



Society for Collegiate Journalists

National Constitution and Handbook

the
Background
Purpose
Structure
Activities
and Biography of **SCJ**

**National Constitution and Handbook
of the Society for
Collegiate Journalists**

as Amended
at the 56th SCJ National Biennial Convention
Virginia Wesleyan College
2004

Issued by
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Department of Communication
Clarion, Pennsylvania 16214-1232
814-393-2245

The first edition of the
**Handbook of the Society
for Collegiate Journalists**
was written by W. Wilford Kale, Jr.
and edited by John David Reed.
Both are former SCJ National Presidents
and advisors to university SCJ chapters.

The second edition of the handbook was edited
by National Executive Director Dr. J. Douglas Tarpley, and
National Office Graduate Assistant Cheryl Hoffman.

This edition, the first to include the SCJ Constitution
and Bylaws, plus the Ritual of Initiation,
was revised and edited by First Vice-President
William M. Lawbaugh of Mount St. Mary's College.

This edition was revised and edited
by Dr. Arthur H. Barlow, SCJ Executive Director,
and Dr. William Ruehlmann, SCJ President.

© 2004 Society for Collegiate Journalists
All Rights Reserved.

Table of Contents

1. SCJ Background: Where We've Been	
History of Society for Collegiate Journalists	7
History of Pi Delta Epsilon	7
History of Alpha Phi Gamma	7
History of the Regalia	8
The Insignia of Pi Delta Epsilon	8
The Insignia of Alpha Phi Gamma	8
The Seal of SCJ	9
The Flowers and Colors of the Society	9
The Keys and Seals of the Societies	9
2. SCJ Purpose: What We Stand For	
Traditions of SCJ: Service	10
The Society's Place on the Local Campus	10
3. SCJ Structure: How We Operate	
A National Organization: Of, By, and For Members	11
Chapter Charter Fee	11
Local Chapters: Heart of the Society	11
Individual Initiation Fee	11
The Student Press Law Center	11
4. SCJ Activities: What We Do	
The National Contest	13
The Annual Chapter Awards	13
Edward E. McDonald Award	13
National Student Journalist of the Year Award	13
The Sheridan Barker Advisor of the Year Award	13
Louis Englehart SCJ Freedom of Expression Award	13
Annual Awards to Individuals	13
The Medal of Merit	13
The Certificate of Merit	13
Scholarly Grants	13
Membership Privileges	14
The National Magazine: <i>The Collegiate Journalist</i>	14
The SCJ Newsletter: <i>The Reporter</i>	14
The SCJ Website	14
The National Convention	14
College Media Days	14
Chapter Projects	14
5. SCJ National Constitution	
Name and Purpose	16
Membership Categories	16
Chapters	16
National Government	17
National Convention	19
6. SCJ National Bylaws	
Finances and Fees	21
Nominations and Elections	22
Chapter Charter Petition	22
Publications	23
Student Press Law Center	24
SCJ Code of Ethics	24

7. SCJ Ritual of Initiation	
Ethics and Practices	.27
The Pledge	.27
8. Society for Collegiate Journalists: Biography	
Active Chapter Roster with Charter Dates	.29
Historic Sites: The National Conventions	.31
Alpha Phi Gamma	.31
Pi Delta Epsilon	.32
Society for Collegiate Journalists	.32
Leadership I: Past National Presidents	.33
Grand Presidents of Pi Delta Epsilon	.33
National Presidents of Alpha Phi Gamma	.33
National Presidents of the Society for Collegiate Journalists	.34
Leadership II: Past National Executives	.34
Grand Secretaries of Pi Delta Epsilon	.34
Grand Secretary-Treasurer of Pi Delta Epsilon	.34
Executive Secretaries of Alpha Phi Gamma	.34
National Executive Directors of the Society for Collegiate Journalists	.34
9. SCJ National Awards	
McDonald Award	.35
Student Journalist of the Year	.35
Barker Award	.36
Ingelhart Award	.36