

# BY-LAWS

## OF THE

# AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY\*

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### 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. Until May 3, 1924, there shall be a Board of Trustees consisting of thirty-one trustees elected from the membership of the Society by the original incorporators of the Society. The Board of Trustees may appoint an Executive Committee of five members to transact business in the name of the Board of Trustees until May 3, 1924, subject to the approval of the full Board or its successor at its next meeting. On and after May 3, 1924, 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, and of fifteen additional elected members chosen in accordance with Article IV, Section 2. It is provided, however, that until December, 1923, there may be more than fifteen elected members chosen in accordance with Article IV, Section 1.

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. Five members of the Council shall be a quorum for the transaction of its business.

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\* As adopted October 27, 1923. For revised By-Laws, see page 53.

## 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 reelection to their respective offices. It is provided, however, that the original incorporators may, in 1923, elect officers and members of the Council to serve for terms equal to the unexpired terms of the corresponding officers and members of the Council of the unincorporated American Mathematical Society or to any part of such terms. In December, 1923, one of the three Vice-Presidents and the Assistant Secretary shall be elected for one year in order that thereafter there may be alternation of vacancies to be filled, the President, a Vice-President, and the Assistant Secretary retiring in one year, two Vice-Presidents and the Secretary in the following year. It is further provided that the original incorporators may elect thirty-one trustees to serve until May 3, 1924, and that five trustees shall be elected at the Annual Meeting in December, 1923, in accordance with Article III, who shall assume their duties May 3, 1924, and shall serve until their successors are chosen at the Annual Meeting in December, 1924, or January, 1925.

Section 2. From and after December, 1923, 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

After the meeting of the incorporators held on October 22, 1923, the election of new members of the Society shall be by vote of the Council. Application for admission shall be made by the applicant personally, on a blank provided by the Secretary, and shall be approved by two members of the Society. Such applications, being received at any meeting of the Council, shall be laid over for action at any subsequent meeting, except in the case of members of other societies entering under special action of the Council.

ARTICLE VI  
DUES; LIFE MEMBERSHIP

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

Section 2. The annual dues 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. Should 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 3. 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.

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 special meeting of the Council whenever the affairs of the Society require it; 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. The first meeting of the Board of Trustees shall be held on October 27, 1923, at the hour of 9:30 o'clock A. M., at Columbia University, New York City. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees 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.

Section 4. A meeting of the Society shall be held at Columbia University, New York City, on Saturday, October 27, 1923.

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 which every member of the Society shall be entitled. It shall also publish a journal which shall have for its object to make known, as widely as possible, 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 by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that notice that such action is proposed and of its general nature shall have been given in the call for such meeting. It is provided further that these By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the trustees present at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held in New York on October 27, 1923.