



Wisconsin Phi Beta Lambda

Bylaws

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Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules

Article I. Name

The name of this chapter of FBLA-PBL, Inc., shall be Wisconsin Phi Beta Lambda and may be referred to as Wisconsin PBL.

Article II. Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of Wisconsin PBL is to provide opportunities for post-secondary and college students to develop vocational competencies for business and office occupations and business teacher education. Wisconsin PBL is an integral part of the instructional program and, in addition, promotes a sense of civic and personal responsibility.

Section 2. The specific goals of Wisconsin PBL are to:

- Develop competent, aggressive business leadership
 - Strengthen the confidence of students in themselves and their work
 - Create more interest in an understanding of American business enterprise
 - Encourage members in the development of individual projects which contribute to the improvement of home, business, and community
 - Develop character, prepare for useful citizenship, and foster patriotism
 - Encourage and practice efficient money management
 - Encourage scholarship and promote school loyalty
 - Assist students in the establishment of occupational goals
 - Facilitate the transition from school to work
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Article III. Membership

Section 1. Wisconsin PBL membership shall consist of members of chartered local chapters. These members shall hold membership in their state and national chapters. Individual members shall be recognized only through the state chapter of PBL.

Section 2. The Wisconsin PBL Chapter, as well as its local chapters, shall be open for membership to the following classes of members.

Active Members shall be students enrolled in business and/or business-related fields who accept the purpose of Wisconsin PBL and subscribe to its creed. Active members shall pay dues as established by Wisconsin PBL and may participate in state events, serve as voting delegates at the State Leadership Conference, hold state office, and otherwise represent Wisconsin PBL as approved by the State Executive Board and their local advisers.

Professional Members shall be persons associated with or participating in the professional development of Wisconsin PBL as approved by the State Executive Board. Such members include local and state chapter advisers, business teachers, business teacher educators, state supervisors of business and office education, employers or supervisors of cooperative work-training students, advisory council members, business persons, and other persons contributing to the growth and development of Wisconsin PBL but shall not participate in events, serve as voting delegates, or hold office.

Article IV. Dues and Finance

Section 1. State dues based on the recommendations by the State Executive Board and State Adviser shall be determined by a majority vote of the local voting delegates at the State Leadership Conference. State and National dues of members shall be forwarded directly to the PBL National Office. In order to compete at Nationals, State and National dues of members must be received by the national office enforced deadline.

Section 2. Annual dues shall be \$10.

Section 3. The State Adviser shall administer all Wisconsin PBL finances to include the privileges of the tax-exempt number (ES20460, March 3, 1980), submit an annual financial statement to the national office and state officer team, and provide for an audit and treasurer's report at the discretion of the Executive Board. All expenses will be paid directly through the State Adviser.

Section 4. The fiscal year of Wisconsin PBL shall be July 1 through June 30.

Section 5. Any and all returned checks are subject to a \$25 fee plus applicable bank fees at the discretion of the State Adviser.

Article V. Organization

Section 1. Wisconsin PBL shall be an association of Wisconsin local chapters, each operating in accordance with a charter granted by FBLA-PBL, Inc. Only local chapters that have received charters, Greek names, and numbers issued by FBLA-PBL, Inc., and that are in good standings shall be referred to as chapters of Wisconsin Phi Beta Lambda or PBL.

Section 2. The administration of Wisconsin PBL shall be vested in the State Chairman who will be appointed by the national FBLA-PBL, Inc. Board of Directors and the State Adviser who will be appointed by the State Chairman.

Section 3. There shall be a State Executive Board that shall make recommendations to the Wisconsin PBL Chapter and perform duties as prescribed in the Constitution and the Bylaws.

Section 4. Local chapter charters shall be issued upon the approval of the State and National Boards. Wisconsin PBL will hold an annual meeting to elect state officers and conduct business to qualify for a state chapter charter. The state chapter shall have a state committee that acts as an advisory board. The advisory board shall consist of the state adviser and whomever the state executive board so chooses.

Section 5. Each local chapter shall have an adviser who shall be a faculty member or an area businessperson. A local chapter may have as many special-emphasis groups under the chapter charter as it deems necessary to meet the interests of all the students. The local chapter of PBL shall assume full responsibility for coordinating the program for these interest groups.

Article VI. Officers and Elections

Section 1. State Officers. The elected officers of Wisconsin PBL shall be Vice President of Events, Vice President of Communication, and Vice President of Membership.

Section 2. Term of Office. All officers shall serve without salary. The elective offices shall be filled by elections held during the annual State Leadership Conference. All officers shall serve for a term of one year commencing at the end of the State Leadership Conference when the new officers are elected. The newly elected officers will represent Wisconsin at the National Leadership Conference. Because of misconduct or neglect of duties, an officer may be forced to leave office by unanimous consent of all other officers, subject to the approval of the State Adviser, or by the sole discretion of the State Adviser.

Section 3. Election Proceedings. Each local chapter shall be entitled to run one candidate for each office. Campaigning will commence with the first event of the State Leadership Conference. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting delegates. If no candidate for an office receives a majority vote after the first ballot, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes for that ballot shall be dropped from the ballot. If necessary, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from each subsequent ballot until one candidate receives a majority. If only two candidates remain, and they are tied, the ballot will be retaken. Each chapter will be entitled to three votes with chapters having one hundred members entitled to four votes. If a tie remains, it will be broken by a random method determined by the State Adviser and the advisory board. Each local chapter may hold more than one elected officer's position. The State Adviser shall serve as Treasurer for the fiscal year.

Section 4. Qualifications for State Office

- Only active members are eligible to hold office
- Only those applicants who are present at the State Leadership Conference and officially certified by the Officer Screening Committee shall be eligible for nomination.

To be considered for an office in PBL, a candidate shall:

- Have at least one full school year remaining in his/her educational program
- Have participated for at least in academic term (semester/quarter) as a member in good standing of FBLA or PBL
- Be recommended by the local chapter adviser and endorsed by his/her local chapter
- Meet all deadlines of application materials as set by the State Executive Board

Section 5. Nominations.

- Only candidates approved by the Officer Screening Committee shall be nominated.

Section 6. Successions.

- No officer may hold the same elected position for more than two terms.

Section 7. Vacancy in Office. In case of a vacancy in the office of Vice President of Events, the Vice President of Communication shall assume the vacant office. In any other elected office, vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the Vice President of Events subject to approval by majority vote of the State Executive Board.

Section 8. Nomination of National Officer Candidate. An additional election following the state officer elections will be held at the State Leadership Conference to determine the one Wisconsin National Officer candidate. Candidate for this position will follow the same guidelines and procedures for state officer candidates with respect to election proceedings, qualifications, and nominations. These candidates must also meet the qualifications for National Office as stated in the National Bylaws.

Article VII. Duties of State Officers

Section 1. All officers of Wisconsin PBL shall be given equal power and authority in all matters. In times of disagreement, a majority vote will decide the outcome.

Section 2. The Vice President of Events shall:

- Preside over the meetings of Wisconsin PBL
- Serve as chairman of the State Executive Board
- Plan and preside over events on the state level, including the State Leadership Conference

Section 3. The Vice President of Communication shall:

- Preside over state events in the absence of the Vice President of Events
- Be responsible for all correspondence of Wisconsin PBL between the State Executive Board and local chapters
- Keep the chapters informed of state activities
- Maintain the Wisconsin Phi Beta Lambda website
- Create presentations for Wisconsin State Conferences

Section 4. The Vice President of Membership shall:

- Be in charge of all recruitment efforts of Wisconsin Phi Beta Lambda
- Visit new and start-up chapters to assist them with

Section 5. All officers will collectively work with FBLA State Officers and attend meetings in representation of Wisconsin PBL.

Section 6. These officers shall serve on the State Executive Board and perform such duties as directed by the Wisconsin PBL State Adviser and not inconsistent with this Constitution and Bylaws or other rules adopted by Wisconsin PBL.

Section 7. Wisconsin PBL Officers who misrepresent Wisconsin PBL (or any other level of FBLA-PBL) or do not carry out assigned tasks in a timely fashion may be removed from office at the discretion of the Adviser.

Article VIII. State Leadership Conference

Section 1. A State Leadership Conference will be held each year at a location to be determined by the executive board. A date will be voted on by the State Executive Board.

Section 2. Each local chapter in good standing with a membership of 50 or less is entitled to two voting delegates, chapters with a membership of 50-100 are entitled to three voting delegates, and chapters with a membership of greater than 100 are entitled to four voting delegates.

Section 3. All official members of the conference shall have full power to debate.

Section 4. The quorum for all business meetings of the State Leadership Conference shall be a majority of the registered voting delegates.

Section 5. All election voting shall be done by secret ballot.

Section 6. The Vice President of Events and State Adviser shall serve as tellers. The only exception is being where the Vice President of Events is running for a state office, in which case he/she must appoint another member of the State Executive Board who is not running for a state office to serve as teller in the Vice President of Event's place.

Article IX. State Executive Board

Section 1. Members. The State Executive Board shall consist of the Wisconsin PBL Officers (Vice President of Events, Vice President of Communication, and Vice President of Membership), the chairpersons of the State Standing Committees, one delegate from each chapter not represented by a state officer, State PBL Adviser, and the State FBLA Adviser.

Section 2. Meetings. Wisconsin PBL shall hold at least two Executive Board meetings per year, the date and time of each to be decided by the State Executive Board. These meetings shall be open to all Wisconsin PBL members.

Section 3. Voting. The following Executive Board members shall be delegated voting privileges, Vice President of Events, Vice President of Communication, and Vice President of Membership. The State Adviser will reserve the right to break any tie in the event that an Executive cannot decide on any issue.

Section 4. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting membership of the State Executive Board.

Section 5. Special Meetings. Special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the Vice President of Events with proper notice being given to all State Executive Board members.

Section 6. Executive Board Policy. The State Executive Board has the power to establish standing rules by a majority vote of the State Executive Board provided they do not conflict with the national and state bylaws. These standing rules will describe the general policy of the Executive Board.

Article X. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern Wisconsin PBL in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with this Constitution and Bylaws and any special rules of order Wisconsin PBL may adopt.

Article XI. Competitive Events

Section 1. Members in good standing may compete in any 3 competitive events.

Section 2. State advisers or state appointed proctors may disqualify any competitor at their sole discretion for not adhering to the dress code or suspicion of cheating.

Article XII. Amendments

Section 1. Proposals. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of Wisconsin PBL must be proposed in writing by any member and submitted for the approval of the State Executive Board by the Winter Executive Board Meeting.

Section 2. Approval. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall become effective by a two-thirds vote of the voting delegates at the Spring State Leadership Conference.

Adopted October 1967
Amended April 1978
Amended April 1982
Amended April 1986
Amended April 1987
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Amended April 1989
Amended April 1990
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Amended April 2004
Amended April 2005
Amended April 2006
Amended April 2007
Amended April 2010
Amended April 2019