

Constitution of The Wildlife Disease Association at The Ohio State University

Article I - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization

Section 1: Name: Wildlife Disease Association at The Ohio State University.

Associated with the international organization the Wildlife Disease Association as a student chapter.

Section 2 - Purpose: To inquire and educate about the health of wildlife in relation to people, the planet, and animals as well as collaborate with interdisciplinary fields to advance knowledge and conserve species. Target membership includes veterinary students with the desire to work with wildlife, in public health, or with an interest in the outdoors. Programs will be tailored to working with wildlife, in rehabilitation and natural settings, conserving species and the environment ethically, and finding ways to spend time outdoors.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy: This organization does not discriminate 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 bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment. As a student organization at The Ohio State University, the Wildlife Disease Association Club expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>.

If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleIX@osu.edu.

Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.

Section 1: Students who are enrolled at The Ohio State University are eligible for membership of this club. Members of the club are able to vote and run for officer positions. Students can become members by signing up for the emails and attending at least one event a semester.

Section 2: As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Active members and Executive Committee are able to make decisions regarding the membership of 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.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

Section 1: 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.

Section 2: 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 Executive Committee may act for removal upon a two-thirds affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

Section 3: In the event that the reason for member removal is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) or cannot otherwise be shared with members (e.g., while an investigation is pending), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

Article IV - Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders.

Section 1: For officer positions, this organization may have a minimum of President, Vice President, and Treasurer. Other positions are available upon necessity, such as secretary.

Section 2: Officers must discuss at least once a month.

Section 3: The roles of the President include managing club meetings and activities, assisting fellow Executive Board members, and accomplishing the roles described by The Ohio State Center for Student Leadership and Service. The Treasurer shall manage the monetary aspect of the club and accomplish the roles described by The Ohio State Center for Student Leadership and Service. The Vice President's roles include assisting the club President and manage the fundraising of the club.

Section 4: Officers will be voted by a majority vote annually, and they serve the position for one year. If an officer steps down, then an election for that open position will be held.

Article V - Executive Committee: Size and composition of the Committee.

The Executive Committee (like a board of trustees or directors) represents the general membership, conducts business of the organization between general meetings of the membership, and reports its actions at the general meetings of the membership. In many organizations, this Committee is comprised of the organization leaders, chairpersons of the standing committees, and sometimes ex officio positions from related student organizations.

Article VI - Standing Committees (if needed): Names, purposes, and composition.

These committees serve the organization leadership, the Executive Committee, and general membership. Standing committees are permanent and designed to carry out the basic functions of the organization. Often chairpersons of these committees are appointed by the organization leadership.

Article VII – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria.

Advisors of student organizations must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If a person is serving as an advisor who is not a member of the above classifications, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these University classifications. Responsibilities and expectations of advisors should be clearly and adequately described.

Article VIII – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.

Students can become members by signing up for the emails and attending at least one event a semester.

Article IX – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency.

The organization reserves the right to address member or event attendee behavior where the member or event attendee's behavior is disruptive or otherwise not in alignment with the organization's constitution.

Article X – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.

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 or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

Article XI – Method of Dissolution of Organization

Should the Wildlife Disease Association Club at the Ohio State University be dissolved. All assets and debt should be resolved and additional assets can be donated to a similar club such as the Ohio State Wildlife Club. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from website.