

Constitution

Of the North Carolina Society of Engineers

ARTICLE I

Name, Headquarters and Mission Statement

Section A: Name and Address

1. The name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Society of Engineers, herein referred to as the Society.
2. The official abbreviation shall be NCSE.
3. The Society shall maintain a permanent Post Office (PO Box) address.

Section B: Purpose

1. It is the mission of this Society to promote the social, economic, and technical interests of the engineering profession by:
 - a. Supporting comprehension and adherence to standards of engineering ethics;
 - b. Assisting in updating technical knowledge of Society members;
 - c. Maintaining an active interest in legislation and other movements having for their aim the improvement of professional engineering standards;
 - d. Recognizing local engineering clubs throughout the state and supporting efforts and initiatives of those clubs that support the goals/mission of this society;
 - e. Providing scholarship(s) to students enrolled in a North Carolina engineering program;
 - f. Supporting and promoting future engineers.

ARTICLE II

Districts

Section A: Districts

1. The State shall be divided into four Districts.
2. For the purposes of representation, elections and other resolutions as set forth in this Constitution and these Bylaws, the State shall be divided into four districts as follows:
 - a. *District I:* Eastern; Counties of Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Robeson, Sampson, Tyrrell, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson.
 - b. *District II:* East Central; Counties of Alamance, Caswell, Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Halifax, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Moore, Northampton, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake, and Warren.
 - c. *District III:* West Central; Counties of Anson, Cabarrus, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Iredell, Montgomery, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Union, and Yadkin.
 - d. *District IV:* Western; Counties of Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, McDowell, Macon, Madison, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey.

ARTICLE III

Membership/ Local Engineers Clubs

Section A: Membership Grades and Requirements

1. Membership in the NCSE shall consist of the following grades: Honorary Member, Life Member, Member, and Student Member.
2. Qualifications for these grades of membership shall be as follows:
 - a. An Honorary Member shall be a person who has rendered acknowledged eminent service, has made valuable and outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and who has been selected by a three-fourths majority vote of the entire Board of Directors. There may be as many as one Honorary Member for each one hundred Members of the Society, except that the total number of Honorary Members shall not exceed fifteen, and not more than three Honorary Members may be elected in any one year.
 - b. A Life Member shall be a person who is 65 years of age or more, and who has 30 total years or more of dues paying membership (not required to be continuous) in any grade(s) in the Society.
 - c. A Member shall be:
 - i. A Professional Engineer or Engineer in Training registered by a State Board of registration for Professional Engineers, or
 - ii. A graduate of an accredited engineering or science curriculum of four years from a school or college satisfactory to the Board, or
 - iii. A high school graduate with not less than eight years of subsequent progressive experience in engineering work, or
 - iv. A graduate of an accredited two-year engineering, engineering technology or science curriculum from a technical college satisfactory to the Board, or
 - v. Have a record of recognized performance and leadership in some profession or branch of industry or science relating to engineering and shall be qualified to co-operate with engineers in the practice of their profession.
 - d. A Student Member shall be a student in an accredited school of engineering who is enrolled in a four year course of engineering or an accredited engineering transfer program.
 - e. In determining qualifications and definitions use the following:
 - i. One year's work in an accredited engineering school or college may be considered equivalent to two years of work in active practice for all grades of membership
 - ii. One year's work in an engineering curriculum at an accredited technical institute or school may be considered equivalent to one and one-half years of working active practice for all grades of membership.
 - iii. The term "engineering work" shall mean the application of a knowledge of the mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences in investigation, evaluation, planning, design, technical sales, manufacturing, construction, or other similar engineering activity satisfactory to the Board. Teaching of engineering or science subjects in accredited college curricula shall constitute engineering work. The term "engineering work" shall not include types of work wherein the personal responsibility and technical knowledge required are small, and the individual performance of tasks are largely set and supervised by others. Progressive experience in engineering work means successive advancement to positions of greater responsibility

Section B: Rights

1. All grades of members shall have the right to vote on matters brought before the Society in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.
 - a. Only Life Members and Members may hold office in the Society or serve on the Board of Directors.
 - b. All grades of members shall be elected to membership in the manner prescribed in the Bylaws.

Section C: Local Engineers Club

1. A local engineers club whose objectives are consistent and cooperative with those of the Society may request, and be granted by the Board of Directors, "Local Engineers Club" membership in the Society. The President of an approved Local Engineers Club shall be granted the position of Director of the Society with full rights and privileges of representation. The Local Engineers Club President shall meet all the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.
2. A Local Engineers Club whose Constitution, Bylaws and objectives are consistent and cooperative with those of the Society may request, and be granted by the Board of Directors, Local Engineers Club membership in the Society. The names of Local Clubs shall be known as "Engineers Club"..
3. The Board of Directors of the Society and the Boards of Directors of the Local Engineers Club shall have the authority to negotiate agreements from time to time, which shall be mutually approved by the respective Boards of Directors of the Local Engineers Clubs, and the Board of Directors of the Society, so long as any agreement is consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. These agreements may include services performed by either the Society or any Local Engineers Club for the benefit of either or both, arrangements for regular or special meetings of the Society and other matters which may occur.

ARTICLE IV

Officers and Management

Section A: Officer Titles, Terms of Office and Vacancies

1. The officers shall consist of a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, an Executive Director, a Secretary, a Communications Director and a Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined and held by one person. The position of Executive Director may be left vacant in accordance with the Bylaws
2. The Board of Directors shall consist of members of the Society, constituted as follows: The President, who shall be Chairman; the two Vice-Presidents; the Executive Director; the Secretary, Communications Director, Treasurer; the immediate Past President; eight voting members elected by the Society, two being residents of District I, two of District II, two of District III, two of District IV of the State; and the Presidents of all Local Clubs.
3. The terms of office of President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice President shall be two years, and all other officers shall be one year, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The terms of office of the members of the Board of Directors elected from the Districts shall be two years. Two members shall be elected from each District so that the term of one of them shall expire each year. The term of office of all officers and the Board of Directors shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which such officers or directors are elected and shall continue for the period named or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The term of office for Local Club Directors shall be as provided by the Bylaws of the Local Club so long as the Director remains President of the respective Local Engineers Club.
4. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the First-Vice President. A vacancy in the

office of First Vice-President shall be filled by the Second Vice-President. A vacancy in the office of Second Vice-President shall be filled or left vacant for the remainder of the Society year at the option of the Board of Directors. Should the Board of Directors elect to fill a vacancy in the office of Second Vice- President, it shall be only upon two-thirds agreement of the remaining Board of Directors. In case of disability or neglect in the performance of his/her duty by any officer of this Society, the Board of Directors shall have power to declare the office vacant. Vacancies in any office, except as specified above, including relocation to another State for an unexpired term, shall be filled by a majority vote of the existing members of the Board of Directors at a regular or specially called meeting of the Board.

5. The President and the two Vice-Presidents shall not be eligible for election for more than two consecutive terms. There shall be no restriction as to the re-election of the Executive Director, Secretary, Communications Director, Treasurer, and/or District Directors.
6. The Executive Director, Secretary, Communications Director and/or Treasurer shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the other members of the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.
7. Election of Officers shall be as stated in the Bylaws.

Section B: Removal from Office

1. Officers may be removed from office for failure to perform duties or for violation of membership clause.
2. Officers to be voted upon in this regard will be notified of the intention to do so in writing at least one week prior to the meeting at which the votes will be taken.
3. A two-thirds majority of quorum present at the regularly scheduled meeting shall be sufficient for removal from office.
4. Any officer may resign by submitting a letter to the President. The President may resign by submitting a letter to the First Vice President.

Section C: Management and Duties

1. The management of all NCSE business and fiscal affairs shall be vested in the Board of Directors who shall have complete authority to act for the Society; being restricted in its action only by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.
2. The Board of Directors shall hold two separate meetings annually at such time and place as it may designate, for the transaction of Society business. These board meetings will be in addition to those held during conferences.
3. Additional Board meetings may be called at any time or place by the President or a majority of the Board members.
4. Six members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except that the quorum shall be increased by one member for each of the Local Clubs that may be approved as provided in Article III, Section C.
5. Duties of Officers shall be as stated in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

Section A: General Meetings

1. The NCSE shall ordinarily hold up to two general meetings annually, typically during the winter/spring months and another during one of the summer/fall months.
2. The winter/spring meeting shall be known as the "Annual Meeting". This meeting shall be held at such time and place as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors, but no winter/spring or Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held in the same city except Raleigh for two consecutive years.

3. The summer/fall meeting shall be held at such time and place as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors, but no summer/fall meeting of the Society shall be held in the same city for two consecutive years.
4. When deemed advisable and in the best interest of the Society by the Board of Directors, the Board may combine the Annual winter/spring Meeting and the summer/fall meeting by holding one meeting sometime during the last half of one year or the first half of the succeeding year. Such a combined meeting when held shall then be designated as the Annual Meeting and all the business customarily transacted at a regular Annual Meeting shall be transacted at such combined meeting. The date for such a combined meeting must be arranged so that the report of the Nominating Committee will have been provided to the voting membership at least three months in advance of such combined meeting to permit the membership to vote for the Officers and Directors of the Society for the upcoming year.

Section B: Special Meetings

1. Special meetings of the Society may be called by the Board of Directors and shall be so called on the request of thirty voting members, which request shall state the purpose of such meeting. The call for such meetings shall be issued ten days in advance and shall state the purpose thereof, and no other business shall be taken up at such meeting. At these meetings, two-thirds majority of attending voting members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI

Bylaws

Section A: Authority for Bylaws and Their Scope

1. The management of the Society shall be subject to Bylaws adopted by the Society.
2. The Bylaws shall provide the manner of admission to and expulsion from the Society, the manner of nomination and election of officers and detailed duties of officers and committees.
3. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be reduced to writing and signed by not less than five voting members and presented to the Secretary and/or Communications Director who shall send copies of the proposed amendments to all voting members of the Society at least 30 days prior to a regular meeting. Such amendments shall not be amended in any manner when discussed at the meeting and shall require for their adoption an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all voting members present and voting. Amendments so adopted shall take effect immediately after their adoption; provided, that the officers of the Society, at the time any amendment may be adopted, shall continue in office until the next annual election.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments to Constitution

Section A: Amendments to the Constitution

1. Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be reduced to writing and signed by not less than five voting members and presented to the Secretary and/or Communications Director who shall send copies of the proposed amendments to the voting members of the Society at least 30 days prior to a regular meeting. Such amendments shall be in order for discussion at such meeting and may be amended in any manner pertinent to the original amendments by a majority vote of such meeting; and if so amended, shall be voted upon at such regular meeting; if not so amended, the proposed amendments shall be voted upon at such regular meeting.
2. If, after discussion of a proposed amendment, at either of the general meetings of the Society, the

members shall so decide by a majority vote, they may refer the amendment to a committee for further consideration, and that committee shall report at the next regular meeting, where upon the amendment shall be voted upon as hereinbefore provided.

3. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of all ballots cast shall be necessary to the adoption of any amendment. Amendments so adopted shall take effect immediately after their adoption; provided, that the officers of the Society at the time any amendment may be adopted, shall continue in office until the next annual election.