

Constitutional Amendment Proposal 2020

The Bet Din of the International Israelite Board of Rabbis, which convened during the Centennial Celebration of our community, declared that women serving as rabbis is not a violation of any Torah law. Furthermore, that Bet Din recommended under the hand of Chief Rabbi Capers Shmuel Funnye, that we “allow women to matriculate in the Israelite Academy and to be allowed membership on the International Israelite Board of Rabbis, Incorporated.”

Pursuant to that ruling of the Bet Din, Rabbi Sholom Ben Levy, President of the IBR, proposes that members in good standing vote on the following amendments to our governing Constitution.

Article I All references in the Constitutions to “man” be changed to “person” with no restrictions or limitations to women who are otherwise qualified for membership or to hold office.

Article II Membership on the IBR shall be achieved in the following manner:

1. A Committee on Membership shall be appointed by the President.
2. Prospective new members must submit an application in writing to the committee.
3. Candidates must submit proof of rabbinic graduation or ordination from an institution recognized by the IBR.
4. If a majority of the full Board votes to accept the recommendation of the Membership Committee, the candidate will be accepted into membership in the IBR with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of membership.

Article III Membership Renewal and Dues

1. Membership on the IBR must be renewed annually.
2. The yearly dues shall be \$200 and can be paid in installments that are completed by the end of each year.
3. Officers must maintain their membership while in office. Failure to do so will automatically terminate the tenure of the delinquent member.
4. Failure to maintain membership for two consecutive years without a satisfactory explanation will automatically terminate the membership of the delinquent member on the IBR. In order to be reinstated, the former member must reapply with the Membership Committee.
5. Senior rabbis, who are no longer in active service, may be granted *emeritus* status by a unanimous vote of the full Board. Emeritus status confers lifetime membership to the awardee.