

# **The Ohio State University Men's Club Soccer Constitution**

Updated September 25, 2014

President: Nathan Cotton

Vice President: Jared Pradarelli

## **Preamble:**

The Ohio State University Men's Club Soccer team is established to give students the opportunity to play soccer recreationally at a competitive level as well as to establish relationships throughout the university and community through membership and club events. Membership to this organization shall be considered a great honor. This organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) for reasons of age, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or military veteran status.

## **Article 1: Club Name**

The organization shall be known as The Ohio State Men's Club Soccer team.

## **Article 2: Code of Student Conduct**

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

## **Article 3: Meetings**

Meetings will be scheduled and held at the discretion of the President, or any other club officer who feels the need for a meeting. The President shall run the meeting and set the date and time.

## **Article 4: Officers & Duties:**

President:

- Head and preside over all team meetings.
- Be the primary student representative to the college, community, regional and national organizations (e.g. OSU Club Sports, MASC, NIRSA).
- Be in charge of the strategic planning of the club.
- Shall keep and update a transitional binder and files for preceding presidents.
- Shall be the steward of an updated budget and financial plan.
- Shall sign all financial vouchers/checks.
- Shall help organize fundraising events.

Vice President (see Addendum II)

- Shall act in the absence of the President, and shall plan to transition to the role of President when the current President leaves.
- Shall help organize events, fundraisers, etc. involving the club.
- Shall help lead new members of the club.
- Shall help keep and update a transitional binder and files.

#### Treasurer

- Assists with handling club funds and accounts.
- Acts as oversight on the President's financial power.
- Works with President to maintain the club budget and make payments.

#### Social Chair

- Shall keep and distribute an updated calendar of events and meetings.
- Make plans for community and social events by calling, e-mailing, etc. the proper organizations.
- Shall help maintain the club's social media and online presence.

#### Safety Manager

- In charge of maintaining a safe environment both at our school, and when we travel.
- Responsible for knowing procedures in case of emergency
- Responsible for filing and submitting proper forms and waivers for the club

#### Fundraising & Alumni Chair

- Shall seek out fundraising opportunities for the club to partake in. Also tasked with maintaining relationships with former club members and acting as a liaison between them and the club's current officers.
- Works with the Treasurer and President on financial matters if needed.
- Specific responsibilities include helping to organize an annual alumni game, and connecting with alumni for fundraising purposes or others.

**Addendum I:** Vacancies in leadership shall be filled as soon as possible by a special election under the same terms of normal elections.

**Addendum II:** The role of Vice President is meant to give the student member in that role the time and experience to at some point assume the role of President, through a transition process. When the current President leaves the club or university or decides to otherwise step down, the Vice President shall automatically assume the position of President as long as two-thirds of the current student members approve him. If the Vice President is not confirmed, then the new President will be chosen through the traditional election process. When voting for a Vice Presidential candidate, it is important that student members are aware that the person elected will, barring any conduct violations or other detrimental behaviors or actions, someday be the next President.

#### **Article 5: Advisors**

**Faculty Advisor:** Shall attend all meetings and give input in an advisory capacity only. Shall stay in that position until he/she resigns or the club selects someone else. Shall not ever have access to the club's finances.

**Team Coach:** Shall help run and organize the team during play and practice. Shall maintain a responsible and fair conduct at all times. Shall not ever have access to the club's finances.

**Selection of New Coach/Advisor:** If the need for a new coach or advisor arises, the club officers shall notify the current coach or advisor about his/her removal, and identify new candidates for the role. These candidates will be assessed on their commitment, attitude, plans for the club, availability, and desire for the role. The new coach shall be chosen from the field of candidates by a two-thirds vote of current student members.

#### **Article 6: Elections**

**Section I:** All student members are eligible for an officer position. Only student members may vote in elections for officer positions.

**Section II:** Elections will be held following the fall season.

**Section III:** If a position is contested, a student member election shall take place; if a position is not contested the person running will assume the position.

**Section IV:** Elections shall be run by the highest-ranking officer that is not running for a position. If all officers are running for a position, the previous year's president or highest-ranking officer shall run the election.

### **Article 7: Membership**

**Section I:** All inducted members of the club including students, faculty, and coaches shall be considered members.

**Section II:** Before each fall season the ranking officers will determine membership through a try-out setting. The only factor to justify the non-admittance of a student into the club is skill level.

### **Article 8: Selection of New Members**

**Section I:** All students must be enrolled in at least 6 hours of courses at the university.

**Section II:** Members will be chosen based on their abilities as a soccer player, and also by judging their commitment to the club, school, and community.

**Section III:** Process of selection: Current student members will review all potential members and evaluate using a Point and Ranking System document and place a number on each candidate's score sheet. Each application will be reviewed by ranking officers, coaches, and advisors. An average of ranks will be established.

**Section IV:** No student shall be prohibited entry into the club based on their race, religion, or personal beliefs. The only factor to justify the non-admittance of a student into the club is skill level.

### **Article 9: General Member Removal**

**Overview:** A general member may be removed from the club roster either by violating the rules set forth by the club or Club Sports Department, or if no rules are broken and other reasons for removal are necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the student membership in an open and apparent process.

**Criteria:** For an efficient and consistent judgment process, the club officers will produce a list of criteria each year assigning importance to various club objectives. Each club member will agree to these criteria as a show of their commitment each season, with the knowledge that failure to meet these objectives is grounds for removal from the club. If a player has not met the criteria as agreed to by them earlier in the year, they shall be notified of their removal, at which point they are no longer considered a member of the club for that year. All future returns to the club by that member will be evaluated by their commitment and willingness to agree to that year's criteria. This process is done to remove any personal bias from the removal process, and to ensure uniform fairness.

### **Article 10: Recall of Officers**

An officer's position may be recalled by a two-thirds vote of the student membership in an open and apparent process.

## **Article 11: Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by two-thirds of the voting members present at a club meeting called for or including the purpose.

## **Article 12: Continuity in Case of Suspension**

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.

## **Article 13: Return to Competitive Sports**

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 6.