

Aikido Byodokai Bylaws

Autumn 2025

ARTICLE I – Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization

A. Name

- a. Aikido Byodokai Club at the Ohio State

B. Purpose

- a. Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State strives to achieve harmony through physical training

C. Membership

- a. As a member club of the Aikido Byodokai Community (hereafter, ABC), Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State strives to achieve harmony through physical training. Led by ABC certified instructors, our club activities follow closely the direction of the head ABC instructors and the updated ABC handbook.

D. Non-Discrimination Policy

- a. The Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State does not discriminate 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 bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

ARTICLE II – Membership

A. Membership

- a. Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State (hereafter, the Club) welcomes anyone who is interested in training and agrees with the purpose of this Club. Voting membership, however, is limited to currently enrolled students of the Ohio State University. Others such as faculty, alumni, professionals, etc. are encouraged to become non-voting associate or honorary members
- b. To be recognized as a full member, one must pay the dues (\$40 per semester), abide by the Constitution, make a conscientious effort to participate the weekly training, and complete the Do Sports Easy form.
- c. Members of the Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State must exhibit the manners that are expected in any school of martial arts by demonstrating appropriate courtesy towards each other, and respect to the instructor and seniors both during and outside the training sessions in order to create an atmosphere that is conducive to learning

B. Relationship to ABC

- a. Members of the Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State are encouraged to become members of ABC; it is not, however, a requirement for being a member of this Club. Only the registered members of ABC can take the kyu/dan tests

C. Transferring Martial Artists:

- a. Transfers must start from the beginners level, including those who have trained in other Aikido groups (unless certified ABC dojos)

D. Member's Right to Constitution

- a. Any member may obtain a copy of this constitution upon request.
- b. Other documents related to the Club may be released to the members at the discretion of the Officers and Chief Instructor

E. Member/Officer Dismissal

- a. Any student that does not represent the Aikido Byodokai Club at the Ohio State, The Ohio State University, and ABC in a respectful and professional manner may be given three warnings concerning their conduct by the Chief Instructor. After this has occurred, the current club Officers and the Chief Instructor may hold a vote that will determine the student's dismissal from the Club
- b. The student will be judged as to their behavior both in and out of class. A student may be placed on temporary probation for a quarter. If it is deemed that a student be dismissed, he/she will be released from any duties that they held for the Club, and are subject to future membership at the Chief Instructor's discretion

ARTICLE III – Officers

A. Organizational Leadership

- a. **Eligibility for Officership** - Only full time students of the Ohio State University, graduate or undergraduate, who are registered members of ABC are eligible to hold an office. The candidates will hold office for one year and must be able to show proof of their intention to stay in the Columbus, Ohio area during their term. Multiple holdings of Office- A person may hold more than one, but no more than two, offices, with the Presidency exempt. The officers may be elected for more than one term, but must be elected to do so for each term. The term of the officers begins at the beginning of the Autumn quarter and lasts till the day before the Autumn quarter of the next academic year
- b. **ABC Treasurer** - In addition to the officers elected from the student members of the Club, the Chief Instructor may appoint from the Club membership at large an individual to assist the Chief Instructor with the communication with the ABC headquarters office. Such a person is referred to as the ABC Representative of the Club
- c. Upon vacancy at the Chief Instructor position of Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State, the successor will be named by the former Chief Instructor or the ABC main office

B. Offices:

- a. **President:** Communicates with other agencies of the Ohio State University and oversees external concerns of the Club functions as a representative of the Club in

Ohio State University community coordinates officer meetings coordinates elections and voting. Considered the club's primary leader.

- b. **Treasurer:** Collects monthly / quarterly dues from members keeps track of the income and expenses of the Club plans the budget, and communicates the budget plans to the Ohio State University.
- c. **Vice President:** Assists President as well as coordinates or covers activities of other offices. Considered club's secondary leader.

C. Special Offices

- a. Officers may be created as the organization grows. This is considered an amendment to the present Constitution and must adhere to the current regulations. Possible officers may include:
 - i. **Secretary:** Records attendance at classes and meetings records minutes at meetings
 - ii. **Public Affairs:** flyers, advertising, and promotional articles
 - iii. **University Affairs:** increasing membership
 - iv. **Demo Team Captain:** coordinating the demo team(s) and decide on its content
 - v. **Home Page:** create and maintain a home page for Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State

ARTICLE IV – Meetings

A. Officer Meetings –

- a. A meeting of the officers will occur at least once each semester, within the first three weeks of the semester. The President leads the meeting. In addition to the meetings, officers maintain a steady communication with each other through email

B. Members Meeting

- a. A meeting open to all members will take place during the Spring Semester every year to elect officers for the next academic year. The President calls and presides the meeting

C. Special and Emergency meetings

- a. May be called by either the President or the Chief Instructor of the Club as needed

ARTICLE V – Elections

A. General

- a. Elections will take place during spring semester (by the final kyu test) every year. To be appointed to an office, a candidate must receive the majority of the votes.
 - i. The majority is defined as fifty percent of the voting members plus one member
 - ii. Candidates for an office are considered non-voting members of the general assembly and are not allowed to vote. Therefore, they will temporarily not be counted into the majority.
 1. The general assembly is defined as the voting members at the time of the assembly.
 2. Nonvoting members of the Club are welcome to attend and participate in the discussion in the general assembly as advisors
 - iii. The majority of the general assembly must vote on candidates for a decision to pass or fail. Voting privileges include leadership positions, amendments to the Constitution, and formal changes

B. Qualifications for Office

- a. In order for a member to qualify for an Office she/he:
 - i. *must* have paid in full all dues for the Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State
 - ii. *must* have at least two quarters of active participation with the Club
 - iii. *must* be a registered member of the ABC
- b. Note also that a member's qualifications are subject to approval by the Chief Instructor of the Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State

C. Vacancies at Offices

- a. Nominations will be taken during the meeting or the weekly training sessions, prior to the time the position is expected to be vacated. The date of the election will be determined on the day the nominations are solicited

D. Voting Members

- a. A voting member is defined as follows:
 - i. A student (undergraduate or graduate) of The Ohio State University who is current on the Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State dues payment

ARTICLE VI – Advisor(s) or Advisory Board

A. Appointment

- a. An academic advisor will be appointed from the full time faculty or administrative/professional state at the Ohio State University

B. Number of Advisors

- a. The Club may have more than one but no more than two academic advisors at any given time

C. Role

- a. The Advisor may participate in training sessions as a non-voting Club member. The Advisor may act as an executive officer at the officer meetings. The Advisor's tasks include:
 - i. Advising the Officers in taking care of the administrative Affairs
 - ii. Communicating with the ABC Instructor and Officers
 - iii. Acting as a role model and mentor to all members of the organization

ARTICLE VII – Coach

A. Appointment

- a. The Chief Instructor and Coach(es) are appointed by ABC and approved by the Officers

B. Compensation

- a. The Officers of the Club determine the monetary compensation to be paid to the coach(es)
- b. The coach will receive a salary of \$200 per semester and \$100 for the summer semester if there is a summer session.

C. Termination or probation

- a. Coach(es) may be reprimanded or terminated if, in the judgment of the President or the Chief Instructor, they have engaged in activities unbecoming of an Aikido practitioner either within or outside of the Club

ARTICLE VIII – Funds

A. Dues

- a. Each (non-instructor) member must pay dues of \$40 per semester or \$20 for the summer semester (which includes May term).
- b. Dues must be paid in full once a member would be eligible for 8th Kyu testing (after completing 8 classes and 4 weeks of attendance).

B. Expenditures

- a. To be determined by the Officers and the Chief Instructor and are subject to approval by the Ohio State University

C. Financial Transparency

- a. Each member may see the current financial statement upon request
- b. The allocation of club funds (revenues and expenses) will be planned by the Officers during the first week of the spring quarter, and will be presented to the

general assembly during the second week of the spring quarter. The budget proposal must be approved by the general assembly by a vote, requiring a two-third of all the voting members

D. ABC Monetary Considerations

- a. Those who obtain the membership from ABC must pay a separate membership fee, through the ABC Representative of the Club
- b. Fees for promotion testing are paid to the Chief Instructor
- c. All members of the Club are encouraged to attend the ABC demonstrations. Registered members of ABC are strongly encouraged to participate in ABC activities, such as public demonstrations, weekend clinics, and other special trainings. The Club will, to the extent possible, assist in the funding for participation by its active members

ARTICLE IX. Amendments

A. Proposal

- a. Amendments can be made only by voting members of the Club. Proposed amendments should be presented to the officers in writing. Any such proposals will be reviewed by the officers at the second to last officer meeting. Suggestion for any changes will be presented to the general assembly at the following training session, and the general assembly must consult on the issues. The suggestions from the general assembly will be taken to the next officer meeting, during which the proposed amendments will be voted upon by the officers. At the following training session, the amendment will be voted on by the general assembly. The majority of the general assembly must be present for the voting to take place, and it requires the approval of a two-third of the entire voting membership of the organization for the amendment to be approved.

ARTICLE X – Dissolution of Organization

A. Cause for Dissolution

- a. 1. The Aikido Byodokai at the Ohio State will be dissolved under any one of the following circumstances :
 - i. Three quarters majority, or seventy-five percent plus one, of the general assembly vote to dissolve the Club;
 - ii. The Club fails to have a Chief Instructor or a Coach who is approved by ABC. The membership of the Club becomes too small to sustain the normal functions of a student activity organization at the Ohio State University

B. Dissolution process

- a. Any member of the Club may motion to dissolve the Club. In such an instance, an emergency meeting will be called to vote on the dissolution
- b. Dissolution of the club as a student activity organization is duly reported to the Ohio State University

ARTICLE XI – Code of Student Conduct

A. Code of Student Conduct

- a. The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct applies to the team and its individual members.

B. Continuity in the Case of Suspension

- a. If the team is suspended for violating the Code of Student Conduct, Competitive Sports will appoint an Interim President and an Interim Treasurer. The Interim President and Interim Treasurer may (1) transfer signatures and check writing authority for the organization's bank account to themselves within thirty days of the suspension, (2) pay existing financial obligations out of the organization's current funds, and (3) when the period of suspension ends, take appropriate steps with Student Activities to re-register as a student organization. Further, the Interim President and Interim Treasurer shall inventory the organization's equipment and write a plan for its storage and safekeeping during the suspension period. This plan must be submitted to Competitive Sports within the first thirty days of the suspension. During this suspension no new coaches or staff should be hired during this time. All club assets are frozen during this suspension period meaning nothing should be bought or sold during this time. Should the Interim President or Interim Treasurer wish to take any additional actions, they must seek advance approval from Competitive Sports.

C. Return to Competitive Sports

- a. In order to return as a recognized Sport Club team, The Interim President must provide Competitive Sports with documentation that team is a recognized student organization. The Interim President must also provide a roster of at least 15 students to Competitive Sports along with a written plan to hold elections. This plan should, to the extent possible due to the terms, length and timing of the suspension, resemble the provisions contained in Article XI, Section 2.