

Constitution of the Pennsylvania Senior Classical League

PREAMBLE: We, the members of the Pennsylvania Senior Classical League, in order to carry out more effectively the purpose of our national organization, namely, “to hand on the torch of classical civilization to the modern world,” do hereby adopt the following constitution and agree to abide by its rules. No part of this Constitution or Bylaws shall be construed so as to conflict with the Constitution, Bylaws, or Acts of the National Senior Classical League or the Pennsylvania Junior Classical League.

ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Pennsylvania Senior Classical League (hereafter in this document referred to as PASCL).

Section 2: Objective

The objectives of this organization are twofold: 1) to enhance and promote the appreciation of the classics and classical scholarship in postsecondary education and 2) to advise, encourage, and help the Pennsylvania Junior Classical League. Furthermore, the PASCL shall pursue the objectives of the NSCL within the state and shall represent the national organization within the state. The PASCL Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy shall be concurrent with that of the Pennsylvania Junior Classical League (hereafter in this document referred to as PAJCL) and the National Senior Classical League (hereafter in this document referred to as NSCL).

Section 3: Charter

To remain in good standing with the NSCL, the PASCL chapter must retain five members.

Section 4: Emblem

The emblem of this organization shall be the laurel wreath with the torch of knowledge between the laurel branches and the initials “SCL” embossed horizontally on the torch with the Pennsylvania Keystone surrounding it.

Section 5: Affiliation

This organization is in affiliation with the Pennsylvania Junior Classical League and the National Senior Classical League.

Section 6: Colors

The colors of this organization shall be Roman purple and gold.

Section 7: SCL Creed

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

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

Section 8: SCL Song

Seeking the best, the highest our goal,
Working for greatness through glories of old,
Searching the realms of the golden past,
We follow the classics' truths that last.

In knowledge, truth, and fellowship,
We're growing every day;
The friendly hand of SCL aids in every way.
In Rome's proud steps we're marching on
With every true colleague,
And forever we'll hold
To the Purple and Gold
Of the Senior Classical League!

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Authority of the Membership

The paramount legislative authority of this organization resides in the membership. The explicit mention of certain powers of the membership does not deny or disparage its exercise of others. The membership can amend the constitution or the bylaws with a three-fourths vote.

Section 2: Membership Requirements

The members of this organization shall consist of Pennsylvania secondary school graduates and those students attending a higher institution in Pennsylvania, who have studied Latin, Greek, Classical humanities, Mythology, and Classical history.

Section 3: Types of Membership and Their Qualifications

There shall be two types of membership in the PASCL, which shall be called regular and associate. Regular and associate memberships shall be held from the time of payment of dues for that type of membership, until the time that eligibility for that type of membership has expired. The bylaws of the PASCL shall prescribe the dues for regular and associate membership.

Section 3.1: Regular Membership

Members shall be eligible for regular membership until the election of officers at the fifth annual meeting after his/her graduation. A graduating senior may join at the annual meeting of the PASCL chapter in the year of his/her graduation. If he or she attends the NJCL convention immediately following his/her graduation from high school, he shall be governed by the rules for an NJCL delegate, although he or she may participate in NSCL activities. The rights of regular members of the NSCL are described in the NSCL constitution and in the bylaws of the NSCL.

Section 3.2: Associate Membership

Members shall be eligible for associate membership from the opening of the fifth until the end of the ninth annual meeting after his/her graduation from high school.

Section 4: Local Chapters

Any five members may organize a local chapter of the PASCL, which shall be affiliated with a college or with a local chapter of the PAJCL, and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the PASCL.

ARTICLE III: DUES

Section 1: Regular Membership

The dues of a regular member of the PASCL shall be twelve dollars for four years, six dollars of which shall be used for NSCL membership.

Section 2: Associate Membership

The dues of an associate member of the PASCL shall be ten dollars for four years, four dollars of which shall be used for NSCL membership.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1: Annual Meeting

The membership shall meet annually during the PAJCL State Convention. Only PASCL members who are delegates to the convention shall participate in this meeting. The Advisor shall give notice of each assembly to each registered delegate, through the convention program, if possible.

Section 1.1: Agenda

The Coordinator, with the advice of the Advisor, shall set the agenda of each assembly. Any member may introduce business onto the agenda by written notice to the Coordinator before the convention.

Section 1.2: Quorum

At any assembly of the PASCL membership during the annual meeting for which public notice has been given at least 24 hours prior to the assembly, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: Special Assembly of the Membership

The Coordinator may, with cause, call a special assembly during the convention after reasonable notice to each registered delegate, in which case a simple majority of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V: GOVERNANCE

Section 1: Advisor

A PASCL advisor shall be appointed by the PAJCL Co-Chairs at each Fall semester PAJCL board meeting.

Section 2: Officers

The membership annually shall elect one Coordinator at the PAJCL State Convention.

Section 3: Qualifications

Only regular members are eligible for PASCL office. If an associate member wishes to run for Co-Coordinator, a motion and a second is required to suspend the bylaws for the vote. A candidate must have studied the classics in secondary or postsecondary school. A candidate must have attended at least one prior annual meeting as a PASCL member to be eligible for the PASCL Coordinator position. If no regular member who has not attended at least one prior annual meeting is present, a motion and a second is required to suspend the bylaws for a vote.

Section 3.1: Rules Involving Multiple Offices

No member shall hold concurrently more than one elected office. Members shall be able to be elected to the office of Coordinator at two or more consecutive annual meetings, provided that the person still meets the qualifications for becoming an officer.

Section 4: Tenure of Office

The tenure of office for the officers shall be from the time that they are sworn into office until the time that the new officers are sworn into office.

Section 5: Executive Board

The general executive authority resides in an Executive Board, which shall consist of the Coordinator, and the Advisor as a nonvoting member. The Coordinator shall supervise the affairs of the organization between its meetings and shall transact business on its behalf, subject to the authority of the membership, the Advisor, the NSCL, and the PAJCL. The executive board shall act as the agent through which PASCL business is conducted.

Section 5.1: Meetings

The Executive Board shall hold a business meeting during the PAJCL State Convention prior to the PASCL General Assembly. A special meeting of the Executive Board shall be held upon the call of the Coordinator or the Advisor.

Section 6: Parliamentary Authority

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 rule of order the PASCL may adopt.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1: Duties of the Advisor

The PASCL Adviser shall be a direct link between the PASCL Executive Board and the PAJCL Co-Chairs. The Adviser shall maintain correspondence with Coordinator during the tenure of office and shall provide assistance to the organization in any manner deemed necessary. The duties of the Advisor include, but are not limited to:

- a) Report to the National Committee concerning all SCL matters
- b) Work cooperatively with the NSCL and American Classical League;
- c) Advise the PASCL Coordinator and the membership;
- d) Maintain the roll of members and alumni;
- e) Make any document or record available to any member upon request;
- f) Approve disbursement from the Treasury and assist with the completion of necessary financial reports;
- g) Administer the election of the Coordinator; and,
- h) Oversee all events in which the PASCL is involved.

Section 2: Duties of the Coordinator

The PASCL Coordinator shall be a direct link between the organization and the members. The Coordinator shall maintain correspondence with the Advisor during the tenure of office and shall attend PAJCL Board Meetings. The duties of the Coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- a) Convene the membership, or any committee, with cause;
- b) Coordinate membership promotion and alumni relations;

- c) Create and appoint any necessary committee;
- d) Delegate responsibility whose exercise is not otherwise provided for;
- e) Assist local chapters in their organizing and granting temporary charters to these chapters at his/her discretion;
- f) Serve ex officio to each committee;
- g) Carefully record all proceedings of the membership or the Executive Board, and circulate these minutes after the meeting;
- h) Maintain any business records or other official documents in good order;
- i) Make any necessary correspondence to the membership, the Advisor, or the PAJCL Co-Chairs;
- j) Organize work at the state convention of the PAJCL State Convention through committees, appointed by and responsible to him/her, with jurisdiction over the Olympika, the Ludi events, the Entertainment Show, and the Spirit Competition; and,
- k) Promote the organization in publications of interest to classicists

ARTICLE VII: VOTING AND ELECTIONS

Section 1: Nominations

The nomination of candidates for office shall occur at the assembly of the annual meeting during the PAJCL State Convention. Any member may nominate an eligible member for office from the floor of the assembly. Up to four minutes shall be allowed for each candidate to speak on his/her behalf.

Section 2: Elections

The memberships of the PASCL shall hold elections at the assembly of the annual meeting of the membership. Any member may then discuss or question any candidate, who may respond. Each candidate may remain present in the meeting throughout the election.

Section 3: Voting

Each member is given one ballot. A simple voting shall determine the winner for the office.

Section 3.1: Eligibility for Voting Rights

A registered delegate who has attended at least one assembly prior to the assembly of the elections, and who was present for either the speeches or the question-and-answer period, is an eligible voter. The Coordinator shall note who attends all or part of any assembly before the election, in order to make a list of voting delegates.

Section 3.2: Absentee and Proxy Ballots

An eligible voter who expects to be absent during the election may give to a teller an absentee ballot that ranks the candidates for Coordinator in order of preference, which shall count for the highest listed candidate who is still eligible. No member may vote for another as his/her proxy.

Section 4: Tallying Ballots

The Coordinator and the Advisor shall count the votes; but, if of the Coordinator is a candidate, then the two shall jointly appoint an impartial member to replace the candidate as teller. Election shall occur by simple majority.

Section 4.1: Uncontested Elections

In uncontested elections, the candidate shall be acclimated to the position by a motion and a second from the membership.

Section 4.2: Non-Majorities

In contested elections, if no candidate receives a majority, then the delegates shall vote again, voting only upon the two leading candidates.

Section 5: Vacancies

If the Coordinator position becomes vacant, the remaining Advisor shall immediately appoint a qualified successor, who shall serve for the remainder for the unexpired term. A Coordinator who does not attend the annual meeting at the end of his/her term has vacated the office.

Section 6: Tenure of Office

The elected Coordinator shall begin his/her term upon inauguration into office during the annual meeting. The appointed Coordinator shall begin his/her term of office upon appointment.

Section 7: Oath of Office for the Co-Coordinator

I, (name), as Pennsylvania Senior Classical League Coordinator, promise to uphold and carry out my duties as stated in the Pennsylvania Senior Classical League Constitution. I further promise to carry out the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Junior Classical League State Chairperson, the State Co-Chairpersons, the State Executives, and the Pennsylvania Senior Classical League Advisor, and to help promote Latin and the Senior Classical League during my term of office.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Proposal

Any member may propose an amendment to this constitution or the bylaws by written notice to the Advisor thirty (30) days prior to the PAJCL State Convention.

Section 2: Consideration

The membership shall consider any proposed amendment to this constitution at the annual meeting. The Coordinator shall report to the membership the possible effect of the amendment, and may recommend whether the proposed amendment ought to be ratified.

Section 3: Presentation

The Coordinator shall give notice of any proposed amendment to this constitution at the assembly of the annual meeting, and shall explain the procedure for further amendment.

Section 4: Procedure

The vote to ratify a proposed amendment to this constitution shall occur at the annual meeting, unless postponed by the Coordinator, the Advisor, or the membership.

Section 5: Ratification

The membership shall ratify a proposed amendment to this constitution by a two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE IX: RATIFICATION

Following the ratification by a two-thirds written vote of the voting members, this constitution shall become effective after the adjournment of the PAJCL State Convention at which it was adopted. By a three-fourths vote of the voting delegates, all or part of this constitution may likewise be abolished.

RATIFIED
20 May 2012

Patricia Hay
PASCL Advisor