

BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

ARTICLE I

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, three Associate Secretaries, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and four Editorial Committees of three members each,—one for the *Bulletin*, one for the *Transactions*, one for the *Colloquium Publications*, and one consisting of the representatives of the Society on the Board of Editors of the *American Journal of Mathematics*.

Section 2. It shall be a duty of the President to deliver an address before the Society at the close of his term of office or within one year thereafter.

Section 3. The Librarian shall have charge of arrangements for the exchange of the Society's publications.

ARTICLE II

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1. 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, of ex-presidents for a period of six years after the expiration of their respective presidential terms, and of fifteen additional elected members chosen in accordance with Article IV, Section 2.

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.

Section 3. At meetings of the Council five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Between meetings business may be transacted by a mail vote. This shall require at least fifteen favorable votes and also that the number of these votes be three-quarters of those transmitted to the Secretary before the time announced for the closing of the polls. In case three or more members of the Council request postponement, at time of voting, action on the matter at issue shall be postponed until the next meeting of the Council, unless at the discretion of the Secretary the question is made the subject of a second letter vote, in connection with which brief statements of reasons, pro and con, are circulated to members.

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 Associate Secretaries, and the Treasurer; three years each for the Librarian, the Editorial Committees of the *Bulletin*, the *Transactions*, and the *Colloquium Publications*, and the fifteen elected members of the Council, five of the latter retiring annually; five years for the representatives of the Society on the Board of Editors of the *American Journal of Mathematics*. 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 re-election to their respective offices.

Section 2. 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

Section 1. Election of members shall be by vote of the Council.

Section 2. There shall be four classes of members, ordinary, contributing, institutional contributing, and sustaining.

Section 3. A firm, corporation, institution, association or individual interested in the support of mathematics may be elected to sustaining membership. A sustaining member shall receive both the *Bulletin* and the *Transactions* (see Article X), and shall have the privilege of nominating one or more persons for election by the Council to ordinary membership in the Society, the number to be determined by the Council. Such nominations shall not be acted upon until at least thirty days after their presentation to the Council (at a meeting or by mail).

Section 4. A firm, corporation, institution, or association interested in the support of mathematics may be elected to institutional contributing membership. A contributing member shall receive the *Bulletin* or have the privilege, for each twenty-five dollars contributed, of nominating one person to ordinary membership in the Society. Such nominations shall not be acted upon until at least thirty days after their presentation to the Council (at a meeting or by mail).

Section 5. Except in the case of nominees of sustaining members and of institutional contributing members, application for admission to ordinary membership shall be made by the applicant, on a blank provided by the Secretary, and shall be approved by two members of the Society. Such applications shall not be acted upon until at least thirty days after their presentation to the Council (at a meeting or by mail), except in the case of members of other societies entering under special action of the Council.

Section 6. An ordinary member may become a contributing member by paying the dues for such membership.

## ARTICLE VI

### DUES

Section 1. Persons elected to ordinary membership in the Society by the Council, under the provisions of Article V, Section 5, shall be admitted to membership upon the payment, within sixty days of the date of their election, of an initiation fee of five dollars.

Section 2. The annual dues of persons elected by the Council to ordinary membership under the provisions of Article V, Section 5, shall be eight dollars, with the following exceptions: (1) during the first three years of membership, the annual dues shall be six dollars; a person shall be considered to have completed his first year of membership on January 1 following his election; (2) the amount of dues may be altered by reciprocity agreements with other societies;

(3) the Council may make special rulings in exceptional cases, with the approval of the Board of Trustees; four dollars and fifty cents of the dues of each member shall be for a year's subscription to the *Bulletin*. Each new member shall pay in proportion to the unexpired fraction of the year at the time of his election.

Section 3. The minimum dues for a contributing member shall be fifteen dollars per year. Members may, upon their own initiative, pay larger dues.

Section 4. The dues for an institutional contributing member for any year shall not be less than twenty-five dollars. Institutions may pay larger dues.

Section 5. The dues of a sustaining member for any year shall not be less than one hundred dollars. A sustaining member who contributes annually at least five hundred dollars shall be designated as a Patron of the Society.

Section 6. Persons elected to ordinary membership as nominees of sustaining members or institutional contributing members under the provisions of Article V, Sections 3-4, shall not be required to pay an initiation fee. They shall not be required to pay dues, so long as it is agreed that they are designated by the sustaining member or institutional contributing member under these provisions. If a nominee of a sustaining member or an institutional contributing member later becomes a dues-paying member, he shall pay dues at the rate of six dollars a year for the remainder (if any) of his first three years of membership, and eight dollars a year thereafter.

Section 7. If 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 8. 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 an Associate 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 meeting of the Council whenever the affairs of the Society make it desirable; 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. Special meetings of the Board of Trustees may be called by the Chairman of the Board upon three 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.

## 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

\* See table on page 80.

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 an official organ called the *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* which shall be sent to each member of the Society; four dollars and fifty cents of the dues paid by each member shall be for a year's subscription to this publication. It shall publish a series of volumes called *Colloquium Publications*, which shall embody in book form new mathematical developments. It shall publish a journal, the object of which shall be to make known important researches presented at meetings of the Society; this journal shall be called the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*. It shall also cooperate in the conduct of the *American Journal of Mathematics*.

Section 2. The editorial management of the *Bulletin*, *Transactions*, and *Colloquium Publications* and the participation of the Society in the editorial management of the *American Journal of Mathematics* shall be in charge of committees as specified in Article I.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended or suspended at any meeting of the Society on recommendation of the Council and by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice of such proposed action and of its general nature shall have been given in the call for such meeting.