

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE
NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

Adopted, July 2015
As amended, July 2019

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

As amended, July 2019

ARTICLE I NAME AND EMBLEM

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE hereinafter referred to as the NSCL.

Section 2. Emblem. The emblem of the NSCL shall be the torch of knowledge with the letters SCL superimposed horizontally and encircled with a laurel wreath.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

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

ARTICLE III GOVERNANCE

Section 1. American Classical League. The NSCL shall be a subsidiary organization of the AMERICAN CLASSICAL LEAGUE, hereinafter referred to as the ACL, wholly created by and controlled by the ACL Council. No provisions of this Constitution or its Bylaws shall be construed so as to conflict with the Constitution, Bylaws, or Acts of the ACL.

Section 2. Committee on the National Junior and Senior Classical Leagues.

2.1. Committee on the National Junior and Senior Classical Leagues. The ACL Council shall exercise its supervision of this organization by means of its Committee on the National Junior and Senior Classical Leagues, hereinafter referred to as the National Committee, as specified in the Constitution and Bylaws of the ACL. Appointment of members to the National Committee shall be governed by the Constitution and Bylaws of the ACL.

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

2.2.1. Report to the National Committee concerning all SCL matters;

2.2.2. Work cooperatively with the ACL;

2.2.3. Advise the NSCL Executive Board and the membership;

2.2.4. Approve disbursement from the treasury and assist the Treasurer in completing necessary financial reports;

2.2.5. Oversee all events in which the NSCL is involved;

- 41 2.2.6. Serve on the NSCL Scholarship Committee; and,
42 2.2.7. Oversee any other tasks as outlined by the National Committee.
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44 **Section 3. Membership.** Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution or its Bylaws,
45 the paramount authority of this organization resides in the membership. The explicit men-
46 tion of certain powers of the membership does not deny or limit its exercise of others.
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48 ARTICLE IV
49 AMENDMENT
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51 **Section 1. Origin of Amendments.** Any member of this organization may propose an
52 amendment to this Constitution by submitting such to the NSCL President, the NSCL Parlia-
53 mentarian, and the NSCL Advisor. Furtherance of a proposed amendment requires approval
54 by the ACL in a manner in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the ACL.
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56 **Section 2. Amendment Procedure.** A proposed amendment to this Constitution shall be
57 considered at the first annual meeting held following final approval by the ACL. The pro-
58 cedure shall be as follows:

- 59 2.1. The NSCL Parliamentarian shall give notice of the proposed amendment no later
60 than the first assembly of the annual meeting at which the amendment is to be
61 considered.
62 2.2. The NSCL Executive Board shall report to the membership the possible effect of
63 the amendment and may recommend whether the proposed amendment ought
64 to be ratified.
65 2.3. The membership shall debate the proposed amendment at the antepenultimate
66 assembly of the annual meeting.
67 2.4. Voting shall take place during the penultimate assembly of the annual meeting,
68 unless postponed by the Executive Board or the membership.
69 2.5. A two-thirds vote of the members present and voting shall be required for passage
70 of a proposed amendment.

BYLAWS OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE
As amended, July 2019

ARTICLE I
MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

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

1.1. Regular. Secondary school graduates shall be eligible for regular membership until the opening of the final assembly at the fifth annual meeting after their graduation. Graduating seniors may join at the annual meeting of their state SCL chapter in the year of their graduation or at the first National Junior Classical League Convention following their graduation. SCL members attending the National Junior Classical League convention immediately following graduation shall be governed by the rules for Junior Classical League delegates, although they may participate in NSCL activities. The rights of regular members are described in the NSCL Constitution and these Bylaws.

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

Section 2. Dues.

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

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

ARTICLE II
ORGANIZATIONAL DIVISIONS

Section 1. State and Provincial Chapters. Any five members may organize a state or provincial chapter. A state or provincial chapter should affiliate with its corresponding state or provincial chapter of the National Junior Classical League, if possible. State and provincial chapters shall represent and pursue the objectives of the national organization within their states or provinces.

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

1.2. Charters. The Executive Board may grant charters to, or revoke the charters of, state and provincial chapters of the NSCL. The NSCL President shall encourage the organization of new chapters and, upon submission of appropriate documents,

may grant temporary charters which shall be valid for up to one year, at which time the Executive Board shall decide whether to grant a permanent charter.

1.2.1. State and provincial chapters shall annually submit contact information for the chapter as well as the most recent copies of their governing documents to the NSCL Parliamentarian prior to the election of the NSCL officers at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Local Chapters. Local chapters may be chartered at the discretion and according to the procedures of the state or provincial chapter within whose jurisdiction they lie.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

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

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

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

Section 4. Election.

4.1. **Time of Elections.** The election of officers shall occur at the last assembly of the annual meeting. Election of each office shall occur in the order in which the offices are listed in these Bylaws, with the winners being announced before the election of the next office begins.

4.2. **Discussion.** Any member may discuss or question any candidate. Candidates may remain present in the meeting throughout the election.

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

4.4. **Voter Eligibility.** A registered delegate who has attended at least one assembly

- 84 prior to the assembly of elections, and who was present for either the speeches
85 or the question-and-answer period shall be eligible to vote. The Parliamentarian
86 shall note attendance at each assembly in order to create a list of eligible voters.
- 87 **4.5. Voting.** Eligible members shall vote by ranked secret ballot. Eligible members
88 unable to attend the voting assembly may provide the Parliamentarian with a
89 sealed absentee ballot. The President, Parliamentarian, and Advisor shall count
90 the ballots according to the instant run-off procedure prescribed by the parlia-
91 mentary manual adopted by the NSCL. If the President or Parliamentarian is a
92 candidate, then the three shall jointly appoint an impartial teller.
- 93 **4.6. No Election.** Should the first ballot for an office fail to produce a winner, the
94 members of the outgoing Executive Board, not running for the office in question,
95 shall decide among the top two candidates (or among all candidates tied for first),
96 by secret ballot. A majority of those voting shall be required for election. If this
97 procedure again fails to produce a winner, the election shall be decided by random
98 draw.
- 99 **4.7. Uncontested Elections.** If no member objects, uncontested elections may be
100 voted on by acclamation.

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102 **Section 5. Term..**

- 103 **5.1. Elected Officers.** The President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and Par-
104 liamentarian shall be elected for a term of one year. The term shall begin upon
105 inauguration at the close of the annual meeting.
- 106 **5.2. Appointed Officers.** The Editor and Historian shall be appointed for a term
107 of one year. The term shall begin upon inauguration at the close of the annual
108 meeting.

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110 **Section 6. Vacancy.**

- 111 **6.1.** A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice-president.
- 112 **6.2.** Vacancies in offices other than that of the President shall be filled by appointment
113 of the President with the consent of the Executive Board and Advisor.

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115 **Section 7. Removal.**

- 116 **7.1.** An officer may be removed by decision of the National Committee or a two-thirds
117 vote of the Executive Board.
- 118 **7.2.** Failure to attend or to register for the annual meeting shall constitute automatic
119 removal from office.

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121 **Section 8. Duties.**

- 122 **8.1. President.** The duties of the President shall be as follows:
- 123 **8.1.1.** Chair the meetings of the membership and the Executive Board;
- 124 **8.1.2.** Convene the membership, the Executive Board, or any committee, with
125 cause;
- 126 **8.1.3.** Coordinate membership promotion and alumni relations;

- 127 8.1.4. Create and appoint any necessary committee;
- 128 8.1.5. Delegate responsibility for which exercise is not otherwise provided;
- 129 8.1.6. Assist new state and provincial chapters in organizing and granting temporary charters to such chapters as needed;
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- 131 8.1.7. Have jurisdiction over the talent show and NSCL reception at the National Junior Classical League Convention;
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- 133 8.1.8. Serve *ex officio* on all committees, except the Scholarship Committee; and,
- 134 8.1.9. Coordinate and oversee the duties of the officers.
- 135 **8.2. Vice-president.** The duties of the Vice-president shall be as follows:
- 136 8.2.1. Assume the Presidency in the event of permanent vacancy of the position;
- 137 8.2.2. Perform the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or temporary inability to serve;
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- 139 8.2.3. Assist the President; and,
- 140 8.2.4. Have jurisdiction over Ludi and Olympika at the annual National Junior Classical League Convention.
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- 142 **8.3. Secretary.** The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:
- 143 8.3.1. Carefully record all proceedings of the membership or the Executive Board, and circulate these minutes to each officer and the Advisor after the meeting;
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- 146 8.3.2. Maintain any business records or other official documents in good order;
- 147 8.3.3. Maintain, in conjunction with the Treasurer, the roll of members and alumni;
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- 149 8.3.4. Make official documents available on the website, updating these documents when necessary;
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- 151 8.3.5. Manage communications between the Executive Board and the membership;
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- 153 8.3.6. Act as administrator for any NSCL email lists or webpages; and,
- 154 8.3.7. Make any official document or record available to any member upon approval of the Executive Board.
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- 156 **8.4. Treasurer.** The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:
- 157 8.4.1. Collect any dues or fees or any routine debt owed to the organization;
- 158 8.4.2. Deposit any income to the treasury in a timely manner and provide for its safekeeping in the organization's name;
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- 160 8.4.3. Disburse funds as appropriated by the Executive Board or the Advisor;
- 161 8.4.4. Maintain, in coordination with the Advisor, accurate record keeping of the NSCL treasury;
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- 163 8.4.5. Furnish each member with credentials;
- 164 8.4.6. Maintain, in conjunction with the Secretary, the roll of members and alumni;
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- 166 8.4.7. Create a financial report available to any member upon request; and,
- 167 8.4.8. Recommend an annual budget to the Executive Board for approval by the National Committee.
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- 169 **8.5. Parliamentarian.** The duties of the Parliamentarian shall be as follows:
- 170 8.5.1. Administer the election of officers and the voting on amendments to the
- 171 Constitution or these Bylaws;
- 172 8.5.2. Maintain a list of the names of all members attending each assembly in
- 173 order to create a list of eligible voters.
- 174 8.5.3. Advise any officer or other member on matters of procedure;
- 175 8.5.4. Help the chair maintain order at meetings;
- 176 8.5.5. Revise and update the NSCL Handbook for distribution; and,
- 177 8.5.6. Work with the state and provincial chapters toward the maintenance of
- 178 their permanent charters.
- 179 **8.6. Editor.** The duties of the Editor shall be as follows:
- 180 8.6.1. Publish, under the supervision of the Advisor and NJCL Publications Chair,
- 181 the official newsletter, the Letter of the League, up to three times annu-
- 182 ally;
- 183 8.6.2. Publish, under the supervision of the Advisor and NJCL Publications Chair,
- 184 a daily newspaper, the Convention Ear, at the National Junior Classical
- 185 League Convention; and,
- 186 8.6.3. Promote the organization in publications of interest to classicists.
- 187 **8.7. Historian.** The duties of the Historian shall be as follows:
- 188 8.7.1. Prepare an ongoing historical record of the NSCL in the form of a share-
- 189 able media and official history;
- 190 8.7.2. Incorporate the official history in the NSCL website, making updates as
- 191 necessary; and,
- 192 8.7.3. Maintain the official online presence of the NSCL.

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194 ARTICLE IV
195 MEETINGS
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197 **Section 1. Annual Meeting.** The membership shall meet annually during the convention
198 of the National Junior Classical League. An NSCL member must be a delegate to the con-
199 vention in order to participate in the meeting.

- 200 **1.1. Registration Fee.** The Executive Board with the consent of the Advisor shall set
201 a registration fee for the convention, payment of which shall entitle an eligible
202 member to participate in the meeting.
- 203 **1.2. Assemblies.** The annual meeting shall consist of not fewer than three assemblies.
204 The Executive Board shall give notice of each assembly to registered delegates,
205 through the convention program. The President may call a special assembly, not
206 originally scheduled in the convention program, if required. Reasonable notice
207 shall be provided for such assemblies.
- 208 **1.3. Quorum.** For an assembly scheduled in the convention program, the registered
209 delegates present at the assembly shall constitute a quorum. For a special assem-
210 bly, a simple majority of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum.
- 211 **1.4. Agenda.** The Executive Board with the advice of the President, Parliamentarian,

and Advisor, shall set the agenda of each assembly. Any member may introduce business onto the agenda by written notice to the President, Parliamentarian, or Advisor prior to the assembly at which it is to be considered.

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

ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

Section 2. Duties and Powers. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the NSCL between its meetings and shall transact business on its behalf, subject to the authority of the membership, the ACL, and the National Committee.

Section 3. Meetings. The Executive Board shall meet at the convention of the National Junior Classical League. A special meeting of the Executive Board may be held at the call of the President, the Advisor, or any two officers. A simple majority of the officers shall constitute a quorum, with the presence of the Advisor required to transact any business.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

Section 1. Scholarship Committee. The Executive Board, with the advice and consent of the Advisor, shall appoint a Scholarship Committee who shall administer the scholarships of the NSCL. This committee shall consist of the Advisor and four additional members. These four committee members shall not be selected from the membership of the NSCL. The Committee members shall have staggered terms of three years each. The Scholarship Committee shall nominate qualified individuals to fill open positions. The Scholarship Committee shall elect within itself a Treasurer and a Chair and shall meet annually at the convention of the National Junior Classical League.

Section 2. Other Committees. Other committees, standing or special, may be established by the membership, the Executive Board, or the President. The President shall appoint all members to committees for which membership is not otherwise provided.

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ARTICLE VII
HANDBOOK

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

ARTICLE VIII
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

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

ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENT

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.