

The Constitution of the New Hampshire Junior Classical League

Preamble: We, the members of the New Hampshire Junior Classical League, in order to promote cooperation among the several chapters, establish a basis for order, and unite the members of the organization, do hereby establish this Constitution for the New Hampshire Junior Classical League.

Article I: Name

Section I: The name of this organization shall be the New Hampshire Junior Classical League [NHJCL].

Article II: Purpose

Section I: To promote a more thorough knowledge of Classical life, history, and literature.

Section II: To impart a better understanding of the practical and cultural value of the Classics.

Section III: To, as members of this organization, foster friendship and fellowship among students of the Classics.

Article III: Membership

Section I: Student Membership

- a. Student membership shall be of two kinds, student membership and member-at-large
- b. Student membership shall encompass all persons enrolled in a school which has chapter membership in the NHJCL.
- c. Student members shall also be members of the NJCL.
- d. Membership-at-large shall be kept for students who wish to join the NHJCL and the NJCL if their school does not have chapter membership in the NHJCL.

Section II: Sponsor Membership

- a. Sponsor membership is open to any adult who wishes to sponsor a NHJCL chapter.
- b. NHJCL sponsors shall not have voting privileges.

Section III: Chapter Membership

- a. Chapters shall be comprised of at least one adult sponsor and at least one student.

- b. Chapters shall be admitted automatically upon a written request to the State Chair.
- c. Chapter membership in the NHJCL shall include any NJCL chapters in New Hampshire that fulfill all the necessary requirements for membership in this organization.

Article IV: Officers

Section I: Officers

- a. There shall be eight elected officers in the NHJCL: two Consuls, a Vice-President, a Historian, an Editor, a Parliamentarian, a Treasurer, and a Webmaster.

Section II: Qualifications

- a. Is a member of the NHJCL in good standing.
- b. Will be enrolled in a Classical language course for their entire term of office, or will have completed all such classes available at their school and will check in with their sponsor and the State Chair at least twice a month.
- c. Is present at the annual state convention.
- d. Candidates for Consulship must have previously attended at least one (1) State Forum.

Section III: Nominations

- a. Nominations shall occur during the portion of the state convention dedicated to nominations and elections, which shall be run by the State Parliamentarian.
- b. Each chapter shall nominate only one candidate per office and may only submit candidates for three of the offices, unless no candidate runs for a particular office, in which case a school may nominate a candidate for that office beyond their standard allotment.
- c. State of Emergency: A state of emergency shall be declared when any of the eight offices is left vacant or if a Forum has failed to convene. In this event, Article IV, Section III, part b shall be considered void. If the position remains without any nominations or a Forum is deemed impossible by the State Chair, the nominations process will close, but the state of emergency shall remain, and the Consuls shall be responsible for both fulfilling the vacant role and filling the office, through means approved of by the State Chair.

Section IV: Speeches and Voting

- a. Beginning with candidates for the Consuls, then Vice-President, Historian, Editor, Treasurer, Webmaster, and finally Parliamentarian, all candidates shall be given the opportunity to give a speech, up to five minutes in length.
- b. Before voting begins, in which chapters may deliberate, the Parliamentarian will ask for any and all allegations barring candidates from assuming office.
- c. If allegations are raised, the Parliamentarian will suspend the election proceedings until the validity of said allegations can be ascertained.
- d. After candidates have concluded their speeches and allegations, if any, have been addressed, voting shall commence, with each delegation possessing two votes for consul, which must be cast for different candidates, and one vote for each of the other offices.

Section V: Campaigning

- a. Campaigning before the nominations process shall not be tolerated, and any violations should be brought to the attention of the Parliamentarian, prior to voting.

Section VI: Terms

- a. Each officer's term shall begin upon election at that year's state forum, and end at the start of the following year's national convention.

Section VII: Removal from Office

- a. Requirements for Impeachment: If an officer does not complete any and all of their official duties, this shall constitute grounds for impeachment. Furthermore, any actions not conforming to the decorum of a NHJCL state officer shall also constitute grounds for impeachment.
- b. The Method of Impeachment:
 - i. Petition for Impeachment: A petition for impeachment must be submitted to the State Chair and contain the name of the officer in question and the duties/actions for which they are liable for impeachment. It must also include the signatures of chapter sponsors from at least two different chapters.
 - ii. Prior to petitioning for impeachment, the petitioners must attempt to negotiate a solution privately with the officer in question unless a diplomatic solution is infeasible.

- c. Emergency Meeting: When a petition is received, the State Chair must immediately convene a virtual forum to discuss impeachment with all elected officials (any NHJCL members able to attend shall be given ample notice and opportunity). The officer in question must be able to participate in this meeting and must be given an opportunity to defend their actions; however, if the officer postpones the meeting for more than two weeks, they may be excluded from it on grounds of unnecessary delay. The issue will be resolved at the end of debate by blind vote. A 2/3 (two-thirds) vote will be required for the impeachment of any officer. Following the vote and/or conclusion of impeachment proceedings, regardless of the result, the Parliamentarian shall be responsible for, with assistance from the State Chair, issuing a summary of the events and decisions to the chapters of the NHJCL in due time.
- d. Filling a Vacant Office: The State Chair and Officers, along with any advisors that they deem prudent, shall declare a State of Emergency and conduct emergency elections. The rules set out under Article IV, Section III, part c shall be observed.

Section VIII: Resignation

- a. In the case of an officer's resignation, the NHJCL shall follow the procedure outlined in Article V, Section VII, part d.

Section IX: Roles, in addition to those aforementioned

- a. Consuls: Consuls shall be charged with the following:
 - i. Leading the Board of the NHJCL, delegating and overseeing all duties.
 - ii. Representing the NHJCL in any and all official capacities.
 - iii. Setting a yearly agenda.
 - iv. Planning and running Board meetings.
 - v. Planning and leading the annual Forum, in addition to any other state events throughout the year.
 - vi. Sending out regular updates to local chapters and maintaining communication.
 - vii. Leading the New Hampshire delegation at the national convention, specifically in regard to spirit (chants, props, etc.).
 - 1. If a consul is financially unable to attend the national convention, an exception will be made to Section IX, part a, subpart vii.
 - viii. Assuming any and all necessary roles that may become apparent.

- b. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall be charged with the following:
 - i. Promoting membership in NHJCL, contacting all potential and non-renewing chapters in writing at least once during the term of office.
 - ii. Organizing and overseeing the Student Senate, conducting monthly meetings to maintain regular communication with local chapter leaders.
 - iii. Obtaining from chapter sponsors their two Student Senate representatives for the year.
 - iv. Promoting spirit and publicity activities for local chapters.
 - v. Encourage statewide participation in the national spirit contests.
 - vi. Organizing community service opportunities at the state convention
- c. Historian: The Historian shall be charged with the following:
 - i. Keeping and recording the history of the NHJCL, including activities and events.
 - ii. Taking minutes at Board meetings.
 - iii. Keeping records of membership and attendance at state events.
 - iv. Keeping a registry of all chapters, sponsors, Board members, and all relevant contact information.
 - v. Taking pictures at NHJCL events, and soliciting pictures from local chapters to be included in the annual scrapbook and *Torch* publications.
 - vi. Creating an annual digital scrapbook containing an account of the events of the NHJCL to be shared with chapters and displayed at the NJCL Convention at the end of their term of office, as well as entering it in the NJCL scrapbook competition.
- d. Editor: The Editor shall be charged with the following:
 - i. Publishing an edition of the *Torch* at least twice a year, unless excused by the Board. A Summer/Spring issue shall be published the first week of September, and a Fall/Winter issue the first week of March.
 - ii. Working with the Board and member participants to manage, edit, and publish the *Torch*.
 - iii. Soliciting articles and photos from members of the NHJCL.
 - iv. Ensuring distribution and preservation of new *Torch* issues.
- e. Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian shall be charged with the following:

- i. Annually reviewing and introducing necessary amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the NHJCL.
 - ii. Enforcing the Constitution and Bylaws of the NHJCL and ensuring that all actions of the NHJCL, its board, and its members, are in compliance.
 - iii. Running elections at the state convention and formulating election ballots, as well as presenting proposed Constitutional amendments for voting.
 - iv. Advising the Consuls regarding all questions of procedure.
- f. Webmaster: The Webmaster shall be charged with the following:
 - i. Maintaining and updating the NHJCL website with information regarding state and national activities, in addition to biographies of state officers and important documents such as meeting minutes, *Torch* issues, the Constitution, and the state scrapbook.
 - ii. Encouraging and assisting individual chapters to create their own websites and social media, and publicize their club activities and information.
 - iii. Submitting the NHJCL website for the National Junior Classical League Convention website contest.
- g. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be charged with the following:
 - i. Maintaining current and accurate financial records of all transactions of the NHJCL.
 - ii. Maintaining a checking account in the NHJCL's name and honoring all financial obligations.
 - iii. Setting the cost of dues with approval of the State Chair.
 - iv. Ensuring that all dues are paid to the NHJCL, and collecting any admission fees to events.
 - v. Organizing fundraising efforts for state events and attendance at the national convention such as the selling of NHJCL merchandise, the running of an Agora table at the national convention, etc.

Article V: Amendments

Section I: Proposing of Amendments

- a. Any and all amendments must be sent to the State Chair or Parliamentarian at least 2 weeks before the state convention.
- b. All propositions for amending the Constitution must contain the portion of the Constitution to be amended, the amended version of that portion, and an analysis of the reasoning for the amendment.

Section II: Voting

- a. All proposed amendments shall be presented at the state convention.
- b. Amendments shall be voted on individually.
- c. If an amendment receives a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority, then it shall be enacted.