

Northshore Baptist Association Constitution

Article I: Name

The name of this Association shall be the Northshore Baptist Association (NSBA).

Article II: Purpose Statement

Northshore Baptist Association is a partnership of member Baptist churches organized for ministry, missions, fellowship, and the equipping of member churches in their local communities and throughout the world. The purpose of the NSBA is to assist member churches to glorify God by cooperating in Kingdom ministries to fulfill the Great Commission. We value biblical authority, compassionate ministries, cooperation, excellence, healthy churches, kingdom growth, and prayer.

Article III: Membership

- The Northshore Baptist Association shall determine its own membership. The NSBA shall be comprised of cooperating member Baptist churches. A member Baptist church is defined as a local congregation of baptized believers who in spirit and practice contribute to and support the ideals and ministries of the NSBA.
- Participation in the Annual Meeting of the NSBA shall be as follows: Each member church shall be entitled to three messengers for the first one hundred members and one additional messenger for each additional hundred members. No church shall be entitled to more than ten messengers for any session. The NSBA will elect four officers annually: Moderator, Vice Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer. No person may serve as the Moderator for more than two successive terms. Officers will begin their term of service at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and will continue through the following Annual Meeting.
- Any church wishing to affiliate with the NSBA may present a letter of petition to the Executive Board at any regular session of business. This letter shall be referred to the Credentials Committee, appointed by the Moderator, which shall present a recommendation at the Annual NSBA Meeting. Any church seeking membership with the NSBA, which is not a mission or church plant sponsored by a church in the NSBA, must first be taken under the watch care of the NSBA for one year. While under watch care, the church will be invited and expected to participate fully and contribute to the ideals and ministries of the NSBA. The petitioning church will not be seated as messengers of the Annual Association Meeting, nor will the members be eligible to be elected to NSBA leadership positions. At the conclusion of the year, the Credentials Committee will make further recommendations to the NSBA as are deemed appropriate.

- It shall be the duty of each church to complete the Annual Church Profile and submit it to the NSBA Clerk and make regular financial contributions to the ministries of the NSBA through the Treasurer.

Article IV: Doctrine

- The current Baptist Faith & Message as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention shall be the statement of faith for the Northshore Baptist Association.

Article V: Authority

- The Northshore Baptist Association is an autonomous body and therefore reserves the right to determine its own policies and direct its own business. The Operations Manual shall be the guide for the normal operational practices of the NSBA.

Article VI: Executive Board

- The Executive Board shall consist of the pastor and one additional member from each member church, church plant, and mission church within the NSBA. The Director of Missions and Ministries shall serve as Ex-officio member of the Executive Board. Each church shall have the power to select her representative on the Board and should regularly named representative for any reason be unable to attend a meeting of the Board, shall have the authority to designate an alternate to represent her interest.
- The Executive Board shall conduct the business of the NSBA during two regular scheduled meetings. The moderator may call other meetings as necessary with prior written notice of two weeks.
- The current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order, Revised* shall be the parliamentary guide for official meetings of the Association.
- The members of the Executive Board present shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII: Amendments

- The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote at any Annual Meeting provided the member churches are notified of the proposed amendment in writing thirty days before the meeting.