

THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
TOLEDO COUNCIL OF NEWSPAPER UNIONS  
Amended June 19, 1997  
Amended June 11, 2004

ARTICLE I  
Name and Object

Section 1 - This body shall be known as the Toledo Council of Newspaper unions.

Section 2 - The purpose of the Toledo Council of Newspaper Unions shall be to assist member unions in advancing the economic interest and welfare of union members through the free exchange of information on contract negotiations, contract aims and goals, and grievance.

ARTICLE II  
Eligibility

Section 1 - Membership in the Toledo Council of Newspaper Unions shall all be open to all unions, AFL-CIO or independent, which have contracts with The Blade Company, publisher of The Blade, its successors and assigns.

ARTICLE III  
Structure

Section 1 - The Council shall be made up of representatives from each member union or segment as listed:

Toledo Mailers Union No. 1135  
GCIU 27N Web Segment  
GCIU 27N Paper Handlers Segment  
IEBW No. 8  
Teamsters No. 20  
Toledo Typographical No. 63  
Toledo Newspaper Guild-CWA No. 34043  
GCIU 27N Engravers Segment

with the stipulation that each unit consist of membership equaling no less than 1% of total unionized employees.

a) Units whose membership falls below 1% of the total unionized members at The Blade could utilize the option of aligning their vote with another voting unit.

Section 2 - Representation shall consist of the following: One (1) regular delegate, one (1) first alternate, and one (1) second alternate from each union or segment thereof that has a contract with the Blade Company.

Section 3 - Delegates and alternates shall have a voice in meetings of the Council but only delegates shall have a vote, one vote for each member union.

Section 4 - In the absence of a delegate, the first alternate from his/her union or segment shall act as delegate, and in the absence of both the delegate and his first alternate, the second alternate shall act as delegate for that meeting. List of delegates for alternates shall be turned into secretary no later than February meeting.

Section 5 - In the event that no delegate and no alternate of a member union are present at a regular or special meeting of the Council, the secretary shall be responsible for notifying a regular delegate of the unrepresented union of any action taken by the Council at the meeting and the unrepresented union shall be recorded as not voting on any issue brought to a vote.

Section 6 - Majority rule shall prevail within the Council.

Section 7 - Motions on actions passed by the Council shall be considered as recommendations to member unions but shall not be binding on member unions except that member unions shall notify the president and secretary of the Council as soon as practicable if a member union intends to take action different from the expressed desire of the majority of council members.

Section 8 - In an emergency, so declared by a member union, that member union may take action differing from the expressed desire of a majority of members of the Council. Within 24 hours after such action, other members of the Council shall be notified of the action. As soon thereafter as practical, the action shall be explained at a regular or special meeting of the Council.

Section 9 - Questions of procedure not covered by the by-laws, shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

#### ARTICLE IV Officers and Meetings

Section 1 - The officers of the Council shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary and a treasurer.

- a) Secretary will be given a stipend of \$50.00 per month.
- b) Treasurer will be given a stipend of \$50.00 per month.

Section 2 - The officers shall be elected from union members in good standing at the January meeting. If a delegate is chosen as president, his first alternate shall act as delegate. The vice president, secretary and treasurer, if they are delegates shall vote as usual except that if either is in the chair in the absence of the president his first alternate shall act as delegate unless the first delegate is absent, in which case the second alternate shall act as delegate.

Section 3 - No person shall serve more than two consecutive terms as president, unless they run unopposed.

Section 4 - Regular meetings of the Council shall be held as far as possible, on the third Thursday of each month.

Section 5 - Special meetings may be called at the request of an officer or delegate by notifying the president or secretary who shall notify all delegates and alternates.

Section 6 - A quorum at regular and special meetings shall be a majority of member unions.

**ARTICLE V**  
**Finances**

Section 1 - Each member union shall contribute \$10.00 (ten) at the January meeting. Each member union shall be assessed a per Capita Tax as determined by Council. The treasurer with the requirement that two officers must sign each check shall deposit such funds in an account at a regular banking institution.

Section 2 - The treasurer shall account for funds in the checking account each regular meeting and shall pay for the cost of the meeting room and such other expenditures authorized by the Council. There will be a yearly audit of the treasurers' books by at least a 2(two) member committee.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**Miscellaneous**

Section 1 - The council may, by mutual consent of the Council and The Blade Company, meet with The Blade Company representatives for convenience in bargaining on wages, hours, benefits and working conditions. During such periods of negotiations the Council shall have the right to accept offers from Management and to make recommended counterproposals. However, the Council and The Blade representatives can reach only tentative agreements. Member unions shall not be bound to accept or reject management offers made to the Council, but delegates shall report and refer to members of their unions all acceptances or rejections approved by a majority vote of the Council.

**Article VII**  
**Amendments**

Section 1 - Proposed amendments to this constitution must be written and filed with the secretary of the Council.

Section 2 - The secretary shall read proposed amendments to the constitution at the first regular meeting following receipt of such amendments in writing.

The secretary further shall provide all delegates and alternates to the Council with copies of proposed amendments within one week after the first reading. The proposed amendments shall be open for discussion after the first reading.

A second reading shall be made at the next regular meeting (or special meeting provided that the special meeting shall not be sooner than 2(two weeks after the first reading of the proposed amendments). The proposed amendments shall be open for discussion after the second reading.

The proposed amendment shall be put to a vote of delegates immediately after the second reading discussion, with a majority vote of all member unions being required for adoption.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Lounge & Miscellaneous Operations**

Section 1 - A special committee of the Council shall set forth all terms of operations for the lounge and other income producing activities and regularly review aforesaid.



## ARTICLE IX

Section 1 - No member union shall have more than one delegate on either the Health & Welfare or Pension Boards. One Member of each board shall be a Guild member.

Section 2 - Any Health & Welfare or Pension trustee missing 2 (two) meetings (excluding illness or family emergency) or their respective board in any one year shall be asked to resign.

Section 3 - Trustees will attend a regular meeting of council to update delegates, after actuarial studies are received.

Section 4 - Any trustee on either the Health & Welfare or Pension board that retires from The Blade will submit his/her letter of resignation from said board to be voted on by Council.