

The Ohio State University Club Football Program

Student Organization Constitution

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The Ohio State University Club Football Program

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION PURPOSE

The Ohio State University Club Football Program exists to provide students with a continued opportunity to play football at an organized level. The program fosters a competitive environment by competing against other collegiate club teams within the National Club Football Association (NCFA).

ARTICLE III. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. Harassment and Discrimination, including Sexual Misconduct

The Ohio State University Club Football Program *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 Ohio State University Club Football Program *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 Ohio State University Club Football Program *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

Any member registered with at least 6 credit hours and a 2.0 GPA at The Ohio State University is qualified for membership, per NCFAs rules. Our club also adopts the university's non-discrimination policy statement (see below).

Per NCFAs rules, only 50 players are allowed on a roster. In the event Ohio State Club Football exceeds that number, roster cuts will be made by coaches and officers. However, players who are cut may remain members and participate as practice squad players for the remainder of the season, if they so choose.

Members are required to be at every scheduled team event unless they have a valid excuse to not be at the event. Players are expected to notify a position coach or team officer if they will be missing a team event no later than the start of the event

Section B. Member Selection

In the event the officers must cut a prospective player, the officers will evaluate the decision along with the head coach based on a number of factors. Those include but are not limited to: Is the prospective player one of the best 50 players? While Ohio State does not limit the number of players a Club Sport may have, the Club Football governing body (NCFAs) limits each roster to 50 players per season. What determines who are the best 50? Does the prospective player fit best with the team depth chart? Example: Should the team have 3 quarterbacks but only 6 linemen and there is only one spot left, a player who plays offensive line would be selected to make the team over a quarterback due to the need for multiple players at that position. Can the prospective player physically protect himself and others? The nature of football is very violent and can cause anyone serious injury. A prospective player must be able to execute proper tackling techniques and form in order to protect themselves and others from serious physical injury. In the event that the answer to any of the previous questions is "no", the officers reserve the right to remove a prospective player from on-field participation, regardless of the remaining roster spots described above. Is the prospective player able to regularly attend practice and commit to learning the playbook? Does the prospective player have the ability to execute drills in practice to a degree that is beneficial to themselves and the team? Anyone cut from the roster or removed from on-field participation may remain a member of the club and serve in a support capacity, such as film and management.

Section C. Membership Timeline

Membership opportunities open at the **start of each fall semester** during the club's recruitment and tryout period. Prospective members typically become full members following tryouts, which occur **within the first three weeks of the fall semester**.

Limited membership opportunities may reopen **at the start of the spring semester** if roster vacancies occur.

Once a student becomes a member, they remain active throughout the year and are expected to participate in team activities, conditioning, and meetings unless they voluntarily withdraw or are removed for cause.

Section D. Member Removal

A member is expected to attend practice regularly and notify a coach or club officer if they cannot attend. If a member is found to have violated The Ohio State University Student Code of Conduct, they are subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by team officers and coaches, in addition to any discipline handed down by the University. Club dues are required for membership. First time members will have an added membership fee for equipment and jersey expenses. The amount is approximately \$300 for first time players. All player dues are non-refundable unless otherwise agreed upon by a majority vote of the officer board. If a member has not paid their club dues in full by our first game, they are not allowed to participate in ANY competition or travel until the full amount is paid. In addition, a member cannot receive their game jersey or loaner equipment until the full cost of the jersey is received. A member has the right to withdraw from the club at any time. A member can be terminated from the club if probable cause is brought to the attention of the officers or coach and a majority vote is achieved by the ranking officers. This organization and its members shall not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its education program or activity, which includes employment

ARTICLE V. ADVISOR

Section A. Advisor Duties and Responsibilities

The Advisor provides guidance to the officer board, ensures the club operates in accordance with university policies, and supports the team's academic, financial, and organizational success. The Head Coach, who also serves as Advisor, may appoint Assistant Coaches provided they meet all Club Sports requirements. Any coach may be removed from their position by a majority vote of the officers if they fail to uphold their responsibilities or conduct themselves in a respectful, ethical manner. Coaches currently serve on a volunteer basis and are not paid.

Section B. Advisor Term

The Advisor is selected annually in January by the newly elected student officers.

Section C. Advisor Selection

The Head Coach/Advisor is selected by the acting club officers.

Section D. Advisor Replacement

Any Coach or advisor may be removed from their position by a majority vote of the remaining officers at any time if they do not maintain their job responsibilities or do not conduct themselves in a respectful, ethical manner

ARTICLE VI. ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP

Section A. Officer Positions

President: The President serves as the main student contact for the club and attends club sports meetings as the team's representative. Along with the Head Coach, the President acts as the voice of the team and works with the Head Coach to schedule practices and games each year. The President is also responsible for completing the annual training required by the Student Activities Office.

Vice President: The Vice President assists the President with any of the above duties as assigned.

President And Vice President: The President and Vice President schedule referees and trainers for all home games through the Club Sports Office. Along with the Treasurer, they ensure referee payments are available at each home game. They also submit travel reports for all road games through DoSportsEasy within 24 hours and ensure players complete payments and register on the NCFR roster, DoSportsEasy, and Healthy Roster to be eligible for gameday.

Treasurer: The Treasurer works with the President and Vice President to balance the team budget each offseason and ensures referees are paid at home games. They deposit all player dues and fundraiser earnings into the official team bank account and are responsible for NCFR membership payments, including the \$2,240 payment due October 1. The Treasurer must also complete required training with the Student Activities Office.

Fund Raising/Social Chair:

The Fundraising/Social Chair organizes fundraisers and volunteer opportunities to meet club sports requirements, works to increase team involvement in the Ohio State community, and collects all fundraising proceeds for deposit by the Treasurer.

Risk Manager: The risk manager must hold valid CPR and first aid certificates required by club sports.

Section B. Officer Eligibility

To be eligible for election or appointment, officers must be active, eligible members of the team and demonstrate a willingness and ability to perform all duties outlined in their respective positions.

Section C. Officer Selection Process

Officer elections are conducted **annually at the end of the fall semester or start of the spring semester** following the completion of the competitive season.

Nomination Procedures: Any active member in good standing may nominate themselves or another member for an officer position. Nominations must be submitted to the current President at least one week prior to the election date.

Election Procedures:

- Elections are conducted through an **anonymous online ballot using Google Forms**, administered by a neutral party designated by the officers.
- Each active member is entitled to one vote per position.
- The candidate receiving the **most votes** for each position is elected.

Run-off Procedures:

- In the event of a tie, a run-off election will be held within one week using the same voting method.

Assumption of Office:

- Newly elected officers assume their roles at the start of the following spring semester, allowing time for transition and training.

Section D. Officer Removal

Officers may be removed from their position by a majority vote of the remaining officers at any time if they do not maintain their job responsibilities or do not conduct themselves in a respectful, ethical manner.

ARTICLE VII. ORGANIZATION DISSOLUTION

Section A. Dissolution Requirements

The Ohio State University Club Football Program may be dissolved by a majority vote of the officer board or by directive of the university if it no longer meets registration requirements

Section B. Dissolution Procedures, including Assets and Debts

In the event that The Ohio State University Club Football Program dissolves, the organization shall first ensure that **all outstanding debts and financial obligations are paid in full** using any existing funds in the team's account.

If **assets remain after all debts are paid**, those assets will be transferred to the **Ohio State University Club Sports Office** or another student organization with a similar purpose, pending approval by Student Activities.

If **debts remain after all assets are exhausted**, the remaining obligations will be addressed through contributions or fundraising by current members or officers.

Under no circumstances may debts or unpaid balances be transferred to The Ohio State University, its entities, or individual university departments.

ARTICLE VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section A. Amendment Process

Amendments to this document can be presented to the collection of officers and approved by a majority vote between the officers.