

# **Constitution of the South Carolina Junior Classical League.**

Preamble.

We, the members of the South Carolina Junior Classical League, in order to promote the cooperation among the local chapters, to establish a basis for order and to increase unity, to promote friendship and to encourage understanding among the several members, do hereby ordain and establish this constitution.

## **Article I**

Name: The name of this organization shall be the South Carolina Junior Classical League.

## **Article II**

Purpose: The purpose of this organization shall be to promote a more thorough knowledge of classical life, history, and literature, to impart a better understanding of the practical and cultural value of the classics; to interest other students in the classical languages, literature, government, laws, and arts, and, as members of this organization, to pattern our citizenship in respect to family, school, and nation after the best examples of classical civilization.

## **Article III**

This Constitution, in conjunction with the Bylaws and Manual of the National Junior Classical League and Robert's Rules of Order, shall be the authority for the operation of the South Carolina Junior Classical League.

## **Article IV**

Membership and Sponsorship.

A. Membership:

- Individual Membership: Individual membership in this organization shall be granted to any student of the classics who is properly enrolled and a member in good standing with his/her chapter.

- Local Chapters: Local chapters shall be made up of eligible students within a school. The chapter must remain in good standing with the SCJCL and NJCL in order to be considered an active chapter and be involved in Fall Workshops, Spring Fora, National Conventions, elections, et cetera. Each chapter shall have a qualified sponsor and shall consist of at least five (5) members.

- Members-at-Large: Students of the classics in the state of South Carolina who are unable to join a local chapter because such a local chapter does not exist may apply to the State Chair for membership in the South Carolina Junior Classical League.

#### B. Sponsors:

- A local chapter must be sponsored by a Latin teacher, a Greek teacher, a teacher of the Classical Humanities.

- Good standing of sponsors: A Sponsor must be:

- a member of the American Classical League, and of the SCJCL.
- insures that the chapter has been approved as bona fide JCL chapter in good standing  
(Good standing is defined as the chapter's affiliation with both the state and the National Junior Classical League)
- insures that all of the chapter's financial commitments are properly paid each year.
- advises and assists the chapter's officers when necessary to keep the chapter's programs functioning smoothly.
- creates an atmosphere of shared responsibility through properly conducted business meetings of the organization and implementation of programs and activities.
- promotes interest in attending and participating in state and national meetings, as well as in running for state or national office.
- publicizes chapter activities through local media: newspapers, etc.
- attends and participates with other sponsors in state and national meetings whenever possible.
- communicates with the State Chair and state officers whenever necessary.

- uses resources as Resource Center for further suggestions and guidelines for activities.  
- Any Sponsor or State Chair may be removed from his/ her position for any of the following reasons:
- Serious negligence of duties which are assigned in the NJCL or the SCJCL Constitutions.
- Inability to prove good standing with his/ her state, with the National JCL or with the ACL.
- Moral turpitude at any JCL function, including but not limited to drunkenness, providing drugs or alcohol to students, or condoning consumption of same, sexual relations with a student, and misuse of JCL funds.

## **Article V**

### **Executive Board**

There shall be an Executive Board composed of the State elected Officers, the Co-Chairs (their Sponsors) and the State Chair. This Board shall act as the agent through which SCJCL business between Conventions can be transacted. The President of the SCJCL shall serve as the Chairperson of the Board.

## **Article VI**

### **State Officers.**

A. Definition: Permanent Offices: A permanent office is one that MUST be filled; if there are less than two pre-filed candidates for a permanent office, a state of emergency shall be called for by the Parliamentarian during the first general assembly of the Spring Forum.

The permanent elected officers of this organization shall be the following: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,

Communications Coordinator, Parliamentarian, Historian, and

Editor.

B: Term of Office: The term of office for each officer shall be from 30 days after

their election at the SCJCL Spring Forum until 30 days after the next SCJCL Spring Forum.

## C: Eligible Candidates:

Qualifications: To be eligible to run for elective office: a candidate

- must have permission of his/her parent(s) or guardian and local sponsor, (The local sponsor(s) must have fulfilled Part IV, Section B prior to granting said permission);
- must be a High School student (9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> Grade) when running.
- must be currently enrolled in Latin, or Greek, or Classical Humanities. However, any student who has completed all available Latin, or Greek, or Classical Humanities courses at his/her school is exempt from this amendment.
- must have attended one SCJCL Fall Workshop, one SCJCL Spring Forum before to be eligible to run for office.
- must be a member of a local chapter in good standing with SCJCL and NJCL. A sponsor from the candidate's delegation must be present with him/her at the Nominations Committee.
- current and former officers may not run for an office they have held previously.

### D: Duties of the Officers:

#### 1. Duties of all SCJCL Officers:

#### 2. Duties of the:

1. Attendance at all officer meetings;

2. Attendance at SCJCL Fall Workshops, Spring Fora and

NJCL Convention unless unforeseeable event (e.g. death in family, etc.);

3. Enthusiasm for Latin/Greek and the Junior Classical League;

4. All officers are expected to cooperate among themselves and other Executive Board members to keep in regular contact with the State Chair and the other officers.

#### 1. President:

- a. Preside at all meetings.
- b. Select places for all meetings.
- c. To appoint all committees and their activities (Fundraising, Publicity, Membership, etc.)
- d. To preside over the constitutional revision committee.
- e. To see that all activities planned for the year are carried out. f. To host the South Carolina Spring Forum.
- g. To contact each officer once a month after the elections.

2. First Vice President:

- a. See that the State fulfills its obligations to the National Junior Classical League and remains in contact with its and other JCL states.
  - b. To send state publicity materials to the NJCL first Vice-President
  - c. Assist the President in all his/her undertakings and be ready to assume charge in his/her absence.
  - d. Supervise and direct any community service event relevant to the NJCL.
  - e. To choose, organize and preside over a fundraising activity to benefit travel to National Convention.
3. Second Vice President:

- a. Serves as a resource for local JCL officers to contact concerning suitable programs for their club.
- b. Is in charge of the Spirit Contest at Convention
- c. Executes the duties of the President whenever both the President and first Vice President are unable to serve.
- d. Is in charge of a State Fundraiser either at Fall Workshop or Spring Forum.

4. Communications Coordinator:

- a. Keeps an accurate record of all meetings, sends these minutes for proofreading to the SCJCL Chair, and passes them on to the succeeding Communications Coordinator
- b. Keeps membership records to be passed on to the succeeding Communications Coordinator
- c. Keeps an accurate record of the proceedings of the Fall Workshops and Spring Forum which he/she will hand over to the SCJCL Chair for proofreading before he/she leaves the National Convention
- d. Maintains the SCJCL website and other on-line infrastructures
- e. Administers the SCJCL Website Contest and/or other technology- related competitions at the state level.
- f. Prepares and enters the SCJCL website in the NJCL Website Contest
- g. Assists local chapters and/or members of the SCJCL Executive Board with technology-related matters.

5. Parliamentarian:

- a. Is responsible for and shall make all decisions concerning the correct observance of the rules of parliamentary procedure according to this organization's parliamentary authority, which is stated in Article I,

Part VI of this constitution to be Robert's Rules of Order

- b. Executes the duties of the President in the event of his/her, the First Vice Presidents, and the Second Vice Presidents inability to serve
- c. Presides at any meeting of the South Carolina Junior Classical League that involves the SCJCL or NJCL Constitution and/or Bylaws, or the election process of the SCJCL or the NJCL
- d. Is responsible for receiving filing papers of SCJCL Candidates and/or applications for vacant SCJCL offices

e. Works with the SCJCL State Chair to revise the SCJCL constitution and/or its Bylaws if necessary, subject to approval by a two-thirds majority vote.

6. Editor:

a. Edits the state publication

b. Solicits and/or writes articles for the Torch: SC.

7. Historian:

a. Files all Junior Classical League materials of historical interest

b. Solicits and collects materials for the State Scrapbook to be entered at the National Convention following his/her term of office.

E: Nomination Procedures: 1: Filing for Office:

Any eligible person who wishes to run for South Carolina Junior Classical League office may become a prospective candidate by filing the designated forms with the SCJCL Parliamentarian before SCJCL Spring Forum.

2. Nominations Committee:

A candidate shall be nominated by a Nominations Committee which shall consist of two previously selected voting delegates from each chapter attending the Spring Forum. The SCJCL Parliamentarian shall serve as the chair of Nominations Committee.

All candidates must be approved by the Nominations Committee, including those nominees who have pre-filed forms and they must be presented first in the committee meeting. There can be no nominations from the Spring Forum floor. When the Nominations Committee has at least two pre-filed nominees for an elective office, additional nominations will not be accepted at the Nominations Committee Meeting. If more than two nominees for an office have pre-filed, the Nominations Committee will vote to select only two candidates. In the case that there are more than two nominations for a particular office and only one has pre-filed forms, that nominee automatically becomes one of the two candidates for the office.

In case of a State of Emergency, when there is a pre-filed nominee, that nominee shall be one of the final candidates. The Nominations Committee shall then accept

nominations from the floor. For the nominations, the Nominations Committee shall select the required number of nominees to have no more than two candidates. In case of a tie, the SCJCL Parliamentarian shall cast the deciding vote. The State Chair (or his representative) shall meet with the committee to act as an advisor.

A campaign speech limited to three (3) minutes on behalf of the state candidate shall be allowed before the Nominations Committee at the SCJCL Spring Forum.

F: Election Procedures:

Each candidate may campaign at the SCJCL Spring Forum only after the candidates' speech screening.

1. Expenses: Expenses for the campaign shall not exceed \$30 per candidate, including both the estimated value of donated material and actual expenses.

2. Candidate Screening: At least one week prior to the State Convention, each candidate selected by the Nominating Committee must submit his or her speech to the Parliamentarian for screening. The Parliamentarian, in cooperation with the State Chair, will suggest whatever changes are necessary to ensure that the speech holds to acceptable bounds of appropriateness and that it does not conflict with the purpose of the organization.

At the SCJCL Spring Forum, prior to campaigning, each candidate shall present his or her campaign materials and all applicable receipts to the Parliamentarian

The candidate will be required to give a speech limited to three (3) minutes at the General Assembly I of the SCJCL Spring Forum.

There shall be at every Spring Forum a meeting of candidates and chapter delegates in which the delegates may question the candidates on relevant topics. The SCJCL Parliamentarian shall be in charge of the format and administration of this meeting.

Voting delegates shall vote by secret ballot. Each SCJCL chapter which was represented by two (2) delegates at the Nominations Committee meeting shall have two votes; each chapter which was represented by only one delegate will have one vote. Each chapter which was not represented at the Nominations Committee shall have no vote.

The voting delegates must vote in accordance with their chapter's decision. Only members which are in good standing may vote in the chapter delegation.



A candidate must receive a majority of votes eligible to be elected to an office. G:  
Annual SCJCL Spring Forum:

The annual SCJCL Spring Forum shall be located at the chapter of the South Carolina Junior Classical League President.

## **Article VII**

Removal from office.

The South Carolina JCL will be entitled to remove any officer, sponsor, Co-Chair and State Chair from office. Grounds for removal will include an officer's infraction to the SCJCL rules at a state, or national convention, and/or serious negligence in the discharge of the duties of his/her office as defined in this constitution.

The following procedures will be followed in the event that an officer is considered for removal: the officer must be notified in writing that he/she is in dereliction of duty or that the Executive Board has been made aware of a serious local, state or national JCL infraction, a "call for a vote" for removal from office will be presented to the Executive Board. A vote of two-thirds majority is required to remove any officer from office.

## **Article VIII**

State Chair and Co-Chairs.

1. The State Chair will be elected by the sponsors of the chapters of the South Carolina JCL.

The term of office of the State Chair will be three years, beginning at the conclusion of the SCJCL Spring Forum. The State Chair may be re-elected.

During the third year of the State Chair's term, the Executive Board will receive written notice of any sponsor seeking the office of State Chair. A candidate for the office of State Chair must be in good standing with the American Classical League, the National JCL, and the South Carolina JCL. Election of a State Chair will be conducted by secret ballot during the sponsor's meeting at the SCJCL Spring Forum.

Duties:

The State Chair will:

• Serve as a liaison to and facilitate communication with the individual chapters and sponsors, and to disseminate pertinent information to these chapters and sponsors.

Duties:

- Advise the State Officers.
- Supervise State events.
- Attend State JCL, National JCL events as a representative of the South Carolina JCL.
- The State Chair shall work carefully with officers for the good of the SCJCL.
- Maintain an up-to-date active list of all chapters who are in good
- Attend State JCL, National JCL events as a representative of the South Carolina JCL;
- Shall work carefully with officers for the good of the SCJCL;
- Assist the SCJCL President when he/she organizes the SCJCL Spring Forum;
- Assist the SCJCL 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President when he/she organizes the SCJCL Fall Workshop;
- Assist the State Chair.

standing.

The Co-Chairs shall be the sponsors who have an elected State Officer.

2.

The Co-Chairs will:

## **Article IX**

### **Amendments.**

Suggested amendments may be submitted in writing to the SCJCL Parliamentarian or State Chair at least six (6) weeks before the annual SCJCL Spring Forum. Copies of proposed amendments must be sent to all SC Chapters at least four (4) weeks before the annual Spring Forum. These amendments shall be read at the General Assembly 1 of the Spring Forum and voted on at the General Assembly 2. Two-thirds votes of the voting delegates present shall be sufficient for the establishment of this constitution.

## Bylaws: Section I

Dues: Chapter's dues shall be two (2) dollars per student and ten (10) dollars for chapter registration fee. Dues shall be paid to the South Carolina Junior Classical League by the annual SCJCL Spring Forum.

The ten (10) dollar for chapter registration fee shall be waived for all chapters registered on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>.

SCJCL Spring Forum: The time of the Spring Forum shall be fixed to suit the convenience of the school year. The SCJCL President and his/her Co-Chair will do this selection. The time of the Spring Forum, together with the contests to be given, must be announced by the Co-Chair prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>.

All chapters in good standing shall receive information about the SCJCL Spring Forum. Chapters not in good standing may neither participate in the contests nor run a candidate for office.

SCJCL Fall Workshop/Classics Day: must be announced to all chapters at least two (2) months in advance of this event.

### Passed in March 2020:

- 1) Proper payment consists of payments of the annual dues (NJCL and SCJCL) on or before February 1<sup>st</sup>. To meet payment requirements, all chapters must pay the two (2) dollars per student fee. The ten (10) dollars for the Chapter registration fee will be waived for all Chapters registered on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 2) Chapters that fail to meet the date of required payment(s) will have all privileges nulled such as attending Forums, running for State Office, hosting the Spring Forum, and attending the National
- 3) Fees for new Chapters will be waived until Spring Forum. The proper payment of two (2) dollars per student must be paid at Spring Forum for new Chapters.

## Article X

Following the ratification by a two-thirds vote of all the chapters, this constitution shall become effective after the adjournment of the SCJCL Spring Forum at which it was adopted. By a three- fourths vote of the chapters it may likewise be abolished.

This constitution was passed at the 2019 SCJCL Spring Forum.