

Tamil Sangam

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Tamil Sangam

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

Our purpose is to unite the Tamil diaspora on campus, and foster a positive environment in which all Tamilians can express themselves freely. We are committed to encourage language acquisition, cultural integration, and providing justice to causes centered in Tamil-speaking regions and the United States through activism and fundraising. We also hold cultural events, informational/educational meetings, language-learning sessions, and community-oriented seminars.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Tamil Sangam agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.

Section B. Hazing

Tamil Sangam agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.

Section C. Bylaws

Tamil Sangam retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Non-students will also have opportunity to become members.

Section B. Member Selection

Individuals are required to file attendance at least three events per year to be considered a member.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership is open all year round.

Section D. Member Removal

The Executive Committee can make decisions regarding the membership of the community and other non-student members of an organization. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee. If a member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or by-laws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the officers in consultation with the organization's advisor after issuing one warning. However, if the case is serious, the member will immediately be removed from the club and banned.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

Advisors will serve as a point of contact and resource for officers in cases where external help and opinions are needed. Involvement in the organization is up to the individual elected.

Section B. Advisor Term

Advisors will be re-elected annually.

Section C. Advisor Selection

Tamil Sangam will adhere to the rules regarding advisor selection:

- The Primary Advisor must be a member of the faculty or administrative and professional staff and selected by the board of officers with a majority (greater than 50%) vote.
- Classified civil service employees, graduate administrative associates, and emeritus and retired faculty/staff may serve as co-advisors, but the primary faculty/staff advisor must complete the certification process for the organization to be registered.

- Co-advisors may be selected by the board and approved through majority (greater than 50%) vote.
- Advisors should not be on extended leave without mutually agreed upon contingency plans to provide for the organization's needs during their absence.
- The board members and advisor will maintain regular communication during the leave or the board will consider bringing on a co-advisor following the process outlined above.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

If the aforementioned status is not met, this is grounds for the premature conclusion of a term. Officers will convene to vote and replace an advisor.

In the case where there are grounds for considering replacement of the organization's advisor or if the advisor has asked to be relieved of their duties, the board and advisor should set a meeting time to discuss next steps, including setting a time for conclusion of duties and discussing other advisor candidates.

If the advisor leaves immediately and/or denies meeting with the board, the board can set a meeting time to discuss other advisor candidates and vote for a new advisor. A majority vote (greater than 50%) is required to select a new advisor.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

- o President - Decide event dates and time, book rooms, board bonding, officer coordination
- o Vice President - Create notion tasks, organize drive, meeting minutes, board bonding
- o Secretary - Check-in on task progress, Reinforce event outline during event, manage decorations unpacking/repacking for amazon returns, track attendance (membership too)
- o Treasurer - Manage bank account, finances, budgeting + expenditure tracking, apply for funding, Coke grants for events
- o Social Media Manager - Event related posts and timeline, design posts collaboratively with CD, any other socials to be active on (eg. groupme), take and edit photos during events
- o Creative Director - Post concepts, merchandise, development, website management, lead and develop any other creative projects
- o Outreach Coordinator - Catering, fundraising, mailing list
- o Program Manager - Event concept, activity ideas, room layout, event outline
- o Design Director - Event theme, photobooths, decor document
- o Decorations Manager - Decorating supporting ideas, place decorations & takeaways order, coordinate resource room runs

- Event Coordinator - Event slides, pictures and measurements of event spaces, setup and teardown management
- Subcommittee Members - support officers in their roles

Section B. Officer Eligibility

To be eligible for an officer position within Tamil Sangam, a member must meet the following criteria:

Active Membership: The individual must be an active member of Tamil Sangam, having participated in events for at least one full academic semester prior to running for office. Exceptions to the one-semester guideline can be made if the candidate shows an exceptionally strong desire to promote the club's mission and purpose.

Enrollment Status: The candidate must be a currently enrolled student at The Ohio State University in good academic standing, as defined by the university. Primary Leaders and Treasurer must be full-time enrolled students.

Commitment to the Mission: Candidates must demonstrate a strong commitment to the mission and values of Tamil Sangam.

Leadership and Reliability: Candidates should show enthusiasm, responsibility, and the ability to work well with others. Prior leadership experience (in or outside the organization) is valued, but not required.

Compliance with University Policies: All officers must uphold the non-discrimination policies outlined in Articles III and IV of this constitution.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

New officers applying for open positions will be selected by the president and vice president based on a written application and interview. The shortlisted candidates will then be presented to the rest of the executive board, and voting will take place to select new candidates: to be elected onto board, candidates must receive a majority (greater than 50%) vote. Current officers running for a different position will have to give a speech and must be voted into said position by the current board members: once again, candidates must receive a majority vote (greater than 50%) to be elected into the new position.

Section D. Officer Removal

Any elected officer of the chapter may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to violation of the constitution or by-laws, failure to perform duties, or any behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, including violations of the Student Code of Conduct, university policy, or federal, state, or local laws. The president and vice president may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

In the event there are not enough active members to fill the officer positions or events are inactive (consistently low turnout, below 10 people) during the entirety of an academic year, the remaining officers and subcommittee reserve the right to dissolve the organization

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event that Tamil Sangam is to be dissolved, the following procedures shall be followed to ensure an orderly and responsible conclusion of organizational affairs:

Proposal for Dissolution

- A formal proposal for dissolution must be submitted by a current Executive Board member.
- The proposal must be approved by a supermajority (greater than 2/3) vote of the Executive Board.
- Once approved by the board, the proposal will be shared with the general body for final input and record.

Settlement of Debts

- All outstanding debts and obligations must be settled prior to dissolution.
- Under no circumstances shall Red Saree at Ohio State leave any debts or financial responsibilities to The Ohio State University or any of its affiliated entities.
- The Treasurer, in coordination with the Executive Board and University advisors, will oversee the resolution of all debts.

Distribution of Assets

- Any remaining assets (including equipment or funds) purchased with University funds (e.g., through Student Activity Fees or departmental sponsorship) must be returned to the appropriate University unit, in accordance with university policies.
- Assets not purchased with University funds may be donated to a university-affiliated organization, a similar student group, or a charitable cause, as determined by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Notification

- The student organization must notify the Ohio State Student Activities Office and any affiliated university departments of the organization's dissolution.
- All records, including the final meeting minutes and financial summaries, shall be submitted to the Student Activities Office for official documentation.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general

meeting, then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority of two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.