

# BY-LAWS

## OF THE

# AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

### ARTICLE I

#### OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and two Editorial Committees of three members each—one for the BULLETIN and one for the TRANSACTIONS. The President, Secretary, Treasurer, and other officers shall have the duties ordinarily pertaining to their offices, but special duties may be assigned from time to time by vote of the Society.

Section 2. It shall be a duty of the President to deliver an address before the Society at the Annual Meeting at which his term of office expires.

Section 3. The Librarian shall have charge of arrangements for the exchange of the Society's publications.

### ARTICLE II

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1. There shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of five trustees elected by the Society, in accordance with Article IV.

Section 2. The function of the Board of Trustees shall be to receive and administer the funds of the Society, to have full legal control of its investments and properties, to make contracts and, in general, to conduct all business affairs of the Society.

### ARTICLE III

#### COUNCIL

Section 1. The Council shall consist of the officers specified in Article I, of ex-secretaries who have served as Secretary for ten years or more, ex-presidents, for a period of six years after the expiration of their respective presidential terms, and of fifteen additional elected members chosen in accordance with Article IV, Section 2.

Section 2. Its function shall be to formulate and administer the scientific policies of the Society and to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Trustees.

Section 3. At meetings of the Council five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Between meetings business may be transacted by a mail vote. This shall require at least fifteen favorable votes and also that the number of these votes be three-quarters of those transmitted to the Secretary before the time announced for the closing of the polls. In case three or more members of the Council request postponement, at time of voting, action on the matter at issue shall be postponed until the next meeting of the Council, unless at the discretion of the Secretary the question is made the subject of a second letter vote, in connection with which brief statements of reasons, pro and con, are circulated to members.

### ARTICLE IV

#### ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Section 1. The term of office shall be two years for the trustees, the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, and the Treasurer; and three years each for the Librarian, the Editorial Committees, and the fifteen elected members of the Council, five of the latter retiring annually. In every case, however, the trustees and officers shall continue until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified. The President, the Vice-Presidents, and the fifteen elected members of the Council shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to their respective offices.

Section 2. Election of trustees, officers, and members of the Council shall be by ballot at the Annual Meeting. An official ballot shall be sent to each member

by the Secretary at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting, and such ballots, if returned to the Secretary in envelopes bearing the names of the voters and received prior to the closing of the polls, shall be counted at the Annual Meeting. Each ballot shall contain a name proposed by the Council for each office to be filled, with blank spaces in which the voter may substitute other names. A majority of all votes cast, whether in person or by mail, shall be necessary for election. In case of failure to secure a majority for any office, the members present at the Annual Meeting shall choose by ballot between the two having the highest number of votes.

Section 3. If the President of the Society die or resign, before the expiration of his term of office, the Council may, with the approval of the trustees, designate one of the Vice-Presidents to serve as Acting President until the next Annual Meeting, when a President shall be elected by the Society. Such vacancies as may occur at any time among the other officers may be filled by the Council with the approval of the trustees.

Section 4. If any trustee die or resign during his tenure of office, the vacancy thus created shall be filled for his unexpired term by the Board of Trustees.

Section 5. If any elected member of the Council die or resign more than one year before the expiration of his term, the vacancy for the unexpired term shall be filled by the Society at the next Annual Meeting.

#### ARTICLE V ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1. Election of members shall be by vote of the Council.

Section 2. There shall be two classes of members, ordinary and sustaining.

Section 3. A firm, corporation, institution, association or individual interested in the support of mathematics may be elected to sustaining membership. A sustaining member shall receive both the BULLETIN and the TRANSACTIONS (see Article X), and shall have the privilege of nominating one or more persons for election by the Council to ordinary membership in the Society, the number to be determined by the Council. Such nominations shall not be acted upon until at least thirty days after their presentation to the Council (at a meeting or by mail).

Section 4. Except in the case of nominees of sustaining members, application for admission to ordinary membership shall be made by the applicant, on a blank provided by the secretary, and shall be approved by two members of the Society. Such applications shall not be acted upon until at least thirty days after their presentation to the Council (at a meeting or by mail), except in the case of members of other societies entering under special action of the Council.

#### ARTICLE VI DUES

Section 1. Persons elected to ordinary membership in the Society by the Council, under the provisions of Article V, Section 4, shall be admitted to membership upon the payment, within sixty days of the date of their election, of an initiation fee of five dollars.

Section 2. The annual dues of persons elected by the Council to ordinary membership under the provisions of Article V, Section 4, shall be six dollars, payable on the first of January, except as this amount may be altered by reciprocity agreements with other societies or by special action of the Council, with the approval of the Board of Trustees. Each new member shall pay in proportion to the unexpired fraction of the year at the time of his election.

Section 3. The dues of a sustaining member for any year shall not be less than one hundred dollars. A sustaining member who contributes annually at least five hundred dollars shall be designated as a Patron of the Society.

Section 4. Persons elected to ordinary membership as nominees of sustaining members, under the provisions of Article V, Section 3, shall not be required to pay an initiation fee. They shall not be required to pay dues so long as it is agreed that they are designated by the sustaining member under these provisions.

Section 5. If the annual dues of any member remain unpaid beyond a reasonable time, the Board of Trustees shall remove his name from the list of members, after due notice.

Section 6. Any member not in arrears of dues may become a life member on the payment of a sum to be determined in accordance with actuarial principles\*

\* See table on page 60.

## ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held between the fifteenth of December and the fifteenth of January next following. Notice of the time and place of this meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to the last known post office address of each member of the Society. The times and places of the Annual and other meetings of the Society shall be designated by the Council.

Section 2. The President may call a meeting of the Council whenever the affairs of the Society make it desirable; he shall call a meeting of the Council on written request of five of its members.

Section 3. The Board of Trustees shall have its regular Annual Meeting on the first day of the Annual Meeting of the Society. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the Chairman of the Board upon ten days' notice of such meeting mailed to the last known post office address of each trustee. He shall call a meeting upon the receipt of a written request of two of the trustees. Meetings for the transaction of business may also be held by common consent of all the trustees.

## ARTICLE VIII SECTIONS

Whenever it shall appear to the Council that a sufficient number of members of the Society are desirous of conducting in any locality periodic meetings for the reading and discussion of mathematical papers, the Council may authorize the formation of a Section to be composed at each sectional meeting of such members of the Society as may be present; and the Council shall have the right to withdraw such authorization.

## ARTICLE IX PROGRAMS

Section 1. Papers intended for presentation at any meeting or sectional meeting of the Society shall be passed upon in advance by a program committee appointed by or under the authority of the Council; and only such papers shall be presented as shall have been approved by such committee. Papers in form unsuitable for publication, if accepted for presentation, shall be referred to on the program as preliminary communications or reports.

Section 2. No matter of general business shall be considered at any meeting of the Society except the Annual Meeting without the recommendation of the Council.

## ARTICLE X PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. The Society shall publish a historical and critical review of mathematical science, called the *BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY*, to a copy of each issue of which every member of the Society shall be entitled. It shall also publish a journal, the object of which shall be to make known important researches presented at meetings of the Society; this journal shall be called the *TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY*.

Section 2. The editorial management of each publication shall be in charge of a committee, as specified in Article I. Each committee may associate with itself other members of the Society whose assistance it may desire. The Council may designate a chairman of either committee to act as editor-in-chief of the corresponding publication.

## ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended or suspended at any meeting of the Society on recommendation of the Council and by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice of such proposed action and of its general nature shall have been given in the call for such meeting.