**The VSCL Constitution**

**Articles**

***Article I: General Provisions***

Section 1: Name

     The name of this organization is the Virginia Senior Classical League, hereafter in this document referred to as VSCL.

Section 2: Emblem

     The emblem of the VSCL shall be that of a torch emblazoned with the letters "SCL," all encircled be a laurel wreath.

Section 3: Objective

     The objectives of this organization are to enhance and promote the appreciation of the Classics and of classical scholarship in post-secondary education, to represent the National Senior Classical League in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to advise, encourage, and assist the Virginia Junior Classical League (VJCL).

Section 4: Obligations

     At least one member of the VSCL Executive Board should attend the National Junior Classical League Convention (NJCL) in the summer. The VSCL shall pay part of the fee for the NJCL Convention packet for any member of the VSCL, as determined by the VSCL board after State Finals Certamen.

     The VSCL shall assume the duties of running Kick-off Certamen, State Finals Certamen, and administering academic contests at the Virginia Junior Classical League Convention. The VSCL shall also assume the responsibilities of coordinating "That's Entertainment" at VJCL Convention unless the discretion of the VJCL Executive Board dictates otherwise.

***Article II: Members***

Section 1: Types of Membership

     There shall be two types of membership in the VSCL, which shall be called primary and secondary. Membership shall be held in one-year, renewable terms, and shall be renewed by paying dues as set in the bylaws of the VSCL.

Section 2: Primary Membership

     In order to be a primary member of the VSCL, a candidate must pay their dues, as prescribed by the bylaws of the VSCL, and meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. One must have been a member of the VJCL;
2. One must have been a member of another state JCL and is currently attending a Virginia institution; or
3. One must be a college student.

     A member may hold primary membership for a maximum of four years.

Section 3: Secondary Membership

     After a member's primary membership has expired, one will hold secondary, non-voting membership as long as one continues to pay dues.

***Article III: Governance***

Section 1: Officers

     The membership shall annually elect a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Parliamentarian and Editor.

     The Executive Board shall annually appoint a Member-at-Large selected from the membership.

Section 2: Qualifications

     Only primary members are eligible for a voting VSCL office. In order to be eligible for the offices of Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Editor, a candidate must have studied the Classics in secondary school or postsecondary school. In order to be eligible for the office of President a candidate must have taken four or more years of Latin or Greek in secondary school, or have taken or be taking Latin or Greek above the introductory level in postsecondary school.

     No member shall run for office in their last year in postsecondary education. No member shall concurrently hold more than one VSCL office.

     The Executive Board shall elect a Sponsor(s) from the American Classical League. The Sponsor(s) must teach at a school that holds membership in the VJCL. The Executive Board shall as necessary, elect a Member-at-Large from the Virginia Senior Classical League. The Member-at-Large can hold a primary or secondary membership and must submit an application to the Executive Board.

Section 3: Elections

The membership of the VSCL shall hold elections annually at the Virginia Junior Classical League Convention.

Section 4: Executive Board

The general executive authority of the VSCL shall reside in the Executive Board, which consists of the five officers, and the Member-at-Large and the Sponsor(s), who shall be nonvoting member(s) of the Board. The Board shall supervise the affairs of the VSCL between its meetings and shall transact business on its behalf, subject to the authority of the membership.

***Article IV: Amendments and Ratification***

Section 1: Amendments

Any member may propose an amendment to the VSCL constitution by giving notice to the Parliamentarian. Proposed amendments shall be voted on by the membership at the VJCL Convention.

 Section 2: Ratification

This constitution and its bylaws shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote in a committee set for this purpose.

**Bylaws**

***Article I: Officers***

Section 1: Candidature

     Any member who meets the qualifications for office as listed in Article III, Section 2 of the VSCL constitution must declare their candidacy to the Parliamentarian either via email prior to the VJCL Convention or verbally to the Parliamentarian at the VJCL Convention, prior to the close of the VSCL mixer.

 Section 2: Nominations Committee Meeting

     Declared candidates must be officially nominated at the Nominations Committee meeting, which is held at the VJCL Convention and is chaired by the Parliamentarian. In the case of the Parliamentarian’s own candidacy for office, the President shall chair the committee during the nomination and election of the office for which the Parliamentarian is running.

     An unsuccessful candidate may be nominated for another office at the Nominations Committee meeting. Elections shall take place in the following order: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Editor.

     Candidates for Member-at-Large must submit an application, which can be obtained by asking the President or Parliamentarian, by New Year’s Day.

 Section 3: Voting

     The members shall vote by secret ballot. The President and Parliamentarian shall count the ballots. If the President or Parliamentarian is a candidate in the election, then the President shall appoint an impartial member to replace the candidate as teller.

      Election shall occur by a simple majority of those present and voting. In uncontested elections, if the candidate does not receive a majority, the candidate is not elected and the office is vacant. The newly-elected Executive Board shall appoint an eligible member to that office. In contested elections, if no candidate receives a majority, the members shall again vote, voting upon only 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 that office.

 Section 4: Vacancies

      If there is a vacancy in the offices of Secretary/Treasurer, Parliamentarian or Editor between elections, the Executive Board shall appoint a qualified member who shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. If there is a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall fill the office of President.  If there is a vacancy in the office of Vice President, the Secretary/Treasurer shall fill the office of Vice President.

 Section 5: Term of Office

      Each elected officer shall begin their term at their inauguration at the VJCL Convention. Each appointed officer shall begin their term of office upon appointment.

***Article II: Dues***

      The dues of a member of the VSCL shall be five dollars.

***Article III: Duties of Officers***

Section 1: Duties of the President

1. Be the official representative and spokesman of the VSCL and its membership;
2. Chair the membership and the Executive Board;
3. Convene the membership, the Executive Board, or any committee with cause;
4. Promote membership;
5. Create and appoint any necessary committee;
6. Oversee the activities of the VSCL, including Certamen and academic contests;
7. Work closely with the other officers;
8. Have access to the Treasury of the VSCL;
9. Maintain the roll of members; and
10. Attend Kickoff Certamen, State Finals Certamen, and the VJCL Constitution.

 Section 2: Duties of the Vice President

1. Assume the Presidency upon any permanent vacancy of the position;
2. Execute the duties of the President in the event of the President’s absence;
3. Assist the President;
4. Perform the duties necessary to execute the “That’s Entertainment” show during the VJCL Convention which shall include but not be limited to;
   1. plan and diligently detail the emcee script prior to the VJCL convention,
   2. devise a committee, if necessary, to revise and create scripts prior to convention,
   3. recruit, gather, and brief SCL members concerning scripts and planned skits following the SCL mixer and elections for the intent and purpose of performance the following day;
5. Through fastidious and proper preparation, host and emcee the “That’s Entertainment” talent show on the Monday of the VJCL Convention; and
6. Attend Kickoff Certamen, State Finals Certamen, and the VJCL Convention.

Section 3: Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer

1. Assume the Vice Presidency upon any permanent vacancy of the position;
2. Execute the duties of the Vice President in the event of the Vice President’s absence;
3. Carefully record all proceedings of the membership and Executive Board, and circulate these minutes to each officer after the meeting;
4. Collect any dues or fees or any routine debt owed to the organization;
5. Deposit any income to the treasury and provide for its safekeeping in the organization’s name;
6. Disburse funds as appropriated by the Executive Board or Sponsor(s); and
7. Attend Kickoff Certamen, State Finals Certamen, and the VJCL Convention.

Section 4: Duties of the Parliamentarian

1. Administer the election of officers;
2. Advise any officer or member of procedure;
3. Help the chair keep order at any meeting;
4. Maintain the VSCL constitution and bylaws; and
5. Attend Kickoff Certamen, State Finals Certamen, and the VJCL Convention.

Section 5: Duties of the Editor

1. Maintain the VSCL web page;
2. Create and distribute any media requested or submitted by the Executive Board; and
3. Attend Kickoff Certamen, State Finals Certamen, and the VJCL Convention.

Section 6: Duties of the Executive Board

Attend each meeting of the membership and Executive Board unless granted a special exemption by the President. These meetings include, but are not limited to, planning meetings held once during the fall semester and once during the spring semester, and the business meeting the Saturday night of the VJCL Convention.

***Article IV: Amendments***

     Any member may propose an amendment to the VSCL bylaws by giving notice to the Editor/Parliamentarian. Proposed amendments shall be voted on by the membership at the VJCL Convention. In order to be ratified, the proposed amendment must receive a two-thirds vote of members present at the VJCL Convention.