



CALVINIST CADET CORPS

a ministry of Dynamic Youth Ministries

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January 25, 2012

To: Congressmen and Independent Club Head Counselors
From: Dick Broene, Executive Director
Re: Constitutional decisions made at Congress 2012

Gentlemen,

At the Cadet Congress meeting earlier this month, Congressmen approved two proposals that affect the constitution. Since changes to the constitution must be approved by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership, I am sending this information and explanation to you to receive the votes of your council or independent club. There are two parts, and for each one, I need to know the total number of votes in favor and the total number of votes against.

You can vote at a normal council/club meeting and send in only those votes, or you can contact your counselors from outside a council/club meeting and send those in. Naturally each counselor gets to vote once and only once on each issue. Please take these votes yet this spring and send me the returns by the end of April if possible. If you vote later, still send them in. You can e-mail the results to Director@CalvinistCadets.org.

Both of these proposals originated with the 2011 CCC Executive Committee and have their support. Please read them carefully along with the grounds and explanations.

Congressman or head counselor, please record your votes here.

1. Shall we change the constitution to disallow contradicting proposals for two years as stated in proposal #1?

Number of YES votes _____ Number of NO votes _____

2. Shall we change the constitution to allow the organization to change its name?

Number of YES votes _____ Number of NO votes _____

Council/Club Name _____ Club Number _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

HELPING BOYS TO GROW MORE CHRISTLIKE IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE.

Proposal 1

The 2012 Congress proposes that the second sentence of Article 5, Sec. 58 of the constitution be changed as follows.

Current reading:

The executive committee can turn down proposals only if they are unconstitutional or are judged to have insufficient grounds.

Proposed reading:

The executive committee can turn down proposals only if they are unconstitutional, are judged to have insufficient grounds, or contradict a decision made by the Cadet Congress of the previous two years.

Grounds and explanation: Congress 2001 accepted a proposal not to allow proposals that contradicted a decision made by the Cadet Congress of the year before. Unfortunately, they did not catch that by doing so, they were themselves in violation of the constitution. That's because the constitution specifically only allowed two reasons to turn down a proposal (unconstitutionality and insufficient grounds). If Congress wants to add a third reason to turn down a proposal, they have to change the constitution. Since Congress 2001 desired to make that change, the executive committee proposed to do it the correct way. The Congress agreed, and even added a second year to the proposal moratorium.

Proposal 2

The 2012 Congress proposes that the constitution of the Calvinist Cadet Corps be changed to allow the name of the Calvinist Cadet Corps to be changed to something else.

Current reading of Article 8:

Articles 1, 2, and 3 of this constitution shall not be changed. The balance of this constitution and bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership. The voting is to be conducted by mail on a council and/or club basis.

Proposed reading of Article 8:

Articles 1, 2, and 3 of this constitution shall not be changed except that the name of the organization may be changed. The balance of this constitution and bylaws, including said name change, may be amended by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership. The voting is to be conducted by mail on a council and/or club basis.

Grounds and explanation:

1. The name Calvinist does not have the same connotation to the general public as it did when this organization was being formed 60 years ago. At that time, people were more likely to know of John Calvin and his teachings. Today, the general knowledge of Calvin is a caricature of what the man actually stood for. Although Calvinists may know what he taught, using his name does not help the organization, and is in fact a hindrance in some areas.
2. The mission statement of the Calvinist Cadet Corps is "helping boys to grow more Christlike in all areas of life." Our focus and purpose is much more directed toward Jesus Christ than John Calvin or anyone else. Perhaps our name should better depict our purpose.
3. To become a member of this organization, a church must agree to the doctrines expressed in the Heidelberg Catechism, the Canons of Dort, and the Belgic Confession. There is no intent to change that, nor has there ever been. Changing the name will not change who is allowed to become a member, only who will want to become a member. We know of a group of churches from the PCA (Presbyterian Church in America) in eastern Tennessee who eagerly wanted to become members, but saw the name as a hindrance to outreach in their strongly Baptist community.

In other words, even if the name should change, the organization would be required by constitution to remain Calvinistic in nature if not in name. All the materials would still be developed with a Calvinist worldview, and a church would still be required to agree with the three forms of unity in order to have a Cadet club.