

Constitution

Article I: General Information

Section 1--Name. The name of this organization shall be the Wisconsin Senior Classical League, hereafter referred to as WSCL.

Section 2--Purpose. The purpose of this organization shall be to promote classical studies in post-secondary education and to endorse and help the Wisconsin Junior Classical League, should it be necessary.

Section 3--Emblem. The emblem of this organization shall be a reproduction of the national emblem, namely a torch encircled with a laurel wreath, and the colors shall be Roman purple and gold. This is in accordance with the constitution of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League.

Section 4--Affiliation. This organization shall be affiliated with the National Senior Classical League and the Wisconsin Junior Classical League, and shall respect the constitutions and acts thereof, with which this constitution's amendments and bylaws shall not conflict.

Article II: Membership

Section 1--Rights. The membership of the WSCL shall hold chief legislative authority in this organization. Membership gives one the right to attend WSCL events, vote, run for office, and submit amendment proposals for the constitution or bylaws, contingent on approval by the WSCL advisor.

Section 2--Inclusion. In order to join the WSCL, it is not necessary to be a classics major, to be taking Latin or Greek courses, or to have had prior membership in the NJCL or any state or local chapter thereof.

Section 3--Types of Membership. There shall be three types of membership in the WSCL: two active and one inactive. Active membership is defined as primary and secondary membership, both of which shall hold the full rights outlined in **Article II, Section 1** and shall hold membership from the time of payment of dues until the time in which that type of membership has expired. Inactive membership is defined as tertiary membership and operates on a volunteer basis.

I. Primary Membership

- A. A primary member enjoys all the rights of full membership as outlined in **Article II, Section 1** of the WSCL constitution.
- B. Any secondary school graduate shall be eligible for primary membership until the election of officers at the fifth annual meeting after their graduation from high school.
- C. A senior graduating from high school may join in the year of their graduation. Graduating seniors may participate in WSCL activities, including voting, but shall still be governed by the rules and constitution of the WJCL.
 - 1. A graduating senior, as a primary member, enjoys the rights of full membership privileges aforementioned in this document and is eligible to run for WSCL office at the annual WSCL meeting in the year of their graduation under the conditions set at that year's annual meeting, as outlined in **Article III, Section 3** of the WSCL constitution.

II. Secondary Membership

- A. A secondary member enjoys all the rights of full membership as outlined in **Article II, Section 1** of the WSCL constitution, except the ability to run for and hold office.
- B. Any secondary school graduate shall be eligible for secondary membership from the opening of the fifth annual meeting of the WSCL after their graduation from high school and shall remain a member until the end of the ninth annual meeting after their graduation from high school.

III. Tertiary Membership

- A. Upon the conclusion of a member's ninth annual meeting after their graduation from high school, the member is eligible to enter tertiary membership.
- B. Tertiary members may not take an active role in the governance of the WSCL, including holding office, voting, or proposing legislation, but may attend conventions and participate in all other activities.

Section 4--Local Chapters. The WSCL may charter sections of local chapters, which shall be specified in **Article I** of the bylaws of the WSCL.

**Article III:
Governance**

Section 1--Advisor. Any adult affiliated with the WJCL and/or the WSCL, who has exceeded the time limit for primary or secondary membership, and who has been so appointed by the WSCL Executive Board and/or the WJCL State Chairs, shall serve as an advisor to the WSCL.

Section 2--Board Positions. The membership of the WSCL shall annually elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian.

Section 3--Board Eligibility. Only primary members are eligible for WSCL office. A candidate must have studied the classics in secondary or post-secondary school. A candidate for President or Vice President must have attended at least one prior annual meeting as a WSCL member to be eligible for either WSCL office.

Section 4--Limitations. No member shall hold concurrently more than one elected office at the WSCL level.

Section 5--Election Process. The membership of the WSCL shall hold elections at the annual meeting of the membership. Nominations shall be taken from the floor of the assembly and time shall be allotted for each candidate to speak on their own behalf, as specified in **Section 3** of the WSCL bylaws.

Section 6--Board Authority. The executive authority of the organization resides in an Executive Board, which shall consist of the elected officers, and the WSCL advisor as a nonvoting member. The board shall supervise the affairs of the organization between its meetings and shall transact business on its behalf.

Section 7--Pre-Convention. The Executive Board shall meet at the WJCL Convention as early as possible before the convention has been called to order. A special meeting of the Executive Board shall be held upon the call of the President, the Advisor, or any two officers. A simple majority of voting officers shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8--Maintaining Order. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern WSCL 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 WSCL may adopt.

Article IV: Meetings

Section 1--Convention. The membership shall meet annually during the convention of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League. Only WSCL members who are delegates to the convention shall participate in this meeting. The bylaws shall prescribe a registration fee, payment of which shall entitle an eligible member to participate in the meeting.

Section 2--Quorum. At any assembly of the WSCL 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.

Article V: Amendments

Section 1--Proposal. Any member may propose an amendment to this constitution or the bylaws by written notice to the President and the Parliamentarian.

Section 2--Presentation. The membership shall consider any proposed amendment to this constitution at the first annual meeting held more than 14 days after its submission. The Parliamentarian, on behalf of the WSCL Executive Board, shall report to the membership the possible effects of the amendment, and shall explain the procedure for further amendment, at the first assembly of the annual meeting. Should the Parliamentarian be unavailable, the duty shall fall to the President.

Section 3--Voting. The vote to ratify a proposed amendment to this constitution shall occur at the last assembly of the annual meeting, unless postponed by the Executive board or the membership.

Section 4--Ratification. The membership shall ratify a proposed amendment to this constitution by two-thirds vote.

Bylaws

Article I: Charters

Section 1--Charter Dispensation. The Executive Board may grant charters to or revoke the charters of local chapters of the WSCL. The President shall encourage the organization of new chapters however possible, and may grant temporary charters pending action by the Executive Board.

Section 2--Requirements. Any five members may organize a local chapter, which shall be affiliated with a college/university or with a local chapter of the Junior Classical League, if possible, and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the WSCL and NSCL.

Section 3--More Requirements. In order to request a charter from the Executive Board, the President of the newly formed chapter must:

- A.** Inform the President and Parliamentarian of its intentions of forming a recognized chapter.
- B.** Provide a list of at least five members and dues for those members who are not already a member of the WSCL, as well as a ratified constitution for the new chapter. The

membership list and constitution must be sent to the WSCL President and Parliamentarian. Dues are to be sent to the WSCL Treasurer or person(s) in charge of financials.

Section 4--Funding. Funding will not be provided by the WSCL, NSCL, NJCL, or any other related organizations; if funding is needed, the chapter must request funding from their hosting school or university or host a fundraiser of their own accord.

Section 5--Local Constitution. No chapter shall adopt a constitution, bylaws, or policy that is in direct contradiction to the NSCL Constitution and Bylaws or its policies or the WSCL Constitution and Bylaws or its policies

Section 6--Permanence. Once qualifications for charter are met, the Executive Board shall assign a chapter name, and each chapter shall cooperate with the national and state organizations however possible and shall submit all necessary materials to maintain its charter as outlined in the subsections below.

- A.** In order to be in good standing with the WSCL and an Active charter of the WSCL, each chapter must:
- a.** Provide current lists of each type of member in the chapter sent to the President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian annually, including a primary contact who shall be in direct communication with the WSCL,
 - b.** Send dues for new members of the chapter with corresponding documentation to the Treasurer or person(s) in charge of financials,
 - c.** Be in good standing with their respective school or university,
 - d.** Be in constant communication with the WSCL, and
 - e.** Uphold the expectations of the NSCL, WSCL, and the WSCL advisor, their bylaws, and their policies.

Section 7--Inactivity. Chapters who do not follow the required procedures in order to stay in good standing with the WSCL shall be considered an Inactive Charter and could face revocation of their charter status. The Executive Board shall notify the primary contact of the charter of its Inactive status; the notified chapter must provide the required credentials or explanation of inactivity. If the chapter does not notify the Executive Board by the next annual meeting of the WSCL, the Executive Board shall vote to revoke the charter of the chapter. A two-thirds vote must be drawn for the charter to be revoked.

Article II: Dues

Section 1--Primary. The dues of a primary member of the WSCL shall be four dollars for the full duration of primary membership eligibility.

Section 2--Secondary. The dues of a secondary member of the WSCL shall be four dollars for the full duration of secondary membership eligibility.

Section 3--Tertiary. Tertiary members shall have the privilege of paying no dues for the remainder of their inactive membership.

Article III: Officers

Section 1--Nomination. The nomination and election of officers shall occur at the last assembly of the annual meeting. Any member may nominate an eligible member for office. Each candidate nominated may then speak on their own behalf for an allotted time decided by members present at the voting assembly. Any member may then discuss or question any candidate, who may respond. Each candidate may remain present in the meeting throughout the election. 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. An unsuccessful candidate may be nominated for another office at the election.

Section 2--Voting.

- A.** The members shall vote by secret ballot, or another method approved by the assembly. The President, the Parliamentarian, and the WSCL Advisor shall count the votes; but, if the President or Parliamentarian is a candidate, then the three shall jointly appoint an impartial member to replace the candidate as teller.
- B.** A registered delegate who was present for the current election's speeches is an eligible voter. The Parliamentarian shall note who attends all or part of any assembly before the election, in order to make a list of voting delegates.
- C.** Election shall occur by majority. In uncontested elections, if 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.
- D.** In contested elections, if no candidate receives a 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 elections shall devolve upon the newly-elected Executive Board.

Section 3--Vacancy in the office of President. If the Presidency becomes vacant, then the Vice President shall immediately become President.

- A.** If the Presidency-Elect becomes vacant, then the election of Vice President shall commence, after which the new Vice President-Elect shall immediately become President-Elect, and the office of Vice President will be vacant.

Section 4--Vacancy. If an elected office besides the Presidency becomes vacant, then the President, with a consensus of the Executive board and WSCL Advisor, shall appoint a qualified successor, who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 5--Term. Each elected officer shall begin their term at their inauguration and announcement into office at the WJCL closing assembly. Each appointed officer shall begin their term of office upon appointment.

Section 6--Impeachment.

- A.** Grounds for Removal: The WSCL shall have the power to remove any of its officers as provided in this section. The grounds for such removal shall be based on the following:
 - a.** Violation of this constitution or its bylaws,
 - b.** Abuse of office,
 - c.** Negligence in their duties, or
 - d.** Any behavior unbecoming of an officer.
- B.** Removal Procedure: The following shall be the procedure for the expulsion of an officer from the Executive Board. The process shall not exceed a 30-day time limit.
 - a.** A resolution by the Executive Board to consider the removal of an officer can be introduced by any member of the Executive Board, or by a petition bearing the signatures of at least five members of the general membership. The resolution must be submitted in writing, along with any reason for dismissal, to the WSCL Advisor.
 - b.** A copy of the charges shall be distributed to every officer, and the officer in question shall be guaranteed the opportunity to make an adequate defense on their own behalf before a meeting of the Executive Board and the WSCL membership.
 - c.** After the officer in question has finished their defense, a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board shall be necessary to remove the officer. No officer shall be denied proceedings aimed at their removal.

Article IV:

Duties of the Advisor and Officer

Section 1--Duties of the Advisor.

- A.** Report to the WJCL State Chairs concerning all WSCL matters,
- B.** Work cooperatively with the Wisconsin Junior Classical League,
- C.** Advise the WSCL Executive Board and the membership,
- D.** Maintain a current record of the Treasury,
- E.** Approve disbursement from the Treasury and assist the elected Treasurer to complete necessary financial reports,
- F.** Oversee all events in which the WSCL is involved, and

G. Oversee any other tasks outlined by the WJCL State Chairs.

Section 2--Duties of the President.

- A. Preside over the membership and the Executive Board,
- B. Convene the membership, the Executive Board, or any committee, with cause,
- C. Coordinate membership promotion and alumni relations,
- D. Create and appoint necessary committee,
- E. Delegate responsibility whose exercise is not otherwise provided for,
- F. Assist local chapters in their organizing and granting temporary charters to these chapters at their discretion,
- G. Serve ex officio to each committee, and
- H. Coordinate and oversee the duties of the officers.

Section 3--Duties of the Vice President.

- A. Assume the Presidency upon any permanent vacancy of that position,
- B. Execute the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or temporary inability to serve,
- C. Assist the President, and
- D. Organize the work at the state convention of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League through committees, appointed by and responsible to him or her, with jurisdiction over any SCL-organized events.

Section 4--Duties of the Parliamentarian.

- A. Maintain parliamentary order and procedure at all WSCL meetings,
- B. Administer the election of officers,
- C. Advise any officer or other member of procedure, and
- D. Work with local chapters towards the maintenance of their permanent charters.

Section 5--Duties of the Secretary.

- A. Carefully record all proceedings of the membership or the Executive Board, and circulate these minutes to each officer after the meeting,
- B. Maintain any business records or other official documents in good order,
- C. Maintain, in conjunction with the Treasurer, the roll of the members and alumni, and
- D. Make any document or record available to any member upon request.

Section 6--Duties of the Treasurer.

- A. Collect any dues or fees or any routine debt owed to the organization,
- B. Keep records of the WSCL finances and assets,
- C. Deposit any income to the treasury and provide for its safekeeping in the organization's name,

- D. Disburse funds as appropriated by the Executive Board and the Advisor, and
- E. Recommend an annual budget to the Executive Board for approval by the National Committee.

Article V: Meetings

Section 1--Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall consist of no fewer than two assemblies. The Executive Board shall give notice of each assembly to each registered delegate, through the convention program, if possible.

- A. The President may 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.
- B. The Executive Board, with the advice of the President, the Advisor, and the Parliamentarian, shall set the agenda of each assembly. Any member may introduce business onto the agenda by written notice to the President or Parliamentarian or Advisor before the convention.

Article VI: Amendment

Section 1--Procedure. The procedure for amendment of these Bylaws shall be the same as the procedure for the amendment of the WSCL constitution, as described in **Article V** of that document.