



## FLIGHT TEAM AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT ORGANIZATION CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I – NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The name of this student organization shall be the **Flight Team at The Ohio State University**.

This organization is affiliated with the **National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA)**.

### ARTICLE II – ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

The purpose of this student organization, further referenced as “the Team,” is to develop the aviation knowledge, professionalism, and piloting skills of undergraduate students while maintaining a safe learning environment.

The Team will participate in the **National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA)** and compete in **Safety and Flight Evaluation Conferences (SAFECON)**.

### ARTICLE III – UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

#### Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

Flight 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 these guidelines.

#### Section B. Hazing

Flight 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

Flight 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 these constitutional 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 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

Membership is limited to currently enrolled students at The Ohio State University.

A student may become a member by demonstrating commitment to the organization and an interest in aviation through participation in practices and meetings.



**Preferred Qualifications** (include but are not required):

- Aviation Major or Minor
- Private Pilot Certificate or higher

90% of the voting membership must be currently enrolled Columbus campus students. Faculty, staff, alumni, and partners of students, faculty, or staff of Ohio State may participate as associate members but may not comprise more than 10% of total membership.

**Section B. Membership Selection**

The competition traveling team size will typically range between 12 and 16 members, determined by Team Captains and Coaches.

**Selection Process:** All attending recruits and returning members will be evaluated during the first several weeks of each semester based on:

- Commitment and attendance at practices and events
- Skill in competition events (based on data and scores)
- Cohesiveness with team culture

**Competition Eligibility:** Members are designated as Competition Eligible (CE) or Competition Ineligible (CI) based on factors including university enrollment status, NIFA eligibility requirements, attendance, and practice performance.

**Section C. Membership Timeline**

Membership follows the academic calendar and competition schedule:

- **Autumn Semester:** NIFA Region III SAFECON
- **Spring Semester:** NIFA National SAFECON

Recruitment occurs on a rolling basis with active evaluation during the early weeks of each semester.

**Section D. Member Removal**

A member may be removed for cause, including but not limited to:

- Violations of this constitution or bylaws
- Repeated failure to meet participation or attendance expectations
- Conduct detrimental to team culture, safety, or organizational purpose
- Violations of university policy, the Code of Student Conduct, or applicable law

**Decision-Making Body:**

A Member Removal Panel consisting of the Advisor, Head Coach, Senior Coaches, and Team Captains will oversee all removal proceedings. Ohio State Aviation Leadership may be consulted as needed.

**Removal Process:**

**1. Review of Concern:**

A concern may be raised by any member, captain, coach, or advisor. The Panel will review the concern to determine whether formal action is needed.

**2. Meeting With Member:**

The member will be notified of the concern and provided an opportunity to meet with the Panel to respond and discuss potential resolution.

**3. Decision and Vote:**

If removal is still required, the Panel will vote.

A simple majority vote of the Panel is required to remove a member.



**4. Formal Notice:**

If removed, the member will receive a written notice explaining the reason for removal, along with a signature line acknowledging receipt.

**5. Appeal:**

The removed member may submit a written appeal within 5 business days.

Overturning the removal requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Member Removal Panel.

## **ARTICLE V – ADVISOR & CO-ADVISOR**

### **Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities**

The Advisor and Co-Advisor provide organizational oversight and serve as resources for members and officers. They do not vote or hold office.

#### **Advisor Responsibilities include:**

- Financial and accounting oversight
- Aircraft maintenance coordination
- Team travel setup and coordination
- Sponsor relations
- Alumni relations
- Guidance on compliance with university policy

Primary Advisors must complete advisor training every two years, anti-hazing training, and required annual approvals and reporting.

### **Section B. Advisor Term**

The Advisor serves a renewable one-year term.

### **Section C. Advisor Selection**

#### **Eligibility:**

- The Primary Advisor must be a full-time faculty member or administrative & professional staff member of The Ohio State University.
- Classified civil service employees, GTAs/GAAs, emeritus faculty, or retired staff may serve only as Co-Advisors.
- Advisors should have familiarity or involvement with Ohio State Aviation.

#### **Selection Process:**

1. Advisor candidates may be identified by the Head Coach, Senior Coaches, Team Captains, or Ohio State Aviation Leadership.
2. The Advisor will be selected by a simple majority vote of the Head Coach, Senior Coaches, and Team Captains.
3. The selected Advisor must accept the position and complete all required university advisor training before assuming the role.
4. The Advisor appointment will be recorded in the Student Organization Management system.

### **Section D. Advisor Replacement**

An Advisor may be replaced due to resignation, inability to fulfill responsibilities, or conduct inconsistent with organizational or university expectations.

#### **Advisor Resignation Expectations:**

The Advisor should provide written notice at least 30 days in advance, when possible, and work with leadership to transition responsibilities, accounts, and documentation.



**Replacement Process:**

1. In the event of resignation or removal, the Head Coach, Senior Coaches, and Team Captains will identify potential Advisor candidates in consultation with Ohio State Aviation Leadership.
2. A new Advisor will be selected by a simple majority vote of the Head Coach, Senior Coaches, and Team Captains.
3. The selected Advisor must accept the position and complete required advisor training.

**Interim Coverage:**

If no eligible Advisor is immediately available, the Center for Aviation Studies or the Ohio Union Student Activities Office may appoint an interim Advisor until the organization completes its formal selection.

## **ARTICLE VI – ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP**

**Section A. Officer Positions**

Required officers include:

- **Primary Leader (President)** – serves as Team Captain representing the organization to Student Activities.
- **Treasurer** – serves as Team Captain responsible for financial management and reporting.
- **Secondary Leader(s)** – additional Team Captains or student leaders as designated.

Additional leadership roles defined in bylaws may include: Head Coach, Senior Coaches, Assistant Coach, and Event Coaches.

**Section B. Officer Eligibility**

All officers must be current student members in good standing with The Ohio State University and the organization.

**Section C. Officer Selection Process**

Team Captains are elected by the previous competition team each summer. The Head Coach and coaching positions are appointed by the Advisor, Senior Coaches, and Team Captains, as outlined in the bylaws.

**Section D. Officer Removal**

An officer may be removed for failure to fulfill duties, policy violations, or conduct detrimental to the organization. Removal requires a majority vote of remaining officers in consultation with the Advisor. Vacancies will be filled per the process in the bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII – ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION**

**Section A. Dissolution Requirements**

The Flight Team at The Ohio State University may be dissolved if:

1. Two-thirds (2/3) of active membership votes in favor of dissolution, and
2. Approval is granted by the organization's faculty Advisor, and
3. The organization is no longer recognized by The Ohio State University or the College of Engineering.

**Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts**

Upon dissolution:

- All outstanding debts and obligations shall be settled in accordance with university policy.



- Remaining assets shall be transferred to the **Center for Aviation Studies (CAS)** and **The Ohio State University Airport**, as approved by the Advisor and Ohio Union Student Activities office.
- No assets shall be distributed to any member or officer for personal gain.
- Official notice of dissolution shall be filed with Student Activities.

Under no circumstances may an organization leave debts to The Ohio State University or its entities.

## **ARTICLE VIII – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

### **Section A. Amendment Procedures**

Amendments may be proposed by any member in good standing. After review by the Team Captains, Head Coach, and Advisor, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of active membership is required to adopt an amendment.

If an amendment is adopted between registration cycles, the updated constitution must be submitted to the Ohio Union and Student Activities Department within 30 days for approval.