

TEMPLE ISRAEL WEDDING POLICY
(adopted by the Board of Trustees on January 12, 2012)

Section I

Temple Israel will allow the use of its facilities, including the Sanctuary, for marriages between couples where at least one partner is Jewish, and whose wedding has been approved by the Rabbi or, in the absence of a Congregational Rabbi, by the Executive Board. Throughout this policy, the phrase “absence of a Congregational Rabbi” means when the position is vacant or when the Rabbi is on sabbatical.

Section II

It is expected that the Rabbi will have preparatory meetings with the couple to ensure the seriousness and sincerity of their intention of having a wedding in our Jewish sacred space.

Section III

The ceremony may be officiated by the Rabbi of our Congregation or another Jewish officiant approved by our Rabbi. In the absence of a Congregational Rabbi, any Jewish officiant approved by the Executive Board of the Congregation may officiate. No one who is not Jewish may co-officiate.

Section IV

Nothing in this policy is intended to compel our Rabbi to officiate or to approve any wedding where doing so would be in violation of the Rabbi’s conscience or the guidelines of the Rabbi’s professional rabbinical association. .

Section V

The content of the wedding ceremony when one of the two partners is not Jewish shall be determined by the officiant in consultation with the couple being married. However, no such ceremony shall include:

- a. overt use or display of symbols, ritual articles or ritual practices associated with a religion other than Judaism, or
- b. language that implies or explicitly states that the non Jewish partner is Jewish. (A non-Jewish partner saying Hebrew does not per se violate this policy. The relevant consideration is what Hebrew words we use, not the use of Hebrew.)

Section VI

Nothing in this policy is meant to change or overrule existing policies regarding membership, building use, or fees.