

Raas at Ohio State Constitution

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

Section 1 - Name:

Raas at Ohio State

Section 2 - Purpose:

Raas at Ohio State is a national, intercollegiate competitive dance team that aims to fuse Indian values and traditions that have been passed on for many generations with modernistic American dance elements. Through a dance form called Garba-Raas, this organization strives to showcase South Asian culture and diversity through choreographing and performing a set that tells a story. In conjunction with Raas All-Stars, the national dance circuit in which the organization competes, Raas at Ohio State supports an environment of perseverance, artistic expression, and confidence.

Section 3 - Non-Discrimination Policy:

Raas at Ohio State 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, Raas 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>.

Article II - Membership

Section 1 - Eligibility:

Any student enrolled at The Ohio State University is eligible for participation in the club. Selection for the team will be dependent on performance of two short tryout segments as well as individual's time commitment restraints.

Section 2 - Guidelines:

- a. A member of the club will be asked to leave the club if his/her conduct is not satisfactory amongst the officers.
- b. Unsatisfactory behavior includes representing the organization in a negative manner, not following up on commitments made to the club, not following the University policies, or failing to attend 80% of team practices and/or events.

Article III – Methods for Removing Members and Executive Officers

Section 1 - Strikes:

Executive members, at the start of the season, will attend meetings with captains to set expectations and guidelines specific for each position. A failure during the competition season to meet these expectations will result in a strike by discretion of the captains as well as a meeting to ensure the failure is not re-made.

Section 2 - Removal:

Removal of executive members carries the expectation that a smooth transition will be made. Members of the executive team understand as part of their role, even when removed, it is a part of their responsibility to ensure a smooth transition will be made.

Section 3 - Student Code of Conduct:

- 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.

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

Article IV - Organization Leadership: Titles, terms of office, type of selection, and duties of the leaders.

Captain (2-3):

The captain(s) of Raas at Ohio State are to ensure all functions of the board are carried out in a timely fashion. Each captain must attend a Student Organization Training as required by the University. They will also select music and choreograph the full set (including formations) and actively communicate with the DJ. Captain(s) shall approve final production and theme incorporation elements. Captain(s) are to lead practices in an efficient manner to prepare for competitions. They will make decisions regarding new member selections based on tryout segments and make decisions regarding executive board structure.

Vice Captain (1-2):

The vice captain(s) are to learn procedures and responsibilities of captains. They will attend all executive board meetings and ask questions to captains and assist in choreography and song selection. Vice captain(s) shall develop and lead a stretching routine and assist in all additional duties during competition weekends. Vice captain(s) will maintain website status to ensure updated information is distributed.

Manager (1-2):

The manager(s) are to complete all competition applications, reviewing all guidelines and deadlines as well as make room reservations on campus for practices and team-bonding events. The manager(s) shall maintain the Email account and Google Calendar and take and distribute meeting minutes at all executive board meetings. They will complete all competition registration packets in a timely manner and make hotel reservations and arrange transportation to all competitions.

Production Lead (1-2):

The production lead(s) are to decide on a production team to help with theme design and delegate roles to the production team. They will work with captains to decide the theme. Production Leads are expected to attend competitions and are directly responsible for handling of props and lighting cues. Leads are expected to attend and lead prop builds at competitions. Production Lead will also oversee merchandise creation for the team. One Production Lead who is not a dancing member of the team is not expected to attend every practice, but is expected to be involved in the team's incorporation of theme in the set, and should attend practice accordingly by discretion of the captains.

Treasurer:

The treasurer is to attend University Treasurer Training once a year. They will be responsible for managing the budget, and maintaining transparency with the team. They shall create and maintain the organization's Venmo and bank account. The treasurer will collect receipts and reimburse necessary individuals. They shall apply for university funding through writing proposals and grants and make all hotel and registration payments.

Assistant Treasurer:

The assistant treasurer is to attend University Treasurer Training along with Treasurer and assist the treasurer in creating and maintaining the budget. They shall shadow to learn how to apply for university funding.

Fundraising Chair (1-2):

Fundraising chairs will be in charge of brainstorming and organizing methods of fundraising for the team. They will hold a primary line of contact with sponsors and other partners, as well as organizing events on and off campus to raise money for the team. They will work closely with the Treasurer(s) to apply for university grants. They will oversee the Fundraising Team and delegate work accordingly.

Social Chair (1-2):

The social chair(s) are to organize team bonding events, team outreach events, and maintain an active status both on all active social media platforms as well as on campus through event planning.

Production Team (5-10):

The production team members are to design team logo, team gear, and social media brand as well as create props for theme incorporation of sets. They will assist in costume and makeup design, development, and distribution and engage with the entire team to complete set element production.

Fundraising Team (5-10):

Fundraising team members are to brainstorm events and fundraising ideas with the fundraising leads. They are to perform outreach and maintain contact with their respective partners.

Article V- Election / Selection of Organization Leadership**Section 1 - Election:**

Officers will be selected by an application process occurring in the spring semester annually.

- a. Existing captains and vice-captains will be responsible for choosing new captains based on dance ability, leadership skills, and character
- b. Officers must apply for a position of their choice via an application before presenting a speech to the team. The team will then select officers via a voting process.

Article VI - Executive Committee**Section 1 - Size and composition of the Committee:**

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following of the roles listed in Article IV: Captain(s), Vice Captain(s), Manager(s), Production Lead(s), Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Fundraising Chair(s), and Social Chair(s).

Article VII - Standing Committees**Section 1 - Names, purposes, and composition**

The Standing Committees of Raas at Ohio State will comprise the Fundraising Team and Production Team.

Article VIII – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board: Qualification Criteria**Section 1 - Advisor:**

The club shall have an Ohio State Advisor.

- a. A full-time Ohio State University employee/faculty member shall serve as the advisor for the club and does not have voting rights.
- b. The advisor is responsible for attending an Advisor Training once every two years in order to maintain active established status.
- c. The advisor is responsible for approving all funding requests.

Article IX – Meetings and events of the Organization: Required meetings and their frequency.

Section 1 - Practices:

Dancers are expected to attend 80% of practices to qualify for stage. Exceptions are made on a case by case basis by the captains.

Section 2 - Executive Board Meetings:

Members of the Executive Board are expected to attend every board meeting. Excuses must be given a week in advance to be put up for excused, aside from extenuating circumstances.

Article X – Attendees of Events of the Organization: Required events and their frequency.

Section 1:

The organization 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.

Section 2 - Practices:

Members of Raas at Ohio State are expected to provide a 24 hour written notice and explanation to captains for absences from practices, aside from extenuating circumstances. Excused absences will be given on a case by case basis. Practices are held at regular settings. Member syllabi will be collected at the start of the year to accommodate exams and other circumstances.

Article XI – Method of Amending Constitution: Proposals, notice, and voting requirements.

Section 1 - Changes:

All amendments and changes to the Constitution must be proposed at Executive Board meetings. Changes will be voted upon and Captains will announce the final decision. The Captains will also be in charge of updating the Constitution within the SOURCE database.

Article XII – Method of Dissolution of Organization

Section 1 - Dissolution:

The process of dissolution must first be initiated by either a majority of captains or $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Executive team's vote. Once the process is started, the whole team will take a vote, where $\frac{2}{3}$ of active members must agree.

Section 2 - Organization:

Should **Raas at Ohio State** be dissolved, it is the responsibility of the captains and treasurers to distribute the remaining funds to those owed. If the budget does not allow for a full repayment, it is the responsibility of the Fundraising team to organize events for the former team to pay debts. It is the responsibility of the managers to maintain contact with the Office of Student Life to continue the dissolution process.

By-Laws

Article I- Membership

Members fall in 2 categories, dancers and non-dancers.

Dancers must attend 80% practices and maintain involvement in fundraising and team bonding events.

Non-Dancers must apply into their position and maintain all the requirements listed in their application, as well as involvement in team fundraising and bonding.

Article II - Method of Amending By-Laws

All amendments and changes to the Constitution and By-Laws must be proposed at Executive Board meetings. Changes will be voted upon and Captains will announce the final decision. The Captains will also be in charge of updating the Constitution within the SOURCE database.

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Prisha Patel

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Amita K
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