THE SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT LAW ASSOCIATION (SELA)

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

1. NAME, PURPOSE, and NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICY

a. NAME: This organization shall be called the Sports and Entertainment Law Association of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

b. PURPOSE: The purpose and objective of this association is to foster an atmosphere of networking and education in the areas of Sports and Entertainment among law school students who wish to pursue careers and/or practice law in the areas of Sports and/or Entertainment.

c. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY: 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, admission, and employment.

1. MEMBERSHIP

a. Only students at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law who pay dues to the SELA organization are allowed membership.

b. Only members shall have the right to vote and to hold office, but non-members may participate in the activities that the organization undertakes.

c. Dues shall be defined and outlined in the By-laws.

d. If a member conducts themselves in such a manner deemed detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization or is in violation of the OSU Student Code of Conduct, they can be removed through a majority vote of the other voting membership or unanimous vote of the officers, with the consultation of the advisor.

1. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

a. OFFICERS: The power to govern shall be vested in five officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Parliamentarian, who shall hold office and discharge their duties as prescribed herein.

i. President—Shall hold office as the director of “Speaker Series” committee and shall be elected by a majority vote of SELA members, holding office for the term of one (1) year. GENERAL DUTIES: The President shall preside at meetings; shall call special meetings; shall release all SELA statements; shall appoint a Parliamentarian; and execute all other duties necessary to carry out the office of the presidency.

ii. Vice President—Shall hold office as the director of the “Social Activities” committee and shall be elected by a majority vote of SELA members, holding office for the term of one (1) year. GENERAL DUTIES: The Vice-President shall preside at meetings in the absence of the President; in the event of vacancy of the presidency, the Vice-President shall preside over a special election as prescribed in the by-laws; shall also serve as acting president until such election is conducted; and execute all other duties necessary to carry out the office of the Vice-President.

iii. Treasurer—Shall hold office as the director of the “Fund Raising” committee and shall be elected by a majority vote of SELA members, holding office for the term of one (1) year. GENERAL DUTIES: The Treasurer shall collect and disburse organizational funds; shall collect membership dues; shall keep records of expenditures and revenues; shall set a yearly budget; and execute all other duties necessary to carry out the office of the Treasurer.

iv. Secretary—Shall hold office as the director of the “Publicity” committee and shall be elected by a majority vote of SELA members, holding office for the term of one (1) year. GENERAL DUTIES: The Secretary shall record minutes at regular and special meetings, as well as, executive board meetings; shall put together an agenda for regular SELA meetings; shall provide a copy of the minutes of the prior regular meeting to any person(s) that shall request a copy; and execute all other duties necessary to carry out the office of the Secretary.

v. Parliamentarian—Shall hold office as the director of the “Constitution” committee (when one is needed) and shall be appointed by the incoming SELA President, holding office for the term of one (1) year. GENERAL DUTIES: The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for implementing “Roberts Rules of Order” unless they are 1) inconsistent with the SELA constitution or by-laws or 2) the organization as a whole chooses not to do so; shall be responsible for overseeing elections; shall oversee any amendments or changes to SELA’s constitution; and execute all other duties necessary to carry out the office of the Parliamentarian.

1. EXECUTIVE BOARD: The Executive Board (herein “E-Board”) shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Parliamentarian. The e-board shall conduct the business of the organization between general meetings of the membership and report its actions at the general meetings of the membership.
2. STANDING COMMITTEES: There shall exist the following standing committees: The Speaker Series Committee; Social/Activities Committee; Fundraising Committee; and Publicity Committee. The chairperson of each committee shall be responsible for scheduling times, dates and locations of individual committee meetings. Each chairperson shall be required to appoint a co-chair from within the committee with preference given to first-year law students.

a. Speaker Series Committee—

i. Responsible for organizing and contacting potential speakers about dates and times that the person(s) will speak.

ii. Responsible for introducing the speaker to the group by giving a brief history of the speaker’s background and subject he/she will be speaking on.

iii. Responsible for reporting to the publicity committee, once a speaker is confirmed, so that there is adequate time to advertise the dates, times, and locations.

iv. Shall decide on what type of honorarium (gift) to give each speaker.

b. Social Activities Committee—

i. Responsible for organizing and coordinating times, dates, and locations for group outings and events that are of a social nature. (e.g., Picnics, movie outings, tailgating, etc.). This also includes any tournaments sponsored or co-sponsored by SELA.

ii. Responsible for organizing and coordinating the times, dates, and location for the “End-of-the-year” SELA group outing.

iii. Responsible for reporting to the publicity committee, once an event is confirmed, so that there is adequate time to advertise the dates, times, and locations.

c. Fundraising Committee—

i. Responsible for the organizing of fundraising activities. This includes any year-long fundraising events, as well as, any one-time fundraising activities.

ii. Responsible for soliciting funds from outside resources (e.g., Student Bar Association, Coca-Cola, Student Organization Services, etc.).

iii. Responsible for reporting to the publicity committee dates, times, and locations of upcoming fundraising events.

d. Publicity Committee—

i. Responsible for the GENERAL publicity for different events and programs that may be hosted by SELA.

ii. Responsible for publicizing times, dates, and locations of ALL SELA general body meetings.

iii. Responsible for keeping SELA members informed of events and programs using different mediums (e.g., email servers, newsletters, flyers, etc.).

iv. Responsible for maintaining the professional appearance of the SELA Board required by the rules of the College of Law; and making sure that there are no unauthorized solicitations by non-SELA members. This shall also include making sure the information on the board is kept up-to-date.

1. MEETINGS: SELA shall meet once a month while school is in session. Meetings shall be set and/or cancelled at the discretion of the Executive Board. Meetings are to be announced by the Executive Board at least one week before the scheduled meeting. The Executive Board may also call special meetings that must be announced at least 48 hours before the called meeting. The Executive Board may also call meetings for E-Board members only.
2. AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION: Proposed amendments should be in writing; should not be acted upon, but read in the general meeting in which they are proposed; should be read again at the following general body meeting and voted on by a 2/3 majority of voting members present.

1. IMPEACHMENT: Any officer may be impeached by the organization for failure to execute his duties as enumerated in the Constitution and/or By-laws of the organization.

In order to impeach an officer, charges against the officer must be filed in writing with the president, or if such impeachment is against the president, with the vice president. Such charges must be listed and must be signed by at least 25% of the voting members of the organization.

Once Charges have been brought against an officer, the officer against whom the charges were filed, and this same officer shall establish a date at which a hearing before the full body shall be convened. At such hearing, the accused party shall have an opportunity to defend himself. Such hearing shall not be called less than seven (7) days after notification to the accused officer, and not more than twenty-one (21) days after said notification.

At the conclusion of such hearing, to be presided over by the president or vice president, the membership of the organization shall vote whether to impeach or dismiss charges against the accused officer.

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the organization membership shall be required in order to impeach an officer.

1. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Constitution and its accompanying By-laws shall take effect twenty-four (24) hours after ratification by a majority of the voting members.

BY-LAWS

1. Financial Restrictions: There will be a $100 reimbursement/spending limit by any SELA member or committee allowed w/o having to get approval from both the President and Treasurer. All receipts for reimbursement must be given to the Treasurer before SELA will reimburse such committee or individual. Any purchase in excess of $100 must be approved by a 2/3-majority vote of the membership. If need be, a special meeting may be called by the President.
2. Membership: Members are required to be full-time law students at The Ohio State Moritz College of Law. Members are entitled to vote on SELA issues and have access to SELA resources and benefits. Non-members may attend meetings and events, but are prohibited from voting and shall not be allowed to take advantage of SELA resources and the benefits given to dues paid members.
3. Membership Dues: Shall be paid each academic year and shall be a minimum of $10 per person.
4. Elections/Appointments of Officers: Elections shall take place in the month of April for the upcoming school year (i.e., Fall Semester). Only dues paid members are permitted to run for office. Candidates can nominate themselves, but must be supported by the “seconding” of another SELA member. Each candidate will be required to submit a written statement as to his/her qualifications and goals for the organization. After all candidates submit these statements, they will be displayed for all general members and these members will vote, in secret ballot, for a candidate for each office (i.e., President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary).
5. Committee Chairperson and Co-Chairs: Co-chairs shall be responsible for the same duties of the committee chairperson in their absence. If for some reason the committee chairperson unable or unwilling to fulfill his/her obligations or is removed or resigns the position, then the co-chair shall assume the role temporarily.
6. Committee Meetings: Each committee will be required to meet a week prior to a scheduled general body meeting and a week after the general body meeting. The Committee chairperson shall set the times, dates and locations.
7. Honorariums (gifts) to Speakers: The cost of a honorarium (gift) to a speaker shall not exceed $50, unless, pre-approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the membership.
8. Amending the By-Laws: Any member of the organization shall, if he/she desires, propose amendments to the by-laws. However, another member must “second” the proposal and a 2/3-majority vote must be obtained to amend.
9. Agendas: Shall be set by the Executive Board. Any member wishing to add an item to the agenda must give it to any member of the Executive Board at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting.
10. Vacancies: A special election will be held in the event of a vacancy in the Executive Board. This election shall be held within two (2) weeks of the vacancy. The President shall temporarily appoint a person to fill the position if needed. In the event of a vacancy of the Presidency, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of such office until the special election is held and new candidate selected.
11. Special Meetings: Special meetings shall be called in the event of a vacancy in the Executive Board; to request funds in excess of $100; and for any other reasons deemed necessary by the Executive Board.
12. Business Judgment Rule: Any discretionary decision made by the President for the purpose of administering and managing the Association’s affairs that is reasonable and made in good faith shall be binding upon the organization.