

S.C.A.A.P.T.
Southern California Section
American Association of Physics Teachers

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I
Name and Territorial Limits

Section 1. The name of this Organization shall be the Southern California American Association of Physics Teachers. (SCAAPT)

Section 2. The territorial limits of this Organization shall be that territory designated as Southern California, From San Diego County to San Louis Obispo County, and from the Pacific Ocean to the Arizona/Nevada border.

ARTICLE II
Objectives

Section 1. The objectives of SCAAPT shall be advancing physics teaching and promoting an appreciation of the role of physics in our culture.

Section 2. No part of the net earnings of SCAAPT shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, members, or other private persons, except that SCAAPT shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of its exempt purposes. Except as otherwise provided by Section 501(h) of the Code, no substantial part of the activities of SCAAPT shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation. SCAAPT shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, SCAAPT shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Code as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or (b) by organization contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(a) of the Code as being to an organization referred to in Section 170(c)(2) of the Code.

ARTICLE III Members

Section 1. Regular and Emeritus Members are individuals who have completed the necessary application for membership and who reside in the Southern California geographic region, which is approximately defined by U. S. Postal Service ZIP Codes whose first three digits are between 900 and 935, inclusive.

1. Regular members are those who have paid the required dues.
2. Emeritus members are those who have previously been regular members for at least 5 years, who have reached the age of 60 years, and who are completely retired from all employment.
3. Sustaining members are corporations and institutions that have furthered the work of SCAAPT through donations (either in funds or service) to SCAAPT in the last two years.
4. Memberships are for one calendar year, beginning on January 1.

Section 2. Privileges of membership.

1. All members whose participation meets the requirements set forth in these bylaws, may speak, make motions and vote.
2. Only SCAAPT members in good standing may be elected to office.

Section 3. Definition of membership.

SCAAPT Members are those who pay dues and come to regular meetings.

Section 4. Termination of Membership

A member may self-terminate their membership by cessation of paying dues.

Section 5. Reinstating membership

A former member may reinstate their membership by coming to a regular meeting and paying the annual dues.

ARTICLE IV Officers

Section 1. Elected Officers.

The officers shall be a president, vice president for high schools, vice president for two year colleges, vice president for universities, secretary, treasurer, web master and section representative.

Section 2. Eligibility.

Any SCAAPT member may seek election to be an officer

Section 3. Term of Office.

Elected officers shall hold office for two years beginning at the spring meeting election.

1. Officers other than the President shall have no limits on the number of terms of office they can hold.
2. The President shall be eligible for no more than two consecutive terms or four consecutive years in that office.

Section 4. Vacancy in Office.

If an officer is obliged to leave office mid-term, the officers are to appoint an interim suitable replacement, who will serve until the next business meeting. At this time the interim will be affirmed by the membership to finish the complete term, or replaced.

Section 5. Duties.

1. The President shall have executive responsibility for the overall operation of the Section, and shall preside at the business meeting of the officers and at Section meetings.
2. The Vice President for High Schools shall actively involve high school teachers in the Section activities.
3. The Vice President for Two-year colleges shall actively involve two-year college faculty in the Section activities.
4. The Vice President of Universities shall share the executive duties with the President, and shall serve as program chairman for each meeting.
5. The Secretary/Treasurer shall maintain membership and address records, maintain Section funds and keep a record of dues payments.
6. The immediate past president while not an elected position, shall assist the executive committee throughout the year and to volunteer his/her help for the section meetings.
7. The Web Manager shall maintain and update the section website “sccapt.org”, which includes a running history of the section, web resources for members, past and future meeting information and section information.
8. The Section Representative shall represent the Section at the AAPT Meeting of the Members and to exercise all the duties, rights, and privileges pertaining to membership in that body. A Section Representative unable to attend a meeting of the Council may be represented by an alternate designated by the Executive Committee. The Section Representative is expected to attend all AAPT National meetings, to promote the Section at the National level, and to promote the National AAPT at the Section level.

Section 6 Regular Meetings.

The officers shall meet once annually between June and August to discuss and plan section business.

Section 7. Special Meetings.

Special meetings may be called by the president as needed.

Section 8. Quorum.

To conduct Section business, the officers must have at least five members present.

ARTICLE V
Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Officer Nominations.

1. Board members who are leaving office shall seek out suitable replacements. These nominees are to be affirmed or elected at the spring business meeting elections.
2. SCAAPT members may self-nominate and run for board positions.

Section 2. Election.

1. Elections will be held at the spring business meeting.
2. Officers will be elected by affirmation or if there is more than one candidate, then by simple majority of the members present.

ARTICLE VI
Meetings

Section 1. Regular meetings

There shall be two meetings each year – one in the spring and one in the fall.

Section 2. Regular business meetings

The program of each Spring Meeting shall include a Business Meeting, during which the officers shall report to the membership on the status of the section. Other section business will be carried out as necessary. A quorum of at least ten voting members will be required for a business meeting.

Section 3. Quorum.

Business meetings of the membership must have at least ten members present to do section work.

ARTICLE VII
Committees

- Section 1. The Executive Committee may, by majority vote, appoint ad hoc committees for the purpose of furthering the Section's activities. The ad hoc committees shall be of duration not longer than two years.

ARTICLE VIII
Dues, Fees and Assessments

Section 1. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year shall be September 1 through August 31.

Section 2. Annual Dues and Fees.

The Section dues shall be set to cover only the necessary expenses and shall be decided upon by officers based on financial situation and need.

ARTICLE IX
Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters not specifically covered in these bylaws.

ARTICLE X
Amendments

Section 1. Bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the membership at a normal business meeting.

1. Any member of the SCAAPT may suggest an amendment to the bylaws by providing a written petition signed by 10 members in good standing.
2. Any member of the executive committee may suggest an amendment to the bylaws.
3. Amendments must be submitted to the Officers at least two weeks prior to the spring business meeting.
4. Amendments require a two thirds majority vote by the membership to pass.
5. Voting is to take place during the spring business meeting.