

Sokol Membership Booklet

A Sound Mind in a Sound Body



Mission Statement

“To provide our members with financial security through our products, and offering quality fraternal programs, which are athletic, charitable, cultural, social and educational opportunities to them and their communities.”

Slogan

“A Sound Mind in a Sound Body.”

Membership

For over 115 years the Slovak Catholic Sokol, a fraternal life insurance and benefit society, has provided sound financial protection and unique fraternal benefits for our members.

We invite you and your family members to join our fraternal family. Becoming a member of the Slovak Catholic Sokol not only provides you with financial security through our life and annuity products, but offers the sense of belonging to an even larger family through the fraternal benefits offered to members of all ages.

When you purchase one of our life insurance or annuity products, you become a member of the society and a member of our Sokol Family. You will also be assigned to an Assembly in your area that holds meetings, elects officers, conducts social activities and sporting events as well as provides charitable support to the community.



Our Sokol Logo



“Sokol” is Slovak for “Falcon”, a bird known for its strength, endurance, speed and its ability to soar high above the clouds. It is the perfect symbol, taken from the centuries-old Slav tradition of naming heroes “Sokols.”



Fraternal Programs

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Fraternal Benefits are jewels within the Fraternal Benefit Society's community. Our programs promote health, religion, ethnic pride, and a "Sound Mind in a Sound Body". The basis for our programs is driven through our assembly and wreath system, which are deeply rooted in supporting their churches and communities.

Our athletic and gymnastic programs emphasize our belief in both physical and mental health, as well as our commitment to our fraternal way of life. These programs not only offer the opportunity to compete against each other, it also develops the sense of teamwork and camaraderie. These friendships exist beyond team members; it carries over to building new and life-long relationships throughout the organization.

Fraternal programs exist on every level of the organization. International, Regional and Local levels afford our members many opportunities to take advantage of the programs offered.



International Events

International Slet (Gymnastics, Track & Field Meet)

The hallmark of our fraternal activities is the International Slet, a four-day event which brings our children and young adults from across the United States and Canada to compete in variety of gymnastic, calisthenics and track and field events. The inaugural “National Slet” took place in Wilkes-Barre, PA in 1912, where over 100 of the organization’s youth competed each representing their respective geographical areas.

The International Slet takes place every two years in a selected city throughout the United States and Canada. Typically, a campus-like environment is utilized at either a college or university. Some of the athletes who have participated in this meet have gone on to compete at the collegiate, professional, and Olympic levels.



International Bowling Tournament

Since the initial event held in Pittsburgh, PA in 1947, men and women of all ages and backgrounds have gathered at various sites throughout the United States and Canada to enjoy their passion for bowling, friendship, and fraternalism. This annual tournament has two divisions, one each for men and women. Events include Teams, Doubles, Singles, and All-Events.



International Golf Tournament

Mark your calendar! The month of August designates the time when Sokol members and families, both male and female of all ages enjoy three rounds of golf with other fellow Sokol members. There are a number of flights established that meet most skill levels of play. The Slovak Catholic Sokol takes great pride in the quality of the courses where the tournament is played, as well as the hospitality and fraternalism that prevails.



Regional and Local Events

Throughout the Sokol community, which encompasses ten states and Canada, fraternal activities thrive. Many of the international events are held regionally through the Eastern and Central District Tournaments where Sokol athletes compete in basketball and volleyball events at various levels. In addition, many of our local groups host bowling and golf tournaments, as well as social events and fund raisers.

Another avenue of fraternalism is the number of social clubs that are affiliated with our local assemblies. These social clubs afford a local gathering place for our members to meet, socialize, and plan the fundraising and sporting events mentioned herein.

Youth Christmas, Easter Halloween Parties

Annually our local Assemblies and Wreaths host Christmas, Easter and Halloween Parties for our younger members. Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny make their appearance at these events to the delight of our starry-eyed children, presenting them with gifts and enjoyment.



Giving Back To Members and Community

Join Hands Day

On the first Saturday in May, members of the Slovak Catholic Sokol in their local areas come together for “Join Hands Day” to make a difference in their communities through helpful projects that connect youths and adults. “Join Hands Day” gives our society’s membership the opportunity to reach out to people they may know, to connect generations and to develop new relationships.

“Join Hands Day” is open to everyone! Fraternal benefit societies, clubs, lodges, groups, congregations, businesses and individuals are encouraged to participate. Working together and having fun!



Food and Clothing Collections

Unfortunately, many people throw out perfectly good, used clothes rather than deliver them to the Salvation Army or Goodwill. A clothing drive is a fun and a personally fulfilling way to make it easier for individuals to make a difference helping the less fortunate.

Throughout the year, at meetings or at various social functions, our members, through their local assemblies, wreaths and groups incorporate various drives or fund raisers to assist others in need.



Scholarship Programs

The Slovak Catholic Sokol has always been committed to promoting higher education among our members through an annual scholarship program making a total of \$64,000 in scholarship grants available to eligible members each year. Scholarship opportunities are offered at three levels:

Catholic Grade School Students

(38) Thirty-eight scholarships are awarded at \$250 for each.

Catholic High School Students

(19) Nineteen scholarships are awarded at \$500 each.

College Level Scholarships

(30) Thirty, \$1,000 grants.

(3) The Slovak Catholic Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000 is awarded to the applicant that best exemplifies the spirit of volunteering.

Scholarships Established and Provided by Members

- (2) The Theodore and Mary Jane Rich Grant, (1) one male and (1) one female, \$2,500 each.
- (2) The Emil Slavik Grant, (1) one male and (1) one female, \$2,000 each.
- (1) One Doctor Lesko Medical Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000.
- (1) One Krista L. Glugosh Memorial Scholarship, \$1,000.
- (1) One Yenchal Scholarship Grant, \$1,000.



Financial Products

Life Insurance Plans

- Whole Life
- Single Premium Life
- 20 Payment Life
- Final Expense—Guarantee Issue

Term Insurance

- 10-Year Term
- 20-Year Term
- Term to 30

Riders

- Waiver Premium
- Accidental Death Benefit



Annuity Plans

- Vantage 1
- Vantage 2
- Vantage 3
- Vantage 5
- Vantage 7
- Single Premium Immediate Annuity

Qualified Annuity Plans

- IRA
- Roth IRA

The Slovak Catholic Sokol provides its members with financial protection. Our of Life Insurance permanent plans provides you with the certainty of a guaranteed amount of death benefit, a guaranteed rate of return on your cash values and a level premium that is guaranteed to never increase for life.

Permanent Life Insurance Plans

Legacy Life

Insurance Plan is our lowest premium permanent whole life insurance plan. This plan provides a fully paid certificate at a great savings for the life of the certificate holder. Issue ages 0—80.

Legacy Single Premium

The premium is paid in one lump sum at the time of application. This plan provides a fully paid policy at a great savings for the life of the certificate holder. This plan is ideal for young people, and useful for adults that prefer to have their life insurance prepaid or used for wealth transfer. Issue ages 0—90.

Legacy 20

The Legacy 20 life plan premiums are over a 20 year period and at that time, the policy is paid-up and will remain in force for the life of the certificate holder. Premiums for the Legacy 20 life plan are higher than for the Legacy life insurance plan, since the premium payments are condensed over a shorter period of time, but the cash value accumulates more quickly than the ordinary whole life plan. Issue ages 0—80.

Permanent Life Insurance Plan Features

Cash Value

With all of our Legacy Collection permanent plans, the cash value grows at a steady rate. This means you can enjoy the security of having an increasing cash fund available to you during your lifetime.

Loan Value

The option exists that allows you to borrow cash for things like an emergency, fund a child's education or make a mortgage down payment.

Dividends

Each of these plans is considered as "participating," which means that they are eligible to share in our financial success and receive policy dividends. When a dividend is declared, three options are available: Paid-up Additions, which provides the purchase additional insurance, Left on Deposit, earns interest, or cash.

Term Life Insurance Plans

10-Year and 20-Year Term

Excellent solution for the individual who needs low-cost, high coverage life insurance. Premiums are guaranteed to remain level during the selected term.

10-Year and 20-Year Term Features

At the expiry of the term, the plan can be renewed annually without proof of insurability up to age 69. This plan can be converted to a permanent plan without proof of insurability prior to the attained age of 65.

Term to 30

It provides children and young adults with immediate protection and the guarantee of future instability. It is a low cost, level premium until the expiry date, which is the anniversary nearest the 30th birthday. This plan can be purchased only in amounts of \$10,000, \$25,000, and \$50,000. Premium payments can be paid annually or as a single premium.

Term to 30 Features

At the expiry date, the insured has a guaranteed right to obtain new insurance on a permanent life plan, without proof or declaration of insurability. The face amount of the new certificate may be any amount not greater than three times the face amount of the original certificate. The insured will receive \$1.00 per \$1,000 per year of the converted amount of insurance toward the premium to be paid on the new permanent plan.

Vantage Annuity Plans

The Slovak Catholic Sokol Vantage

This Collection of Deferred Annuity plans provides you with a varied range of investment options to fit your financial planning requirements. The Slovak Catholic Sokol offer two series of annuity plans a short-term and a long-term series. The shorter termed contracts range from 1, 2 and 3 years

plans with a guaranteed interest rate for the length of each contract, while the longer termed annuity plans pay a much higher interest rate. All of the plans have issue ages that range from 0 to 90 years of age.

Short Term Investment Opportunities

We currently offer three annuity plans for the individual who is looking for a solid short-term investment alternative. Premiums are made with one lump sum to open; additional premiums accepted for 30 days from opening of contract. We currently offer three short-term plans:

Vantage 1 is a 1-year contract that features a 30-Day Window that provides a number of options; renew contract at the current interest rate, transfer to another annuity or take a full/partial withdrawal without penalty from the society.

Vantage 2 is a 2-year contract and the guaranteed interest rate is for a 2 year period.

Vantage 3 is a 3-year contract and the guaranteed interest rate is for 3 years.

Longer Term Investment Opportunity

Vantage 5 and 7 are our longer-term deferred annuity plans that allow for savings, investment or retirement. The interest rate is highly competitive and is guaranteed for the first two years of the contract. After the second anniversary date and every year after the current interest rate proclaimed by the Board of Directors will be guaranteed for a one year period.

As a flexible annuity plan, additional premium deposits are permitted and will not affect or extend the penalty for early withdrawal period.



Vantage Annuity Plans Features

Tax-Deferred Earnings

Earnings grow tax-free until a withdrawal occurs. Due to the power of compound tax-deferred growth, your retirement savings will accumulate quicker compared to a fully taxable account.

Cost

With all of our Annuity plans your investment can grow rapidly since there are no initial service, contract, transaction or premium fees. Every dollar you pay in premiums goes directly into your annuity's cash value and earns interest immediately.

Safety

Your annuity deposits are protected by the total resources of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Information regarding the solvency can be readily verified by our financial statements filed with the New Jersey Insurance Department. These financial statements are accompanied by the required Actuarial Certification and Opinion of an independent Certified Public Accountant.

Early Withdrawal

Each of the Vantage Collection of Annuity Products has a 10% penalty free withdrawal feature after the first anniversary year.

Guaranteed Income Option

Each of the Vantage Plans has an option that allows the Annuitant at any time to settle/annuitize the contract. When the annuity contract is settled/annuitized a guaranteed payment is established pays a specified periodic distribution or for a lifetime of income.

The settlement options available are:

- Life Only;
- Specified Period;
- Life and Period Certain; and
- Payments for Life for both situations on a single individual or as a joint and survivor.

Single Premium Immediate Annuity

This Single Premium Immediate Annuity contract when established pays a specified periodic distribution or for a lifetime of income. An Immediate Annuity provides an income benefit almost instantly.

The following options are available:

- Life Only;
- Specified Period;
- Life and Period Certain; and
- Guaranteed Income for Life on a single individual or as a joint and survivor.



Slovak Catholic Sokol

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www.scslife.org

Home Office

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Passaic, NJ 07055

Toll Free: 800-886-7656
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973-777-2606
Fax: 973-779-8245

- Cash Surrenders
- Customer Service
- Death Claims
- Loans
- Underwriting

Sales & Marketing Office

2403 Sidney Street
Suite 200
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Toll Free: 855-874-9179
Local: 412-381-5431
Fax: 412-381-6793

- Agent Licensing
- Commissions
- Marketing & Advertising
- Sales Support

Sales Email: sales@scslife.org
General Email: info@scslife.org