

Underwater Robotics Team at The Ohio State University

ARTICLE I: NAME, PURPOSE, AND NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY OF THE ORGANIZATION.

SECTION I: NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization shall be “Underwater Robotics Team”, also referred to as UWRT or OSU UWRT.

SECTION II: PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION

The Underwater Robotics Team is a student project team at The Ohio State University which designs and builds underwater vehicles for the purpose of competition, community outreach and research.

SECTION III: 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.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I: MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Membership is open to all current students and alumni of The Ohio State University, members of the community, and OSU staff and faculty. Voting members shall be limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students who have attended at least three meetings.

SECTION II: MEMBERSHIP DUES

There are no membership dues; however, members may need to pay for social events and travel opportunities including conferences and competition. This could be suspended for one year by a unanimous vote by the Executive Committee or by a supermajority (2/3) vote of the general body.

ARTICLE III: ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

SECTION I: LEADERSHIP ROLES

President: Basic duties include: presiding over general and sub-team lead meetings, overseeing project management, being the figurehead of the team, and resolving internal team conflict. Additional duties will be assigned as needed.

Vice President: Basics duties include: assuming responsibilities of the President if they are not at meetings and assisting the President in tasks. Additional duties will be assigned as needed.

Treasurer: Basic duties include: keeping a detailed record of all finances, planning of budgets, and monitoring all expenditures. Further duties include: acting as lead of the business sub-team and as the point of contact for all financial and sponsorship contacts.

Sub-Team Leads: Basic duties include: managing projects for sub-teams, keeping sub-teams up to date on the progress of other sub-teams, providing updates to the President and Vice President.

Safety Officer: Basic duties include: monitoring online EHS safety group (and the entire team's compliance), monitoring in person training and competence of members using power tools, maintaining reasonable levels of safety within workspaces and reporting concerns to executive committee. Nominated by incoming President with guidance from outgoing Safety Officer.

Additional roles can be defined and assigned as needed.

SECTION II: ELECTION PROCESS

The President and Vice President role will be voted upon by all members of the team. A meeting will be declared as an election meeting in the first or second week of March. Prior to the election, any team member can nominate another member for the roles. A nominee is elected into their position by a ranked choice vote from present and voting members. The vote for President will be first, and all nominees not elected for that position can choose to run for Vice President.

The team leader positions will be decided by the current leadership team in conjunction with the incoming President and Vice President. In the case that the decision for a sub-team's leader is contested by any member, the decision will be put up to a vote by the members of the sub-team. The incoming President and Vice President will also be able to cast a ballot in the vote, even if they are not members of the sub-team. The nominee will be elected into their position by a majority vote from present and voting members.

Leadership turnover will be on the date of spring commencement following the election. The period between election and spring commencement will be a training period for the new officers.

ARTICLE IV: COMMITTEES

SECTION I: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee conducts business of the organization between general body meetings, and reports its actions at the general body meetings. In the Underwater Robotics Team, this committee is comprised of the President, Vice President, and Sub-Team Leads of each sub-team. The Executive Committee should meet no less than twice a month. The Executive Committee is responsible for upholding reasonable levels of safety within workspaces and in member behavior.

SECTION II: AUXILIARY COMMITTEES

Additional committees can be created on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE V: METHOD OF REMOVING OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Reasons for Officer Impeachment: Breaking school rules; federal, state or local laws; conducting themselves in a manner that is detrimental to the image of The Ohio State University; or failing to perform the duties of his or her office.

Impeachment Proceedings: To initiate impeachment proceedings, two or more members must report an issue to the highest unaffected official. The same official will call an impeachment meeting within two weeks and notify all members. Of present and voting members, a two-thirds majority must agree to impeach. If the official is impeached, a re-election shall occur at the impeachment meeting or the next general body meeting. Remaining officers and members may be nominated for the open position.

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.

ARTICLE VI: ADVISOR REQUIREMENTS

The faculty or staff advisor must:

- Provide advice, assistance, and expertise when applicable
- Remain in communication with the Executive Committee
- Attend at least two general team meetings a semester

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

There shall be no less than one general meeting with the whole team a month. Members must attend at least two general meetings a semester. Sub-teams will have separate meetings each week headed by the Sub-Team Leads.

ARTICLE VIII: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

Proposed amendments should be submitted in writing, addressed at a general meeting, emailed to the membership, and then read and voted upon at a second meeting (the voting meeting) at which a simple majority of the team must be present. Approval requires two-thirds majority of the voting members present.

ARTICLE IX: METHOD OF DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

Reasons for Dissolution shall include:

- Lack of membership (less than 5)
- Loss of faculty advisor for more than one semester
- Unanimous vote for dissolution

Any surpluses shall first pay off loans or debts, secondly returned to OSU if needed, and finally donated to an organization the team deems fit.

ARTICLE X: ADOPTION

This Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of present and voting members at a meeting of the Underwater Robotics Team.

Adopted: October 12, 2011

Amended: April 28, 2016

Modified: January 31, 2020

Revised: April 19, 2022

Proposed On: March 1, 2023

Amended On: March 26, 2023