

The Scarlet Force Official Constitution

Mission Statement

The mission of The Scarlet Force is to provide student on The Ohio State's campus the opportunity to embrace and gain awareness about majorette and traditional HBCU cultural dance. Founded by JaVaughn King and Martese Roulette, it is centered on the development of a unique style of dance inspired by African American collegiate history. This is an important aspect of Black culture since this style of dance has used promote unity and pride. Through The Scarlet Force, we aspire to provide members with a space to embrace dance, leadership, and social change.

Constitution

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

Section 1: Name: The Scarlet Force (T.S.F)

Section 2 - Purpose: The Scarlet Force will educate The Ohio State community about majorette and traditional HBCU cultural dance. Ultimately, The Scarlet Force will cultivate leaders, social change activist, and mentors. The Scarlet Force is a dance team that will collaborate with other organization on campus to foster and uplift The Ohio State community through dance and educational programming. Our intended membership is Black Ohio State students, but we welcome anyone who wants to learn more and embrace this aspect of African American culture.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy: The Ohio State University is committed to building and maintaining a diverse community to reflect human diversity and to improve opportunities for all. The university is committed to equal opportunity, affirmative action, and eliminating discrimination. This commitment is both a moral imperative consistent with an intellectual community that celebrates individual differences and diversity, as well as a matter of law. Ohio State 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.

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 Scarlet Force 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.

The organization's voting membership should be limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Others nonstudent members, such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc., may become members, but only as non-voting associate or honorary members.

For educational and leadership development reasons, student organizations are to be student initiated, student lead, and student run.

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. Active members and 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 suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

III.a Removal Policy for General Body Members

Members of the organization will be subject to immediate removal from all virtual entities and ban from all events if exhibiting the following behaviors:

- Verbal, emotional, or physical abuse of fellow members
- Theft or abuse of property meant for collective use by the organization
- Outright slander of the organization's principles, including but not limited to;
 - Outburst during meetings
 - Physical flyers and propaganda
 - Posts on social media platforms

Any objections to membership removal will have to be appealed within five business days by reaching out to the organizations President or Vice President followed by a panel consisting of three members of the executive board and two members of the general body.

III.b Methods for Removing Executive Officers

Expectations for Executive Board:

- Attend ALL training sessions
- Attend AT LEAST 11 of the 13 Executive Board Meetings per semester
- Attend ALL practices unless there is an excused absence approved by the President
- If you are missing an E-Board or general meeting, you must let the President know!
- If you will be late to an E-Board or general meeting, you must let the President know!
- If you are more than 30 minutes late to the meeting, it will count as an unexcused absence.
- You are allowed 2 unexcused (with prior warning) absences per semester for both Executive board meetings and General Body meetings
- 2 unexcused absences: Conversation with the President and Vice President
- 3+ unexcused absences: Dismissal from E-Board

Excused Absence

- Illness
- Family Matters (Death, visit, etc.)
- Exam during meeting time
- Out of town
- Class
- Anything that is urgent and unpreventable

Unexcused Absence?

- Studying for an exam
- Forgot about the meeting
- Being more than 30 minutes late to a meeting
- Anything that is preventable and not urgent

The Scarlet Force Strike Policy

You are allowed 3 strikes per year

1 Strike: Written Warning

2 Strikes: Verbal Warning

3 Strikes: Dismissal from E-Board

III.c Removal Policy

If an elected officer 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 elected officer will automatically be removed if they attain three strikes unless they request to put it up to a majority vote of the Executive Board. If they decide the latter, the officer will be required to present methods on improvement and/or provide justifications for their behavior. From there, the Executive Board will decide whether the officer should remain in the position.

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 Board may act for removal based on the strike system set into place.

If 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)

A strike system will be placed into effect to monitor the behavior of Executive Board members. Each officer is allowed three strikes per year. More than three strikes will result in removal from the position.

Upon removal of the officer, the officer has five business days to return any property, physical or digital copies of records belonging to the organization to the current highest-ranking officer. It is the removed member's responsibility to set up a rendezvous to accomplish this. Outlined below are various behaviors and activities that will result in a strike:

- Failure to perform duties assigned more than three times warrants one strike.
- Two unexcused absences warrant two strikes.
- Three or more unexcused absences warrants three strikes.

Article IV - Organization Leadership:

General Requirements for all the Executive Board:

- Contribute and prepare for practices, performances, and collaborations
- Regular attendance ALL programming hosted by The Scarlet Force
- Regular attendance at weekly E-board meetings on Sundays
- Regularly report to the President
- Complete all required training

Captain (President/Primary Leader)-Full academic year:

- Contribute and present material at practices, performances, and collaborations
- Attend and facilitate weekly executive board meetings and ALL programming hosted by The Scarlet Force
- Complete all required trainings
- Follow up with fellow executive board members
- Promote The Scarlet Force programming on social media, GroupMe, etc.
- Implement Strike System

Co-Captain(s) (Vice President(s) or Secondary Leader(s))-Full academic year:

- Contribute and present material at practices, performances, and collaborations
- Attend weekly executive board meeting and ALL programming hosted by The Scarlet Force
- Regularly report to the President
- Complete all required training
- Assist President as needed
- Facilitate executive board meetings and ALL programming hosted by The Scarlet Force in absence of President
- Promote The Scarlet Force programming on social media, GroupMe, etc.

Treasurer-Full academic year:

- Maintain past and current financial records
- Lead fundraising activities
- Monitor The Scarlet Force's banking account
- Apply for funding for The Scarlet Force
- Promote The Scarlet Force programming on social media, GroupMe, etc.
- Any other responsibilities as assigned by the President

Secretary-Full academic year:

- Ensure that the executive board is meeting their duty requirements (Ex: training, attendance, etc.)
- Tracks The Scarlet Force attendance at practices, performances, and collaborations
- Create minutes during the executive board meetings
- Monitors The Scarlet Force email account
- Send out emails as needed for The Scarlet Force events, performances, and collaborations
- Promote The Scarlet Force meetings and events on social media, GroupMe, etc.
- Any other responsibilities as assigned by the President

Marketing Director-Full academic year:

- Promote The Scarlet Force Meetings and Events on social media, GroupMe, etc.
- Take pictures at The Scarlet Force events, performances, and collaborations and share them on social media
- Maintain all The Scarlet Force social media by posting regularly and consistently
- Collaborate with Graphic Designer
- Any other responsibilities as assigned by the President

Graphic Designer-Full academic year:

- Create visually appealing fliers for meeting and events
- 2. Design The Scarlet Force merchandise
- 3. Collaborate with Marketing Director
- 4. Promote The Scarlet Force events, programming, and collaborations on social media, GroupMe, etc.
- 5. Any other responsibilities as assigned by the President

Event Planner/ Event Planning Team-Full Academic Year

- Make room/venue reservations for The Scarlet Force executive board meetings, general body meetings, and events
- Oversee the logistics of all events (besides practices)
- Manages AV/Tech for The Scarlet Force
- Initiates and maintains collaborations with other organizations
- Creates agendas/schedules all events, programming, and collaborations
- Promote The Scarlet Force meetings and events on social media, GroupMe, etc.
- Any other responsibilities as assigned by the Presidents

Advisor

- Overseeing executive board
- Providing aide and guidance to The Scarlet Force leadership
- Preferably someone familiar with majorette and traditional HBCU cultural dance
- Experience working with student organizations
- Approves registration documents

All positions will be chosen by appointments.

Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership

Executive Board elections will be held annually during spring semester. In order to be eligible for office members must fulfill these requirements:

1. Be full-time Ohio State students
2. Be an Ohio State student for the entire academic year
3. Be able to attend weekly executive board meetings
4. Be able to attend The Scarlet Force practices, programming, and collaborations

In order to be considered for the Executive Board, members must complete and interview and demonstrate leadership experiences and potential. Interviews will be conducted to determine the skills and experience of the candidate. After interviews have commenced, the President and Vice President will decide the best candidates for

each position. If someone resigns or is impeached, a replacement will be found immediately either by appointment by the President or through an interview process (if necessary). The executive board will split the responsibilities of the lost position until a replacement is found.

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

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. Responsibilities and expectations of advisors should be clearly and adequately described. Expectations of advisor: See article **IV**.

Article IX – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency

Attendance at all practices and The Scarlet Force programming and collaborations is required for membership each academic term except for summer or in case of approved excused absence.

Article X – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency

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.

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

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization 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 a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization

Requirements and procedures for dissolution of the student organization should be stated. Should any organization assets and debts exist, appropriate means for disposing of these assets and debts should be specified clearly and unequivocally. Upon the official dissolution of the organization, Student Activities staff must be contacted to remove organization information from website.

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