

**WSFS Constitutional Amendments that the
Mark Protection Committee
may submit to the 20204 WSFS Business Meeting**

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Chairman, MPC

Short Title: Required License Agreement2
Short Title: Hugo Administration and Site Selection Monitoring.....3
Short Title: MPC Procedures.....4

Short Title: Required License Agreement

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by [adding](#) a new point in subsection **4.6.1**, which lists the documents required to be eligible for site selection, and [adding](#) text to subsection **4.5.6**, as follows:

[\(x\) an executed copy, binding the bidding and prospective convention operating committee, of the most recent WSFS Mark Licensing Agreement that has been approved by a two-thirds vote of the Mark Protection Committee.](#)

4.5.6: Where a site and Committee are chosen by a Business Meeting or Worldcon Committee following a win by “None of the Above,” they are not restricted by exclusion zone or other qualifications [except that the selected committee must execute the required WSFS Mark Licensing Agreement.](#)

Moved by: *The Mark Protection Committee*

Commentary: Selected conventions have been informally licensed to use the WSFS marks by the WSFS Constitution and traditions. This would replace that arrangement with a written license agreement. If this amendment is passed in Glasgow and ratified in Seattle, the first site selection that would be subject to this licensing requirement to be on the ballot would be that administered by the 2026 Worldcon.

Short Title: Hugo Administration and Site Selection Monitoring

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution adding and ~~deleting~~ text in **Section 3.13** and by adding a new Section to **Article 5** as follows:

Section 3.13: Subcommittee and Exclusions. ~~No member of the current Worldcon Committee or any publications closely connected with a member of the Committee shall be eligible for an Award. However, should the~~ Each Worldcon Committee shall delegate all authority under this Article to a Subcommittee whose decisions are irrevocable by the Worldcon Committee, ~~then this exclusion shall apply to members of the Subcommittee only.~~ No member of this Subcommittee, including the members elected by the Business Meeting, or any publications or works closely connected with them, shall be eligible for an Award.

Section 5.x: Hugo Administration and Site Selection Monitoring. The Business Meeting shall elect, as follows, four different persons who have submitted their written consent to such election and statement that they are not affiliated with either of the next two Worldcons committees:

- (1) two persons to two-year staggered terms who shall serve as special members of each required Worldcon Committee Hugo Award Subcommittee; and
- (2) two persons to two-year staggered terms who shall serve as special site selection tellers on the same basis as the site selection tellers provided by convention bid committees.

These persons shall report to the Business Meeting and to the Mark Protection Committee as to the propriety of the procedures followed by the Hugo Award administrations and site selection that they monitor. Should a vacancy occur in this set of four persons, the remainder of their term may be filled by the Business Meeting and until them temporarily filled by the Mark Protection Committee.

Provided that, at the first election of the two special site selection tellers and the two special Hugo Award Subcommittee members, the first elected of each pair shall be elected to a two-year term while the second shall be elected to an initial one-year term to establish the staggering of the terms in office.

Moved by: *The Mark Protection Committee*

Commentary: This change provides for independent monitoring of site election and Hugo Award administration. If this amendment is passed in Glasgow and ratified in Seattle, the first Business Meeting that would hold the described election of monitors would be the Business Meeting at the 2026 Worldcon.

Short Title: MPC Procedures

Moved, to amend the WSFS Constitution by [adding](#) the following material and new subsections:

Section 1.7: The Mark Protection Committee

1.7.4: The Mark Protection Committee shall determine and elect its own officers, [which shall include a Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers need not be elected or appointed members of the Mark Protection Committee, which may provide that the holder of an Office who was not so elected or appointed be a non-voting *ex officio* member of the Committee.](#)

1.7.x: [Meetings of the Mark Protection Committee shall be held with at least 3 days notice either on the initiative of the Chair or within 7 days of a request by five members. The meeting shall be called by the Chair or, in their absence, the Secretary or, in the absence of both the Chair and the Secretary, any member may call a meeting.](#)

1.7.y: [A quorum of the Mark Protection Committee shall be a majority of its members. Members may attend through the use of any means of communication by which all members participating may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, including in person, internet video meeting or by telephonic conference call.](#)

Section 1.8: Membership of the Mark Protection Committee

1.8.x: [Elected members of the Mark Protection Committee may be removed only by a two-thirds vote of that committee.](#)

Moved by: *The Mark Protection Committee*

Commentary: Although the Constitution currently only requires one annual meeting of the Mark Protection Committee (MPC), which is held at the Worldcon after and announced at the Business Meeting (BM), there can be other meetings of the MPC between Worldcons. A meeting of the MPC is almost always held at the Worldcon before the BM and on occasion additional meetings are held at the call of the Chair. The 2023/2024 year has been particularly active with multiple MPC meetings between the Chengdu and Glasgow Worldcons. But there should be an assured method by which members of the MPC can cause a meeting to be held, which is provided by this amendment. This amendment also documents the long standard practice of the MPC with regard to Officers, quorum, and remote attendance.

There should be a means of removing a member of any group, when appropriate. We feel that no additional mechanism is needed for appointed members who can be removed by their appointing convention at any time, but a process is needed to remove elected members. The stability and strength of the MPC comes from having representatives from three different BMs held in different years in widely separated locations. It is inappropriate for a BM to remove an elected representative of a different BM; furthermore, on rare occasions, there may be confidential matters handled by the MPC which only MPC members would be aware of. Thus, this amendment vests the removal authority in the MPC.