

# 2024-2025 Constitution for OHI/O at the Ohio State University

## Article 1 - Name, Purpose, and Policies of the Organization

### Section 1: Name

The name of this organization is OHI/O; in this constitution, it is referred to as the organization.

### Section 2: Purpose Statement

The organization's mission is to foster a tech culture in and around the Ohio State community by hosting a variety of events throughout the school year to connect with students in order to spread interest in technology and its applications, and be a resource on campus for all students.

### Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy

This organization does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

### Section 4: Sexual Misconduct Policy

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, OHI/O expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from discrimination, harassment, and 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](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).

## Article II: Membership

### Section 1: Qualifications of Membership

Any currently enrolled Ohio State student who expresses interest in joining the organization is eligible to join. Any current Ohio State faculty member or staff member who supports the mission of OHI/O organization is eligible to join.

### Section 2: Membership Body

In order to fully comply with Ohio State's Guidelines for Student Organizations, the organization's voting membership is limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Additionally, 90% of the membership of the 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.

### **Section 3: Standing Committees**

To fully constitute joining the organization, members must join one or more of the organization's standing committees: Sponsorship, Sustainability, Webteam, Marketing and Communications, Mentorship, Judging, Registration, HackOHI/O Planning, MakeOHI/O Planning, High School I/O planning, and ShowOHI/O planning. The standing committees should be flexible in name, responsibilities, and membership size to meet the needs of the organization and as such, a majority vote of the Executive Board members present at any Executive Board meeting will approve the addition or removal of a committee.

Further, the four event planning committees will have sub-committees as needed that members may join as well. Sub-committees may be formed or dissolved as the team needs by the leader of the committee.

## **Article III: Executive Officers**

### **Section 1: Purpose & Membership**

The organization shall maintain an executive board of students to oversee the organization's operations and vote in matters concerning the organization. All executive board officers must be active members of the organization.

### **Section 2: Positions of the Executive Board**

The positions of the executive board shall include (but may not be limited to): Two HackOHI/O Chairs, Two MakeOHI/O Chairs, Two High School I/O Chairs, ShowOHI/O Chair, Sustainability Chair, Webteam Lead Chair, Marketing & Communications Chair, Sponsorship Chair, Mentorship Chair, Judging Chair, and Registration Chair. Unless otherwise voted by a majority of the executive board, the HackOHI/O Chairs shall be the organization's President and Vice President, and the Sponsorship Chair shall be the organization's treasurer.

### **Section 3: Executive Board Election**

The executive board officers shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the previous executive board in an annual election taking place during the spring semester of the school year. The new executive board officers shall take office on May 1st and serve for one year.

### **Section 4: Term Limits**

Appointment or nomination of an individual to an executive board position within the organization shall be in general limited to two full consecutive terms in the same position. This recommendation is intended to encourage the continuing infusion of new volunteers into the organization and to encourage office holders to give thought to planning for their successor. Appointment or nomination to a third or subsequent consecutive term should be limited to situations where such appointment or nomination is believed to be in the best interests of the Association (as determined by the organization's faculty advisor).

### **Section 5: Faculty Advisor**

The organization's faculty advisor shall be the Director of the OHI/O Program.

## **Article IV: Methods for Removing Members & Executive Officers**

### **Section 1: Member Removal**

If an organization member engages in behavior that is detrimental to advancing the purpose of this organization, violates the organization's constitution or bylaws, or violates the Code of Student Conduct, university policy, or federal, state or local law, the organization member may be removed through a majority vote of the executive officers in consultation with the organization's advisor.

### **Section 2: Executive Officer Removal**

Any executive officer of the organization may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to: violation of the constitution or bylaws, 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 upon a  $\frac{2}{3}$  affirmative vote of the executive board in consultation with the organization's advisor.

### **Section 3: Non-student Member Removal**

Community or other non-student members may be temporarily suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

### **Section 4: General Removal**

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), {00312468-1} the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

## **Article V: Organization Operation**

### **Section 1: Events of the Organization**

The organization shall hold at least 4 events per calendar year: HackOHI/O, MakeOHI/O, High School I/O, and ShowOHI/O, with the goal of adding additional events and activities as the organization evolves. To add a new event or activity of the organization, there should be a majority vote of the executive board or approval from the organization's director to do so. To remove an event or activity of the organization (except for HackOHI/O, MakeOHI/O, High School I/O, and ShowOHI/O), the organization's director must approve its removal. To remove

any of the four original events of the organization (HackOHI/O, MakeOHI/O, High School I/O, and ShowOHI/O), there must be both approval from the organization's director and a majority vote of the executive board.

### **Section 2: Meetings of the Organization**

Executive board meetings of the organization should be held no less frequently than monthly while school is in session. At the first executive board meeting of the school year, a majority vote of the executive board will determine the meeting frequency of executive board meetings. At any time, a majority vote of executive board members present at a meeting may suspend or postpone a following meeting if it is deemed not necessary.

Meeting frequency of all committees will be determined by each committee's lead with the organization's director's approval. In addition, meeting frequency of all subcommittees of a committee will be determined by the subcommittee's lead with the committee lead's approval.

## **Article VI: Method of Amending Constitution**

### **Section 1: Amendment Process**

Any proposed amendments to the constitution should be presented to the organization at an executive board meeting and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the meeting, allowed time for discussion, and then voted upon at the next executive board meeting. As an exception, if  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the executive board members vote to move forward with the amendment, voting does not need to wait until the next executive board meeting. If  $\frac{2}{3}$  agreement is not reached or  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the executive board members are not present, voting will take place in the next executive board meeting.

## **2023-2024 Goals for OHI/O at the Ohio State University**

1. To cultivate greater inclusivity in our organization's membership as well as within our event participation by creating inviting environments where students feel valued and welcome.
2. To create a focus on leadership development in our members by increasing delegation within committees to promote responsibility opportunities.
3. To broaden our network in order to widen our impact on campus by forming and maintaining strong relationships with other student organizations, industry partnerships, and our own alumni network.