

**Constitution of Parks and Recreation Society**  
**Student Organization at The Ohio State University**

**Ratified: 10/9/2024**

**Article I. Name and Purpose**

***Section I.***

The name of this organization shall be Parks and Recreation Society.

***Section II. Purpose***

Parks and Recreation Society aims to educate its members on principles of sustainability and love for nature through camping, hiking, and service events. PnR Society functions and programs get people outside and off campus while also offering professional networking, leadership, and opportunities for lasting personal connections that last beyond graduation. By encouraging members to step outside their comfort zones, we cultivate respect for the environment and outdoor survival skills while maintaining our affordability to ensure maximum access.

***Section III. Mission Statement***

Parks and Recreation Society aims to foster a love of the outdoors in its members through education, opportunities, and community.

***Section IV. Goals and Objectives***

1. Expand the scope of Parks and Recreation Society to include volunteer opportunities that reflect our mission to a. cultivate a love of the outdoors in member-students and b. protect the earth's natural environment and resources for future generations to enjoy.
2. Provide a solid foundation for the organization, so future Executive Board and general members have knowledge of and can follow the mission and what is expected of them to maintain the legacy of Parks and Recreation Society.
3. Grow membership and welcome new people to our community.

***Section V. Non-Discrimination Policy***

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, Parks and Recreation Society 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 II. Membership**

### ***Section I a. Membership Standing***

Members must be in good academic or disciplinary standing with The Ohio State University. There will be two levels of membership: Full Year membership, in which students are members of the organization for the duration of one academic year (August-May); and Semester membership, in which students are members of the organization for the duration of one semester (August-December or January-May). The deadline for full-year membership shall be determined each year by the Executive Board. Semester memberships shall be purchasable at any point during the academic year. All Executive Board members must attain full membership status before the deadline.

### ***Section I b. Guest Policy***

Any non-OSU student attending an official Parks and Recreation Society function MUST be hosted by a current OSU student or member attending the trip. Guests will also receive last priority for trip spots after both members and non-members. They must pay the full trip fee in advance of the trip.

### ***Section II. Dues***

Dues shall be set at \$60 for the academic year and \$40 for the semester. Dues are subject to change at the start of every academic year by vote of Executive Board members.

### ***Section III. Membership benefits and requirements***

Active Parks and Recreation Society members enjoy exclusive benefits including a reduction of \$10 (subject to annual change as with dues) in trip fees each trip and a free branded t-shirt if paid in advance of Full-Year membership deadline. Members must follow Parks and Recreation Society bylaws to maintain their status as active members. The Executive Board are able to make decisions regarding membership. Members may be temporarily or permanently suspended with a majority vote of the Executive Board.

## **Article III. Member Removal and Impeachment**

### ***Section I. Membership suspension/removal***

If a member 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 member may be removed through a majority vote of the Executive Board officers.

### ***Section II. Executive Board officer suspension/removal***

Any Executive Board 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 majority vote of the executive board.

### ***Section III. FERPA Compliance***

In the event that the reason for member or Executive Board officer 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), the executive board, in consultation with the organization's advisor, may vote to temporarily suspend a member or executive officer.

## **Article IV. Organization Leadership**

### ***Section I a. Titles, current officials, and duties***

#### **President—Kianna McEwen**

The President shall organize and run meetings; represent Parks and Recreation Society at all official functions at the University and other professional meetings; make final decisions on locations for trip per vote of the Executive Board; communicate specific information about trips, including rules and schedules; and coordinate all service events and committees.

#### **Vice President—Jackie Bush**

The Vice President shall manage all Parks and Recreation Society equipment, including documenting equipment rentals, determining if more is needed, and coordinating or delegating transportation and cleaning pre- and post- trips; send out requisite forms to discern and quantify need of equipment to assign rentals to members and trip

participants; and share data with the Treasurer to regulate purchasing of new equipment.

### **Secretary—Andrea Gasca**

The Secretary shall be responsible for record keeping including: taking meetings of minutes; maintaining all membership records and distributing emergency contact forms to compile membership database; working with the Social Media Director to disseminate information about upcoming trips and events via GroupMe and email; compiling a list of occupants of each room/tent at overnight trips upon arrival to be shared with the Executive Board ASAP; and remaining a point of contact for specific questions from members and participants.

### **Treasurer—Kourt Carr**

The Treasurer shall have the responsibility of money collection and collection of dues; giving a report each meeting about the financial status of the organization, including available and budgeted funds; organizing, with the help of the Executive Board, a budget for the organization each year, which shall be approved by the Executive Board as a whole; and booking trip accommodations using the organization debit card.

The Treasurer shall have sole authority over the organization bank account and debit card. Anyone requesting usage of organization funds will request pre-approval of the Treasurer and submit receipts following purchase or order placement. While any Executive Board member shall be able to deposit funds into the account, only the Treasurer may withdraw funds. No purchases shall be reimbursed if they were not made with prior approval by the Treasurer or the President; only Executive Board members can request purchase reimbursement.

### **Social Media Director—Josh Schaffner**

The Social Media Director shall be responsible for maintaining Parks and Recreation Society's online social media accounts, including Instagram and GroupMe; serving jointly with the Secretary as a point of contact for questions; monitoring the use of the GroupMe and removing any scammers, bots, or ticket sellers; sharing any graphics with the Secretary to be shared via email; design and create annual Parks and Recreation Society merchandise; and coordinate the making of slideshows for informational meetings.

The Social Media Director shall be the only E board member with access to the accounts. They shall be responsible for posting information about upcoming events, trips, and post-trip photographs. They will work closely with the Secretary and Photography Director in this capacity.



### **Photography Director/Recruitment Chair—Rylie Gates**

The Photography Director shall be responsible for documenting official Parks and Recreation Society events and trips, to be compiled and distributed to members within a week of events occurring; and collecting long-term records of trips in a chosen medium for future Executive Board and general members.

The Recruitment Chair shall be responsible for coordinating recruitment events, most notably the Autumn and Spring Student Involvement Fairs. This will include the creation of promotional materials such as tri-fold boards, buttons, stickers, handouts, and whatever else may be deemed necessary.

### **Auxiliary Chair—Nipun Ponugupati**

The Auxiliary Chair shall be responsible for the creation of playlists and playing music for Parks and Recreation Society events and trips. The Auxiliary Chair shall work jointly with the Recruitment Chair to facilitate the planning and execution of all recruitment events.

### ***Section I b.***

The attendance of each officer is required at all meetings and functions. Absences or partial unattendance must be approved in advance by the President and the Vice President.

### ***Section II. Terms of Office***

An elected officer's term will last from the first meeting in May until the first meeting the following May. However, the previously elected officers will operate the organization jointly with the newly elected officers until the end of Spring Semester (for guidance and support purposes).

### ***Section III. Selection of Officers***

Prior to the annual Spring tent trip, applications will be sent out to Parks and Recreation Society members for available Executive Board positions. Current Executive Board members wishing to switch positions will also be required to complete the application. Following the receipt of all interested applicants, the current Executive Board will convene and vote on the election of new Executive Board members. Current and new members will co-coordinate the planning and execution of the Spring tent trip. Current members will be responsible for aiding in transitions of power and duty to new members.

Executive board members will also be able to create and dissolve committees for the purpose of projects as deemed necessary by majority vote. These

committees shall be comprised solely of Parks and Recreation Society members for a specific task, such as the coordination of service events, and will function underneath the designated Executive Board member.

#### **Article V. Events**

Parks and Recreation Society shall organize and facilitate two group trips per semester: one tent trip, and one cabin trip. These trips shall require an additional fee, with a discount for members, and shall take place at times during the semester when a majority of potential participants would be willing or able to attend.

#### **Article VI. Attendee Guidelines**

Parks and Recreation Society 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.

All attendees of Parks and Recreation Society events and functions are required to abide by the bylaws, which can be found here: [[link](#)]. Any participant found in violation of any of these bylaws may face disciplinary action, including but not limited to immediate dismissal from the trip or event and inability to attend future events. Any member found in violation is also eligible to have their membership suspended or revoked without refund by majority vote of the Executive Board.

#### **Article VII. Amendment**

This constitution shall be re-examined at the start of each academic year by the Executive Board, who will be responsible for updating and making any necessary additions to specific clauses regarding costs and deadlines. The amended constitution shall be put forth to the general membership of Parks and Recreation Society for consideration and suggestions before final ratification occurs. The body of the constitution should not be amended easily or frequently.

#### **Article XII. Method of Dissolution**

Parks and Recreation Society is to be dissolved after three consecutive semesters with no members other than the Executive Board officers. Any assets are to be transferred to another Natural Resources Student Organization as designated by the advisor and the most recent officers.