Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter Constitution

**Article I.      Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy**

**Section 1:   Name**

Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter

**Section 2:   Purpose**

The organization exists to provide people with opportunities to talk about contemporary issues in sports and how they relate to society and to attend events and activities related to sports.

**Section 3:   Non-Discriminatory 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.

                    **Sexual Misconduct Policy**

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter 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**

Membership is open to any enrolled Ohio State student, part-time and full-time. Others such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. are encouraged to become non-voting associate or honorary members.

**Article III.   Methods for Suspending and Removing Members and Officers**

**Section 1:   Officers**

Any elected officer of the organization 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 2:   Members**

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 3:   Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act**

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.

**Section 4:   Suspension Period**

Suspended members shall lose all voting privileges and the right to attend meetings and events held by The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter. At the second Executive Board meeting following the initial meeting instigating suspension, if it is decided by a two-thirds vote that insufficient improvement has been shown, the membership in question shall be terminated.

**Article IV.   Organization Leadership**

**Section 1:   Sports and Society Student Club Executive Board**

The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter Executive Board shall oversee and administer all regular operations and decision-making for the organization. The Executive Board shall be composed of active Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter members.

**Section 2:   Executive Board Positions**

The term length for every position shall be one academic year, but there will be a two-term limit for every position. Responsibilities of Executive Board positions shall not be limited to the official descriptions. If any officers are unable to perform their duties, the remaining officers shall perform those tasks or delegate them responsibly. Additional positions may be added to the Executive Board as needed. Necessity shall be determined by a two-thirds vote of the current Executive Board. A list of Executive Board positions and a brief description of their duties is provided below:

President:

* Preside over and run meetings
* In charge of weekly emails/updates, works with Secretary on this
* Signs off on all financial matters
* Full comprehension and understanding of constitution and by-laws
* Constantly looking for new opportunities and events for the club
* Primary delegator of tasks for Executive Board

                    Vice President

* Presides at meeting in absence of President
* Coordinates events with President and rest of Executive Board
* Provide data and relevant information to the Secretary for email purposes
* Provide training to new Executive Board Members
* Responsible for creating new interest in the club and recruitment efforts

                    Treasurer:

* Responsible for managing the organization’s bank account
* Recording all financial transactions
* Applying for both operating and programming funds from the Ohio Union
* Responsible for all duties concerning the finances of the organization.
* Responsible for collecting dues

                    Secretary:

* Handles correspondence of the club (attendance links)
* Works with President on weekly email/updates
* Gauge interest of members in possible future events (run surveys)
* Informs Officers of future deadlines
* Records Meeting Minutes at Executive Board meetings
* Maintains roster of current Officers and Members with current information
* Maintains complete and up-to-date copy of Constitution and by-laws

                    Event/Activity Coordinator:

* Works with President to execute plans regarding new events
* Works closely with Secretary and Marketing Chair to promote upcoming events
* Alerts Ohio Union and Advisor of upcoming events
* Work closely with Advisor and the Sports and Society Initiative (Faculty Org.)

                    Marketing Chair

* Publicizing upcoming events through all platforms
* In charge of all Social Media platforms
* Working closely with Event/Activity Coordinator to promote upcoming events
* Work closely with Sports and Society Initiative (Faculty Org.) Marketing Team to cross-promote events

**Section 3:   Selection Procedures**

Executive Board officers for the following academic school year shall be chosen by election conducted at the beginning of the spring semester of the current academic school year. If the club has less than 30 Active Members any members may nominate themselves for Executive Board officer positions. This process will consist of a statement to the entire organization body and then ballots will be cast by all present members. The nominee with the most amount of votes will take over the position. In case of a tie, Executive Board will deliberate and choose between the nominees who have tied.

          If the club has more than 30 people, anybody who is interested in a position can nominate themselves, and will proceed to give a statement to the Executive Board. Executive Board will then deliberate and decide which nominee they feel would best fit the role at hand.

**Section 4:   Interim Selection Procedures**

In the case that the President is unable to perform his or her duties, a President shall be appointed from the current Executive Board by a two-thirds consensus of the Executive Board. In the case of a vacancy in any non-President Executive Board position, a new officer shall be appointed from the general membership by a two-thirds consensus of the current Executive Board.

**Article V.    Advisor(s)**

Advisors of The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter must be members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. If the advisor is not a member of the above classification, a co-advisor must be chosen who is a member of these university classifications. Preferably, the Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter advisor is somebody who has a sociological or sport background. The primary responsibility of the advisor is to connect the student chapter with the University as a whole and with the Faculty Organization. The advisory should be able to provide connection that the student chapter can leverage.

**Article VI.   Meetings and Events**

Meetings shall be held at least once a month. The day-of-the-week and time for the meetings shall be determined at the beginning of every semester. A day and time shall be chosen such that the number of members attending is maximized. Additional meetings, club events, Executive Board meetings, and cancellations will be announced as necessary.

**Article VII. Attendees of Meetings and Events**

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. As we will be talking about various contemporary social issues at our meetings, we encourage an open-minded, safe, and judgment-free environment where members can openly express their views and opinions in a respectful manner.

**Article VIII.   Amending the Constitution**

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the Executive Board in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, and then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. A proposed amendment shall be voted upon and requires a two-thirds majority of voting members present.

**Article IX.   Dissolution**

The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter may be dissolved only when it is cleared of all debts. Dissolution will occur only by two-thirds majority approval of the membership, provided a notice of a vote on dissolution is furnished to the membership at least 40 days in advance. Upon dissolution of the organization, all existing assets shall be donated to a charity or future organization.