

Constitution of the University of Arkansas Ballroom Dance Club

Article I. Name

The name of this club (registered through the Student Activities office) is the Ballroom Dance Club and will be referred to as such throughout this document.

Article II. Purpose

We, the Ballroom Dance Club, aim to provide the opportunity for the students of the University of Arkansas and the community to not only learn Ballroom Dance, but to also help introduce and connect members of the club with numerous others who come from diverse backgrounds. As a club, we are aiming and working towards the creation of a solid foundation for the club to make positive impacts within our local community, as well as to start creating a greater leadership for the club by increasing involvement in regional competitions.

Article III. Affiliations

The Ballroom Dance Club operates independently of any governing body/league.

Article IV. Membership

- A. The Ballroom Dance Club does not turn away members based on ethnicity, country of origin, age, gender, marital or parental status, disability, or sexual orientation.
- B. The Competition team will represent the University of Arkansas through the Ballroom Dance Club and will compete at a collegiate level in Ballroom Dance Competitions.
- C. Dues: Each member must pay dues of \$35 for the Monday class or Thursday class, or \$60 for both the Monday and Thursday classes. Each newcomer gets 2 Thursday classes and 1 Monday class free before dues are required to be paid.
- D. Alumni Membership: Alumni of the University of Arkansas are welcomed and encouraged to participate as members of the club. They are welcome to both the Monday and Thursday classes. The club requests a \$50 donation by Alumni members to assist in the growth and development of the club. Alumni will also be paying the guest pass to enter the HPER.
- E. Club members who wish to participate in competitions must be able to cover travel, lodging, meals, and costumes, though this is subject to change for future semesters.
- F. Competition members - defined as members who attend the advanced Monday classes and travel to competition- are expected to attend Sunday practices, unless extenuating

circumstances prevent them from doing so, in which case the officers of the Ballroom Dance Club will vote on their eligibility to compete on a case-by-case basis.

- G. Membership is attained by paying dues and can only be revoked due to hostile, rude, or problematic behavior which is threatening to club members and facilitates in the creation of a negative and destructive team environment. If such behavior is witnessed or brought to the attention of the club officers, there will be a singular warning issued to the individual who is creating the troubled environment. A disregard of this warning by committing another hostile act, or an especially negative action such as physical violence or verbal abuse/disrespect, will lead to a vote among the officers to decide the membership of the individual being charged with these acts. It is also understood that club dues will not be returned to an individual who is removed from the club due to their own violent or disrespectful and damaging behaviors as determined by the club officers.
- H. In the event of the University closing sooner than 8 weeks into the semester, dues will be reimbursed at the rates total - (\$5 per lesson) for the Thursday class or total – (\$10 per lesson) for the Monday and Thursday classes that have been held.

Article V. Duties and Privileges of Membership

Members acknowledge and agree that:

- A. This Constitution serves as a contract between each member and the club as a whole;
- B. They must read and comply with the Constitution itself.
- C. By submitting to this Constitution, members are subject to the authority of the club officers, meaning that each member agrees to respect decisions made by said officers.
- D. Any alterations to this Constitution are still binding to members who have signed the agreement to abide by its articles and policies at the time they fulfilled their wavier to the Ballroom Dance Club.

Article VI. Officers

- A. Officer Duties: All must attend practices (with exceptions for familial matters, personal health, academic requirements, or other excuses deemed reasonable by the officers)
 - 1. President: Primary representative of the Ballroom Dance Club, sets up officer meetings and contacts secretary to relay this information to the rest of the officers, gathers information concerning collegiate competitions, aids in enrolling ballroom members in collegiate competitions, attends all meetings possible.
 - 2. Vice-President: Sets up community service opportunities, shares responsibility between all other officers in a joint effort besides their specifically assigned tasks.
 - 3. Treasurer: Monetary guardian and due collector for the club, receives help with attendance roster from the secretary to track who attends each practice of the club,

keeps track of club funds, payments, and other financial situations and relays them to other officers.

4. Secretary: To facilitate club communication through email messaging and sensible social media connections, gather everyone's emails at beginning of semester, make sure to track attendance of students visiting the club and our practices/lessons as well as making sure everyone completes waivers at their first practice, send out practice reminders, cancellations, events, and special messages pertaining to club and practices.
 5. Event Coordinator: Responsible for setting up competitions, demonstrations, fundraising events, and the end-of-the-year gala; creating and distributing promotional materials (working with UREC personnel on designs and acquiring the necessary permissions for the use of licensed assets), organizing chalking, communicating with vendors where necessary, and promoting volunteer opportunities.
- B. Members Eligible for Office: Any member is eligible to run for the offices listed above as long as they are a student of the university, are active in club events, and are in fair academic standing with the University.
- C. Elections: Elections (with the exception of special and emergency elections, which are elaborated upon in Sections D and F, respectively) will occur, at minimum, a month before finals at the end of spring semester during the social/beginner class. Any member is eligible to run for office, and any member of the club is eligible to vote on a candidate. In the event of a tie, only the officers will cast their votes to break it.
- D. Term of Office: An officer of the club can only hold any specific office for one year. Officers are required to step down from an office after one year in the position but is allowed to run for a different officer position the following year.
- E. Leave of Office: In the event that an officer resigns or leaves abruptly, the President will delegate that officer's duties amongst the other officers. If advanced notice is given, the President will schedule a special election for their replacement, preferably before their formal resignation has occurred to facilitate a training and transition period.
- F. Impeachment: Should an officer be unable to complete their duties; another officer can call for a vote to impeach. Of the remaining officers not involved in the impeachment movement, two must vote in favor of impeachment to proceed.
- G. Emergency Elections: After either sudden resignation or impeachment, an emergency election will be held during a Thursday class no more than two weeks from the date of resignation/impeachment. The Secretary will be responsible for notifying club members of this election ahead of time.
- H. Executive Board: This board consists of prior officers who have served a full term as an officer, are currently active in the club, and were not removed due to leave of office or impeachment. The main objective and role are to advise the current set of officers on their

duties and provide connections to resources and individuals for these officers. This position is voluntary and is not required for being an officer of the club.

Article VII. Coaches, Advisors, Volunteers

The primary coaches for the Ballroom Dance Club is Morten Jensen and Lee Williams. Both are Champion level dancers and own studios in the area. Morten will instruct and create choreography for the styles of Smooth and Standard as well as focus on technique and styling. Lee will instruct and create choreography for the styles of Rhythm and Latin. Our faculty advisor is Dr. Lance Miller in the mathematics department. He has danced for around 15 years starting at the University of Connecticut Ballroom Team and competes at the Open Level. His contact information is lem016@uark.edu. Morton and Dr. Miller currently facilitates the club's connection to the competitions which have been traveled to by providing information on available competitions. At the current time, Morten and Lee are willing to teach the club free of charge till we can grow to a size that can pay them for their hard work. The amount has yet to be discussed but will be discussed with future officers.

Article VIII. Club Meetings

Dance Instruction meetings:

The Ballroom Dance Club will have two classes per week which will last two hours each, from 7 P.M. to 9 P.M. on Mondays and 7 P.M. to 9 P.M. on Thursdays. The lesson will be divided into 45 minutes of beginner, 45 minutes of intermediate, and 30 minutes of team practice. The beginner and intermediate classes will cover Smooth and Rhythm. Standard and Latin will be taught during the team practice. If a coach is unavailable on one of these practices, then the senior/experienced members of the club, specifically the officers, will step in to facilitate instruction for members. Sundays, we have an open practice from 7 P.M to 9 P.M. to work on the things we learned during the week and to help develop partnerships.

Officer/General club meetings:

The Ballroom Dance Club will have its officers meet on a fluctuating weekly to bi-weekly schedule. At these meetings matters such as the clubs current progress, costs, club practices, team health and coordination, club sponsored events, volunteer opportunities, competitions scheduling, traveling plans and costs, etc. will be addressed as a team and later presented to all members of the club so as to promote open communication and present information clearly for all members. This presentation of what the officers discussed will take place after dance instruction for the Thursday dance lessons when the most members are traditionally present.

Article IX. Amending the Constitution

- A. All changes to the Constitution must be unanimously agreed upon by the Ballroom Officers.
- B. Any change to the Constitution must be reported to the full Ballroom Club at the following practice.
- C. Any change to the Constitution must be reported and turned in to the individuals in charge of Club Sports at the University of Arkansas.

Article X. Ratification of Constitution

- A. The Constitution can be voted into existence at any point where all the officers of the club are in clear, verbal contact (group call, or skype for example).
- B. Each filled officer position must sign the amended Constitution prior to submission to the office of Club Sports for it to come into effect.
- C. The Constitution of the University of Arkansas Ballroom Dance Club is officially instated as of ____ / ____ / ____ by unanimous agreement of the officers.

President: _____

Vice-President: _____

Treasurer: _____

Event Coordinator: _____

Secretary: _____

D. Club Sports Signature to verify properly submitted Constitution

Club Sports: _____