

VERMONT LAW TABLETOP SOCIETY CHARTER



The Official tabletop and RPG gaming club of VLS.

ARTICLE 1. DEFINITIONS

§1.1 Presiding officer: The presiding official shall run the meeting of the Society and be responsible for controlling the flow of conversation and discussion. In most cases this shall fall to the Prime Minister (P.M.); however, the P.M. may delegate this position to the Minister of Civil Service or any other Minister on the Executive Council.

§1.2 Regularly Scheduled Executive Meeting: The meetings of the Tabletop Society shall occur on a regular scheduled basis unless agreed upon by the at least three members of the Society's Council. Traditionally these meetings will be weekly or biweekly, but may happen more frequently if needed.

§1.3 Regular Gaming Sessions: Members of the Tabletop Society will meet on either Friday or Sunday evening on a weekly basis as determined by the Game Master's Committee. These sessions will start no later than the third week of the Academic Semester (Fall and Spring). Sessions will be primarily run by the GM Committee but are subject to the Executive Council's discretion.

§1.4 Special Committee: Temporary Committees can be established to address specific needs of the members.

§1.5 Vermont Law School (VLS) Community: The VLS Community includes all students, faculty, administration and the Staff.

ARTICLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

§2.1 Name The name of this organization shall be known as VLS Tabletop Society.

§2.2 Objective The purpose of this organization is to provide a space for the multitude of students who professed an interest in tabletop gaming. To achieve this, VLS Tabletop Society shall engage their creativity and relieve stress by engaging in various facets of epic story immersion. Through the medium of tabletop role-playing games, the VLS Tabletop Society shall foster camaraderie, dynamic and abstract problem solving, as well as leadership for its members. It is our belief that games of this nature can provide self reflection and self-actualization while allowing opportunities of building rapport with various individuals in a legal environment. Games such as Dungeons and Dragons pose hypothetical scenarios involving issue spotting and critical analysis in inventive ways that can improve the effectiveness of aspiring lawyers, master students, and faculty. It is our desire to give everyone who wishes it the opportunity, and recognition, to experience their passions for tabletop role playing without judgment.

§2.3 Anti-discrimination Clause This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of ancestry, color, or race; species; cultural or ethnic background; economic circumstance; ideological, philosophical, or political belief or affiliation; marital or parental status; national or regional origin; physical disability; religion, or religious or denominational affiliation; sex; gender; sexual orientation; or age. This organization shall not encourage or condone discrimination, either implicitly or explicitly, and shall actively discourage discrimination on any such basis.

ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP

§3.1 Membership All persons who are students, faculty, or administration of VLS shall be applicable for membership of this organization. Persons interested in joining may request membership and shall be considered a full member after attendance of three meetings or sessions.

Primary membership shall be granted first to those who are enrolled as candidates for the Juris Doctor Degree (J.D.); Masters of environmental law and policy (MELP), Masters of Energy Regulation and law (MERL), and Masters Food Agricultural Law and Policy (MFALP); The Masters of Art in Restorative Justice (M.A.R.J); the Master of Law (LL.M); and any other degree programs authorized by VLS.

Associated membership shall be reserved for faculty/staff or administration of VLS.

§ 3.2 Advisor VLS Tabletop recognizes Katie Merrill as our faculty advisor. Notification of this shall be kept on record to the Associated Dean of Student Affairs in writing.

§ 3.3 Membership Dues Members shall pay to the Minister of Finance of this organization membership dues. The amount of the membership dues is to be determined only by a majority vote of the membership of the organization.

ARTICLE 4. OFFICERS

§4.1 Officers The executive officers of VLS Tabletop Society will constitute the Executive Council. It will consist of a Prime Minister, a Minister of Civil Service, a Minister of Finance, and a Minister of Record. Officers such as Game Masters will not constitute membership of the Executive Council, but will be regulated to serve as committee members.

1. Prime Minister (P.M.):

Duties and Responsibilities:

- To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws; Preside as the face of our Society to Administration, SBA and all other student groups;
 - Attend at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all SBA meetings or delegate an Executive officer to do so

- Propose courses of action for the Society and actively pursue, and ensure that, issues of concern are addressed;
- To call meetings to order and act as Presiding Officer of any regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee, and/or the organization;
- Induct new Ministers to the executive board upon democratic elections as needed;
- To conduct all meetings with respect and in an efficient manner without unnecessary pomp;
- To appoint, and chair, game masters (GM) to a GM Committee with the advice of Ministers and consent of the majority those with primary membership;
 - Establish and delegate Session Groups and the Group's GMs with the advice of Ministers and GMs
 - Poll, organize, and direct GMs of any chosen games in play by the Society
- To issue instruction to all the committees and to ensure that their duties are faithfully executed;
- To approve the signing of checks by the Minister of Finance;
- To serve as emergency signor of checks in the absence, death, or possession of the Minister of Finance;
- To chair the Executive Committee;
- To keep the organization informed;
- To determine and post the agenda for meetings on the Society's web page or Facebook;
- To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all of the meetings; and
- To perform other duties as needed by Ministers or by general membership from time to time

2. Minister of Civil Service (M.C.S.):

Duties and Responsibilities

- To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws;
- To perform the duties of the P.M. in the event of their absence;
- To succeed to the P.M., should that office become vacant;
- To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all of the meetings;
- To help the Minister of Finance with the budget; and
- To perform other duties as needed by the membership from time to time

3. Minister of Finance (M.F.):

Duties and Responsibilities

- To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws;
- To have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds of the organization;
- To hold the checkbook of and serve as the signor of checks for the organization;
- To prepare the budget with the M.C.S. for presentation to the membership and SBA according to these Bylaws;
- To pay all bills of the organization;
- To keep permanent records of all receipts and expenditures of the organization in the Society's Binder;
- To work with the SBA Treasurer and the VLS Development Office to ensure that fundraising activities of the organization do not conflict with VLS policy;
- To keep the organization informed of the status of the fundraising activities;
- To keep the books open to the membership for examination in his/her presence;

- To deliver funds promptly once they are allocated and requested;
- To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all of the meetings; and To perform other duties as needed by the membership from time to time.

4. Minister of Record (M.R.):

Duties and Responsibilities

- To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws;
- To take minutes of all Executive Meetings of the organization;
- To record attendance at all meetings for inclusion in the minutes;
- To keep on file and reserve all minutes of the meetings within the Society's binder;
- To keep official membership rolls and records of attendance in the Society's binder;
- To notify the membership of all meetings through either email or Facebook (or both);
- To handle all correspondence of the organization;
- To receive and promptly distribute all organizational mail;
- To gather and maintain historical records of the organization;
- To coordinate all publicity of the organization with the P.M.; and
- To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all meetings

5. Game Masters (G.M.): Non-voting, representative officers

Duties include:

- Craft storylines, challenges, and hypothetical situations meant to engage member players during Gaming sessions;
- Serve on the GM Committee and propose new games and campaign arks for various games being played;
- Moderate Session groups as needed;
- Work with primary and associated members as needed to create characters and backgrounds for games; and Complete (or appoint a group member to complete) session notes as needed.

ARTICLE 5. COMMITTEES

§5.1 GM Committee

The GM committee will consist of no less than two GMs. GMs will be taken from the Executive Council, Primary members, and Associated members as needed and as available. Committee members will consult with one another on the tabletop games used in gaming session and help establish tabletop systems with the Executive board.

ARTICLE 6. ELECTIONS

§6.1 Elections

- Elections for Executive Committee shall be held on the first full moon, or second week, of April (whichever comes first). Or as needed, pending special circumstances.
- All elections shall be by secret ballot and counted by either the M.C.S. or M.R.
- The position of Game Masters can be requested by any member in good standing at any time. The position must be ratified by at least three members of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 7. HONOR CODE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

These Bylaws incorporate by reference the current versions of the VLS Honor Code and VLS Code of Conduct which shall be posted on the SBA website and available at the library circulation desk.

ARTICLE 8. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall under NO circumstances govern this organization, so long as they are inconsistent with these Bylaws

ARTICLE 9. BYLAW AMENDMENTS

§ 9.1 Procedure Any member of the organization may propose amendments to the Bylaws. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing, or emailed to the Executive Council before a regular meeting so that it may be put on the agenda.

§ 9.2 Ratification Adoption of proposed amendments occurs only by a majority vote of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 10. EFFECTIVE DATE

These Bylaws take effect immediately upon approval by the Student Bar Association and replace all other Constitutions and/or Bylaws.