

# Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter

## Student Organization Constitution

### **ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION**

Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter

### **ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE**

The chapter exists to provide students who are interested in pursuing a career in sports with the opportunity to meet and network with professionals working within the industry. To meet this goal, SSI invites guests who work in sports to join our meetings and talk about their career path, current occupation, career advice, etc.

### **ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

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

The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter *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 Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter *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 Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter *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**

Membership is open to any enrolled Ohio State student, part-time or full-time. Others such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc., are encouraged to become non-voting associate or honorary members.

### **Section B. Member Selection**

Membership in the organization is open to all students and is not application-based. There are no requirements related to major, GPA, or prior experience. Individuals interested in joining may initiate membership by contacting any member of the Executive Board through publicly available communication channels, including email, to request access to the organization's primary communication platform. Upon receiving the access link and joining the organization's Slack workspace, individuals are recognized as members. Membership grants the ability to attend meetings, participate in events, and engage in all organizational activities at any time.

### **Section C. Membership Timeline**

Membership is open throughout the entire academic year, and students can join at any time by reaching out to the executive board.

### **Section D. Member Removal**

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.

## **ARTICLE V. ADVISOR**

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

The primary responsibility of the advisor is to connect the student chapter with the University as a whole and with the Faculty Organization. The advisory should be able to provide connection that the student chapter can leverage.

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

The advisor shall serve a term of one (1) academic year, renewable indefinitely upon mutual agreement between the advisor and the student chapter. The advisor's term shall coincide with the academic year, beginning in the fall semester and concluding at the end of the spring semester. An advisor may resign at any time by providing written notice to the executive board.

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

Advisors of The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter must be members of the University faculty or Administrative and Professional staff. If an advisor does not meet this classification, a co-advisor who satisfies these requirements must be appointed. Preference will be given to individuals with a background or demonstrated interest in sociology, sport, or a related field.

Advisors are determined by the Sports and Society Initiative. The Initiative is responsible for identifying and appointing advisor candidates in coordination with the Student Chapter. Final confirmation of the advisor is made by the Sports and Society Initiative, with input and consensus from the Student Chapter Executive Board.

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

In the event that an advisor resigns, is removed, or is otherwise unable to fulfill their duties, the Executive Board shall initiate a replacement process within thirty (30) days. An advisor may be removed for cause, including but not limited to failure to fulfill responsibilities, violation of university policies, conduct inconsistent with the mission and values of the organization, or inability to effectively support the organization's activities.

The decision to remove an advisor shall involve both the Sports and Society Initiative and the Student Chapter Executive Board. Removal requires a majority vote of the Executive Board, in coordination with and subject to final approval by the Sports and Society Initiative. This decision shall be reached through discussion and consensus among Executive Board members prior to the vote.

Following removal, a new advisor shall be identified and confirmed in accordance with the selection process outlined in Section C. During any interim period, the President shall serve as the primary liaison to the University and Faculty Organization until a new advisor is secured.

### **ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP**

#### **Section A. Officer Positions**

President:

- Preside over and run meetings
- In charge of weekly emails/updates, works with Secretary on this
- Signs off on all financial matters
- Full comprehension and understanding of constitution and by-laws
- Constantly looking for new opportunities and events for the club
- Primary delegator of tasks for Executive Board

Vice President

- Presides at meeting in absence of President
- Coordinates events with President and rest of Executive Board
- Provide data and relevant information to the Secretary for email purposes
- Provide training to new Executive Board Members
- Responsible for creating new interest in the club and recruitment efforts

Treasurer:

- Responsible for managing the organization's bank account
- Recording all financial transactions
- Applying for both operating and programming funds from the Ohio Union
- Responsible for all duties concerning the finances of the organization.
- Responsible for collecting dues

#### Vice President Outreach:

- Responsible for reaching out to guest speakers
- Surveys club members to understand members' interests
- Schedules speakers to each meeting

#### Vice President Events and Programming:

- Works with President to execute plans regarding new events
- Works closely with Secretary and Marketing Chair to promote upcoming events
- Alerts Ohio Union and Advisor of upcoming events
- Work closely with Advisor and the Sports and Society Initiative (Faculty Org.)

#### Vice President Marketing and Social Media:

- Publicizing upcoming events through all platforms
- In charge of all Social Media platforms
- Working closely with VP Events and Programming to promote upcoming events
- Work closely with Sports and Society Initiative (Faculty Org.) Marketing Team to cross-promote events

#### Director Marketing and Social Media:

- Assist VP Marketing and Social Media in all tasks

### **Section B. Officer Eligibility**

Officers must have been a member of the Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter for at least one full semester before being eligible to retain an officer role. Officer roles are open to any enrolled Ohio State student, part-time or full-time. Officers must be able to commit to all meetings and events held by the organization.

### **Section C. Officer Selection Process**

Members may retain their positions until their respective graduation years. Executive Board officers for the following academic school year shall be selected at the beginning of the spring semester of the current academic year. The selection process shall consist of a formal application, which will be reviewed by the current Executive Board in consultation with the Faculty Advisor.

Following the review of applications, the Executive Board shall vote to determine officer appointments. Each position shall be filled based on a simple majority vote of the Executive Board. Decisions will be made after discussion and evaluation of all qualified candidates, and the applicant receiving a majority of votes will be selected to assume the position for the following academic year.

### **Section D. Officer Removal**

Members may retain their positions until their respective graduation years; however, an officer may be removed from their position for cause. Cause for removal includes, but is not limited to, failure to fulfill assigned responsibilities, violation of university policies, conduct inconsistent with the mission and values of the organization, or actions that negatively impact the organization's operations.

The removal of an officer shall be initiated by any member of the Executive Board and will be reviewed by the Executive Board in consultation with the Faculty Advisor. Following discussion, a vote

shall be conducted among the Executive Board. Removal of an officer requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Executive Board.

In the event of a vacancy due to removal, resignation, or ineligibility, the Executive Board shall appoint an interim officer or open the position for applications. A replacement shall be selected in accordance with the officer selection procedures outlined in Section C. Until a replacement is confirmed, the responsibilities of the vacant position may be delegated among the remaining Executive Board members.

## **ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION**

### **Section A. Dissolution Requirements**

The Sports and Society Initiative: Student Chapter may be dissolved only when the organization has been cleared of all outstanding debts. Dissolution requires approval by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the active membership.

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

Notice of a vote on dissolution must be provided to the membership at least forty (40) days in advance of the vote. Upon approval of dissolution, the Executive Board shall be responsible for overseeing the process of dissolution, including the settlement of all outstanding debts and obligations of the organization.

After all debts and obligations have been satisfied, any remaining assets shall be distributed as determined by the membership, including donation to a charitable organization or transfer to a successor organization. The Executive Board shall execute all final financial transactions and ensure compliance with university policies throughout the dissolution process.

## **ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

### **Section A. Amendment Process**

Any proposed amendments should be presented to the Executive Board in writing and should not be acted upon when initially introduced. Upon initial introduction, the proposed amendments should be read in the general meeting, and then read again at a specified number of subsequent general meetings and the general meeting in which the votes will be taken. A proposed amendment shall be voted upon and requires a two-thirds majority of voting members present.