**Constitution of The Gator Guard Drill Team**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this organization is The Gator Guard Drill Team. This organization will utilize the acronym GGDT in all publicity materials and correspondence. The Gator Guard Drill Team is affiliated with University of Florida’s Army ROTC program operating in Gainesville, FL. The website of UF’s Army ROTC program is http://www.armyrotc.ufl.edu/

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

Purpose. The purpose of the Gator Guard Drill Team shall be:

Section A: To promote and encourage leadership ability.

Section B: To represent the Army ROTC, Gator Guard Drill Team, and the students of the University of Florida in all functions where the drill team’s participation is appropriate. In such activities, they will promote professionalism and enhance the prestige of all these organizations.

Section C: To recruit members for the Reserve Officer’s Training Corps and the University of Florida by participating in parades, ceremonies and drill competitions throughout the state and the United States.

**ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, Gator Guard Drill Team shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Gator Guard Drill Team 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.

**ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

Section A: Non-Discrimination.

Gator Guard Drill Team 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.

Section B: Sexual Harassment.

Gator Guard Drill Team 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.

Section C. Hazing.

Gator Guard Drill Team 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.

Section D: Responsibility to Report.

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Gator Guard Drill Team will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University’s Title IX Coordinator.

**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 may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

**ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS**

Section A: Officers. The elected officers of The Gator Guard Drill Team shall be Commander (President), Platoon Leader (Vice-President), and Treasurer. All third year members are eligible for Gator Guard President. If there exist no third year members able to take command, a President will be selected from the most senior members. All “rising” third year members and above are may compete for the Platoon Leader (Vice-President) position. All Gator Guard “rising” second year members and above are eligible for the position of treasurer, supply officer, event planner, and Platoon Sergeant. The candidates must be members who have completed Spring Training and have demonstrated the most leadership potential and concern for the welfare of the Gator Guard Drill Team.

Section B: Terms of Office. All terms of office are 1 year in duration. All officers selected in April for the following school year will begin their term at the start of the academic year and will hold their position through both semesters until a new staff is elected during April of each spring semester. Members who have performed exceptionally and display preference to retain their position are encouraged to take on new positions but may certainly be re-elected.

Section C: Duties of the Staff.

1. Duties of the President. The president shall be the Chief Executive of the organization. He/She shall see that the provisions of this constitution and of the team’s rules and regulations are obeyed. The president is responsible for:
   1. All overseeing and delegation of planning responsibilities and final approval of Gator Guard events. This includes events such as: Gator Guard Socials, Homecoming Parade, Pledging Process, Mardi Gras Parades, Washington D.C. Trip, Field Training Exercises, and Awards Banquet.
   2. Coordination between Joint Service Commanders for Color Guard Duties.
   3. Coordination of Gator Guard support for all Battalion activities, socials, and ceremonies.
   4. Planning and organizing support for Old Brothers. This includes Saber Arches and anything else old brothers need.
   5. Conducting monthly training meeting with chain of command to discuss upcoming events.
   6. Reports to Gator Guard Advisor on progress of all events.
   7. Sets high standard of appearance and conduct for all to follow.
   8. Criteria for picking staff.
2. Duties of Platoon Leader. The platoon leader will be second in command and will assume command in the absence of the commander. The platoon leader is responsible for:
   1. The supervision of all Drill and Ceremony practice.
   2. The creation of the training calendar.
   3. The welfare and morale of the members.
   4. Assisting commander in all Planning and Organizing of all Gator Guard Events.
   5. Coordination between Student Government and Gator Guard in Matters that include annual budget requests and completion of organizational paperwork, including correspondence.
   6. Supervising all PCI’s before parades and performances.
   7. Assisting in the implementation and enforcement of standards of appearance and conduct set by the commander.
3. Duties of Platoon Sergeant. The platoon sergeant will act as third in command and will assume command in the absence of the commander and platoon leader. The platoon sergeant will be responsible for:
   1. The implementation of all Drill and Ceremony practices.
   2. Member accountability of the Gator Guard.
   3. The welfare and morale of the members.
   4. All color guards.
   5. The creation of the phone roster.
   6. Conducting PCI’s before all parades and performances.
   7. Assisting in the implementation and enforcement of standards of appearance and conduct set by the commander.
4. Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer will be responsible for:
   1. The creation of the Gator Guard Newsletter.
   2. The renovation and upkeep of the Guard Web Page.
   3. Maintaining track and contact of Old Brothers and other Alumni affairs.
   4. The maintenance and upkeep of the Guard Board in Van Fleet Hall.
   5. Planning and executing all monetary actions for the Mardi Gras Parade trip.
   6. Assisting in the implementation and enforcement of standards of appearance and conduct set by the commander.
5. Duties of the Supply Officer (S-4). The supply officer will be responsible for:
   1. The maintenance and repair of all weapons.
   2. Issue and recovery of all uniforms.
   3. The cleanliness of Guard Supply.
   4. The buying and ordering of all new supplies and equipment.
   5. The stocking and re-supply of refreshment in Guard Supply.
   6. The making of weapons before practice, parades, and performances.
   7. Assisting in the implementation and enforcement of standards of appearance and conduct set by the commander
6. Duties of the Event Planner. The Event Planner will be responsible for:
   1. Seeking out and planning Guard Fundraising and performance opportunities.
   2. Representing the Gator Guard at tabling events.
   3. Managing Gator Guard publicity alongside the commanding officer.
   4. Coordinating all travel accommodations (i.e. charter bus, barracks lodging, parade invitations, parade placement) for annual Gator Guard parades and trips
   5. Drafting itineraries and working alongside the Finance officer to remain within yearly budget when negotiating with charter companies
   6. Planning the end of the year banquet
   7. Providing any contingencies and updates to the “Event Planning” binder to aid future Event Planners

Section D: Removal of an Officer.

Any officer of the Gator Guard Drill Team may be removed by the following process:

I: Three or more initial statements made by three individual members

justifying reasons for a particular officer’s removal

II: The officer in question is then requested by the commander or platoon

leader to respond to these requests by preparing a defense of why he/she should retain their position

III: After officer appeals to the three or more individuals and the commander

or platoon leader with a response to all statements made, the individuals have the option to reconsider

IV: Should the members uphold their will for the officer to be removed the

Officer in question will present his/her case to the entire performing team, who will decide his/her removal by a two thirds vote.

Section E: Procedure for Handling Vacancies.

In the event of the vacancy of an officer, a special provision may be granted to the remaining officers to appoint an interim replacement until an election may be held.

**ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS**

Nominations for commanding officer will take place during the first or second week of April, after the completion of Spring Event leadership training. In order to be nominated a competitive commander must be of the most senior class, must be able to maintain communication with the ROTC department, and must exhibit the desire and capability to not only lead his/her team through exhibition and ceremony but to set and attain goals to enhance the team’s prestige. Commander (President), Platoon Leader (Vice-President), and Treasurer must be elected by a two thirds vote membership. All other positions are appointed by the newly elected commander. Member preference, seniority, drilling ability, academia, and individual skill sets are all taken into consideration by the commander. Change of command ceremony and the next year’s officers are revealed at the Gator Guard Banquet held in mid to late April. Should two or more individuals contest for a position, all members will vote via ballot and selection will be decided by 51% of the vote. In the case of a tie all of the previously listed attributes are reconsidered and the newly retired commander will make the final decision.

**ARTICLE VIII: STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR**

Advisor. The Advisor shall be from within the Army ROTC department and will be responsible for acting as the liaison between the Gator Guard Drill Team and the U.S. Army cadre and other personnel. The Advisor shall remain for the duration of his/her tour on the university campus unless the Professor of Military Science of the Army ROTC battalion makes a command decision to replace him/her. In the event that the Advisor ends his tour of duty on campus a new Advisor will be chosen by the Professor of Military Science.

**ARTICLE IX: FINANCE**

Section A: Dues. The Gator Guard Drill Team shall not require any member to pay dues.

Section B: Accountability. The Treasurer and Platoon Leader shall be responsible for protection and accounting of all drill team funds.

Section C: Funding: The Gator Guard Drill Team will cover traveling and equipment expenses through fundraising nights hosted by various restaurants and similar activities. The team will also apply for Student Government funding.

**ARTICLE X: DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION**

Section A: Equipment. Should The Gator Guard Drill Team ever be dissolved, all 1903 Springfield rifles, Color Guard harnesses, uniforms, and equipment belonging to the team in the designated supply room shall be given to the Army ROTC program or appropriate recipient as determined by the current Gator Guard commander, faculty advisor, and Professor of Military Science.

Section B: Funds. Any and all monies left in the treasury, in the event that the Gator Guard Dissolves shall be donated to the “Wounded Warrior Project,” or a suitable charity named by the current commander to honor our veterans.

**ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Section A: Amendments. Amendments and repeals to any part of this constitution shall require ⅔ of a quorum vote for passage. A quorum shall be attained when 51% or more of the active members are present. All amended constitutions must immediately be submitted directly to the Department of Student Activities and Involvement for review and approval