

# **Georgia Senior Classical League Constitution**

## **Creed**

We, the members of the Georgia Senior Classical League, covenant to the hand of the torch of classical civilization in the modern world. We believe that an acquaintance with the civilization of Greece and Rome will help us understand and appraise the world today, which is indebted to ancient civilization in its government, laws, literature, language, and arts.

We affirm that the SCL experience develops responsibility, fosters brotherhood, promotes enthusiasm, encourages competition, inspires dedication, and enriches our total growth.

## **Article I - General Provisions**

### **Section One - Name and Emblem**

The name of this organization shall be the Georgia Senior Classical League, hereafter known as GSCL. The emblem shall be the torch of knowledge under the initials "SCL," enriched by a laurel wreath.

### **Section Two - Objectives**

The objectives of this organization will be to promote interest and study in the Classics in college and universities, to assist and support the Georgia Junior Classical League (GJCL), and to fulfill all otherwise related interest of the membership of the Georgia Senior Classical League.

### **Section Three - Affiliation**

This organization shall be a chartered member of the National Senior Classical League (NSCL), adhering to all the necessary guidelines as found in the National Senior Classical League Constitution and By-laws.

## **Article II - Membership**

### **Section One - Qualifications**

Membership will be extended to all those who are between State Convention of their graduating year of high school and the ninth National Convention following graduation, with the exception of Honorary Members.

## **Section Two - Classifications**

- A) Regular Membership - The first four years after high school graduation will be considered Regular Membership
- B) Associate Membership - A member can continue his/her membership as an Associate Member for an additional four years after dues are paid as required by state and national organizations. An Associate Member shall enjoy every right that a Regular Member enjoys except the eligibility for state office, except in special circumstance (See Article IV, Section IV, Paragraph E).
- C) Honorary Membership - Each former national officer from the GSCL, state GSCL officer, or anyone else so honored by the Executive Board, shall be an Honorary Member. An Honorary Member shall enjoy every right that a Regular Member shall enjoy except the right to vote and the right to run for the top five offices.

## **Section Three - Requirements**

Each member shall be required to maintain membership in the National Senior Classical League and must meet any requirements, including payment of dues, required by that organization. Also, members may be required to meet any further requirements, including payments of dues to be determined at the annual business meeting.

## **Article III - Meetings**

### **Section One - Qualifications**

The General Membership shall convene at least twice annually, namely during the GJCL Fall Forum and State Convention.

- A) Fall Forum - There will be a meeting called by the GSCL President at an appropriate time during the GJCL Fall Forum, at which time the business may and should be conducted.
- B) State Convention - The membership shall convene at the annual GJCL State Convention. The GSCL shall proscribe a registration fee for this assembly which shall be included in the By-Laws.

### **Section Two - Executive Board Meetings**

The Executive Board shall meet at the call of either the president, the advisor, the GJCL State Chairman, or two of the Executive Board members. There shall be at least two meetings of the Board separate from the General Chapter Membership.

### **Section Three - Procedure**

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of each meeting wherever applicable, not being inconsistent with any controlling authority.

## **Article IV - Elections**

### **Section One - Qualifications**

A Regular Member who has studied the classics in a secondary or post-secondary school is eligible for office, provided that a member running for President has attended at least one State Convention, Fall Forum, or National Convention prior to that year's election at the JCL or SCL level. No member shall concurrently hold more than one elected office, nor hold state or national office concurrently.

### **Section Two - Nominations**

Nominations shall be accepted at the first GSCL General Assembly at the GJCL State Convention for the offices of the President, Vice President, Parliamentarian, Secretary and Historian.

### **Section Three - Campaigning**

Each candidate for office will be given an opportunity to speak for two minutes to the General Membership at its second General Assembly. Candidates will then be asked questions from the General Membership in a panel. This will be moderated by the Parliamentarian. In the event that the Parliamentarian is running for an office, the President shall take his/her place for that round of questions. Only appropriate questions will be tolerated.

### **Section Four - Voting/Elections**

The General Membership shall vote by secret ballot at the final GSCL General Assembly. The President, Parliamentarian, and Advisor shall count the votes, but, if the President or Parliamentarian is a candidate for that office, then they shall appoint an imperial member as teller.

- A) Voters - A registered delegate who has attended one assembly prior to the assembly of the election is an eligible voter.
- B) Ballots - Elections shall occur by a majority.
- C) Non-Members - In case where the election is uncontested, and the candidate is not elected, the newly elected Executive Board will appoint a qualified member to fill the position. If the election is

contested, and a majority is not reached in the first vote, there shall be a run-off between the two leading candidates. In such case, if no majority is reached by a second vote, the standing Executive Board shall decide the vote.

- D) Un-elected Members - Members who have been duly nominated but then not elected may drop down and run in the next election without going through the nomination process.
- E) State of Emergency - In the event where there is no candidate slated to run for a given office, the Parliamentarian shall declare a “State of Emergency.” During such an event, a Regular or Associate Member may be nominated for office. If there is still no one nominated, the newly elected Board will vote to fill the position.

### **Section Five - Vacancies**

If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall immediately become the President. If an elected or appointed office besides that of the President becomes vacant, the President, with the consent of the Executive Board and Advisor, shall appoint a qualified successor. This member shall server the remainder of the un-expired term. An officer who doesn't attend the GJCL State Convention has vacated his/her office and the President, with the consent of the Executive Board and the Advisor, shall appoint a qualified successor and will server the remainder of the un-expired term.

### **Section Six - Term of Office**

Each elected officer shall take office upon inauguration at the Final Assembly of the GJCL State Convention. Each appointed officer shall begin upon appointment and serve until his successor has assumed the appointed office.

### **Section Seven - Oath of Office**

The President-Elect shall take office upon taking the following oath, which shall be administered by the President to the President-Elect:

I, [state your name]  
Do solemnly affirm that  
I will faithfully execute  
The duties of the office  
Of President  
Of the Georgia Senior Classical League,  
Will diligently represent the membership,  
Will honorably work

To serve the best interest of the League  
And will defend and uphold  
Its Constitution to the best of my ability.

The new President will swear the remainder of the Executive Board with the following oath:

Do you [state your name]  
Solemnly affirm that  
You will faithfully execute  
The duties of the office  
Of [state your office]  
Of the Georgia Senior Classical League,  
Will you diligently represent the membership,  
Will you honorably work  
To serve the best interest of the League,  
And will you defend and uphold  
Its Constitution to the best of your ability.

The officers shall respond with “I do.”

## **Article V - Officers**

### **Section One - Executive Board**

The Executive Board shall consist of a President, Vice President, Parliamentarian, Secretary, Historian, Honorary Representative, and Advisor. In the event that the NSCL President, Vice President, Parliamentarian, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, or Editor is from the GSCL, he/she shall be made an ex-officio member of the Executive Board, with his/her absence or presence not counted towards or against an active quorum.

### **Section Two - Delineation of Officers**

- A) President - Shall preside at all meetings of the General Membership, and he/she shall be responsible for all appointments and assignments of his/her office and committee chairs.
- B) Vice President - Shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the President. If the President is impeached or if he/she should resign or die, the Vice President will become President. He/She shall also be responsible for all matters of recruitment of members.
- C) Parliamentarian - Shall insure the fairness of all procedure at meetings of the General Membership and at meetings he/she might attend.

- D) Secretary - Shall maintain a record of all business and activities of this organization, including minutes of all meetings of the General Membership and summary accounts of all committee proceedings and Executive Board Meetings.
- E) Historian - Shall be responsible for maintaining a scrapbook of the GSCL activities and GSCL archives. He/She will be responsible for the newsletter of the organization.
- F) Honorary Representative - Shall be appointed to provide insight to the newly elected Board. This office shall be selected from the honorary members that have served on the GSCL or NSCL Board. This office shall be appointed at the first Board meeting by a vote of the entire Board and must be prior to National Convention.
- G) Advisor - Shall be appointed by the GJCL State Chair for an undetermined amount of time and should cast no vote unless the Executive Board be equally divided.
- H) Treasurer- Shall be the GJCL Treasurer.

## **Article VI - Impeachment**

### **Section One - Terms**

An officer may be impeached for the following actions: falsification or suppression of information, neglect of office, injury to the good name of the organization, or conduct unbecoming of an officer.

### **Section Two - Mechanics**

Any two officers may impeach an officer by written notice to the President and Advisor, which shall allege specific misconduct. The President shall furnish a copy of the impeachment to all officers and State Chair within one week. The Impeached officer may reply in writing within two weeks of receipt of impeachment papers (certified mail).

### **Section Three - Voting Procedures**

A vote on the removal of an officer shall occur within two weeks after receipt of the written reply. The vote shall take place either at a called Board Meeting or by telephone if necessary. All un-impeached officers, the Advisor, and the State Chair shall vote. The impeached officer is removed from office if simple majority is reached upon the first vote.

## **Article VII - Ratification and Amendments**

### **Section One - Authority**

The authority of this constitution is the basis for the conduct of all business in this organization. The membership may, by a two-thirds vote, adopt bylaws and, by simple majority, adopt or provide for the adoption of the other rules and guidelines, that supplement this constitution.

### **Section Two - Proposal**

Any member may propose an amendment to this constitution of the bylaws through a written notice to the Parliamentarian.

### **Section Three - Consideration**

The membership shall consider any proposed amendment after the Executive Board has reported to the membership the possible effect of the amendment, and may recommend whether the proposed amendment ought to be ratified.

The Parliamentarian shall give notice of any proposed amendment at the first assembly of the General Membership at the State Convention.

### **Section Four - Ratification**

The vote to ratify a proposed amendment to this constitution shall occur at the final assembly of the State Convention, unless postponed by the Executive Board or the membership. The membership may ratify a proposed amendment to this constitution by a three-fourths vote by members present. This constitution takes effect immediately upon a three-fourths vote of the members present.

## **Article VIII - Local Chapters**

### **Section One - The Standards for Chapters**

Local chapters shall be established upon completion of set standards. The Standards shall be included in a publication, "The Standards for Chapters." It shall be published pending ratification of the membership and be used as a guide to set up and maintain local chapters. This constitution hereby gives controlling authority to "The Standards of Chapters," and it shall be followed as an extension of this document.

### **Section Two - Membership**

All members of local chapters must be duly enrolled as state and national members. To be constructed for active status, the chapter must maintain a minimum of five members.

### **Section Three - State Convention**

As a condition for active status, each chapter must send a delegation to State Convention each year.

### **Section Four - Chapter Discipline**

The State Executive Board may take disciplinary action against a local chapter. This action may involve censure, probation, and termination of the chapter. These may be incurred for the following: Failure to issue the proper reports to the state board, failure to send a delegation to the State Convention, failure to maintain the minimum number of active members, or any other action that the Executive Board deems as sufficient. Actions shall be limited to action by the chapter, not its individual members, officers, or other agents.

### **Section Five - Dissolution**

Upon termination of a chapter after two consecutive years of probation, the chapter shall be dissolved for a period of at least two years. All moneys shall be deposited in the State account and shall be held for five years or until reinstatement, whichever shall come first. If reinstatement does not occur within five years, the money shall permanently become part of the State treasury.