

# Short Title: Hugo Exclusions Constitutional Amendment Proposal

*Moved*, To amend the WSFS Constitution to expand “Section 3.12: Exclusions” to items 3.12.1 and 3.12.2.

Keep the following text as 3.12.1: “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 Committee 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.”

Add the following text as 3.12.2: “No member of the current Mark Protection Committee or any Mark Protection Committee subcommittees shall be eligible for an Award.”

## Commentary:

*1) The Mark Protection Committee and Mark Protection Committee subcommittees are floating committees that operate outside of Worldcon and are not covered by exclusion 3.12 (to be changed to 3.12.1).*

*2) The Mark Protection Committee and Mark Protection Committee subcommittees often represent the Hugo Awards, act as its public face, and help shape policy regarding Hugo Award licensing, marketing, and administration. Therefore, it would be a conflict of interest for a member to speak on behalf of, influence policy decisions of, or perform tasks in an official capacity for the Mark Protection Committee or Mark Protection Committee subcommittees while simultaneously being recognized as a potential nominee, appearing on the ballot, or actively campaigning for their own eligibility or nomination status.*

*3) The Mark Protection Committee and Mark Protection Committee subcommittees presently have a self-policing rule whereby members agree to recuse themselves and decline a Hugo nomination. Incorporating this rule into the constitution would make this policy permanent without the possibility of repeal by the Mark Protection Committee and Mark Protection Committee subcommittees and ensure that potential members are aware of this policy so they do not face a difficult choice at a later date.*

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