

Constitution of the University of Arkansas Collegiate Esports Club

Article I. Name

This club shall be called University of Arkansas Collegiate Esports, henceforth referred to as UARK Esports.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of UARK Esports is to organize collegiate esports teams at the University of Arkansas Fayetteville (UAF). It will schedule practices, training and tournament entries, while providing support for the management of sponsors, fundraising and recruitment efforts.

Article III. Affiliation

UARK Esports has the following associations as defined.

- 1) Other Colleges within the University of Arkansas System (UAS).
 - a) UARK Esports allows for students not enrolled at UAF who are enrolled elsewhere in UAS to join and compete as a part of UARK Esports, who will be known as UA System Members
 - b) To qualify to join UARK Esports, potential UA System Members must meet all special expectations and pay all required student activity fees as dictated by UAF's Student Government, and follow the Student Conduct policy of UAF while a member, in addition to any requirements defined by UARK Esports.
- 2) University Information Technology Services (UITs)
 - a) UITs provides space, resources, and campus support critical to UARK Esports. UARK Esports recognizes this support is voluntary on the part of UITs.
- 3) Competitive Leagues
 - a) UARK Esports will associate with national organizations for competitive collegiate esports including but not limited to TESPA, the EGFC, and the Collegiate Star League. These associations are strictly for the purpose of competition, and do not reflect an official partnership or exclusivity of any kind.

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b) Should UARK Esports wish to enter into an official partnership or agreement of exclusivity, the officers must vote and approve upon an update to the Constitution to reflect such an agreement. If the Constitution is not updated, the agreement will not be considered valid.

4) Other Outside Associations

a) There shall be a list of all other outside associations active within the past year, updated once a year, maintained by the UARK Esports president.

b) That list will be stored in a place visible to all student leadership and advisors, to ensure all commitments of UARK Esports are known and can be met.

c) Any new agreements pertaining to joining an association must be reviewed and approved by both the club president and one of the club advisors.

Article IV. Membership

1) UARK Esports does not turn away members on the basis of ethnicity, country of origin, age, gender, marital or parental status, disability, or sexual orientation.

2) Active Member Eligibility

a) Active Members will be those students who have paid dues and been recognized as full members of UARK Esports.

b) An Active Member of the club must be enrolled full or part time as a graduate or undergraduate student at the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville and must have no academic honesty violations within the past two years.

c) If a student is not a University of Arkansas – Fayetteville student but is eligible as a University of Arkansas System Member, or later ceases to be a University of Arkansas – Fayetteville student but becomes eligible as a University of Arkansas System Member, they must meet all requirements in Article III.1 and Article IV.1 to be an Active Member.

d) Being an Active Member within UARK Esports does not automatically confer a position on any team.

e) Members may be required to pay dues in accordance with Article X.

i) Dues are paid yearly and the amount is set by the current leadership at the time dues are required.

3) General Member Eligibility

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a) General Members are students who support UARK Esports and wish to be a part of the community. General Members have no voting rights but may attend student-only events.

b) If a student is not a University of Arkansas – Fayetteville student but is eligible as a University of Arkansas System Member, or later ceases to be a University of Arkansas – Fayetteville student but becomes eligible as a University of Arkansas System Member, they must meet all requirements in Article III.1 and Article IV.1 to be a General Member.

4) Community Member Eligibility

a) Community members are community members not eligible to be Active Members or General Members, such as non-students. They will have no voting rights and may be excluded from student-only events.

b) Community Member status can be granted by permission of the Club President or Vice President.

c) The Club President has the power to revoke any community membership, at any time, for any reason. They must share this decision with the other officers when it is made.

d) Community members may not compete and are never required to pay dues.

e) Graduates who were members of UARK Esports upon graduation will automatically be granted Community Member status. They are still held to all community member rules and may have this status revoked.

5) Advisors

a) New advisors will be appointed by agreement of the Club President and an appointed representative of UITS.

6) Revoking Membership

a) Active and General membership can be revoked by a majority vote of all officers.

Article V. Voting Policies

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Media Manager will be elected by Active Members via the voting process provided by HogSync. The nomination process will work as written below.

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1) Officer Elect

- a) Referred to as (Position) Elect. Ex: President Elect, or Treasurer Elect.
- b) This is a transitional position granted to those who have been voted in as officers, but who have not yet taken on their full duties.
- c) The period during which an individual serves as an Elect, they are meant to receive mentorship from the individual they will replace, and may perform all duties of their future role in that mentorship context.

2) Nominations Process

- a) Nomination Period: A period of a minimum of one week, meant to take place each Fall semester.
- b) Opening of Nominations: The President shall send an email to all Active Members and Community Members when the nomination window opens, for whom they have an email address.
 - i) The nomination period may be extended, but a new email must be sent out to notify all Active Members and Community Members.
 - ii) The President may task other members of the community with sending out the email, but is expected to oversee this process.
 - iii) Other notifications that the period is open may be sent via all other communication channels, as deemed appropriate by the current President.
- c) Who May Nominate: All Active Members may make nominations for new officers.
 - i) If an Active Member is nominating someone else, the individual nominated must accept the nomination for it to be valid. The President is responsible for determining if the nomination has been accepted.
- d) How To Nominate: While the window for nominations is open, nominations may be provided in the following ways:
 - i) During a club meeting where minutes are being taken
 - ii) Direct email to UARK Esports, using the official email as listed on the Club Sports website

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- iii) Any other method explicitly provided in the email sent when the nomination window opens.
 - e) Who May Be Nominated: All current Active Members and Community Members as stipulated below may be nominated.
 - i) Community Members that are eligible to become Active Members may be nominated, but may not nominate themselves or others.
 - (1) Such an individual must become an Active Member prior to the election for the nomination to remain valid.
 - ii) If an individual ineligible to meet the criteria as an Active Member is nominated, or who declines to meet the criteria, the nomination shall be rejected.
- 3) Election Process
- a) Election List: The President will provide a list of all nominations for each position, as well as a list of all active members eligible to vote, to the primary club advisor.
 - b) Election Oversight: The primary club advisor will have the responsibility of utilizing the HogSync election tool to administer the election.
 - c) Reporting Results: Results will be provided by the primary club advisor to the current club officers. They will provide only a count of votes for each candidate. No information on who voted or how they voted will be provided to the officers.
- 4) Elections
- a) The election period will be open for at least one week, to be announced after the close of the nomination period. Except where modified by Article V.3, the Elections process should function identically to the Nominations process in Article V.2.
- 5) Emergency Elections
- a) In the event of an unplanned vacancy in the leadership, a special meeting to perform an emergency election may be called by the remaining leadership.
 - i) If there is no remaining student leadership, the primary club advisor may act instead.
 - b) In that meeting nominations will be given, and a vote will be held, with results reviewed and reported by the primary advisor. This may be handled as determined by the remaining officers.
 - i) This will supersede the ordinary nomination and election process.

c) The replacement officer will serve out the remainder of the existing term for the officer they replaced.

6) Other Leadership Roles

a) All student leadership positions recognized by UARK Esports excluding those of President, Vice-President, and Treasurer, shall be appointed by the current President as needed in the method of their choosing.

b) Staff and Faculty Advisors to UARK Esports will be reviewed as needed by the President, Vice President, and Treasurer and may be replaced by the authority of two of those officers in agreement.

Article VI. Duties and Privileges of Membership

Members will receive duties and privileges of members, as stipulated below. Failure to meet the duties of membership may result in removal from the club.

1) Privileges for Active Members

a) Active Members shall be permitted to try out for positions on the competitive teams of UARK Esports.

b) Active Members may make nominations during officer elections, and be nominated as officers.

c) Active Members will have access to the general communication channels for the organization.

d) Active Members may be considered as temporary replacements for a member of a competitive team, should members of an existing team be unable to make an event due to injury, academic burden, or timing conflicts.

i) Such a decision will be made by the captain of the respective competitive team.

e) Active Members will be permitted to join the active member mailing list, that will notify them of all club news and events, including those only open to active members.

f) If attendance for an event is capped and it allows advance registration, Active Members will take priority over Community Members until the day of the event.

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2) Privileges for Community Members

- a) Community Members will have access to the general communication channels for the organization.
- b) Community Members will be permitted to join the community member mailing list, so that they may be notified of community news and events.

3) Duties of all Members

- a) All members agree to live up to the Standards of Conduct policies set forth by the University of Arkansas, Club Sports, and UARK Gaming.
- b) All members agree to meet those expectations when present at club events, when competing, and in online community participation.
- c) Failure to meet the above duties may result in removal from the club, by agreement of any two of the three elected officers or by any one of the elected officers and a club advisor.
 - i) In the event of removal of due to the above a dues-paid member, the dues paid will not be reimbursed.
 - ii) The reason for the removal will be submitted to the relevant personnel in club sports in writing, with signatures of all officers and advisors that supported the removal as written.

4) Additional Duties for Student Competitors

- a) Students appointed to a competitive team will be expected to attend at least three practice sessions per month.
 - i) In the event that circumstances make it impossible to make that schedule, a waiver of this expectation may be granted by the team captain on a case by case basis.
 - ii) If the team Manager should fail to meet this requirement, the waiver must be extended by the club president, or one of the advisors should the team Manager also be club president.
- b) Students appointed to a competitive team are expected to maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5.

Article VII. Officers

- 1) President – The club president acts as the primary student authority for organizing the recruitment of new members, approved fundraising activities, and ensuring the performance of external experts to include but not be limited to coaching staff. In the absence of an appropriate appointed officer, the president is the default coordinator/representative for the club when communicating with esports leagues and organizations.
- 2) Vice President – The club vice president acts as a backup for the president and is in charge of managing the teams and handling disciplinary actions directly.
- 3) Treasurer – The treasurer is expected to review and approve all club expenses, prepare a quarterly statement of club financial activity, and ensure funds acquired via fundraising activities are properly recorded and deposited.
- 4) Secretary – The secretary is in charge of handling and preparing documents as well as taking notes during meetings among officers and managers.
- 5) Media Manager – The media manager is in charge of handling all media accounts for UARK Esports. The media manager can appoint assistants to help manage the accounts.
- 6) Managers – The club shall have at least one manager for each active esports team. Multiple managers can be in the same position, should the size of the team require a second manager (i.e., two separate Overwatch teams). Managers shall organize practices and scrimms and have the ability to add and remove members from their competitive teams based strictly on competitive ability, teamwork, sportsmanship, and practice attendance. The Manager will coordinate with the coaching staff for the team, if any.
- 7) Advisors - The club shall have three faculty/staff advisors with focuses in the areas of organization, finances, and community development.
 - a. The organization advisor oversees association with external collegiate groups and competitive tournament participation. They are considered the official backup for the student representative and must give approval to any new agreements with such organizations.
 - b. The finances advisor serves as oversight for the acquisition of sponsorship and distribution of scholarships. All new sponsorships must be reviewed and approved by them first.
 - c. The community development advisor oversees recruitment efforts and campus awareness of esports activities. This advisor also serves as the official staff contact with University IT.
- 8) UARK Gaming Liaison - This individual will collaborate with the Registered Student Organization UARK Gaming to ensure that they are aware of competitive activity, and work

to ensure that there are no conflicts between scheduled events and competitive tournaments.

a. The UARK Gaming Liaison must be an officer within the UARK Gaming Club and is appointed by agreement between the Presidents of UARK Gaming and UARK Esports.

Article VIII. Coaches, Faculty Advisors, Volunteers

1) Coaches: Coaches will be approved by the Club President, the Manager for the coached team, and at least one advisor. An agreement by the Club President, the Manager for the coached team, and at least one advisor can also immediately remove a coach from their role.

a) Any agreements to payment for the services of a coach will be determined in advance of the coach starting work, even if that agreement shall be that the coaching is a volunteer service. This shall be in writing and signed by the coach, the club president, and two witnesses

2) Advisors: The requirements for the appointment of each advisor differs.

a) The Organization Advisor: Selected by the President and Vice President. Must be a university staff or faculty member with a background in management, leadership, communication, or a similar area. The advisor may be removed by agreement of the Club President and the other two club advisors.

b) Finances Advisor: Selected by the President and the Treasurer. Must be a university staff or faculty member with a background in finance, fund raising, or a similar area. The advisor may be removed by agreement of the Club President and the other two club advisors.

c) Community Development Advisor: Selected by the President and University IT. Expected to be a member of University IT associated with the on campus esports facilities, but not required to be. The advisor may be removed by agreement of the Club President, University IT, and the other two club advisors.

Article IX. Club Meetings

1) Frequency: Meetings will occur weekly via discord for all active teams, administered by the current team manager. A further club-wide meeting will be hosted once a month in person on campus. Additional meetings may be scheduled by the president and team captains.

2) Organization: All meetings will start with a recap of the previous meeting, to be given by the ranking club member present, or an appointed record keeper as appropriate.

The ranking club member in attendance will then lead the meeting, act as mediator, and close the meeting as appropriate.

Article X. Club Dues

1) Dues are set once a year by the president and must be the same for all dues paying members. This occurs in the Fall. All active members must pay dues before the end of the Fall semester or lose their active member status.

- a) A stipend to offset the cost of dues for competitive team members is allowed. The stipend is issued to the student, and they must still pay dues normally.
- b) Community members are not required to pay dues.

Article XI. Decision Making

As a general rule, UARK Esports shall use officer vote to make its decisions.

Article XII. Amending Constitution

The constitution to UARK Esports may be changed via a unanimous vote of the president, vice president, treasurer, and any one of the club advisors.

1) If the amendment changes the organization's relationship with University IT as sponsor or the role of their representative within UARK Esports, it must also be reviewed and approved by the club sports office.

Article XIII. Ratification of Constitution

The signatures below indicate that we, as executive officers, approve this document.

President's Name: _____ Date: _____

Vice President's Name: _____ Date: _____

Treasurer's Name: _____ Date: _____