Evergreen Region Chapter Elections Packet

Fall Term 2026

From your presidents:

Congratulations! Taking the time to read through this packet is the first step toward an exciting opportunity to grow as a leader in your chapter and make a real impact.

Serving on chapter board is a chance to shape the experience of your fellow Alephs and BBGs, strengthen your chapter community, and help create meaningful experiences for everyone involved. Each position offers unique opportunities, and what you accomplish in that role is up to you. If there is something you want to see happen in your chapter, this is your chance to make it happen.

Over the past term, our region has experienced tremendous growth, change, and strengthened siblinghood. We continue to be inspired by the dedication, passion, and leadership shown by teens across Evergreen. Your commitment to making our region and chapters stronger does not go unnoticed, and the future of Evergreen is brighter because of it.

As you review the positions in this packet, think about where your strengths, passions, and goals align. Consider how you want to contribute to your chapter and the kind of leader you hope to become.

As always, we, the Regional Presidents, are here to support you throughout this process. If you have any questions, need guidance, or want to talk through your options, please don't hesitate to reach out… we are always happy to help.

Let's work together to make **Fall Term 2026** the strongest term Evergreen has ever had!

Respectfully and Fraternally submitted with an undying love for Rainier AZA #1550, Portland BBG #313, and Evergreen Region #46,

We forever remain,
Simon Joseph and Zoe Lazarus
33rd Evergreen Regional Godol and N'siah

Requirements for Chapter Board:

- Time commitment: attend all board meetings, chapter meetings, and regional + city events
    - Attendance is mandatory at all Chapter meetings and events, AND the following events, unless you have extenuating circumstances that have been discussed with your Regional Counterpart, Chapter Advisors, and Regional Staff.
        - Chapter Execs (Seattle Chapters): August 23rd
        - Chapter Execs (Oregon Chapters): August 30th
        - Chapter Board Overnights: Dates TBD, varies by Chapter
        - Fall Kickoff: Saturday, September 19th (in the evening)
        - Ruach Convention 2026: November 13-15th
        - #givingBBYOday: December 1st
        - Global Shabbat: December 11th OR 12th
    - Plan all programs & events pertaining to your position
- Work with other chapter board members to ensure that chapter operations run smoothly
- Listen to suggestions and handle criticism maturely
- Complete all tasks on time
- Represent your chapter positively
- Adhere to BBYO's Code of Conduct
- Keep ALL social media accounts and interactions clean and appropriate
- Communicate regularly with your regional counterpart
- Comply with the 24-hour response rule

Positions:

Each board position holds a unique role in ensuring that chapters thrive and foster spaces for Alephs and BBGs to have meaningful Jewish experiences. There is no hierarchy—every position is valuable.

Please thoroughly read through the following descriptions of all of the board positions and what they entail. Should you win a position, you will be expected to complete all tasks listed for that position.

Feel free to reach out to the Regional Board member holding your desired position and ask them questions about the position, but please refrain from stating your intent to run. Failure to comply will result in minutes deducted from your speech.

The only people who may know what you are running for are the Regional Presidents, Chapter Advisors, and Regional Staff.

N'siah/Godol

- Keeps track of and advises all other board positions
    - This includes but is not limited to being active in the board group chat and holding one-on-one calls with board members.
- Ensures your chapter follows the Menorah Pledge Principles (BBG) and/or the Cardinal Principles (AZA)
    - BBG: Community Service, Tradition, Inter-faith Relations, Jewish Heritage, Philanthropy, Citizenship, Good Siblinghood, Prayer for World Jewry
    - AZA: Patriotism, Judaism, Charity, Filial Love, Conduct, Purity, Fraternity
- Active in the full chapter group chat & ensure group chats stay appropriate, respectful, and safe for all members.
- Supportive of all chapter members and is a resource to help all members
- Assists chapter board members in understanding and completing tasks
- Works with chapter board members to establish and meet goals
- Conducts chapter meetings, board meetings, and elections
- Ensures the chapter keeps AZA/BBG/BBYO traditions
    - Opening/Closing ceremonies
- Represents the chapter at regional/international events

S'gan/S'ganit

- In charge of incorporating the six/seven folds into programming
    - BBG: Creativity, Community Service, Jewish Heritage, Recreation, Sisterhood, Social Action, Health
    - AZA: Athletics, Judaism, Community Service/Social Action, Education, Social Brotherhood, Health
- Works with Sganim Network to foster co-chapter bonds through joint programming
- Plans and organizes the chapter calendar
- Delegates programs to other board members and ensures tasks get completed on time
- Represents/oversees the chapter in the N'siah/Godol's absence
- Gets all events submitted through the MyBBYO a minimum 10 days before the event
- Submits program templates to the Regional S'ganim and staff 10 days before the event

Moreh/Morah

- Organizes chapter recruitment and retention
    - Delegates recruitment responsibilities to other board members when appropriate
- Helps convert prospects to members
    - Email parents links, offers to help them register, etc.
- Coordinates inductions, big/little, kickoff, new member, and senior appreciation programs
- Promotes BBYO summer programs in coordination with Mazkirim

- Reaches out to new members to ensure they feel welcomed in the chapter
- Oversees/updates chapter membership and prospect rosters

Mazkir/Mazkirah

- Post on the chapter's social media platforms weekly to promote chapter meetings
- Post monthly programming calendars
- Stays active in the chapter group chat and informs members of all chapter and regional events
- Keeps chapter social media active, appropriate, and respectful
- Promotes hype around chapter and regional events
- Promotes and recruits for summer programs in coordination with the Morim
- Reaches out to the chapter through multiple modes of communication

Dover/Doverit

- Coordinate Shabbat and Havdalah programs
- Educates members during Jewish Holidays and traditions
- Educates the chapter about prayers
- Educates/leads Programs about Israel (SpeakUp)
- Educates/leads Programs about Anti-Semitism (RiseUp)
- Invites Jewish educators to help with programs and teachings
- Oversees + leads the implementation of the Jewish Heritage fold
- Ensures members have opportunities to connect with Judaism

Shaliach/Sh'licha

- In charge of StandUp
    - Decides on a chapter StandUp cause + coordinates the appropriate service/fundraising opportunities for the cause
- Plans for chapter community service events
- Educate/lead programs about social issues

Gizbor/Gizborit

- In charge of chapter finances
- Plans chapter fundraisers
- Helps raise money for the International Service Fund
- Creates chapter merchandise
- Sells chapter merchandise at regional conventions
- Oversees reimbursements for any purchases made for the chapter

Declaration, Evaluation Questions, and Contract - Due May 10th at 11:59 PM

Declaration

- Please email your declaration(s) to:
    1. Carly Sokoloff (Regional Director) - csokoloff@bbyo.org
    2. Maddy Merrell (Seattle CD) - mmerrell@bbyo.org ***(Seattle Chapters Only)***
    3. Jake Hoffman (Portland CD) - jhoffman@bbyo.org ***(Portland Chapters Only)***
    4. Current chapter advisors
    5. Zoe Lazarus (BBG) OR Simon Joseph (AZA)
    - (BBG Chapters) Zoe's email: egrnsiah@gmail.com
    - (AZA Chapters) Simon's email: egrgodol@gmail.com
    - (BBYO Chapters) Email whichever president aligns with your position
- **Your declaration email must include your evaluation questions and contract, and read the following:**

I, (NAME), officially declare myself running for the high and honorable position of (POSITION) on the executive board of (CHAPTER NAME AND #) for the 2026 Fall Term. Should I win this position, I will complete all the responsibilities as outlined in the election packet, including attendance at all Chapter meetings/programs, Chapter Execs, Chapter Board Overnight, Fall Kickoff, Ruach Convention 2026, #givingBBYOday, and Global Shabbat. Should I lose this position, I will (or will not) slide over to another position (list position or positions here). *Presidential candidates can declare two slide-overs; all other candidates can slide over one time*.
Parent Contact - name of one parent and their email (your parents will be emailed to confirm that they know the time commitment of being on chapter board and that they are okay with it)

***You can change your mind about a position even if you already declared! *If this occurs, you must RE-DECLARE by the deadline of May 10th.**

Evaluation Questions

- These questions show your interest in the position(s) you have declared for and help us gain a better understanding of how your leadership can benefit your chapter

- If we DO NOT receive these questions **with your declaration email by May 10th**, you will only be allowed to apply for your position (if no one else is caucused)
- Please submit evaluation questions as **an attached PDF** to your declaration email
- Send to Carly, Maddy (Seattle only), Jake (Portland only), Chapter Advisors, and Zoe or Simon

Questions (answer for each position)

1. What has inspired you to seek candidacy for this position? (3-4 sentences)
2. What do you believe is your chapter's greatest strength regarding this position, and what do you plan to do to keep that up? (3-4 sentences)
3. What do you believe is your chapter's greatest weakness regarding this position, and what do you plan to do to make sure that changes this term? (3-4 sentences)
4. **(Only answer once.)** How do you plan to work cohesively with your board? Since communication is a critical aspect of collaboration, what will this look like? (2-3 sentences)
5. **(Only answer once.)** Time to brag! What makes you qualified to serve on your chapter's executive board? (4-6 sentences)

Contract

- Each candidate must sign a contract agreeing to all requirements of the chapter board
    - Chapter Board Contract can be found here
- Turn in your contract with your declaration. If you do not send your contract, you will not be able to run.

Platforms - Due May 13th at 11:59 PM

- Your platform serves as an opportunity to showcase all of the reasons why you are the best candidate for this position. You can include your goals, ideas, qualifications, events attended, etc. Use this as a chance to be creative and follow the guidelines below.
    - One sheet of 8.5x11 solid white paper (front and back are OK)
    - All platforms **must be** printed AND submitted in only black & white
- You may NOT fold or cut the paper
- No extra candy, string, rhinestones, etc, are permitted
- Chapter N'siah or Godol will tell you how many copies to make
- Everything on your platform must be true
    - If there is evidence of you putting false qualifications or anything else on your platform, you will not be able to hand them out

- If, on election day, you bring a platform that has any changes on it other than those from the one you submitted, you will NOT be allowed to hand it out
- Turn in your platform by emailing it to Carly, Maddy (Seattle only), Jake (Portland only), your Chapter Advisors, and Zoe OR Simon. If you do not send your platform, you will not be able to hand it out. **Do not send it to chapter presidents.**

Speech - Due on the day of elections

This is your chance to elaborate on your goals and ideas before voting takes place.

Be concise, and say what matters most to you about your position and what you will do with the role if elected.

Make sure to practice before elections to ensure your speech fits within the time constraint.

Candidates must bring a printed speech to their election. **You will not be able to read a speech off a device**.

- Candidates for N'siah and Godol will each have 5 minutes for their speeches
- Candidates for S'gan and S'ganit will each have 4 minutes for their speeches
- Candidates for any other position will have 3 minutes for their speeches
- Candidates sliding over will have 1 minute to state their qualifications without using adjectives
- If you go over the time limit, you will be cut off

Day of Elections

Meetings will be opened as usual, and the chapter presidents will dispense of all other business and move directly into the elections of the Fall Term 2026 chapter boards. Then, positions will be voted on in descending board order.

You will be called to the floor with a cheer while your platforms are handed out by an advisor and your current chapter N'siah or Godol. The other candidates for your position will wait outside to ensure that the elections are fair. Your speech time will begin when you start talking. When you finish, there will be no emotion (smiling, clapping, etc) shown, and the next candidate will immediately be called into the room with the same cheer, and you will wait outside.

Wear nice clothes! You can also wear your BBG/AZA pins if you want. Even if you are not running, show your support for the candidates who are and don't come in pajamas.

If someone comes late for elections, they will not be able to vote for any position that is in the middle of speeches/voting, etc, so come on time! Current N'siot/Godolim will tell the chapter when elections will be held and what the timing looks like.

Chapter Elections will take place between May 17th and 19th, dependent on when your Chapter typically meets. We will reach out to each current Chapter president to confirm the day, time, and location. Please ask your current Chapter president, Regional Staff, Zoe, or Simon if you have any questions.

Sliding Over + Applications

Sliding Over

Should you lose your election, you will have the opportunity to slide over and run for **ONE** other position, regardless of whether or not anyone is declared. Presidential candidates will have the opportunity to slide over and run for two positions. All slide-overs **must be** declared in your declaration.

Applications

Being elected by application will only be allowed for positions that do not receive any declarations. You will not know if a position is not declared for until elections are taking place.

We strongly discourage planning to apply for a position as opposed to declaring. If you want to be an effective leader in your chapter, show it! Preparing for an election can get you ready to serve your chapter and help you evaluate whether or not the position is right for you. All chapters will be doing applications for undeclared positions as opposed to electing candidates off the floor, as Evergreen has done in years past.

Politicking

You **MAY NOT** politick. Politicking involves talking to anyone inside or outside of the chapter about what you are running for, your ideas, or anything else concerning your candidacy. It also includes talking about what OTHER people are running for, your ideal board, who you think will win, who you would vote for... and so on. *If you are caught politicking, time will be deducted from your speech time, you may be barred from running, and your right to caucus for a Fall*

Term 2026 chapter board position will be at the discretion of the 33rd Regional Presidents and Regional Staff.

Think you may be politicking, but aren't sure? Just stop talking right then and there! There's no point in risking it. Politicking makes elections confusing and stressful, and may prevent candidates from running for the position that they think is best for them. This negatively affects the entire chapter by preventing it from having the best possible board.

> *If a candidate is found politicking, they will face consequences as follows:*
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> **First instance:** *A documented warning from the Regional Director*
>
> **Second instance:** *Candidates will lose 30 seconds of speaking time for their speech.*
>
> **Third Instance:** *Should a candidate be found politicking a third time, they will have their caucus removed, and depending on the situation, may also lose their vote at elections.*
>
> *If a member who is not running for office is found politicking for an election, they will lose their vote and be subject to further consequences as deemed appropriate by the Regional Staff.*

Elections are a confidential process. The only people you should be talking about elections with are your family, your N'siah/Godol, Regional Staff, your Chapter Advisor(s), and the Regional Godol/N'siah.

Seniors: Just because you may not be running does not mean you are exempt from our no-politicking policy. Failure to comply with our no politicking policy will result in not being permitted to vote in elections.

Contact Information

Carly Sokoloff - Regional Director
csokoloff@bbyo.org

Maddy Merrell - Seattle City Director
mmerrell@bbyo.org

Jake Hofman - Portland City Director
jhoffman@bbyo.org

BBG

Zoe Lazarus – 33rd Regional N'siah
(503) 217-9512 // egrnsiah@gmail.com

Malachim BBG #2443
Carly Sokoloff - csokoloff@bbyo.org

Achayot BBG #2224
Sabrina Kavesh - dolphin4997@gmail.com
Adele Maxwell - armaxwell13@gmail.com

Bella Abzug BBG #1393
Katie Schreck - katieschreck00@gmail.com
Sasha Birk-Stachon - sashabirkstachon@gmail.com

Portland BBG #313
Sydney Kaufman - skaufman57@icloud.com
Clare Alkana - clarealkana@gmail.com

Halom BBG #1240
Maddy Merrell - mmerrell@bbyo.org

AZA

Simon Joseph - 33rd Regional Godol
(425) 213-7510 // egrgodol@gmail.com

Rainier AZA #1550
Ben Molloy - ben.molloy123@gmail.com

Emerald City AZA
Emerson Goss - emersongoss22@gmail.com

CWAZA #360
Kyle Prosen - kaprosen@gmail.com

Sol Stern AZA #65
Jake Hoffman - jhoffman@bbyo.org

Chaim Hazaz AZA #2463
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BBYO

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Nahar BBYO
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Sun Valley BBYO
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