**Mental Health Matters Constitution**

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

**Section 1: Name**: Mental Health Matters

**Section 2 - Purpose:**

Our main purpose is to end the stigma regarding mental health by spreading awareness. Our objective of what the target membership includes is a fully immersive experience into helping Ohio State students with mental health issues. Members will be in charge of activities helping to promote our mission through weekly “share your story” events on the oval, playful stress relieving activities (ex. yoga on the oval), guest speakers, group mental health chats, mental health matters, and more.

**Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:**

*Mental Health Matters 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, Mental Health Matters 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*](https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf)*.*

***Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.***

Mental Health Matters is a student run organization consisting of only Ohio State students. 90% or more of Mental Health Matters will consist of Ohio State students. Staff of The Ohio State University as well as alumni and others are encouraged to join but simply as titular members. Members will benefit from fulfilling experiences, enhancing their resumes, learning mental health information, networking with fellow students, and learning workforce applicable skills.

***Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers***

*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, 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.*

Officers: *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.*

***Article IV - Organization Leadership:***

Primary Leader (President): Katie Weaver(Term: until graduation)

Selection: Majority vote by members

* Oversees and represents MHM
* Reach out to other student organizations and outside organizations
* Provides leadership and direction to the club
* Heads coordination of events
* Approves all club communication
* Presides at meetings and oversees other elected officers

Secondary Leader (Vice President): Alex Hartsough (Term: 2023-24 year)

Selection: Majority vote by members

* Oversees chair positions
* Presides at meetings in the absence of president
* Coordinates events with president and committee
* Provides leadership and general direction to others

Treasurer: Lauren Hawkinson (Term: until graduation)

Selection: Majority vote by members

* Oversees club finances
* Searches for funding or grants
* Responsible for merchandising
* Assists president and vice president in preparing the club budget

Advisor: Patrick Kielty

Selection: Volunteer

* oversees club operations
* provides general leadership

***Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership***

Elections will occur in the fall of every school year. Positions will be filled due to resignation, removal, impeachment, or graduation. To be eligible to run for executive board one must be currently enrolled in The Ohio State University. To be nominated one can volunteer one's own name or be recommended by others. Classic voting techniques will be used in that each member will record their vote via an electronic platform to be recorded by the president. The winner will be revealed from majority vote. If voting results in a draw, the president chooses.

***Article VI - Executive Committee: Size and composition of the Committee.***

The Executive Committee represents the general membership, conducts the business of the organization between general meetings of the membership, and reports its actions at the general meetings of the membership. Mental Health Matters will consist of a president, vice president, treasurer, advisor, marketing coordinator, membership lead, communicator, senior ambassador, junior ambassador, sophomore ambassador, and freshman ambassador.

***Article VII - Standing Committees (if needed): Names, purposes, and composition.***

These committees serve the organization leadership, the Executive Committee, and general membership. At the beginning of the school year, a group of 4 new members showing true commitment to Mental Health Matters will be given a role as part of the standing committee. This committee isn’t given the same powers as the executive board, however the standing committee can still play minor leadership roles at events and can be in charge if the executive board isn’t available.

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

Advisor(s) of Mental Health Matters must be a full-time member of the University faculty. The faculty advisor should be at all meetings and should maintain the same level of standard as all other members. Must follow code of conduct, university policy, and all other club standards.

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

One weekly board meeting at 100% attendance and one full club event with all members each month.

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

During events, all members of Mental Health Matters are to be held at the same high standard by following all school policies and club standards. If not met, the member will be asked to leave and further consequences will be determined.

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

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the organization in writing. The proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting. A vote of ¾ is needed to amend the constitution. The constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

***Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization***

In the event of the dissolution of Mental Health Matters, the current executive board (with primary responsibility falling on the president) will be responsible for the proper disposal of the organization's assets and debts. The executive board will hold financial responsibility and will reallocate the organizations resources to another mental health related org of their choosing.

**By-Laws**

*Article 1 – Parliamentary Authority*

Mental Health Matters will use Robert’s Rule of Order to govern their organization’s decision making except when these rules are inconsistent with their constitution or by-laws of the organization. These rules are of Western cultural origin, and based on the premise that “though the minority shall be heard and absentees protected, the majority will decide.”

The rules contained in Mental Health Matters shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization.

*Article II- Membership*

During welcome week, a booth will be set up on the oval. At the event, freshman and other prospective members may sign up for the email list to be invited to upcoming events. Mental Health Matters will not have a membership fee; however, this can be amended by 2/3rd vote of the organization if deemed necessary by the treasurer at any time. Membership can be terminated at any time by majority vote of executive board for disruptive behavior and/or breaking the code of conduct/university policy.

*Article III- Election / Appointment of Government Leadership*

Elections will take place during a general MHM meeting. All members of MHM will be eligible to vote via an electronic platform. Members are allowed to nominate themselves or another member. A statement of intent written by each running member will be read to the group by the current President before voting begins. Voting will take place within the first few meetings of the new academic year. If a current member is impeached or resigns, voting will take place at the following meeting to replace that member. Impeachment must be unanimously voted on by MHM.

*Article IV- Executive Committee*

The committee is in charge of coordinating events, recruiting new members, voting for new board members, and leading the general members. Responsible for promoting a high standard for others to follow.

*Article V- Standing Committees*

* Advocation Committee:
* Education Committee:
* Celebration Committee:

*Article VI - Advisor/Advisory Board Responsibilities*

The advisor of Mental Health Matters is expected to show up to all events and all weekly meetings they can attend. The advisor is mainly in an advisory role with minor powers but can give the club general direction.

*Article VII - Meeting Requirements*

Meetings will be held weekly throughout the year. All members are expected to attend unless a proper excuse is brought forward (exam, sickness, etc.). Meetings will be held in an OSU classroom- currently our meetings take place in Denny Hall. Members are expected to listen and participate in meetings. Any voting to be done will be done by majority rule via an online voting platform.

*Article VIII - Method of Amending By-Laws*

By-laws may be amended by proposing in writing and reading the change at a general meeting of the membership and then bring the proposed change up for a vote at the next general meeting with a 2/3 majority vote of the membership present.