# High Street Charitable Games Constitution

***Article l - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization.***

**Section 1 – Name of Organization**:

*I.a. High Street Charitable Games*.

**Section 2 - Purpose:**

*II.a. To raise money for local charitable organizations.*

*On a monthly basis, all proceeds from the previous month’s charitable contributions fund will be donated to a local 501(c)3 organization as recognized under Ohio laws on charitable gaming. All club members will be allowed to vote on the destination of our organization’s charitable contributions, with preference given to local institutions.*

*II.b. To increase awareness for and promote the game of poker.*

*Poker is the perfect game of imperfect information combining statistics, risk management, psychology, and sheer intuition. We are seeking to elevate poker’s public image to the competition and entertainment spectacle it very well could be. By introducing players of all back grounds to the game in a friendly and fiscally responsible manner, we hope to expand the game beyond the typical poker room crowd.*

**Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:**

*III.a. 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, High Street Charitable Games 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.*](https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf)

*III.b. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at* [*http://titleIX.osu.edu*](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 – Organization Membership Requirements.**

*I.a. 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 the 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.*

*I.b. The High Street Charitable Games organization is a private student organization associated with the Ohio State University. The organization will not host charitable poker events which are open to the general public or non-member student body. A prerequisite for any form of membership or association is a willingness to follow the constitution of the organization and verification that an individual is at least 18 years of age to participate in private events that include charitable poker tournaments.*

**Section 2 - Categories of Membership:**

*II.a. Non-student invitees to High Street Charitable Games events will be granted temporary membership as a “non-voting associate” of the organization for the length of the event granted they have an active member vouch for their commitment to the organization constitution and they are willing to pay the one-time dues for the event. There is no limit on the number of “non-voting associates” a given member can endorse. Similar to temporary members, these individuals will be asked to provide verification they are at least 18 years of age to participate in events.*

*II.b. OSU alumni who were previously members of the organization will automatically be considered “honorary members” at any High Street Charitable Games events. However, these “honorary members” will have no voting rights or the ability to vouch for other non-student invitees for “non-voting associate” status. All other OSU alumni who were not previously members of organization will be treated as “non-voting associates” at any High Street Charitable Games events.*

*II.c. Current Ohio State University students are invited to attend any public informational events hosted by this organization. These public events will proceed the private charitable poker events. Temporary membership will be extended to any OSU student granted they provide forms of identification to guarantee they are at least 18 years of age and are enrolled at OSU. (Driver’s License and BuckID etc.) Temporary membership requires the payment of the one-time dues associated with a given event and the commitment to follow the organization constitution.*

*II.d. Full membership will be extended to any OSU student upon their second attendance of a High Street Charitable Games event. Membership guarantees the student voting rights in both charitable voting and election of organization leadership. Full membership is issued in perpetuity and will only lapse in the event the student is no longer attending the Ohio State University (acquiring “honorary membership” through alumni status) or if more than one calendar year passes between attendance of events. Full members will still be expected to contribute the one-time dues associated with any event.*

***Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

*III.a.* *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 Executive Committee in consultation with the organization’s advisor.*

*III.b.* *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.*

*III.c. 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:***

**Section 1 - Primary Leader (President):**

*I.a. The High Street Charitable Games President is appointed by a vote of all organization members. The club president will serve a semester long term. A member elected president can only hold one leadership position at a time. However, members in a leadership position can also hold a Standing Committee chair position.*

*I.b. The President is responsible for leading the High Street Charitable Games student organization and managing both public and private meetings. The duties of the president also include delegating Standing Committee roles.*

*I.c. In conjunction with the Treasurer, the President will produce an end of semester charitable donations and financial report for club members and advisors.*

**Section 2 - Secondary Leader (Vice President):**

*II.a. The High Street Charitable Games Vice President is appointed by a vote of all organization members. The club vice president will serve a semester long term. A member elected vice president can only hold one leadership position at a time. However, members in a leadership position can also hold a Standing Committee chair position.*

*II.b. The vice president is responsible for assisting the president in managing both public and private meetings. The duties of the vice president also include organization promotion and new member outreach.*

**Section 3 – Treasurer:**

*III.a. The High Street Charitable Games Treasurer is appointed by a vote of all organization members. The treasurer will serve a semester long term. A member elected treasurer can only hold one leadership position at a time. However, members in a leadership position can also hold a Standing Committee chair position.*

*III.b. The treasurer is responsible for administering all private charitable poker tournament buy-ins and payouts. The treasurer will also maintain an online register detailing all organizational transactions which will be assessible to all members.*

*III.c. In conjunction with the President, the treasurer will produce an end of semester charitable donations and financial report for club members and advisors.*

**Section 4 – Advisor:**

*IV.a. Advisors must be available for consultation in the event that a High Street Charitable Games organization member or leader needs to be removed under Article III of the constitution.*

*IV.b. Advisors must be willing to complete Ohio State University Student Organization advisor trainings on a biennial basis.*

*IV.c. Advisors will be updated on the organization’s charitable giving and finances through a biannual report presented at the end of autumn and spring semesters. Advisors are encouraged to comment on the organization’s performance on a biannual basis and to lend any guidance for the coming semester.*

***Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership***

**Section 1 – Leadership Selection:**

*I.a.**Elections will**occur the week following the first event of a given semester. Voting will be conducted electronically, and members will be given one week to vote for organization leadership roles. Following the 1-week election period, the individuals with the most votes will be selected and all members will be made aware of the election results at the next organization event. In the event of a tie between leadership position applicants, the exiting Executive Committee members will break the tie with a majority decision for either candidate.*

*I.b. All current members both temporary and full members are eligible for a leadership position; however, temporary members do not have voting rights until after the attendance of their second event. Members should approach the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Elections, appointed by the previous Executive Committee, to secure a place on the ballot.*

*I.c. Ballots will be recorded electronically between the first and second events of a given semester. At the conclusion of voting and verification of results by the current organization president as well as the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Elections the results will be ratified. All new appointees will take their positions immediately.*

*I.d. In the event of special circumstances such as resignations or impeachments during the term of an executive Committee member, the remaining Executive Committee members will appoint by majority decision a new interim leader to fill that position.*

**Section 2 – Charitable Voting:**

*II.a. Following the last event of a given month, charitable voting will occur. Voting will be conducted electronically, and members will be given one week to vote for the destination of our organization’s charitable donations fund. Following the 1-week election period the charitable organization with the most votes will be selected and receive all proceeds raised from that month’s private charitable poker tournaments. In the event of a tie in charitable voting, all proceeds will be split evenly among the selected charitable organizations.*

*II.b. At any point during the month prior to the final event and subsequent charitable voting, any temporary or full member can nominate a charitable organization. Members are encouraged to provide details about the organization they are nominating as well as how the funds will be used to better the central Ohio community.*

*II.c. Nominating members are allowed to nominate other Ohio State University student organizations as long as they are recognized as a tax-exempt charitable organization in the state of Ohio that provides meaningful charitable outreach to the surrounding OSU community. We ask that if a nominating member has an existing relationship with this student organization that they disclose this information along with their nomination application.*

***Article VI - Executive Committee: Size and composition of the Committee.***

**Section 1 – Executive Committee Composition:**

*I.a. The Executive Committee is comprised of the organization leaders, and chairpersons of the Standing Committees. Each executive position is given one vote in Executive Committee votes. Members who hold a leadership position and chair a standing Committee will vote on behalf of both of those positions.*

**Section 2 – Duties of the Executive Committee:**

*II.a. The Executive Committee 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.*

*II.b. Executive Committee members are entrusted with the additional responsibility of guaranteeing the efficient operation of any private charitable poker events conducted by High Street Charitable Games. Executive Committee members may take part in charitable poker tournaments as players but must be willing to sacrifice their own playing experience in order to facilitate the overall success of the event.*

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

**Section 1 - Forming Standing Committees:**

*I.a. Standing Committees serve the organization leadership, the Executive Committee, and general membership.*

*I.b. Standing Committees are permanent and designed to carry out the basic functions of the organization. Chairpersons of these committees are appointed by the organization leadership, through a majority vote of the Executive Committee.*

*I.c. Additional Standing Committees can be formed by the Executive Committee granted a majority vote takes place to appoint a chairperson to the newly formed committee. The Standing Committee will exist in a provisional state and will only officially be recognized if the constitution is amended. The chairperson of the Provisional Standing Committee will not receive an appointment on the Executive Committee until the Standing Committee is recognized through a constitutional amendment. The duties of these Standing Committees must be stated in the organization’s bylaws.*

*I.d. Chairpersons of Standing Committees may add any number of temporary or full members to a Standing Committee. These members report to the chairperson of the Standing Committee and have an advisory role with no voting privileges within the Standing Committee. A chairperson for a Standing Committee may only hold one Standing Committee position at a given time.*

**Section 2 – Standing Committee on Elections:**

*II.a. The Standing Committee on Elections is responsible for conducting both leadership selection elections as well as charitable voting.*

*II.b. The chairperson for the Standing Committee on Elections is appointed by the Executive Committee and will be granted a position on the Executive Committee following their appointment.*

**Section 3 – Standing Committee on Poker Learning:**

*III.a. The Standing Committee on Poker Learning is responsible for conducting poker strategy and general game play mechanics presentations during public meetings.*

*III.b. The chairperson for the Standing Committee on Poker Learning is appointed by the Executive Committee and will be granted a position on the Executive Committee following their appointment.*

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

**Section 1 – Advisor Criteria:**

*I.a. 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.*

**Section 2 - Responsibilities and expectations of advisors:**

*II.a. Advisors must be available for consultation in the event that a High Street Charitable Games organization member or leader needs to be removed under Article III of the constitution.*

*II.b. Advisors must be willing to complete Ohio State University Student Organization advisor trainings on a biennial basis.*

*II.c. Advisors will be updated on the organization’s charitable giving and finances through a biannual report presented at the end of spring and autumn semesters. Advisors are encouraged to comment on the organization’s performance on a biannual basis and to lend any guidance for the coming semester.*

***Article IX – Meetings and events of the Organization***

**Section – 1: Public Meetings**

*I.a. Public meetings will not include any charitable social poker tournaments. These meetings are designed to introduce our organization to any members of the Ohio State community who wish to attend. Public meetings will focus on outlining the structure of our private meetings and highlight the charitable opportunities we have contributed towards.*

*I.b. Public meetings will include instructional presentations focused on poker strategy as organized by the Standing Committee on Poker Learning.*

**Section – 2: Private Meetings**

*II.a. Private meetings are intended to follow public introductory meetings. Individuals who attend public events and meet the criteria for either “non-voting associate” or “temporary membership” status are encouraged to take part in private meetings. Private charitable poker tournaments will occur during these meetings. Private meetings are not open to the general public or non-member OSU students. All attendees of public meetings who do not meet the criteria to participate in private meetings will be asked to leave.*

*II.b. All attendees of private charitable poker events will be made aware of the Ohio laws as they pertain to games of chance. Additionally, they will be made aware of all legal research conducted by the attorneys at Student Legal Services as they apply to the charitable poker tournaments they are participating in.*

*II.c. No individual will profit from the operation of the poker tournaments which are conducted during private High Street Charitable Games meetings. All charitable proceeds will be generated from an optional positive expected value poker chip add-on offered to all players.*

*II.d. These events will be conducted in private, and in a reserved university facility for the explicit use of the High Street Charitable Games student organization. The facilities used by this organization, in accordance with Ohio laws on public gambling, will not be open to the general public and will not offer some form of service, merchandise, or entertainment.*

*II.e. In order to ensure that the charitable mission is maintained we expect that raised charitable funds constitute at least 15% of all poker related buy-ins. While no funds can be removed from the prize pool to meet this requirement, event organizers carry the responsibility to raise a 15% equivalent through modification of tournament structure, in order to motivate player charitable contributions.*

***Article X – Attendees of Events of the Organization***

**Section 1 - Attendee behavior:**

*I.a. 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, the student code of conduct, or local, state, or federal laws.*

*I.b. All private meeting attendees are expected to follow the rules of the game outlined in the organization bylaws.*

**Section 2 – Violations**

*II.a. Any attendee’s behavior which is deemed inappropriate or does not align with any of the previously described governing documents by a majority of attending members or by a member of the Executive Committee will be asked to leave both the public and private meetings. More serious violations of either university policy or local, state, or federal laws will result in suspension or the permeant expulsion from any organization position. Decisions which will result in a member’s permanent removal from the club will be decided by a majority of the Executive Committee in consultation with the organization’s advisor.*

*II.b. Members who fail to follow the rules of the charitable poker tournament played during a private meeting will be given a warning on their first offense. If a second offense were to occur during the same event, they will be asked to leave. The warnings a member receives for mistakes will reset at each event. A violation of the rules will be determined by a majority vote of the players which the member is actively engaged with and veto/approval power of the violation will be given to the most senior member present.*

*II.c. There is a zero-tolerance policy for purposeful cheating in any charitable poker event. Cheating in events hosted by High Street Charitable Games will be seen as undermining the mission of the organization and a violation of the constitution. Therefore, the penalties for such violations will be removal through a majority vote of the Executive Committee in consultation with the organization’s advisor.*

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

**Section 1 – Proposals:**

*I.a. Proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced.*

**Section 2 – Notice:**

*II.a. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the public meeting, then read again at two of subsequent public meetings and the private meeting in which the votes will be taken.*

**Section3 – Voting Requirements:**

*III.a. An amendment to the constitution should require a three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum of 6 members being present) or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not.*

*III.b. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently. Instead changes to organization regulations should be changed in the organization bylaws if not applicable in the constitution.*

***Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

**Section 1 - Dissolution of High Street Charitable Games:**

*I.a. The High Street Charitable Games organization will not carry any debt. All organization balances must be settled prior to dissolution. If the organization is no longer actively hosting events for one calendar year, it is the responsibility of the last Executive Committee members to dissolve the organization. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from the website.*

# By-Laws

***Article 1 – Parliamentary Authority***

1)The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization. Based on the premise that though the minority shall be heard, and absentees protected, the majority will decide.

***Article II- Categories of Membership***

1) Non-Student invitees to High Street Charitable Games events will be granted temporary membership as a “non-voting associate” of the organization for the length of the event granted they have an active member vouch for their commitment to the organization constitution and they are willing to pay the one-time dues for the event. There is no limit on the number of “non-voting associates” a given member can endorse. Similar to temporary members these individuals will be asked to provide verification they are at least 18 years of age to participate in events.

2) OSU alumni who were previously members of the organization will automatically be considered “honorary members” at any High Street Charitable Games events. However, these “honorary members” will have no voting rights or the ability to vouch for other non-student invitees for “non-voting associate” status. All other OSU alumni who were not previously members of organization will be treated as “non-voting associates” at any High Street Charitable Games events.

3) Current Ohio State University students are invited to attend any public informational events hosted by this organization. These public events will proceed the private charitable poker events. Temporary membership will be extended to any OSU student granted they provide forms of identification to guarantee they are at least 18 years of age and are enrolled at OSU. (BuckID and Driver’s License etc.) Temporary membership requires the payment of the one-time dues associated with a given event and the commitment to follow the organization constitution.

4) Full membership will be extended to any OSU student upon their second attendance of a High Street Charitable Games event. Membership guarantees the student voting rights in both charitable voting and election of organization leadership. Full membership is issued in perpetuity and will only lapse in the event the student is no longer attending the Ohio State University (acquiring “honorary membership” through alumni status) or if more than one calendar year passes between attendance of events. Full members will still be expected to contribute the one-time dues associated with any event.

***Article III- Election / Appointment of Government Leadership***

1) Elections will occur the week following the first event of a given semester. Voting will be conducted electronically, and members will be given one week to vote for organization leadership roles. Following the 1-week election period the individuals with the most votes will be selected and all members will be made aware of the election results at the next organization event. In the event of a tie between leadership position applicants, the exiting Executive Committee members will break the tie with a majority decision for either candidate.

2) All current members both temporary and full members are eligible for a leadership position, however temporary members do not have voting rights until after the attendance of their second event. Members should approach the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Elections, appointed by the previous Executive Committee, to secure a place on the ballot.

3) Ballots will be recorded electronically between the first and second events of a given semester. At the conclusion of voting and verification of results by the current organization president as well as the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Elections the results will be ratified. All new appointees will take their positions immediately.

4) In the event of special circumstances such as resignations or impeachments during the term of an Executive Committee member, the remaining Executive Committee members will appoint by majority decision a new interim leader to fill that position.

***Article IV- Executive Committee***

Specific duties of the Committee and its responsibilities to the membership.

Primary Leader (President):

1) The High Street Charitable Games President is appointed by a vote of all organization members. The club president will serve a semester long term. A member elected president can only hold one leadership position at a time. However, members in a leadership position can also hold a Standing Committee chair position.

2) The President is responsible for leading the High Street Charitable Games student organization and managing both public and private meetings. The duties of the president also include delegating Standing Committee roles.

3) In conjunction with the Treasurer, the President will produce an end of semester charitable donations and financial report for club members and advisors.

Secondary Leader (Vice President):

1) The High Street Charitable Games Vice President is appointed by a vote of all organization members. The club vice president will serve a semester long term. A member elected vice president can only hold one leadership position at a time. However, members in a leadership position can also hold a Standing Committee chair position.

2) The vice president is responsible for assisting the president in managing both public and private meetings. The duties of the vice president also include organization promotion and new member outreach.

Treasurer:

1) The High Street Charitable Games Treasurer is appointed by a vote of all organization members. The treasurer will serve a semester long term. A member elected treasurer can only hold one leadership position at a time. However, members in a leadership position can also hold a Standing Committee chair position.

2) The treasurer is responsible for administering all private charitable poker tournament buy-ins and payouts. The treasurer will also maintain an online register detailing all organizational transactions which will be assessible to all members.

3) In conjunction with the President, the treasurer will produce an end of semester charitable donations and financial report for club members and advisors.

Advisor:

1) Advisors must be available for consultation in the event that a High Street Charitable Games organization member or leader needs to be removed under article 3 of the constitution.

2) Advisors must be willing to complete Ohio State University Student Organization advisor trainings on a biennial basis.

3) Advisors will be updated on the organization’s charitable giving and finances through a biannual report presented at the end of spring and autumn semesters. Advisors are encouraged to comment on the organization’s performance on a biannual basis and to lend any guidance for the coming semester.

***Article V- Standing Committees***

Specific duties of each committee and their responsibilities to the organization leadership, Executive Committee, and general membership.

Standing Committee on Elections:

1) The Standing Committee on Elections is responsible for conducting both leadership selection elections as well as charitable voting.

2) The chairperson for the Standing Committee on Elections is appointed by the Executive Committee and will be granted a position on the Executive Committee following their appointment.

3) The chairperson for the Standing Committee on Elections reports to the Executive Committee on the events of both the leadership elections and the charitable voting. The Standing Committee on Elections is responsible for conducting fair and transparent elections for the general membership.

Standing Committee on Poker Learning:

1) The Standing Committee on Poker Learning is responsible for conducting poker strategy and general game play mechanics presentations during public meetings.

2) The chairperson for the Standing Committee on Poker Learning is appointed by the Executive Committee and will be granted a position on the Executive Committee following their appointment.

3) The chairperson for the Standing Committee on Poker Learning reports to the Executive Committee on the presentations they provide at public meetings. The Standing Committee on Poker Learning is responsible for conducting poker strategy presentations for the general membership.

Provisional Standing Committees and Responsibilities:

None.

***Article VI - Advisor/Advisory Board Responsibilities***

1) Advisors must be available for consultation in the event that a High Street Charitable Games organization member or leader needs to be removed under article 3 of the constitution.

2) Advisors must be willing to complete Ohio State University Student Organization advisor trainings on a biennial basis.

3) Advisors will be updated on the organization’s charitable giving and finances through a biannual report presented at the end of spring and autumn semesters. Advisors are encouraged to comment on the organization’s performance on a biannual basis and to lend any guidance for the coming semester.

***Article VII - Meeting Requirements***

1) Public and private meetings will be held concurrently at least one evening every two weeks, with flexibility given to member availability. A minimum of 2 events must be held every month. A minimum of 6 voting members will constitute a quorum being present, and an official event being recorded. Public meetings will be limited to 10 individuals in accordance with Ohio State University Student Organization policy on social distancing. Preference will be given to new attendees of public meetings if the limit of 10 is reached.

2) The number of voting members required to vote on decisions placed before the general membership is 6. The number of voting members required to vote on decisions placed before the Executive Committee is 3. The number of voting members required to vote on decisions placed before the Standing Committees is 1.

***Article VIII – Private Poker Tournament Rules and Regulations***

1 - PROPER BEHAVIOR

CONDUCT CODE

We will attempt to maintain a pleasant environment for all our players but are not responsible for the conduct of any player. We have established a code of conduct and may deny the privilege to play in our game to anyone who violates it. The following is not permitted and grounds for removal from the High Street Charitable Games organization:

* Collusion with another player or any other form of cheating.
* Verbally or physically threatening anyone.
* Creating a disturbance by arguing, shouting, or making excessive noise.
* Destroying or defacing property.

POKER ETIQUETTE

The following actions are improper, and grounds for a warning, or suspension if repeated offenses during a single event:

* Making statements or taking action that could unfairly influence the course of play, whether or not the offender is involved in the pot.
* Needlessly stalling the action of a game.
* Deliberately acting out of turn.
* Deliberately splashing chips into the pot.
* Telling anyone to turn a hand faceup at the showdown.
* Revealing the contents of a live hand in a multi-handed pot before the betting is complete.
* Deliberately discarding hands away from the muck. Cards should be released in a low line of flight, at a moderate rate of speed.
* Stacking chips in a manner that interferes with dealing or viewing cards.

2 – HOUSE POLICIES

DECISION-MAKING

* Taking a seat in a poker game means you agree to abide by the rules for that game and the decision-making process used in it.
* The proper time to draw attention to an error or irregularity is when it occurs or is first noticed. Any delay may affect the ruling.
* If an incorrect rule interpretation or decision is made in good faith, there shall be no liability incurred by the decision-maker.
* A ruling may be made regarding a pot if it has been requested before the next deal starts (or before the game either ends or changes to another table). Otherwise, the result of a deal must stand. The first riffle of the shuffle marks the start for a deal.
* To keep the action moving, it is possible that a game may continue even though a decision is delayed for a short period. In such circumstances, a pot or portion thereof may be impounded while the decision is pending.
* The same action may have a different meaning, depending on who does it, so the possible intent of an offender will be taken into consideration. Some factors here are the person’s amount of poker experience and past record.

PROCEDURES

* All chips must be kept in plain view.
* Only one person may play a hand.
* No one is allowed to play another player’s chips.
* Insurance propositions are not allowed. Dealing twice (or three times) when all-in is permitted at big-bet poker.
* Players must keep their cards in full view. This means above table-level and not past the edge of the table. The cards should not be covered by the hands in a manner to completely conceal them.
* Any player is entitled to a clear view of an opponent’s chips. Higher denomination chips should be easily visible.
* Looking through the discards or deck stub is not allowed.

SECTION 3 - GENERAL POKER RULES

THE SHUFFLE AND CUT

* The pack must be shuffled and cut before the cards are dealt.
* The deck must be riffled a minimum of 3 times. The cut must leave a minimum of four cards in each portion.
* The bottom of the deck should be protected so nobody can see the bottom card. This is done by using a cut-card. A joker may be used as a cut-card.
* Any complaint about the shuffle, cut, or other preparation connected with dealing must be made before the player has looked at his hand or betting action has started.

MISDEALS

* The following circumstances cause a misdeal, provided attention is called to the error before two players have acted on their hands. (If two players have acted in turn, the deal must be played to conclusion, as explained in rule #2)

(a) The first or second card of the hand has been dealt faceup or exposed through dealer error.

(b) Two or more cards have been exposed by the dealer.

(c) Two or more boxed cards (improperly faced cards) are found.

(d) Two or more extra cards have been dealt in the starting hands of a game.

(e) An incorrect number of cards has been dealt to a player, except the top card may be dealt if it goes to the player in proper sequence.

(f) Any card has been dealt out of the proper sequence (except an exposed card may be replaced by the burncard).

(g) The button was out of position.

(h) The first card was dealt to the wrong position.

(i) Cards have been dealt to an empty seat or a player not entitled to a hand.

(j) A player has been dealt out who is entitled to a hand. This player must be present at the table or have posted a blind or ante.

* An action is considered to occur when two players after the blinds have acted on their hands. Once action occurs, a misdeal can no longer be declared. The hand will be played to conclusion and no money will be returned to any player whose hand is fouled.

DEAD HANDS

* Your hand is declared dead if:
* You fold or announce that you are folding when facing a bet or a raise.
* You throw your hand away in a forward motion causing another player to act behind you (even if not facing a bet).
* You have the clock on you when facing a bet or raise and exceed the specified time limit.
* Cards thrown into the muck may be ruled dead. However, a hand that is clearly identifiable may be retrieved if doing so is in the best interest of the game.
* Cards thrown into another player’s hand are dead, whether they are faceup or facedown.

BETTING AND RAISING

A player will never be forced to give up chips in their possession. Rather bets will be considered voluntary removals of possession, given to the dealer to resolve the proper poker action. We encourage all players to be cognizant of all bet amounts and their intention when chips are released from their own or their opponent’s possession.

* Check-raise is permitted.
* Minimum bet is 1 big blind.
* Any raise must be at least twice the size of the previous raise in that round.
* Any call must be at least the size of the previous bet or raise in that round, unless a player is going all-in.
* A verbal statement denotes your action and is binding. If in turn you verbally declare a fold, check, bet, call, or raise, you are forced to take that action.
* A player who bets or calls by releasing chips into the pot is bound by that action. However, if you are unaware that the pot has been raised, you may withdraw that money and reconsider your action, provided that no one else has acted after you.
* String raises are not allowed. To protect your right to raise, you should either declare your intention verbally or place the proper amount of chips into the pot.

THE SHOWDOWN

- A player must show all cards in the hand face-up on the table to win any part of the pot.

- All losing hands will be killed by the dealer before a pot is awarded.

- If everyone checks (or is all-in) on the final betting round, the player who acted first is the first to show the hand. If there is wagering on the final betting round, the last player to take aggressive action by a bet or raise is the first to show the hand. In order to speed up the game, a player holding a probable winner is encouraged to show the hand without delay. If there is a side pot, players involved in the side pot should show their hands before anyone who is all-in for only the main pot.

TIES

* The ranking of suits from highest to lowest is spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs. Suits never break a tie for winning a pot. Suits are used to break a tie between cards of the same rank (no redeal or redraw).
* If two or more hands tie, an odd chip will be awarded as follows: the first hand clockwise from the button gets the odd chip.

SECTION 4 – TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

INTRODUCTION

-Tournament poker offers a friendly introduction to poker for new players as:

1. Their losses and time spent at a given event are capped.

2. The increased variance of tournament poker allows below average skill players to progress far into a tournament.

BUY-IN/ADD-ON STRUCTURE

-Event Dues: $1 membership dues prior to any event. Will go directly into the High Street Charitable Games charitable giving fund.

-Buy-in: $10 (limited to 2 buy-ins per event). Rebuys must occur no later than the first break period following blind level 150/300. Starting Stack: 5,000 in chips.

-Add-on: Optional $2 donation to High Street Charitable Games’ charitable fund for 5,000 additional chips to the starting stack on one/both of a players buy-ins.

PAYOUT STRUCTURE

Due to the social nature of these events we plan on paying out around 25% of the field at a given event. This is far more generous than the typical 10% you would find at a commercial venue. By spreading the payout among more players, we hope to increase player retention.

EXAMPLE BLIND STRUCTURE

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Small Blind | page2image8491520page2image8496704  Big Blind | page2image23550304  Time |
| 25 | 50 | + 15min (0:15) |
| 25  page2image8518656 | page2image8517504page2image8518080  75 | page2image8503488  + 15min (0:30) |
| 50 | 100 | + 15min (0:45) |
| page2image8412096  75  page2image8411520 | 150 | + 15min (1:00) |
| 100  page2image23124208 | 200 | + 15min (1:15) |
| 150 | | page3image8672896page3image8678464  300 | page3image23425056  + 15min (1:30) |
| Break (Chip up 25s to 100s) | | page3image8667136page3image8669056  Break (Chip up 25s to 100s) | page3image8676352  + 10min (1:40) |
| 200 | | 400 + 400 BB Ante | + 15min (1:55) |
| 300 | | page3image8683712page3image8684096  600 + 600 BB Ante  page3image8684672page3image8685056 | page3image8685440  + 15min (2:10)  page3image8686016 |
| 400 | | 800 + 800 BB Ante | + 15min (2:25) |
| 600 | | page3image8837504page3image8837888  1,200 + 1200 BB Ante | page3image8839232  + 15min (2:40) |
| 800 | | 1,600 + 1600 BB Ante | + 15min (2:55) |
| 1,000 | | page3image8841344page3image8841728  2,000 + 20000 BB Ante | page3image8842496  + 15min (3:10) |
| Break (Chip up 100s to 1Ks) | | page3image8843840page3image8844224  Break (Chip up 500s to 1Ks)  page3image8844800page3image8845184 | page3image8845568  + 10min (3:20)  page3image8846144 |
| 1,000 | | 3,000 + 3000 BB Ante | + 10min (3:30) |
| 2,000 | | page3image8815744page3image8816128  4,000 + 4000 BB Ante  page3image8816704page3image8817088 | page3image8817472  + 10min (3:40)A  page3image8818048 |
| 3,000 | | 6,000 + 6000 BB Ante | + 10min (3:50) |
| 5,000 | | page3image8819584page3image8819968  10,000 + 10,000 BB Ante | page3image8820736  + 10min (4:00)B |
| 8,000 | | page3image8822080page3image8822464  16,000 + 16,000 BB Ante  page3image8823040page3image8823424 | page3image8823808  + 5min (4:05)C  page3image8824384 |
| 12,000 | | 25,000 + 25,000 BB Ante | + 5min (4:10)D |
| 20,000 | | 40,000 + 40,000 BB Ante  page3image8827456page3image8827840 | + 5min (4:15)  page3image23457600 |

Projected final blind level for:

(A) 10 buy-in tournament.

(B) 20 buy-in tournament  
(C) 30 buy-in tournament

(D) 60 buy-in tournament

SECTION 5 - HOLD’EM

In hold’em, players receive two downcards as their personal hand (holecards), after which there is a round of betting. Three boardcards are turned simultaneously (called the “flop”) and another round of betting occurs. The next two boardcards are turned one at a time, with a round of betting after each card. The boardcards are community cards, and a player may use any five-card combination from among the board and personal cards. A player may even use all of the boardcards and no personal cards to form a hand (play the board). A dealer button is used. The usual structure is to use two blinds, but it is possible to play the game with one blind, multiple blinds, an ante, or combination of blinds plus an ante.

RULES

* If the first holecard dealt is exposed, a misdeal results. The dealer will retrieve the card, reshuffle, and recut the cards. If any other holecard is exposed due to a dealer error, the deal continues. The exposed card may not be kept. After completing the hand, the dealer replaces the card with the top card on the deck, and the exposed card is then used for the burncard. If more than one holecard is exposed, this is a misdeal and there must be a redeal.
* If the flop contains too many cards, it must be redealt. (This applies even if it were possible to know which card was the extra one.)
* If the flop needs to be redealt because the cards were prematurely flopped before the betting was complete, or the flop contained too many cards, the boardcards are mixed with the remainder of the deck. The burncard remains on the table. After shuffling, the dealer cuts the deck and deals a new flop without burning a card. [See “Section 16 – Explanations,” discussion #2, for more information on this rule.]
* If the dealer turns the fourth card on the board before the betting round is complete, the card is taken out of play for that round, even if subsequent players elect to fold. The betting is then completed. The dealer burns and turns what would have been the fifth card in the fourth card’s place. After this round of betting, the dealer reshuffles the deck, including the card that was taken out of play, but not including the burncards or discards. The dealer then cuts the deck and turns the final card without burning a card. If the fifth card is turned up prematurely, the deck is reshuffled and dealt in the same manner. [See “Section 16 – Explanations,” discussion #2, for more information on this rule.]
* If the dealer mistakenly deals the first player an extra card (after all players have received their starting hands), the card will be returned to the deck and used for the burncard. If the dealer mistakenly deals more than one extra card, it is a misdeal.

*Article IX - Method of Amending By-Laws*

1) By-laws may be amended by proposing in writing and reading the change at a public meeting of the membership and then bring the proposed change up for a vote at the next public meeting with a 2/3 majority vote of the membership present, a quorum of 6 members being present.

2) By-laws may be amended without a vote of the membership present when the Executive Committee wishes to add a Provisional Standing Committee to the by-laws. The membership will have oversite over these Provisional Committees in the event they are added to the constitution through an amendment, and the chairperson is granted Executive Committee voting privilege.

Constitution Rev.

3/26/21