



CONSTITUTION OF THE CHRISOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY MARTIAL ARTS CLUB

Updated August 2014



This is the governing document of the Christopher Newport University Martial Arts Club. This documentation is to be filed in the office of recreational services, the faculty advisor as well as on the club's organization page via The Compass.

Constitution of the Christopher Newport University Martial Arts Club

Submission by the Executive Board of the Constitution of the Christopher Newport University Martial Arts Club

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Article I – Name

Section I. The name of this organization shall be Christopher Newport University Martial Arts Club.

Article II – Purpose

Section I. The purpose of this organization shall be:

- A. To develop and maintain an active Martial Arts Club at Christopher Newport University.
- B. To educate and instruct members of the Christopher Newport University community in martial arts for the betterment of their physical and mental wellbeing.
- C. To provide regular instruction in martial arts for the purposes of (a) competing in local, state, national and international competitions and (b) increasing universal knowledge of the practicality of self-defense techniques.

Section II. CNU Martial Arts Club members shall not follow any clause herein whereas a federal, state or local law in operating or visiting jurisdiction prevents such compliance.

Article III – Membership

Section I. Active membership in this organization shall be open to any interested, full or part-time degree seeking students in good academic standing at Christopher Newport University as well as CNU faculty and staff.

Good academic standing can be defined in accordance to the Office of the Registrar and the undergraduate catalog.

Faculty and staff may participate in training and competition in accordance to the rules set forth in the most recent version of CNU Sports Club Manual.

Section II. CNU Martial Arts Club members shall not participate in the hazing of prospective or current members for the purpose of admission into or affiliation with the organization. Members are free to leave or disassociate without fear of retribution or harassment. The CNU Martial Arts Club shall not discriminate based on race, creed, gender, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation.

Section III. The CNU Martial Arts Club Executive Board maintains the right to dismiss members who violate the integrity or safety of the club, its members or any other person. The club

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may also dismiss members who are at any time found to be not in accordance with Sections I and II of Article III.

Article IV – Membership Dues

Section I. There shall be a mandatory membership payment of 200 United States Dollars to those who do not own a Jiu Jitsu gi. The dues for returning members or those who already have approved gis are to be set at the discretion of the Executive Board. The fee shall be determined based upon projected spending for the semester.

Section II. The collection of dues shall be during the second week of official practice as to give prospective members an idea of how practice is to be run and whether or not it is ideal for them. The collection of dues shall be handled by the treasurer and to be appropriated as he or she sees fit throughout the academic year in conjunction with the Executive Board and its directives.

Section III. Monetary donations to and sponsorship of the Christopher Newport University Martial Arts Club may also be made on an anonymous basis to the Treasurer at any time during the semester. Donations and sponsorship must be evaluated in concordance with the policies set forth in the most recent version of the Christopher Newport University Sports Club Manual.

Section IV. Members of the Executive Board and the coaches may be exempt from membership dues as compensation for services rendered throughout the semester, at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Section V. The Executive board may confer with individuals who are financially unable to present the required dues as stated in Section I in order to find the best course of action on a case-by-case basis.

Section VI. IN the event that an individual is unable or unwilling to pay the full membership dues, they may pay on a month-by-month basis to retain active member status. Should the team invest in apparel, competition fees or other expenses the individual will be required to pay the difference or opt out from the expenditure.

Article V – Executive Board

Section I. The Executive Board of the CNU Martial Arts Club shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer, a Secretary and a Social Chair. Executive Board members shall serve a term of one year, from the end of elections to the end of the elections the following year. This is recommended to an entire fall semester to an entire spring semester.

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Section II. All Executive Board members shall be required to have and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 by the Christopher Newport University office of the registrar¹ for the duration of their term as well as fulfill all duties of their appointed position.

Section III. The duties of the President are to preside over all practices and tournaments, supervise the activities of the organization, maintain the power to schedule all meetings and practices, the power to create committees for any reason, with the approval of the Executive Board, as well as be a team leader showing integrity and promotion the organization's values. The President shall also be responsible for releasing all club information to the public and reserve the necessary facilities to conduct club meetings and practices.

Section IV. The duties of the Vice President to preside over meetings and practices in the absence of the President, work alongside the President and do any duty of the President, provided it was allocated by the President. The Vice President shall also perform any other duties specified elsewhere in this constitution.

Section V. The duties of the Treasurer are to collect membership dues and maintain electronic financial records of paid dues, deposit all funds into the club's account, provide a financial report and budget to the Executive Board each semester and supervise the financial condition of the organization as well as any other duties specified elsewhere in this constitution.

Section VI. The duties of the Secretary are to record minutes of all meetings and post them to the club's organization page² for all members to see. The Secretary shall also perform any other duties specified elsewhere in this constitution.

Section VII. The duties of the Social Chair are to act as a point of contact for all affiliated organizations or other organizations on campus as well as head the planning for events for the club outside of regular practice and meetings. The Social Chair is responsible for raising public awareness about the club and its interests and be responsive to the interests of the club members. The Social Chair is also to post relevant information to club members via the Facebook Page, Club's organization page, or any other social media. The Social Chair shall also perform any other duties specified elsewhere in this constitution.

Section VIII. The Executive Board shall be required to have Executive Board meetings at least once a month during the academic year. Each meeting must be conducted in person and all officers are required to attend except in cases of illness or extreme circumstances.

Section IX. The Executive Board may choose to meet less than the amount specified in Section VIII provided that all duties of the Executive Board are being fulfilled.

¹ In the event of a departmental name change all references to Registrars or any other governing department of Christopher Newport University, are to be delegated to similar positions by the approval of the Executive Board.

² The club's organization page is currently hosted on CNU's The Compass and does not refer to the Facebook Page.

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Article VI – Election of Executive Board

Section I. The election of the Executive Board shall take place during the month of March for the following academic year. The date of the elections shall be announced by the reigning Executive Board no less than one month prior to being held. The election shall be run by the faculty advisor or by an active member who is not running for Executive Board office, as selected by a simple majority of the general membership.

Section II. Any member wishing to run for an Executive Board position must fill out an application either verbally or on paper and present it to the reigning Executive Board no less than one week prior to the election.

Section III. The Executive Board has the right to establish a formal Application to submit before running. Once the applicants are approved and have good academic standing as stated in Article V, Section II, they will be circulated to all Martial Arts Club members via electronic correspondence no less than one week prior to elections.

Section IV. A member may only run for one position on the Executive Board per election.

Section V. If a simple majority cannot be found the decision shall reside with the President. Only members who have been actively involved in the Martial Arts Club for at least one year are eligible for nomination to office of President or Vice President.

Section VI. A vacancy in the office of the President shall be automatically filled by the Vice President. A vacancy in any other office shall be filled by means of an election my simple majority no later than two weeks after the vacancy.

Section VII. Elections may be held on the club's organization page on The Compass.

Article VII – Dismissal of Executive Board Officers

Section I. Grounds for dismissal of Executive Board officers includes, but is not limited to, severe dereliction of duties, any CNU Honor Code violation or being found guilty of any criminal activity.

Section II. Motions for removal of an Executive Board officer shall be made in writing and submitted to the President. If the motion regards the president, than it shall be submitted to the Vice President. This motion shall be brought to a vote at the next meeting and shall be considered passed with a 2/3 approval of the general membership. The officer shall be dismissed immediately upon passage.

Article VIII – Social Media

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Section I. The club shall maintain a Facebook Page in order to stay connected with members and keep a current roster. The current group may be found at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/242965865822415/>

Section II. The club is also required to maintain a page on The Compass. This is a way for students on campus to find our organization and stay connected in this manner. The current link for the club's page may be found at the following link:

<https://thecompass.cnu.edu/organization/martialarts>

Article IX – Advisor

Section I. There shall be at least one staff advisor for this organization at all times.

Section II. The staff advisor has the right to dissolve the organization in conjunction with the Office of Recreational Services and with the best interests of the club and University in mind.

Section III. The staff advisor shall provide support, counseling, and guidance on the activities of the organization. The advisor shall confer with the Executive Board and has the right to attend general membership meetings as deemed necessary.

Article X – Compliance

Section I. This organization will adhere to all the policies of Christopher Newport University and all local, state, and federal laws. All By-Laws of other organizations will be carried out where possible during joint meetings, conferences, conventions and on other University campuses.

Article XI – Amendments

Section I. Amendments to this Constitution may be adopted by a 2/3 vote of the general membership. Proposed amendments must be presented in writing during a general membership meeting by the Executive Board or by a petition signed by 50% of the general membership. The proposal must be made available for review by the general membership no less than one week prior to being brought to a vote.

Article XII – By-Laws

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Section I. By-laws, not inconsistent with this Constitution, may be adopted or amended by a 2/3 vote of the general membership. Proposed By-laws or amendments to the By-laws must be presented in writing during a general membership meeting by the Executive Board or by a petition signed by 50% of the general membership. The proposal must be made available for review by the general membership no less than one week prior to being brought to a vote.

Article XIII – Ratification

Section I. This Constitution shall become effective upon ratification by a 2/3 vote of the general membership and approval of the Christopher Newport University administration. The constitution shall be made available for review by the general membership no less than one week prior to being brought to a vote. Upon ratification by the general membership, the Constitution shall be proposed by an Executive Board officer to the administration for final approval.

Section II. The Constitution shall be posted under Documents on the club's organization page in The Compass.