

Hiking Club of Christopher Newport University

Constitution

Purpose

Section I.

The Hiking Club at CNU is a group dedicated to embarking on frequent and exciting adventures into the great outdoors. We happily take hikers of all skill levels, and strive to promote fellowship with the wilderness and amongst each other.

Membership

Section I. Eligibility

Membership in this organization will be open to any interested student, with no requirements being set for eligibility.

Section II. Hazing Policy

The Hiking Club of Christopher Newport University shall not haze any prospective or current Member for the purpose of admission into or affiliation with the organization. Members are free to leave or dissociate without fear of retribution or harassment. The Hiking Club shall not discriminate based on race, creed, color, sex, age, national origin, disability and sexual orientation.

Section III. Membership Categories

Members shall be divided into three categories: Officers, Sub-Officers, and Active Members.

Officers shall comprise of a President, Trip Coordinator, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Sub-Officers shall be known as Trail Leaders, the number of which will be decided on an as-needed basis by the club Officers.

Active Members shall describe any student who has attended one or more trips in the current academic year.

For the purposes of this Constitution, the “Executive Board” shall refer to the collection of Officers and Trail Leaders.

Section IV. Qualifications and Privileges

The only qualifications for an Active Member shall be enrollment at Christopher Newport University and the attendance of at least one trip per semester.

Privileges include the ability to attend club trips and functions, as well as eligibility to vote in the Officer elections for the subsequent academic year.

Section V. Removal Process

If a Member is found to be negatively impacting the club with his or her actions, the Officers may elect to ban the Member from future club trips and functions by a simple majority vote. The duration of this ban will be left to the discretion of the voting Officers.

Meetings

Section I. Frequency

Meetings will be held on an as-needed basis before each individual trip or club function to address and provide information for the upcoming event. Attendance is only required if the student will be participating in the event for which the meeting is held.

Section II. Procedure

The President will call the meeting to order and present the relevant information alongside the remaining Officers. Time for questions will be reserved after the information has been presented.

Dues

Section I. Establishment

Dues will be set by the Officers on a trip-by-trip basis, applying only to those Members attending the specific event or trip.

Section II. Collection

The Treasurer will collect dues at the club meetings from students that will be attending each respective trip. No regular fees or dues will be collected for membership or otherwise.

Officers

Section I. Elections

Elections will be held at the beginning of every Spring Semester to determine the Officers for the subsequent academic year. This will be done through a majority vote in a poll given to all Active Members of the current academic year. In order to secure a place on the ballot, candidates must be nominated by any member of the club **and/or** at least one current Officer. In the event of a tie for any position, there will be a re-vote for that position only. If the re-vote results in a tie as well, the winner will be determined by a majority vote of the current Officers.

Trail Leaders will be appointed by the Officers presiding over the academic year during which the Trail Leaders intend to serve.

Section II. Positions and Responsibilities

The President shall lead meetings, oversee the smooth operation of the Executive Board, handle any complaints or problems and represent the club to outside parties.

The Trip Coordinator shall collect all trip forms, ensure the coordination of rides and gear, print directions for the parking areas, and ensure effective communication throughout the travel process.

The Treasurer shall collect club dues and handle the club bank account.

The Secretary shall take notes at the meetings and keep members informed of meetings and trips through the club email account.

The Trail Leaders shall be a resource for Active Members while on the trail and direct activities in the absence of or alongside an Officer.

Section III. Removal

If an Officer is neglecting his or her duties as outlined in this Constitution or impacts the club in a negative manner, he or she will be addressed by the President or a joint meeting of the Executive Board to discuss the transgressions. If the behavior continues to impede the goal, mission or integrity of the club, the remaining Officers will vote on the

impeachment of the offending Officer. To achieve impeachment, 100% of the remaining Officers must vote in favor of the measure.

A Trail Leader may be removed from his or her position for the aforementioned transgressions by a simple majority vote of the current Officers.

Advisor

Section I. Designation

An advisor may be designated by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote from the Officers.

Section II. Duties

The advisor shall work closely with the organization in coordinating activities to insure that they are conducted in compliance with Christopher Newport University policies and the laws of the United States of America, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the City of Newport News.

Section III. Removal

If the advisor is neglecting his or her aforementioned duties and responsibilities, or no longer serves the best interests of the club, he or she may be removed by a simple majority vote of the Officers.

Responsibilities

Section I.

The organization will adhere to University policies and all local, state and federal laws.

Amendments

Section I.

Any Officer or Trail Leader may propose an amendment to the Constitution to be presented to the Executive Board for thorough debate and discussion.

An amendment may be passed by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of the Officers.