

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE
NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

Adopted July 2015
Amended July 2019

1 CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

2
3 ARTICLE I
4 NAME AND EMBLEM

5
6 **Section 1. Name.** The name of this organization shall be the Na-
7 tional Senior Classical League, hereinafter referred to as the
8 NSCL.

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10 **Section 2. Emblem.** The emblem of the NSCL shall be the torch of
11 knowledge with the letters SCL superimposed horizontally and en-
12 circled with a laurel wreath.

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14 ARTICLE II
15 PURPOSE

16
17 The purpose of this organization shall be to enhance and promote
18 the appreciation of the classics and classical scholarship in pose-
19 secondary education and to advise, encourage, and assist the Junior
20 Classical League.

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22 ARTICLE III
23 GOVERNANCE

24
25 **Section 1. American Classical League.** The NSCL shall be a subsid-
26 iary organization of the American Classical League, hereinafter
27 referred to as the ACL, wholly created by and controlled by the
28 ACL Council. No provisions of this Constitution or its Bylaws shall
29 be construed so as to conflict with the Constitution, Bylaws, or
30 Acts of the ACL.

31
32 **Section 2. Committee on the National Junior and Senior Classical**
33 **Leagues.**

34 **2.1. Committee on the National Junior and Senior Classical**
35 **Leagues.** The ACL Council shall exercise its supervision of this
36 organization by means of its Committee on the National Junior
37 and Senior Classical Leagues, hereinafter referred to as the
38 National Committee, as specified in the Constitution and Bylaws
39 of the ACL.

40 **2.2. NSCL Advisor.** The National Committee shall be represented
41 in all NSCL matters by the Olympika Contest Chair, who shall
42 serve as the NSCL Advisor. The Advisor shall have the following
43 duties:

- 44 **2.2.1.** Report to the National Committee concerning all SCL
45 matters;
- 46 **2.2.2.** Work cooperatively with the ACL;
- 47 **2.2.3.** Advise the NSCL Executive Board and the membership;

- 48 2.2.4. Approve disbursement from the treasure and assist the
- 49 Treasurer in completing necessary financial reports;
- 50 2.2.5. Oversee all events in which the NSCL is involved.
- 51 2.2.6. Serve on the NSCL Scholarship Committee; and,
- 52 2.2.7. Oversee any other tasks as outlined by the National
- 53 Committee.

54
55 **Section 3. Membership.** Except as otherwise provided in this Con-
56 stitution or its Bylaws, the paramount authority of this organi-
57 zation resides in the membership. The explicit mention of certain
58 powers of the membership does not deny or limit its exercise of
59 others.

60
61 ARTICLE IV
62 Amendment

63
64 **Section 1. Origin of Amendments.** Any member of this organization
65 may propose an amendment to this Constitution by submitting such
66 to the NSCL President, the NSCL Parliamentarian, and the National
67 Committee. Furtherance of a proposed amendment requires approval
68 by the ACL in a manner in accordance with the Constitution and
69 Bylaws of the ACL.

70
71 **Section 2. Amendment Procedure.** A proposed amendment to this
72 Constitution shall be considered at the first annual meeting held
73 following final approval by the ACL. The procedure shall be as
74 follows:

- 75 2.1. The NSCL Parliamentarian shall give notice of the proposed
- 76 amendment no later than the first assembly of the annual meeting
- 77 at which the amendment is to be considered.
- 78 2.2. The NSCL Executive Board shall report to the membership
- 79 the possible effect of the amendment and may recommend whether
- 80 the proposed amendment ought to be ratified.
- 81 2.3. The membership shall debate the proposed amendment at the
- 82 antepenultimate assembly of the annual meeting.
- 83 2.4. Voting shall take place during the penultimate assembly of
- 84 the annual meeting, unless postponed by the Executive Board or
- 85 the membership.
- 86 2.5. A two-thirds vote of the members present and voting shall
- 87 be required for passage of a proposed amendment.

1 BYLAWS OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

2
3 ARTICLE I
4 MEMBERSHIP AND DUES
5

6 **Section 1. Membership Classes and Eligibility.** There shall be two
7 membership classes: Regular and Associate.

8 **1.1. Regular.** Secondary school graduates shall be eligible for
9 regular membership until the opening of the final assembly at
10 the fifth annual meeting after their graduation. Graduating
11 seniors may join at the annual meeting of their state SCL chapter
12 in the year of their graduation or at the first National Junior
13 Classical League Convention following their graduation. SCL mem-
14 bers attending the National Junior Classical League Convention
15 immediately following graduation shall be governed by the rules
16 for Junior Classical League delegates, although they may par-
17 ticipate in NSCL activities. The rights of regular members are
18 described in the NSCL Constitution and these Bylaws.

19 **1.2. Associate.** Secondary school graduates shall be eligible
20 for associate membership from the opening of the final assembly
21 at the fifth annual meeting following their graduation from high
22 school until the closing of the ninth annual meeting following
23 their graduation from high school. Associate members possess
24 all the rights of regular members except eligibility to hold
25 national office.
26

27 **Section 2. Dues.**

28 **2.1. Regular.** The dues for regular members shall be six dollars
29 (\$6.00) and shall cover the entirety of the period for which
30 they are eligible for regular membership.

31 **2.2. Associate.** The dues for associate members shall be four
32 dollars (\$4.00) and shall cover the entirety of the period for
33 which they are eligible for associate membership.
34

35 ARTICLE II
36 ORGANICATIONAL DIVISIONS
37

38 **Section 1. State and Provincial Chapters.** Any five members may
39 organize a state or provincial chapter. A state or provincial
40 chapter should affiliate with its corresponding state or provin-
41 cial chapter of the National Junior Classical League, if possible.
42 State and provincial chapters shall represent and pursue the ob-
43 jectives of the national organization within their states or prov-
44 inces.

45 **1.1. Chapter Bylaws.** State and provincial chapters shall adopt
46 governing documents in accord with the Constitution and Bylaws
47 of the NSCL.

48 **1.2. Charters.** The Executive Board may grant charters to, or
49 revoke the charters of, state and provincial chapters of the
50 NSCL. The NSCL President shall encourage the organization of
51 new chapters and may grant temporary charters which shall be
52 valid for up to one year, at which time the Executive Board
53 shall decide whether to grant a permanent charter.

54 **1.2.1.** State and provincial chapters shall annually submit
55 contact information for the chapter as well as the most recent
56 copies of their governing documents to the NSCL Parliamen-
57 tarian prior to the election of the NSCL officers at the
58 annual meeting.

59
60 **Section 2. Local Chapters.** Local chapters may be chartered at the
61 discretion and according to the procedures of the state of pro-
62 vincial chapter within whose jurisdiction they lie.

63
64 **ARTICLE III**
65 **OFFICERS**
66

67 **Section 1. Officers.** The NSCL officers shall be a President, Vice-
68 president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian elected by
69 the membership at the annual meeting, and an Editor and Historian
70 appointed at the close of the annual meeting by the President-
71 elect with the consent of the officers-elect and Advisor.

72
73 **Section 2. Qualifications.** An NSCL officer shall be a regular
74 member of the NSCL. In addition, the President and Vice-president
75 shall have attended at least one annual meeting as an NSCL member
76 prior to the annual meeting at which they are elected. No member
77 shall simultaneously hold two national offices. No elected officer
78 shall hold the same office for two consecutive terms. NSCL officers
79 must maintain their qualifications throughout their term. Failure
80 to maintain qualifications shall constitute resignation from of-
81 fice. In addition, a candidate for office must meet the require-
82 ments for voter eligibility established in this article in order
83 to be elected.

84
85 **Section 3. Nominations.** Candidates for elected office shall be
86 nominated from the floor of the penultimate assembly of the annual
87 meeting. Any member may nominate an eligible member for office.
88 Candidates so nominated may speak on their own behalf for up to
89 four minutes.

90
91 **Section 4. Election.**

92 **4.1. Time of Elections.** The election of officers shall occur at
93 the last assembly of the annual meeting. Election of each office
94 shall occur in the order in which the offices are listed in

95 these Bylaws, with the winners being announced before the elec-
96 tion of the next office begins.

97 **4.2. Discussion.** Any member may discuss or question any candi-
98 date. Candidates may remain present in the meeting throughout
99 the election.

100 **4.3. Unsuccessful Candidates.** An unsuccessful candidate may be
101 nominated for another office at the election. Candidates so
102 nominated may speak on their own behalf for up to two minutes.

103 **4.4. Voter Eligibility.** A registered delegate who has attended
104 at least one assembly prior to the assembly of elections, and
105 who was present for either the speeches of the question-and-
106 answer period shall be eligible to vote. The parliamentarian
107 shall note attendance at each assembly in order to create a list
108 of eligible voters.

109 **4.5. Voting.** Eligible members shall vote by ranked secret bal-
110 lot. Eligible members unable to attend the voting assembly may
111 provide the Parliamentarian with a sealed absentee ballot. The
112 President, Parliamentarian, and Advisor shall count the ballots
113 according to the instant run-off procedure prescribed by the
114 parliamentary manual adopted by the NSCL. If the President or
115 Parliamentarian is a candidate, then the three shall jointly
116 appoint an impartial teller.

117 **4.6. No Election.** Should the first ballot for an office fail to
118 produce a winner, the members of the outgoing Executive Board,
119 not running for the office in question, shall decide among the
120 top two candidates (or among all candidates tied for first), by
121 secret ballot. A majority of those voting shall be required for
122 election. If this procedure again fails to produce a winner,
123 the election shall be decided by random draw.

124 **4.7. Uncontested Elections.** If no member objects, uncontested
125 elections may be voted on by acclamation.

126
127 **Section 5. Term.**

128 **5.1. Elected Officers.** The President, Vice-president, Secre-
129 tary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian shall be elected for a term
130 of one year. The term shall begin upon inauguration at the close
131 of the annual meeting.

132 **5.2. Appointed Officers.** The Editor and Historian shall be ap-
133 pointed for a term of one year or until their successor is
134 appointed. The term shall begin immediately upon inauguration
135 at the close of the annual meeting.

136
137 **Section 6. Vacancy.**

138 **6.1.** A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by
139 the Vice-president.

140 6.2. Vacancies in offices other than that of the President shall
141 be filled by appointment of the President with the consent of
142 the Executive Board and Advisor.

143 **Section 7. Removal.**

144 7.1. An officer may be removed by decision of the National
145 Committee or a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board.

146 7.2. Failure to register for the annual meeting shall constitute
147 automatic removal from office.

148

149 **Section 8. Duties.**

150 8.1. **President.** The duties of the President shall be as follows:

151 8.1.1. Chair the meetings of the membership and the Executive
152 Board;

153 8.1.2. Convene the membership, the Executive Board, or any
154 committee, with cause;

155 8.1.3. Coordinate membership promotion and alumni relations;

156 8.1.4. Create and appoint any necessary committee;

157 8.1.5. Delegate responsibility for which exercise is not oth-
158 erwise provided;

159 8.1.6. Assist new state and provincial chapters in organizing
160 and granting temporary charters to such chapters as needed;

161 8.1.7. Have jurisdiction over the talent show and NSCL re-
162 ception at the National Junior Classical League Convention;

163 8.1.8. Serve ex officio on all committees, except the Schol-
164 arship Committee; and,

165 8.1.9. Coordinate and oversee the duties of the officers.

166 8.2. **Vice-president.** The duties of the Vice-president shall be
167 as follows:

168 8.2.1. Assume the Presidency in the event of permanent vacancy
169 of the position;

170 8.2.2. Perform the duties of the President in the event of
171 the President's absence or temporary inability to serve;

172 8.2.3. Assist the President; and,

173 8.2.4. Have jurisdiction over Ludi and Olympika at the annual
174 National Junior Classical League Convention.

175 8.3. **Secretary.** The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:

176 8.3.1. Carefully record all proceedings of the membership or
177 the Executive Board, and circulate these minutes to each of-
178 ficer and the Advisor after the meeting;

179 8.3.2. Maintain any business records or other official docu-
180 ments in good order;

181 8.3.3. Maintain, in conjunction with the Treasurer, the roll
182 of members and alumni;

183 8.3.4. Make official documents available on the website, up-
184 dating these documents when necessary;

185 8.3.5. Manage communications between the Executive Board and
186 the membership;

187 8.3.6. Act as administrator for any NSCL email lists or
188 webpages; and,
189 8.3.7. Make any official document or record available to any
190 member upon approval of the Executive Board.

191 **8.4. Treasurer.** The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:
192 8.4.1. Collect any dues or fees or any routine debt owed to
193 the organization;
194 8.4.2. Deposit any income to the treasury and provide for its
195 safekeeping in the organization's name;
196 8.4.3. Disburse funds as appropriated by the Executive Board
197 or the Advisor;
198 8.4.4. Maintain, in coordination with the Advisor, accurate
199 record keeping of the NSCL treasury;
200 8.4.5. Furnish each member with credentials;
201 8.4.6. Maintain, in conjunction with the Secretary, the roll
202 of members and alumni;
203 8.4.7. Create a financial report available to any member upon
204 request; and,
205 8.4.8. Recommend an annual budget to the Executive Board for
206 approval by the National Committee.

207 **8.5. Parliamentarian.** The duties of the Parliamentarian shall
208 be as follows:
209 8.5.1. Administer the election of officers and the voting on
210 amendments to the Constitution or these Bylaws;
211 8.5.2. Maintain a list of the names of all members attending
212 each assembly in order to create a list of eligible voters;
213 8.5.3. Advise any officer or other member on matters of pro-
214 cedure;
215 8.5.4. Help the chair maintain order at meetings;
216 8.5.5. Revise and update the NSCL Handbook for distribution;
217 and,
218 8.5.6. Work with the state and provincial chapters toward the
219 maintenance of their permanent charters.

220 **8.6. Editor.** The duties of the Editor shall be as follows:
221 8.6.1. Publish, under the supervision of the Advisor and NJCL
222 Publications Chair, the official newsletter, *The Letter of*
223 *the League*, up to three times annually;
224 8.6.2. Publish, under the supervision of the Advisor and NJCL
225 Publications Chair, a daily newspaper, *The Convention Ear*, at
226 the National Junior Classical League Convention; and,
227 8.6.3. Promote the organization in publications of interest
228 to classicists.

229 **8.7. Historian.** The duties of the Historian shall be as follows:
230 8.7.1. Prepare an ongoing historical record of the NSCL in
231 the form of a shareable media and official history;
232 8.7.2. Incorporate the official history in the NSCL website,
233 making updates as necessary; and,

234 8.7.3. Maintain the official online presence of the NSCL.
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239 ARTICLE IV
240 MEETINGS
241

242 **Section 1. Annual Meeting.** The membership shall meet annually dur-
243 ing the convention of the National Junior Classical League. An
244 NSCL member must be a delegate to the convention in order to
245 participate in the meeting.

246 **1.1. Registration Fee.** The Executive Board with the consent of
247 the Advisor shall set a registration fee for the convention,
248 payment of which shall entitle an eligible member to participate
249 in the meeting.

250 **1.2. Assemblies.** The annual meeting shall consist of not fewer
251 than three assemblies. The Executive Board shall give notice of
252 each assembly to registered delegates, though the convention
253 program. The President may call a special assembly, not origi-
254 nally scheduled in the convention program, if required. Reason-
255 able notice shall be provided for such assemblies.

256 **1.3. Quorum.** For an assembly scheduled in the convention pro-
257 gram, the registered delegates present at the assembly shall
258 constitute a quorum. For a special assembly, a simple majority
259 of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum.

260 **1.4. Agenda.** The Executive Board with the advice of the Presi-
261 dent, Parliamentarian, and Advisor, shall set the agenda of each
262 assembly. Any member may introduce business onto the agenda by
263 written notice to the President, Parliamentarian, or Advisor
264 prior to the assembly at which it is to be considered.
265

266 **Section 2. Special Meetings.** The President or the Executive Board
267 may, with cause, call a special meeting of the membership. All
268 regular and associate members shall be given at least one month's
269 prior notice of such a meeting. One third of the membership shall
270 constitute a quorum at such a meeting.
271

272 ARTICLE V
273 EXECUTIVE BOARD
274

275 **Section 1. Composition.** The national officers shall constitute the
276 Executive Board. The Advisor shall serve *ex officio* as a non-
277 voting member of the board.
278

279 **Section 2. Duties and Powers.** The Executive Board shall have gen-
280 eral supervision of the affairs of the NSCL between its meetings

281 and shall transact business on its behalf, subject to the authority
282 of the membership, the ACL, and the National Committee.

283
284 **Section 3. Meetings.** The Executive Board shall meet at the con-
285 vention of the National Junior Classical League. A special meeting
286 of the Executive Board may be held at the call of the President,
287 the Advisor, or any two officers. A simple majority of the officers
288 shall constitute a quorum, with the presence of the Advisor re-
289 quired to transact any business.

290
291 ARTCILE VI
292 COMMITTEES
293

294 **Section 1. Scholarship Committee.** The Executive Board, with the
295 advice and consent of the Advisor, shall appoint a Scholarship
296 Committee who shall administer the scholarships of the NSCL. This
297 committee shall consist of the Advisor and four additional members.
298 These four committee members shall not be selected from the mem-
299 bership of the NSCL. The committee members shall have staggered
300 terms of three years each. The Scholarship Committee shall nominate
301 qualified individuals to fill open positons. The Scholarship Com-
302 mittee shall elect within itself a Treasurer and a Chair and shall
303 meet annually at the convention of the National Junior Classical
304 League.

305
306 **Section 2. Other Committees.** Other committees, standing or spe-
307 cial, may be established by the membership, the Executive Board,
308 or the President. The President shall appoint all members to com-
309 mittees for which membership is not otherwise provided.

310
311 ARTCILE VII
312 HANDBOOK
313

314 A handbook for the NSCL may be established by the Executive
315 Board, with the consent of the Advisor containing procedures not
316 provided for in the Constitution or these Bylaws. No provision of
317 the handbook may conflict with the provisions of the Constitution
318 or these Bylaws.

319
320 ARTCILE VIII
321 PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY
322

323 The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of
324 Order, Newly Revised shall govern the NSCL in all cases to which
325 they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with
326 the documents governing the ACL, the Constitution, these Bylaws,
327 or any special rules of order which the NSCL may adopt.

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ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENT

Section 1. The procedure for amendment of these Bylaws shall be the same as the procedure for the amendment of the NSCL Constitution, as described in Article V of that document.