**SCSL Bylaws.**

**Article I**

**Meetings**

**Section 1.** Notice of all meetings shall be given no less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

**Section 2.** Spring Session

1. Each Delegation in attendance is entitled to one vote for the following purposes:
2. Amendments or revisions of the Bylaws;
3. Election of Fall Session Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen in accordance with Article V of the Bylaws;
4. Any other business deemed by the Executive Committee to be pertinent to the South Carolina Student Legislature.

**Section 3.** Fall Session

1. No more than two (2) of these delegates shall serve in the Senate and the remainder shall compose the House Delegation.  Each serving delegate shall be entitled to one vote.
2. Delegates must be present in order to cast a vote. A student from the delegate’s institution may step in to vote for a missing delegate provided that the student pays his registration fees prior to voting.
3. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall obtain from each member delegation a statement signed by the registrar of that institution listing the number of full-time undergraduate students.
4. The enrollment statement must be received before Fall Session ends on the final day in order for the delegation to receive its full quota of members.
5. The Secretary of State and Attorney General shall calculate the membership allowed for each delegation and inform the delegation chairmen of their findings regarding the populations and votes allotted to each school. Reapportionment and notification of the chairmen shall occur at every Fall Session.
6. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall make the number of voting members as well as the total number of full-time undergraduate students available to all of the delegations having membership in the South Carolina Student Legislature.
7. Any delegation tardy in the provision of its enrollment statement or found falsifying its enrollment statement shall be punished by the suspension of member votes.  The Executive Committee shall determine the specific number.

D. Legislation

1. Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by order of the Executive Committee;
2. Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:

i. Be approved by the Executive Committee before the last day of session.

ii.  Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all legislation found in bill book.

3. All legislation presented to the Governor will be signed or vetoed and returned to the chamber in which it originated prior to the time scheduled for adjournment of the Senate and House.  Each chamber may, by a two-thirds vote, extend its session and consider only those pieces of legislation vetoed and returned by the Governor.

4. Any legislation passed by the Senate and House and vetoed by the Governor, subsequent to the adjournment of the regular session of the Senate and House, may be sent to the chamber in which it originated during an extended session held in accordance with Article VI, Section 6, G, 10 of this document.

5. Any legislation passed by the Senate and House and not signed or vetoed by the Governor after the final adjournment of the Senate and House, including any extended session, shall be considered approved by the Governor and ordered printed in the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions.”

E. Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives may not serve in the opposite chamber unless under extenuating circumstances as approved by the Executive Committee. However, the replacement may not vote or participate in debate on bills he has already debated and voted on. The replacement may also not run for any awards from the House once he has joined the Senate.

**Section 4.** Interim Meetings:

A.   Interim Meetings shall be called by the Executive Committee between Sessions in order to carry on the business of the organization;

B.     The Executive Committee shall call at least two (2) Interim Meetings a year;

C.     On all items of business conducted at an Interim Meeting, each Delegation in attendance shall be allowed one vote;

**Article II**

**Supreme Court**

**Section 1.** Election of members of Supreme Court.

1. The members of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice shall receive resumes and choose the Associate Justices prior to the spring session. No more than two (2) justices shall be chosen from the same delegation.

**Article III**

**Committees**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House, and shall be chaired by the Governor;
2. Approve all officers appointed by the Governor;
3. Call all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
4. Be responsible to plan all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
5. Review and approve an annual budget;
6. Appoint three (3) members-at-large to the Constitutional Committee;

**Section 2.**  The Finance Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Treasurer, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House, and be chaired by the Treasurer;
2. Prepare the annual budget no later than the last Interim meeting before Fall Session;
3. Set and levy registration fees;
4. Solicit funds for South Carolina Student Legislature;
5. Approve all disbursements and reimbursements;
6. Review and revise the Treasurer Manual before Spring Session annually.

**Section 3.**  The Trial Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court and all Delegation Chairmen of the member the schools, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;
2. Hear all parties involved in an impeachment and shall convict or acquit the accused;
3. In the event that the Chief Justice of the Court is unable to serve under this provision, the remaining committee members shall replace him with an Associate Justice to be confirmed by the Executive Committee.
4. In the event that a Delegation Chairman is unable to serve, the Vice-Chairman from his delegation shall replace him.
5. Quorum for the Trial Committee will be three-fourths (3/4) of the member schools.
6. The Chief Justice of the Court shall call all meetings of the Trial Committee and shall give notice as prescribed in Article VI, Section 1;
7. The accused and the Attorney General shall submit a list of witnesses to the Chief Justice of the Court, who shall summon them to the trial.

**Section 4.**  The Constitutional Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court, the Attorney General, and three (3) members-at-large to be appointed by the Executive Committee, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;
2. Not allow any of the members-at-large to be from the same school as the Chief Justice of the Court or the Attorney General;
3. Review, prepare, and circulate any needed amendments or revisions to the Constitution.

**Section 5.**  The Election and Awards Committee shall:

A.   Consist of the Chairmen of the following committees:

1. Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
2. Committee on Education
3. Committee on Judiciary
4. Committee on Labor Commerce and Industry
5. Committee on Medical, Municipal, Military, Transportation, and Public Administration
6. Committee on Miscellaneous
7. Committee on Ways and Means

B. And shall be chaired by the Chair of the Committee on Judiciary.

C. No member of the Committee who is running for office shall continue to serve on the Committee.  In this case the respective vice chair will take his place on the Committee.  In the case that the vice chair is also running for office, the replacement shall be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Executive Committee.

D. Any member of the Committee who has been nominated for an award may not vote on the award(s) they have been nominated for. In this case, the Committee member will step away from the committee to allow for discussion and voting.

E.    Secretary of State shall assist the committee in making such preparations as it deems necessary, and shall be tasked with submitting all results to the Governor.

F.    The Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and the Secretary of State shall count the ballots in all elections of the South Carolina Student Legislature.

G.   Oversee the determination of the award honorees and recipients in accordance with Article XI.

H.   The Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and the Secretary of State shall submit a teller’s report as discussed in section 44 of *Robert’s Rules of Order; Newly Revised*.  This report shall be sent to the Executive Committee and be available to any delegation upon request.

**Section 6.** The Conference Committee shall:

A.   Consist of seven (7) members, three (3) Senators and four (4) Representatives, appointed by their respective presiding officers;

Resolve all differences between legislation passed by both chambers.

**Section 7.** The Fall Session Committees shall:

A.    The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the seven (7) committees shall be elected at Spring Session in accordance with Article V of the Bylaws;

B.    The Fall Session Committees shall consider all legislation assigned to them by the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House and shall report on the legislation to the respective officers of the House and Senate;

C.   The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of each committee shall rank all legislation passed through their committee for review by the officers of the chambers.

**Article IV**

**Budget**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall insure, through the operating budget presented, that the annual expenditure of the South Carolina Student Legislature does not exceed the annual South Carolina Student Legislature revenue. The budget shall include all annual expenditures that are greater than 25 dollars.

**Section 2**: The treasurer shall make available for review an annual financial report upon request. The review shall be available by fall session.

**Section 3**: The presentation of the operational budget shall be at the first joint session of the first full eight-hour day of Fall Session. The new operating budget must be passed by the South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly prior to the conclusion of Fall Session.

**Section 4:** In the event that any one of (1) the operating budget, (2) actual revenues or (3) actual expenditures exceeds Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000) the Comptroller General shall provide for and obtain an annual external audit of the finances of the South Carolina Student Legislature by a reputable certified public accountant for so long as the budget continues to exceed fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000), or as long as the Executive Committee deems it necessary. The Auditor’s Report shall be emailed to all chairs within two (2) days of its receipt and be presented and explained by the Comptroller General to the South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly as the first order of business at the first joint session of the first full day of the next Fall or Spring Session. The audit report shall also be made available on the South Carolina Student Legislature website.

**Article V**

**Nominations**

**Section 1.** Nominations shall be by the Secretary of State each day of Spring Session for Chairman and Vice Chairman of each committee listed in Article III. Names shall be listed by position in the order which the nominations are received. Chairmen and Vice Chairmen shall be elected by secret ballot. Each Delegation shall be given one vote for each chair and vice chair position. Ballots shall be distributed, collected, counted, and certified by the Secretary of State, the Chief Justice, and the Attorney General on the last day of Spring Session. Results of these elections shall be announced to the delegates before the conclusion of Spring Session.

**Section 2.** The officers shall be elected by secret ballot, which shall be given to the chair of each delegation to be completed in accordance with such rules as may have been adopted by the delegation. The completed ballot shall be submitted to the Election and Awards Committee during the first joint session on the last day of the session as prescribed by the Election and Awards Committee.

**Article VI**

**Discipline of Officers and Appointments**

**Section 1. Impeachment**

The impeached officer or appointee shall remain in office and he shall have until the next meeting of the members to prepare a defense. The Executive Committee will determine the time between the two meetings thus stated. The officer or appointee in question will have a minimum of 72 hours to prepare a defense.

A**.** Following impeachment charges, a hearing consisting of no less than 3/4 members, shall be held to consider all charges made against the impeached officer or appointee.

B. At the hearing all charges and evidence shall be brought forth in front of the Trial Committee. The impeached officer or appointee shall be afforded a maximum time allotted to deliver a defense, and shall have final remarks before a vote is taken.

C. Upon a 3/4 vote of the trial committee present, the impeached officer or appointee shall be removed from office.

D.Any vacancies created by the discipline of the Trial Committee shall be filled according to the method laid out in the Constitution and Bylaws of the South Carolina Student Legislature.