

Constitution of the *Waffle House Club at The Ohio State University*

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

§ 1: The name of this organization is *Waffle House Club at The Ohio State University* (WHCOSU) and uses the trademark Waffle House® under the sublicense agreement between the president of WHCOSU and Waffle House Incorporated.

§ 2: The purpose of WHCOSU is to create an inclusive environment for Ohio State University students that can last throughout their college career. Additionally, the club aims to support the Waffle House located on North High Street. Typical meetings are held at the Waffle House located on North High Street (1712 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43210). Members are expected to pay for their own meals and act respectfully towards staff, patrons, other students and Waffle House property as to foster a positive relationship between the club, University and Waffle House staff.

§ 3: This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) 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, and admission.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, WHCOSU 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

§ 1: Any student currently enrolled at The Ohio State University is eligible for club membership. Officer positions are decided through appointment from leaving officers with recommendations from non-officers. Officers can hold their position for as long as they wish while attending the University. Students are considered a member of WHCOSU after attending at least one meeting and being added to the WHCOSU group-chat (managed by the president of WHCOSU). Students can leave the club by leaving this group-chat.

§ 2: Non-students can join this club the same way that students do; however, they cannot hold an officer position. As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. Community or other non-student members may be suspended at the discretion of the WHCOSU officers.

§ 3: Members are expected to pay for their own meals and treat Waffle House property, staff and patrons with respect. Members are encouraged to tip the staff members that serve them

but are not required to do so. Additionally, members are expected to not tarnish the Waffle House® trademark. If a member feels as though they are unable to pay for their own meals regularly but would still like to be part of most or all club meetings, the WHCOSU officers may be able to help.

ARTICLE III – Methods for Removing Members and Officers

§ 1: Any member violating the Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct can be removed at the discretion of the officers of WHCOSU. Any member whose actions have been deemed disrespectful to other members, patrons, Waffle House staff or Waffle House property will either be reprimanded for their behavior or removed from the club.

§ 2: Any officer violating the Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct or this constitution may be removed through a majority vote of the uninvolved club officers. This includes disrespecting other club members, customers, staff or property of the Waffle House on High Street. Additionally, failure to complete assigned duties, tarnishing the Waffle House brand, or other reasonable cause is considered grounds for a vote to remove the officer. 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 WHCOSU officers, in consultation with the organization’s advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or officer.

ARTICLE IV – Organization Leadership: Titles, Terms of Office, Selection, and Duties of Leaders

§ 1: WHCOSU will be led by five offices: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Social Media Coordinator, and Graphic Designer. Adding new officer positions can be done under a unanimous agreement by all officers. Additionally, WHCOSU officers can appoint a member of WHCOSU (with members’ permission) for the new position without a vote. The Social Media Coordinator office may have multiple officers.

§ 2: Actions of officers do not require approval from other officers. However, officers are expected to submit logos, signs, t-shirt designs and other brand related information to "Greg Rollings" (gregrollings@wafflehouse.com) and Cc "Niki Patel" (nikipatel@wafflehouse.com) for Waffle House Inc.’s approval of the graphics according to the sublicense between Waffle House Inc. and the president of WHCOSU. It is the president’s responsibility to ensure all logos are approved before their use with the club.

§ 3: Tasks will be distributed and discussed during club meetings. If an officer is not present and was assigned tasks, they will be notified through the WHCOSU officer group-chat by the other officers. If any officer feels they cannot complete the tasks assigned to them in time, they should reach out to other officers to find a solution well before their task’s deadline.

§ 4: The Role of the President is to schedule meetings, keep the club active, ensure sublicense compliance, manage the WHCOSU group chat, and assist other officers. If the President is not an incumbent, the President should contact the previous President for information on renewing

the Waffle House branding sublicense agreement. The Vice President assists and shares in the President's duties. The Treasurer manages money and proposes new ways in which the club could use, save, or raise money. The Social Media Coordinator will manage WHCOSU's social media platform(s) and aid in recruitment efforts. Managing the social media platform includes tweeting or posting news related to WHCOSU as well as informing members and others of non-standard or last-minute club activities. The Graphic Designer's role is to create at least 1 t-shirt design for the club to sell in accordance with the aforementioned sublicense the following year. Note that T-shirts are not sold for profit. Officer roles are not intended to be isolated, and all officers are expected to work as a team to get all tasks completed.

§ 5: Voting for all officer positions will occur near the end of the spring semester, determined by the WHCOSU officers. In order to be put on the ballot, a member of WHCOSU must declare intent to run for 1 or more offices by contacting the president of WHCOSU directly. The president is also obligated to notify all members of WHCOSU of this system well before voting. Non-Ohio State University members are ineligible to be put on the ballot. Voting is open to all members and will last for 2 weeks. Voting will be conducted through the WHCOSU group chat polls. Voting for all positions should begin within 2 weeks of each other. Incumbents are automatically placed on the ballot unless the incumbent expressly declares otherwise or is leaving OSU during the next academic school year. Incumbents shall be marked as such when placed on a ballot. Any ties will be determined exclusively by the current WHCOSU officers. New elects will not take office until the following academic year. The advisor is encouraged, but not required to vote for some or all elections.

§ 6: An officer is expected to serve as officer throughout the whole academic year.

§ 7: In accordance with the rules of the Office of Student Affairs, all officers must be enrolled for at least three quarters or semester equivalent within the current academic year, meet minimum GPA requirements as determined by the Office of Student Affairs, and not be on academic or disciplinary probation or suspension.

§ 8: If an officer is unable to serve for a whole year for any reason, a new officer can be appointed without vote by the WHCOSU officers to fill the empty position.

ARTICLE V – Standing Committees: Names, Purposes, and Composition

§ 1: A standing committee can be requested by any WHCOSU member and can be approved by the WHCOSU officers given a distinct and viable purpose for the committee. Each standing committee must have at least 2 other WHCOSU members to be approved.

§ 2: A standing committee can host their own activities as long as they remain consistent to the original purpose of the standing committee, do not interfere with WHCOSU activities, and are approved by the President of WHCOSU.

§ 3: A standing committee must have 3 leaders. Deciding which members of the committee fill these positions is at the discretion of the founding members of the committee.

§ 4: Part or all of a standing committee may be required to attend a WHCOSU meeting where officers intend to delegate tasks involving the committee. If absent, information will be sent to the leaders of the standing committee through the WHCOSU officer group chat. Repeated absences may merit the dissolution of the committee.

§ 5: A standing committee may be dissolved at any time by a unanimous decision of the WHCOSU officers not involved with the committee. The standing committee may be present during this decision.

ARTICLE VI – Advisor(s)

§ 1: There shall be at least one faculty or staff advisor for the organization. An advisor must be a full-time member of the Ohio State University faculty or Administrative and Professional staff. A Co-Advisor may be appointed if deemed appropriate by the WHCOSU officers.

§ 2: Advisor selection will take place every Spring (excluding the first advisor selection). Any WHCOSU member can nominate an advisor or co-advisor as long as the advisor meets the requirements set forth by The Ohio State University and that advisor is aware of their nomination. An advisor will be selected through a majority vote of WHCOSU officers.

§ 3: The advisor of the organization is required to meet with the WHCOSU officers annually.

§ 4: The advisor may come to as many or as few WHCOSU meetings as is desired. Advisors and/or co-advisors may be asked to aid in various WHCOSU tasks but are under no obligation to do so.

§ 5: An advisor can step down at any time. An advisor can be replaced if deemed appropriate and necessary by a unanimous decision of all WHCOSU officers.

ARTICLE VII – Meetings

§ 1: At least one WHCOSU officer is required to attend each WHCOSU meeting. Meetings will be organized primarily by the president through any kind of forms system. Standard meetings are planned to be held every other week, with additional or modified meetings held at the discretion of the officers of WHCOSU. In order to accommodate the maximum amount of WHCOSU members, meeting times and days may vary week to week and across semesters.

§ 2: The President must make the scheduling form system available to all WHCOSU members through the WHCOSU group-chat. New members should also be encouraged to use the forms system soon after they join.

§ 3: Standing committees are responsible for planning their own meetings but may ask WHCOSU officers for assistance or methodology.

§ 4: Due to developments with COVID-19, Waffle House Club at The Ohio State University in-person meetings will adhere to all guidelines issued by the CDC, the State of Ohio and The Ohio

State University. Members who do not follow these guidelines will be excluded from in-person meetings. Any clauses in this section that conflict with the clauses of any other section within this article (Article VII) shall be deemed to overrule those clauses.

ARTICLE VIII – Method of Amending Constitution

§ 1: This constitution may be amended by a unanimous vote of all WHCOSU officers and advisor(s).

§ 2: Any WHCOSU officer or advisor may propose an amendment to the constitution. This proposition must first be announced and explained to all WHCOSU officers and advisor(s) through the WHCOSU officer group-chat. The officer or advisor that proposed the amendment is required to create a poll immediately after presenting their amendment in the WHCOSU officer group-chat with 2 options to approve or deny their proposed amendment and a duration of 2 weeks. Each amendment bill should only involve one article and require a separate vote. Each bill should have 2 clearly labeled text versions of the article to amend: one unamended, and one amended version. Sections that are added are highlighted in green and sections that are replaced or deleted are highlighted in yellow. Voting will take place within 2 weeks of the amendment's proposal. The officer or advisor that proposed the amendment will be informed of the decision the officers came to at the end of the 2 weeks after the proposal via the WHCOSU officer group-chat. Officers and advisors are required to vote for all proposed amendments within 2 weeks. The president is required to update the constitution and upload it to the OSU club registration website with a week of the results of the amendment. The same amendment cannot be proposed twice during 1 semester.

ARTICLE IX – Method of Dissolution of Organization

§ 1: In the event that *Waffle House Club at The Ohio State University* fails to remain an active club in the eyes of The Ohio State University, all remaining operation and programming funds from The Ohio State University shall be returned to the university. All money raised by the student organization shall be used to support The Ohio State University or Waffle House Inc. as decided by the WHCOSU officers and primary advisor.