

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE (CSCL)

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 friendship, promotes enthusiasm, encourages competition, inspires dedication, and enriches our total growth.



Article I: General Provisions

Section 1: Name

The name of this organization is the California Senior Classical League hereafter in this document referred to as CSCL.

Section 2: Objective

The objectives of this organization are to enhance and promote the appreciation of the classics and classical scholarship in post-secondary education through social and academic activities, and to advise, encourage, and help the California Junior Classical League (CJCL).

Section 3: Emblem

The emblem shall be the torch of knowledge under the initials "SCL," all encircled by a laurel wreath.

Section 4: Affiliation

This organization is in affiliation with the American Classical League, the parent organization of the Junior Classical League.. This organization is also affiliated with the California Junior Classical League, and National Senior Classical League

Article II: Members

Section 1: Authority of the Membership

The paramount legislative authority of this organization resides in the membership. The membership can amend the Constitution or the by-laws as long as no section of either document shall conflict with the Constitution, by-laws, or Acts of The American Classical League (ACL) or the NSCL.

Section 2: Types of Membership and their Qualifications

There shall be two types of membership in the CSCL, which shall be called "Regular" and "Associate". Regular and Associate memberships shall be held for the time of payment of dues for that type of membership. All members of the CSCL must be registered as a member of the NSCL. Failure to be a member of NSCL in good standing will disable membership with CSCL.

A. Regular Membership - Any high school graduate shall be eligible for regular membership. A high school graduate may join at the annual meeting of the CSCL chapter at the CJCL Convention or at anytime. The rights of regular members of the NSCL are described in this constitution and in the bylaws of the CSCL and NSCL. Regular Members can vote in CSCL elections. There shall be three ranks for Regular members:

1. Rank 1 Delegates are students who are enrolled as undergraduates in college.
2. Rank 2 Delegates are students who are enrolled as graduates in college.

3. Rank 3 Delegates are students who are no longer students in college.

- B. Associate Membership - Any high school senior shall be eligible for associate membership. An associate member shall enjoy every right that a Regular member enjoys. If this member attends the CJCL state convention, this member shall be governed by the rules for CJCL, although they may participate in CSCL activities. Associate Members shall be called "Slashers" Associate members can vote once NSCL membership and all other dues have been paid.

Section 3: Qualifications for CSCL

CSCL must have enrolled in at least one classically oriented course, the validity of which can be determined by the discretion of the prior board. Officers must have previous engagement in the organization and most have been a member in good standing of the NSCL.

Section 4: Chapters

CSCL may charter local chapters of schools within California. The procedure for chartering, along with requirements for an obligations of local chapters shall be specified in the By-Laws of the CSCL.

Article III: Governance

Section 1: Parliamentary Procedure and Authority

The President shall set the agenda for each meeting and preside over each meeting. 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 rules of order the League may adopt. No section of this Constitution or its by-laws shall conflict with the Constitution, by-laws, or Acts of the ACL and the NSCL.

Section 2: Officers

The membership annually shall elect a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Webmaster. It is within the authority of the President, with the consul of the Advisor, to appoint members to offices not mentioned in this Constitution as needed. No member shall hold more than one office.

Section 3: Qualifications

CSCL must have enrolled in at least one classically oriented course, the validity of which can be determined by the discretion of the prior board. Officers must have previous engagement in the organization and must have been a member in good standing of the NSCL for a one-year minimum. The President must attend post-secondary school and live in California.

Section 4: Elections

The membership of the CSCL shall hold elections in a SCL meeting during the CJCL State Convention. Only eligible Senior Classical members will be allowed to vote.

Section 5: Executive Board

The general executive authority resides in an Executive Board, which shall consist of the four officers, and the Advisor as a nonvoting member. The board shall supervise the affairs of the organization between its meetings and shall transact business on its behalf, subject to the authority of the membership and the NSCL.

A. Meetings of the Executive Board:

Open Executive Board meetings shall occur at least three times annually, one of these meetings being held at the CJCL State Convention. A special meeting of the Executive Board shall be held upon the call of the Advisor or any officer. A majority of officers shall constitute a quorum. The Advisor is not counted in the quorum.

B. Notification:

The President, or officer calling for a meeting, shall give the board thirty days notice.

Article IV: Meetings

Section 1: Annual Meeting

The membership shall meet annually during the annual CJCL state convention. Members in good standing shall be eligible to participate in the meeting.

Section 2: Quorum

At any meeting of the CSCL membership during the annual state convention, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3: CSCL Assembly

The President may call for an Assembly of the CSCL at anytime during the year. To amend the By-Laws or Constitution two-thirds of all the CSCL members must be present. These Assemblies will serve to help retain members, promote CSCL, and further assist the CJCL.

Article V: Amendment to the Constitution

Section 1: Proposal

Any member may propose an amendment to this Constitution or the by-laws by written notice to the President at least one month prior to the annual meeting of the membership or an Assembly with more than two-thirds of the membership present.

Section 2: Notification

The President shall give at least 30 days notice of any proposed amendment to this Constitution. The consideration of an amendment will take place at the annual meeting of the membership unless an Assembly is called.

Section 3: Presentation & Consideration

In the meeting of the membership, if an amendment is to be voted upon, the President shall explain the amendment procedure. The President shall report to the membership the possible effect of the amendment and may recommend whether the proposed amendment ought to be ratified.

Section 4: Procedure

The vote to ratify a proposed amendment to this Constitution shall occur at the meeting of the membership at which it was presented.

Section 5: Ratification

A two-thirds majority vote will ratify a proposed amendment to this Constitution.

Section 6: Counting Votes

Votes will be done by Secret Ballot. The Officers shall count the votes. An officer who has proposed an amendment shall not count the votes for their amendment

THE BY-LAWS OF THE CALIFORNIA SENIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE (CSCL)

Article I: Chapters

Section 1: Charters

The Executive Board may grant charters to, or revoke the charters of local chapters of the CSCL. The President shall encourage the organization of new chapters, and may grant temporary charters pending action by the Executive Board.

Section 2: Local Chapters

Any five members may organize a local chapter that should be affiliated with a college in California and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the CSCL.

Section 3: Local Chapter Obligations

Each chapter shall cooperate with the CSCL and shall submit all necessary materials to maintain its charter as outlined in the NSCL Handbook. No chapter shall adopt a Constitution, by-laws, or policy that shall conflict with the CSCL or NSCL Constitution or by-laws or their policies.

Article II: Dues

Section 1: Membership

There shall be no dues to be a member of the CSCL

Article III: Officers

The Officers are listed in gavel order. All offices are to be held for a one-year term. No officer may hold more than one office during a term of office. Should the membership chose, an officer may be reelected.

Section 1: Nominations

The nomination of candidates for office shall occur at the annual CSCL meeting. Any member may nominate an eligible member for office. Each candidate so nominated may then speak on his/her own behalf for up to four minutes. Any absent member who wishes to run for office must announce their candidacy to the president before the meeting and appoint a proxy to speak on his/her behalf throughout the election process.

Section 2: Election

The election of officers shall occur directly after nominations. Any member may then discuss or question any candidate or his/her selected proxy, 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.

A. Dropping Down:

An unsuccessful candidate may be nominated for another office at the election. Each candidate or his/her selected proxy so nominated may then speak on his own behalf for up to two minutes.

Section 3: Voting

The members shall vote by secret ballot. The President and the Advisor shall count the votes; but, if the President is a candidate, then the two shall jointly appoint an impartial member to replace the candidate as teller.

A. Counting Ballots:

Election shall occur by simple majority. In uncontested elections when 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.

B. Non-Majorities:

In contested elections, if no candidate receives a simple 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 newly-elected Executive Board shall appoint an eligible member to the office.

Section 4: Vacancies

If the Presidency becomes vacant, then the Vice-President shall immediately become President. If an elected office besides the Presidency becomes vacant, then the President, with a consensus of the Executive Board and Advisor, shall appoint a qualified successor, who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. An officer who does not attend the annual state convention at the end of his/her term has vacated the office.

Section 5: Term of Office

Each elected officer shall begin his term at his/her inauguration into office during the annual CSCL meeting. The term of office shall end at the inauguration of the succeeding Executive Board. Each appointed officer shall begin his/her term of office upon appointment.

Section 6: Candidate Requirements

1. Have attended at least one NJCL Convention or one CJCL Conventions, prior to the election

2. Be in good standing, as determined by the Advisor
3. Be a Regular Member
4. To be qualified for the offices of President or Vice President the candidate must reside in and attend a post-secondary school in California.
5. **Starting in the 2014 CSCL Officer Elections the candidates for the office of President and Vice President must have one year of NSCL membership prior to the election (As to be aligned with NSCL)**

Article IV: Duties of the Advisor and Officers

Section 1: Duties of the Advisor

1. Report to the CJCL concerning all CSCL matters
2. Advise the CSCL Executive Board and the membership
3. Assist the elected Vice-President to complete necessary financial reports
4. Oversee all events in which the CSCL is involved
5. Oversee any other tasks outlined by the CJCL

Section 2: Duties of the President

1. Chair the membership and the Executive Board
2. Convene the membership, the Executive Board, or any committee, with cause
3. Coordinate membership promotion and alumni relations
4. Create and appoint any necessary committee
5. Delegate responsibility whose exercise is not otherwise provided for
6. Assist local chapters in their organizing and grant temporary charters to these chapters at his/her discretion
7. Serve ex officio to each committee
8. Coordinate and oversee the duties of the officers
9. Administer the election of officers
10. Advise any officer or other member of procedure
11. Work with local chapters toward the maintenance of their permanent charters

Section 3: Duties of the Vice-President

1. Assume the Presidency upon any permanent vacancy of that position
2. Execute the duties of the President in the event of the President's absence or temporary inability to serve
3. Assist the President
4. In conjunction with the Secretary, appoint members to organize and oversee Ludi and other events at the annual CJCL state convention
5. Chairs for each Ludi and Olympika event shall be appointed at the state board meeting prior to convention. These members will volunteer at the prompting of the Vice President; if no member volunteers, then a member will be appointed by the Vice President or whoever is assuming his/her role.
6. Collect any dues or fees or any routine debt owed to the organization

7. Deposit any income to the treasury and provide for its safekeeping in the organization's name
8. Disburse funds as appropriated by the Executive Board or the Advisor
9. Maintain, in conjunction with the secretary, the roll of members and alumni
10. Publish a financial report in each newsletter
11. Recommend an annual budget to the Executive Board.
12. Make any document or record available to any member upon request

Section 4: Duties of the Secretary

1. Carefully record all proceedings of the meetings of the membership and the Executive Board, and circulate these minutes to each officer by the next meeting
2. Maintain any business records or other official documents in good order
3. Maintain, in conjunction with the Vice-President, the roll of members and alumni
4. Prepare an ongoing historical record of the CSCL
5. Make any document or record available to any member upon request;
6. In conjunction with the Vice-President, appoint members to organize and oversee Ludi and other events at the annual CJCL state convention.

Section 5: Duties of the Webmaster

1. Maintain the CSCL official web site, which must include at a minimum the constitution & bylaws, contact addresses for each officer, meeting minutes, meeting schedules, and links to the national organization
2. In conjunction with the secretary, maintain meeting minutes online;
3. In conjunction with the president, maintain upcoming meeting and events schedules online
4. In conjunction with the vice-president, maintain officer contact information and membership guidelines online;
5. Publicize the Web site by adding our URL to search engines;
6. Not change the URL of the CSCL Web site without a majority vote of the executive board.

Article V: Meetings

Section 1: Agenda of Annual Membership Meeting

The Executive Board, with the advice of the President and the Advisor, shall set the agenda of the annual membership meeting. Any member may introduce business onto the agenda by official notice to the President or Advisor before the meeting.

Section 2: Special Meeting of the Membership

The President or the Executive Board may, with cause, call a Special Meeting of the membership. All regular members shall be given adequate notice of this meeting. One-third of the regular members shall constitute a quorum at this meeting.

Article VI: Amendment to the By-Laws

The procedure for amendment of these by-laws shall be the same as the procedure for amending the CSCL Constitution. Ratification requires a simple majority.

Article VII: Simple Majority

A simple majority is a majority of the yes votes and no votes cast.

Article VIII: Good Standing

Members who have paid their annual membership dues to NSCL are in good standing. Annual membership lasts from the time of payment up to the beginning of the day of the next state convention.

Re-Organization Amendment: This Amendment would allow the Constitution's/By-Laws sections and Articles to be re-organized as to make the documents easier to read. This amendment does not allow for any substantive changes, only organizational changes .