**Constitution of The Armed Forces Club at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry**

**ARTICLE I**

Purpose of the Organization

The Armed Forces Club at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry seeks to promote oral health in the Columbus community in general and the military veteran community specifically, to welcome new military-sponsored students into The Ohio State University College of Dentistry, and to participate in fund raising initiatives for Columbus area veterans.

**ARTICLE 2**

Meetings

**Section A**. A general meeting is valid if at least one-half of the executive officers are present and will take place at least once per semester.

**Section B.** Procedure.

1. The Roll Call: the Secretary calls the roll for the executive board.
2. President’s Agenda: after roll call, the President conducts the meeting according to the official agenda established by the executive board. The agenda includes reports from all executive board members.
3. Open Forum: after the agenda, the meeting is opened to new proposals and ideas. The floor remains open to all members so that anyone can bring new issues to the organization for discussion.

**ARTICLE III**

Membership and Voting

General Membership and Dues

**Section A**. 1. Eligibility – all full-time, military-sponsored students and students with interest in military or public service corps at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry are eligible for group membership regardless of age, sex, race, handicap, or religion.

2. Definition of a Member

a. Must be a full-time student at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry.

**Section B**. 1. All members have one vote on a given issue (officers are not given extra weight for their vote).

2. Procedure

a. Voting is carried out either by open hand or by closed ballot. A decision is reached by the majority vote on a particular issue or issues being raised at the meeting.

b. In the case of any election or vote that results in a tie, the executive board members vote.

c. Tie votes in elections are settled by the executive board members (excluding candidates running for the position in question).

**Section C. Dues** 1. Club dues will be set by the Armed Forces Club executive Council.

 2. The dues of this club shall be payable by October 1 of each school year.

 3. Any member whose dues are in arrears shall forfeit memberships in this club.

**Section D. General Member Removal**

1. A vote of no confidence is held for any member who fails to responsibly hold his/her position or reflects negatively on the organization. A warning of no confidence is given one official meeting’s notice before a vote by the executive board.
2. A call for a vote of no confidence can be given at any time by any member on the executive board.
3. One appeal is granted throughout the vote of no confidence and is reviewed by the executive board for the consideration of amnesty.
4. A vote of no confidence succeeds if a three-fourths majority vote is achieved by the executive board and the faculty advisor approves the vote of no confidence.
5. If a vote of no confidence is successful the member will be asked to no longer participate in the organization’s meetings, events, or be affiliated with the organization in any way.

**ARTICLE IV**

Officers and Qualifications

**Section A**. The Executive branch consists of four officers.

1. President
* Is ultimately responsible for the actions of the organization.
* Oversees all aspects of the activities, events, and contacts that occur during his or her term in office.
* Sets the meeting agenda.
1. Vice-President
* Works closely with the President to accomplish the tasks designated by the President.
* Has the power to speak for the President with consent in the President’s absence.
* Assumes all presidential responsibilities if the President cannot fulfill his/her duties and/or must step down.
* Is responsible for all room, technical, and facility reservations.
1. Treasurer
* Is in charge of all aspects of financial management. The Treasurer should organize fund-raisers and execute plans approved by the executive and general branches.
* Keeps records of where funds are raised and spent, and ensures that The Ohio State University College of Dentistry guidelines are always followed.
* Is responsible for keeping records of all general and executive meetings, including taking roll to document attendance at all meetings.
1. Secretary
* Is responsible for creating flyers, posters, and handouts for meetings, social events, and club activities.
* Is also responsible for publicity and creating press releases in a timely fashion.
* Is responsible for creating and updating the club webpage/ Facebook page.
* Sends out all written and e-mail correspondence to the membership and general correspondence to non-members.

**Section B**. Executive Board Eligibility

1. The 4 executive board members are elected by the general membership annually at the last meeting of the spring semester.
2. Any member is eligible to run for office.

**Section C**. Nominations and Election of Officers

1. Students choosing to run for office may self nominate themselves or be nominated by an active member of the club.
	1. Each candidate must be a member in good standing of the club.
	2. Each candidate will be given the opportunity to state why he or she should be elected.
2. Election of officers is by majority vote of the general membership.
	1. Candidates running uncontested must receive two-thirds of the present voters.
	2. In the event that no candidate has a majority, the executive board members vote by simple majority, excluding any executive board members running for the position in question. The executive board’s selection must be ratified by a majority of members to validate the election.
3. In the event that an office is vacant, a new election is held for the post at the next meeting according to the above voting provisions.
4. All members are privileged in the discussion of candidates, members engaging in hostile and/or negative discussion are asked by the board to leave.
5. The newly elected executive board members assume their power at the end of the spring semester, immediately after their election.

**Section D**. Executive Responsibility

1. The executive board collectively designates a time for a monthly executive meeting beginning with the first month of fall semester classes. This meeting should precede any general membership meetings by one week.
2. Attendance is mandatory for all executive board members at both executive board meetings and general meetings unless excused by the President.
3. More than two unexcused absences during a semester forces an automatic vote of no confidence.
4. Frequent tardiness qualifies as an absence.
5. All officers sign an oath to begin their term of office.
6. Current executive board members will give training to the new executive board members.

**Section E**. Impeachments and Resignations

1. A vote of no confidence is held for any officer who fails to responsibly hold his/her position as defined by Article IV, Section A. A warning of no confidence is given one official meeting’s notice before a vote by the executive board.
2. A call for a vote of no confidence can be given at any time by any member on the executive board.
3. One appeal is granted throughout the vote of no confidence and is reviewed by the executive board for the consideration of amnesty.
4. A vote of no confidence succeeds if a three-fourths majority vote is achieved by the executive board.
5. A vote of no confidence against the President must have a unanimous vote from the executive board excluding the President. The Vice President assumes all rights and duties of the President upon successful impeachment.
	1. An appeal for amnesty is processed by the whole executive board through a majority vote.
6. At an official meeting following an impeachment or resignation, the position is to be filled in accordance with the specifications under Article IV, Section C.

**Section F.** Term of Office

1. The Vice President also serves as President-elect and will serve the first year as Vice President, followed by automatic succession to the position of President for a one-year term. Other members of the Executive Council serve for one year.

**Section G:**  Unexpired Terms

1. In the event of a vacancy, the Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, in that order, will succeed the President for the remainder of the unexpired term. The resulting Executive Council vacancy shall be appointed by the new President, with majority approval by the Executive Committee.

2. All other office and committee vacancies will be filled by appointment by the President with majority approval of the Executive Council.

3. All replacement appointments will end at the conclusion of the expired term.

**ARTICLE V**

Amendments

Section A. Adoption and ramification of amendments to this constitution shall follow the same procedure as adoption of the entire constitution.

**ARTICLE VI**

By-Laws

**Section A**. Provisions for adoption of bylaws are to be listed in this constitution.

**ARTICLE VII**

Hazing Policy

The harassment of one individual by another individual or group (sometimes called hazing) is not permitted. Behavior prohibited under this rule includes actions threatening substantial risk of physical or mental injury; actions exposing the individual to distressing, repulsive, or alarming situations or sensations; forced consumption of alcohol or drugs; actions in the form of social pressure which might cause harm to an individual.

**ARTICLE VIII**

Discrimination Policy

The Ohio State University College of Dentistry does not discriminate against any individual or group of individuals on the basis of race, color, gender, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin, age, handicap, or religious, political, language, or ideological views or affiliation.

**ARTICLE IX**

* The Armed Forces Club at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry serves as a source of information for its membership to prepare them for their active duty commitment. This information includes but is not limited to: Military Family Life, Deployment, Military Pay and Benefits, Advanced Training Opportunities, Assignments, and Military Clinical Facilities.
* Guest speakers are invited to the general meetings to cover these subjects. Local medical recruiters are included among the guest lecturers. Veteran alumni, both active duty and retired, are also included.
* The club also supports dissemination of information concerning military sponsorship during dental school training to undergraduate pre-dental students. The medical recruiters are relied upon to facilitate such events.

**ARTICLE X**

* The Armed Forces Club at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry supports the charitable cause of helping Columbus-area veterans.
* Fundraising efforts will be discussed and approved by the executive board in accordance with Ohio State University fundraising regulations.

 **ARTICLE XI**

**Oath of Office**

* I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, having been elected to the position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Armed Forces Club of The Ohio State University College of Dentistry, do hereby solemnly swear, that I will conscientiously and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties and responsibilities of my office; that I will uphold and defend the club’s constitution and bylaws; that I will obey and enforce the policies of the club; that I will actively participate and support all club activities and programs.