# The Constitution

# of the Order of the Cardinal

**Article 1 - Name, purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization**

**Section 1 - Name:** This organization is to be called “The Order of the Cardinal”. This organization works within the ruleset provided by Belegarth Medieval Combat Society.

**Section 2 - Purpose:** The purpose of this organization is to introduce and train students in the athletic role-playing hobby of Belegarth, a nationalized rule set of foam fighting and light role playing. It provides an opportunity to safely practice martial arts style sword fighting and medieval reenactment with foam weaponry.

The Order of the Cardinal aims to retain a consistent team of trained and in training players who will participate in practices, games, battles, and attend other Belegarth events.

**Section 3 - Non-Discrimination 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.

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, The Order of the Cardinal 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](http://titleIX.osu.edu/) or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleIX@osu.edu.](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu)

# Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership

II.a. As required by the Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the membership of a student organization must include current Ohio State University students. The Executive Board can make decisions regarding the membership of non-student persons in The Order of the Cardinal. Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended or permanently removed with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

* 1. Students may join as members at any time, although are not considered members until the following requirements are met:
     1. A current waiver is in the possession of a member of The Order of the Cardinal executive board.
     2. Students have displayed a clear understanding of the Belegarth rule set, and a willingness to abide by the safety, rules, and honor standards of The Order of the Cardinal.
     3. Students have paid all dues, if eligible.
     4. Students have attended at least three practices and continue to attend at least one practice per month.
  2. Student members are welcome to use the equipment and weapons brought by the executive board for the purpose of diversifying gear on the field and while training. Active members are also welcome to all “build day” events, and to contributing to the club fund in the form of non-compulsory fees in exchange for Belegarth gear or the material needed to build said gear. Non-student members, with the exception of the advisor, are not permitted to take these benefits.
  3. Non-student members may participate in the club but will not be included as a part of the official roster. Due to the community nature of Belegarth, non-student players may attend practices and events. Non-student players must have a waiver on file with the executive board to participate.

# Article III - Methods of Removing Members and Executive Officers

* 1. 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, Ohio State University policy, or federal, state or local law, the member may be removed through a majority vote of the Executive Board in consultation with the organization’s advisor.

III.a.2 Due to the full-contact nature of Belegarth, if any member or non-member participant knowingly breaks rules and endangers the well-being of any participating party of The Order of the Cardinal, that member is subject to immediate suspension until the completion of an investigation by the executive for the safety of Belegarth players.

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),

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# Article IV - Organization Leadership:

* 1. The Order of the Cardinal is to be led by the executive board which is in turn lead by the President member.
  2. The Executive Board will consist of the following officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Social Chair, and Secretary
  3. Terms of office will last from club renewal through the next club renewal date.
  4. Officer Responsibilities:
     1. The President is the primary leader for The Order of the Cardinal. The President is responsible for organizing and running practices, events, and Executive Board meetings. They serve as the primary point of contact for communication with the Advisor, The Ohio State University, and external organizations.
     2. The Vice President is responsible for overseeing all presidential duties in the event of the President’s absence. If the President is removed or resigns, the Vice President assumes the role. The Vice President is responsible for assisting the President in running practices and events. The Vice President acts as a secondary point of contact to The Ohio State University and external organizations.
     3. The Treasurer acts as the chief financial officer, and as such is responsible for The Order of the Cardinal’s bank account, Venmo, and all other financial accounts. The Treasurer oversees the use of all funding and fundraising. The Treasurer is responsible for tracking and inventorying all club equipment. In the event of the absence of both President and Vice President, the Treasurer leads the organization.
     4. The Social Chair is the chief messaging officer of the organization. The Social Chair will coordinate with the President and other Executive Board members on external communications, maintain the club’s social media presence, and draft organization communications.
     5. The Secretary is responsible for taking attendance of all members at practices, taking notes at meetings of the Executive Board, and administering and recording club elections.
     6. Councilmembers are appointed by a majority vote of the rest of the Executive Board. They will advise the Executive Board on the energy of the club and attend Executive Board meetings when asked. They have no other voting rights or responsibilities.
     7. All Executive Board members are responsible for maintaining the safe conduct of Order of the Cardinal events in accordance with The Order of the Cardinal rules, Ohio State University policies, and local, state, and federal law. Executive Board members may halt events at any time to ensure that these standards are met.
     8. All Executive board members are to attend at least 50% of club meetings, with exceptions to be granted by a majority vote of the executive board.

# Article V - Election / Selection of Organization Leadership

* 1. Elections are to be held during the club’s Spring registration window and the beginning of each Spring Semester. The elected officials will co-lead with the already existing leadership until the end of the Spring Semester in order to learn the best practices for leading the organization.
  2. Active members who attend at least 50% of practices, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00, and are not on disciplinary probation are eligible for nomination. Members are encouraged to nominate themselves.
  3. Elected positions are to be voted on by Active Members via an online poll that lasts a week.
  4. Elected officials will be chosen by a simple majority vote.

# Article VI - Advisor

* 1. Advisors of student organizations must be full-time members of The Ohio State University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff.
  2. It is the responsibility of the President to communicate with the advisor, and to find a new advisor of the current advisor resigns.
  3. Responsibilities of the Advisor include attendance of mandatory training, assisting in acquisition of funding, and guidance in matters of University Policy.

# Article VII - Meetings and events of the Organization: required meetings and their frequency.

* 1. Meetings for the organization will be held weekly, referred to as “practice” during Autumn and Spring Semesters. The exact time of these meetings will be determined in the bylaws, or by scheduling considerations.
  2. Executive Board meetings will be held twice per month during Autumn and Spring semesters. These meetings are open to all club members, but voting rights are restricted to the executive board.
  3. Special meetings such as events, build days, and emergency meetings will be held through the academic year at various times.

# Article VIII - Attendees of Events of the Organization

VII.a As stated in III.a.2 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 Order of the Cardinal’s constitution or Belegarth rules.

# Article IX - Method of Amending Constitution

IX.a Any proposed amendments should be presented to The Order of the Cardinal in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, then read again at two subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. Approving the amendment requires a two-third majority of voting members (a quorum being present).

IX.b A Quorum is at 51% active member attendance.

# Article X - Method of Dissolution of the Organization

* 1. A proposal for the dissolution of the organization must be presented at a general meeting by a member of the Executive Board. And voted upon in the same method as a constitutional amendment.

The organization may not be re-established until one year has passed following dissolution.