

# Gator Gaming Student Organization Constitution

## Article I.

### NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

The name of the organization is Gator Gaming. The organization will use its name, Gator Gaming, on all public documents and official correspondences. Its acronym, GG, may also be used in casual communication, announcements, and on social media.

## Article II.

### ORGANIZATION AFFILIATION

As outlined in the RSO Classification Policy, Gator Gaming is considered a General Registered Student Organization. As a GRSO, our organization is a separate 3rd party entity, not considered a part of the University of Florida. Through registering with the University, our student group agrees to follow its policies and operate on campus with access and/or eligibility for specific campus benefits.

## Article III.

### PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of Gator Gaming is to facilitate the creation of a community of people with common interest in video gaming and its industry, art form, and other related topics.

## Article IV.

### COMPLIANCE STATEMENT & UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Upon approval by the Department of Student Engagement, Gator Gaming shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Gator Gaming shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

#### **Section A. Non-Discrimination**

Gator Gaming agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era

Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act. Discrimination on the basis of the protected classes described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policies) is prohibited.

### **Section B. Sexual Harassment**

Gator Gaming agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking and repeated instances of cyber abuse. Sexual harassment as described in University of Florida Regulation 1.006 (Non-Discrimination/Harassment/Invasion of Privacy Policy) is prohibited.

### **Section C. Hazing**

Gator Gaming agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization. Hazing as defined in the University of Florida Regulation 1.0081 (Prohibition of Hazing; Procedures and Penalties) and 4.040 (Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code) is prohibited. If found responsible for hazing, sanctions may be imposed against the organization, its leaders and/or members.

### **Section D. Responsibility to Report**

The University of Florida identifies Responsible Employees and Campus Security Authorities to support the health, safety, and wellbeing of campus. If Gator Gaming becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, they are encouraged to report it immediately to staff in Student Engagement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, the University's Title IX Coordinator, or to their Student Organization Advisor, who are identified as mandated reporters.

### **Section E. Officer Eligibility**

Gator Gaming understands, acknowledges, and agrees to uphold and abide by the specific minimal requirements regarding officer eligibility as defined in the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy

## **Article V.**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff are prohibited from holding membership, office or voting powers. All members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

## Article VI.

### BYLAWS FOR GATOR GAMING

Gator Gaming may elect to maintain separate bylaws document to outline the day-to-day operations of the organization and to clarify policies and procedures otherwise not included in the previous articles. Bylaws and/or other guiding documents may not take precedence over the requirements sent forth by local, state, and federal laws, the university of Florida's regulations, policies, and procedures, and the Student Engagement constitution requirements. Amendments and changes may be made to the bylaws and shall be consistent with the Student Engagement approved constitution on file and student engagement's constitution requirements. Should the organization transition leadership, all bylaws and guiding documents will be transitioned to new student organization leaders and/or advisor(s). Gator Gaming agrees to provide all unaltered by laws and guiding documents and/or clarify its procedures in writing to any University of Florida student, faculty, or staff upon request.

## Article VII.

### STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR

Each registered student organization must have an eligible student organization advisor. The student organization advisor must be a full-time, salaried faculty or staff member not on extended leave for 4 consecutive weeks or longer during their advisor term. The student organization advisor shall serve as a resource person providing advisory support to officers and members and may not vote or hold office in the organization.

An advisor may be nominated by any Gator Gaming officer, and selected by a majority vote of the total organization. The advisor may serve as long as he or she is willing. In the event that the faculty advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

## Article VIII.

### OFFICERS

Registered student organizations are required to have a minimum of a President, Treasurer, and Vice President as elected officers. These officers must abide by the Registered Student Organization Classification and Officer Eligibility Policy. At no time should one person hold more than one of these positions.

Section A: The Gator Gaming Officer Board shall be defined as the elected board members, or officers, that maintain the organization. The high-ranking officers, which shall be referred to as the Gator Gaming Executive Officers, or within Student Government as *the big three*, consist of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer of Gator Gaming.

Section B: The elected officers of Gator Gaming, in order of descending rank, shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Outreach Coordinator, Event Coordinator, Activities Coordinator, and Social Media Manager. Should a leader be absent from a Gator

Gaming event, coordination of the event shall fall under the next highest ranking officer, as listed previously, unless otherwise planned.

Section C: Officers will assume their official duties at the beginning of Fall term following elections held in the Spring term and will hold their offices for one academic year and/or until elected successors are present.

Section D: All officers of Gator Gaming are impeached by this process:

- Part 1) A written request must be made by at least two members of Gator Gaming to any of the leadership. The request must have a clearly stated reason or else the requests are rendered invalid. A letter of notification will be sent to the officer in question, and said officer will be required to respond to the reasons set forth in the requests before the general body.
- Part 2) A two-thirds vote of all officers present is required to remove the officer for his/her position. In the event that an Executive Officer is impeached, the other two executives must unanimously agree on the impeachment decision.
- Part 3) The remaining Gator Gaming leadership may appoint a member to act as interim officer until general body elections for the positions of Vice-President or Treasurer. In the event the President is removed, the Vice-President shall be elevated to President and an interim Vice-President will be appointed by the Gator Gaming Leadership. In the event an officer not listed is removed, the Officer Board may elect to instead split their responsibilities among the remaining officers, rather than appoint an interim.

Section E: Special Project Committees (SPCs) are appointed by the President to facilitate the organization of fundraisers, tournaments, or other such projects or events. SPCs are required to fulfill their expected duties as delegated by the President. All SPCs may be removed from their positions by Gator Gaming leadership at any time upon failure to fulfill his/her duties. This position being appointed with consent of the SPC is an agreement to fulfill all delegated duties to the best of a SPC's ability, and removal from this position requires no vote and is done so at the discretion of the leadership.

Section F: In the event an officer steps down or resigns, the President will appoint an interim officer until elections are held that year, after which the new elected officer will fill the positions of Vice President or Treasurer. In the event the President steps down or resigns, the Vice-President shall be elevated to President and an interim Vice-President will be appointed by the Gator Gaming Leadership. In the event an officer not listed steps down or resigns, the Officer Board may elect to instead split their responsibilities among the remaining officers, rather than appoint an interim.

Section G: Gator Gaming officers may also accept apprenticeships for the Spring term in order to facilitate the growth of the next generation's leadership. The appointment process and details are as follows:

- Part 1) The interviewing process will begin at the start of the Spring term, or halfway through the academic year.
- Part 2) The apprentice candidate will be interviewed by the current Gator Gaming officer that they wish to shadow under, or the Gator Gaming President or Vice President. The interviewer will take notes and present them to a private meeting consisting of the current

Gator Gaming Officer Board, where voting will take place to determine the most suitable apprentices.

Part 3) Upon appointment, apprentices are not considered Gator Gaming Officers, and are subject to the same rules as SPCs.

Part 4) The apprenticeship period will conclude on the final day of the Academic Spring term, or the last Gator Gaming event of the Spring term, whichever may come last. Towards the end of their apprenticeship period, apprentices may run for an elected position as a normal candidate; shadowing an officer will not guarantee their position as an elected board member.

## Article IX.

### ELECTIONS

Nominations will occur in the Spring Semester during the first March meeting. Voting will occur in the Spring Semester during the first April meeting and will take place during the general body meeting by manner of secret ballot and majority rule. Voters must meet an attendance quota for the current academic year, the specific requirements of which shall be determined by the current Officer Board. If there is a tie between multiple candidates, then a second vote will be done amongst those candidates. In the event of a second tie, the decision will be left to the discretion of the current Executive Officers of Gator Gaming.

There will be no set term limit to officers' positions but all members will be eligible for candidacy, except for President of Gator Gaming, the details of which shall be listed below. Any candidate opting to run for office must be in accordance with university policy. Candidates must submit a resume and letter of intent to the officers at a date before the elections, set by the current officers. They are then nominated to run, unless vetoed by the Officer Board, which is defined as a majority of two-thirds against the candidate, or unanimous agreement by all three Executive Officers.

The election process for the President of Gator Gaming follows several additional rules as follows:

Part 1) Unless extenuating circumstances make it absolutely unavoidable, presidential candidates must have previously served as any Gator Gaming officer position for at least one academic year without probation or impeachment.

Part 2) The current President of Gator Gaming reserves the right to forgo election and appoint their successor, so long as they are a willing, eligible presidential candidate, unless two-thirds of the Officer Board votes otherwise, in which a normal election process will ensue for the position of president.

Results of the elections will be revealed in private to the candidates immediately following the conclusion of the voting, and an announcement shall be made to the general public after all votes have been verified during the next Gator Gaming event. Any attempt to leak the results of the election before announcement will result in punitive measures, which can include disqualification of officership for prospective officers.

In the absence of clear direction on election, amendment, and /or voting procedures, Gator Gaming agrees to follow the guidance and instruction of *Robert's Rules of Order* for the election or amendment process.

## Article X.

### FINANCE

As a General Registered Student Organization, Gator Gaming does not receive any funding or resources from other UF Departments or Colleges, rather, this organization is funded by: Student Government and independent fundraising methods.

The Treasurer of Gator Gaming will preside over all financial obligations the Organization may encounter. All fundraising events, such as a sticker sale or convention gaming booth, must be attended by Gator Gaming leadership, but will also be open to member volunteers at the discretion of the Officer Board. Funds will be used to purchase Gator Gaming t-shirts, supplies, and for Gator Gaming events through advertising, hiring of vendors, and event space rentals.

## Article XI.

### DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

Upon dissolution, student organizations are prohibited from leaving their organizational assets to any individual or any other student organization. Rather, student organizations may designate a specific charity that will receive such organizational assets. At the time of dissolution, after all outstanding debts are paid, Gator Gaming will leave any assets and outstanding funds to “St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.”

## Article XII.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Student Engagement has established a process through which constitutions may be amended, reviewed, and approved. Student organizations wishing to amend their constitutions must utilize their constitution on file listed on GatorConnect to make amendments and submit those changes to Student Engagement.

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of Gator Gaming by a two thirds vote of the members present at said meeting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment was given at the previous meeting. All amended constitutions must be submitted directly to Student Engagement for review and approval.