

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE GEORGIA JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE

Amended November 10, 2007

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

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

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the Georgia Junior Classical League.

ARTICLE II

Purposes

The purposes 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 and literature, government, and laws and rights.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. All members of this organization should be currently enrolled or must have completed at least one year of study in classical language or in the classical humanities. Membership may be granted to others at the discretion of the local chapter.

Section 2. Membership shall be given to all members of a local chapter which is itself a member of the Georgia Junior Classical League and National Junior Classical League upon payment of their individual membership fees.

Section 3. Persons who wish to become members of the Georgia Junior Classical League and who meet the membership requirements set forth in this constitution but who have no local chapter shall become active members-at-large upon payment of a membership fee to the Georgia Junior Classical League and application to the National Junior Classical League for member-at-large status.

Section 4. Local chapters and members-at-large shall be admitted to the Georgia Junior Classical League upon proper payment of annual dues and upon receipt of proof that they are members of the National Junior Classical League.

Section 5. Local chapters shall have a minimum of five individual members. These chapters must also affiliate properly with the National Junior Classical League.

Section 6. Local chapters must be sponsored by a Latin teacher, a teacher of the Classical humanities, or by another adult residing in the vicinity who is of legal age according to the statutes of Georgia. Local sponsors must be members of the American Classical League.

Section 7. Sponsors for members-at-large shall be appointed by the State Chair.

Section 8. **Good Standing:** Local chapters and members-at-large shall be admitted to the National Junior Classical League and the Georgia Junior Classical League upon proper payment of annual dues. Thereafter, in order to

remain in good standing, and be able to sponsor a candidate for Georgia Junior Classical League office, and to vote at the annual convention, each shall pay dues for the current school year, postmarked no later than February 1st, sending them to the Georgia Junior Classical League.

ARTICLE IV

Election of Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of this organization shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian. All elected Georgia Junior Classical League officers shall be required to attend the National Junior Classical League Convention immediately following their election.

Section 2. The appointed officers of this organization shall be the Historian(s), the Editor(s) of the *Alae Mercuri*, the Treasurer, and the Webmaster all of whom shall be appointed by the State Chair with the concurrence of the Executive Board. The Host and Hostess shall be chosen at Fall Forum. All appointed Georgia Junior Classical League officers are hereby strongly urged to attend the National Junior Classical League Convention immediately following their election.

Section 3. The term of office for each officer shall be for one year only. No elected officer shall succeed himself in his respective office.

Section 4. To be eligible for an elected office, a student must be a member in good standing of the Georgia Junior Classical League and must have attended at least one state or one National Junior Classical League meeting. A candidate must be enrolled in a Latin class for the entire term of his office, or he must have completed all the Latin courses offered by his school. Postgraduates and midterm graduates shall not be eligible for any office. Candidates for President must have completed at least one year of study in Latin. There shall be no more than two candidates represented as state candidates from each local chapter, and each local chapter may only have a candidate in two of the four offices. The Host and Hostess shall be chosen at Fall Forum in a competition organized by the outgoing Host and Hostess. To be eligible, a student must be a member in good standing of the Georgia Junior Classical League and not yet have begun his/her last year of high school. In addition, each local chapter may not enter in total more than two candidates for Host/Hostess.

Section 5. Candidacy Procedure

- A.** Papers of Candidacy - A signed statement indicating the year of Latin completed or currently being taken by the candidate from local chapter sponsors wishing to run persons for office must be forwarded to the State Chair and to the Parliamentarian of the Georgia Junior Classical League at least two weeks prior to the election. The Parliamentarian will then notify the candidates of the possible slate of officers up for election. Any candidate wishing to change the office for which he has filed may do so by sending the approval of his parents and his local sponsors to the Georgia Junior Classical League Parliamentarian by a date set by the Parliamentarian annually. The Georgia Junior Classical League Parliamentarian shall submit a report to the Executive Board of the qualifications of the candidates. Any candidate that the Executive Board finds unable to meet the qualifications set forth in this constitution shall be dropped from the ballot. To be eligible for an appointed office, one must be a member in good standing of the Georgia Junior Classical League, the Georgia Senior Classical League, or the American Classical League.
- B.** All candidates must be nominated and seconded by voting delegates at the Nominations Committee Meeting. All offices with at least two pre-filed candidates will be considered closed to nominations from the floor. In the case of only one pre-filed candidate, that person shall be named as one candidate and nominations from the floor will be taken to fill the remaining position.
- C.** In the event of uncontested offices the Parliamentarian shall receive nominations from the floor for these offices. Papers of candidacy shall be waived, although proof of qualifications and the approval of parents and local sponsors must be assured.
- D.** In the event that there are more than two pre-filed candidates for one office or there are more than two candidates nominated from the floor in an uncontested office, the voting delegates at the Nominations Committee Meeting shall each vote, and the candidates who receive the two highest vote totals shall become the only two candidates for that office.

Section 6. Election Procedure

- A. The elections shall be held at a state meeting of the Georgia Junior Classical League.
- B. Campaign speeches not to exceed three minutes shall be given to the delegates at a state meeting.
- C. Candidates shall be allowed to spend a maximum of ten dollars (\$10.00) on their individual campaign. Wall-hung materials shall be limited to no more than five (5) standard-size (22" x 28") posters. Campaigning shall be permitted only after the Nominations Committee Meeting and may continue until the assembly at which voting takes place. All campaign materials must be removed from the actual site of voting prior to the voting.
- D. Each local chapter shall be allowed two votes, provided that two delegates from each chapter are present at the Nominations Committee Meeting and the Candidates' Open Forum. If these two delegates do not attend both these meetings, then the chapter is given no votes. In the event that only one delegate of a chapter is present at convention, only one vote shall be allowed from that chapter, provided that the chapter's delegate attends both meetings. All members-at-large who attend both the Nominations Committee Meeting and Candidates' Open Forum shall each be allowed one vote.
- E. The Parliamentarian and Secretary shall conduct the roll call vote.
- F. Proxies shall be given to chapters registered at the state meeting which are unable to be present during the casting of ballots. The voting delegates of said chapter shall place their votes in a sealed envelope and deposit it with the Parliamentarian. Said votes will be recorded with the final total during the election count.
- G. A majority of votes cast shall determine the winners.

Section 7. Any officer may be impeached and removed from his office for not performing his duties as outlined in this constitution or for actions not becoming an officer of this organization by decision of a jury to be composed of the Executive Board and one representative of ten (10) local chapters of this organization drawn at random from the membership roll. Each member shall have one (1) vote, and a two-thirds majority shall be necessary for impeachment and subsequent removal. A petition from ten (10) students from ten (10) local chapters of the Georgia Junior Classical League and presented to the Georgia Junior Classical League Parliamentarian shall be sufficient to mandate an impeachment vote.

Section 8. Should a vacancy occur in any office other than President, the State Chair with the concurrence of the Executive Board shall name a qualified person for the remainder of the unexpired term. In the event the chair shall have no qualified person to name as a replacement, the Executive Board shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy.

**ARTICLE V
Duties**

Section 1. The President shall have the following duties:

- A. He shall preside at the state meetings.
- B. He shall chair all Executive Board meetings.
- C. He shall appoint all committees and supervise their activities in an effort to see that all projects planned by the Georgia Junior Classical league shall be carried out.
- D. The President shall have the authority to represent this organization at any meeting of the National Junior Classical League and at any meeting where a delegate from this organization is required.

Section 2. The Vice-President shall have the following duties:

- A. The Vice-President shall execute the duties of the President in the event of the death, illness, or his inability to serve.
- B. The Vice-President shall be responsible for contacting all schools in Georgia that teach Latin and encourage them to join the Georgia Junior Classical League.
- C. The Vice-President shall be responsible for obtaining publicity. The Vice-President shall also act as publicity advisor to the local chapters.
- D. The Vice-President shall be responsible for the printing of the program for the annual state convention, and for securing entertainment for the annual state convention.

Section 3. The Secretary shall have the following duties:

- A. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings of this organization and of the Executive Board.
- B. The Secretary shall properly safeguard these records and pass them onto the succeeding Secretary.
- C. The Secretary shall handle the correspondence of this organization.
- D. The Secretary shall assist the Parliamentarian with the elections at a state meeting.

Section 4. The Parliamentarian shall have the following duties:

- A. The Parliamentarian shall be the authority on the interpretation of this constitution with the concurrence of the State Chair.
- B. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for and shall make all decisions concerning the correct observance of parliamentary procedure according to the newly revised Robert's Rules of Order.
- C. The Parliamentarian shall execute the duties of the President in the event that the President and Vice-President are unable to serve.
- D. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for keeping order at all state meetings.
- E. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for receiving the papers of candidacy of all candidates running for state office. The Parliamentarian shall review the qualifications of each candidate, and shall submit a report of his finding to the Executive Board.
- F. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for organizing a committee for conducting all elections of this organization. The Parliamentarian shall state the rules under which the election will be conducted, count the ballots (with the help of the Georgia Junior Classical League Secretary), and report the results.

Section 5. The Historian(s) shall have the following duties:

- A. The Historian(s) shall file all Georgia Junior Classical League materials of historical interest, and keep a scrapbook.
- B. The Historian(s) can designate an official photographer of the Georgia Junior Classical League who will obtain pictures for the scrapbook.
- C. The Historian(s) shall assist the Vice-President in promoting Georgia Junior Classical League publicity.

Section 6. The Editor(s) shall have the following duties:

- A. The Editor(s) of the *Alae Mercuri* shall be responsible for the planning, printing, and distribution of the state publication.
- B. The Editor(s) shall send ten (10) copies of each edition of the *Alae Mercuri* to all chapters of the Georgia Junior Classical League and one copy to all Executive Board members.
- C. The Editor(s) shall file five (5) copies of each issue of the *Alae Mercuri* with the Georgia Junior Classical League Historian(s) which are to be used in accordance with his (their) duties.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall have the following duties:

- A. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting dues from the local chapters, shall be responsible for keeping membership records, and filing a report on both at each Executive Board Meeting.
- B. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the allocation of funds from the Treasury.
- C. The Treasurer shall supervise the scholarship programs.

Section 8. The Host and Hostess shall have the following duties:

- A. The Host and Hostess shall be responsible for providing refreshments and representing the Georgia Junior Classical League during the Georgia Classical Association's spring meeting.
- B. The Host and Hostess shall welcome delegates to the Georgia Junior Classical spring meeting.
- C. The Host and Hostess shall be responsible for organizing the contest at the Fall Forum whereby their successors are chosen.

The Executive Board

Section 1. The government of the Georgia Junior Classical League shall be vested in the Executive Board. The President of this organization shall serve as Chair of the Executive Board, and the current Vice-President may act as Vice-Chair. Members of the Georgia Junior Classical League may attend the meetings of the board. The Executive Board shall be composed of the elected and appointed officers of this organization, the State Chair, Assistant State Chair, the President of the Senior Classical League of Georgia, and National Junior Classical League officers from Georgia. The Executive Board members have one vote at the Executive Board.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall serve as the policy making and legislative board of this organization by acting as an agent through which Georgia Junior Classical League business between state meetings may be conducted.

Section 3. The duties of the Executive Board shall be as follows:

- A.** The Executive Board shall have the authority to appropriate monies of the Georgia Junior Classical League for specified functions.
- B.** The Executive Board shall examine all proposed constitutional amendments.
- C.** The Executive Board shall be responsible for approving the Convention plans, and it will consider all details that relate to the Convention.
- D.** The Executive Board shall approve the date and location of all state meetings, and it will determine the schedule and particulars of these meetings.

ARTICLE VII State Chairs

Section 1. This organization shall have either one state chair or one state chair and one assistant chair or two state chairs. The decision as to which of these shall exist will be decided by person(s) filling these offices.

Section 2. The State Chair shall have the following duties:

- A.** The State Chair shall meet the qualifications as set forth for local sponsors (Article III, Section 6.)
- B.** The State Chair must be consulted with and give his approval to all planned activities of the Georgia Junior Classical League.
- C.** The State Chair shall be responsible for making the arrangements for having a meeting place for all meetings.
- D.** The State Chair may deposit monies due to the Georgia Junior Classical League and will disperse all approved funds properly.
- E.** The State Chair shall furnish the Treasurer with files at the end of each state convention containing a financial statement with receipts, expenditures, and current balance.
- F.** The State Chair shall make arrangements for Georgia's participation in the National Junior Classical League Convention.
- G.** The State Chair shall appoint the Editor(s) of the *Alae Mercuri*, and he will insure that at least three (3) issues are distributed annually. He should also appoint the Historian(s) and Treasurer. Each appointment shall be made with the concurrence of the State Board.
- H.** The State Chair must attend one out of every three National Junior Classical League Conventions.
- I.** The State Chair must be an active member of a statewide foreign language association that is open to Latin and Greek teachers. He must be present at all meetings, should take part in all of its activities, and should work to see that the Georgia Junior Classical League is publicized in the organization.
- J.** The State Chair shall have ex-officio status on all committees.
- K.** The State Chair shall have the authority to make changes in previously agreed upon plans if an Executive Board meeting cannot be called in sufficient time to handle the matter.
- L.** The State Chair shall take full responsibility for any legal aspect concerning the Georgia Junior Classical League and shall take care of these matters properly.
- M.** The State Chair shall have the authority and duty to make all arrangements for the Georgia Junior Classical League whose completion is not otherwise accounted for.

Section 3. The Assistant State Chair shall have the following duties:

- A. The Assistant State Chair shall assist the State Chair in all state business.
- B. The Assistant State Chair shall work with the Vice-President of this organization in publicity and increasing membership.
- C. The Assistant State Chair shall have ex-officio status on all standing committees.

Section 4. The State Chair shall be appointed by a committee of sponsors of local chapters with the concurrence of the National Committee. The Term of office shall be a maximum of five years, although the committee may reappoint the State Chair.

Section 5. The Assistant State Chair shall be recommended by the State Chair with the concurrence of the local chapter sponsors' committee and the National Committee.

Section 6. If a state chair is thought to be derelict in his duties, a petition setting forth the dereliction may be drafted by a local sponsor. If a two-thirds majority of the local sponsors sign the petition, it must be forwarded to the Executive Board for review and comment who then will forward it to the Coordinator of States of the National Junior Classical League for appropriate action.

ARTICLE VIII

Quorum

A quorum consists of three-fourths of the voting delegates at the State meetings.

ARTICLE IX

By-Laws

Section 1. By-laws not contrary to any provisions of the constitution may be established.

Section 2. By-laws may be established, amended, or repealed by a majority vote. Notices of proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws shall be sent out to all local chapters one week prior to the state meeting at which they will be voted on.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

Suggested amendments to this Constitution must be submitted in writing to the President at least one month prior to the state meeting at which they are to be voted on. The Executive Board shall carefully examine suggested amendments and make recommendations concerning them before presenting them to this organization for their consideration. Copies of the proposed amendments shall be read at the opening session of the state meeting. A two-thirds majority shall be necessary for adoption.

ARTICLE XI

The Constitution shall be ratified at the State Convention by a two-thirds majority vote.

BY-LAWS

I. Dues:

The structure of Georgia Junior Classical league membership dues shall parallel that of the National Junior Classical League. All local chapters and members-at-large shall pay the exact same dues to both the Georgia Junior Classical League and the National Junior Classical League. Membership runs from February 1st to January 31st of the following year.

II. Subscription to the Alae Mercuri:

Upon payment of state dues, each local chapter will receive a subscription to the Alae Mercuri.

III. State Meetings:

Fall Forum shall be the annual one-day meeting held in the fall of the school year. The site shall be determined by the president with the approval of the Executive Board. The GJCL Host and Hostess shall be chosen at this meeting. Their duties shall include welcoming schools to the state convention, hosting the Georgia Classical Association Meeting, acting as voting members of the Executive Board, and representing the GJCL on the local, state, and national levels. The purpose of Fall Forum shall be to provide fun and fellowship, and to introduce new members to the JCL.

The time and location of any state meeting shall be selected by the State Chair of this organization to suit the convenience of the school year and the Georgia Junior Classical League. Plans (including date, location, and schedule) for any state meeting must be announced at least one month prior to the meeting. The Executive Board of this organization shall be responsible for determining the schedule for the meetings. Any local chapter not in good standing or that has not been registered properly with the Georgia Junior Classical League may not participate in the state meeting or run a candidate for state office.

Executive Board meetings may be called by the State Chair or President of this organization.

IV. Emblem, Pin, and Colors:

The emblem of this organization shall be a torch encircled with a laurel wreath. The pin shall be a reproduction of the emblem. The colors shall be the Roman purple and gold.

V. Georgia Junior Classical League Scholarships:

The Lillie B. Hamilton Scholarship is a combined scholarship not to exceed \$500, which may be awarded to any underclassman of this organization who will use the funds to attend the National Junior Classical League convention immediately following the awarding of the scholarship. This scholarship shall be awarded on the basis of need, high school record, and Junior Classical League membership and service, in that order. Also, the Ralph H. Gavett Memorial Scholarship may be awarded to any qualified delegate. This scholarship was designed to provide a delegate with a fully funded trip to national convention. The criteria for this scholarship are service and dedication to the Junior Classical League, spirited involvement in the Junior Classical League, and financial need. The Rick LaFleur Scholarship is a \$500 scholarship awarded every year to help a current GJCL sponsor further his or her teaching skills through workshops, advanced degrees or summer study abroad. This scholarship will be given on the basis of an application administered by the Georgia Junior Classical League Scholarship Committee. The scholarships shall be administered by the Treasurer of the Georgia Junior Classical League who shall resolve any questions regarding the operation of the scholarship. The Treasurer shall send out and receive applications for the scholarships, review such applications for the scholarships, and decide the recipients of the awards. The recipients must attend the National Junior Classical League convention immediately following the awarding of the scholarship. The Georgia Junior Classical League Treasurer shall be the source of information, application, and communication regarding the scholarships.

VI. Oath of Office (administered by the outgoing President)

A. For President (repeat):

I, _____, as Georgia Junior Classical League President, promise to uphold and carry out my duties as stated in the Georgia Junior Classical League Constitution and By-Laws. I further promise to carry out the recommendations of the State Chair, and to help promote the recommendations of the State Chair, and to help promote Latin and the Junior Classical League during my term of office.

B. For other officers (students say “I do” after this is read; administered by the newly-elected President):

Do you, _____, as Georgia Junior Classical League (office), promise to uphold and carry out your duties as stated in the Georgia Junior Classical League Constitution and By-Laws? Do you promise to carry out the recommendations of the State Chair and of the Georgia Junior Classical League President, and to help promote Latin and the Junior Classical League during your term of office?

VII. Running for National Junior Classical League Office:

Any individual wishing to run as a candidate for National Junior Classical League office must obtain the permission of the Executive Board prior to notifying the National Junior Classical League Parliamentarian. This permission should be sought on or before May 15. Failure to follow this procedure will result in the Chair’s notifying the National Junior Classical League Executive Board of a default.

VIII. State of Emergency:

The Parliamentarian must collect the addresses and phone numbers of the Nomination Committee delegates. A thorough and complete application specific to the uncontested office shall be drawn up by the Parliamentarian for review by the State Chair(s). Upon approval by the State Chair(s), copies of the application shall be given to each of the Nomination committee delegates and the chapter sponsors. Prospective applicants must return to the State Chair(s) the application having been filled out in full within two (2) weeks of the day of receipt of the application. The State Chair(s) shall then send copies of all the returned applications to the Nomination Committee delegates and chapter sponsors for voting. Each chapter shall then mail its first choice to the State Chair(s). A plurality is necessary for election; all ties shall be broken by a committee appointed by the State Chair(s). The State Chair(s) shall notify the newly elected officer as quickly as possible.

IX. Distribution of Fall Forum Profits:

The Profits taken from Fall Forum shall be used first to provide funds for the Lillie B. Hamilton and Ralph H. Gavett scholarships, as delineated in section V of the By-Laws. The remainder of the profits shall then be divided into two equal parts, one-half to go to the host school and the second half to be given to the Georgia Junior Classical League to be utilized at the discretion of the executive board under the authorities of the State Chair(s) and the Treasurer.