

Women's Club Volleyball Team  
Lafayette College  
CONSTITUTION

**Article I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be "Women's Club Volleyball Team".

**Article II: Purpose and Scope**

**Section 1: Purpose Statement**

The purpose of this organization will be to assemble a team of girls to practice the sport of volleyball at a competitive level and play in tournaments in the Northeast Women's Volleyball Club League (NWVCL).

**Section 2: Goals/Objectives**

In pursuit of this general purpose, the Women's Club Volleyball Team will aim to:

- A. Develop and strengthen volleyball skills
- B. Foster a close-knit community and team atmosphere in which members want to return
- C. Qualify for regionals each year

**Section 3: Relationship & Policy Agreement**

As a recognized Lafayette College student organization, the [Women's Club Volleyball Team] will have access to advising and resources through the Division of Student Life and the Lafayette College Student Government, however, the [Women's Club Volleyball Team] 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**

The Women's Club Volleyball team is an active participant in the Northeast Women's Volleyball Club League (NWVCL). This league allows the team to participate in multiple tournaments each semester and showcase the skills developed in practice. Membership in this league allows for the opportunity to qualify for regionals in which the top 10 teams in the league compete in the final tournament of the academic year.

**Article III: Membership**

**Section 1: Nondiscrimination**

In keeping with Lafayette College's policy of nondiscrimination, membership in [Women's Club Volleyball Team] 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 [Women's Club Volleyball Team] shall be limited to students who are currently enrolled at Lafayette College. Active membership includes

1. Regularly attending tournaments
2. Traveling to tournaments with the team as often as possible
3. Communication with members of the executive board
4. Actively on campus for the semester

Members studying abroad are inactive members for the duration of their time abroad. 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 be registered on DSE via <https://recreation.lafayette.edu/join-a-sports-club/> website.

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

Tryouts will be held at the start of the fall semester. New members must show up to try out dates or communicate with the President if there is a conflict (such as illness, class, etc). New members will have two opportunities on separate days to showcase their skills. Once tryout dates are done The Executive Board will meet to select new members for the team. Members will be selected based on their volleyball skills, ability to be a team player, and position openings on the team. All potential new members trying out will receive an email either offering them a spot on the team or politely letting them know that at this time we can not extend them an offer, but the President would be happy to meet with them should they have any questions. New members will be made aware of the commitments and expectations of being on the team.

### **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. The membership may request that an 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. 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.
- C. A second meeting should be held between the active member, Executive Officers, and Advisor to discuss the concerns and determine the outcome.

### **Section 7: Dues**

Semester dues of \$20 shall be paid by the first tournament of each semester. Dues will go towards an emergency reserve fund should the club ever encounter a situation that requires additional funds. They will also be used towards merchandise and senior gifts. Should a member of the team lose their jersey they will be required to pay an additional fee to replace it.

## **Article IV: Organizational Leadership**

### **Section 1: Officers**

The officers of the [Women's Club Volleyball Team] shall be the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Social Media Chair, which will serve as the Executive Committee.

Note: If there is a coach they are the head of the Executive board (and can vote in any election). Team Captains are leaders for the team, but are not a part of the executive board unless elected to a specific position.

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

- A. The President shall be in charge of scheduling and registering for tournaments (working with the treasurer) and practices and planning any other additional games or events. Additionally, the president will be responsible for organizing practices and overseeing board decisions. The president will also work with the secretary to establish communications with other teams and any other contacts.

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

- A. Vice president shall be in charge of working alongside the president to organize practices and oversee board decisions, and assisting any other members of the board with their tasks. Helps keep the documentation updated, along with the secretary. The VP will serve as the primary safety officer or risk manager.

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

- A. Secretary shall be in charge of sending out practice reminders to the team, taking attendance at meetings, making sure we keep track of our inventory/equipment, scheduling the logistics of away tournaments and possible accommodations.

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

- A. Treasurer shall be in charge of dealing with the finances of the team. This includes collecting and depositing dues, paying our dues to the NWVCL, paying for our tournaments, renting cars, and ordering equipment.

### **Section 6: The Social Media Chair shall:**

- A. Social chair shall be in charge of all social media including the team instagram and other platforms. Making sure there are pictures and videos of the team to be posted. Additionally, the social chair may plan team bonding events, pasta parties, and other activities.

## **ARTICLE V: Advisor**

**Section 1:** The [Women's Club Volleyball Team] 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 [Women's Club Volleyball Team]

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

### **Section 1: Term**

The terms of all officers of the [Women's Club Volleyball Team] shall be one year [calendar year]. Officers may serve multiple consecutive terms.

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

All officers shall be elected before the end of the fall academic semester of each year, with their term effective beginning at the start of the spring semester (February through April will serve as a transition period).

### **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. The president must have previously served as another position of the executive board prior to running for office. All officers shall be registered undergraduates in Lafayette College who are in good academic standing. All officers must frequently and efficiently communicate with each other in planning for the club's meetings and events.

### **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. Any member who is interested in running for a position will let the president know which position.
- 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. The president will inform the team who the candidates are for each position.
- 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 the President or if in the case the president is not a senior, a senior member of exec or member of the team (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**

An officer is eligible for impeachment if they violate the Women's Club Volleyball constitution or the Lafayette College Student Handbook, or consistently fail to carry out their duties as officer. After consultation with the director of club sports via the non impeached executive board members, an anonymous team vote will take place to determine whether the individual is impeached.

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 (¾) affirmative vote of all present members is required to remove the Executive officer from office.
- D. In the situation that a coach is hired for the team (has occurred in the past), the removal process will be the same as that of the executive board should Lafayette College's code of conduct be violated.

### **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. This includes the situation of an officer studying abroad for a semester. If this occurs, that officer is still eligible to run for office again when they return (but they must be re-elected). Members of the team who are abroad will be notified and given the opportunity to participate in elections.

## **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/executive board 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.

## **ARTICLE VIII: Constitutional Amendments**

**Section 1:** Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed in writing by an active member of the [Women's Club Volleyball team] at any regular meeting at which two-thirds (⅔) 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

- A. Our club is considered to be Risk Level II, therefore, our team must have two officers trained in CPR and First-Aid. The team will fund officers to be trained if necessary. The team is to support any member that suffers from an injury during practice or tournaments, however, the club does not assume responsibilities for members' personal injuries. Any injuries must be reported to those in charge of club sports via an incident report. Risk mitigation can never prevent all accidents. Athletes must be fully informed about the risks associated with volleyball and participate at their own discretion.

#### Section 2: Finances

- A. The budget is to be the responsibility of the executive board, with the treasurer regularly monitoring the team's account. We will pay our league membership dues each year in a timely fashion. We will use our budget to register for at least three tournaments in the NWWCL each semester. Additionally, the money in our budget can be used for purchasing equipment or apparel that will belong to the team. \$20 dues are to be collected each semester to serve as an emergency fund should there be a situation where adequate funds have not been provided.

#### Section 3: Hazing

- A. Our team will not tolerate hazing in any manner. If a situation arises in which an act of hazing has occurred within our team, it is the responsibility of the officers to mediate the situation and get the club sports directors involved in order to handle the situation. If the executive board is involved in an act of hazing, it is the responsibility of the other team members to report the incident to the club sports directors. Any member involved in an act of hazing is subject to removal from the team. Any officer involved in an act of hazing is subject to impeachment of their position and removal from the team.

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- Violate Federal or State criminal law.
- Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug or other substance which subjects the student to a risk of emotional or physical harm.

- Endure brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics or exposure to the elements.
- Endure brutality of a mental nature, including activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment.
- Endure brutality of a sexual nature.
- Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the minor or student.
- Depriving individuals of regular meals and the opportunity for adequate personal hygiene.
- Endure individual interrogations.
- Endure the throwing or pouring of substances on anyone.
- Endure any activity that interferes with students' attending class or studying.
- Endure harassment or disruption of other residences or groups; any form of restriction of a person's freedom of movement; nudity as part of an initiation activity.

DOCUMENT HISTORY:

Created: 2/10/2023

Executive Board: President, Vice President

Date: 2/16/23

Signatures: \_\_\_Dolce Whitwell\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_Kate Demaree\_\_\_\_\_