

The 2023-2024 Constitution of Buck That!

Preamble

We, the members of Buck That! do hereby create this constitution in order to establish the premier all-male identifying a cappella group at The Ohio State University.

Article I

Name

The name of the organization will be “Buck That!”

Article II

Purpose

Buck That! is established for the express purpose of developing, promoting, and teaching musicianship in the context of a cappella music, promote friendship, and garner mutual respect between Buck That! members and the Ohio State community. We recognize our role as a student-led group and are fully committed to those responsibilities and policies.

Article III

Membership

Buck That! will consist of 12 to 20 singers committed to a full year in the group. Members are required to sign a copy of the constitution each year to confirm their commitment to the group.

Active membership shall be limited to persons connected to The Ohio State University as faculty, staff, and/or registered students.

Buck That! 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 IV

Auditions

Buck That! will host open auditions at the beginning of every Autumn semester. The audition dates will be determined by the officers from the following year that return to the group.

Re-auditions are not required for members in the group from the previous year, however; if it has been over a year since being an active member, or the member was removed from the group through disciplinary action, then a re-audition will be required.

The returning members of the group from the previous year will judge potential members auditioning. Said members will determine audition standards.

In order to become a member of the group, a two-thirds majority vote of the present members is required.

Article V

Executive Board Officers

Buck That! will be governed by an elected executive board consisting of a president, a music director, a marketing director, an operations director, and a financial director. These five positions compose the executive board and in cases of contention the President and Music Director have final say. The executive board reserves the right to appoint additional positions and officer responsibilities as needed through the amendment process (see article VIII).

Music Director: The music director is responsible for conducting rehearsals, working with new arrangements, distributing music, leading music selections, and any other musical needs of the group. The music director will also be a part on the choreography team. Note: music directors are not permitted to miss any rehearsals unless an appropriate backup is in place, and/or conflict is absolutely unavoidable.

President: The president is responsible for leading executive board activities, managing the members of the group, acting as a liaison between Buck That! and The Ohio State University, and advising other executive board members. The president is responsible for developing leaders within the group and assisting all other members in fulfilling their responsibilities. The president is the principal communicator for obtaining external opportunities, performance and otherwise. They will also manage and organize executive board meetings. The president is also responsible for attending annual training through the Student Organization branch of the Ohio Union to maintain affiliation with The Ohio State University. The president is the only member, aside from the treasurer, to have access to the bank account. The president must delegate the position in the event of an absence.

Marketing Director: The marketing director is responsible for maintaining the integrity of group identity and presence to the public. This includes, but is not limited to branding and logo standards, social media presence, and other public relations. The marketing director works alongside the e-board to ensure consistency.

Logistics Director: The logistics director is responsible for taking attendance at every group rehearsal and at meetings, taking notes at each executive board meeting, safeguarding historical documents and records, and emailing updates and notes to the rest of the group. Logistics directors are responsible for all internal communications, including meeting agendas, minutes, and rehearsal notes, as well as managing gig sheets and the group calendar. The logistics director is also responsible for working alongside the president on internal events (e.g. leadership retreats, internal group bonding,).

Financial Director: The FD is responsible for maintaining the funds of the group in accordance to the wishes of the executive board, auditing university funds, and making said financial records accessible to the rest of the executive board. The treasurer should keep a detailed ledger, and create budget plans for the upcoming semester and approving expenditures. The FD is also

responsible for attending annual training through the Student Organization branch of the Ohio Union to maintain affiliation with The Ohio State University. Planning and applying for fundraisers is also the responsibility of the treasurer.

Article VI

Executive Board Meetings

The executive board will meet every week, and additional meetings can be scheduled at the discretion of any officer. Any decisions made for the group must pass with a majority vote. Any official messages, emails, or announcements made to members must be approved by at least one other member. If a member of the group wishes to discuss a matter with the executive board, they may attend any eboard meeting. Meetings will be open for any member of the group to attend if desired, although eboard members reserve the right to ask general members to leave if it is in order to protect the privacy of other members or other affiliated people.

Article VII

Operations

1.) Elections Process

- Elections will take place after competition, but before finals.
- An election date will be set at the discretion of the executive board to accommodate the participation of the majority of the group.
- Each candidate will have up to ten minutes for a speech if they so desire. During this time, all other candidates are asked to leave the room. For each position, a vote of “No Confidence” will be allowed. In the event that a vote of No Confidence is the majority, the newly elected executive board members will appoint the position.
- At the end of the speeches, a vote by hand will be conducted, with all members who are not running.
- The official transition from old to new executive board will occur on reading day of Spring Semester.
- A transition meeting will be mandatory for all old and new executive board members where all general info, transition documents, account log-in information, banking information, and other info will be shared.

2.) Meetings

- Buck That! will meet a minimum of twice per week in two-hour blocks. Dates and times are subject to change each semester to accommodate the schedules of the majority of the group. Unavoidable conflicts such as class, work schedules, etc. will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and will need a majority approval by the executive board.
- Meetings will begin with announcements from each executive board member, followed by warm-ups led by the music director and then rehearsal. After completion of rehearsal, the executive board should address the group with any important information or upcoming news.

- At the end of each meeting, the group will come together and sing Carmen Ohio before dismissal.

3.) Attendance

- Members are required to attend every rehearsal/concert/event, unless unavoidable conflicts prohibit attendance. Unavoidable conflicts such as school, work, sickness, etc. are considered excusable absences. Avoidable conflicts such as studying, sleeping, or transportation will be considered unexcused even if the 48 hour rules are followed. In the event of missing a gig, the member must notify the music director within 7 days of the initial posting of the gig, or it is assumed they will be in attendance. In the event of missing a rehearsal, the member must notify the logistics director at least 24 hours before the rehearsal. Extreme cases should be brought to the executive board on a personal basis.
- Members are expected to arrive at least five minutes before rehearsal starts. If a member is not present at the start of rehearsal but arrives later during the rehearsal, they will receive a tardy. If a member accumulates 3 tardies, it is considered an unexcused absence.
- Executive board members also reserve the right to assign tardies based on other irresponsible behaviors, such as forgetting music, excessive use of phone during rehearsal time, inadequate attire, lack of effort etc.
- Members are also expected to attend performances for which they have already confirmed availability. Should a member confirm their availability for a performance and later cancel without an approved excuse, the member must meet with the executive board to discuss potential consequences as well as receive an unexcused absence.
- In the event of 1 unexcused absence, the logistics director will give a warning during attendance at the next rehearsal. In the event of 2 unexcused absences, a member of the eboard will reach out and see what support the member may need and inform them of the future consequences. In the event of 3 unexcused absences, the member must meet with the full eboard, at which point the e board may decide that the group will not cover the individual expense of that member at a group event where Buck That! agrees to cover individual expenses. In the event of 4 unexcused absences, the member is no longer eligible for ICCA competitions, at the discretion of the eboard.
- In the event 5 or more unexcused absences are acquired, removal from the group can occur.

4.) Attire

- Buck That!'s standard uniform is subject to change yearly. The wardrobe manager is appointed by the executive board, but can be any general or executive member. The appointed wardrobe manager will be responsible for deciding ICCA and formal wear attire. The current attire for casual performances is our official Buck That! T-shirts, with dark jeans, and our standard Red Converse shoes. For all settings, attire is to be in presentable condition.

- All attire will be announced at least one week prior to any event.
- The shoes are a signature item of the group. All members are required to purchase matching red Converse Chuck Taylors. Standard red Converse shoes are required (no colored stitching, etc.) and there is to be no variation of the shoe.
- Chucks can be worn outside of performances. Their maintenance, care, and overall visual fidelity, however, is an individual member's responsibility. The executive board reserves the right to request a member buy new shoes.

5.) Song Selections

- Song selection is limited to arrangements produced for the group or by the group.
- During the yearly music selection process, the group will select new songs for the year based on the direction of the group. When voting, an individual member will have half as many votes as the number of songs suggested. ICCA music selection must be finalized by a majority vote before the university-designated end of spring semester.
- Outside of yearly song selection, a member must present a song and potential arranger/arrangement to the group for consideration should they wish to sing it. This should be done by posting said song(s) in the specified group chat or by sending them directly to the music directors.

6.) Solo Audition Process

- Any music with a solo will have an audition. The need for multiple solos or combined solos will be at the discretion of the music director and group. Solo openings are presented by the music director and should only be presented as open after the music is in recognizable form.
- Solos are open for any member to audition for, and each interested member will be given one chance to sing through the solo accompanied by the group. Upon completion of all auditions, members who auditioned for the solo are to leave the room so that the remaining members may have an unbiased discussion and then vote. Plurality vote is given the solo. Every solo will also have at least two backups.
- In the event of a tie, the soloists who tied will re-audition then leave. Another discussion and vote will take place.
- All solos will be re-auditioned every year at the discretion of the group; that is, should a member wish to audition for a song prior to it being assigned for the year, the song must be re-auditioned.
- An individual member is limited to 3 solos at a time. Should one be granted another solo while at their maximum number of solos, they must choose a song to give up to the designated backup. Competition and holiday pieces are exempt from this stipulation.

7.) Removal of Solo

- In the event that a soloist is not performing up to par or absences become a problem, any member of the group may make a motion to the music director or a member of the eboard (if music director is soloist) and present a reason why they

believe that a re-audition should occur. Only after a majority vote of the group passes will a re-audition occur.

- The music director has veto power on the decision to re-audition a solo. The group must vote a 2/3 majority to override the veto.

8.) Removal from Elected Position

- In the event that an officer is not performing their described responsibilities at a satisfactory level, or if absences become a problem, any member of the group may make a motion and present the reasons why they believe the person should be removed from office. After this motion is passed with a unanimous decision from the eboard, a removal from office and a reelection occur.

9.) Policies and Direction of Group

- The direction and goals of the group will be dictated by a vote of the current members of Buck That! at the end of the school year and whenever a shift in policy is proposed. A 2/3 majority is required to determine a policy.
- Adherence to the policy and engaging in its best interest are required for members of Buck That!

10.) Event Acceptance Protocol

- Upon receipt of an incoming email from a potential client, the president is responsible for establishing initial contact through the Buck That! email account. This is to communicate to the client that we have received their email, and will further discuss things with the group. A copy of this confirmation email should be forwarded to the executive board.
- If the email has remained unanswered for 1 week, any executive board member may respond to the potential client with a pre-determined, standard response.
- At the next group meeting, the event will be discussed amongst members to determine if that event request will be fulfilled. The group should discuss:
 - Availability of individual members, at the music director's discretion
 - Desire to sing at the event
 - Dress Code
 - Impact of the event on the group and the community
 - Means of transportation
 - Set List
- After the event terms have been agreed upon, the president will send an email to the client with our terms, and may take this time to, with the help of the treasurer, discuss any terms that need further negotiating, as well as any monetary transactions that may take place.
- Once an agreement has been made with the client, the president will respond with an acceptance or denial email, via the Buck That! email account.

11.) Removal from Elected Position

- In the event that an officer is not performing their described responsibilities at a satisfactory level, or if absences become a problem, any member of the group

may make a motion and present the reasons why they believe the person should be removed from office. After this motion is passed with a unanimous decision from the eboard, a removal from office and a reelection occur.

Article VIII *Amendments*

This constitution is binding to all members of Buck That!, but is not binding unto itself.

Once the executive board has finished training at the beginning of each year, there will be a mandatory executive board meeting solely for the purpose of amending the constitution. After this meeting, the new constitution will be presented to the group during rehearsal.

Throughout the year, amendments to the constitution may be proposed in writing and presented by any executive board member during an executive board meeting. After discussion of the amendment at hand, the executive board may pass it with a unanimous vote. If it does not receive a unanimous vote, but receives majority vote, then the proposed amendment can be passed onto the entire group. The proposed amendment must then receive a 2/3 majority vote from the present members to pass. Absent members can present their case and vote prior to the official vote. Amendments that do not pass can be sent to the board or group as many times as deemed fit.

Amendments that are passed take effect immediately. Updates to the constitution must be drafted and sent to the Union, and a new copy of the constitution must be signed by all members.

Article IX *Alumni*

Alumni status is determined by a member participating fully in Buck That! for an entire academic year of good standing.

Good standing is defined as a member not having been dismissed from the group under Article VII Section 9 or Article X.

Alumni will receive black shoe laces upon graduation for their chucks. The current standing executive board is responsible for giving out black shoe laces.

Article X *Disciplinary Action and Removal From Group*

Members will be removed for lack of attendance, tardiness, or unpreparedness as described in Article VII Section 3. The executive board also reserves the right to pursue disciplinary action and to remove a member for inappropriate/disrespectful behavior, failure to meet musical standards, failure to adhere to university policy, failure to adhere to federal, state, and local laws, and failure to uphold group values. A majority vote from the executive board is needed for any

decision regarding disciplinary action, and a unanimous vote from the executive board is needed to remove a member.