

Constitution and By-Laws of the

MILWAUKEE CHAPTER OF THE CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY

Article I NAME

The name of the group shall be the Milwaukee Chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality.

Article II PURPOSE

CORE is an interracial organization of individuals working to abolish discrimination based on race, skin color, religion and national origin through methods of direct non violent action.

Article III MEMBERSHIP

1. Any person vitally interested in the program of CORE and who meets its qualification is eligible for membership in Milwaukee Chapter CORE.
 - (a) To become an Active member of Milwaukee Chapter CORE a person must (1) attend three regular meetings and two membership meetings. (2) must participate in at least one direct action project. (3) agree to abide by the Constitution and the CORE Rules for Action. (4) be accepted by majority vote of the members present and voting by secret ballot.
 - (b) The CORE group shall consist of Active Members, Probationary Members and Associate Members of CORE. A probationary member is a person seeking full membership; an associate member of CORE shall be a person who participates in demonstrations, tests and meetings or gives financial assistance but does not desire to become an active CORE member.
 - (c) Only active CORE members may hold office, vote for officers and on questions involving (1) CORE policy (2) acceptance of new members (3) amendments or changes in the Constitution and By-Laws.
 - (d) In matters involving direct action projects, all persons who have been accepted as project participants by the CORE group are entitled to vote on procedures, tactics, etc., only active members may vote should the group consider that matters of policy are involved.
2. Membership may be revoked if three members so request after a hearing two thirds of the members voting, vote for expulsion. Any person so expelled may appeal within thirty days to the National Office for referral of his case to the next meeting of the National Action Council or Convention of CORE.

3. Active membership shall not be available to any person who
 - (a) associates himself with any other group or organization which expounds a philosophy which is inimical or in contradiction to the fundamental principles of CORE
 - (b) persistently violates the CORE Rules for Action; or
 - (c) attempts to subvert the CORE group through allegiance to other groups or organizations.

Article V OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

1. The officers of the Milwaukee Chapter of CORE shall consist of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. Officers of CORE shall be elected for a term of six months and the election of officers shall be held on the second week of every sixth month.
3. The duties of the officers shall be as follows:
 - (a) The Chairman shall preside at meetings and shall have the authority to appoint committees, to appoint spokesmen for the group action projects and to cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie.
 - (b) The Vice-Chairman shall take over the duties of the Chairman in the event of his absence or sickness. The Vice-Chairman shall be the Chairman of the membership committee.
 - (c) The Recording Secretary shall take minutes of meetings and keep a record of all CORE activities.
 - (d) The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence.
 - (e) The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping a financial record and making reports at every meeting; for making collections and keeping records of collections and for maintaining a bank account and issuing checks.
4. Notice of elections must be sent to the membership at least two weeks before said election and two notifications shall be sent to each member.
5. Nominations shall be from the floor. Election shall be by secret ballot. Officers shall be elected by a simple majority.
6. In the event an Office becomes vacant it shall be filled by special election unless a regular election will be held in six weeks. In the latter case the Chairman may appoint a person to fill an unexpired term.
7. The Chairman must not hold office longer than four consecutive terms.

Article VI MEETINGS

1. CORE business meetings are not open to the public and only active members, probationary members, friends of CORE (associate members) and individuals invited by a member have the right to attend meetings. During discussion on any application by a probationary member for full membership, all persons not active members shall be asked to leave the room.
2. The distribution of political and/or religious literature and the literature of other groups is prohibited during CORE meetings and no CORE member may distribute such material at demonstrations.
3. Regular meetings shall be held weekly. Membership meetings shall be held before each weekly meeting of the month.

Article VII AMENDMENTS

Notice of changes in this Constitution must be sent to the membership for two consecutive weeks before such changes are voted upon. Amendments shall be incorporated into this Constitution upon approval of two thirds of the active members voting.

Article VIII QUORUM

A quorum shall consist of five active members.

Article IX PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The parliamentary authority when necessary shall be Roberts Rule of Order 75th Anniversary Edition Revised.