***Article I - Name, propose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization***

***Section 1 - Name***

**Cheese Club at Ohio State**

***Section 2 - Purpose***

***The Ohio State Cheese Club is about bringing people together to enjoy cheese in a warm, welcoming atmosphere. It doesn’t matter whether you're a seasoned cheese connoisseur or just curious about this world of aged dairy, we gather weekly to explore a new world of cheese. Tasting its unique flavors, finding the perfect pairings, and learning the story behind it is what we are all about. We want members to indulge in a simple pleasure and have a great time while doing it.***

***But more than just tasting cheese, our club is about building friendships and creating a sense of community. We bond over our shared love of food, discover new favorite cheeses and pairings, and spend our time together in a relaxed, judgment-free space. It’s a weekly opportunity to unwind and converse with some of Ohio State’s silliest and free-willed individuals.***

***Open to all students, the Ohio State Cheese Club only asks for small annual dues ($15 for new members, and $10 for returning members) to help cover tastings and events. All extra is invested right back into the club. If you're interested in joining, just send an email to nicholasqtufano@gmail.com. Come say “cheese!”, because you won’t be able to wipe the smile off your face!***

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

***This organization does not discriminate based on 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, The Cheese Club at Ohio State 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.***

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

**Cheese Club at Ohio State is open to all students at Ohio State University willing to pay required dues. This organization is looking for individuals who are willing to try new things, meet new people, and be completely and wholly non-judgemental. Members are encouraged to have an interest in cheese. Voting members of this club shall only be enrolled students of the Ohio State University. Membership in this club involves attending meetings, being an active participant in group discussions, and having an open mind. Being a member of this organization entitles you to a cheese sample each meeting, as well as pairings, and the opportunity to participate in engaging conversations. Cheese Club must be student-run at all times.**

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

**If a member misses meetings for more than one academic semester, they automatically lose voting status. Additionally, members who smear the name of the organization or are disrespectful in any way, shape, or form to another member will be automatically removed, with reinstation only provided with a 3/4th vote of the Executive Committee or a ⅔ vote of eligible voting members.**

**III.a. 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 officers in consultation with the organization’s advisor.**

 **III.b. 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.**

 **III.c. If 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 IV - Organization Leadership**

* **Advisor**
* **President**
* **Vice President**
* **Secretary**
* **Treasurer**
* **Social Media Chair**
* **Fundraising Chair**
* **Community Outreach chair**

**Article V: Election of Officers**

**Officers of the Cheese Club will be selected by clear interest in the organization and continued motivation to group members and advisors. Those who meet these requirements are allowed to run for the position they are looking to hold. They will be voted by the general body during a general body meeting. They are required to provide the body with reasons why they meet the criteria and deserve the role they are running for. It is up to the discretion of the general body whether they are awarded the position or not. Advisors shall be appointed by the current executive team or previous advisor.**

**Officer Removal and Qualifications**

**If a member displays characteristics not representative of the organization's values and violates the organization’s constitution or by-laws, he or she may face review by the executive committee. The committee can vote for officers to face probationary membership, lasting until the end of the current academic term. If a member is found to not be adhering to the bylaws then their membership could be revoked entirely. This is only approved by a vote of the current executive committee, minus the member in violation. The vote must be unanimous.**

**Article VI - Executive Committee: size and composition of the Committee**

**The Executive Committee consists of the president, vice president, secretary, and advisor. This committee represents the general membership and conducts the club’s business between general meetings, with actions reported at each general meeting.**

**Article VII - Standing Committees**

1. **Education and Outreach Committee - Focuses on cheese education events and outreach activities**
2. **Public Relations Committee - Manages the club’s public presence and member communications.**
3. **Events and Tasting Committee - Plans and organizes tastings**

**Article VIII - Advisor or Advisory Board**

**The role of advisor for the cheese club is very important. The advisor must be a full-time University faculty member or staff member. Advisors help all in the organization by providing guidance and helping all club members achieve their goals. They also ensure that the club ababides by university policies.**

**Article IX - Meetings and Events**

1. **General meetings - held bi-monthly. Members are encouraged to attend but it is not mandatory to be present at every meeting.**
2. **Required events - There will be two large events a year, at the end of each semester, in which we have a large party and watch a film. This film will have something to do with cheese, and we will all talk about if we like it.**

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

**All members are expected to attend at least one Cheese Club event per semester. Attendance ensures active participation and proves to the committee that one is interested in promoting the goals of the club and tending to its well-being.**

**The Cheese Club at Ohio State maintains a standard of respect for its members and committee members. Any member whose behavior is disruptive or disrespectful during these events may face corrective action. If their action violates the club’s constitution or the OSU code of conduct, they could be subject to removal.**

**Article XI - Method of Amending the Constitution**

**Amending the Cheese Club’s constitution is a 3 step process.**

1. **Proposal**
	1. **Amendments to the constitution should be submitted to the executive committee, either in writing or in an email. Amendments will be introduced at the next formal meeting without guarantee that the amendment will be acted on just yet.**
2. **Notice and reading**
	1. **The proposed amendment will be brought up at the next meeting after its submission. The next general meeting will be the voting meeting, wherein members of the board will vote on the proposed amendment.**
3. **Voting process**
	1. **To approve the submitted amendment, the board must rule 2/3rds in favor for it to be added to the constitution. The changes will only be made if the board deems the amendment beneficial to the club and believes it will promote future growth for the organization.**

**Article XII - Method of Dissolution of the Organization**

**If the organization has assets or debts, appropriate means for disposing of these assets and debts are as follows.**

1. **Dissolution process**
	1. **If the committee agrees in a 3/4th majority for the dissolution of the organization, it will be passed.**
2. **Disposing of assets and debts**
	1. **Upon dissolution, all assets and debts will be taken care of by the guidelines of The Ohio State University.**
3. **Notification**
	1. **The club will be removed from the student organization page and the proper authorities will be notified of the club's dissolution**

**Bylaws**

**# Ohio State Cheese Club Constitution**

**Article I – Membership**

**1. \*\*Membership Requirements\*\***

 **- Must provide reliable and current contact information**

 **- Additional qualifications detailed in Article II, Section 2 (reference needs verification)**

**Article II – Election / Appointment of Club Leadership**

**1. \*\*Election Process\*\***

 **- Conducted through randomized ballots**

 **- Ballots counted by impartial party (e.g., club advisor)**

 **- Alternative: Secure online surveys may be used when end-of-semester meeting attendance is inconsistent**

**2. \*\*Election Details\*\***

 **- Eligibility requirements specified in Article III (reference needs verification)**

 **- Nominating and appointment processes detailed in Article III**

 **- Election and nomination timelines outlined in Article III**

**Article III – Meeting Requirements**

**1. \*\*Meeting Notifications\*\***

 **- All members must receive reasonable advance notice of:**

 **- Upcoming meetings**

 **- Votes**

**2. \*\*Voting Requirements\*\***

 **- General membership votes:**

 **- Require 25% quorum of voting members**

 **- Exception: When constitution specifies different quorum requirements**

**Article IV – Method of Amending By-Laws**

**1. \*\*Amendment Process\*\***

 **- Step 1: Written proposal presented at general membership meeting**

 **- Step 2: Proposal read but not voted on until next general meeting**

 **- Step 3: Vote occurs at subsequent meeting**

**2. \*\*Voting Requirements for Amendments\*\***

 **- Quorum requirement: 50% plus one of voting members**

 **- Approval requirement: Two-thirds majority of voting members present**

**3. \*\*Failed Amendments\*\***

 **- Cannot be reintroduced until next academic term**