

Lafayette Women's Soccer Club  
Lafayette College  
CONSTITUTION

**ARTICLE I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#).

**ARTICLE II: Purpose and Scope**

**Section 1: Purpose Statement**

The purpose of this club is [to create a space where teammates can enjoy the game of soccer and form new connections among peers](#).

**Section 2: Goals/Objectives**

In pursuit of this general purpose, the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) will aim to:

- A. Promote a team bond among teammates through all levels of play
- B. To foster a team/athleticism
- C. To create a space of enjoyment and diligence

**Section 3: Relationship & Policy Agreement**

As a recognized Lafayette College student organization, the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) will have access to advising and resources through the Division of Student Life and the Lafayette College Student Government, however, the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) activities are not supervised by Lafayette College staff or Student Government Representatives. The members of the organization itself are responsible for following all College policies and state laws and for ensuring the safety, security, and appropriate and lawful behavior of the membership as well as any students involved in activities sponsored by the organization.

**Section 4: Affiliation**

Lafayette Women's Soccer Club is not a participant in any league.

**ARTICLE III: Membership**

**Section 1: Nondiscrimination**

In keeping with Lafayette College's policy of nondiscrimination, membership in [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) is open to all students of Lafayette College, regardless of race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability, religion, age, military or veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital or familial status, pregnancy, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.

**Section 2: Active Members**

Active membership in the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) shall be limited to students who are currently enrolled at Lafayette College. [A person is an active member by attending practices, scheduled meetings, and games when able. Students studying abroad can be active members in the club. Membership shall be retained until the student severs relations with Lafayette College whether by graduation, leave of absence, voluntary or involuntary separation from the College. Membership will be retained during the](#)

vacation, recesses, and study abroad of the College; however, per College policy, if a student is on an official leave from the College due to suspension of an involuntary separation, they are not permitted to participate in the organization. Playing time is based upon ability and attendance at practices

Active members are eligible to vote and hold office. Other members of Lafayette College such as faculty, staff, and alumni may participate but only as non-voting associate or honorary members. All members must register in DSE via <https://recreation.lafayette.edu/join-a-sports-club/> website.

### **Section 3: Selection of New Members**

To obtain active member status, prospective members can join once attending at least one practice session. There is no formal application or interview required. To maintain active membership, members must attend at least 2 practices per season.

### **Section 4: Hazing**

Lafayette College requires that no student participate in and that no student organization allow any of its prospective members, new members, members, or others to participate in any ceremony or practice that involves mental or physical exhaustion or abuse, or in any way interferes with the students' mental or physical ability to perform their work at Lafayette College. These rites must not reflect unfavorably upon either the group or the College or be of a dangerous, rude, or demeaning nature. Hazing, whether it occurs on or off campus, is prohibited and will be subject to sanctioning through the conduct process.

### **Section 5: Voluntary Member Withdrawal**

Any member can, at any time, voluntarily withdraw their membership from the organization.

### **Section 6: Non-Voluntary Member Withdrawal**

A member can be removed from the organization by...

- A. Active member be removed if their conduct violates the College's Code of Conduct in a manner warranting disciplinary action from the College. The Organization Advisor should serve as a non-voting mediator for these proceedings. The removal of an Executive Officer is described in Article 6, Section 6.
- B. Active member(s) can be removed if there is to be any behaviors such as harassment, bullying, hate speech, and abuse between members that go against the Club's ideals and values.
- C. The active member should be given notice of concerns raised by the membership (verbal and in writing) by the Executive Officers with the Advisor present.
- D. A second meeting should be held between the active member, Executive Officers, and Advisor to discuss the concerns and determine the outcome.

## **ARTICLE IV: Organizational Leadership**

### **Section 1: Officers**

The officers of the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) shall be the President, [the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Captains](#), which will serve as the Executive Committee.

### **Section 2: The President shall:**

- A. Serve as the official representative and chief executive officer of the team off the field and oversees that all members of the board are fulfilling their positions.
- B. Schedule games and practices with the schools and other schools, book refs, correspond with the director of club sports.
- C. Serves as the primary contact and external liaison

- D. Attend all team meetings unless excused by another officer.

**Section 3:** The **Vice-President** shall:

- A. Help with scheduling.
- B. Serve as the primary safety leader/risk manager.
- C. Assist the President with oversight of the organization.
- D. Assume duties of the President in the event of the President's absence.
- E. Attend all team meetings unless excused by another officer.

**Section 4:** The **Secretary** shall:

- A. Attend meetings and help other positions with tasks.
- B. Be responsible for delegating such that all requirements mandated by the college to act as an active club are met and maintain all primary contact information for members and opposing teams.
- C. Keep record of all team members.
- D. Notify members of team meetings.
- E. Attend all team meetings unless excused by another officer.

**Section 5:** The **Treasurer** shall:

- A. Manage the allocated amount of money the school has set aside for the team.
- B. Reserve vehicles for off campus events.
- C. Deposit donations and any fundraiser money.
- D. Compile budget reports.
- E. Do team ordering.
- F. Attend all team meetings unless excused by another officer.

**Section 6:** The Captains shall:

- A. Run practices.
- B. Make game rosters.
- C. Attend all team meetings unless excused by another officer.

**ARTICLE V: Advisor**

**Section 1:** The **Lafayette Women's Soccer Club** will be advised by a Lafayette College faculty, staff, or a full-time employee.

**Section 2:** The organization is free to select any eligible employee to serve as the advisor to the organization. Upon selection, the advisor must be approved by the Director of Student Involvement.

**Section 3:** The Advisor shall:

- A. Provide guidance and support
- B. Advise the group on College policies and procedures and risk management
- C. Attend meetings and major functions of the **Lafayette Women's Soccer Club**

**ARTICLE VI: Officer Terms and Election Procedures**

**Section 1: Term**

The terms of all officers of the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) shall be one calendar year. [Officers may serve multiple consecutive terms.](#)

### **Section 2: Election Timeline**

All officers shall be elected on or before [the end of the Fall Semester](#) of each year, with their term effective at the beginning of February. The executive board is solely made up of students; only members may vote, even if they are up for election. Therefore, the officers (the current President and Vice President) may vote.

### **Section 3: Officer Criteria**

All officers shall be elected from the active members. Any student seeking to hold office must have and maintain good academic and judicial standing.

### **Section 4: Election Process**

- A. The President will announce that elections will be occurring and communicate the process and timeline to the active members.
- B. A quorum (simple majority) of active members must be present for all meetings where nominations or elections take place.
- C. Any member may nominate any active member for a position, including themselves. All nominations must be accepted by the nominee in order to be considered.
- D. Nominations will be closed by the President after all nominations are accepted for each office.
- E. In the event that only one individual accepts a nomination for a position, they will assume the position for the coming year. If two or more individuals accept the nomination, it will be put to a vote.
- F. Voting shall occur by a secret ballot distributed to each active member in attendance at the meeting. The ballots shall be tabulated by any officer not on the ballot and/or the Advisor. A majority is required to elect Executive Officers.

### **Section 5: Officer Resignation**

Any officer can, at any time, voluntarily resign from their position with proper notice given to the other officers and Advisor.

### **Section 6: Officer Impeachment**

Officers can be impeached by

- A. The membership may request that an Executive Officer step down from their duties for failing to complete the duties of their office or if their conduct violates the College's Code of Conduct in a manner warranting disciplinary action from the College. The organization's Advisor should serve as a non-voting mediator for these proceedings. The impeachment hearing must occur while classes are in session. The Executive Officer should be given notice of concerns raised by the membership (verbal and written communication) at a regular meeting at which three-fourths (3/4) of the active members are present.
- B. At the next regular meeting, three-fourths (3/4) of active members must be present in order for the impeachment hearing to begin. The moderator of the impeachment hearing will be the President unless they are being impeached, in which case it will be the Vice President. The moderator cannot be the Officer being impeached. Each side will be given the opportunity to present their case and the active members may ask questions.
- C. The membership upon hearing the case shall vote. A three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of all

present members is required to remove the Executive officer from office.

- D. If an officer is impeached, the team will then elect a new officer as soon as possible. Once elected, the new officer's inauguration is effective immediately.

#### Section 7: Officer Succession

Should the office of the President be vacant, the Vice President shall become the President and assume all of the responsibilities of that office. Should the office of any of the remaining officers become vacant, a special election will be held at the next meeting, following the process outlined in Article 6, Section 4.

#### **ARTICLE VII: Meetings and Programs**

**Section 1:** The first meeting of the fall semester shall be within two weeks after classes start.

**Section 2:** At least one business meeting should be held per month. A business meeting is defined as an official publicly advertised meeting with quorum present and minutes recorded.

**Section 3:** Quorum: A simple majority of the membership is required to conduct business (half plus one).

**Section 4:** Robert's Rules of Order shall govern meetings in all cases except when in conflict with this constitution and with general College regulations.

**Section 5:** If weather conditions are good, then practices will be held 1-2 times a week. Games will usually fall on either a Saturday or a Sunday.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: Constitutional Amendments**

Section 1: Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed in writing by an active member of the [Lafayette Women's Soccer Club](#) at any regular meeting at which two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the active members are present.

Section 2: Proposed amendments shall be voted upon only after two regular meetings following the introduction of the proposal and discussion period.

Section 3: Proposed amendments will become effective following a three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) affirmative vote of the active members.

#### **Article IX: Risk Management**

##### **Section 1: Injuries**

At least two members of the board will take the CPR/first aid training classes to become certified by the college. These members will be responsible for responding to any injuries during practice or games

##### **Section 2: Finances**

This organization has a designated Treasurer who is responsible for all of the financial decisions that are made including collecting dues. The Treasurer is the only member with control over the organization's finances

##### **Section 3: Hazing**

Hazing policy: Lafayette College and Pennsylvania State Law requires that no student participates in and that no student organization allows any of its new members, members, or others to participate in any pre-membership ceremony or practice that involves mental or physical exhaustion or abuse, or in any way interferes with the students' mental or physical ability to perform their work at Lafayette College. These rites must not reflect unfavorably upon either the group or the College or be of a dangerous, rude, or demeaning nature. The President is responsible for ensuring that members understand this policy and that (1) members will be held responsible for violations of this policy and (2) the student organization itself may be face charges for violating this policy. For a more comprehensive list of examples of hazing, refer to the Student Handbook.\* According to the recreation services website, common examples of hazing among club sports include, but are not limited to: • Pressuring, urging, or encouraging anyone to consume alcohol or drugs. • Physical activity (e.g., middle-of-the-night calisthenics) that is not a part of organized Sports Clubs Teams practices or competitions. • Paddling, shoving, or striking in any manner. • Force-feeding. • Disrupting sleep. • Individual interrogations such as "rat-court" or "kangaroo-court". • Throwing or pouring substances on anyone. • Any activity that interferes with students' attending class or studying. • Any form of restriction of a person's freedom of movement. • Nudity as part of an initiation activity. • "Line-ups" of any type. • Any activity that tends to or actually degrades, humiliates, ridicules, embarrasses, or intimidates another person. • Personal errands run by new members for the initiated members (servitude). • New members vs. active members in sports clubs contests or other competitions which are purposefully unfair and do not promote friendly competition. • Any other activity or situation that puts the new member at risk or in jeopardy or may associate the organization with hazing. The club fully understands that any hazing endorsed by the club will result in having the remainder of the year's practices and competitions cancelled, remaining funding will be cancelled for the remainder of the year, and disciplinary action may be pursued against individuals involved in the hazing activities per the Recreation Services Policy. Additionally, the individual or individuals responsible for the hazing event(s) will not be eligible for active membership following the revelation of hazing events

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