

Constitution & Bylaws of the Reitz Junior Classical League

Ratified August 4, 2016

Constitution Preamble

We, the Indiana members of the Reitz Junior Classical League, in order to promote effectively the purposes of the National Junior Classical League and to establish a basis for order in implementing the work of the various Indiana organizations, do hereby ordain and establish this constitution.

Article I: Name & Purpose

Section 1

This organization shall be known as Reitz Junior Classical League, also known as RJCL, and referred to as “the organization” within this document.

Section 2

The purpose of the organization shall be to 1) develop responsibility, 2) foster brotherhood and sisterhood, 3) promote enthusiasm, 4) encourage competition, 5) inspire dedication, 6) enrich the total growth of all delegates, 7) further the program of the National Junior Classical League in the chapter of Francis J. Reitz, and 8) “To promote a more thorough knowledge of Roman life, history, and literature; to impart a better understanding of the practical cultural value of the classics; and to interest other students in the classical languages.”

Article II: Authority for Operation

Section 1

This constitution, in conjunction with the bylaws and *Robert's Rule of Order*, shall be the authority for the operation of the organization.

Section 2

Executive Board: There shall be an Executive Board composed of the chapter sponsor(s), chapter officers, and any IJCL officers. The board shall act as the agent through which business of the organization may be transacted between annual meetings. The Sponsor(s) shall act as the chairman/chairmen. The Executive Board shall appoint an advisor who shall supervise and sponsor the publication of the chapter newspaper.

Section 3

The chapter sponsor(s) shall serve as advisor(s) to both the Executive Board and the organization as a whole.

Article III: Membership

Section 1

Membership shall be open to all Francis J. Reitz students, faculty and staff, alumni, and community members. All members shall be taking or have taken a classical language or a course in the classical humanities. Membership may be granted to others who have not been associated with the classics at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section 2

Only students may be voting members. All may be non-voting members.

Section 3

To become a member, one need only submit dues. Membership runs from the day of paying dues to the Praetor to the end of the spring academic term. At any time during the spring academic term a standing member may express his or her desire to renew their membership for the following year.

Section 4

Members who are removed by a vote may not join the organization until the next academic year. Members who are removed lose any special positions they may have held within the organization.

Section 5

Alumni membership can be granted to members of the group that have graduated from or are no longer students at Francis J. Reitz and had taken Latin. Those students will be given the option to be Alumni members at their discretion. Alumni members do not have the privilege of voting.

Section 6

Good Standing: Members shall be admitted to the organization upon proper payment of the annual dues to the Sponsor.

Section 7

The organization has the power to levy annual dues against membership. The dues shall be set by the Sponsor(s) discretion.

Section 8

Sponsors: The organization must be sponsored by a Latin teacher, by a teacher of the classical humanities, or by another adult high school teacher graduate residing in the vicinity who is of legal age according to the statutes of the state of Indiana. This adult, who will be responsible for the activities of the students being sponsored, must be a member of the American Classical League.

Article IV: Meetings

Section 1

General meetings shall occur bi-weekly in the Sponsor's classroom.

Section 2

Executive Board meetings shall occur bi-weekly in the Sponsor's classroom.

Section 3

The Executive Board may call special meetings at any time for important matters. Prior notice should be given to all members as soon as possible.

Section 4

Voting may only take place at a meeting.

Article V: Officers

Section 1

Chapter Officers Defined: The following officers of the organization shall be elected: Consul, praetor, and quaestor. A webmaster shall also be appointed by the sponsor and shall be an officer of the organization.

Section 2

Term of Office: The term of office shall begin the third general meeting of April, prior to the annual meeting. The term of office shall be for one year. Officers may be re-elected with the exception of the webmaster, who may be re-appointed.

Section 3

Qualifications: To be eligible to run for elective officer, a candidate must be a member in good standing and shall be enrolled in Latin, Greek, or another classically-related subject. Post-graduates and mid-term graduates shall not be eligible for office.

Section 4

Nominating Procedures:

- A. Filing for Office: Any eligible person who wishes to run for a Reitz Junior Classical League office may become a prospective candidate by filing the designated form with chapter Praetor at least four weeks prior to the first general meeting of April. These forms will be revised by the Praetor and Sponsor each year and be available from him or her after January first to all perspective candidates.
- B. Changing Office: Any candidate wishing to change the office for which s/he is filing may do so provided that the new office for which s/he wishes to file is still open and that the candidate drops his or her application for the office s/he first filed. The candidate will be assured one spot on the ballot; however, the other nomination for that office will be open at first general meeting of April.
- C. Campaign Speeches: Candidates may give a campaign speech to the delegates of the organization during the first general meeting of April. Each candidate shall be allowed to campaign. Each candidate shall be allowed to campaign speech not to exceed three minutes, to be given by the candidate, his or her campaign manager, or both.
- D. Open Forum: After campaign speeches are given, candidates may be asked questions by the delegates of the organization. The Praetor shall facilitate this opportunity for candidates and delegates to exchange their views in a question and answer format.

- E. Campaign Procedures: Any candidates may pass out campaign materials during the first week of April, but the candidate is responsible for the trash that accumulates. Any candidate may also display posters or flyers, with size criteria at the school's discretion, but they must be tasteful and depict any crudeness. Campaign materials may be passed out or displayed *only* after the first general meeting of April. Pre-campaigning is *not allowed* under any circumstances. This includes e-mailing, campaigning over the internet, and the displaying of campaign materials prior to the beginning of the first general meeting of April. Any candidate who pre-campaigns may be subject to forfeiture.

Section 5

Election of Officers:

- A. Voting Procedure:
1. Voting delegates shall vote by a secret ballot. Each delegate in good standing shall have two votes. Each vote from a delegate shall be cast by themselves.
 2. Any delegate that fails to be present during the first general meeting April will have their votes nullified for the elections at the second general meeting.
- B. Ties: In case of a tie, the election for that office shall be turned over to the current officers. The officers shall vote by secret ballot. Each officer shall be allowed one vote, except in the case of a candidate and an officer being the same person. In this case, the officer shall not vote.

Section 6

Vacancies: Should any vacancy occur other than in the office of consul, the sponsor shall name a person to serve for the remainder of the term. If said student should relinquish the right to office, the Executive Board will make an appointment for any vacancy. Should consulship be vacated, the Praetor shall succeed and a new praetor shall be named by the Executive Board.

Section 7

Removal from Office:

- A. Ground for Removal: The organization shall have the power to remove any of its officers as provided in this section. The grounds for such removal shall be the infraction of the chapter rules, serious negligence in the discharge of the duties of that office, and/or conduct unbecoming of an office.
- B. Removal Procedure:
1. A resolution by the Executive Board to consider the removal of an officer can be introduced by any member of the Executive Board or by a petition bearing the signatures of the sponsor(s) and at least five delegates.
 2. If said resolution to consider the removal of an officer should pass the Executive Board by a simple majority vote, the same officer's sponsor shall guarantee that an adequate defence be made by that officer, by telephone, by mail, or in person to all those who shall vote for his or her removal. No vote shall be taken to remove the same officer until the same sponsor shall be satisfied that he has finished presenting his defense.

3. After the officer in question shall have finished his or her defense, two-thirds vote of the Executive Board shall be necessary to remove the officer. No officer shall be denied a vote to which he or she would otherwise be entitled during proceedings aims at this removal.

Article VI: Non-Discrimination

Section 1

The organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individuals for reasons of creed or worldview, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, citizenship, age, disability, veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Article VII: Dissolution

Section 1

The organization may be dissolved upon a unanimous vote of delegates present where the vote is taken. Dissolution may only occur at a general meeting.

Section 2

Quorum for a meeting with a dissolution vote is three-tenths of the current delegation.

Section 3

The organization may not dissolve while in debt or with a balance in the bank. If a balance exists, it may be donated to any JCL within the United States of America.

Article VII: Amendments

Section 1

Any member may propose a constitutional amendment. Suggested amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing to the Consul and Praetor of the organization. Copies of the amendments shall be given to all delegates two weeks prior to the vote.

Section 2

Members shall be notified at least two weeks in advance of a pending vote on an amendment. The amendment shall be read aloud and discussed on the day of the vote and at the meeting two weeks prior. An amendment can be adopted only by a two-thirds vote of a voting delegation.

Article VIII: Bylaws

Section 1

Bylaws: Bylaws not contrary to any provision of this constitution may be established.

Section 2

Bylaws Procedure: Bylaws may be established, amended, or repealed by a majority vote at a general meeting. Notice of proposed change of bylaws must be given at least one general session prior to final action on said change.

Bylaws

- I. Dues: Dues to the organization shall be determined annually by the Executive Board at its spring meeting each school year and shall be payable to the sponsor thereafter. Dues must be paid to the sponsor by January 15th for the delegate to be in good standing with the organization.
- II. Quorum: A quorum shall consist of three-fourths of the voting delegation.
- III. Duties of Officers:
 - A. The duties of the officers will be revised annually by the sponsor and distributed to the officers-elect at the spring meeting.
 - B. The duties of the officers will be published annually on the chapter website.
- IV. Voting: All business not covered in the constitution shall be voted on as follows: Each member in good standing shall be allowed two votes. These votes shall be cast by individual voting delegates previously designated by the Sponsor.