

# Constitution of The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University

## Article 1- Name, purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy

### Section 1: Name

This club will be referred to as The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University.

### Section 2: Purpose

Given the growing prevalence of soccer in the United States, we believe that there may be students who are interested in learning more about the sport but are unsure of how to start. We wish to create a club that would serve as a readily available resource for newcomers to the sport, providing knowledge of the rules of the game and the styles of play and an overview of competitions around the world. Towards this end, The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University, its leadership, and its members will act in a way that creates more opportunities for students familiar with and new to the sport to learn the skills of, play, and watch soccer.

### Section 3: Non-Discrimination Policy

Soccer is, by nature, an entirely inclusive sport and it is the responsibility of The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University to ensure that, within the power of the club, no person is prevented from accessing the sport on any basis unaccounted for in the legislation of the club, university, and any governmental bodies which have jurisdiction over the members of the club. Further, it is the responsibility of the club to ensure that any expansion of club services must improve the availability of soccer in a manner that is equitable for all Ohio State Students and persons eligible to be members of the club.

The club will also be adherent to the following policy provided by the university:

“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, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.”

The club is also adherent to the following policy on sexual misconduct provided by the university:

“As a student organization at The Ohio State University, The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University 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](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).”

## Article 2 – Membership: Qualifications and Categories of Membership

### Section 1 – Voting Members

Members of The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University will primarily be soccer players but those who are also students at The Ohio State University will also be afforded voting rights with each eligible member given an equal vote. In accordance with the university Guidelines for Student Organizations, 90% of the members of The Casual Soccer Club at the Ohio State University must be members eligible to vote.

### Section 2 – Membership Structure

Each member of The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University will be categorized according to their ability as decided by the members of the club in levels higher than their own. The levels are as follows, ordered from most to least skilled:

1. Experienced
2. Intermediate
3. Beginner

The level assigned to a member will have no bearing on their voting rights, access to resources, and any other privilege provided by the club besides their ability to assess the level of other members. Any member who participates in at least 20 field sessions will be placed in at least the Intermediate level and any member who participates in at least 50 field sessions will be placed in the Advanced level. Members can also be placed in a level with the approval of any one of the club leaders at the level they are to be placed in or higher, or with the approval of two non-leadership members at the level they are to be placed in or higher.

### Section 3 – Member Privileges

Each member, regardless of voting status, level, or any other membership or personal attribute, will be permitted entrance to any workshops, training, pickup sessions, or other field activities. However, some events may have a recommended minimum level but an effort must be made to

ensure that it is reasonably clear on any material detailing the event that this is only a recommendation and that all levels of members are permitted at the event.

## Article 3 – Methods for Removing Members and Leaders

### Section 1 – Removing Members

To remove another member from the club, a member must inform an executive committee member that they would like that member to be removed. Once a committee member is informed, they are obligated to inform the executive committee of the motion to remove the member and the reasons for removal. The removal of the member must be voted on within 30 days of the committee member being notified and only a majority vote of the executive committee can remove a member. If a member is nominated for removal but the removal does not gather a majority vote, that member cannot be eligible for removal until the next semester.

### Section 2 – Removing Leaders

To remove a leader from a leadership position, a member must gather the signatures of at least 5 other members and bring them to a member of the executive committee. The committee member is then obligated to bring the issue of and reasons for removal to the executive committee where all committee members besides the member being voted on if the leader in question is a committee member will vote on the removal of the leader from their position. If the majority of committee members eligible to vote on this issue vote in favor of removal, the committee member will be removed from their role.

## Article 4 – Organization Leadership

### Section 1 – The Executive Committee

The leadership of The Casual Soccer Club at The Ohio State University will consist of two representatives from each level of the club and one Representative who can be from any level of the club, will serve as the Committee Chair, and will be the club's primary leader. These representatives will form the Executive Committee and all are elected for one calendar year terms. The secondary leader of the club will be the representative that receives the most votes. Each member of the committee will be responsible for introducing new policies and legislation for the club, proposing and planning new events, and ensuring that their constituents' (the general membership for the Committee Chair and the respective level for the other representatives) opinions are heard. The Committee Chair will be responsible for ensuring that the organization remains in good standing with the university and that its existence as a club will continue past their term as well as completing tasks essential to the existence of the club such as ensuring the club has an advisor and that the club constitution is updated at least yearly. Any movement or use of funds must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

### Section 2 – The Treasurer

The treasurer will be a member of the club appointed by the Executive Committee and will serve for a one calendar year term. If the appointed treasurer is also on the Executive Committee, they will

retain both their position as Treasurer and Representative and will be afforded the privileges of both. Any movement or use of funds must be approved by the treasurer.

### **Section 3 – Election**

Elections will take place in the Autumn Semester of each year. Any member wishing to run must be nominated by at least four other members to run in an election. The election will take place throughout the Autumn Semester with voting closing on the last day of the Autumn Semester. The newly elected leadership will take over at the start of the following calendar year's Spring Semester. Each Representative will be voted on by the entire club with each member being allotted two "level votes" for each level and one general vote for Committee Chair. At any given level, a member must allocate at most one vote to a candidate. The two members with the highest number of votes at each level will become Representatives for the given level. If a candidate is running in both the general and level elections and wins the general election, the candidates with the second and third most level votes for that level will become Representatives for that level.

General and level election tiebreakers in order from first to last:

1. The candidate who wins a majority vote of the Executive Committee members who were serving when the election was held (excluding any candidate eligible for the given election) will be elected.
2. If the election is a level election, the candidate who received the most votes from members at the given level will be elected.
3. The candidate selected by the most recent club advisor will be elected.
4. The candidate who can win a penalty shootout against the other candidate with each being both the penalty taker and goalkeeper will be elected.

The member with the highest overall number of level votes becomes the Secondary Leader of the club. If there is a tie between multiple candidates' number of level votes, the tiebreakers will be as follows in order from first to last:

1. The eligible candidate from the lowest level will be the Secondary Leader.
2. The eligible candidate who wins the majority vote of all ineligible Representatives will be the Secondary Leader.
3. In case of an abstention leading to no majority among the representatives, a new election will be held with each member getting one vote to assign to one eligible candidate and the winner of this election will be the Secondary Leader. If this election ends in a tie, it will follow the tiebreaking rules for general and level elections.

The election will take place using Microsoft Forms and will require each student to authenticate with their Ohio State credentials. The link to vote will be sent by email to all members who will be able to vote. The sitting committee chair will then tally the votes for all positions and report the results.

## Article 5 – Meetings and Events of the Club

### Section 1 – Required Attendance

Given the nature of the club, it must be easy to join and maintain membership in the club. As such, only the beginning of semester meetings described below are required for all returning members and new members are only required to attend one meeting or event. However, any meetings of the Executive Committee require the attendance of all Representatives.

### Section 2 – Required Meetings

Unless field space is unavailable or other prohibitive circumstances arise that are outside of the club's control, an initial club semester welcome meeting must be held within 30 days of the beginning of the Autumn and Spring Semesters of each year. This meeting will comprise an introduction to the club by members of the Executive Committee and a training session, pickup session, or both. Also within 30 days of the beginning of the Autumn Semester of each year, a meeting must be held to nominate new candidates for general and level elections. This may be the same meeting as the semester welcome meeting.

## Article 6 – Method for Amending Constitution

Any proposed amendment to the constitution will be brought to an executive committee member who is then obligated to present the amendment to the executive committee at the next committee meeting. The executive committee must then vote on the amendment within 21 days. If the amendment receives a majority of executive committee votes, a Microsoft Form will be sent by email to all members, with each required to authenticate with their Ohio State credentials. If two-thirds of the members who vote approve the amendment, it will be added to the club constitution at the beginning of the semester after the one it was approved in.

## Article 7 – Method of Organization Dissolution

To dissolve the organization, a member must bring to the committee a proposal to dissolve the organization detailing how the organization's assets and debts will be distributed. This proposal will then be voted on by the executive committee. If it achieves a three-quarters majority in the committee, it will be sent to the members and voted on as detailed in the election specifics above and then be executed upon reception of a three-quarters majority of all members who voted.

## By-Laws

### Article 1 – Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the Constitution of this club will govern the organization in all cases in which they are applicable.

## **Article 2 – Membership**

Any person who wishes to join this club must make it clear to any member of the leadership they wish join. The leader is then obligated to ensure that the individual is properly registered as a member of this club.

## **Article 3 – Leadership Special Cases**

### **Situation 1: Vacated Seat**

In the case that there is a vacancy in any position of leadership in the club that is elected, there will be a special election held which will be carried out with the same procedure as the elections detailed above but for only the vacated seat.

### **Situation 2: Representative Level Change During Term or Election**

If a representative, during an election where they are a candidate or term where they are a leader, is placed at a different level than the level they were in when they were nominated for the position, they will be permitted to continue to run for the given position and/or serve in that position until the end of their term at which point they may only be considered for positions for the level they are when they are nominated.

## **Article 4 – Amending By-Laws**

Any amendment to the by-laws of the club must be brought to a member of the executive committee who is then obligated to bring it to the executive committee at its next meeting. The executive is required to vote on it within 30 days of its introduction. If the amendment receives a two-thirds majority in the executive committee, it will be added to the club by-laws immediately.