

The Battery Challenge Team At The Ohio State University

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The Battery Challenge Team At The Ohio State University

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

To engage students in designing, building, and manufacturing a battery pack for a battery electric vehicle. The educational mission aims for battery engineering technical skill development and promotion of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the team's work, outreach, and communication.

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

The Battery Challenge Team At The Ohio State University *agrees that it will not engage in sexual misconduct nor any harassment or discrimination 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 basis in accordance with the Student Organization Registration Guidelines.*

Section B. Hazing

The Battery Challenge Team At The Ohio State University *agrees to maintain a zero-tolerance policy for hazing, in compliance with Ohio State University and Collin's Law. All members must conduct themselves in a manner that supports an environment free from hazing. Hazing includes any activity, regardless of consent, that causes or creates a substantial risk of physical, mental, or emotional harm or humiliation to any individual as part of membership or affiliation with the student organization. If found responsible for hazing, members and/or the organization may face disciplinary actions.*

Section C. Bylaws

The Battery Challenge Team At The Ohio State University *retains the right to maintain separate bylaws to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements set forth by local, state, and federal laws, The Ohio State University's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Council on Student Affairs (CSA) Student Organization Registration Guidelines. Organizations may make amendments and changes to the bylaws without consulting the Ohio Union & Student Activities department, and changes to bylaws do not require approval. All elements of organizational bylaws shall be consistent with the organization's currently approved constitution on file and CSA constitution requirements.*

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Membership Eligibility

Voting membership is defined as limited to currently enrolled Ohio State students. Others such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. are encouraged to become members, but as non-voting associate or honorary members.

Section B. Member Selection

The procedure for becoming a member of the Battery Challenge Team is to contact the Team Primary Leader and determine what area the potential member would be interested in working. The student would then be placed in a subteam based on interest and/or experience. No dues are required for membership.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership is open on a rolling basis.

Section D. Member Removal

To terminate membership, members are asked to inform the subteam leader and Team Leaders of termination, and to fulfill any current outstanding duties and/or discuss plan for taking care of such responsibilities with the subteam leader (and Team Leaders if deemed necessary by the subteam leader and/or Team Leaders). Also, upon termination of membership, student is asked to return any tools, technology, keys, or other property of the Battery Challenge Team or CAR. If a team member does not conduct themselves in a manner that reflects well on the team, the issue is brought before a Team Leader, advisor, and subteam leaders and a decision will be made when a consensus is reached. Punishment can range from a warning/probation period to termination from the team, depending on the severity of the offense.

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

Advisors are responsible for providing guidance and support to the team in their areas of expertise. Expectations include attending team meetings when appropriate, providing input in vehicle selection and development, enabling and encouraging the education of student team members, and facilitating the transfer of knowledge from year to year as members graduate.

Section B. Advisor Term

The advisor term is one year with the opportunity to be reappointed.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The advisors must be full-time members of the University faculty or Administrative & Professional staff. The advisor is selected by majority vote of the team membership.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

Should a new advisor be needed, the team members may nominate eligible faculty or professional staff to serve as advisor. Self-nominations are permitted. The team president will contact each nominee to confirm willingness and eligibility. A majority vote by the team members will determine the new advisor.

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

Organization leaders represent the Executive Committee and general membership and are elected or appointed from the ranks of the organization's voting membership. Officer positions are as follows:

1. Team Primary Leader: Elected by general member vote with nominations from faculty advisors on an annual basis. General duties consist of managing the communication between team members and leaders and corresponding with the competition organization. The primary leader serves as the primary goal-setter and inspirer the team. This person sees that the team is properly guided ethically, morally, professionally, and successfully towards the best educational experience and winning completion of the competition. The team leader is also responsible for seeking guidance if the team has gone off course from its goals and objectives. Further, the primary leader heads treasurer activities and responsibilities, as well as updating the team roster.
2. Team Secondary Leader: Elected by general member vote with nominations from faculty advisors on an annual basis. General duties consist of assisting communication between team members and subteam leaders, corresponding with the competition organization. The secondary leader serves as the team facilitator and supporting organizer. This person also sees that the team is properly guided ethically, morally, professionally, and successfully towards the best educational experience and winning completion of the competition.
3. Team Treasurer: The team treasurer is elected by general member vote with nominations from faculty advisors on an annual basis. General duties consist of financial management and communication between the team leaders, Center for Automotive Research fiscal officers, and faculty advisors. Additionally, the treasurer supplements team resource organization and inventory.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

Students are eligible for office if they hold Battery Challenge Team member status. Candidates are self-nominated or suggested by the Team Leaders, Executive Committee, or Advisors.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Officer elections are to be held in a general meeting during the spring term, in which the voting process is a show of hands.

Section D. Officer Removal

If a majority of the Battery Challenge Team membership decide that a team leader is not performing a satisfactory job, a vote will be held to impeach the officer. If the vote passes, the resolution is brought before the team faculty advisor and the advisor must pass the resolution to impeach the officer. The officer is then removed from the team.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

The organization may be dissolved if it is determined necessary by a joint decision of the Team Leaders, the Executive Committee, and the Advisor(s). Dissolution must be approved majority vote of the Executive Committee, with the concurrence of the Advisor(s).

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

Should any organization assets and debt exist, assets should first be used to pay off any outstanding debts. Additional outstanding assets should become property of The Ohio State University's Center for Automotive Research (CAR), unless otherwise specified through contracts with individual sponsors. In the case of additional outstanding debts, method of payment of these debts will be determined by the Team Leaders, Executive Committee, and Advisors in conjunction with the CAR.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

Proposed amendments should be in writing, and should not be acted upon, but read in the general meeting in which they are proposed, should be read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken, and should either require a two-third or three-quarter majority of voting members (a quorum being present) or a majority or two-thirds of the entire voting membership of the organization, present or not.