

Michigan State University Ballroom Dance Team

Constitution

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ARTICLE I: NAME & OBJECTIVES

Section 1: Name of Organization

- a) The name of this organization is the Michigan State University Competitive Ballroom Dance Team. This may be referred to as the MSU Ballroom Dance Team (MSUBDT) or the team, henceforth.
- b) The MSU Ballroom Dance Team is run solely by Michigan State University students as a Registered Student Organization.

Section 2: Organizational Objectives

- a) Main objective: To facilitate a culture of competitive and social ballroom dancers.
- b) The MSU Ballroom Dance Team will provide ongoing and extensive knowledge of Ballroom dance to enable dancers to achieve a competitive level of proficiency that is reinforced through competition.
- c) MSUBDT will provide all members with the necessary tools and resources to compete at various amateur and collegiate competitions, throughout the Midwest, at varying levels of difficulty, throughout the academic year. These competitions are to showcase advancement in skill, performance ability, the bond between two dance partners, and to create an overall image of this team.
- d) MSUBDT strives to bring students and community members together to experience the growing sport of ballroom dance in a positive, social, interactive environment through continued community interaction and support.
- e) MSUBDT will work to better the communities around MSU, as well as the campus of MSU, by volunteering and bringing community members and students together to better understand one another through the art of dance.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Becoming a member of the MSU Ballroom Dance Team

- a) Any MSU student may become a member of the MSU Ballroom Dance Team. Only individuals between the ages of 17 and 35 and hold a valid student ID (from any institution) are allowed to dance at collegiate competitions and those without an ID (as well as those outside of the aforementioned age category) may still compete, but may be restricted to non-collegiate dance competitions. Please reference www.usadance.org and <http://www.ndca.org/> for eligibility. Non-student participants may attend team practices and activities after paying an amount equal to the membership dues determined at the beginning of each semester.
- b) The MSU Ballroom Dance Team will not discriminate on the basis of age, skin color, gender, gender identity, disability status, height, marital status, national

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origin, political persuasion, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, weight, etc.

- c) Membership to MSUBDT is acknowledged by the payment of semester dues.
 - i) The amount to be paid for semester dues is to be determined prior to each respective semester.
 - ii) Amount to be paid for semester dues is subject to change, depending on when a member joins MSUBDT in the respective semester.
 - iii) Semester dues (or the first installment of a payment plan) are to be paid within exactly two weeks after the individual's first team lesson.
 - iv) Failure to pay dues by the given deadline will result in suspension from the team, including weekly practices and anything that requires payment (through semester dues) until the necessary conditions for membership are met.
 - v) Repeated failure to pay dues after an explicit verbal or written warning has been given can be grounds for immediate expulsion (*Article II: Section 4 for membership removal*).

Section 2: Membership Duties

- a) MSUBDT members are expected to follow the MSU RSO regulations as stated in the RSO handbook, "University Policies and Regulations" in regards to general team conduct
(http://www.studentlife.msu.edu/current_students/rso/documents/university_policies_regulations.pdf).
- b) Members are expected to respect one another and provide a healthy dance environment for MSUBDT. This includes a zero tolerance for harassment policy and the continued sustainability of a friendly and professional atmosphere.
- c) Members are also expected to voice their concerns to the executive board if there has been a breach in respectful treatment of any member. The executive board will decide on a proper course of action so as to avoid the instigation of personal conflicts harmful to the team environment.
- e) Members are encouraged but not required to take advantage of two practice opportunities per week in order to be considered an active member of the team (*see Article II: Section 3 for active member benefits*): Monday-Thursday practice (each lesson is a separate practice).
 - i) This attendance policy may be waived due to extenuating circumstances by a special request made to the executive board.
 - ii) In case of prolonged absence, the executive board must be informed ahead of time if the member does not wish to possibly harm his/her active member standing.
 - iii) In case of illness, the attendance policy is waived so long as the member informs the executive board.

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- f) Must attend a certain amount of promotional and fundraising events, as specified by the fundraising chair and e-board members at the beginning of the semester in order to receive team benefits. If a member is unable to raise the appropriate amount of funds through MSUBDT fundraising events (amount to be decided by the Executive Board), then said member can elect to pay an appropriate fundraising fee, to be determined by the standing Treasurer and Fundraising Chair.
- g) Members are expected to adhere to professional standards during all lessons, especially those held with a professional instructor. This includes: no gum chewing, minimal side conversations, an active participation in the lesson, appropriate dance attire, and the avoidance of any and all otherwise disruptive activities.

*(See Competition Guidelines for further details on membership duties) Proposed:
Link to website about practice/competition etiquette*

Section 3: Membership Benefits

- a) Acknowledged membership will allow a member to partake in activities that are paid for through semester dues (i.e. practice space, coaches, provided instruction, etc.)
- b) Members will be able to compete at collegiate ballroom dance competitions under “Michigan State University,” provided that they meet the necessary requirements to compete collegiately (*see Article II: Section 1 for eligibility*).
- c) Members are allowed to vote in elections for Executive Board Officers, in accordance with MSU RSO guidelines.
- e) Members will be allowed to attend town hall meetings, and active members will have voting power in these meetings, if it is called upon.
- f) Members will be allowed to attend Executive Board meetings to voice their opinions, but only members of the Executive Board will have voting power.
- g) Active members may run for Executive Board positions, so long as they are a current student for at least one academic semester of the upcoming academic year and will remain in the East Lansing area for the entire academic year that they are running for and meet the Officer requirements, outlined in Article III.
- h) Active members may view the team budget upon a request to the Treasurer.

Section 4: Membership Removal

- a) Membership from the team is guaranteed if the member has adhered to all expectations, outlined by the MSU Ballroom Dance Team Constitution (this document). Membership may be suspended upon failure to abide by constitutional precedents.

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- b) Membership may be withdrawn if a member voluntarily decides to leave the team. This is done with the understanding that this member may not regain membership until the full amount of dues is paid OR until one full semester has passed.
 - i) Dues will not be refunded unless there are extenuating circumstances, as determined by the Executive Board on a case-by-case basis.
- c) Team membership may be suspended until further notice if a member repeatedly fails to abide by any one article in the MSU Ballroom Dance Constitution or the MSU RSO handbook "University Policies and Regulations".
 - i) For this form of membership removal to be carried out, a member must fail to abide by one or more rules set forth in the constitution.
 - ii) A general member can inform one of the core executive board members (*See Article III: Section 1.f for definition*) of an offense.
 - iii) Once notified, the core executive board may ask the accused member to present their case in a closed meeting.
 - iv) A majority vote by the core executive board will decide whether a warning or suspension may be issued if at all.
 - v) A written warning of suspension will be given to the offending party, stating that they have failed to follow the given rules and that a repeat of this offense or another failure to abide by the organization's guidelines will result in immediate suspension.
 - vi) Examples of grounds for a warning include:
 - 1) Failure to pay semester dues in a timely manner
 - 2) Verbal, physical, or sexual harassment to another team member
 - 3) Instigation of an unhealthy, unsafe or non-productive team environment
 - 4) Insubordination (blatant refusal to cooperate with executive board)
 - 5) Willful destruction of team equipment
 - vii) If there is an interpersonal conflict between members that has been brought to the attention of the executive board and expulsion is deemed necessary, a warning prior to expulsion may not be given. Depending on the case, another form of compromise between the members may be enforced.
 - viii) Once a member has been expelled from the team, their dues will not be refunded and they will not have the opportunity to regain membership until the next semester when they are able to present a case to the executive board, who by majority vote, can reject or reinstate the membership.
- d) Immediate membership suspension from the team may result if a member causes physical harm to any member, steals from another member of the team, or otherwise makes an unhealthy/unsafe environment for another member of the team (i.e., through harassment or other forms of hostility).

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- i) If a member commits any of the charges in Article II: Section 3.d, immediate expulsion will supersede the method explained in Article II: Section 3.c.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS

Section 1: Overview, Eligibility, and Terms

- a) The Executive Board of the MSU Ballroom Dance Team is the decision-making entity of the organization. It is in charge of all means of team functioning and the enforcement of the constitution.
- b) The prospective Officer must be both an active member (*see Article II: Section 2.e for definition*) and a student of Michigan State University.
 - i) Certain positions may have other specific requirements.
- c) The length of term for all positions is one academic year (starting the last week of practice in Spring Semester) with duties that may extend into the summer prior to that academic year.
- d) The full executive board consists of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Competition Chair, Secretary, Community Coordinator, Fundraising Chair, Social Chair, and Curriculum Chair.
 - i. In circumstances where there are not enough members of the Executive Board, Positions may be combined/divided up following Executive Board guidance
 - 1. Treasurer overtakes duties of the Fundraising Chair
 - 2. Community Coordinator overtakes duties of the Social Chair
 - 3. Secretary may be split up among other roles as needed
- e) Only the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Competition Chair, and Community Coordinator are voting members of the executive board. These voting members are referred to as the core executive board.
 - i) Non-voting officers may be asked to vote and/or attend meetings when pertinent (*see Article IV: Section 1.d for parameters of executive board meetings*)
 - ii) In case of a tie, the President will be granted a tie-breaking vote.
- f) All executive board positions with voting power must be elected into office.
- g) Core executive board members must remain active members throughout the academic year.

Section 2: Titles and Duties

- a) President
 - i) Work with executive board to achieve overall and competitive objectives
 - ii) Oversee all team operations and executive board members
 - iii) Approve budget proposed by Treasurer.

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- iv) Organize and call Executive Board meetings (scheduling to be handled by Secretary).
- v) Plan major team events with the Vice President (banquet, etc.)
- vi) Plan logistics for a Home Competition (Green and White Gala) with the Vice President and Competition Chair.
- vii) Re-register the RSO with MSU at the beginning of each academic year
- viii) Arrange mentor-mentee relationships to provide newer members an opportunity to receive guidance from older members.
- ix) Additional requirement: must have been a member with the team for at least one year prior to the year applying
- b) Vice President
 - i) Oversee general body
 - ii) Oversee disciplinary action, as assigned by President
 - iii) Manage student memberships in the team and community memberships in the club with the Treasurer.
 - iv) Works with President to aid in fulfilling administrative duties
 - v) Oversee Curriculum Chair
 - vi) Manage the operation of general meetings (“practices”) with Curriculum Chair; ensure the execution of proper lesson structure
 - i. When the Vice President is absent from a practice, another core Executive Board Officer will enforce this in their absence
 - vii) Primary planner of logistics for a Home Competition; works with President and Competition Chair.
 - viii) Primary planner for end of year banquet
 - ix) Additional requirement: must have been a member with the team for at least one year prior to the year applying
- c) Treasurer
 - i) Manage and balance the bank accounts for the MSU Ballroom Dance Team
 - ii) Prepare a semester budget and present monthly financial reports to executive board members
 - a) Present budget to President for approval
 - iii) Collect team dues, competition registration, hotel money, and other miscellaneous team costs
 - iv) Write checks to instructors, for reimbursements, and other team payments (i.e. competition registration)
 - 1. In the absence of the Treasurer, the President is able to write checks
 - v) Care for cash box (including ensuring that there is no more than \$500 in the cash box at any given time)

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- vi) Works with the Fundraising Chair to present funding proposals to potential sponsoring organizations (e.g., residence hall governments, private businesses, etc.)
- vii) Filling out the yearly MSUFCU account paperwork and acquiring a new credit card with the President.
- viii) Additional requirement: must have been a member with the team for at least one year prior to the year applying
- d) Competition Chair
 - i) Research and keep an updated list of collegiate competitions within driving distance to share with team members prior to the beginning of each semester or as soon as the dates are available
 - ii) Manage traveling to and from away competitions
 - iii) Oversee housing at away competitions
 - iv) Aid and facilitate (if necessary) in the formation of competitive dance partnerships
 - v) Oversee registration for competitions
 - vi) Manage makeup, tanning, and costuming information dissemination to team members
 - vii) Order apparel for team at the beginning of each semester or as needed throughout
 - viii) Enforce, review and edit Competition Guidelines as needed (at least once per semester)
 - ix) Additional requirement: must have been a member with the team for at least one semester prior to the year applying
- e) Secretary
 - i) Check and respond to e-mails from team account
 - 1. Communications under RSO email & gmail account
 - 2. put in notes for secretary
 - ii) Check and respond to discord messages
 - iii) Receive constitutional amendment proposals and present them to the board for voting
 - iv) Communicate with other executive board members regarding e-mails and other messages received as needed
 - v) Record minutes at executive board and town hall meetings, and make these available to team members
 - vi) Schedule Executive Board meetings, either by a weekly standing meeting or at the request of President
 - vii) Manage Google Drive account
 - viii) Draft and disseminate Weekly Newsletter to mailing list, discord channel, etc.

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- ix) Manage and edit team website (Found at either www.msuballroom.com OR <https://www.msu.edu/~ballroom/>) as needed (using Dreamweaver on MSU computers).
- x) Discusses “transparency report” (feedback from the team) with E-Board and subsequently disseminates to team
- xi) Manage Community Google Drive/Mail account (with Community Outreach Coordinator)
 - 1. Secretary handles the website formatting, technical aspects, and meeting minutes
 - 2. Community Outreach handles the forms and communication aspects
- xii) Update the online member records for public release
- xiii) Additional requirement: must have been a member with the team for at least one semester
- f) Fundraising Chair
 - i) Determine semester fundraising goal with Treasurer and plan appropriate amount of fundraising initiatives
 - ii) Present funding proposals to potential sponsoring organizations (e.g., residence hall RHAs, RHA itself, ASMSU, private businesses, etc.)
 - iii) Oversee the completion and effectiveness of all fundraising initiatives.
 - iv) Meet with their committee periodically to increase revenue, organize more events
 - 1. If there are not enough registered members to form a committee, the Executive Board serves as the committee
- g) Community Outreach Coordinator
 - i) Organize community outreach and service events
 - ii) Meet with committee periodically
 - 1. If there are not enough registered members to form a committee, the Executive Board serves as the committee
 - iii) Oversee Sunday (community) lessons
 - 1. When there are enough members and interest to allow for these events
 - iv) Submit Community updates and content to Secretary for newsletters
 - v) Draft weekly Community Newsletters and administer to the Community mailing list
 - 1. When there are community lessons
 - vi) Determine semester budget with Treasurer
 - vii) Manage Community Google Drive/Mail account (with Secretary)
 - 1. Secretary handles the website formatting, technical aspects, and meeting minutes

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2. Community Outreach handles the forms and communication aspects
 - viii) Handle all public relations, including but not limited to: TV, Newspaper, radio, and paper interviews
 - ix) Continue to offer MSU Ballroom Dance Team's expertise as a service to the greater East Lansing and Lansing community
 - x) Plan outreach events for the greater East Lansing and Lansing community
 - xi) Report community events to the secretary to be placed on the calendar and website
 - xii) Manage Social Chair
 - xiii) Work with Social Chair to ensure MSU Ballroom's public facing figure is above average
 - xiv) Speak with new members to research how/why they joined MSU BDT
 - xv) Act as a liaison between the team members and the Executive Board
 - xvi) Act as recruitment leader for the team
 - xvii) Manage social media accounts (with Social Chair)
 1. Community Outreach Coordinator will handle posts about community events
 2. Social Chair will handle posts about internal team events (competitions, eboard positions, etc.)
- h) Student Instructors
 - i) Will be appointed by the Curriculum Chair
 - ii) Team members at the advanced level must be Student Instructors
 - i. Failure to comply at the Advanced level equates to dismissal from all further Advanced activities
 - iii) Appointed Student Instructors must have at least one year of Dancesport experience
 - iv) Must adhere to curriculum established by the Curriculum Chair
 - v) Lead the team in warm ups, stretches, drills, and exercises
 - vi) Must be competent in instructional methods employed by MSUBDT (i.e., American Syllabus based off of the DVIDA syllabi)
 - vii) Dismissal from Student Instructor position will result in the event of failing to adhere to all responsibilities, including missing an assigned lesson
- i) Curriculum Chair
 - i. Establish a progressive and mastery-oriented curriculum for members each semester
 - ii. Manage and schedule student instructors and ensure effective communication
 1. Appoint the Student Instructors
 - a. Ensure that all members at the Silver/Gold level fulfill their duties as Student Instructors

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- b. Potential Student Instructors not at the Silver/Gold level must teach a “try-out” lesson to a “review board” that is established by and including the Curriculum Chair and the Vice President.
 - iii. Having a knowledge of Google Drive and Microsoft Office applications
 - iv. Knowledge of American Smooth and Rhythm through Gold Syllabus and have the resources necessary to accomplish that (ex. DVIDA material)
 - v. Be able to teach any level lesson
 - vi. Incorporate International lesson instruction through added workshops when necessary/are able to
 - vii. Organize professional lessons.
 - 1. Coordinate with coach's schedules and book necessary space for lessons.
 - 2. Coordinate lesson plans with professionals to enhance lessons taught by students throughout the week
 - viii. Maintain playlists (e.g., [Spotify](#)) used for open dance and lessons
 - ix. Manage schedule for the holding and delivery of speaker system for each practice session
 - x. Organize level placement tests (ex. what is required for each level, who judges, when it takes place, etc.)
 - xi. Appointed by board and must be a dancer in the Advanced level in Rhythm and Smooth for at least two semesters.
 - 1. If such person is not available, it is at the discretion of the board to pick a fitting member
- j) Social Chair
 - xii. Coordinate one to two social events per month for all Team members in order to create and maintain a friendly, healthy, and safe Team culture.
 - xiii. Coordinate Welcome Committee for each Open House/other recruitment event
 - 1. This is made up of friendly individuals on the team who ensure that potential team members feel welcomed and have a good time.
 - xiv. Report to Community Outreach Coordinator
 - xv. Manage social media accounts (with Community Outreach Coordinator)
 - i. Community Outreach Coordinator will handle posts about community events
 - ii. Social Chair will handle posts about internal team events (competitions, eboard positions, etc.)
- k) All Executive Board members are expected to assist fellow Executive Board members in any task that requires attention, if the need arises.

Section 3: Elections and Vacancies

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- a) Officers are elected towards the end of each academic year (March-April) and will shadow current position-holders until the beginning of their respective term.
- b) Members who wish to run for a position on the executive board must submit an electronic application to the standing executive board, to be reviewed for eligibility.
- c) Voting will take place at a general meeting via secret ballot.
 - i) A majority of the members present determines the result.
 - ii) Absentee votes are allowed as long as they are requested at least one week to the executive board before the election.
 - iii) Information on all election candidates will be sent out to Absentee members with their absentee ballots
 - iv) Vote of Confidence Clause. If any core position candidate(s) do not seem fit for that position, members can cast a vote of no confidence, which will be an option on each election ballot. If the majority of members vote no confidence, then the position will remain empty. *See Article III: Section 3.d-e about filling an empty position.*
- d) If a position is left empty (as a result of no one running for it), it will be opened up to volunteers from the team and that volunteer will be appointed by majority vote of the core executive board.
- e) If a vacancy in a position results any time after the election, the core executive board must immediately appoint a replacement, be they from the general body or standing executive board, or disperse the responsibilities of that position among the standing executive board.

Section 4: Officer Removal

- a) General rules of expulsion from team apply to all officers (both voted and appointed)
- b) If an officer is, for any reason, unable to fulfill his/her responsibilities, he/she may be asked to leave the board. This involves failure to carry out major responsibilities after a warning.
- c) If an Executive Board member has failed to uphold their constitutional duties, they may be impeached. The impeachment process includes:
 - i) Impeachment from General Body: Concern anonymously voiced to Executive Board. A vote will be taken among the general body (only present members). If a majority vote is not reached, then the impeachment process ends. If a majority vote is reached, a second vote among the Executive Board will be taken. If a majority is not reached, then the impeachment process ends. If a majority vote is reached, the Executive Board member in question must step down from their position.

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- ii) Impeachment from Executive Board: Concern is voiced at an Executive Board meeting from an Executive Board member. A vote is then taken among the present Executive Board. If a majority vote is not reached, then the impeachment process ends. If a majority vote is reached, then the Executive Board member in question must step down from their position.
- d) In the case of impeachment, the standing Executive Board is responsible for organizing the election (among themselves) of the newly vacant Executive Board position OR the proper allocation of appropriate tasks among standing Executive Board members.

ARTICLE IV: OPERATING PROCEDURES

Section 1: Definition of Meetings

- a) Meeting types include Regular Team Practice, Executive Board Meeting, and Town Hall (General Member) Meeting
- b) The MSU Ballroom Dance Team will meet at least 4 times a week for Regular Team Practice, as able according to availability of appropriate practice facilities.
 - i) The time and location of these meetings may be altered by the board for reasons including, but not limited to, space conflicts, instructor availability, etc,
 - ii) Quorum is established as all attending members and two executive board members or their respective delegates.
- c) The team may also have town hall meeting upon request by active members. The frequency of these meetings will depend on the requests made by active members.
- d) Executive Board meetings will occur at a minimum of twice per month. Executive board members are required to attend at least 2/3 of all meetings and notify the board if they are not able to attend a meeting.
 - i) Quorum can be composed of 2/3 of the administrative executive positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer), and at least 1/2 of the remaining core executive officers OR of the 3 administrative officers with other executive members attending by invitation.

Section 2: Rules of Order for Meetings

- a) For meetings Section 1.a and Section 1.b, respect for instructors and other dancers is anticipated, and the focus should be on the lesson and on practicing to further one's dancing ability (in the case of Section 1.b, furthering it toward a competitive level).
 - i) Formal complaints and suggestions should be submitted to the executive board.

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- b) For meetings in Section 1.c, all final decisions will be made by majority vote in which all active members present vote. The President presides over the meeting, followed by the Vice President, followed by the Treasurer, followed by the Secretary.

Section 3. Committees

- a) Executive Board Committee consists of all executive officers and shall work as a team to achieve the purpose and objectives of the club and competitive team.
- b) Promotion Committee is headed by the Vice President and includes the Community Coordinator. Their goal is to help promote the club and team through advertisement as well as to distribute information to the community and members.
- c) Financial Committee is headed by the Treasurer and includes the Fundraising Chair and Community Coordinator. Their goal is manage the budget of the team and to find ways to increase the revenue of the team and club. Additional responsibilities include aiding in collection of payments, as deemed necessary by the Treasurer.
- d) Other committees may be formed under executive officers as needed.
- e) Members may volunteer and be added to committees at discretion of the head of the committee.

ARTICLE V: FINANCES

Section 1: Semester Dues

- a) Amount of semester dues will be determined on a per semester basis
- b) This is used to cover the cost of the professional team instructor, practice spaces, equipment, maintenance, and any other necessary expenditures that pertain to the team as a whole.
- c) Dues must be paid by the assigned deadline in order for the member to be considered an active member in good standing.
 - i) If a member has not paid dues, he/she is subject to removal from practices and other opportunities that are paid for by dues.
 - ii) If dues are not paid by the given deadline, then the member will receive a warning. If dues are not paid two weeks after this warning, they face possible expulsion from the team (*see Article II: Section 4*).
 - iii) If dues are not able to be paid, the Treasurer may establish a payment plan with the respective individual.

Section 2: Other Expenditures Paid to Team

- a) Expenditures can include registration fees, hotel fees, merchandise payments, etc.
- b) In the event that a member has an outstanding balance with the team at the end of a semester, they will not be allowed to retain their membership until the balance is

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paid in full. This will result in the loss of membership benefits and privileges until dues and fees are paid in full.

- c) Competition fees, hotel fees, etc. MUST be paid prior to the deadline established by the Competition Chair and Treasurer. Any member that fails to do so will incur a late fee.

Section 3: Team Budget

- a) The team budget will be reviewed and edited yearly by the Executive Board.
- b) The treasurer will create and present the budget prior to each semester.
- c) Changes to the budget can be made at any time with approval from the President, Vice President, and Faculty Advisor.
- d) Budget statements will be made and reviewed at the beginning, middle and end of the semester.
- e) The budget will be available to active members at any time upon request to the Treasurer.
- f) Any costs covered by the team will be determined on a year to year basis, depending on the current financial state of the team and how many members there are.
- g) A certain amount of money (determined by President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Faculty Advisor each academic year) will be kept in the account at all times.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Proposal and Enactment of Amendments

- a) Amendments to the constitution can be proposed at any town hall meetings by active team members.
- b) The amendment will be voted on at the next town hall meeting by present active members in good standing who have paid dues.
- c) If 2/3 of these members approve the amendment, then a vote will go to the core executive board.
- d) If the majority of the core executive board approves the amendment, the amendment will be enacted. If not, then the decision will have a weighted team vote.
 - i) If 3/4 of the active team members approve the amendment, then this will count as two core executive board votes. Out of the five core executive board members and these two additional votes, there needs to be at least a 4/7 majority in order for the amendment to be passed.