

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
ALABAMA JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE
Amended March 2019**

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

We, the members of the Alabama Junior Classical League, in order to advance collaboration between the several local chapters, to institute our common purpose, and to increase unity, encourage friendship and understanding among the members, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be Alabama Junior Classical League, hereafter referred to as AJCL.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote a knowledge of classical life, history, and literature; to organize activities between local chapters; to spark interest in other students for the classical languages, literature, arts, and laws by furthering the work of the Junior Classical League.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Student Membership

- A. The AJCL shall recognize two types of student membership: there shall be chapter-affiliated members and members-at-large.
- B. Chapter-affiliated members of the AJCL shall be those who are members of the chapter at their respective schools.
- C. Members-at-large of the AJCL shall be those who do not have a chapter at their own schools. The members-at-large shall function as one body at all state functions.
- D. Membership in the AJCL for chapter-affiliated members and members-at-large is contingent upon simultaneous membership in the National JCL.

Section 2. Sponsor Membership

- A. Any legal adult over the age of 22 years for public, private, cooperative and home schools may apply to sponsor a chapter in the AJCL.

- B. Sponsors are responsible for chapter activities and accountable for the welfare and conduct of chapter members during local, regional and state activities.
- C. Sponsors are required to maintain membership on the Alabama Classical Association and the American Classical League.
- D. Sponsors do not pay the AJCL member dues and do not have voting privileges.
- E. The State Chairs will appoint sponsors for members-at-large.

Section 3. Chapter Membership

- A. Chapters are required to maintain an affiliation with the National JCL.
- B. Chapters are required to have a sponsor and student membership.
- C. Chapters are required to have documented student leadership.
- D. Chapters are required to submit annual dues, registration and membership list.
- E. Chapters meeting these requirements are in good standing and so may nominate candidates and vote for candidates at the state convention.

ARTICLE IV

Executive Board

Section 1. The government of the Alabama JCL shall be vested in the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall be composed of the state officers with their local sponsors, any National JCL officers from Alabama with their sponsors, and the state chairs.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall plan AJCL annual state conventions, handle AJCL business between the annual state conventions, and support the state officers in promoting engagement by the AJCL membership.

Section 3. The Executive Board meetings shall be called by the state chairs at least twice a year with notice given at least one month in advance of the proposed meeting. The quorum for the Executive Board meetings shall be the presence of the President, the First Vice-President, three other elected officers and any two of the state chairs.

ARTICLE V

State Officers

State offices shall operate under comparable Roman titles.

Section 1. The elected state officers of the AJCL shall be as follows:

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| ● President (First Consul) | ● Communications Coordinator |
| ● First Vice President (Censor) | ● (Procurator ab Epistulis) |
| ● Second Vice President (Aedile) | ● Historian (Pontifex Maximus) |
| ● Parliamentarian (Second Consul) | ● Treasurer (Quaestor) |

Section 2. The appointed state officers of the AJCL shall be as follows:

- Convention Coordinator (Proconsul)
- North Alabama Regional Chair
- Birmingham Area Regional Chair
- Montgomery Area Regional Chair
- Gulf Coast Area Regional Chair

Section 3. State Senate

The State Senate shall be composed of elected representatives by their affiliated chapter. For members-at-large, members-at-large shall represent themselves.

Section 4. Term of Office

State officers shall serve from August 1st of the year of their election until August 1st of the following year.

Section 5. Qualifications

- A. Candidates must be a member of a chapter in good standing.
- B. Candidates must have the documented consent of their sponsor(s) and parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
- C. Candidates must not be a post-graduate or midterm graduate.
- D. Candidates for President must have attended the AJCL annual state convention at least twice prior to their nomination.
- E. Candidates for First Vice-President and Second-Vice President must have attended the AJCL annual state convention at least once prior to their nomination.

Section 6. Elections

- A. Elections for the state officers shall be held each year at the annual state convention.
- B. Chapters in good standing may nominate one student for each elected office.
- C. Nominations must be received by the published deadline.
- D. If an office has no nominated candidates, the current Executive Board shall appoint a qualified candidate to fill the position.
- E. Qualified nominees will become candidates on the ballot.
- F. Campaigning will be conducted according to the determination of the Executive Board.
- G. Each chapter receives 1 vote for every 10 students in attendance at the annual state convention and two additional votes.
- H. In the case of a tie, all outgoing state officers present at the convention will vote with one vote per board member and a simple majority determining the victor for the position.

Section 7. Removal from Office

Any state officer may be removed from office by the State Chairs in consultation with the Executive Board for not performing the duties outlined in Article V Section 7, for failing to maintain active involvement in their AJCL chapter, or for engaging in conduct not becoming a state officer.

Section 8. Filling Executive Board Vacancies

If a position in the Executive Board is currently vacated, and a quorum of a majority of all eligible chapters are not present at the time, then the state chairs will find nominees for the position, narrow the choices to either one or two nominees for the position and let the State Senate submit a ballot to the Parliamentarian, who will receive and count the votes.

Section 9. Duties:

- A. President (First Consul): meetings, creation of broad agenda, overseeing all other officers. Shall exercise general supervision over the work and activities of the Alabama Junior Classical League during his/her term of office. The First Consul shall issue the invitation for and preside at the annual convention following his/her election, will run the Executive Board meetings, and will maintain a relationship between the AJCL and the National Junior Classical League.
- B. First Vice President (Censor): membership. Shall keep accurate records of the membership of the Alabama Junior Classical League and shall coordinate efforts to promote membership in existing chapters and to promote chapter formation in schools.
- C. Second Vice President (Aedile): competitions, service projects, spirit. Shall promote engagement through fun and service in the year leading up to convention. The Second Vice President shall also work with the AJCL Convention local host in the production of the games and festival. The Aedile will ensure that these are organized and properly supplied. The Second Vice Presidente will organize the acquisition and presentation of awards.
- D. Parliamentarian (Second Consul): elections, constitution. The Parliamentarian will oversee the election of the next year's officers by recruiting candidates, by coordinating candidate campaigning, by producing election ballots, and appointing an elections committee to distribute ballots, to count votes, and by recording and announcing the election results. The Parliamentarian will convene the Senate of AJCL Chapter representatives.
- E. Treasurer (Quaestor): finances, fundraising. Shall coordinate all fiscal business of the AJCL and keep accurate and current books of accounts. The Treasurer will prepare a

- report for the Executive Board on revenues from memberships, convention fees and gifts and on expenses of the convention, scholarships, and administrative costs.
- F. Historian (Pontifex Maximus): website, social media, newsletter, state scrapbook (convention and local/regional activities) shall keep the AJCL membership informed by maintaining a record of AJCL business, by maintaining public access to the AJCL through the internet, and by overseeing regular communication with the statewide membership. The Historian will also oversee the archives of the AJCL, working with the host Proconsul to record convention themes, hosts, locations and event winners along with photographic and video-graphic evidence of the same. This task includes making these archives available through the internet.
 - G. Communications Coordinator (Procurator ab Epistulis): recordings, communications. Shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the annual Convention, executive board meetings, and all other recordable events; to prepare and call roll at meetings; to send each member of the executive board the minutes of previous board meetings post-haste; to update the social media links throughout the term of office; and to keep in contact with other members of the executive board.
 - H. Regional Chairs (Propraetores): Coordinate between AJCL and the local chapters within their jurisdiction and inform schools in region with AJCL information.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1. Executive Board Meetings will consist of the State Chairs as well as all State Officers

- A. Executive Board Meetings shall be held on a biannual basis.
- B. President may call Executive Board Meetings whenever they deem appropriate but must give a month notice to all State Chairs and State Officers.

Section 2. Business Meeting

- A. At the President's discretion a meeting may be called of a single Senator from each school at the annual State Convention.

Section 3. Meetings will be held according to *Robert's Rules of Order*.

ARTICLE VII

Elections

Section 1. Candidates must meet the qualifications for running and submit their dossier to the Parliamentarian one month prior to the Annual State Convention.

- A. A chapter may nominate only one candidate per office. A chapter may nominate up to three candidates per election cycle. Nominations may be made at any point between January and one month prior to the annual AJCL convention.

- B. Nominees must submit a document containing their grade level, level of Latin, number of conventions attended, any prior local or state offices held, and an essay of up to 500 words explaining why they are qualified. This document will from this point forward referred to as the candidate's dossier.
- C. The parliamentarian will send each candidate's dossier to the editor and president three weeks before the annual AJCL convention.
- D. The historian will format each candidate's dossier and submit it to each chapters sponsor and senator two weeks before the annual AJCL convention.
- E. The historian will format each candidate's dossier and submit it to various social medias two weeks before the annual AJCL convention.

Section 2. Elections shall occur at the Annual State Convention.

Section 3. Voting Procedure

- A. Votes per school
 - 1. Each Chapter shall receive one vote for every ten students brought to the Annual State Convention plus two extra votes.
- B. Procedure- On day one of the annual AJCL state convention election ballots and each candidate's dossier will be given to each local chapter Senator (a representative official from each school). At the beginning of the second day of the Annual State Convention each chapter Senator will submit a sealed ballot. The Parliamentarian shall receive and count the votes at an appointed time.

Section 4. In event of a tie in votes, the current State Chairs shall convene and determine the newly elected officers.

ARTICLE VIII

State Chairs

Section 1. The AJCL shall have three state chairs: the Convention Chair, the Competition Chair, and National Chair.

Section 2. The sponsors of the AJCL shall nominate and vote on or acclaim during the sponsors meeting at the annual state convention.

Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities

- A. The AJCL Convention Chair shall work with the Executive Board in all aspects of producing the annual AJCL Convention. The AJCL Convention Chair shall finalize planning by the end of the winter planning meeting and provides for its distribution in its finalized form to all officers; assist, in an advisory capacity, the host school in solving

problems of a physical nature; secures a hosting site for the AJCL convention and an official invitation from the president of the host school in advance of the convention date; work with the host and AJCL Executive Board members in long-range planning; prepare with the AJCL President the convention evaluation forms and sees to their distribution and Collection; and confirm that all awards have been ordered for the annual convention.

- B. The AJCL Competition Chair shall aim through the contests to promote greater interest in all aspects of classical culture; select people to construct academic tests and select individuals to chair contests in other areas; appoint proctors, judges, monitors, registrars and timers for all contests; supervise and coordinate the efforts of those constructing, administering and judging all the state contests; determine the rules, set standards, provide appropriate rating forms, and other materials related to individual contests; work closely with the Executive Board to insure: adequate facilities and equipment at the convention site for all of the contest areas; optimal arrangement of the contest schedule on the convention program; maximal efficiency in the carrying out of the contest program. The AJCL Competition Chair shall also submit articles early in the school year to the JCL publications, providing information on all the contests for the state convention while encouraging all delegates to participate; coordinate all aspects of Competitive and Open Certamen; oversee all aspects of Competitive Certamen at the AJCL Convention; serve as a resource for state or provincial and local Certamen; handle questions and/or complaints concerning Certamen; appoint an official to oversee Open Certamen at the AJCL Convention; and work closely with the Communications Coordinator to record award winners.
- C. The AJCL Nationals Chair shall manage AJCL involvement with the NJCL, with the assistance of the AJCL Communication Coordinator and AJCL President. The AJCL Nationals Chair also prepare members of AJCL to go to the annual NJCL convention; help with registration; persuading JCL members to run for national office; provide transportation to the NJCL annual convention; help JCL members to participate in the NJCL contests, certamen, and athletic competitions.

Section 4. Filling State Chair Vacancies

If a position in the Executive Board is currently vacated, and a quorum of a majority of all eligible chapters' sponsors are not present at the time, then the current state chairs will find nominees for the position, narrow the choices to either one or two nominees for the position and let all eligible chapters' sponsors submit a ballot to the Parliamentarian, who will receive and count the votes.

ARTICLE IX

Amendments

Section 1. The AJCL constitution and its bylaws may be amended any business meeting of this organization held at the State Latin Forum by a three-fourths vote of the voting delegates present. These amendments will take effect at the close of the State Latin Forum.

Section 2. The AJCL constitution and its bylaws may also be amended any business meeting of this organization held at the State Latin Forum by a three-fourths vote of the Regional Coordinators of the four regional areas of Alabama.

Section 3. In the event that there should be no State Latin Forum, the Parliamentarian (Second Consul) of this organization shall provide for the voting on amendments to this constitution in the next by mail-in-ballot or email the ballot to the Parliamentarian's email address.

Section 4. All further amendments to this constitution and its bylaws will be dated.

ARTICLE X

Dismissal/Removal

Section 1. Students may be dismissed from the AJCL for any of the following reasons:

- A. Anything deemed to not be within the spirit of the Alabama Junior Classical League
- B. Significant discipline action taken by a student's local school and/or law enforcement.
- C. Possession, sale, and/or use of illegal drugs or prescription drugs that are not specifically prescribed to the individual.
- D. Possession, sale, and/or use of alcohol or tobacco.
- E. Possession of a weapon either at their local school or at any JCL Convention.
- F. Being found guilty of abuse of any kind (emotional, physical, sexual).
- G. Bullying of any kind.
- H. Cheating of any kind.
- I. Failure to comply with one or more of the AJCL rules while at convention.
- J. At the discretion of the AJCL chairs for reasons not listed above.

Section 2. In the event that any of the above occur, the student's (or students') sponsor will bring the matter before the AJCL chairs for consideration. The AJCL chairs will decide whether or not that student should be dismissed from the AJCL and whether or not the student(s) will be allowed to rejoin AJCL in the following year. Should the chairs feel that they want more input, they may choose to bring the matter before other sponsors before making a decision.

BYLAWS

Section 1. A quorum shall consist of a majority of all eligible chapters present at the time of voting at the State Convention. In case of no candidate receives a majority of the eligible votes,

the Executive Board, with the newly elected members, shall cast the deciding votes. All other voting matters will be carried out in the same fashion.

Section 2. Bylaws not contrary to any provision of this Constitution may be incorporated. These bylaws, which shall be presented in writing to the Executive Board no less than one month before the State Convention, may be established, amended, or repealed by a majority vote at the State Convention.