

# **Rider Esports Constitution**

Adopted October 11, 2017 - Updated June 20, 2019

The Rider Esports Constitution contains governing policies that shall be adhered to in conjunction with other required policies as required by the Club Sports Council, a sub-government of the Student Government Association within Rider University and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC).

## **ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1:** The official name of this club sport shall be Rider Esports.

**Section 2:** Rider Esports is a club sport for full-time undergraduate and graduate students. Its goal is to develop player knowledge and skills across multiple competitive video games. The club will educate members of the Rider University community about college level competitive esports, foster player's interpersonal and critical thinking skills through competition/cooperation, and present members with the opportunity to experience the sport within an organized regional conference.

## **ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1:** All students shall be eligible for membership. Part time and graduate students must pay additional fees as they do not currently pay the SAF.

**Section 2:** The club does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and mental or physical handicap in accordance with Rider University policy.

### **Section 3: Good Standing**

To remain in good standing within the organization, the member shall:

- I. Attend  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all biweekly general meetings unless with provided notice within 24 hours of the meeting for an excused absence and maintain the proper paperwork; it is the students' responsibility to register onto Bronc Nation to officially be on the club roster. An Eboard member must attend  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all weekly meetings; and a team member must attend all official matches and practices unless excused by a captain.

- II. Demonstrate positive sportsmanship at all meetings, matches, and functions, oriented with the team. Members must also refrain from toxic behavior in all club communications in chats, emails and the discord. Failure to do so may result in the member's immediate disaffiliation from Rider Esports after an evaluation from the executive board with the assistance from the club's advisor.
- III. Meet all financial obligations set forth at the beginning of the term and pay those obligations in a timely fashion.
- IV. Attendance requirements for team practices are determined by team Captains.
- V. Maintain a good academic standing of at least a 2.0 GPA.

**Section 4:** Any member on a competitive team wishing to disaffiliate from a team must notify the captain in writing.

**Section 5: Leave of Absence**

- I. If a member wishes to take a leave of absence (i.e., studying abroad), they can choose to do so without jeopardizing their status on a team, excluding members on board positions. If a member of the board chooses to take a leave of absence, they revoke their position on the board. The member must submit a written statement to the captain the semester before the absence, and state how long they will be gone for. If a board member chooses to have an internship or co-op, it is up to their discretion to revoke their position.

**Section 6: Team Members**

- I. Team members must adhere to practice requirements imposed by their team captain. Team members are also subject to all the same expectations of general members.
- II. Team members are expected to compete in all official matches and should be wearing their uniforms once available.
- III. Team members are decided through a rubric grade determined at try-outs or on an ad-hoc basis if try-outs have passed.
- IV. Team member dues are higher to supply members with a player pack, which should include at least a jersey used as a uniform
- V. Multiple teams may exist for the same title (i.e.; an "A" and "B" League of Legends team).

**Section 7: General Members**

- I. Players can choose to watch and support teams during matches but are not required to.

- II. Must attend  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all bi-weekly meetings unless excused by a member of the executive board.
- III. All general members are eligible to try out and become a team member by participating in any official try out event hosted by a title's team or by appealing directly to a team's captain and gaining approval to join.
- IV. Members may participate in multiple teams if the added commitment does not threaten their good standing.
- V. Members are encouraged to voice opinions and ideas for new initiatives during meetings. The executive board may form committees whereby general members may join and work to achieve specific goals.

### **Section 8: Competitive Titles**

- I. All competitive titles are determined by the athletic conference Rider Esports registers with. As of June 20, 2019, this club is registered with the Easter College Athletic Conference (ECAC).
- II. Rider Esports can create official competitive teams in any of these titles, subject to the rules and limitations provided by the official rules of the ECAC.
- III. Current titles the club will be competing under are League of Legends, Overwatch, FIFA, and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate.
- IV. Titles may be added or subtracted from the constitution by a majority vote of the President, Vice President, and the Advisor to reflect the current titles offered by the ECAC without the need for the executive board to vote on a constitutional amendment.
- V. In the event that a Rider Esports competitive team attains a championship or any sort of winnings from a tournament as a representative of Rider Esports, all proceeds will be collected by the club's treasurer to be put into the club's dues account.

## **ARTICLE III: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **Section 1: Executive Board Positions**

The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Public Relations Chair, Secretary, Risk Manager, Conference Communications Coordinator, and Director of Team Relations shall be recognized as the executive branch of Rider Esports.

### **Section 2: Qualifications & Responsibilities of the Executive Board**

- I. In order to become a member of the Executive Board, the student must be in good academic standing (GPA of 2.5 or higher) at Rider University. No exceptions may be allowed in conjunction with the Club Sport Council's executive board policy.
- II. If attendance falls below 75%, the Executive Board has the ability to dismiss an officer from their position.
- III. Any member of the Executive Board can be a member of a competitive team during their term of office as long as it's approved by the Advisor and Executive Board President.
- IV. In order to be elected President and/or Vice President of the Executive Board, the candidate must have served on the Board for at least one semester and/or as a general member for one semester prior to or at the time of his/her nomination. The candidate must be a student in good academic standing (GPA of 2.5 or higher) and social standing at Rider University. This will be determined by the Advisor. Students expressing an interest in running for President are encouraged to shadow the current President during the Fall Semester.
- V. All officers hold office for one year and is not limited to a set number of terms.

The Responsibilities of the entire Executive Board shall be to:

- I. Attend bi-weekly meetings with the Executive Board and the General Assembly.
- II. Maintain communication with Executive Board during the week with updates.
- III. Attend Rider Esports events and support other clubs/organizations on campus if doing so raises Rider Esports' profile on campus.
- IV. Organize necessary training for Esports positions and hold follow up meetings, if needed.
- V. Serve as a Team Captain Buddy
- VI. Be present as an active role model on campus.
- VII. To be responsible for all Esports sponsored campus wide-events.

### **Section 3: Officer Responsibilities**

- I. President

- A. Convene and preside over all meetings of the Executive Board and General Assembly Meetings.
  - B. Establish the annual goals and objectives of Rider E-Sports with the Executive Board and the General Assembly.
  - C. Organize agenda and prepare slideshows for General Assembly Meetings.
  - D. Serve as the official Rider Esports representative to other Rider organizations.
  - E. Meet on a weekly basis with the Rider Esports Advisor.
  - F. Ensure all officers are fulfilling their responsibilities
  - G. Assume all responsibilities of Conference Communications Director if position is left unfilled
- II. Vice President
- A. Convene and preside over all meetings of the Executive Board and General Assembly Meetings, if the President is absent.
  - B. Exercise all duties and responsibilities of the President of the Executive Board in their absence.
  - C. Organize recruitment strategy and prepare slideshow for information sessions.
  - D. Complete an end-of-the-year report summarizing the year's accomplishments and submit to the Rider Esports Advisor and President.
  - E. Keep accurate records of all Rider Esports legislation and changes in the Constitution, will be relied upon to settle constitutional disputes.
  - F. Meet on a bi-weekly basis with the Rider Esports Advisor.
  - G. Assume all responsibilities of Director of Team Relations if position is left unfilled
- III. Treasurer
- A. Maintain a complete record of receipts and expenditures in both Budget and Dues accounts.
  - B. Ensure and give the receipt of member dues. Dues are \$5 for general members and \$25 for members on a team.

- C. Submit proposals for additional Spontaneous funding if needed.
- D. Must provide Advisor with members in “good standing” list after the dues collection period ends.
- E. Must create budget and submit proposal to finance board for approval.
- F. Must report once a month to the Executive Board President about finances.

#### IV. Public Relations

- A. Advertise Rider Esports on campus through Instagram, Twitch, Rider News, and Rider E-Sport’s Bronc Nation page.
- B. Compose a promotional video to be hosted on various social media pages.
- C. Ensure Rider Esports’ presence at open houses and various club awareness events.
- D. Attend open houses and various club awareness events as Rider E-Sports representatives.

#### V. Secretary

- A. Record minutes at Executive Board meetings and General Assembly Meetings.
- B. Routinely update and manage Rider E-Sports roster.
- C. Share minutes of all Rider Esports Meetings with the Rider Esports Executive Board, Advisor(s), and General Members within 24 hours of the meeting.
- D. Take attendance using the card swipe feature on Bronc Nation.
- E. Regularly check the Rider Esports Gmail/Twitch/Discord accounts and send out Rider Esports program advertisements to the LAW student listserv when necessary.
- F. Send out reminders and invitations for Rider Esports Events.

#### VI. Risk Manager

- A. Book all spaces, equipment and facilities needed for Rider Esports Events.
- B. Organize transportation and conference attendance with assistance from CCD
- C. Maintain 25Live requests.

- D. Act as Gameday Advisor; managing referees and holding cheaters accountable.
  - E. Manage health risks related to Esports (mental health, academic decline, etc.)
- VII. Conference Communications Director (CCD)
- A. Report and record the results of all official matches to ECAC.
  - B. Coordinate all logistical preparations for ECAC Conference with Risk Manager.
  - C. Directly represent Rider Esports at Conference events and in-person matches.
  - D. Maintain national and regional affiliation if any.
  - E. Begin relationship with Esports teams at other and nearby universities.
  - F. Coordinate one large-scale program at Rider University inviting nearby universities.
  - G. If the position is left vacant, responsibilities of the CCD will be assumed by the President.
- VIII. Director of Team Relations
- A. Communicate with Team Captains regarding the status of their team such as general meeting and practice attendance, performance, and roster changes.
  - B. Oversee spirit and recognition, working with Public Relations (Match MVPs, highlights, birthdays, end of the year, celebrations, casual/social gaming events, etc.)
  - C. Assist CCD with planning large-scale program.
  - D. If the position is left vacant, responsibilities of the Director of Team Relations will be assumed by the Vice President.

#### **Section 4: Officer Withdrawal**

- I. In the case that an officer must step down or withdraw from their current position at any time, the current Executive Board is responsible to call a general meeting to hold an election for the position to be filled, All current members are eligible to run, and elections will follow the same structure as full board elections (nominations, speech, and full club vote/participation are required).

## **Section 5: Election of Officers**

- I. A majority ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of all members and the organizations advisor must be present at the meeting to hold the election of Executive Board members, unless the elections are to be held online through Bronc Nation. Executive Board members are non-voting members.
- II. Elections will be held at the beginning of the spring semester, then the elected members will be trained during the remainder of the spring semester. The said members will be then taken into their full position on May 1st.
- III. Nominations may be made by any member and will be held the week prior to elections. A nomination may be declined at any time prior to the election. Any member nominated must give a speech on why they should be elected the day elections take place.
- IV. Members may run for more than one position on the Executive Board; however, only one position can be accepted by that member.
- V. Officers shall be elected by secret ballot on paper or through anonymous voting online.
- VI. Officers may hold office for consecutive years upon re-election.
- VII. Officers must be able to meet weekly; only one week will be for executive board meetings and one week will be for general assembly meetings.

## **Section 6: Impeachment and Removal from Office**

The procedure of impeachment should be as follows:

- I. Any member who feels that another member on their Executive Board is not completing their duties may send a formal impeachment letter by email to the Advisor and the President. The letter should outline the responsibilities of the position listed in the Constitution and examples of how the member has failed to fulfill those responsibilities. If the impeachment request involves the President, sending the letter only to the Advisor will suffice.
- II. Once an impeachment process request has been received, a meeting will be set up with a representative of the Executive Board and the Advisor. During this meeting, a conversation will take place regarding their commitment to the board. At this time, the individual is given the opportunity to resign. However, if they would like to continue in their respective position, goals reflecting problem behaviors outlined in the initial impeachment request and issues that arose during conversation will be set up in place that

reflect the responsibilities to be followed up on in two weeks.

- III. A second meeting with the Advisor will be in place to discuss progress. If no change has been made, the officer will immediately be removed from office and election proceedings to fill the position can begin. Alternatively, if progress has occurred, a final follow up will occur in two weeks to ensure goals are continuing to be met.

If an individual fails to attend their impeachment hearing after two requests, it is up to the board and Advisor's discretion to move forward with the impeachment.

#### **Section 7: Club Advisor & Coach**

- I. The Rider Esports Advisor shall be a faculty or staff member of Rider University. In the event that a new advisor is needed, the Executive Board will interview candidates and vote.
- II. Rider Esports is open to contracting a coach if all contracts are reviewed by Rider University Legal Counsel and the coach passes a background check.

### **ARTICLE IV: CLUB ACTIVITIES**

#### **Section 1: Spirit of the Organization**

- I. Rider Esports' primary activity is to participate in ECAC's competition matches against other university Esports teams as well as participate in activities that raise player's ability to win those matches
- II. Rider Esports is also tasked with providing on-campus and in-house competitions for the Rider community.
- III. All fundraising is to be for the purpose of heightening Rider Esports' profile on the competitive stage or to improve a player's ability to win.

### **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

#### **Section 1:**

- I. Refer to Article II's membership requirements to find meeting attendance requirements.
- II. Frequent meetings for scrimmages/practices are required for team members.
- III. Meetings will be run by the President and consist of a status update from all Executive Board members and team Captains, followed by open forum and announcements.

#### **ARTICLE VI: UNIFORMS**

- I. The Executive Board is free to cover a portion of uniform costs based upon that years dues account and this amount to be explicitly explained to the full team. Let it be known, in the case that a team member orders a jersey and withdraws from the team (within the same season as the jersey order), that the member is responsible to pay back the full amount of the uniform to the dues accounts.
- II. General Members can request a jersey at a discount because they have already paid dues.

#### **ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS**

- I. Changes to the Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board. All Amendments will be presented in writing to the team at least one (1) week prior to voting. The Amendment may only pass with a  $\frac{2}{3}$  approval and goes into effect immediately unless otherwise stated.
- II. Only the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Advisor may make grammar and formatting corrections.