

Justice, Political Philosophy, & Law (JPPL) Society Constitution 2023

1. Name

1.1. The club shall be known as: McMaster's Justice, Political Philosophy and Law Society (JPPL Society) an MHS constituted club.

2. Purpose

2.1. The aim of this club is to foster integration in the areas of Justice, Political Philosophy and Law. It is dedicated to facilitating academic excellence and social connection, allowing students to reach their full potential in all majors related to this field. This club will be especially catered towards those who are in the current program of JPPL, especially new members who require guidance and introduction.

3. Membership

3.1. Membership in the club shall be open to all members of the JPPL student body who support the purpose of the club.

3.2. Honorary Membership shall be granted to an interested party (non-JPPL students) upon approval by the executive or membership committee of the club.

3.3. Honorary Members may not hold executive positions, expend funds, or have voting status at meetings.

3.4. There is no base membership fee. The only fee a member may incur is the ticket price for an optional event or merchandise bought through the society.

3.5. Members will gain first hand access to increasing their academic experience through various events.

3.6. Each member has the responsibility to portray the club in a positive way which is respectful and friendly to everyone.

4. Executive

4.1. The Club executive will consist of: two Co-Presidents, unless there are significant issues with nominations in which case there will be a vote as per section 5.2.1, and at least 6 other executive members. Subject to the discretion of the president(s), these include, but are not limited to: Logistics and Administration, Finance, Public Relations, Operations, Community Coordination, Junior Executives, and Second Year Representatives.

4.2. The President(s) shall:

4.2.1. Preside over all meetings of the club and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees within the club

4.2.2. Call all executive meetings and general meetings

4.2.3. Handle the day-to-day operations of the club

4.2.4. Ensure the club's adherence to MHS policies

4.2.5. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.

4.3. The Vice-President of Logistics and Administration shall:

4.3.1. Perform the duties of the President in the latter's absence and shall assist the President where required

4.3.2. Become thoroughly acquainted with the president's duties so they can assist the president as their second hand

4.3.3. Maintain the club's membership list and archival document

4.3.4. Keep the minutes of all official meetings and be responsible for all correspondence of the association.

4.3.5. Make sure that attendance is taken at every executive meeting

4.3.6. Complete EOHSS forms with the assistance of the events team 2 weeks prior to each event (where necessary).

4.3.7. Monitor the organization of the club and ensuring the club is on schedule

4.3.8. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.

4.4. The Vice President Finance shall:

4.4.1. Keep the account books of the club, arrange for the custody and distribution of funds pursuant to the executive and general membership's direction

4.4.2. Give a report to the finances of the club at each executive meeting and have the books available upon the request of any member of the club

4.4.3. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.

4.5. The Vice President of Public Relations

4.5.1. Promote the club in a positive and engaging way to the McMaster community

4.5.2. Be in charge of marketing any events the JPPL Society produces

4.5.3. Lead all social media initiatives done by the society across multiple social media platforms

4.5.4. Be in charge of reaching out and responding to the community on the social media platform in a positive timely manner

- 4.5.5. Will be take the lead on taking pictures for club events
- 4.5.6. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.
- 4.6. The Vice President of Operations
 - 4.6.1. Promote the club in a positive and engaging way to the McMaster community
 - 4.6.2. Maintain the majority of responsibility for events and preferences of club members toward them
 - 4.6.3. Plan and coordinate events throughout the year with the rest of the executive team
 - 4.6.4. Responsible for planning and organizing details in the event with the rest of the executive
 - 4.6.5. Lead and delegate tasks concerning the operations revolving around club events, activities, and tasks throughout the year
 - 4.6.5. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.
- 4.7. The Vice President of Community Coordination
 - 4.7.1. Pair first year students with their upper year mentors, and foster these relationships through various engagement opportunities
 - 4.7.2. Organize development opportunities for JPPL students, including but not limited to: career path planning sessions, studying and tutoring events, various panels, and other education, social, and professional learning opportunities
 - 4.7.3. Lead merchandise initiatives for the club under Presidents supervision
 - 4.7.4. Are in charge of making in-person visits to JPPL classes on behalf of the society
 - 4.7.5. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.
- 4.8. The Second Year Representatives
 - 4.8.1. Responsible for communication of events to students in the program for their respective years
 - 4.8.2. Responsible for giving feedback for the presidents and community coordinators concerning communication with students and provide insight to the mentorship process with event-planning and initiatives
 - 4.8.4. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.
- 4.9. The Junior Executives
 - 4.9.10. Responsible for assisting the Vice Presidents in their tasks

4.9.11. Perform such other duties that are from time to time assigned by the President, executive or general membership.

5. Election

5.1. All Officers shall be JPPL program members.

5.2. The Presidents

5.2.1. The presidential candidates must have served at least one year in the club

5.2.2 The presidential candidates will be either nominated by members of the Club or will nominate themselves and then voted in by the wider JPPL Executive team.

5.2.3 The election will be run through a mult-winner ranked-choice ballot system.

5.2.4. In the event there are more than two candidates, the executive team will decide whether the candidates will run in pairs or run individually. The rank-choice ballot will be developed according to the executive team's decision prior to the election period. In the event there is no consensus on this decision the candidates will run separately.

5.2.5. The individuals who count the ballots do not get a vote in the election in order to protect the integrity and impartiality of the election

5.2.6. The presidents will be appointed before March 31st of the current year.

5.3. General Club Members

5.3.1. Following their appointment, the presidents will host interviews to fill the other positions of the club.

5.3.2. Appointment of club members will be completed by the new presidents before June 30th.

5.4. Second Year Representatives

5.4.1. The presidents will conduct interviews to fill the Second Year Representative positions.

5.4.2. Appointment of Second Year Representatives will be completed by the new presidents before October 10th.

5.5. Term of office shall be one year commencing from the day after the elections, ending on the day the next the new officer's term begins.

5.6. Notice will be given to all club members and the MHS Vice President of Internal Affairs (VP Internal) of all executive changes.

5.9. One individual not involved in the elections or voting process, such as a member of the greater JPPL program or the McMaster Humanities Society (MHS), shall be responsible for taking minutes of elections and counting votes to determine position results.

6. Finances

- 6.1. The club may be eligible to solicit financing from the MHS.
- 6.2. The club may determine an annual membership fee with approval from the MHS.
- 6.3. Monies received shall not involve any obligation of the MHS.
- 6.4. The club may use any means consonant with the constitutional purpose and in its membership to raise funds for its program upon advice of the MHS Vice President of Internal Affairs.
- 6.5. The club's books may be subject to an annual audit by the MHS and shall be filed with the MHS Vice President of Internal Affairs within five business days of the request for audit.
- 6.6. All cheques shall be signed by the Vice President Finance or a Co-President
- 6.7. Event fees may apply depending on the events and costs and attendance

7. Meetings

7.1. General

- 7.1.1. General meetings shall be open to all JPPL Students.
- 7.1.2. At least one general meeting shall be called by the Presidents per academic term.
- 7.1.3. Attendance to the Winter Term general meeting is mandatory to apply to be on the executive for the next coming year.
- 7.1.4. Upon the receipt of five signatures by the President from JPPL students requesting a general meeting, a meeting shall be called by the President at the earliest possible date.
- 7.1.5. Voting procedure for regular business at a general meeting shall be by simple majority.
- 7.1.6. Notice of a general meeting must be sent to the MHS Vice President of Internal Affairs no less than one week prior.

7.2. Executive

- 7.2.1. At least one executive meeting shall be called by the President per academic term.
- 7.2.2. Upon the receipt of 10 signatures by the President from the Society members, the President shall call an executive meeting at the earliest possible date.
- 7.2.3. Voting procedure for regular business at an executive meeting shall be by simple majority.

7.3. Quorum

- 7.3.1. A quorum of 1/3 of the total membership is required for a general meeting.

7.3.2. A quorum of 2/3 of the executive is required for an executive meeting.

8. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

8.1 The JPPL Society acknowledges that as a McMaster affiliated society/club, the club/society benefits from the University's location on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish with One Spoon" wampum agreement.

8.2. The JPPL Society recognizes and works to reflect McMaster University's commitments to equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility, to cultivate a community that respects the human rights, integrity, and dignity of all members.

8.3. The JPPL Society does not condone any harassment, violence, and discrimination.

8.4. The JPPL Society shall not attempt to exclude, discriminate, or repudiate in any manner and inclusion will always remain a priority of the society

8.5. Any failure to adhere to these conditions will result in immediate review and possible recall from the MHS

9. Amendments

9.1. Passage of amendments to the constitution shall be 2/3 affirmative vote at a quorum meeting.

9.2. Each amendment shall be referred to the MHS Vice President of Internal Affairs and President for its acceptance.

10. Bylaws

10.1. Passage of bylaws shall be by at least 60% affirmative vote at a quorum general meeting.

11. Recall

11.1. The JPPL Society shall make every reasonable attempt to fulfill the duties and responsibilities, and to reflect the policies and beliefs of the club as outlined in this constitution.

11.2. The JPPL Society shall make every reasonable attempt to reflect and obey the policies as outlined in the MHS Constitution.

11.3. The members of the JPPL Society shall not use their position in contravention of the legitimate rights and interests of the members' constituents.

11.4. The members of the JPPL Society shall recognize that any failure to respect the conditions stated in this section will result in immediate review and possible recall from the MHS.

12. Disclaimer

11.2. The views and actions of this club in no way reflect the views of all members of the Justice, Political Philosophy and Law program, the McMaster Humanities Society or the overall McMaster University community.

13. Enabling Clause

13.1. This Constitution shall take effect September 1st, 2023.

13.1.2 This Constitution has been modified as of April 2nd, 2023.