive Officer or the Secretary of the Party of such appointment.

(iii) Role

The Central Executive shall manage and control the general affairs of the Party, subject to any instructions given to it by the Central Council.

(vi) Responsibility

The Central Executive shall be responsible for Party organization and the dissemination of Party policy and shall consult with the Party Leader in the execution of this responsibility.

(vii) Frequency of Meetings

The Chairman shall call regular monthly meetings as well as such special meetings as may be necessary.

(viii) Quorum

A majority of members of the Central Executive shall constitute a quorum. If posts are unfilled the quorum shall be one-half of the filled posts.

(ix) Calling a meeting

Any 10 members of Central Executive can require the Chairman to call a meeting.

(x) Voting

Subject to the provisions of sub-Clause 4.(vi)(c), (f) and (g) hereof and Clause 7 of the Branch Constitution, all decisions of the Central Executive shall be by vote of a simple majority of

the members present.

10. OFFICERS OF THE PARTY

(i) Election

The Officers of the Party (hereinafter called "the Officers") shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Party in accordance with Clause 17 hereof and shall serve until their successors are similarly elected.

(ii) Qualification

The Officers shall be members of the Party who are registered parliamentary electors.

(iii) Composition

The Officers shall consist of a Chairman, the immediate Past Chairman, three (3) Deputy Chairmen, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

(iv) Responsibility

The Officers shall be responsible to the Central Executive for the day-to-day management of the Party.

(v) Acting Appointments

The Chairman may appoint a person to fill any vacant position in any Region or Branch. All such appointments are subject to ratification at the next Central Executive meeting.

The Chairman may appoint any officer to act as Acting Chairman when he is unable or is absent. The Chairman may delegate to any officer any of his responsibilities.

(vi) Staffing

The Party Officers shall be responsible for employing such staff as they shall consider necessary and appropriate including an executive officer who shall manage and administer the Central Office of the Party provided that the expenses are within the Budget approved by the Central Executive.

The Chairman may act in his best judgment in respect of any matter not provided for in this constitution subject at all times to acting in the best interest of the Party.

(vii) Parliamentary Caucus Attendance

The Officers are entitled to attend Parliamentary Caucus as observers

(viii) Vacancies

The Central Executive may fill any casual vacancy among the Officers through

appointment from among the members of the Central Executive.

11. REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(i) Structure

The Branches may be organized into groups by assigning the Branches into Regionals. Any changes to the structure must be approved by the Central Executive.

(ii) Role

To co-ordinate campaigning and political activities for the Branches in each Region and to centralize the administrative and organizational activities of the Branches.

(iii) Number of Regions

The minimum number of Regions shall be five (5). and the maximum number shall be ten (10). The number of Regions and the areas covered by each shall be determined by the Central Executive, whose decision shall be final and binding. The Central Executive may from time to time amend the regional structure to take account of any change in circumstances

(iv) Composition

Each Regional Organization shall consist of the Officers of the Region and the Branch Chairman of each Branch within the Region.

(v) Officers

- (a) The Officers of a Region shall consist of a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- (b) The same person may hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.
- (c) An Officer of a Region shall not be a serving Party Officer
- (d) The Secretary shall maintain the records of the Region.
- (e) The Treasurer shall keep proper books of accounts and present an Annual Report in respect thereof at each Annual General Meeting.

(vi) Qualification

The Officers of a Region shall be members of the Party who are registered parliamentary electors. The Officers of a Region need not be registered parliamentary electors in a constituency forming part of the Region in which they serve.

(vii) Election of Officers

The Officers of the Region shall be elected by the Branch Chairmen in the Region within

twenty-one (21) days of the Annual General Meeting of the Branches and shall serve until their successors are similarly elected

(viii) Vacancies

The Branch Chairmen of the Region may fill any casual vacancy among the Officers of the Region through appointment of other Party Members who are registered parliamentary electors but who need not necessarily be registered in a constituency forming part of the Region.

(ix) Changes to the Boundaries of the Electoral Districts

Within fourteen (14) days of the coming into effect of any changes to the Boundaries of the Electoral Districts, the Central Executive will determine any changes to the number and extent of the Regions. The decision of the Central Executive shall be final and binding. The Central Executive shall have the discretion to assign Officers of Regions and to appoint Officers for any new Region until the election of Officers of such Regions.

12 BRANCH COMMITTEES

There shall be a committee in each constituency which shall be known as the Branch Committee and which shall be elected in accordance with and governed by the provisions of the Branch Constitution as set out in the First Schedule of this Constitution.

13 CAUCUS GROUPS

(i) Parliamentary Caucus

The Parliamentary Caucus shall consist of the following the Members of the House of Assembly who accept the Party Whip and the Party Members of the Senate.

The Officers are entitled to attend Parliamentary Caucus as observers.

(ii) Extended Caucus

The Extended Caucus shall consist of the following:

the Members of the House of Assembly who accept the Party Whip
the Party Members of the Senate
the Officers of the Party
the Adopted Candidates
such other persons as the Party Leader may invite

(iii) Party Caucus

The Party Caucus shall consist of the following:

the Members of the House of Assembly who accept the Party Whip
the Party Members of the Senate
the Officers of the Party

the Approved and /or Adopted Candidates
the Regional Chairmen
the Branch Chairmen
such other persons as the Party Leader and / or Party Chairman may invite

(iv) Caucus Meetings

The meetings of the Caucus Groups shall be conducted in accordance with the Caucus Procedures as set out in the Second Schedule of this Constitution.

14 PARTY LEADER AND DEPUTY PARTY LEADER

(i) Election

The Party Leader and Deputy Party Leader shall be elected in accordance with the provisions set out in the Third Schedule of this Constitution.

(ii) Ex-officio Members

(a) The Party Leader shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Party with exception of the Disputes Tribunal, the Branch Candidate Selection Committees and the Nomination Committee.

(b) The Deputy Party Leader shall, in the event of the unavailability of the Party Leader, be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Party with the exception of the Disputes Tribunal, the Branch Candidate Selection Committees and the Nomination Committee.

(iii) Parliamentary Leader

(a) The Party Leader shall also be the Party's Parliamentary Leader.

(b) The Deputy Party Leader shall also be the Deputy Party Parliamentary Leader.

15. THE DISPUTES TRIBUNAL

⓪ Role

Save and except for any dispute related to Clause 12 hereto or the Third Schedule of this Constitution, any Officer of the Party, Region or Branch or any member may give notice in writing to The Disputes Tribunal that the requirements of the Constitution, Rules and Procedures are not being met or seek an interpretation of this Constitution (hereinafter called an "appeal").

(ii) Composition

- (a) The Tribunal shall consist of six (6) members
- (b) The Chairman shall be elected by the members of the Tribunal from its members.
- (c) in the event of the absence of the Chairman at any sitting, the Chairman may appoint another member of the Tribunal to be Chairman for that session.
- (d) The Chairman shall select two (2) persons from the members of the Tribunal who, together with the Chairman, shall form the Panel to determine any appeal made to the Tribunal

(iii) Terms

Each member of the Tribunal shall be elected to serve a three (3) year term, subject to sub-Clause 4 hereof. Each member shall be eligible for re-election as a member of the Tribunal.

(iv) Initial Terms

At the first meeting of the Central Council following the adoption of this Clause, the Central Council shall elect:

- (a) Two (2) members of the Tribunal to serve for three (3) years;
- (b) Two (2) members of the Tribunal to serve for two (2) years;
- (c) Two (2) members of the Tribunal to serve for one (1) year.

Thereafter, the members of the Tribunal shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Party when a term expires. A member so elected shall serve the term set out in sub-Clause 13(iii) hereof.

(v) Vacancies

The Chairman of the Disputes Tribunal may fill any casual vacancy by appointing a person who has the qualifications set out in sub-Clause 13(vi) hereto to the vacant position. That person shall serve until the next meeting of the Central Council, when an election shall take place to fill the position for the remainder of its term.

(vi) Qualifications

Persons who are party members are eligible for nomination as a member of the Disputes Tribunal if they have any one of the following qualifications:

- (a) Have served as a member of the House of Assembly or the Senate;
- (b) Have served as an Officer of the Party;
- (c) Have served as a Chairman of a Region;
- (d) Have served as an Officer of a Branch.

(vii) Procedure

- (a) Any person wishing to appeal (hereinafter called "the appellant") shall address a written notice of appeal to the Chairman of the Disputes Tribunal,

specifying the matter appealed against, the grounds of such appeal and setting out all relevant particulars relating to the appeal.

- (b) The appellant shall serve a copy of the notice of appeal on the respondent, if any, who shall have the right to reply thereto.
- (c) The Chairman of the Disputes Tribunal shall fix a date for the hearing of the appeal.
- (d) The appellant and the respondent shall have the right to be heard in person at the hearing of the appeal, or they may appear by their duly appointed representatives who shall be members of the Party.
- (e) On the date of the hearing, the Panel may either determine the appeal upon the facts contained in the notice of appeal and in the reply thereto, if any, or may hear such further evidence as may be required and available.
- (f) The Panel shall communicate its decision in writing to the appellant, the respondent and the Secretary of the Party.
- (g) Upon receipt of the notification of the decision of the Panel in any particular case, the appellant and respondent shall govern themselves accordingly.
- (h) Subject to this Constitution, the Disputes Tribunal shall have power to regulate its own proceedings.

(viii) Decision

The decision of any Panel is final and binding and is not subject to appeal or review on any ground.

16. CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

- 1. The Campaign Committee shall be responsible for:
 - (1) Preparing a budget for every campaign for approval by Central Executive
 - (2) No expense in excess of the approved budget shall be incurred by the Campaign Committee.
 - (3) Create a Campaign strategy and manage the Party election campaign.
 - (4) Ensure that the Party has candidates in place to contest every election per the candidate selection process set out in this Constitution.

2. Composition

The members of the Campaign Committee shall be the following:

the Chairman of the Campaign Committee
the Party Chairman
the Party Treasurer
a Member of the Parliamentary Caucus elected by the Parliamentary Group
a Regional or Branch Chairman elected by the Central Executive annually
four persons appointed by the Party Leader after consultation with the Party Chairman and Campaign Committee Chairman

3. Chairman

The Party Leader shall appoint the Chairman of the Campaign Committee after consultation with the Party Chairman. The Campaign Chairman shall not be a member of Parliament or the Senate nor a candidate in a General or By election.

4. Delegates to the Branch Candidate Selection Committees

The Party Chairman shall be a member of the Branch Candidate Selection Committees. The Campaign Committee shall elect from its members four other delegates to serve on the Branch Candidate Selection Committees.

5. Co-opted Members

The Campaign Committee shall have the power to co-opt members as it sees fit. However, the co-opted members shall not have the right to sit or vote on the Branch Candidate Selection Committees by virtue of their membership on the Campaign Committee.

6. Role

The Campaign Committee shall direct electoral policy and, when required, any particular electoral campaign for the Party.

7. Party Policy

The Campaign Committee shall, in consultation with the Party Leader, formulate declarations of Party policy and such declarations shall be subject to ratification by the Central Executive before promulgation.

8. The Treasurer shall be responsible for raising the funds necessary to fund the approved budget. The Treasurer shall form a fund raising committee to assist in fund raising and monitoring expenses against the approved budget.

9. The Campaign Committee may create such subcommittees as are appropriate for campaign purposes.

17. BRANCH CANDIDATE SELECTION COMMITTEES

There shall be a committee in each constituency which shall be known as the Branch Candidate Selection Committee which shall be constituted and governed by the provisions of the Branch Constitution as set out in the First Schedule of this Constitution.

18. CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

(i) Role

To be a committee appointed within thirty days of Party AGM with the objective of ensuring that proposals for the amendment of the Constitution of the Party are submitted to the Central Council as necessary to accommodate any change in circumstances.

(ii) Composition

The Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of seven (7) members. The membership should include a minimum of one (1) member of the Parliamentary Caucus.

(iii) Appointment

The Central Executive shall appoint the Committee after consultation with the Party Leader.

19. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

(i) Composition

A Nomination Committee, consisting of no less than three (3) and no more than five (5) members, shall be appointed by the Central Executive by 1st October in each year

(ii) Responsibility

The Nomination Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of nominating a Slate of Officers for the ensuing year and nominees for vacancies on the Disputes Tribunal. The Nomination Committee shall report to the Central Executive at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, at which time their proposed Slate of Officers and Tribunal shall be posted in the Central Office. A candidate for election is required to provide written confirmation of his or her consent.

(iii) Other Nominations

Nominations shall also be accepted from the Party membership, accompanied by written confirmation of the candidate's consent.

(iv) Posting

Nominations shall cease seven (7) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, at which time all such nominations shall be posted in the Central Office, including the names of the proposers and seconders._

(v) Voting

All nominations thus received shall be voted on at the Annual General Meeting unless a nominee withdraws, in which case the name of such nominee shall be removed from the ballot.

All nominated persons have the right to provide a one sided single spaced biography including a photograph to the Chairman of the Nomination committee who shall ensure that the same are circulated by email to the Central Council at least 48 hours prior to the AGM and posted in the Central Office.

Candidates will also be able to give a speech no longer than five minutes at the AGM.

20. YOUNG UNITED BERMUDA

(i) Qualification

Any resident of Bermuda who has attained the age of sixteen (16) years and who has not passed the age of thirty five (35) years and who subscribes to the Aims and Objectives of the Party shall be eligible to become a member of Young United Bermuda.

(ii) Constitution

(a) The members of Young United Bermuda shall be empowered to adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to provide for the participation of young people in the affairs of the Party, consistent with the terms of this Constitution.

(b) All changes to the Young United Bermuda Constitution shall be submitted to the Constitution Committee for approval that the change(s) are consistent with the terms of this constitution before they are adopted by Young United Bermuda.

21. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In addition to the Annual General Meeting and any Special General Meetings, the Central Executive shall arrange a Party Conference at least once a year for the purpose of discussing Party philosophy, policy and performance. This conference shall be open to all Party members to attend.

22. CANDIDATES

(i) Approved Candidates

An "Approved Candidate" is a person who is selected by the Branch Candidate Selection Committee from those who desire to offer himself or herself in a Constituency as a Parliamentary Election Candidate.

(ii) Adopted Candidates

An "Adopted Candidate" is an Approved Candidate who has subsequently been adopted by a Branch in accordance with the provisions of the Branch Constitution.

(iii) Parliamentary Election Candidates

A "Parliamentary Election Candidate" is an Adopted Candidate contesting a General Election or Bye-election.

23. FINANCIAL YEAR

The Financial Year shall be from 1st November to 31st October in each year.

24. AUDIT

The Party's financial statements shall be audited annually The Auditor's Report shall be made available at each Annual General Meeting of the Central Council The Central Executive shall fill any vacancy in the office of Auditor. If an auditor cannot be retained then the Central Executive can waive this requirement to have audited statements and the Treasurer shall present an unaudited statement at the Party annual General Meeting.

25. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution, including the Schedules, may be amended from time to time by the Central Council subject to the requirement that any amendment must be approved by two-thirds of the members of the Central Council. No such amendment shall be considered by the Central Council unless at least fourteen (14) days' notice thereof shall have been given in writing (including email) to the Central Council members.

