

BY-LAWS of Better Marriages of Georgia

MISSION and VISION

The mission of Better Marriages of Georgia is to promote the ideals, the programs, and the goals of marriage enrichment as inspired by National Better Marriages in the following statements.

Mission Statement: To promote better marriages by providing enrichment opportunities and resources to strengthen couple relationships, increase intimacy, and enhance personal growth, mutual fulfillment, and family wellness.

Vision Statement: To enlist and educate couples in building healthy and meaningful relationships.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization is Better Marriages Georgia (formerly Association of Couples in Marriage Enrichment of Georgia) , an affiliate of the national office of the Association for Couples in Marriage Enrichment d.b.a. Better Marriages a.k.a Better Marriages National.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

All couples who attend the annual Georgia Getaway Weekend or a conference/retreat sponsored by Better Marriages of Georgia are considered members of Better Marriages Georgia. Members of Better Marriages Georgia are encouraged to become members of Better Marriages National.

ARTICLE III - MEETINGS

- A. An annual conference/retreat of member couples will be held each year at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.
- B. Special meetings may be called as necessary by the President Couple. Notice of special meetings will be given as early as possible.

ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. The Board of Directors will direct the business of the organization.
- B. Each individual on the Board is entitled to cast one vote on any question before the Board.
- C. In the case of a Board vacancy, the President Couple may appoint a qualified couple on an interim basis to fill that vacancy, subject to Board confirmation.

D. The Board of Directors will consist of: President Couple, Past-President Couple (in alternate years), President-elect couple (in alternate years with Past-President Couple), Secretary Couple, Treasurer Couple, Event Coordinator Couple, Assistant Event Coordinator Couple, Communication Couple, and nine (9) At-Large Couples.

E. Duties

1. The President Couple will preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and will perform all duties incidental to their office or delegated to them by the Board of Directors.
2. The Past-President Couple or the President Elect Couple (whomever is on the Board in alternate years) will perform the duties of the office of President in the absence of the President Couple.
3. Secretary Couple will keep the minutes of the organization and submit them within 30 days to all board members.
4. Treasurer Couple will be responsible for all organization monies and will furnish a treasurer's report at Board meetings.
5. The Past-President Couple will act in an advisory capacity and perform such duties as assigned by the Board.
6. The Event Coordinator Couple will coordinate the major planning and implementation of the annual conference/retreat.
7. The Assistant Event Coordinator Couple will provide assistance to the Event Coordinator Couple in planning and implementing the annual conference/retreat. The Assistant Event Coordinator Couple will automatically become the Event Coordinator Couple after one year in office.
8. The Communication Couple will monitor and update the website, assist the President Couple in responding to and communicating with Board members, members at large, and individuals seeking information through the website.
9. The nine (9) At-large Couples, representing the geographical diversity of Georgia and surrounding areas will act as representatives for Better Marriages of Georgia activities. They will serve as board members with full voting rights.

F. Terms of Office

1. The President Couple will hold office for a two-year period and cannot succeed themselves.
2. All other couples other than At-large Couples will hold office for one year, and are eligible to succeed themselves.
3. At-large Couples will serve for a period of three years and are eligible to succeed themselves. There will be three classes of At-large Couples with three couples in each class. Terms will be organized so that 3 couples will rotate off each year.
4. Terms of office for all board members will begin at close of the annual conference/retreat and run until the close of the next annual conference/retreat.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES AND NOMINATIONS

A. Nominating Committee

1. A Nominating Committee of three Better Marriages of Georgia member couples will be appointed at least sixty days prior to the called board meeting in January. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominees for the Board of Directors open positions at the January meeting. Nominees must be members of Better Marriages of Georgia.
2. The election of Board members will be held as an official part of the annual conference/retreat. All Better Marriages of Georgia members present at the conference will vote on the Board Members.
3. The President Elect Couple will automatically become the only couple nominated for President Couple by the Nominating Committee.

B. Additional Committees

Additional committees may be appointed by the President Couple as need arises.

ARTICLES VI - AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new by-laws be adopted by a majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors holding office at any meeting of the Board of Directors, if at least thirty (30) days written notice is given of intention to alter, amend, repeal or adopt new by-laws at such a meeting.

By-laws adopted as revised, August 23, 2014.