

THE  
LEGAL  
RULES  
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The Legal Rules is produced annually as a service to fandom by Jerry William Lapidus, 54 Clearview Drive, Pittsford, New York 14534. This, the second edition, is also a Cult publication, probably f/r 243.25, or thereabout. Copies are available from the above address for a dime or two 6¢ stamps. A Jewel publication, second is this particular series of magazines.

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--Notes on the Second Edition--The material here is taken from the first edition of this publication and, where necessary and appropriate, from the official tape of the St. Louis Convention Business Meeting. I will first present the complete minutes of that meeting, and will follow this by the current rules, as appended and altered by the meeting. In the case of material unclear or otherwise requiring explanation, I will comment or explain thusly. I apologize for any mistakes present; I would appreciate being made aware if such errors exist, so that they may be corrected for future editions

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### The Minutes

1. The report of the committee on conventions was accepted. The report (which will also be referred to later):
  1. The name of the science fiction convention now held in North America and styled the "World Science Fiction Convention" should be changed to the North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFic).
  2. A true World (or International) Science Fiction Convention (or Congress, etc.) being desirable, it is recommended that a committee be set up at St. Louis to confer with similar committees and individual fans in Europe, the Pacific, etc., to suggest suitable mechanisms for holding such conventions.
  3. To maintain the continuity of the name "World Science Fiction Convention," the following interim plan is suggested. The World Science Fiction Convention title shall rotate through continental zones in a pre-arranged manner. One of these zones shall be North America. The fans of each zone shall determine as they see fit which convention in their zone shall assume the title "World Science Fiction Convention" when the title is resident in their zone. In North America the NASFic would automatically assume the title when the title is resident in North America.
  4. The numbering of the NASFic shall continue the numbering from the former World Science Fiction Conventions in order to preserve continuity when dealing with hotels.
2. This report was accepted as an official motion.

3. To clarify the situation, a motion was passed "That the name of the World Science Fiction Convention be changed to the North American Science Fiction Convention, not to take effect before 1972."
4. To further clarify, the following was also passed: "Whenever an international science fiction convention shall be held in North America, such a congress shall be combined with the North American Science Fiction Convention."
5. That the Eastern Region of the rotation plan, as defined in the rules, be expanded to include the following: St. Pierre and Miquelon (French islands south of Newfoundland), Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all islands in the Carribean Sea not previously included in the Eastern Region, and other islands similarly situated. This motion to take effect immediately after the conclusion of the 1970 World Science Fiction Convention.
6. That when the World Science Fiction Convention is held outside North America, the portion of the voting regulations which requires physical attendance at the voting session for the selection of the North American Convention site to be chosen at that convention shall be suspended. Instead, the convention site for two years hence shall be chosen by an Australian mail ballot to be administered by that convention committee. Any person who owns any type membership in that convention and that two years hence i.e., 1970 and 1972 shall be eligible to vote. The regular voting rules shall be immediately reinstated at the succeeding American convention.
7. The following was tabled and made a special order for the business meeting at the 1971 convention: "Since the current advance registration voting system successfully operates to eliminate from voting on a convention site those persons who have no real interest in the site of that convention and since there are some persons who have a sincere interest in attending the convention to be voted upon who are not able to attend the voting session for financial or other reasons, it is moved:
  1. That persons who would be eligible to vote if they were able to attend in person be able to join and vote by mail.
  2. That the exact details of carrying this out be left to the convention committee in charge so that they should be guided by the mechanisms of the various professional societies which regularly hold voting by mail.
8. That the entry "No Award" be made mandatory in each and every category of the Hugos. This motion to take effect with the awards to be given out in 1970 and thereafter. This motion applies to both permanent categories and those which the individual conventions establish on a temporary basis.
9. To delate the novelette category from the roster of the Science Fiction Achievement Awards, or Hugos, which would raise the

- wordage limitation on the short story category from its present ceiling of less than 7500 words to an upper limit of less than 17,500 words, thus encompassing all stories previously defined as either short stories or novelettes.
10. To officially designate the U.S.-originated Science Fiction Achievement Award Hugo as an English-language award, with eligibility limited to material presented in English, including first translations from other languages. If and when a North American Science Fiction Convention is established, then during the years the World Science Fiction Convention resides in a non-English-speaking-country, the North American Science Fiction Convention shall administer the Hugo. At all other times, the world convention will retain this responsibility. This motion to take effect in 1971.
  11. Resolution: The 27th World Science Fiction Convention recommends that the professional magazines indicate the official word count of their published stories.
  12. That the five-year plan as adopted at the Baycon be changed back to the original three-year rotation plan as set up before the adoption of the four year rotation plan. Effective as of 1971.
  13. Resolution: Establish an emergency trust fund so that money can be banked and made available for emergencies. / The money to come from that collected and not used for the repair or replacement of the screen and to be administered by Joe Hensley. /



The Rules of the World Science  
Fiction Society

1.01 The World Science Fiction Society / The demise of the World Science Fiction Convention as such will most likely require the substitution of the name National Science Fiction, or more likely the North American Science Fiction Convention, for the former in this document. But since this change is not complete, we will continue to use the original title. / is an unincorporated literary society whose functions are: to choose the recipients of the annual Science Fiction Achievement Awards, known as the Hugos; to choose the location for the annual World Science Fiction Convention; and to attend the annual World Science Fiction Convention.

1.02 The membership of the World Science Fiction Society at any time consists of all those who have paid membership dues to the then current convention committee.

1.03 The management and responsibility for all phases of the annual World Science Fiction Convention lies entirely with the convention committee, which acts in its own name, not that of the society. The convention committee which puts on the convention is, of course, the committee whose bid for selection of its location is accepted by the annual meeting of the Society.

2.01 The selection of the Science Fiction Achievement Awards, nicknamed Hugos, will be made as follows.

2.02 Best Novel: A science fiction or fantasy story of 40,000 words or more, appearing for the first time during the previous calendar year. Appearance in a prior year makes a story ineligible, except that the author may withdraw a version from consideration if he feels that version is not representative of what he wrote. A story may thus be eligible only once. Publication date, or cover date in the case of a dated magazine, takes precedence over the copyright date. A serial takes its appearance to be the date of the last installment. Individual stories appearing as a series are eligible only as individual stories, and are not eligible taken together under the title of the series. The convention committee may move a story into a more appropriate category if it feels it necessary, provided the story is within 5,000 words of the category limits.

2.03 Best Novella: Rules as for best novel, with length under 40,000 words and above 17,500 words.

2.04 Best Short Story: Rules as for best novel, with length under 17,500 words.

2.05 Best Dramatic Presentation: Any production, directly related to science fiction or fantasy, in the fields of radio, television, stage, or screen, which has been publically presented for the first time in its present form during the previous calendar year. In the case of individual programs presented as a series, the separate programs shall be individually eligible, but the entire year's production taken as a whole under the title of the series shall not be eligible.

2.06 Best Professional Artist: A professional artist whose work was presented in some form in the science fiction or fantasy field during the previous calendar year.

2.07 Best Professional Magazine: Any magazine devoted primarily to science fiction or fantasy, which has published four or more issues, at least one issue appearing in the previous calendar year.

2.08 Best Amateur Magazine: Any generally available non-professional magazine devoted to science fiction, fantasy, or related subjects, which has published four or more issues, at least one appearing in the previous calendar year.

2.09 Best Fan writer. / No details have been given for either this or the best fan artist awards. Thus I would suggest the following wording, based upon the awarding of these particular awards in the past: Any fan whose work has appeared in an amateur magazine in the previous calendar year. The question of exactly what constitutes a "fan" should also be decided at the soonest possible date. /

2.10 Best Fan Artist. / See above. /

2.11 Additional Categories: Not more than two special categories may be created by the convention committee with nomination and final voting to be the same as for the other, permanent categories. The convention committee is not required to create any such categories; they should be held to a minimum, and those created by one convention committee are not binding on following committees. Awards under these categories will be Science Fiction Achievement Awards or Hugos.

2.12 The name and design shall not be extended to any other award whatsoever.

2.13 No Award: At the discretion of the individual convention committee, if a lack of nominations or final votes in a specific category shows a marked lack of interest in that category on the part of the voters, the award in that category shall be cancelled for that year. In addition, the entry "No award" shall be mandatory in each and every category of the Hugos. This applies to both permanent categories and those which the individual conventions establish on a temporary basis.

2.14 The Science Fiction Achievement Award is an English-language award, with eligibility limited to material presented in English, including first translations from other languages. If and when a National or North American Science Fiction Convention is established, then during the years the World Science Fiction Convention resides in a non-English-speaking-country, the North American Science Fiction Convention shall administer the Hugo. At all other times, the world convention will retain this responsibility. This motion to take effect in 1971.

2.15 Nominations and Voting: Selection of nominees for the final

award voting shall be done by a poll conducted by the convention committee under rules determined by the committee. Final award voting shall be by mail, with ballots sent only to Society members. Final ballots shall include name, signature, address, and membership number, to be filled in. Final ballots shall standardize alternatives given in each category to not more than five. Assignment of nominees nominated in more than one category to their proper one and eligibility of nominees shall be determined by the convention committee. Voters shall indicate the order of their preference for nominees in each category.

2.16 Tallying: Counting of all votes shall be the responsibility of the convention committee, which is responsible for all matters concerning awards. In each category, votes shall be first tallied by the voters' first choice. In the event no majority vote is then obtained, the nominee placing last will be eliminated and the ballots listing him as first choice redistributed on the basis of the ballots' second listed choice. The process will be repeated until a majority vote winner is obtained.

2.17 No member of the then current convention committee nor any publication closely connected with them shall be eligible for an award.

2.18 The Hugo award will continue to be standardized as to the design of the rocket ship on the model presently in use. The design of the base is up to each convention committee.

3.01 / The committee report (see page one) regarding North American and International conventions, which cannot take effect before the 1972 convention and which, in any case, will most likely be altered at Heicon, is to be placed here. To save space, I will not recopy it here, but will merely remind you to check page one for the details. In summary, the report provided for: name change, to NASFic; set-up of a committee to organize truly international conventions; interim plan for the rotation of the World Convention; and a continuation of the Worldcon numbering in the NASFic. ✓

3.02 / Again, as with the early items, we will keep the name of the World Science Fiction Convention, even though the ruling has changed the title of "our" convention to the NASFic, since those rules are not to take effect until 1972. ✓ The Society shall choose the sites for the annual World Science Fiction Conventions two years in advance at a business meeting to be held at an advertised time during each annual World Science Fiction Convention, presided over by the chairman of the then current convention committee, or by someone designated by the committee. The business meeting shall be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, and such other rules the then current committee may publish in the program book.

3.03 To assure an equitable distribution of convention sites, the North American continent is divided into three geographical divisions, as follows:

Western Division--New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Saskatchewan, and states and provinces westward; and Baja California.

Central Division--All Mexico except Baja California, and all states and provinces between the Western Division and the Eastern Division.

Eastern Division--Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Quebec, and states and provinces eastward; immediately after the 1970 convention, also St. Pierre and Miquelon, Bermuda, the Bahamas, and all islands of the Caribbean Sea not previously included in this region, and other islands similarly situated.

3.04 Convention sites shall be rotated among these divisions and the rest of the world in the following order: West, Central, East, with any country outside North America bidding every fifth year. After the 1970 convention, this will revert to the old three year rotation plan, with the convention moving between the three North American divisions. The bids of locations to hold a convention shall only be considered and voted on if they lie within the geographical division whose turn it is; except that the rule of rotation may be set aside by a vote of three-fourths voting, with the provision that in no case may two successive conventions be in the same division or outside North America. In the event of such setting aside, rotation shall be resumed the following year.

3.05 By bidding, a convention committee promises to abide by this constitution. Proposed date and dues for the next convention must be announced by bidding committees before site selection. Such proposals are subject to modification by the business meeting.

3.06 In the event the society is without a properly selected location for the next annual convention because of the resignation of the then current convention committee or other cause, the five most recent committee chairmen willing to serve shall be authorized to select the next location for the World Science Fiction Convention.

3.07 Voting for sites of World Science Fiction Conventions shall be limited to members of the current convention who have also paid at least \$2.00 toward the dues of the convention to be voted upon. The details of implementation shall be decided upon by each convention committee.

3.08 When the World Science Fiction Convention is held outside North America, the portion of the voting regulations which requires physical attendance at the voting session for the selection of the North American convention site to be chosen at that convention

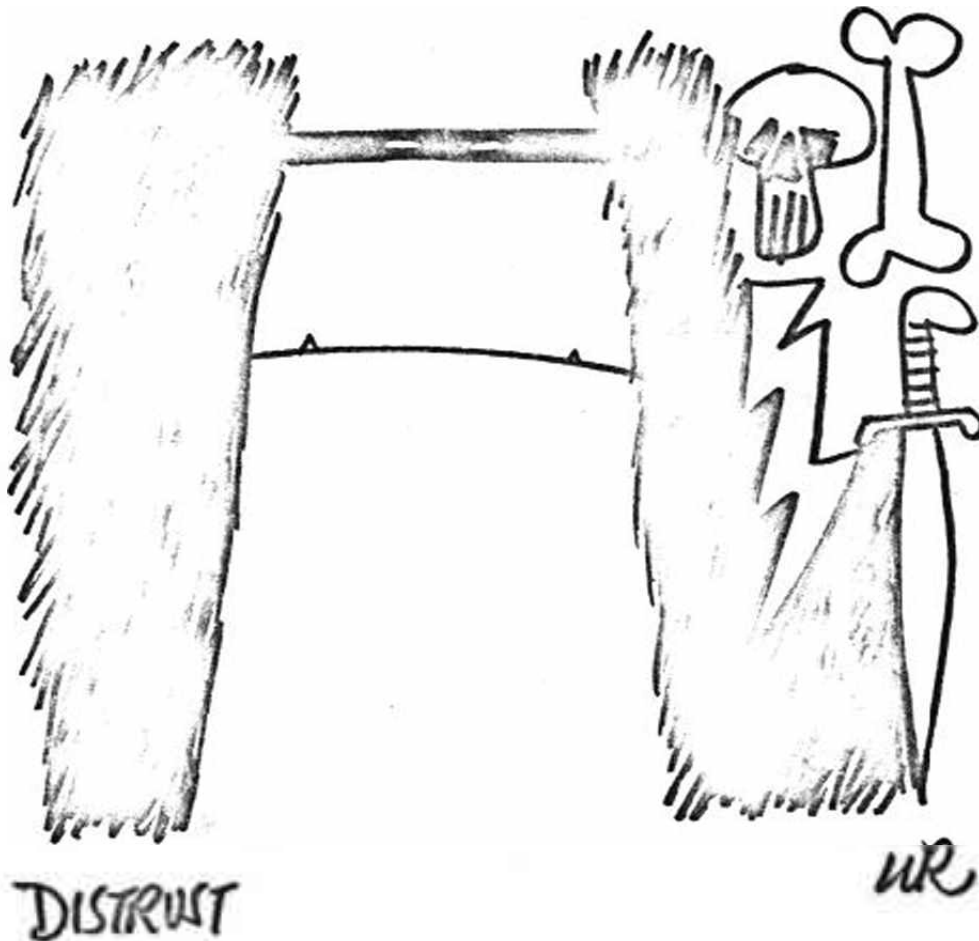


shall be suspended. Instead, the convention site for two years hence shall be chosen by an Australian mail ballot to be administered by that convention committee. Any person who owns any type membership in that convention and that two years hence shall be eligible to vote. The regular voting rules shall be immediately reinstated at the succeeding American convention.

4.01 Any change to the forgoing rules any take effect no sooner than the end of the convention during which such change is adopted.

4.02 All previous by-laws, constitutions, and resolutions having the effect of by-laws and constitutions of the World Science Fiction Society are revoked.

4.03 The rules of the World Science Fiction Society as decided in the business meetings shall be printed by the World Science Fiction Convention committee, and distributed with the Hugo nomination ballots, and hopefully also printed in the program book.



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