

League of Young Communists (LYC) - Constitution/Bylaws

Article I: Purpose

Section One: The primary purpose of the LYC is the education of young comrades in the science of Marxism-Leninism and with organizational understanding in order to prepare to take up leadership in the Party of Communists USA (PCUSA).

Section Two: The secondary purpose of the LYC is to pursue Marxist-Leninist ideology on issues particularly or especially pertaining to young people.

Article II: Ideology

Section One: The ideology of the LYC is reflective of the ideology of the PCUSA. Any platform plank of the PCUSA is also a plank of the LYC ideology.

Section Two:

*Subsection A: This organization may only take an ideological stance on issues not addressed by PCUSA with the support of the PCUSA's politburo. Any such stance that the LYC leadership wishes to take shall be presented to the politburo of the PCUSA by the LYC Organizational Secretary.

*Subsection B: This organization is never empowered to take an independent ideological stance on any issue addressed directly by the PCUSA; as the LYC is an extension of the PCUSA.

Article III: Structure

Section One: New membership are "partial members" for a short time. During this time, initiates will begin to gain a basic understanding of Marxism-Leninism, and the structure/functioning of the PCUSA. The time required to pass this phase will depend on the new member's gained knowledge, and understanding. However, not all individuals must become an initiate to the LYC. A test and interview may be given by request of an individual wishing to skip this phase before or during it. Upon having the test processed and passing, an interview date and time will be arranged. By the end of the interview, the applicant will receive the decision decided on by the interviewer.

Section Two: All members who pass the initiate phase will become "full members." At this time, the individual gains the right to vote on items put forward to LYC general membership, ability to hold an officer position if elected or accepted to it, etc. During this time, the member will also become a member of the PCUSA.

Section Three: The leadership of the LYC shall be known as the Central Council. The Central Council will be required to meet a week prior to LYC general membership meetings in order to make important organizational decisions and create an agenda which will be the basis for discussion for the LYC general membership meetings.

The Central Council of the LYC will be organized as follows:

*Organizational Secretary – Shall be the chair to lead discussion during both leadership meetings, and during LYC general membership meetings; maintains the agenda created by the Central Council; Supplies updates from the LYC to the PCUSA's central committee/Politburo/Council of Secretariats when necessary.

*Secretary of Finance – Processes funds for the LYC; prepares financial reports to present to the Central Council, which will ultimately be bound for the Central Committee of the PCUSA; works closely with the PCUSA’s Finance Commission to discuss funds and membership dues.

*Secretary of Membership – Contacts members of the LYC leadership and/or LYC general membership to inform them of upcoming meetings; Works closely with the PCUSA’s Membership Commission in order to discuss the processing of applicants, and other subjects.

Section Four:

Subsection One: Upon a secretary’s resignation or removal (in the instance that an LYC official’s position and action is against Marxism-Leninism and/or the Eight Points of Unity, that official is relieved from their position by the Politburo), the Politburo may assign an LYC member or a member of the Politburo to hold the position of the secretary until a new secretary is voted into the position in order to insure efficiency.

*Subsection Two: The Central Council shall be impanelled by the PCUSA National Congress every three years. If an LYC member is unable to attend the PCUSA National Congress, they may cast their vote via email to an email specifically set up for this issue.

Article IV: Meeting Conduct

Meetings will be chaired by the organizational secretary. In the case that the general secretary must be absent from a meeting, the secretary of membership will be the chair for that meeting.

Article V: Amending the Constitution

An amended version of the constitution must first be reviewed and accepted by the politburo. Once approved by the Politburo, two-thirds of the Central Council overall are required to accept the proposed amended constitution. Following this, the Central Council must release a statement available to membership on what and why constitutional changes are being put forward. A vote must then be taken through the LYC general membership where a 75% approval must be reached.

Constitution of the League of Young Communists

Article I: Purpose

Section 1:

The primary purpose of the LYC is in the education of young comrades in proper Marxist-Leninist thought and to prepare them for organization with and leadership in the Party of Communists USA (PCUSA).

Section 2:

The secondary purpose of the LYC is to pursue Marxist-Leninist ideology on issues particularly or especially pertaining to young people.

Article II: Ideology

Section 1:

LYC ideology is reflective of the ideology of the PCUSA. Any platform plank of the PCUSA is also a plank of the LYC ideology.

Section 2:

Subsection A:

This organization may only take an ideological stance on issues not addressed by PCUSA with the support of four members of PCUSA's politburo. Any such stance that the LYC central committee wishes to take shall be presented to the politburo by the LYC Organizational Secretary.

Subsection B:

This organization is never empowered to take a unique ideological stance on any issue addressed directly by the PCUSA.

Article III: Structure

Section 1:

The leadership committee of the LYC shall be known as the central committee. It will be a body of at least five and no more than ten people. If the central committee is a group of less than nine people, it must meet weekly to make decisions regarding the LYC. Should the central committee have nine or ten people, a politburo of three individuals will be formed from its members. In such a case, the politburo of the LYC will be required to meet weekly to handle LYC decisions, and the central committee as a whole will be required to meet monthly to make important organizational decisions.

Section 2:

The Central Committee of the LYC will be organized as follows:

- The Organizational Secretary of the LYC shall be the chairman of the organization. He/she will be responsible for moderating LYC general meetings, LYC central committee meetings, and, if applicable, LYC politburo meetings. He/she will also be responsible for the organizational administration of decisions made by the LYC central committee and, if applicable, the LYC politburo.

- The Second Secretary of the LYC shall be the next in line to be chairman of the organization should the general secretary be in some way unable to perform his/her duties. The Second Secretary will be responsible for taking minutes for LYC general, central committee, and, if applicable, politburo meetings. Should the second secretary permanently relieve the organizational secretary of duties, he/she will be responsible for appointing a new second secretary to be approved by a majority vote of the central committee.
- The Treasurer of the LYC shall be responsible for producing a monthly report on the organizations finances, including, at the least, a starting and ending balance.
- The Membership Director of the LYC will be responsible for keeping an accurate list of members and keeping the membership informed on all LYC issues including but not limited to, notices of upcoming meetings, news and other information approved for dissemination by LYC leadership, and organizational decisions made by the LYC leadership.
- District organizers from every district with a suitable LYC presence (at least four members) will appointed by the LYC central committee. Even if applicable, the politburo of LYC is not empowered to appoint a district organizer independent of the central committee. The district organizers will be responsible for ensuring the LYC program is carried out by the members of their regions.
- Should there be no district of the LYC with sufficient membership to warrant a district organizer, an active and ideologically sound member of the LYC will be temporarily appointed by the central committee to meet the minimum five member requirement. In such an event, the temporary appointee to the central committee will have no single set of tasks, but will be responsible for decision making in central committee meetings and will be responsible for aiding the aims of the LYC in any possible manner.
- With all officer positions outlined in this constitution filled, the central committee will have seven members. Should there be more than one hundred members in the LYC, three active and ideologically sound members of the LYC shall be appointed by the LYC leadership to the central committee. Such members would have no single set of tasks, but would be responsible for decision making in central committee meetings, and will be responsible for aiding the aims of the LYC in any possible manner. Furthermore, should there be more than seventy but less than one hundred members of the LYC, the central committee may appoint up to three active and ideologically sound members into the previously described position, but have no imperative to do so.

Article IV: Meeting Conduct

Section 1:

Meetings of the LYC central committee will be carried out according to the guidelines given in Article III, section 1. General meetings of the LYC will be carried out at least twice monthly. Meetings will be chaired by the Organizational Secretary of the LYC.

Section 2:

The quorum for central committee meetings will be fifty percent plus one person of the body's members. In the event that a politburo is formed, all three members must be present for that body to make organizational decisions.

Section 3:

All LYC leadership meetings must have at least one of the PCUSA's politburo present to help with the meetings conduct. The present member of the PCUSA politburo will not run the meeting, a duty to be carried out only by the Organizational Secretary, or if he/she is unable, the Second Secretary of the LYC. However, the present PCUSA politburo members' suggestions must be taken into consideration by the LYC leadership. Any decision made by the LYC central committee or, if applicable, politburo in a meeting.

Section 4:

Any organizational decision made in a meeting by the central committee or, if applicable, politburo of the LYC will be subject to veto by a four-fifths vote of the PCUSA politburo. As outlined in Article II, section 2, subsection A, the leadership of the LYC is not empowered to make independent ideological decisions in their own meetings, but is only empowered to vote to send an ideological stance to the PCUSA politburo for approval.

Article V: Amending the Constitution

The constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the central committee of the LYC in a meeting. The quorum required to vote on a constitutional amendment is fifty percent plus two members of the central committee. Even if applicable, the politburo of the LYC is not empowered to alter the constitution independent of the central committee.