

Statutes of the Order of the Pelican in Caid

I. General Provisions

A. These Statutes are supplemental to the various laws and regulations affecting Caid, The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and the individual members under these Statutes. These Statutes outline the formal procedures for the Order of the Pelican in Caid insofar as the Order acts as an organized body.

B. No change shall be made in these Statutes without the Order as a whole being informed of the nature of the proposed change at least a week before the vote on the change. Notice may be by direct communication or by the discussion and proposal of the change in the last previous meeting before the vote.

1. Spelling or punctuation errors that do not change the intrinsic meaning of the Statutes may be changed by the Secretary without submitting said change(s) to a vote of the membership.

II. Membership

A. The organized body described in these Statutes shall have as its members all Companions of the Order of the Pelican who reside within the boundaries of Caid

B. A person resides in Caid if and only if that person has his or her primary home address in Caid.

C. In order to pay for operational expenses of the order such as sites for meetings, dues are encouraged to be paid by each member of the order in a specific amount per reign, to be determined by a vote of the Order.

1. These monies are given to the Secretary for deposit into the Pelican fund. When our fund reaches \$3,000, the Order shall hold a vote to determine if we want a moratorium on collecting dues until our balance drops to \$1500, whereupon dues again become an expectation.

D. All members shall have a right to attend and participate in all meetings of the Order, and the right to seek any office of the Order.

E. All members shall be of equal rank within the Order.

III. Officers

A. There shall be no Principal of the Order.

B. Secretary: The Order shall have a Secretary who shall be elected from any volunteers. The minimum term of office shall be one year. The Secretary may serve longer.

1. Responsibilities

a) The Secretary shall act as the voice of the Order regarding consultations to the Crown after the vote of the Order has been taken and in agreement with the results.

b) The Secretary shall be responsible for all paperwork necessary for the functioning of the Order. This shall include, but is not limited to, notification of the Order of meetings, absentee ballots, and voting results, correspondence to the Crown, and the preparation and filing of necessary financial statements in coordination with the Kingdom Exchequer.

c) The secretary shall be the chief administrator of electronic communication regarding the order in accordance with Board of Directors directives. This may include but is not limited to official email lists/groups for the order and unofficial social media groups that specifically include the Order. Order communications shall comply with all official SCA electronic and social media policy.

d) The Secretary shall make and keep a record of all meetings of the Order that take place during their term of office and ensure prompt written communication of these records to the members of the Order within two weeks of the meeting date.

e) The Secretary is responsible for the maintenance of all records and regalia of the Order. This shall include, but is not limited, to storing historic records of meetings, maintaining the watch list, and maintaining the roster of members of the Order.

f) If no Moderator has been selected, the Secretary will chair the meetings of the Order.

g) If the Secretary fails to fulfill the duties of the office, they may be removed by a vote of the Order.

IV. Meetings

A. The Order shall meet at least once every reign.

1. The time and place of meetings shall be set by a vote of the Order as a whole.

2. In the event that a meeting previously set must be rescheduled or moved because of unforeseen circumstances, the Secretary shall reset the meeting to a time and location as close to that originally set as is convenient.

B. All members may attend any meeting of the Order.

C. Courtesy invitations may be extended to the Crown, Their Heirs, and members of the Order from out of the Kingdom.

D. A non-member may attend a meeting of the Order only by invitation of the Order.

- E. The agenda of the meeting shall be prepared by the Secretary and shall include discussion of any candidates for elevation to the Order and any other item(s) that any member wishes to put on the agenda.
- F. Any agenda item received by the Secretary after a meeting has begun can be postponed for discussion until the next meeting by consensus vote.
- G. Moderator
 - 1. The Moderator may be selected on a meeting by meeting basis.
 - 2. The Moderator shall have the traditional duties of a chairperson at meetings of the Order.
- H. Where there is no consensus concerning the scope of those traditional duties, Robert's Rules of Order will be the authority on any issue in dispute.
- I. Except as specifically provided in these Statutes, all issues shall be decided by a majority of those voting an opinion, not including abstentions.

V. Candidates

- A. Nomination and Consideration
 - 1. Per Corpora, the Crown must consult with members of an Order prior to elevating subjects to that peerage. The Order recognizes that they have a duty to advise the Crown on candidate advancement, and that the consultation requirement of the Crown has been satisfied when the procedures set forth in these statutes have been completed. By tradition, a peer is not made without the favorable recommendation of the Order, but consultation need not result in a recommendation from the Order to Their Majesties.
- B. Any properly nominated candidate shall be discussed at the meeting most immediately following the nomination.
- C. Any person may nominate a candidate. However, this is only done by forwarding that candidate's name to the Secretary in writing before the mailing deadline of the agenda and information for meetings.
- D. Any item of new business brought to the order after a meeting has begun can be postponed for discussion until the next meeting by consensus vote.
- E. The discussion of any candidate shall be limited to matters relevant to that candidate's qualification for the Order of the Pelican. Primary focus will be given to the candidate's recent work and behaviors. However, the entirety of the candidate's body of work and peer-like qualities will be considered.
 - 1. Every member attending a meeting has an absolute right, but not an obligation, to speak on each candidate prior to the vote on that candidate.

F. Written opinions shall be read aloud by the person designated by the writer or if none, by the Secretary.

G. The order of speaking shall be at the Moderator's discretion

H. If a candidate is discussed, but not recommended by the Order, they shall not be discussed at any subsequent meeting unless renominated or remanded to a specific meeting to be held later.

VI. Voting

A. All votes on candidates shall be by secret ballot.

B. Votes shall be "Yes", recommending elevation; "No", opposing elevation at present; and "Abstain", reserving opinion. If the total number of non-absentee votes is less than the number of members present when the vote was taken, the difference shall be counted as "Abstain". Submitted absentee ballots containing no marked votes on a particular candidate shall be counted as "Abstain" for that candidate.

1. Any vote cast shall be considered an improper vote if it is not marked in accordance with Section V.B.2. Improper votes on any candidate shall be considered abstentions and counted as such.

2. As all votes are secret, no individual member may change his or her vote once it has been cast.

C. Votes at the meeting shall be counted by one member and verified by a second member. The vote totals shall be announced at the meeting. All ballots shall be destroyed after the votes have been counted and verified.

D. Absentee ballots, or notification of the candidates being voted upon, shall be sent to all members who were not present when the vote on any particular candidate was taken, and shall be accompanied by a notice of any deadlines affecting the efficacy of the vote. Such deadline shall be two weeks from the mailing date.

1. All absentee votes shall be individually made by members of the Order and shall be destroyed after being added to the vote tally from the meeting.

E. The Order may at any time of any meeting take another vote on any candidate. The last completed vote by the Order shall control any recommendation.

VII. Recommendation

A. Definitions

1. "Total Votes Cast" refers to the total of all members present when a vote is taken, plus the number of absentee ballots returned.
2. "Total Voting Opinion" refers to the total number of "Yes" votes, plus the total number of "No" votes on any particular candidate.

B. A candidate shall be recommended to the Crown for elevation to the Order of the Pelican if and only if the total "Yes" votes on that candidate represent not less than 75% of the total voting opinion and 60% of the total votes cast.

C. A recommendation shall lapse unless the current Crown or their immediate successors act upon it or it is renewed by another vote to recommend.

D. A recommendation shall be retracted upon a vote of the Order if and only if the vote for retraction meets the same numeric criteria as section 2 of this Part.

VIII. Confidentiality of Meetings

A. It is the custom of the Order of the Pelican that the candidate discussions of the Order be kept confidential both to protect candidates, and as a courtesy to the Crown for whom we act as counselors. Thus, the discussion of candidates and the results of discussion are considered privileged information. Other aspects of a meeting may be deemed to be privileged by the order at the time of the discussion.

B. Any member of the Society who receives privileged information or hears rumors concerning peerage discussions is encouraged to speak to the Secretary of the Order about them.

C. Second and successive breaches of confidence by a member of the Order shall be brought into a forum of the Order. The Order as a body shall decide on a case-by-case basis what shall constitute appropriate action.

As voted on and passed by the Members of the Order of the Pelican, September A.S. XIX (1984).

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, January 17, A.S. XXII (1988).

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, October, A.S. XXVI (1991).

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, May 15, A.S. XXIX (1994).

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, January, AS XXXII (1998)

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, February, AS XXXIV (2000)

Changed from Charter to Statutes by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, January, AS XXXVII

(2003)

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, January, AS XLI (2007)

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, July, AS XLII (2007)

Amended by vote of the Members of the Order of the Pelican, February, AS LV (2021)