

Carnegie Mellon University Water Polo Club Constitution  
last revision: February 29, 2012

Mission Statement:

- The Carnegie Mellon Men's Club Water Polo team exists to provide the Carnegie Mellon community with the opportunity to play water polo at a competitive and recreational level. The team provides the opportunity to build relationships with other surrounding teams and promote water polo throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Those that have played at the high school, club, varsity, or junior Olympic level will find a fun and competitive environment; however the team welcomes all skill levels.

Past and Present:

- The team has been a member of the Collegiate Water Polo Association in the Mid-Atlantic Division since its establishment as a co-ed team in 2000, and has made an effective transition to the Men's Team in 2010. The team continues to progress with a well-balanced schedule of in-water practices, swimming and strength conditioning, and regular scrimmages and tournaments throughout the year. Through group commitment to the sport, solid relationships are formed between team members and competitors through the common interest of water polo, and members strive to continue this trend.

Membership Clause:

- The team does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, handicap, sexual orientation, or any other possible form of exclusion. This is all in accordance with Carnegie Mellon University's Statement of Assurance, which may be found at <http://www.cmu.edu/policies/documents/SoA.html>. Members of different schools and other unaffiliated players must obtain permission to attend practice and must check in each time they attend.

- Members who wish to play in tournaments, both home and away, are required to pay dues before a set date. Both the dues amount and date are set by the treasurer every semester and directly affect the JFC funding of the team. Special exceptions to students who cannot pay dues for financial reasons may be discussed with the treasurer and other members of the board. Attending practice does not require payment of dues and may be done by anyone, regardless of their affiliation with Carnegie Mellon University. Members of different schools or post-graduates are asked to seek permission with the board before coming to their first practice.

### Officer Positions/Responsibilities:

- President: It is the president's responsibility to conduct board meetings, meet with University representatives, arrange pool times, organize team scheduling and transportation, and be able to respond to any situation that arises. The president is essentially the face of the organization, and actions performed by the club or against the club are his responsibility. If there is doubt to the role of a board member or who should accomplish a task, the president has ultimate say on the decision that is reached.
- Treasurer: The treasurer is responsible for all fiscal matters in the organization. He is the representative for JFC and has access to the budget and funds. The treasurer should have updated figures on expenses and income and be able to report to the other board members on the financial status of the club at any time.
- Captain: Captains are in charge of running practices by organizing drills beforehand. Additionally, captains are in charge of addressing the team with water polo-related matters, such as upcoming games and practices. Captains are also in charge of the roster. During practice, the captains may instruct the other board members to facilitate practice as he sees fit. The position "Captain" may be held by one or two people. This will be determined during board elections each year.
- Public Relations and Fundraising Chair: The Public Relations and Fundraising chair is in charge of advertising games, tournaments, and the team in general, as well as organizing events targeted at increasing available funds for the club. It is his responsibility to make sure the rest of campus hears about the water polo club on a regular basis. This may include fliers, painting the fence, chalking, ads in readme or the Tartan, or other promotional ideas. The PRF chair is in charge of talking to companies the team is interested in purchasing goods from. Fundraising responsibilities include finding workers, obtaining the materials to be sold (if there are any), and overseeing at least the beginning and end of the fundraising activity. If cash is directly involved, he must acquire the strong box and provide it with change. He is also in charge of organizing workers for the table at home invitationals and games.

### Procedure for Selection of Officers:

- Elections are held annually on reading day during Fall semester examinations week. All due-paying members are required to attend in order to be able to vote on future officers, and all nominees are absolutely required to attend to defend their nominations to the rest of the club. Members not paying dues are highly encouraged to come, as their vote counts as much as anyone else's. Officers must be current undergraduate or graduate students who will be attending the University both the following spring and fall semesters.

Exceptions may be made in this case, and will be decided by a simple majority vote.

- If reading day conflicts with too many members of the team, an alternate date must be decided upon before the last day of practice that semester.
- Officers are voted upon in the order presented above, with the newly elected president immediately assuming responsibility over the elections once he is elected. In the event of a tie, the candidates have the opportunity to reiterate their positions and a second vote will be tallied. If this is still a draw, the candidates must decide between themselves who is to gain the position in contention. If this cannot be resolved, the current or former (if president is the contested position) president may act as arbitrator. Other cases may be decided by using the board as arbitrator, such as an incumbent president receiving the same amount of votes as a new candidate after multiple votes.
- In emergency situations (officers stepping down, becoming physically unable to belong to the board, etc.), the board will decide how the position will be replaced. Two possible responses are shifting the board around to accommodate the absence, and holding open elections, described above. If the vacant spot is president, the treasurer immediately assumes presidential responsibilities until a new president is chosen.

#### Procedure for Removal of Officers:

- In the event an officer neglects their duties or attempts to assume too much power within the organization, the rest of the board can elect to remove that officer by a simple majority vote. Additionally, the members of the team may file a class-action suit against the board or individual officers if they feel the interests of the board members are not in accordance with those of the club and its mission statement.
- If an officer steps down, the board is responsible for deciding whether to appoint a different board member to the absent officer's position or hold a general election. This is identical to the emergency situations clause above.

#### Procedure for Amending Constitution:

- Changes to the Constitution may be made directly by the president, with the entire board's unanimous approval. At least four members out of five (or six) on the board must ratify a new amendment that the board suggests.
- Members of the team may put together a class-action suit regarding the Constitution and submit it to the board for approval. Ultimately, the decision to change the Constitution lies with the board.

Other:

- During the fall, practices are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights, 9 pm to 11 pm
- During the spring, practices are Tuesday and Thursday from 9 pm to 11 pm, and Sunday from 5 pm to 7 pm.