

# **Constitution of The Mountaineers at The Ohio State University**

*Updated: April 2025*

## **Article I: Purpose**

The purposes of The Mountaineers at The Ohio State University are:

- 1.1 To provide all levels of outdoor enthusiasts the opportunity to meet and pool their combined knowledge, experience, and camaraderie for every one to enjoy.
- 1.2 To educate members about a variety of outdoor sports, including safe and proper techniques and methods.
- 1.3 To promote outdoor and environmental education through workshops and organized outings.
- 1.4 To encourage members to lead trips and introduce new activities.
- 1.5 To encourage members to incorporate risk-management practices into every club activity.

## **Article II: Non-Discrimination**

- 2.1 This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individuals for reasons 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 basis in accordance with Student Organization Registration and Funding Guidelines.
- 2.2 This organization will incorporate educational dialogue and be a platform of discussion on how to recognize and deconstruct the types of discrimination aforementioned.
- 2.3 This organization will not partake, condone or tolerate hazing practices.
- 2.4 Any violation of aforementioned commitments—especially when privacy of a member is of concern—will be addressed by the Executive Board. When privacy is a concern, the Executive Board may choose to deal with the situation as is deemed appropriate—bypassing the general vote mentioned in Article 3.5.

## **Article III: Membership**

- 3.1 Membership is limited to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate members at The Ohio State University
- 3.2 All other members of the OSU community may become non-voting members.
- 3.3 To become a member someone must fill out an insurance waiver; and pay dues (\$40 for a full school year, or \$25 per semester).
- 3.5 Any member whose actions are in violation of the purpose of the group may have their membership status suspended by a majority vote of the executive committee.
  - 3.5.1 To begin the membership revoking process, any general member or officer may propose such a revoking.
  - 3.5.2 The proposal will be proposed to all members of the executive board at any officer meeting.
    - 3.5.2.1 Proposals must include reasons for revoking membership and plausible evidence to said reasons.

3.5.4 Quorum for revoking membership status will be seventy-five percent of the executive board.

3.6 A removal from the club, or violation of the Article II Non-Discrimination clause—and subsequent removal from club—will apply to a banning from all organization events.

## **Article IV: Officers**

4.1 This organization shall have the following officers:

4.1.1 President shall be the official representative of the organization to any other organization, to The Ohio State University, and the surrounding community, and responsible for organizing and presiding over all general and executive meetings.

4.1.2 Vice President shall preside over meetings in absence of the president and assist other officers in their (un)assigned duties. The Vice President shall also be responsible for reserving meeting spaces for club events, and should be granted access to the club bank account if possible through the club's current banking system. The Vice President and President may delegate the latter responsibility to only one other officer if needed (only two officers should have access to the account at one time, including the treasurer).

4.1.3 Treasurer shall be responsible for the group's finances and required to sign all the group's financial documents.

4.1.4 Clinics Coordinator shall be responsible for managing clinics to promote education in the outdoors and both hard and soft skills.

4.1.5 Gear Manager shall be responsible for the purchase, maintenance, and inventory of all the outdoor equipment owned by The Mountaineers.

4.1.6 Publicist shall be responsible for publicizing general meetings and other club-sponsored events.

4.1.6 Safety Coordinator shall be responsible for overseeing the safety of club trips and events. They shall conduct thorough safety checks for any club-sponsored trips and the associated leaders.

4.1.7 Secretary shall send biweekly emails, respond to any emails, and sort and organize member waiver.

4.1.8 Trips Coordinator shall be responsible for the oversight of club-sponsored trips and trip planning. They shall meet with each trip leader to guarantee the success of the trip and its leaders.

4.1.9 Volunteer Coordinator shall be responsible for organizing events and maintaining positive relationships with other clubs at Ohio State. They shall also work with the DEIJ Officer to promote positive relationships within Mountaineers.

4.1.10 Archivist shall be responsible for organizing trip recaps and maintaining a consistent source of records for future leaders and members.

4.1.11 The Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ) Officer shall promote a community of respect and acceptance by upholding Article 2 of this Constitution and ensuring equal opportunity of all members of the club.

4.1.12 Any member of the executive staff may delegate their duties to a willing member of The Mountaineers, but the executive officer shall always be ultimately responsible for their duties.

## 4.2 Elections and Removal

4.2.1 Elections of officers shall occur during or before the second to last general meeting of Spring Semester.

4.2.2 All OSU student members of this organization are eligible for office.

### 4.2.3 Impeachment

4.2.3.1 Any general member or officer may propose the impeachment of an officer. The member making the proposal will begin by making a formal complaint to ANY member of the executive board, and will present their claim at the next scheduled executive board meeting.

4.2.3.2 In order for an impeachment to be considered, the proposal must include: appropriate reasons for impeachment, evidence to said reasons, and a plan of action post-impeachment.

4.2.3.3 If the impeachment is passed by unanimous vote, a new officer will be voted upon during the following general meeting.

### 4.2.4 Standard Voting Process

4.2.4.1 A member or current officer may run for up to three positions on the board.

4.2.4.2 Candidates will be given a designated amount of time to give a speech to the general body.

4.2.4.3 A separate ballot will be voted on after each role's candidates have given their speeches and the winner will be announced immediately after the ballot is closed, after which speeches and voting will occur for the next role.

4.2.4.4 This will commence in the order listed: President, Vice President, Treasurer,

4.2.4.5 If a candidate that is running for multiple positions is elected for a role earlier in the voting process their name will be taken off the ballots of later roles.

4.2.4.6 Any member is elected if they win a majority of the voting member votes.

4.2.4.7 If more than two people are running and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.

4.2.6 The term of office runs from the last officer meeting of the spring semester for one year.

4.2.7 Incumbent officers and newly elected officers may run the last meeting of the spring semester jointly.

4.2.8 If an officer resigns from their position, a special election shall be held at the next general body meeting, provided that ample time and advanced notice has been provided.

## 4.3 Executive Decisions

4.3.1 Executive decisions shall be made through non-secret voting of the executive officers.

4.3.2 In the case of a draw, the President's vote shall be the deciding one.

## **Article V: Committees**

- 5.1 The formation of a committee may be proposed by any member.
- 5.2 The officers shall decide by majority if a committee is to be formed. The president's vote will decide if the vote is a draw.
- 5.3 A committee head shall be elected for each committee by a majority vote at any general meeting.
- 5.4 Each committee shall submit a monthly statement report detailing the committee's completed activities, work in progress, and proposed projects.
- 5.5 Each committee shall hold regular meetings.

## **Article VII: Meetings**

- 7.1 Ideally, meetings shall be held every two weeks in fall and spring semesters.
- 7.2 All decisions, except where otherwise provided for, shall be made by majority vote of all members present.
- 7.3 All general voting shall be done by secret ballot.
- 7.4 The officers shall hold an executive meeting during off-weeks for planning purposes.

## **Article VIII: Faculty Advisor**

- 8.1 The faculty advisor of this organization must be a full-time member of the OSU faculty or administrative/professional staff.
- 8.2 The role of the faculty advisor is to aid the survival and growth of The Mountaineers and its members, and in the advancement of the purpose laid out above. How this role is manifested is left up to the faculty advisor.
- 8.3 The faculty advisor may be changed via executive decision.
  - 8.3.1 In such an instance, the current executive board must unanimously approve of the appointment.

## **Article IX: By-Laws and Constitution Edits**

- 9.1 By-laws may be created to provide more detail about the proper procedures of The Mountaineers.
- 9.2 By-laws and edits to the constitution shall be voted upon by the officer board.
- 9.3 The by-laws shall be passed by a majority vote by the officers.
- 9.4 Proposal of by-laws
  - 9.4.1 A proposed by-law shall be read and discussed at an officer meeting before it is voted upon.
  - 9.4.2 Following the proposal, the by-law shall be read, discussed, and then voted upon.
  - 9.4.3 If the proposal suggests a major change to the club's structure and/or causes significant disagreement among multiple officers, the proposal must be brought to a general body meeting where it is proposed to and voted on by at least a third of the club's members.

## **Article X: Dissolution**

- 10.1 The organization may be dissolved upon a unanimous vote of members present where the vote is taken.
- 10.2 Quorum for dissolution is all members who have attended at least one of the last four meetings.
- 10.3 The organization may not be dissolved while in debt.
- 10.4 All remaining assets will be given or auctioned to existing members.