

## **Constitution of the Men's Rugby Club at the University of Florida**

### **Article 1: Name of Organization**

The name of this organization is Florida Men's Rugby Club. This organization will utilize the acronym UFRFC in all publicity materials and correspondence. UFRFC is affiliated with USA Rugby operating in the Nation and Florida Rugby Union operating in Florida. The website of the UFRFC is [www.ufrugby.com](http://www.ufrugby.com).

### **Article 2: Organization Affiliation**

As outlined in the RSO Classification Policy, the Florida Men's Rugby Club is considered a University Sponsored Student Organization. As a USSO, this organization is considered an extension of the university unit Department of RecSports, and operates within the scope and function of it. As such, Florida Men's Rugby Club is governed by and under the jurisdiction of internal University policies, standards, and business practices as well as gains access to exclusive university resources through our sponsoring University unit. University-sponsored student organizations are not eligible for Student Government funding.

### **Article 3: Purpose Statement**

UFRFC was established in 1969 and has been a force in the world of rugby thanks in part to its hundreds of alumni. As members of the club, it is our duty to put in the work both on and off the field to uphold its reputation. Beyond the pitch, we aim to give back to the community, foster a brotherhood and represent our university to the highest degree. Through the UFRFC, many opportunities will arise, but these will only come along through dedication to the club. UFRFC officers put in the time to organize travel arrangements, fundraising and other important activities in order to ensure the success of the organization. Our goal is to put our best foot forward in every match, every practice and every moment off the field.

### **Article 4: Compliance Statement and University Regulations**

Upon approval by the Department of Student Engagement, Florida Men's Rugby Club shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Florida Men's Rugby Club 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**

Florida Men's Rugby Club 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

Florida Men's Rugby Club 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

Florida Men's Rugby Club 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 Florida Men's Rugby Club 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

Florida Men's Rugby Club 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 5: 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 6: Bylaws for Florida Men's Rugby Club**

Florida Men's Rugby Club 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). Florida Men's Rugby Club 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 7: 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 advisor and Department of RecSports holds the responsibility to oversee the day-to-day functions and operations of Florida Men's Rugby Club, including the management of its finances, the selection of its members, and ensuring the organization adheres to University and department policies.

The advisor will serve to advise the club, serve as a liaison between the club and the Department of RecSports, and serve as a resource person for the Club.

The advisor will be selected by the President in accordance with the RecSports process for advisor selection. The UFRFC Executive Board will meet with the advisor or a liaison for the advisor as in accordance with RecSports policy. The advisor will have no vote in affairs decided on by any board of officers within the club, or in affairs (including officer elections) decided by a vote held within the club as a whole.

#### **Article 8: 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.

The elected officers of Florida Men's Rugby Club shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer. At no time should one person hold more than one of these positions.

In order to serve as President, Vice President, and Treasurer one must have served as in the capacity as a Club Officer for more than one semester, unless an exception is made by the President of the club. This exception can be made for both Vice President and Treasurer, but not for the position of President.

In case of an officer vacancy, a replacement will be appointed by the President for the remainder of the term. If that vacancy is the position of President, the Vice President will assume the office of President and then appoint a Vice President.

Officer terms will last one school year, beginning at the start of the Summer semester and ending at the end of the spring semester.

Officers will be decided upon by a general election taking place at the end of the spring semester.

Club Officers: Florida Men's Rugby Club will also contain Club Officers, who will serve in a capacity within the club as dictated by the bylaws and within operations with the Department of RecSports, but will hold no standing in Florida Men's Rugby Club as a USSO. These positions will be decided upon by the President prior to elections at the end of the spring semester and will be elected by the general election in the election at the end of the spring, the President may also decide to make and appoint a new Club Officer position within the school year, in with the appointed Club officer will serve till the end of the term. These positions may include but not be limited to: Secretary, Recruiting Chair, Match Secretary, Merchandise Chair, Historian, and Fundraising Chair.

Impeachments for any officer will require a majority vote from the Executive Board, comprising of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer. This is for both Officers and Club Officers. The vacancy will then be filled by Presidential appointment.

## **Article 9: Elections**

In order to serve as President, Vice President, and Treasurer one must have served as in the capacity as a Club Officer for more than one semester, unless an exception is made by the President of the club. This exception can be made for both Vice President and Treasurer, but not for the position of President.

Elections will be held at the end of the spring semester, and any prospective candidate can nominate themselves by contacting the President or Vice President.

The Elections will be held through and election using an online service such as Google Forms, and the Election will stay open for one day. To will a candidate must simply receive the largest number of votes in the election. In the event of a tie, a run-off will be held in which only the two candidates who received the most votes in the previous election will participate, if the tie continues, then the election will be held again one week later.

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

### **Article 10: Finances**

As a University Sponsored Student Organization, Florida Men's Rugby Club does not receive any funding or resources from the Student Government, rather, this organization is eligible to be funded by the Department of Recsports and/or:

Florida Men's Rugby Club will not charge dues, instead, fundraising activities such as letter drives, Givebutter campaigns/subscriptions/donations, activities such as green team, and the sale of merchandise. All members are expected to participate in fundraising activities. Florida Men's Rugby Club also receives funding from the UFRFC endowment. Florida Men's Rugby Club will also charge members fees to fund certain purposes such as travel and uniforms.

As a USSO, Florida Men's Rugby Club will comply with UF Finance and Accounting policies on purchasing, funding, and fundraising.

### **Article 11: 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, Florida Men's Rugby will leave any assets and outstanding funds to UFRAA (University of Florida Rugby Alumni Association).

### **Article 12: 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.

Amendments may be proposed at any time by any member of the Executive Board and will necessitate a vote  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the Executive Board to pass.

All amended constitutions must be submitted directly to Student Engagement for review and approval.