

CONSTITUTION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS WEIGHTLIFTING TEAM
16 APRIL 2019

PREAMBLE.

The University of Texas Weightlifting Team is a competitive Olympic weightlifting club that seeks to train, develop, and produce athletes of all levels in the sport of Weightlifting. The club operates under the governing body of USAW and competes at local, regional, and national competitions.

ARTICLE I. UNIVERSITY COMPLIANCE:

This organization is a recognized student organization at The University of Texas at Austin and shall comply with all campus policies as set forth in the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities*.

ARTICLE II. PROHIBITION OF HAZING:

State law and Sec. 14-103(3) of the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities* define hazing as any intentional, knowing or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into,

affiliating with, holding office in or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include students at an educational institution.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP:

1. In accordance with Sec. 6-202(a)(2) and Sec. 6-302 of the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities*, this organization restricts membership to students, faculty members, and staff members of the University.
2. In accordance with Sec. 6-202(a)(3) of the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities*, this organization may not deny membership on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, citizenship, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, except that a registered student organization created primarily for religious purposes may restrict the right to vote or hold office to persons who subscribe to the registered student organization's statement of faith; and a registered student organization

may restrict membership based on the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

3. Members will be added once per semester, with no more than (6) members added per semester. This will allow proper time and attention is allotted for each additional member so that proper instruction can be carried out, mitigating the potential for injury.
 - a. Prospective members will fill out a questionnaire, then be scheduled for a formal tryout.
 - b. Formal tryouts will be scheduled 1-2 times a semester and must have a majority of the officers present.
 - c. Membership selection will be based on coachability, attentiveness, enthusiasm for the sport, and willingness to follow direction. In addition, great attention will be paid to each prospective member's potential to safely perform the competition lifts.
 - d. Membership inclusion will require a majority vote from the officers holding office.
4. New members will be added to the official club roster on the Hornslink page.
5. Dues will be collected once per semester from the membership, in the amount of \$100 per semester. It is the intent of the organization to

accrue most of its operational money through crowdfunding platforms such as Forty Hours for the 40 Acres and HornRaiser. Greatest care and planning will be paid to not increase cost of participation on the membership. Only if absolutely necessary, membership dues may be increased once, in a four-year period.

6. Members can only be removed by a unanimous decision from the officers, the university advisor, and the head coach. The officers must show cause for removal, for behavior detrimental to the team and/or compromising the safety of themselves or others.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS:

Officers will include a President, Vice President, and Treasurer. All officers will hold equal voting power on club matters. No individual member will have greater importance or power than the other. Officers will be elected each year, after a nomination process has been carried.

1. Current Positions

- a. President – the President will be responsible for carrying out yearly tasks of annual registration through the Office of Dean of Students, Department of Kinesiology, and Recreational Sports. A close relationship will be kept with these departments and the

University Advisor. The President will be the primary liaison to these parties.

- b. Vice President – the Vice President will assist the President with the daily administrative requirements of keeping the club in compliance with university policies and annual requirements. The Vice President will take charge of the fundraising engagements each semester: HornRaiser and Forty Hours for the 40 Acres.
- c. Treasurer – the treasurer will have direct correspondence with the president and head coach on spending requirements and needs. The treasurer will be responsible for collecting and delivering invoices to appropriate parties, and able to report on finances available to the club. The treasurer, will lead the annual budget project due to Rec Sports each year.

2. Additional Positions

Official additional officer positions can be expanded to (5), if and when, the club's membership reaches (30) members. An odd number of officers will always be maintained for voting purposes. Additional officer positions to be added first will be Secretary and Head of Recruiting/Marketing. If and when the club's membership reaches (50)

members, (2) additional voting offers may be added. Their roles will be considered at that time.

3. Officers can only be removed by a unanimous decision from the other officers, and the university advisor. The officers must show cause for removal, for behavior detrimental to the team and/or compromising the safety of themselves or others.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS:

Meetings will be held amongst the officers, at minimum, twice a semester, to converse over membership additions, competition planning, budgeting, recruiting, marketing, spending, and the direction of the team. A special meeting can be called for by any Officer, as the need may arise to address an emergency situation, disciplinary action, or deal with an otherwise unforeseen event. All (3) officers must be present for a meeting to take place and all voting from officers on official club matters must be done in person at the meeting.

ARTICLE VI. UNIVERSITY ADVISOR:

In accordance with Sec. 6-101 (14) and Sec. 6-101(15) of the *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities and Information on Students' Rights and Responsibilities*, this organization may have a *University Advisor* who is at least twenty-one years of age, is not enrolled as a student at the University, and serves as either:

- a. a part-time or full-time employee of the University.
- b. a representative of a national organization that is associated with the registered student organization.
- c. serves as either.
 - i. a part-time or full-time employee of the University.
 - ii. a representative of a national organization that is associated with the registered student organization (registered student organizations only).

The University of Texas Weightlifting Team Advisor is Dr. Kimberly Beckwith. Dr. Beckwith will remain the team advisor until she resigns her position as such.

ARTICLE VII. FINANCES:

1. Dues - Dues will be collected once per semester from the membership, in the amount of \$100 per semester. Great care and planning will be

paid to not increase cost of participation on the membership. Only if absolutely necessary, membership dues may be increased once, in a four-year period.

2. Semester Fundraising - It is the intent of the organization to accrue most of its operational money through crowdfunding platforms such as Forty Hours for the 40 Acres and HornRaiser. HornRaiser will be carried out in the fall, and 40for40 in the Spring. The money raised will go to supporting the team's travel to local and national competitions, meet entry fees, uniforms, and membership costs to USAW weightlifting. Additional items can be voted on for spending as the need arises.
3. The process of setting the annual budget will be a group effort of all officers, spearheaded administratively by the treasurer. The treasurer will keep detailed records of past and anticipated spending.
4. The process for requesting and spending funds will be turned over from the outgoing treasurer to the incoming treasurer. An invoice will be collected from the vendor, then a Pre-Approval of Spending will be drafted with that invoice and the reason for spending. An email will be sent to the University Advisor for approval, while CCing the Executive Assistant in the Department of Kinesiology, Patty Coffman, and the Administrative Assistant, Marisol Corbitt. Once approved, Marisol

Corbitt will execute the payment through the team's university bank account.

ARTICLE VIII. ELECTIONS:

Elections will be held annually for the positions of President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

1. Members of the team will be notified of upcoming elections through email in the first week of April.
2. Nominations will be received by email to the club account no later than April 10 each year. Nominations can be self-nominations or from other members of the team, and are position specific.
3. Once a list of nominations has been made, elections will be carried out before April 20 each year. Elections will be carried out anonymously, online, through Google Survey.
4. Greatest number of votes in each category will determine the winner. If tied, a runoff between the two tied vote getters will be held in person.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS:

All amendments or changes to this constitution must be reflected in an updated constitution that must be submitted to Student Activities in the Office of the Dean of Students at 2609 University Ave., Suite 2.112 within 14 days of its approval.

1. An amendment to the constitution may only be proposed by a sitting officer when the Spring semester commences in the month of January at officer's first meeting of the semester.
2. The amendment will be voted on in a special meeting held in February, after the date of February 7th.
3. A unanimous vote is required for the amendment to pass.