

THE PI-CONE SOUTH MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

By Laws (adopted Spring 2017)

Updated April 17th 2025

We, as mathematics teachers of southern Maine, intending to support and further the enjoyment of, and enthusiasm for, math on the part of our high school students for mathematics, have created the Pi-Cone South Math League, a member of the Maine Association of Math Leagues (hereafter referred to as "MAML"). In order to ensure the proper functioning of this organization, we do ordain and establish these By Laws of the Pi-Cone South Math League.

NAME

Article I

The name of the organization shall be The Pi-Cone South Math League, hereafter referred to as PCSML.

PURPOSE

Article II

The purpose of the PCSML is to further the study of mathematics among high-schools in southern Maine by holding contests and offering awards throughout each school year.

MEMBERSHIP

Article III

Any eligible southern Maine high-school which agrees to abide by these By Laws may make application for membership to the current President of the PCSML, and the President shall have the authority to admit applicant schools to membership.

DUES

Article IV

The annual dues for the following year's membership in PCSML are set each year at the Spring meeting. 2025-26 dues are: \$500 for the first team from a school, and \$100 per team for each successive team from that school. All member schools are required to provide payment to the Treasurer in a timely manner. The Treasurer has the unilateral authority to accept late payments, but all dues must be paid by the end of the calendar year in which the season starts.

Pi-Cone South cannot issue Purchase Orders.

MEETINGS AND VOTING

Article V

Any faculty member of a member school may attend any meeting of the league.

A minimum of two meetings of league members will be held each year, one in September and the other in May or June. Notice of each meeting will be distributed at least ten days prior to the meeting.

Article VI

Any member may request, in writing to the President, a special meeting for the purpose of reconsidering decisions made by the Executive Committee (see Article IX below).

Article VII

At the spring meeting the membership will elect officers: President, Division Representatives (one representing each division), Vice President, and Treasurer.

QUORUM

Article VIII

For all meetings of the membership, a quorum shall consist of representatives of at least one half of the member schools in that given year. In the absence of a quorum, decisions may not be made.

Article IX

One faculty representative from each member school shall be entitled to vote at meetings. A simple majority is sufficient to pass all simple motions. Members who are unable to attend may present their proxy to any other representative to ensure a quorum. The designated proxy has authority to vote as they see fit on all issues.

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Article X

The elected officers constitute the Executive Committee of the PCSML. The Executive Committee has the authority and responsibility to make timely decisions when a quorum of the membership cannot be assembled. The responsibilities and stipends of the officers are enumerated below:

Section 1: President (\$100)

- A. To call and preside at all meetings of the PCSML.
- B. To make final decisions about any matter that arises that is not covered within these by-laws.
- C. In consultation with the Executive Committee, to appoint or hire personnel considered necessary to carry out the duties herein described.
- D. To receive and act upon applications for new membership on the part of area schools.

- E. To communicate the following year's contest schedule to all member schools.
- F. To rule, in consultation with the Executive Committee, on all appeals.
- G. To serve as the liaison between the PCSML and other MAML members.
- H. To serve as Division Representative for their division.
- I. To receive all requests for special meetings of the league members and schedule them in accordance with these By-Laws.
- J. To decide upon the need for cancellations of meets, and report that decision to all member schools.
- K. To maintain electronic contact with other MAML reps during Meets.
- L. To report irregularities that occur during Meets to the Executive Committee and to MAML.

Section 2: Division Representatives (one from each of the four divisions: I-95, Portland Large, Portland Small, and SouthWest)

- A. In the event that the President is unable to perform their duties, the other Representatives will serve in their place until a new President can be elected.
- B. To serve on the Executive Committee as described elsewhere in these bylaws.
- C. To take responsibility for all PCSML publicity for their division.
- D. Receive and act upon appeals during and after Meets.

Section 3: Vice President (\$100)

- A. To serve as Division Representative for their division.
- B. To provide all member schools with written notice of all league meetings.
- C. To handle other communication with membership as is necessary.
- D. To procure and present awards in accordance with the Awards section below.
- E. To maintain these By-Laws and oversee the process of amending them.

Section 4: Treasurer (\$200)

- A. Shall collect all dues from member schools in a timely fashion, and coordinate with the President to communicate with members who are in arrears.
- B. To deliver a financial report of the organization at each PCSML meeting.
- C. To disburse funds and pay bills as required and in a timely manner.
- D. To reconcile all bank statements for PCSML funds.

Section 5: Statistician/Administrator (Ad Hoc member) (\$500)

- A. Maintain the PCSML website accurately and in a timely fashion.
- B. Keep all records of PCSML contests
- C. Maintain historical records of activities of previous years.

Article XI

Each officer shall serve a term from August 1 to July 31 of one year in length. Officers may be re-elected by vote of the membership.

Article XII

The Executive Committee shall act as the nominating committee for future officers of the PCSML.

CONTESTS

Article XIII

The contest schedule for each school year will be distributed to all member schools by May of the previous school year.

Article XIV

There will be five regular contests each academic year.

ELIGIBILITY

Article XV

Any student, who has not yet completed the 12th grade, of any member school is eligible to participate in any contest sponsored by the PCSML. Post-graduate students are not eligible.

CONTEST PROCEDURES

Article XVI

Starting Time: Meets are scheduled to start at 3:15 on the scheduled date. Coaches and schools are requested to honor that time and commitments of other coaches and students by being timely, arriving prepared to begin, and notifying the host school if they are late or not attending. Exceptions to starting times and/or dates may be granted by the Executive Committee.

Article XVII

All Meets run under the auspices of the PCSML will use problems and procedures provided by MAML, and follow the MAML guidelines. These guidelines may be found at

<http://www.maml.net/policies.pdf>

Article XVIII

If any participant or coach believes that a given answer is correct, and yet it is not listed as a correct answer, they may appeal it via their Division Representative to the MAML Appeals Board. All appeals must be submitted, in writing, to the Division Representative or President within 40 hours of the end of the meet. To be considered, an appeal must:

1. Contain a copy of the contestant's original answer.
2. A statement explaining why they consider their answer to be correct.

Appeals will be accepted only if:

1. The answer appears to be correct given a reasonable alternative interpretation of the question.
2. The answer is comparable to the given answer, and in an acceptable form.

3. The student proves that their alternative answer is, indeed a correct solution.

All appeals will be considered within a week after the completion of the last version of that Meet, state-wide.

Article XIX

No student may leave their assigned room during a Meet without permission from that room's proctor. No contestant may enter a room during a 12-minute round.

Article XX

A school missing a Meet will receive a score of zero for that Meet.

CANCELLATIONS/POSTPONEMENTS

Article XXI

Should a Meet be postponed for any reason, the following procedures will be followed:

1. In the event that the cancellation is caused by weather, the meet shall be called off by the President by Noon upon recommendation of the participating schools. If a no-school condition exists for any member school, then the meet for that division will be postponed, provided that the Executive Committee members are consulted and notified.
2. In the event of a cancellation for another reason (i.e. an emergency exists at the host school), arrangements will be made for some other school in the division to host the meet as rescheduled.
3. Procedure for postponement:
 - a. A postponed meet should be rescheduled for the following Wednesday, unless there are extenuating circumstances.
 - i. The President and Vice-President will make sure all impacted schools are notified of the need to reschedule.
 - ii. The original host school will participate in rescheduling.
 - b. If postponing isn't possible or practical (due to bussing concerns or booked locations) then individual meets will be conducted by each affected school under the supervision of their coach.
 - i. The president will forward the electronic version of the meet to all coaches on the Thursday morning following the cancelled meet.
 - ii. Coaches will have conducted their meet, and have appeals forwarded to the President by the following Wednesday,

RESULTS

Article XXII

Each school is responsible for reporting, on the Pi-Cone South website, the finalized scores for their contestants and teams within five days after the appeals for the given Meet have been heard.

Article XXIII

In the event that any irregularities occur during a Meet, the host school's organizer and the President have mutual responsibility for reporting the issue(s) to the Executive Committee and to MAML.

AWARDS

Article XXIV

Awards will be presented at the end of each school year. The Executive Committee will determine the distribution of awards, and may choose to augment or restrict the number of awards, based upon their assessment of performance, but the awards will largely follow these guidelines:

1. Cash awards will be presented to the top three overall point earners for the season: 150 for first place, 100 for second, and 75 for third. In the event of a tie, similar awards will be given to all students involved.
2. The season-long top scorers will receive medals, which are presented to approximately the top 12 Seniors, top 10 Juniors, top 8 Sophomores, and top 6 Freshmen.
3. Team plaques are presented to the top four teams in each of the divisions, by size.
4. Each team's coach receives a "Coach's Medal" to be presented to a team member of their choice.

AMENDMENTS

Article XXV

Any member school may propose an amendment to these By-Laws. The formal amendment must be submitted, in writing, to the Vice-President of the PCSML at least one week in advance of the next meeting. The Vice-President will provide a copy of the proposed amendment to each member school. The proposed amendment must be voted on no later than the next regularly scheduled meeting of the PCSML. A simple majority of member schools present (a quorum having been declared), will ratify the proposed amendment.