

Entrepreneur Club Constitution

Article I – Entrepreneur Club

The name of this organization shall be known as the “Entrepreneur Club” or “ECLUB” for short of Christopher Newport University.

Article II – Purpose

The mission statement of this club shall be:

For the betterment of entrepreneurs to learn the traits, gain experience and to establish a program for creative thinking.

The purpose of this organization shall be to:

Bring a like-minded group of people together in a setting to share ideas and opinions. The goal of this club is to not only gather ideas or opinions, but to put those ideas or opinions into action. We actively seek to gain connections into entrepreneurial opportunities through internships or professional advice and experience. We provide the opportunity for students to learn from those who have already gone through an entrepreneurial startup. Help someone in the University community to accomplish the desire of starting or creating a business. This club shall generate a powerful resume for the CNU student and also allow for the ability to network and make new friends with people who share similar interests.

Article III – Affiliation

This organization shall operate according to the most current regulations and policies of the Christopher Newport Board of Education, Christopher Newport University, the Constitution of the Associated Students of Christopher Newport University, and in compliance with all local, state, and federal laws regardless of contradictory material that may be in this document.

Article IV – Nondiscrimination

This organization will be a safe environment for all types of people. We will have a zero tolerance policy for any discrimination. This organization shall not discriminate on the basis of any of the following: age, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, veterans’ status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, or degree seeking status.

Article V – Membership

Section 1 – The President of this Chapter must be a full time, full-fee paying student of Christopher Newport University.

Section 2 – All remaining officers and voting members of this organization shall be full fee-paying undergraduate students of Christopher Newport University. They are required to carry a minimum of three-credit hours, maintain a current GPA of 2.0, and participate in at least two events in one calendar month. Members of this organization shall be voluntary participants in the organization activities.

Section 3 – All members must abide by the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of this organization.

Section 4 – Christopher Newport University, faculty, staff, and community members may be associate members and may vote or hold office.

Section 5 – At least 51% of the total membership shall be full fee-paying students of Christopher Newport University, maintain a minimum of 3 credit hours, and be in compliance with all CNU policies.

Article VI – Removal of Members

Section 1 – Grounds for Removal: Any member not fulfilling the requirements as outlined in this Constitution, Article IV, Article V, or in the Bylaws of this organization to the satisfaction of the voting membership, violating Christopher Newport University policy or the Student Code of Conduct may be removed from membership. A two-thirds majority vote of the total voting membership shall be required for removal of any member.

Section 2 – Notice of Charges: The motion to remove a member from this organization must be presented in writing to the total voting membership at least one weeks before the meeting at which the removal will be voted on.

Section 3 – Right to a fair hearing: The member subject to removal shall have the right to present his/her case to the membership at the meeting in which the voting for removal is to take place.

Section 4 – Form to vote: All voting under this Article shall be done by a secret ballot.

Article VII – Meetings

Section 1 – Quorum: To conduct business 25% of the total voting membership must be present at the meeting. Two-thirds of the total voting membership must be present for elections.

Section 2 – Voting Percentages: Motions dealing with amendments and the removal of officers or members will require a two-thirds majority vote of the total voting membership. All other motions will require a simple majority vote of the quorum to pass.

Section 3 – Frequency of Meetings: This organization shall meet at least eight times each semester. The President of a two-thirds majority vote of the total voting membership may call emergency meetings. A verbal notice of organizational meetings shall be given to all members at least seven days prior to such meetings. A verbal notice of special or emergency meetings shall be given to all members three days in advance.

Section 4 – Parliamentary Authority: The Constitution of this organization shall be the supreme authority in parliamentary procedure at all meetings. The Bylaws of this organization, if and when they exist, shall be the next highest authority.

Article VIII – Elections

Section 1 – Types of Elections: General elections will be held to replace officers whose terms are due to expire. Special elections shall be held when an office is vacated in midterm.

Section 2 – Nomination of Candidates: A candidate for office must be nominated by a voting member during the specified meeting in case of general elections or during the meeting immediately prior to special elections.

Section 3 – Time of Elections: General elections shall be held during second week of each semester and special elections shall be held as necessary.

Section 4 – Form of Vote: Voting under this Article shall be by secret ballot.

Article IX – Officers

Section 1 – Elected officers of this organization will be: President, Vice President (1 or 2), Secretary, and Treasurer

Section 2 – Qualifications: The President of this Chapter must be a full time, full fee-paying student at Christopher Newport University, and maintain a minimum of 2.0 cumulative GPA.

Section 3 – Term of Office: An officer shall serve for one year from his/her swearing-in, or until his/her successor is appointed or elected.

Section 4 – Duties: The duties of the officers shall be as follows:

President:

- Shall be the chief executive officer of the organization and shall preside over meetings.
- Shall submit the names of all officers of the organization to the Student Activities Office not more than four weeks after the beginning of the fall semester and within ten days of any election.
- Shall submit additional information, as it is required to the Student Activities Office.
- Shall assist the Advisor and the Treasurer in preparation of requests for funding and shall sign said requests.
- Shall oversee the Marketing Committee and delegate roles and duties to the members of this committee.

Vice President:

- Shall assume the duties of the President during his/her absence and shall succeed to that position in the event that it becomes vacant, until a special election can be held.
- Shall oversee the Program Committee and delegate roles and duties to the members of this committee.

Secretary:

- Shall keep records of all meetings.
- Shall be responsible for sending out thank you notes, keeping track of membership records, and other needed records of this club.
- Shall maintain a connection database with alumni and employer contacts for members of the club.
- Shall monitor membership and assure that all members meet member requirements.
- Shall oversee the Membership Committee and delegate roles and duties to the members of this committee.

Treasurer:

- Shall be the financial officer of the organization.
- Shall report an accounting of revenues and expenses upon request at any organizational meeting.
- Shall prepare, at the end of each school year, all financial records for audit.
- Shall assist the Advisor and the President in preparation of requests for funding from the Associated Students of Christopher Newport University, and shall sign said requests.
- Shall oversee the Fund-Raising Committee and delegate roles and duties to the members of this committee.

Article X – Executive Committee

Section 1 – Responsibility: Management of this organization shall be vested in an Executive Committee responsible to the entire membership to uphold this constitution.

Section 2 – Membership: Membership shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, one member at large, and the Advisor as an ex-officio, non-voting member.

Section 3 – Meetings: The executive committee shall meet at least once a month to organize and plan future activities and agenda items for meetings.

Section 4 – Quorum: A quorum of this committee shall consist of two-thirds members.

Article XI – Removal of Officers

Section 1 – Grounds for removal: Any officer not fulfilling his/her duties as outlined in this Constitution Article IX Section 4, or in the Bylaws of this organization to the satisfaction of the voting membership or who has violated a University policy or the Student Code of Conduct, may be removed from office. A two-thirds majority vote of the total voting membership shall be required for removal of any officer.

Section 2 – Notice of Changes: The motion to remove an officer from his/her position must be presented in writing to the total voting membership at least two weeks before the meeting at which the removal will be voted on.

Section 3 – Right to a fair hearing: The officer subject to removal shall have the right to present his/her case to the membership at the meeting in which the voting for removal is to take place.

Section 4 – Form of Vote: All elections under this Article shall be done by secret ballot.

Article XII – Advisor

Section 1 – Selection: This organization shall annually designate an advisor at the time of the regular organization elections. Said Advisor(s) shall have no voting privileges.

Section 2 – The advisor(s) shall consult with the officers about the organization's activities in compliance with University Policies.

Article XIII – Financial Support

The finances of this organization will come from fund-raising projects, individual contributions, dues, and Christopher Newport University.

Article XIV – Committees

Section 1 – The President shall have the authority to appoint any special committees, with the approval of the Executive Committee that will meet the needs of the organization.

Section 2 – These committees include, but are not limited to the following:

Marketing Committee – Duties include but are not limited to: Update all forms of social media, capture photos and documentation of all events and meetings, advertise events across campus and social media, archive all events, and setting up and working promotional booths

Program Committee – Duties include but are not limited to: Organize all events, organize logistics of events, dates, times, confirmation from speakers, create T-Shirts for the event if necessary, obtain props, decorations, or other things necessary for the event, and set up location and times of weekly meetings or emergency meetings at Christopher Newport University or other locations used.

Membership Committee – Duties include but are not limited too: Keeping detailed records of the members of the club, making sure new members meet the eligibility requirements to join, that there are no issues with current students that are no longer eligible to maintain their membership in this club, and maintain a connection database for future employer, internship, and speakers.

Fund-Raising Committee – Duties include but are not limited to: Setting up various fund-raising events to help fund the various costs the club will spend, setting up booths to raise money on campus or other locations, working together with the executive board and all committees when a monetary transaction is necessary, maintaining all financial records, producing an end of year financial report for the Office of Student Activities.

Article XV – Bylaws

Section 1 – Provision for Bylaws:

This organization may approve bylaws for the specific operation of the organization. No bylaw shall be adopted that is contrary to the provisions of this Constitution.

Article XVI – Amendments

Section 1 – A proposed amendment must be adopted in accordance with Article VII Section 2, and amendments to this constitution must be approved by the Office of Student Affairs to become effective.

Section 2 – When an amendment is proposed this Constitution must be presented to the total voting membership in the form of a written motion at least seven days before it is to be voted on.

Article XVII – Hazing Prohibition

Section 1 – Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe environment that is free from hazing for all members. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the goals of this club and are prohibited at all times.

Section 2 – General Statement of Policy:

No member shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing.

No member shall permit, condone, or tolerate hazing.

Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

A member who engages in an act that violates University policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with this student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act.

This policy applies to hazing behavior that occurs on or off school property at any hour of the day.

Any member in this club obtains a responsibility to report any of these behaviors to the Office of Student Activities.

Section 3 – Definitions:

“Hazing,” means committing an act against a member of this organization, or coercing a member into committing an act, that creates a substantial risk of harm to a person, in order for the member to be initiated into or affiliated with this organization.

Any type of physical brutality such as whipping, beating, striking, branding, electronic shocking or placing a harmful substance on the body.

Any type of physical activity such as sleep deprivation, exposure to weather, confinement in a restricted area, calisthenics or other activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.

Any activity involving the consumption of any alcoholic beverage, drug, tobacco product or any other food, liquid or substance that subjects the member to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the mental or physical health or safety of the student.

Any activity that intimidates or threatens the member with ostracism, that subjects a member to extreme mental stress, embarrassment, shame or humiliation that adversely affects the mental health or dignity of the member or discourages the member from remaining in the University.

Any activity that causes or requires the member to preform a task that involves violation of state or federal law or of University policy or regulation.