

# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE (CASCL)

## **Creed**

We, the members of the Junior Classical League, strive to promote the study of Greek, Latin, and ancient cultures.

We believe this study will help us examine the world and expand our understanding of literature, language, arts, sciences, and humanity.

We affirm the JCL experience develops leadership, fosters community, promotes enthusiasm, encourages competition, inspires dedication, and enriches our total growth!



## **Article I: General Provisions**

### *Section 1: Name*

The name of this organization is the California Senior Classical League, hereafter in this document referred to as CASCL.

### *Section 2: Objective*

The objectives of this organization are to enhance and promote the appreciation of the classics and classical scholarship in post-secondary education through social and academic activities, and to advise, encourage, and help the California Junior Classical League (CAJCL).

### *Section 3: Emblem*

The emblem shall be the torch of knowledge under the initials "CASCL," all encircled by a laurel wreath.

### *Section 4: Affiliation*

This organization is in affiliation with the American Classical League, the parent organization of the Junior Classical League. This organization is also affiliated with the California Junior Classical League and National Senior Classical League.

## **Article II: Members**

### *Section 1: Authority of the Membership*

The paramount legislative authority of this organization resides in the membership. The membership can amend the Constitution or the by-laws as long as no section of either document shall conflict with the Constitution, By-laws, or Acts of The American Classical League (ACL) or the NSCL.

### *Section 2: Types of Membership and their Qualifications*

There shall be two types of membership in the CASCL, which shall be called "Primary" and "Secondary." Primary and Secondary memberships shall be held for the time of payment of dues for that type of membership. All members of the CASCL must be registered as a member of the NSCL. Failure to be a member of NSCL in good standing will disable membership with CASCL.

- A. Primary Membership - Any high school graduate shall be eligible for primary membership. A high school graduate may join at the annual meeting of the CASCL chapter at the CAJCL Convention, or at any time. Primary Members can vote in CASCL elections, on amendment proposals, and hold office. Primary membership lasts until the end of the fourth CAJCL Convention after their high school graduation.
  1. Associate Membership - Any high school senior shall be eligible for associate membership. An associate member shall enjoy every right that a primary

member enjoys. If this member attends the CAJCL State Convention, this member shall be governed by the rules of the CAJCL, although they may participate in CASCL activities. Associate Members shall be called “Slashers.” Associate members can vote once NSCL membership has been paid.

- B. Secondary Membership - High school graduates are eligible for Secondary membership from the start of the fourth CAJCL Convention after their high school graduation until the end of the eighth CAJCL Convention after their high school graduation. Secondary members may vote; however, Secondary members may not run for CASCL office.

### *Section 3: Chapters*

CASCL may charter local chapters of schools within California. The procedure for chartering, along with requirements for and obligations of local chapters shall be specified in the By-Laws of the CASCL.

## **Article III: Governance**

### *Section 1: Parliamentary Procedure and Authority*

The President shall set the agenda for each meeting and preside over each meeting. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the League in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and these Bylaws and any special rules of order the League may adopt. No section of this Constitution or its by-laws shall conflict with the Constitution, by-laws, or Acts of the ACL and the NSCL.

### *Section 2: Officers*

- A. The membership annually shall elect a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Webmaster, a JCL Liaison, and a Parliamentarian. It is within the authority of the President, with the consul of the Advisors, to appoint members to offices not mentioned in this Constitution as needed. No member shall hold more than one office.
- B. Each appointed Advisors' term of office shall begin upon appointment by the Executive Board. In the event of a tie, the President will be the deciding vote in the appointing of the Primary and Secondary Advisors. The term of office for Primary Advisor shall end every fourth year at the inauguration of the succeeding Advisor. The Secondary Advisor shall have a two year term. The Advisors shall begin their term of office upon appointment. The Advisors must be either a member of ACL or on the CAJCL executive committee.

### *Section 3: Qualifications*

The President must attend post-secondary school and live in California.

### *Section 4: Elections*

The CASCL shall hold elections in a SCL meeting during the CAJCL State Convention. Only eligible CASCL members will be allowed to vote. In the event that the CASCL

cannot hold elections at the CAJCL State Convention, the President may convene a Special Meeting to conduct elections.

### *Section 5: Executive Board*

The general executive authority resides in an Executive Board, which shall consist of the six officers, and the Advisor(s) as non-voting members. The board shall supervise the affairs of the organization between its meetings and shall transact business on its behalf, subject to the authority of the membership and the NSCL.

#### A. Meetings of the Executive Board:

Executive Board meetings shall occur at least three times annually, one of these meetings being held at the CAJCL State Convention. A special meeting of the Executive Board shall be held upon the call of the Advisors or any officer. A majority of officers shall constitute a quorum. The Advisors are not counted in the quorum.

#### B. Notification:

The President, or officer calling for a meeting, shall give the board appropriate notice, with at least seven days notice prior to the meeting.

## **Article IV: Meetings**

### *Section 1: Annual Meeting*

The membership shall meet annually during the annual CAJCL state convention. Members in good standing shall be eligible to participate in the meeting. In the event the Annual Meeting cannot occur at the CAJCL state convention, the CASCL Executive Board shall schedule the Annual Meeting of the members under the provisions of a Special Meeting.

### *Section 2: Quorum*

At any meeting of the CASCL membership during the annual state convention, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

## **Article V: Amendment to the Constitution**

### *Section 1: Proposal*

Any member may propose an amendment to this Constitution or the by-laws by written notice to the President or Parliamentarian at least one month prior to the annual meeting of the membership or a Special Meeting convened to conduct elections.

### *Section 2: Notification*

The President or Parliamentarian shall give at least 30 days notice of any proposed amendment to this Constitution. The consideration of an amendment will take place at the annual meeting of the membership unless a Special Meeting is called.

### *Section 3: Presentation & Consideration*

In the meeting of the membership, if an amendment is to be voted upon, the Parliamentarian, or designee, shall explain the amendment procedure. The

Parliamentarians shall report to the membership the possible effect of the amendment and may recommend whether the proposed amendment ought to be ratified.

*Section 4: Procedure*

The vote to ratify a proposed amendment to this Constitution shall occur at the meeting of the membership at which it was presented.

*Section 5: Ratification*

A two-thirds majority vote will ratify a proposed amendment to this Constitution.

*Section 6: Counting Votes*

Votes will be done by Secret Ballot. The Officers shall count the votes.

# THE BY-LAWS OF THE CALIFORNIA SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE (CASCL)

## **Article I: Chapters**

### *Section 1: Charters*

The Executive Board may grant charters to, or revoke the charters of, local chapters of the CASCL. The President shall encourage the organization of new chapters, and may grant temporary charters pending action by the Executive Board.

### *Section 2: Local Chapters*

Any member may organize a local chapter that should be affiliated with a college in California and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the CASCL.

### *Section 3: Local Chapter Obligations*

Each chapter shall cooperate with the CASCL and shall submit all necessary materials to maintain its charter as outlined in the NSCL Handbook. No chapter shall adopt a Constitution, by-laws, or policy that shall conflict with the CASCL or NSCL Constitution or by-laws or their policies.

## **Article II: Dues**

### *Section 1: Membership*

There shall be no dues to be a member of the CASCL, other than that of the NSCL.

## **Article III: Officers**

The Officers are listed in gavel order. No officer may hold more than one office during a term of office. Should the membership choose, an officer may be reelected.

### *Section 1: Nominations*

The nomination of candidates for office shall occur at the annual CASCL meeting. Any member may nominate an eligible member for office. Each candidate so nominated may then speak on their own behalf at a time determined by the President in consultation with the Executive Board.

### *Section 2: Election*

The election of officers shall occur directly after nominations. Any member may then discuss or question any candidate who may respond. Elections shall occur for each office in the order in which the offices are listed in the Constitution, with winners being announced for each office before election for the next office begins.

A. Dropping Down:

An unsuccessful candidate may be nominated for another office at the election. Each candidate so nominated may then speak on their own behalf for up to two minutes.

*Section 3: Voting*

The members shall vote by secret ballot. The Parliamentarian shall count the votes; but, if the Parliamentarian is a candidate, then the Advisor shall serve as an impartial member, replacing the candidate as teller.

A. Counting Ballots:

Election shall occur by simple majority. In uncontested elections when the candidate does not receive a majority of the votes available, the candidate is not elected and the office is vacated. The newly-elected Executive Board shall appoint an eligible member to the office.

B. Non-Majorities:

In contested elections, if no candidate receives a simple majority, then the delegates shall vote again, voting only upon the two leading candidates. If, after the delegates vote a second time no candidate has received a majority, then the newly-elected Executive Board shall appoint an eligible member to the office.

*Section 4: Vacancies*

If the Presidency becomes vacant, then the Vice-President shall immediately become President. If an elected office besides the Presidency becomes vacant, then the President, with a consensus of the Executive Board and Advisor(s), shall appoint a qualified successor, who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. An officer who does not attend the annual state convention at the end of their term has vacated the office.

*Section 5: Term of Office*

Each elected officer shall begin his term at their inauguration into office during the annual CASCL meeting. The term of office shall end at the inauguration of the succeeding Executive Board. Each appointed officer shall begin their term of office upon appointment.

*Section 6: Candidate Requirements*

1. Have attended at least one NJCL Convention or one CAJCL Convention, prior to the election,
2. Be in good standing, as determined by the Advisor(s),
3. Be a Primary Member.
4. To be qualified for the offices of President or Vice President, the candidate must reside in and attend a post-secondary school in California.
5. The candidates for the office of President and Vice President must have one year of NSCL membership prior to the election.

## **Article IV: Duties of the Advisors and Officers**

### *Section 1: Duties of the Advisor*

1. Report to the CAJCL concerning all CASCL matters
2. Advise the CASCL Executive Board and the membership
3. Assist the elected Vice-President to complete necessary financial reports
4. Oversee all events in which the CASCL is involved
5. Oversee any other tasks outlined by the CAJCL

### *Section 2: Duties of the Secondary Advisor*

1. Shall be a secondary member who is elected by the Executive Board for a two year term
2. Reports to the CASCL Advisor
3. In junction with Primary Advisor, shall advise the CASCL Officers in oversight of CASCL activities
4. Assist elected officers in preparing the necessary financial reports

### *Section 3: Duties of the President*

1. Chair the membership and the Executive Board
2. Convene the membership, the Executive Board, or any committee, with cause
3. Coordinate membership promotion and alumni relations
4. Create and appoint any necessary committee
5. Delegate responsibility whose exercise is not otherwise provided for
6. Assist local chapters in their organizing and grant temporary charters to these chapters at their discretion
7. Serve ex officio to each committee
8. Coordinate and oversee the duties of the officers
9. Advise any officer or other member of procedure
10. Work with local chapters toward the maintenance of their permanent charter
11. Attend meetings of the CAJCL Board. In the event of a virtual CAJCL meeting, the President shall determine whether other CASCL Executive Board members (excluding the President and Vice-President) shall be required to attend.

### *Section 4: Duties of the Vice-President*

1. Assume the Presidency upon any permanent vacancy of that position
2. Execute the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or temporary inability to serve
3. Assist the President
4. In conjunction with the Secretary, appoint members to organize and oversee Ludi and other events at the annual CAJCL state convention
5. Chairs for each Ludi and Olympika event shall be appointed at the state board meeting prior to convention. These members will volunteer at the prompting of the Vice President; if no member volunteers, then a member will be appointed by the Vice President
6. Deposit any income to the treasury and provide for its safekeeping in the organization's name
7. Disburse funds as appropriated by the Executive Board or the Advisors

8. Maintain, in conjunction with the secretary, the roll of members and alumni
9. Publish a financial report in each newsletter
10. Recommend an annual budget to the Executive Board.
11. Make any document or record available to any member upon request
12. Attend meetings of the CAJCL Board.

*Section 5: Duties of the Secretary*

1. Carefully record all proceedings of the meetings of the membership and the Executive Board, and circulate these minutes to each officer by the next meeting
2. Maintain any business records or other official documents in good order
3. Maintain, in conjunction with the Vice-President, the roll of members and alumni
4. Prepare an ongoing historical record of the CASCL
5. Make any document or record available to any member upon request;
6. In conjunction with the Vice-President, appoint members to organize and oversee Ludi and other events at the annual CAJCL state convention.

*Section 6: Duties of the Webmaster*

1. Maintain the CASCL official website, which must include at a minimum the constitution & bylaws, contact addresses for each officer, meeting minutes, meeting schedules, and links to the national organization
2. In conjunction with the secretary, maintain meeting minutes online;
3. In conjunction with the president, maintain upcoming meeting and events schedules online
4. In conjunction with the vice-president, maintain officer contact information and membership guidelines online;
5. Publicize the website by adding our URL to search engines;
6. Not change the URL of the CSCL Web site without a majority vote of the executive board.
7. Regularly update and maintain a history of the CASCL by taking photos at CASCL and CAJCL Events, posting photos of CASCL, and by any means deemed suitable by the President

*Section 7: Duties of JCL Liaison*

1. Coordinate with other officers to promote membership
2. Propose suggestions for increasing engagement of Associate (“Slasher”) members
3. Coordinate outreach with other officers to drive recruitment and retention of members

*Section 8: Duties of the Parliamentarian*

1. Administer the election of officers and the voting on amendments to the Constitution or these By-Laws
2. Develop and submit proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws to the President for review
3. Advise any officer or other member on matters of procedure
4. Assist the secretary in maintaining the roll of members and alumni

## **Article V: Meetings**

### *Section 1: Agenda of Annual Membership Meeting*

The Executive Board, with the advice of the President and the Advisors, shall set the agenda of the annual membership meeting. Any member may introduce business onto the agenda by official notice to the President or Advisors before the meeting.

### *Section 2: Special Meeting of the Membership*

The President or the Executive Board may, with cause, call a Special Meeting of the membership. All members shall be given adequate notice of this meeting. One-third of the regular members shall constitute a quorum at this meeting.

## **Article VI: Amendment to the By-Laws**

The procedure for amendment of these by-laws shall be the same as the procedure for amending the CASCL Constitution. Ratification requires a simple majority.

## **Article VII: Simple Majority**

A simple majority is a majority of the yes votes and no votes cast.

## **Article VIII: Good Standing**

Members who have paid their membership dues to NSCL are in good standing. The Advisor(s) shall determine whether a member is in good standing.