

## Veida 5782 Report and Updates

Here are listed the motions brought before the Veida, the decision of the Veida, and any additional relevant notes and actions since undertaken.

### Motion 1: Passed

This Veida believes that all Hadracha/technical madrichim, and all senior Tzevet to hold a valid certificate for mental and physical first aid training, before taking Machane, except in extenuating circumstances. This training will be provided through Bnei Akiva, for free, where necessary.

This is in addition to the designated first aider having the required level of training, so that madrichim can provide support for the injured person until the first aider arrives and takes over.

**Notes:** Anoushka (Camps and Social Action Worker) is investigating how we can best train our madrichim in physical and mental health with relevant certifications.

### Motion 2: Passed

This Veida believes that Bnei Akiva should educate their madrichim on issues surrounding sexism and feminism and ensure that chanichim are protected from gender-based discrimination on Machane.

**Notes:** We are working with Jewish Women's Aid in training Mazkirut and other senior Tzevet members for Machane and Sviva to best improve equity within the movement.

### Motion 3: Failed

This Veida believes that Tzevet members should not have to go more than 2 Shabbatot without the ability to wash their clothes in substantial facilities (i.e. not travel wash in a sink). Tzevet members should have access to either: a washing machine on site or a local laundrette that has been appointed by the Camps and Social Action Worker. Madrichim will be expected to pay for the laundry detergent but not for the service.

## Motion 4: Passed

This Veida believes that A4 of the Standing Orders shall read:

Avodah, as a part of the ideology of Bnei Akiva encompasses but is not limited to:

Building up the land and the State of Israel

Proactive giving

Personal spiritual service, including, but not limited to, tefillah

The spirit of Religious Zionism and Modern Orthodoxy

All subsequent subsections to be renumbered accordingly

**Notes:** This triggered a full ideological discussion

## Motion 5: Moved to Mazkirut

This Veida believes that Bnei Akiva should be at the stage of acceptance of LGBTQ+ members. There must be distinctive action taken against anyone who is homophobic or transphobic, and in relevant peulot/tochniot, there must be a broad teaching of the LGBTQ+ community, including teaching about sexualities and identities included in the "+" (that is, sexualities and identities other than lesbian, gay, bi and trans).

**Notes:** The Mazkirut felt that the proper place for a suggestion of this kind is in a Bnei Akiva policy. Rather than the context of a Veida motion, which among other factors, expires after 3 years, a policy would allow Bnei Akiva to make ongoing changes and adaptations as necessary. Pertinent to this, the Mazkirut are drafting policies that include all forms of discriminatory behaviour and will discuss these with working groups of Bogrim.

## Motion 6: Passed

This Veida believes that Bnei Akiva should provide nutritious, tasty vegetarian alternatives and consult with a focus group of vegetarians before making the food order.

**Notes:** We are always looking to improve our menu for those with dietary requirements and will be reaching out shortly to create the focus group before winter Machane.

## Motion 7: Moved to Mazkirut

This Veida believes that every Shevet should have the ability to choose a motto from Tanach or, failing that, a Ma'amar Chazal, with the express approval of the Mazkirut

to promote and develop the unique character of each Shevet, beginning with Shevet Ne'eman.

**Notes:** The Mazkirut admire the love of Tanakh from the Tnua and are excited to see the mottos chosen by the shvatim to further connect them to Torat Yisrael.

### **Motion 8: Passed**

This Veida believes that the following be added to section F4 of the constitution: (c) Maintaining standards of conduct within the Hanhalla itself. (Should any member of the Hanhalla be found in breach of acceptable conduct, a vote will be conducted at the earliest possibility by the Hanhalla, and will require a two thirds majority to remove any member from their position on the Hanhallah.) The following subsections to be re-lettered accordingly.

**Notes:** Bnei Akiva is keen to ensure its representatives maintain the highest standards and welcome this opportunity to help us do so

*The remaining motions were not discussed at Veida due to time constraints, and were therefore referred to the incoming hanhalla, as per section E23 of the standing orders.*

### **Motion 9: Failed**

This Veida believes that plastic should not be used on any Bnei Akiva event - from camp, Sviva, reunions and programs. Wooden, Paper or reusable cutlery and plates should be used instead.

**Notes:** The Hanhalla admire our Chaverim's care for the environment but felt that the financial costs of never using cutlery is too significant. However, we will continue to do what we can to reduce the use of single-use plastics and reduce our environmental footprint.

### **Motion 10: Passed**

This Veida believes that the following section be added to the constitution: I6 A vote of no confidence in the Rosh Nivchar/eret may be proposed by any voting member of the Hanhalla and, if seconded by another voting member, will proceed to vote. The vote will exclude the Rosh Nivchar/eret, and pass by either a two-thirds overall majority, or a unanimous decision of the Nivcharim in addition to one member of the Mazkirut.

**Notes:** The hanhalla wish to highlight that, in their opinion, the previous Rosh Nivcheret did an excellent job and that this motion was passed in the unlikely, event it is needed to uphold standards and not as a reflection of previous Rashei Nivchar/eret

### **Motion 11: Failed**

This Veida proposes an addition to section (J) MAZKIRUT APPLICATION PROCESS J13: The discussions held between the Hanhallah at which prospective Mazkirut candidates' applications are discussed should be recorded by voice and kept on a drive that can be accessed upon request of an independent adjudicator.

**Notes:** The hanhalla acknowledge that the process for the Mazkirut elections needs refining and are seeking external guidance on how to improve it but felt that ~~this~~ a recording could make hanhalla members reluctant to speak (and we are all recorded in shamayim)

### **Motion 12: Abstained**

This Veida believes section G3 be changed to:

The Mazkirut shall be composed of salaried sabbatical officers, responsible for the following portfolios: (a) Camps and technical organisation; (b) Education; (c) Svivot; (d) Israel Programmes.

After the election of the Nivcharim at Veida, but before the commencement of the working year of the incoming Mazkirut, one of the incoming Mazkirut shall be elected "Mazkir/a" by the voting members of the incoming Hanhalla, as set out in section F3, through a simple majority vote; this vote to be open to abstentions.

(This motion requires the suspension of section E16 of the constitution as it will come into effect in September 5783).

**Notes:** The Hanhalla felt it was not their place to make such a change.

### **Motion 13: Passed**

This Veida believes that section F5 of the constitution be re-worded as follows: F5 The Hanhalla is the representative, decision making body of the movement. As such; (a) the Hanhalla must be consulted on all pertinent decisions, including, but not limited to, decisions affecting the structure of the movement, the image of the movement, job descriptions, etc. (b) it is the responsibility of all members of the Hanhalla to

consult widely with Chaverim from all Chevrayot, in order that informed decisions may be taken.

**Notes:** The hanhalla felt that it is important that pertinent decisions are made in consultation with the elected bogrim but recognise that some decisions may need swift responses.

### **Motion 14: Passed**

This Veida believes E4 shall read: A Veida shall only be deemed quorate if attended by twenty-five percent of all Mas Chaver paying Bogrim and two-thirds of the members of the Hanhalla excluding those out of the country with Bnei Akiva. If the Veida shall be found to be inquorate, the steering group shall call a further Veida and if this is found inquorate, direct the Hanhalla to take responsibility for the Veida's function.

**Notes:** The hanhalla acknowledge that sometimes hanhalla members cannot attend Veida as it can coincide with Israel Machane and that this can pose a serious threat to the smooth running of veida.

### **Motion 14: Failed**

This Veida believes that all madrichim should commit to singing the correct lyrics to "We believe", specifically the line "The ideals of Bnei Akiva" rather than "Because we are Bnei Akiva". Madrichim should also commit to encouraging chanichim to sing the correct lyrics. Madrichim should also make an effort to learn the lesser-known second verse.

**Notes:** The Hanhallah felt that the evolution of songs is not a bad thing, although acknowledge it could lead to a slippery slope. They also felt more effort must be made to teach new Ruach songs.

