

Constitution of the Arkansas Quidditch Club

Date Adopted: February 13, 2011

Date Amended: September 1, 2020

Preamble

We, the witches and wizards of the Arkansas Quidditch Club at the University of Arkansas, in order to form a more fun-filled campus, and create an inclusive space for pop culture, hereby do ordain and establish this constitution and subscribe to the regulations and policies of this University.

Article I

The name of this organization shall be Arkansas Quidditch Club at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville Campus. All references to the University of Arkansas will hereafter be understood to be limited to the Fayetteville Campus. All references to the entity designated as officers are executive club members elected to run the club.

Article II

The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to provide an opportunity for witches, wizards, and those who wish to be to come together and share the love of the representative sport of Quidditch, (2) to educate and raise awareness throughout campus and community about Harry Potter and affiliated activities, and (3) to plan events which will promote and showcase Quidditch to the campus and the community.

Article III

Official affiliations of the Arkansas Quidditch Club organization include the University of Arkansas department of University Recreation (UREC) Club Sports program and United States Quidditch (USQ).

Article IV

Section A – Non-Discrimination : Active membership of this student organization shall be chosen without discrimination on the basis of race, age, color, sex, sexual-orientation, handicap, creed, or national and ethnic origin. Members also shall not be discriminated against based on their level of magical ability, purity of blood, Hogwarts house affiliation, wand preference, or degree of headlessness.

Section B – Membership Defined : Membership is open to all persons who are a current UREC member at the University of Arkansas.

Section C – Voting Membership Defined : Voting membership is given to every member of Arkansas Quidditch Club.

Section D – Membership Conduct:

At no time will one member of Arkansas Quidditch Club hex, strike, curse, or in any way commit physical, emotional, or psychological injury against another. Members will be expected to act in such a way that does not bring negative opinions or attention to the organization. Any member who commits any of the aforementioned infractions will be subject to suspension or removal by officers.

Article V

Section A – Officer Requirements : Officers and captains of this organization must fulfill the following requirements: (1) must be a full-time, matriculated student at the University of Arkansas for at least two semesters prior to the assumption of an office, (2) be an enrolled student with good standing at the University of Arkansas for this period, (3) maintain a minimum 2.75 cumulative grade point average.

Section B – Officer Duties :

Subsection A: General – All officers will be required to possess an intimate and abiding knowledge of all Quidditch rules set forth by USQ.

Subsection B:

First Class:

Minister of Magic (President) – Shall organize executive board meetings, be the sole correspondent with other Quidditch captains, be the voice of the organization, ensure that UREC requirements are met and taken care of on time, manage the Facebook group, and delegate tasks. The Minister of Magic will be considered the first among equals among officers.

Senior Undersecretary (Vice President) – Shall manage equipment along with the team captain and help set up and organize practices along with the executive board and the team captain. The senior undersecretary will also, in the event that the Minister of Magic becomes unable to fulfill their duties, take over as Minister of Magic until the next election cycle. A new Senior Undersecretary will then be chosen by a majority vote by the officers and among eligible team members.

Head of Gringotts (Treasurer) – Responsible for the UREC funding process, by getting the budget done correctly and on time, handles purchases, and any other associated paperwork. The Head of Gringotts will submit the budget to the executive council before submitting it to UREC, etc.

Chronicler (Secretary) – Primarily responsible for all paperwork that is not already specified as the duty of another officer needed to maintain UREC membership. Additionally, manages email accounts available to the team, and reminds members of meetings and practices. In the event of travel, the Chronicler will handle and manage all pertinent information for the team in conjunction with the other officers.

Second Class:

Team Captain - Will be responsible for organizing, planning, and setting up practices. Keep track of and help transport the equipment, and must be a good example

for the other members of the team. The Team Captain will have the discretion to choose other position-specific Captains, although the choices may be overridden by the First Class members (officers). Finally, the Team Captain will make all reasonable efforts become a USQ official referee.

Prefects – Will be general helpers who want to be involved but do not necessarily want the pressure of having an executive board position. They help with t-shirt handouts, paperwork, logistics, fundraisers, practices, etc. at the request of the officers. In the case of an official vote, Prefects can serve as the tie-breaker between officers.

Subsection C : Pursuant to USQ's mandate that official teams field no more than twenty-one individuals at a time, it falls to certain members to select those twenty-one based on skill, dedication to the team, and other relevant criteria consistent with the stated goals and standards of the team. Those individuals responsible for the creation of aforementioned roster shall be the sitting officers, as well as the Head Team Captain in the event that position is not filled by a sitting officer, all of which will have one co-equal vote in the creation of the roster. If the position of Head Team Captain is currently filled by a sitting officer, that individual's vote is only counted once. The collective vote of all captains and coaches will be expressed singularly through the vote of the Team Captain unless those individuals otherwise already possess an empowered vote. The vote of the Team Captain shall only officially be recognized during this process of team-selection as his or her duties do not pertain directly to the general management of the club.

Section C – Officer Nomination Qualifications : To be nominated for an officer position, an individual must have been an active member of Arkansas Quidditch Club for at least two semesters immediately preceding their assumption of office.

Section D – Officer Terms: Officers will hold office from the end of one spring semester till the end of the next spring semester. New officers will shadow existing members from the time that they are elected in March until the end of the spring semester.

Section E – Special Designations: The title of Dark Lord, as it has been conferred, shall be a lifetime non-transferrable appointment. All other special designations shall be at the whim of the Dark Lord or by convention of the masses. The duties of the Dark Lord shall include being generally awesome and representing Arkansas Quidditch Club in the best light possible.

Article VI

Section A – Election Process : Elections will occur during the month of March for the following academic year's officer positions. Candidates for the various positions will submit themselves for consideration by the beginning of March to the current officers. The current officers will then choose the candidate by a simple majority vote of the officers for each position. No sitting officer may vote on a position if they themselves are running for it. Positions will be considered and voted on in the following order: Minister of Magic (President), Senior Undersecretary (Vice President), Head of Gringotts (Treasurer), Chronicler (Secretary). The Team Captain and prefects shall be appointed by the sitting officers; no nominations will be considered for these positions. If there is a tie in any of the above cases, then further discussion is required, as consensus is always to be striven for. If, however, at the furthest extreme, this becomes impossible, a Prefect shall be responsible for the deciding vote. The general membership of the organization will be informed of the officers' decisions immediately

following the elections. At the subsequent team practice, general members will have the opportunity to ratify the decision made by the officers. Members shall participate in a vote at the end of practice, in which a simple majority vote is required to reject the election decision, otherwise the election will be ratified. If the decision is rejected, the election process will begin anew and proceed in the manner described previously.

Section B – Voting Procedures: Voting will be conducted by a simple show of hands after an appropriate period of discussion has been allowed. The Minister of Magic or highest ranking member present shall call for a vote after he/she feels that this period of discussion has completed. The subject(s) of voting shall not be present during the voting process. The selection of an officer, as well as all general decisions will be decided by a simple majority vote, where each member has a voting power of one. However, due to the greater responsibility entrusted to them, it is to be understood that the voice of the Minister of Magic is given especial weight in the event of heavily contested matters. Team Captains and prefects, if applicable, will be encouraged to attend designated officer sessions and provide input into such proceedings.

Section C – Replacement of Officer Vacancies: In the event of an officer position vacancy, a one week period after the immediately following practice will be allowed for the submission of new candidates. The selection process will proceed as normal after this period has elapsed. In the event that the position of Minister of Magic becomes vacant, the Senior Undersecretary will assume the role of Minister of Magic for the remainder of the academic year, and the officers will vote to fill the position of Senior Undersecretary. In the event that a vacancy occurs, but the end of the term of service is deemed by the officers near enough that the organization will not suffer in the absence of the officer in question, then the vacancy may be left unfilled.

Section D – Removal of an Officer: Officers are subject to removal from office by the organization if they violate the conditions set forth in Article V. Members may also be removed if they are deemed to be negligent or ineffectual in their elected position. Removal of a First Class member shall require a unanimous vote: the three other members of said body and a Prefect, who in these matters will reflect the voice of the team. Removal of an elected officer should be the result of a clear and present problem posed by that member and should be treated as a matter of the utmost seriousness. Movement to remove an officer may occur at any time deemed necessary.

Article VII

Section A – Regular Meetings: Regular officer meetings will occur as decided upon by the sitting officers in their first meeting of the new academic year. Non-regular meetings may only be called by either the Minister of Magic or the Head of Gringotts. Sitting officers will be informed at least five days before the meeting. If a meeting is called in less than this five day window, then absence from said meeting will not be held against the officer in question. Officers who miss more than one properly scheduled meeting within a single semester without an approved excuse will be put on delinquency status. Missing more than two meetings within a single semester without an approved excuse will be grounds for movement to remove an officer from their position. Excuses to be approved by the Minister of Magic.

Section B – Other Attendance Requirements: As leaders of Arkansas Quidditch Club, sitting officers are expected to attend all official practices, tournaments, and related events.

Absence from these events, most especially those involving the presence other official Quidditch teams, should approached be with utmost reluctance and due only to such things of importance as family, school, illness, employment, etc. All absences from official events should be subject to review by the Minister of Magic to determine its validity.

Section C – Quorum Defined: A minimum of three officers must be present to vote on general issues. If an issue requires immediate action, the Minister of Magic will have discretionary power to act. For votes concerning new officers, all sitting officers must be present, barring extreme circumstances.

Section D – Meeting Conduct: As elected officers, an organization steeped in tradition and honour, all persons will act with the proper dignity and decorum befitting their positions. At no time will an officer act in a manner that will be detrimental to the well-being of the organization as a whole. Members will be expected to speak and act respectfully to one another and to general members. Officer positions at no time will be used as a platform for personal aggrandizement, power plays, petty interpersonal squabbles, or other conduct unbecoming one's position.

Article VIII

Section A – Status of the Madam Hooch Analog: Upon the retirement of Madam Hooch after her exemplary coaching service for these past 25 years, it was indicated that a suitable replacement would be advantageous for the organization. The decision to affirm or decline this recommendation shall be left to the annual review of the sitting Wizengamot. Any such analog must meet the requirements set out in the UREC Club Sport policies and is subject to review by the Club Sports Program Director as well as the team at large.

Section B – Memorial in Honour of Madam Hooch: In memory of Madam Hooch's service to the Arkansas Quidditch Club organization, it is hereafter enacted that on the practice nearest to the date of September 17th each year, a glass of the beverage of choice for the individual players be lifted. This is a small, but meaningful recognition of small steps that lead to greater things.

Article IX

Section A – Membership Dues: In order that Arkansas Quidditch Club persists into the coming years, a monetary sum of some order must be collected from persons wishing to participate in the sport. Pursuant to this idea, membership dues will be enacted in the following amounts: 30 dollars per every year of play or 20 dollars per every half-year of play. Membership dues will be collected after an individual has attended two practices, and the club will not be subject to furnish a refund in the event of misconduct by the club or one of its representatives towards that participant as determined by the Club Sport Director.

Section B – Reassessment of Membership Dues: Any alterations to the amount of membership dues will be made public knowledge for the consideration of all those affected before being enacted within the organization.

Section C-Refunds: Membership dues are fully refundable as long as it is before the third practice after the membership dues have been paid.

Article X

All financial policies and procedures for Arkansas Quidditch Club will follow the University of Arkansas's policies and procedures for UREC funding.

Article XI

Section A – Constitutional Amendments: All constitutional amendments will be in compliance with the University of Arkansas's regulations, standards and policies. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of three out of four sitting officers. No changes will be made during the summer sessions or during winter break.

Section B – Reporting: Any substantive changes or amendments made to this constitution will be made known to the general members of Arkansas Quidditch Club at the practice following the enactment of the change.

Article XII

Statement of Non-Hazing: This organization will not conspire to engage in hazing, or take any action or situation created, whether on or off University premises, that has the potential to produce mental, physical, or emotional discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule.

Article XIII

This organization shall comply with all University, campus, and USQ policies and regulations, and local, state, and federal laws.

Article XIV

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, exceptions will be made to this Constitution. Attendance at practices will be required as much as previously stated in this Constitution unless a member has stated that they will refrain from all practices. Members, including those who have chosen to remain remote, will be required to attend all scheduled team meetings via a virtual meeting platform.

Members will be expected to adhere to all safety guidelines put forth by the University of Arkansas and the Arkansas Quidditch Club. There will be zero-tolerance for members who choose not to adhere to safety guidelines, once that member has been informed of these guidelines.

Signature of Minister of Magic/President Date

Signature of Club Sports Director Date

Authored by Ethan McCormick, the Dark Lord

Amended by: Arkansas Quidditch Club Officers, 2020