

# **Constitution of the AA Stand-Up Comedy Club at Iowa State University**

## **Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the " AA Stand-Up Comedy Club at Iowa State University", and it shall be registered and operated as a Student Organization with the Student Engagement at Iowa State University. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to take any lawful action necessary to implement this Article, which shall supersede all other Articles of this Constitution.

## **Article II: Mission**

The AA Stand-Up Comedy Club at Iowa State University is dedicated to furthering the comedic experiences of its members. The group is composed of experienced comedians who write, edit and perform original stand-up comedy. Stand-up comedy is a comic style in which comedians perform in front of a live audience, usually speaking directly to them. The performer is commonly known as a comic, stand-up comic, stand-up comedian, or simply a stand-up. In stand-up comedy, the comedian usually recites a grouping of humorous stories, jokes and one-liners in a practiced routine, or act. Some stand-up comedians use props, music, or magic tricks to enhance their acts. The club will perform regularly, in places such as Iowa State's campus, bars, comedy clubs, theatres, or other venues.

## **Article III: Membership**

Members must have sufficient experience in stand-up comedy before joining the club. Preference will be granted to those who graduated from Gavin Jerome's Comedy College. Those interested will be required to present a stand-up comedy performance, which will be attended by at least one elected officer of the AA Stand-Up Comedy Club. In addition, a short interview (less than ten minutes) shall be held with the candidate and officers of the club to determine the readiness of the candidate. Non-student membership will be considered based on availability, so that there is never less than 80% Iowa State University Students in the club. Only active members who are current Iowa State University students will have voting privileges. Members shall be considered active if they attend at least one meeting per month. Members can be removed from the club if they pose personal obstacles to the advancement of the club. At this time, no dues are being charged to members.

## **Article IV: Officers**

## Section 1: Executive Officers

The officers of this organization must meet the following requirements:

(a) Be in good standing with the university and enrolled: at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office, and at least half time (four or more credits), if a graduate-level student (unless fewer credits are required in the final stages of their degree as defined by the Continuous Registration Requirement) during their term of office.

(b) Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) as stated below and meet that minimum GPA in the semester immediately prior to the election/appointment, the semester of election/appointment, and semesters during the term of office. For undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, the minimum GPA is 2.00. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration.

(c) Be ineligible to hold an office should the student fail to maintain the requirements as prescribed in (a) and (b).

Officers must also be a consistent attendee of club meetings. Officers are elected by popular vote of active members for the course of a single semester, but can be removed from office due to an overwhelming support (75%) for a reelection. Elections will be held within the first two weeks of both the fall and spring semesters. If meetings are not able to be held within the first two weeks of a semester then the election will be held at the next meeting. Officers will be removed from office if they fail to uphold their responsibilities or pose personal obstacles to the advancement of the club.

Positions include the following:

**President:** The President hold all powers not specifically granted to another position. More specifically, the President is in charge of meeting dates, locations, planning, and being the official spokesperson of the AA Stand-Up Comedy Club. Being the spokesperson includes spearheading communication with potential speakers and audiences, as well as representing the club at school events. All of these responsibilities can be delegated to another member as the president chooses. The President will also enforce the constitution with ultimate authority.

**Vice President:** The Vice President shares the responsibilities of the President. Should the President be unavailable, the Vice President will be acting President.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer is directly responsible for all finances of the club, including spending and income and the proper documentation.

**Secretary:** The Secretary's primary responsibility is communicating all necessary information to officers and members. This includes meeting dates and locations. The secretary shall also keep meeting minutes.

**International Development Chair:** The international development chair is responsible for increasing international influence and assessing club multi-cultural jokes to assure that they are internationally friendly.

**Publicity:** The publicity chair will be responsible for communicating show times and locations to the public, including Iowa State University students and the Ames community.

## **Section 2: Advisor**

The Advisor will have the responsibility to sign any necessary formal paperwork for the club and may determine at his/her own will if he/she wants to attend the meeting dates. The Advisor should also ensure that the club conforms to the standards set forth by Iowa State University and the Student Engagement. Any further participation with the club is to be determined by the Advisor's discretion. If problems with the advisor arise, the president and treasurer will hold a meeting with the advisor to discuss the working relationship and any problems that might pose an obstacle to the club's advancement. If it is deemed necessary (due to the Advisor's lack of availability or personal issues that impinge on the advancement of the club), the Advisor shall be impeached by a majority vote of all Executive Officers present at a general meeting. Selection of a new Advisor shall be the responsibility of the President, who may seek the suggestions of other club members. The President's choice of Advisor will be approved by the majority of Executive Officers at a general meeting.

## **Section 3: Impeachment/Removal**

### **(a) Reasons for Impeachment**

#### **(i) Misuse of Club funds**

(1) Buying something is not agreed on by other officers, treasurer or president without communicating with them first.

a) Example: The officers agree to buy ice cream for a social they plan to hold. Without communicating or reason the advisor sent to purchase the ice cream instead purchased chips and dip. The advisor would then be eligible for impeachment.

#### **(ii) Creating an unsafe environment**

(1) A club officer consistently makes other people in the club feel unsafe or unwelcomed.

a) Example: An officer makes a joke that makes everyone else feel uncomfortable. After being talked to the officer pushes back and continues making insensitive jokes. The officer would be eligible for impeachment.

#### **(iii) Not attending meetings**

(1) A club officer misses meetings for an entire month without reason.

a) Example: A newly elected officer stops attending any meeting held. They give no explanation and no one is able to contact them. This officer would be eligible for impeachment.

### **(b) Impeachment proceeding**

- (i) Movement to impeach
  - (1) To start the impeachment proceedings a simple majority vote between officers is required. The vote will be held in an executive meeting where the officer in question will not be invited. The vote will be done via show of hands. If the vote goes through the officer will be notified immediately of their status.
- (ii) Removal
  - (1) The vote to remove an officer will occur during a general meeting.
  - (2) The vote to remove will be announced at least one week in advance.
  - (3) Voting will be done by a secret ballot either electronically or through paper (decided by the officers).
  - (4) A vote for removal needs a 75% majority to pass.
  - (5) After a successful vote the officer will be stripped of their title and possible club membership.
- (c) Vacancy and Replacement
  - (i) If the President is impeached and removed then all power immediately transfers to the Vice President. The Vice President will serve the rest of the rest of the President's term until the next election.
  - (ii) Any new vacancies will be appointed by the President and confirmed by a simple majority of officers during an executive meeting.

## Article V: Official Meetings

**General Meetings:** General meetings will be held at least weekly for every week that classes are attended. Meetings are only for members and guests that are approved by either the President or Vice President. Time and location will be determined by the President and Vice President and announced by the Secretary. At least half of the active members must be present for any voting to take place. The club will also seek to bring in stand-up comedians in order to increase the comedic exposure of its members.

**Executive Meetings:** Should it be determined necessary by the President or Vice President, Executive Meetings will be held. Only Office Members will be permitted. Should the meeting be in part to discuss the continuing membership of an office member then that member will not be present.

## Article VI: Statement of Compliance

"AA Stand-Up Comedy Club" abides by and supports established Iowa State University policies, State and Federal Laws, and follows local ordinances and regulations.

"AA Stand-Up Comedy Club" agrees to annually complete President's Training, Treasurer's Training, and Advisor Training (if required).

Iowa State University and AA Stand-Up Comedy do not discriminate on the basis of genetic information, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, race, ethnicity, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or status as a U.S. Veteran.”

## **Article VII: Finances**

All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization at the Campus Organizations Accounting Office and/or approved institution/office (must receive authorization via Campus Organizations Accounting Office and Student Engagement). All funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection. The Advisor to this organization must approve and sign each expenditure before payment. The treasurer shall be required to give a full financial report upon request.

## **Article VIII: Risk Management**

The President must also [a] help minimize potential risks for club activities, [b] recommend risk management policies or procedures to AA Stand-Up Comedy Club, [c] to submit documentation to ISU's Risk Management Office and [d] ensure that Iowa State University policies are followed at all of the organization's events and [e] to ensure that proper waivers and background checks are on file with Risk Management for events (if applicable). These responsibilities can be distributed at the President's discretion.

## **Article IX: Date of Effect**

This Constitution shall take effect immediately upon ratification.

## **Article X: Ratifications and Amendments**

This Constitution shall be ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of any general meeting of AA Stand-Up Comedy Club, which meets the requirements of Article V. Amendments to the Constitution may be suggested by any member and passed by a two-thirds majority vote of active members.

An updated constitution and bylaws must be submitted to Student Engagement within 10 days of any amendments.

In the event a constitution is rejected because it does not meet Iowa State University policy and/or constitution requirements, the following may occur. Any changes to bring the constitution into compliance may be made with unanimous approval from the President, Treasurer, and Advisor. Notification of these changes must be communicated at the next full organizational meeting.