

Lafayette College Cheerleading
Team

Lafayette College
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team.

ARTICLE II: Purpose and Scope

Section 1: Purpose Statement

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote school spirit and unity through our contribution to performances at all home football and men's and women's basketball games, pep rallies, and various events hosted by other organizations on and off campus. The Lafayette College Cheerleading Team further commits to performing at selective away games during both the football and basketball season depending on viability. Additionally each team may represent Lafayette College at the national level by attending UCA College Nationals.

Section 2: Goals/Objectives

In pursuit of this general purpose, the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team will aim to:

1. Promote school spirit at Lafayette football and basketball games, and around campus, for students, alumni, faculty, staff and members of the community
2. Attend UCA College Nationals to represent Lafayette's Cheerleading Team on the D1 national level
3. Grow the skills and technique of each member

Section 3: Relationship & Policy Agreement

As a recognized Lafayette College student organization, the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team will have access to advising and resources through the Division of Student Life and the Lafayette College Student Government, however, the Lafayette College Cheerleading 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

Lafayette College Cheerleading Team will participate in UCA Competitions, both at the regional and national level.

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1: Nondiscrimination

In keeping with Lafayette College's policy of nondiscrimination, membership in Lafayette College Cheerleading 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 Lafayette College Cheerleading Team shall be limited to students who are currently enrolled at Lafayette College.

Active members must

- Be registered on Do Sports Easy via <https://recreation.lafayette.edu/join-a-sports-club/>
- Attend all scheduled practices and scheduled games (if no academic conflicts)
- Students studying abroad will still be considered active members

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.

Section 3: Selection of New Members

New members will be chosen in two rounds of tryouts with a combination of video and in person tryouts.

The first round will be a video tryout for students interested in joining the team. This will include sideline cheers, a band dance, stunting and the opportunity for the student to send any additional tumbling/skills they might have. Video tryouts will occur in the spring.

If the student makes it past the first round and is a current student and/or an accepted student, they may be invited to an in person call back tryout. This tryout will also include an interview with the team/coach, sideline cheers and band dance, and stunting if numbers allow.

Current Members may be asked to tryout at the end of each season in the first round only.

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

1. 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.
2. 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
3. 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

Annual dues of \$200 shall be paid by the first home football game of each year. Failure to pay dues will result in the revocation of active membership.

ARTICLE IV: Organizational Leadership

Section 1: Officers

The officers of the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team shall be the President (Co-Captain), the Vice President (Co-Captain), the Secretary, and the Treasurer, which will serve as the Executive Committee. The coach will be a member of the Executive Committee and be allowed to vote.

Section 2: The President (Co-Captain) shall:

1. Work with other board members and coach to help plan and organize the cheer season
2. Co-Lead practices during the week with other captains and coach
3. Help to organize and plan Nationals each year
4. Serves as the chief executive officer of the organization
5. Serves as the primary contact and external liaison for the organization
6. Presides over all organization meetings

7. Supervises all organization activities
8. Is permitted to vote

Section 3: The Vice-President (Co-Captain) shall:

1. Serve as the primary safety leader/risk manager
2. Work with other board members and coach to help plan and organize the cheer season
3. Co-Lead practices during the week with other captains and coach
4. Help to organize and plan Nationals each year
5. Serves as the chief executive officer of the organization
6. Serves as the primary contact and external liaison for the organization
7. Presides over all organization meetings
8. Supervises all organization activities
9. Is permitted to vote

Section 4: The Secretary shall:

1. Be responsible for the written aspects of the team like sending practice reminders, game day texts, and any other messages/emails that relate to the team.
2. Secretary will also be in charge of alumni relations and fundraising efforts.
3. Be in charge of team communication and updating schedule on Do Sports Easy
4. Create team calendar of events (team google calendar)
5. Is permitted to vote

Section 5: The Treasurer shall:

1. Create budget requests with help from the coach, and co-captains (President and Vice President)
2. Keep track of used funds
3. Submit purchase requests forms
4. Collects Organization dues
5. Is familiar with accounting procedures and policies
6. Is permitted to vote

Section 6: The Coach shall:

1. Be point of contact for UCA College Nationals
2. Help to plan practices and routines for the entirety of the season
3. Is permitted to vote

ARTICLE V: Advisor

Section 1: The Lafayette College Cheerleading 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:

1. Provide guidance and support
2. Advise the group on College policies and procedures and risk management
3. Attend meetings and major functions of the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team
4. Be liaison between the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team and Lafayette Athletics

ARTICLE VI: Officer Terms and Election Procedures

Section 1: Term

The terms of all officers of the Lafayette College Cheerleading Team shall be one calendar year. Officers may serve multiple consecutive terms.

Section 2: Election Timeline

All officers shall be elected on or before the last day of the spring semester of each year, with their term effective beginning the first day of the following season.

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

1. The President and/or Vice President will announce that elections will be occurring and communicate the process and timeline to the active members.
2. The Coach will create a form where members can nominate themselves or other members for a position
3. 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.
4. After each member submits their form, the Coach will appoint the new President and Vice President. The new President, Vice President and Coach will then come together to make remaining leadership selections for the following year.

Section 5: Officer Resignation

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

Section 6: Officer Impeachment

1. Officers can be impeached if they have broken team standards or rules set by the Coach and/or rules of Lafayette Student Involvement
2. The board members will vote on impeachment. The Coach is allowed to vote.

In terms of Coach removal:

1. Board members will evaluate Coach at the end of each season
2. Removal for Coach will only happen at the end of a season, unless there are special circumstances

3. If removal is necessary, board members will vote. This must be a unanimous vote for action to take place.

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 week. 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 Lafayette College Cheerleading Team 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 VIII: Risk Management

Section 1: Injuries:

Members shall be required to complete warm-up exercises and stretches prior to any performance or practice to lessen the likelihood of injury. If injury does occur, an officer will complete an incident report form after ensuring that the person has received any needed aid.

Section 2: Finances

Only the President, Vice-President, or Treasurer with approval, will make purchases of equipment or uniforms and allocate funds towards cosponsoring of events. All officers shall be aware of the budget and the money in the treasury. Each team will have its own budget and treasury money to manage.

Section 3: Hazing

There is a zero-tolerance policy for hazing. Any member engaging in such behavior, as defined in the Lafayette Student Code of Conduct, is subject to immediate dismissal from the team.

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