The Buckeye Hackers Club Constitution

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Preamble - What Makes a Hacker?

When creating a club focused on hacking, it becomes necessary to embody the spirit of what was originally intended by the word *Hacker*. To us, this means exploring the limits of what is possible, all in the spirit of being clever. Hacking involves solving problems in new ways, working together to solve problems new and old.

Article I - Name, Purpose and Non-Discrimination Policy

Section 1 - Name

This is the Buckeye Hackers Club at the Ohio State University, referred to “The Club” in this document.

Section 2 - Purpose

Our purpose is to:

- Promote hacker culture among students and the university community
- Represent Ohio State at hackathon events worldwide
- Host the flagship hackathons at Ohio State

Section 3 - Non Discrimination Policy

In recognition of the importance of welcoming diversity for the sake of creativity, and for the benefit of humanity, this club welcomes all people. This means that our club and it’s members will not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership

Part 1 - Membership Categories and Selection Processes
Ohio State University guidelines demand that voting membership be limited to currently enrolled students.

Voting membership requires that the individual meet all guidelines for voting membership as currently set by The Ohio State University, and that the individual has attended at least one regular meeting.

Part 2 - Membership Privileges
When a situation requires a vote, voting members are allowed to do so. When attending hackathons at other schools, voting members may form groups representing the club, without permission from officers. Voting members may serve on committees.

Part 3 - Membership Removal
Should cause for membership removal be raised, a member can be removed in one of two ways:

1. A majority vote of all club officers.
2. A majority vote of voting members, providing at least there are at least \( \frac{3}{4} \) th of the usual number of attending voting members present at the vote.

Article III - Officer Positions, Duties, Selection, and Removal

Part 1 - Officer Positions, Duties, Powers and Limitations.
There are three core officer positions: The President, the Vice President, and the Treasurer. The minimum responsibilities of the aforementioned officers are as follows:

The President shall have the following responsibilities:

- Representing the club at other functions and in public
- Form committees

The Vice President shall have the following responsibilities:

- Assist the president with his or her club duties
• Carrying out the club duties of the President when the President is unable to do so

The Treasurer shall the following responsibilities:

• Represents the club at Engineers’ Council
• Produces and Submits applications for funding
• Manages club finances

There can be any number of additional officer positions, approved by a 2/3 majority of the core officers. These could be anything from chairs for committees to a secretary.

All officer responsibilities may be delegated to other club members, though they are ultimately the responsibility of the aforementioned officers. The President will probably be the hardest working member of the club, and therefore needs the power to make unilateral decisions for the sake of saving time. Most, if not all responsibility, falls on the president.

Part 2 - Officer Selection

Once a year, elections will take place for the core officer positions. This election must be announced at least one week prior to the vote. Any voting member who meets The Ohio State University’s requirements may run for any of the offices. The individual who receives the most votes will attain that position for the next academic year, unless removed. Ties will be broken by a vote of the officers in place before the active election.

Part 3 - Officer Removal

Leadership is needed in any club and so officers are required to be present at least 80% of the term.

Extenuating circumstances are possible. In order to eliminate doubts surrounding an officers excuse for missing a meeting, said officer must notify at least one of the other officers that they will not be in attendance at least 24 hours in advance. If an officer is in violation of the aforementioned attendance rules, then the club members will take a vote as to whether or not said officer will be allowed to keep his or her position. For all other cases of misconduct, the officer will face the same removal process as any other member of the club.

Article IV - Advisor: Qualification Criteria

The advisor should be a person of technical experience. The advisor must grow the goals of the club so that he or she does not get in their way. The advisor exists to provide guidance, mentor-ship, and cluefulness. The advisor’s term is one academic year.
University guidelines require that the advisor (or failing that, the sub-advisor) “of student organizations must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff.”

**Article V - Meetings of the Organization**

If none of the officers of the club can be in attendance at a given meeting then said meeting will not take place, as decisions cannot be made without the presiding officers. Members can still hold an independent meeting, but it will not be recognized as an official club meeting.

**Article VI - Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notices and voting requirements**

In the case that someone thinks that they need to alter the constitution or by-laws (if any) for bug fixes, adding features, or compatibility with new hardware, a quorum (3/4 of the voting membership) must vote and the vote must be a 2/3 majority. Voting can be in person or via some electronic medium provided that in either case a reasonable amount of certainty of identity can be secured. Amendments and changes should be taken advisedly and considered for a reasonable amount of time before being implemented.

It is strictly discouraged that the constitution should be amended frequently. If it is to be amended, and by-laws do not exist, this this article (article VI) allows the creation of by-laws in favor of amending the main body of the constitution (this document).

It is further strictly discouraged that any amendments or by-laws restricting free commerce and creativity be created. New amendments or by-laws should not conflict with the above stated purpose of the club.

**Article VII - Method of Dissolution of Organization**

Should the club be forced to dissolve itself, any and all assets should be put toward the club’s debt (if any). This includes university owned equipment or university funds.

The remaining assets (hardware, operating funds, etc) should be donated. The organization to which the assets are donated must be determined at the time of dissolution by the President, with approval of the supervisor.