The UW-Stout Swim Club Constitution

Created October 3rd, 2011

Revised May 29th, 2014

**Article 1I: Name**

This organization will be known as the UW-Stout Swim Club.

**Article II: Purpose**

The purpose(s) of the UW-Stout Swim Club shall be:

* sharing the knowledge and dedication of swimming
* introducing the sport of swimming to interested individuals
* improving relations with peers
* swimming against other clubs near our same ability levels
* giving students the fair opportunity to grow in confidence, responsibility, and physical fitness.

**Article III: Membership**

Section 1: Membership is open to all registered students in good standing at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. All student organization members must maintain at minimum, a 2.0 grade-point average (on a 4.0) scale to hold membership in the UW-Stout Swim Club.

Section 3: UW-Stout Swim Club will not discriminate against membership of any individual based upon race, gender, religion, ancestry, age, veteran status, marital status, sexual orientation, income, physical ability or political ideology, unless specified in this constitution or pursuant to an exception recognized by University, local, state or federal laws/ordinances.

Section 2: If unexcused absence from practice is excessive (more than seventy-five percent of practices per month), membership may be terminated upon vote by the executive board. (See Article XI regarding official practice policy)

**Article IV: Officers**

Section 1: Officers of the UW-Stout Swim Club shall be as follows:

* + President
  + Vice President
  + Treasurer
  + Secretary
  + Public Relations
  + Team Captain

Section 2: The duties of the Executive Committee will be as follow:

1. President: The president will preside over the club and will attend and run all club meetings. The president will represent the swim club at all meeting that include swim club events.
2. Vice-President: acting as junior executive officer and will act on the behalf of the president’s absences.
3. Secretary: Record all events discussed in Swim Club meetings and then distribute the minutes to all Swim Club members. They will also send out a weekly e-mail to all members about upcoming events and the week’s practices.

1. Treasurer: Will maintain records of all the expenditures and ensure that generally accepted accounting practices and monetary control are in place.
2. Public Relations: In charge of marketing. Main contributor to backyard bash and promotional materials. Adds photographs to Swim Club websites and is first communicator between public and the Swim Club.
3. Team Captain: Leads all practices.

Section 3: Elections will take place as follows:

A. Officers will be elected by Swim Club members at the second to last meeting of each second semester.

B. Any member of the swim club can be nominated for any position on the executive committee. Nomination shall occur during the third to last meeting of each second semester, and a list of candidates will be distributed to all members in preparation of the next meeting’s election.

C. The candidate for each officer position who receives a majority vote of members at the election meeting will be considered the victor. If no candidate receives a majority vote, then there will be a run-off between the two candidates with the most votes. The candidate who receives the most votes will be the victor.

Section 4: New officers take office at the last meeting of the semester. They shall serve for a period of one academic year.

**Article V: Removal of Officers**

Section 1: Officers shall be removed in this manner:

A. If an officer fails to maintain Institute requirements for holding office (good academic standing, for example), he or she shall resign immediately.

B. If it is believed that an officer is not fulfilling his or her constitutional duties, then a petition requesting his or her removal must be signed by at least half of the voting membership and presented at a general meeting. Then, upon verification of the validity of the petition, by the advisor, and, at least two weeks but no more than four weeks from the date of submission, another meeting shall be held at which the grievance will be presented, with both sides having the opportunity to present a case.

C. The Faculty Advisor, if appropriate, shall preside over the removal hearing. After all arguments have been heard, a secret-ballot vote shall be held. If at least two-thirds of the voting members present vote for removal, the officer shall be removed immediately.

**Article VI: Replacement of Officers**

Section 1: In the case where the Presidential Office is vacant, the Vice-President will take his/her place in the interim.

Section 2: All other officers will be nominated by the membership and voted on in accordance with regular election procedures.

**Article VII- Advisor**

Section 1: A full time faculty of staff member will serve as advisor to the organization.

Section 2: During Officer Elections, the organization will vote on whether to continue the

current Advisor appointment or not. The vote must be 2/3rd majority of those voting in order to retain the Advisor for the next academic year.

Section 3: The duties of Advisor include:

* meeting with organization officers,
* reviewing the yearly budget
* signing all required paperwork and
* advising on issues of risk management and organization leadership

Section 4: if an Advisor steps down or is removed, the Executive Board will follow the process

**Article VIII- Dues**

Section 1**:** Dues will be determined at the beginning of the year by the Executive committee and voted on by the membership, but will not be less than the following required amount. Dues will have to be paid within the first three weeks after the first (organizational) meeting.

Minimums: $35 Competition Membership

$10 Recreational Membership

Section 2: Competition Membership grants Club members the ability to compete with the team and travel to team events. Recreational Membership grants Club members the ability to practice with the team and partake in local team functions.

**Article IX- Constitutional Amendments**

Section 1: Amendments to the constitution shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in

writing for consideration. A reading or email of the proposed amendment(s) will be required

prior to submitting the amendment to a vote.

Section 2: Written notification of the proposed amendment to all voting members must be

made by mail or email, at least two weeks in advance of any proposed change in the

constitution.

Section 3: A two-thirds vote of quorum of members present will be required for adoption.

Section 4: Amendments are subject to the approval by the Student Government Association and the Student Activities Committee.

**Article X: Affiliation**

Section 1: The UW-Stout Swim Club is affiliated with the Minnesota Masters Swimming Program. This affiliation allows the Club and its members to compete with other swimmers in the greater Minnesota area.

**Article XI: Practices**

Section 1: Official practices will be held every three days a week from 8:00 – 10:00 PM. It is not required to stay the entire two hours.

Section 2: Coming to at least one practice per week is required to maintain in good standing with the Swim Club.

Section 3: Practices may be cancelled at Officer discretion; members will be notified via email and Facebook and Orgsync of practice cancellations.

**Article XII: Equipment**

Section 1: All competitive Swim Club members will be issued team warm ups. They are the property of UW-Stout, and must be returned to the Executive Board during the last Club meeting of the year.

Section 2: Any additional team-issued equipment must follow the same return policy as listed above.