

Constitution of the Sailing Club at UGA

Amended May 16th, 2016

Preamble

We the members of the Sailing Club at UGA, and subscribing to the regulations and policies of the University of Georgia, establish this Constitution to govern the matters within our organization.

Article I: Sailing Club at UGA

1. The Sailing Club at UGA, is an official club sport of the University of Georgia. The club is an active racing team whose compromising members are both new to the sport and experienced sailors in the racing scene all around the United States.
2. The Sailing Club at UGA is a member of the SAISA conference, South Atlantic Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association. SAISA is the South Atlantic conference of the Intercollegiate Sailing Association, ICSA. The ICSA is the governing authority for sailing competition at colleges and universities throughout the United States, and parts of Canada. SAISA encompasses Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and Northern Alabama. The member schools represent a diverse group of collegiate sailing programs, ranging from student-run club teams to varsity programs with full-time coaches. With great year-round sailing conditions and some of the top sailing venues in the country, SAISA hosts several regional and national championships each year.

Article II: Purpose/Mission

1. The objective the Sailing Club at UGA shall be to provide a safe and stimulating learning environment for a diverse group of the UGA community out on the water and on land.
 - i. Diverse meaning the club allows undergraduates, graduates and faculty of any gender, race, sexual orientation, etc.
2. An important objective of the Sailing Club is that no student feels intimidated, every student feels safe, and that every student learns what sailing is all about.

3. It is the sole effort of the students at UGA that drives this organization's success and accomplishments both in teaching peers the sport of sailing and in competing on a high level against schools all around the southeast.

Article III: Membership

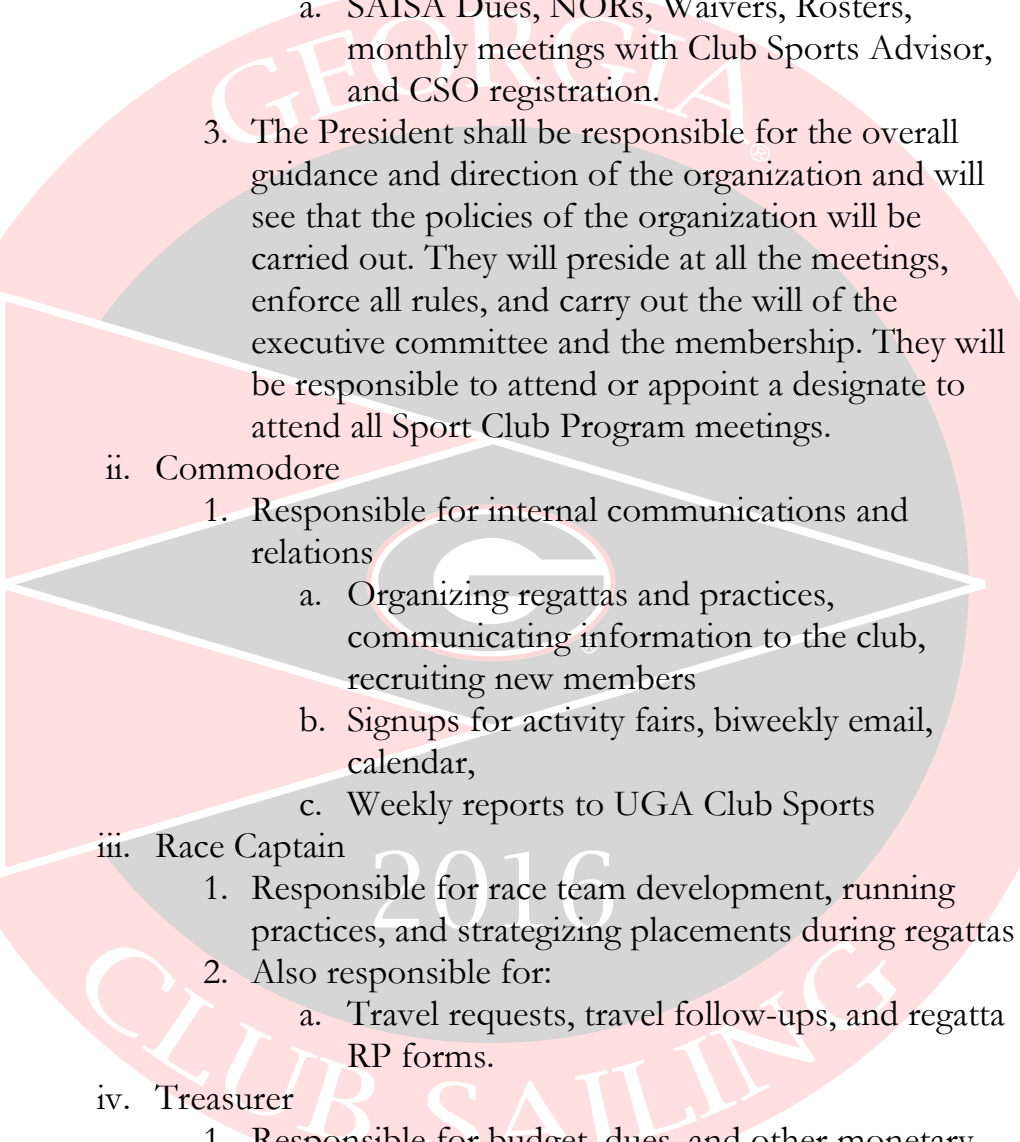
1. Members of the Sailing Club at UGA must pay dues to be considered an active member of the organization.
 - a. Dues are subject to change based on the club's growth and needs.
 - b. Status as a member also is limited to the student/faculty's conduct on and off the water.
 - c. If the club's officers unanimously come to the decision that a student or faculty member of the team is not conducting in an appropriate manner to the organization's success, that student or faculty member can be expelled from the club without refund of membership dues.
 - d. Only undergraduate students in pursuit of their first undergraduate degree can compete at ICSA regattas. This is in the by-laws of the ICSA constitution.

Article IV: Non-Discrimination

1. Membership and all privileges, including voting and officer positions, must be extended to all students without regard to age, ethnicity, gender, disability, color, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.
2. However, the current Race Captain of the Sailing Club at UGA reserves the right to select the members of the competing team traveling to the ICSA regattas based on experience and activity in the club's practices and meetings.

Article V: Officers

1. Qualifications: Must be a student of the University of Georgia and an active member of the club, with membership dues paid in full.
 - a. The first 4 required executive officer positions must be full year to year:
 - i. President

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1. Responsible for external communications and relations with:
 - a. SAISA, UGA Club Sports, LLSC, Sponsors, etc.
 2. Also responsible for:
 - a. SAISA Dues, NORs, Waivers, Rosters, monthly meetings with Club Sports Advisor, and CSO registration.
 3. The President shall be responsible for the overall guidance and direction of the organization and will see that the policies of the organization will be carried out. They will preside at all the meetings, enforce all rules, and carry out the will of the executive committee and the membership. They will be responsible to attend or appoint a designate to attend all Sport Club Program meetings.
- ii. Commodore
 1. Responsible for internal communications and relations
 - a. Organizing regattas and practices, communicating information to the club, recruiting new members
 - b. Signups for activity fairs, biweekly email, calendar,
 - c. Weekly reports to UGA Club Sports
 - iii. Race Captain
 1. Responsible for race team development, running practices, and strategizing placements during regattas
 2. Also responsible for:
 - a. Travel requests, travel follow-ups, and regatta RP forms.
 - iv. Treasurer
 1. Responsible for budget, dues, and other monetary aspects; works closely with President, Commodore, Fundraising Chair, and Merchandising Chair
 2. Budget report, travel reimbursement
- b. Committee Chairs
 - i. Reports to Commodore

1. Social Chair (2) - Responsible for organizing team socials (outside of practices and regattas) and for building and strengthening team morale
 - ii. Reports to President
 - a. Technology Chair - Responsible for keeping all club social media up-to-date (Facebook, Instagram, and Website)
 - iii. Reports to Race Captain
 - b. Safety (2) - Assists Race Captain in overseeing safety
 - iv. Reports to Treasurer
 - c. Fundraising Chair- Responsible for fundraising in general and for organizing fundraising events
 - d. Merchandising Chair - Responsible for all creation and production of club merchandising (uniforms, t-shirts, outerwear, etc.)
 - v. Reports to Race Captain
 2. Safety Officer- responsible for the safety of all members of the club, must be CPR certified, and must work with the UGA Club Sports office to fulfill any safety requirements.
2. Terms: If elected to a position, member will hold that officer position from August-July.
 - a. All officers must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours at the University of Georgia and should be in good academic standing.
3. Election and Removal:
 - a. Election to all executive officer positions (President, Race Captain, and Safety Officer), and all chair positions for the following year is decided by a majority vote of the entire club. Elections are to be held in the spring for the next year's officers and chair positions and organized by one graduating senior, or the most senior officer if there are no graduating seniors.
 - b. Officers may be removed from their position upon receiving 3 strikes or as a result of a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the club.
 - i. Strikes can be reviewed for the following reason:

1. Overstepping boundaries
 2. Not adequately fulfilling their position as an officer
 3. Going behind other officers
 4. General poor conduct
 5. Other actions deemed inappropriate by a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of the executive officers
- c. Complaint reports may be submitted (anonymously if chosen) to an officer by email and should recount the officer's misconduct. Complaint reports must be read at the officer meeting immediately following their receipt, will be put to a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of executive officers to determine if a strike should be given.
4. Resignation
 - a. In the event that an officer cannot complete his or her term, the officer must state his or her resignation to the rest of the officers. The remaining officers will hold a replacement election following the rules of elections at a general meeting to replace the departing officer.
 5. Exceptions
 - a. An officer may hold more than one [®] position if there are not enough eligible team members that are willing or able to fill the officer position. The discretion lies within the current year's officer board and must be voted and approved.

Article VI: Meetings

1. There is a regular interest meeting at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. It should be well promoted and returning members should also be in attendance. The interest meeting should be scheduled during the second week of classes both spring and fall semesters.
2. Regular weekly practices will be held, dependent on the schedules of the lake hosts and officers; the practice dates will be communicated via a variety of sources to the members of the club.
3. Regular monthly indoor "chalk-talks" will be held by the officers for new and returning members to better understand some sailing basics.

4. Officer meetings will be held regularly, as decided by the executive board, at a date, time and location that do not conflict with the interests of the majority of officers.
5. All team purchases over \$50 must be voted on at officer meetings and approved by a majority vote.

Article VII: Amendments and Decision Making

1. Amending the Constitution will require $\frac{2}{3}$ of the club's membership vote and a unanimous vote from the club officers.
 - a. The general membership is the ultimate decision making body, and can reverse Executive committee decisions. Decisions are made by a majority vote. A quorum is constituted by $\frac{2}{5}$ of active members.
 - b. The Executive Committee carries out most of the Club's governance. One person may only have one vote, except in if one person cannot make it and the delegate their vote to another. In that case the person has fiduciary duty to uphold the beliefs of the person they are voting one's behalf. The Executive Committee may not vote special privileges to itself, such as parties or trips. Any member may ask to be on the agenda and present an issue to the Executive Committee. Requests to be on the agenda should be received 24 hours prior to the planned meeting time.
 - c. The bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The membership is promptly informed of bylaw changes.
 - d. The constitution may be amended by a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of the executive committee, followed by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the general membership.

Article VIII: General Body Meetings

General body meetings of the UGA Sailing Club will be held at least 3 times a semester. This does not include the interest meeting. The dates, time, and locations of which will be scheduled by the officers so as not to conflict with practice schedules or the interest of the majority of the UGA Club Sailing Team.

Article IX: Affiliation

The UGA Sailing Club is affiliated with and a member of the Lake Lanier Sailing Club (LLSC). The UGA Sailing Club will abide by all rules and guidelines set forth by the LLSC as long as the club holds membership. The President shall be in regular contact with the LLSC Commodore, or with a liaison to the LLSC Board of Governors.

Article X: Mailing Address and Practice Locations

The mailing address of the UGA Club Sailing Team at the University of Georgia shall be 201 Ramsey Center, Athens, GA 30602. The location of practices will include the Lake Lanier Sailing Club in Flowery Branch, GA and Lake Chapman at Sandy Creek Park in Athens, GA.

Article XI: Requirements for membership

1. Dues
 - a. All members are required to pay a set amount of money to the UGA Sailing Club each season to use equipment and access to facilities. The deadlines for depositing dues to the UGA Sailing Club are at the allotted dates designated by the Treasurer. These dates will be given at the first team meeting every season. The amount is subject to change based on the current financial status of the team and shall be approved by a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of the executive officers.
2. Fundraising
 - a. All members are required to participate in team fundraisers that shall be designated and implemented by the team's fundraising chair
3. Recruitment
 - a. All members are encouraged to participate in the recruitment process of each season designated by the Commodore.
4. Other expectations
 - a. In order to compete in scheduled regattas, members must regularly attend practices set by the Race Team Captain.

- b. Members are expected to attend at least one service event per year unless committed elsewhere, giving advance notice to the officers and receiving approval by the officers.

Article XII: Faculty Advisor

The Advisor to the UGA Club Sailing Team shall be a member of the University's faculty or staff chosen by the officers. The term of Advisor shall last indefinitely. The dismissal of the Advisor shall require a unanimous vote of all the officers or a three-fourths vote of the members at a general meeting.

Article XIII: Injury and Liability

The officers or coaches of the UGA Club Sailing team shall not be held liable for the injury, illness, or death of any team member. The member assumes full responsibility for the injury, illness, or death upon joining the team.

Article XIV: Dissolution of the Organization

If the UGA Sailing Club should for any reason dissolve, the current officers shall decide what to do with the remaining assets and money of the team and how to settle all current affairs without personal financial gain.

Article XV: Code of Conduct

The UGA Sailing Team will abide by all the UGA Rec Sports rules and regulations and will follow the UGA Code of Conduct at team practices, on team trips, and during any other event that are either formal or informal gatherings at all times. All members agree to follow all local, state, and federal laws while participating in UGA Sailing sponsored or affiliated events.

Article XVI: Executive Powers

As a student run organization under the Department of Recreational Sports under the Division of Student Affairs at the University of Georgia, the current officers hold the power to make any and all executive decisions regarding any issue the UGA Sailing team may face. However, the Advisors input is taken into consideration.

UGA Club Sailing Team Bylaws

Section 1: General Guidelines and Regulations

1. UGA Club Sailing members may only be present at the LLSC or Lake Chapman when a Lake Host is present. The Lake Host must be the last to leave either property, especially at the LLSC. The only exception is that UGA Club Sailing members may go to skipper's meetings for keelboat races (auxiliary fleet) at the LLSC Clubhouse.
2. Skippers may check out boats whenever there will be a Lake Host at the LLSC.
3. Every boat must have a qualified skipper on board at all times. The only exception is if an instructor grants special permission for a novice to take a boat out. In such a case, the sailing instructor shall restrict the area in which the boat may sail so that any accidents may be observed.
4. Members who owe the club money, or who have not paid dues yet that semester may not attend practices or regattas excluding designated "Learn to Sail" days.
5. Members should attend work parties to maintain their membership privileges. Participation in work days may be considered by the Executive Committee when appointing new Lake Hosts.
6. If a member is warned by the Lake Host or a Club Officer to not do something (ie. sailing in high winds, sailing too far from the LLSC, etc.) and persists, the member is "negligent." Any damage to a boat due to negligence may result in membership and sailing privileges being suspended, decided upon by a $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of the executive board.
7. Certified Dinghy Skipper Qualifications and Criteria
 - a. To become a certified dinghy skipper, a member must complete a written test followed by an on-the-water test, and has been determined to be a competent sailor by the executive board. The written test must be completed with a grade of 80% or better. The UGA Sailing Race Team Captain is responsible for grading and

administering the test. The results of these tests will be given to the Commodore for archiving. The sailing skills test will consist of:

1. Knowledge of the Sailing Club Policies and Procedures
2. Being able to rig and launch vessel
3. Sail at all points of sail in a straight line
4. Stop the boat efficiently
5. Recover from capsize
6. Dock or beach the vessel
7. De-rig
8. Clean and cover the vessel

8. Lake Host Policies and Criteria

Lake Hosts will be selected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Lake Hosts may be added to the Lake Hosts list at any Executive Committee meeting, after being nominated at least one week before. During the fall semester, all Lake Hosts will be voted on by Executive Committee, and must receive a majority vote of confidence to stay on as a Lake Host.

- a. Every Lake Host must be
 - i. A skipper
 - ii. Have been a member of the UGA Sailing Club for 2 semesters
 - iii. Either
 1. A member of UGA Sailing Club, a student, and less than 28 years old, or
 2. A member of the UGA Sailing Club and the Lake Lanier Sailing Club
 - iv. Suggested qualifications for Lake Hosts:
 1. Can proficiently rig all small boats
 2. Are a people person
 3. Will be at UGA at least 1 year more
 4. Are involved in boat maintenance
 5. Are willing to check out boats at least twice a semester
- b. UGA Lake Hosts of the LLSC (Student Members) are subject to all the rules and regulations of the LLSC

12. Guests

Any member may bring a guest sailing or on an outing at Lake Chapman. Frequent guests are encouraged to become members. Generally no guests at Lake Lanier Sailing Club unless a special circumstance arises and agreed upon by the officers. Guests are allowed on “Learn to Sail” days, and at designated practices, but are not allowed at any other time. All guests are encouraged to become members of the UGA Club Sailing Team.

13. LLSC Membership Requirements and Roster Regulations

At all the greater number of five (5) members or twenty percent (20%) of the UGA Club Sailing Team shall be student members in good standing of the LLSC. The said membership percentage shall be determined at the end of each school term.

The sailing team roster shall be provided to the LLSC within 45 days of the first Fall Semester meeting or no later than September 30th. LLSC Student Membership applications should be submitted no later than this time for approval by the LLSC Board of Governors and Commodore. The invoice for the UGA Student Membership will be issued directly to the club’s treasurer for payment.

14. Coaches Stipend

The head coach will be offered a stipend to offset their personal investment into the team. The amount of the stipend shall be determined at the beginning of each semester based on budget allowances. The coach has the option to be paid monthly or at the end of the semester. If the coach resigns their position before the completion of a semester, they forfeit their remaining stipend.

Section 2: Safety Guidelines

1. Waivers

Every year all members are required to fill-out and submit the UGA Club Sports Waiver online through the UGA Involvement Network. Members must have their waiver submission approved by the UGA Club Sports Dept before being able to attend any practices or regattas.

2. All UGA Sailing Club members must be knowledgeable of the current instituted safety policies for their own personal safety and to prevent any injuries from occurring while sailing.
3. All officers and Lake Hosts must be knowledgeable of current policies and procedures pertaining to the UGA Sailing Club, the UGA Club Sports Department, and the UGA Code of Conduct.
4. CPR and AED Policy
 - a. At all sailing events, at least one person must be CPR and AED certified.
5. Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)
 - a. Whenever a member or guest is on a boat under sail he or she must be wearing an approved PFD. The PFD must be donned before entering the water or the vessel. The PFD must be worn properly, secured to fit the body.
6. Skipper Safety
 - a. Each skipper must be certified for the particular vessel they will be on.
 - b. A certified skipper must be on all vessels leaving the dock.
7. At least one (1) executive officer or Lake Host must be present to oversee safety at any sailing activity. This officer will be responsible for the safety and proper use of equipment.
8. Communication
 - a. At all practices there must be at least one member either:
 - i. On shore with a cell phone.
 - ii. A member with a cell phone onboard the safety boat.
 - iii. If all members are on the water with no safety boat, at least one member must be carrying a floating waterproof sealed cell phone or VHF Radio onboard their respective vessel.

Note: The Lake Lanier emergency VHF radio channel is 16.

9. Alcohol and Illegal Substances
 - a. The use of boats and other equipment belonging to the Sailing Club or the Lake Lanier Sailing Club while under the influence is *strictly prohibited* by the UGA Sailing Club and University regulation. Any member caught using a vessel or equipment under the influence is subject to immediate revocation of membership without a refund, and sailing certification.
10. Weather and Wind Policies
 - a. Under any circumstances, no boat shall be sailed by any member of the UGA Sailing Club if wind gusts exceed 21 MPH (18 Knots).
11. Cold Weather Sailing Conditions
 - a. When the combined air and water temperature is less than 120 degrees Fahrenheit (49 degrees Celsius), every individual must wear either a wetsuit or drysuit for their personal safety.

Section 3: Sailboat Usage Policies

1. Lifejackets are required to be worn by all sailors on any boat. No exceptions.
2. Mast Head Floats must be used on the 420s at the LLSC in ALL cases except for race days. No exceptions.
3. Equipment should be properly stowed after use. Please respect and take care with the Lake Lanier Sailing Clubs equipment and boats.
4. Covers should be completely attached with all clips secure and the main halyard holding the boom up.
5. Any missing or lost parts should be reported to a UGA Lake Host or Club Officer.
6. LLSC Sailing Area: The 420s may not be taken out past X Island. You must stay in view of the LLSC at all times unless involved in a sanctioned race with RC support boats on the water.
 - a. If you do not know the location and what X Island is just ask a UGA Lake Host or Club Officer.
7. Trapezes are not permitted to be used without taking an advanced training class. No exceptions.

8. Failure to follow these rules will be subject to all boat privileges from being taken away.
9. Basic Skill test requirements
 - a. Name parts of the boat
 - b. Proper rigging and de-rigging of the boat
 - c. Proper launching of the boats
 - d. Capsize drill
 - e. Proficiency as a crew
 - f. Proficiency as a skipper

