

STUDENTS WITH SPIRIT Constitution

I. NAME

The name of this group shall be called Students With Spirit.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of Students With Spirit shall be to promote school spirit among university students and the surrounding community.

A. (If any affiliation with a national entity, please list here. If affiliated with Sports Club Council, please list that here plus any guidelines set forth by it... For More Information, Contact the Sports Club Coordinator at the USF Recreation Center.)

Duties of Students With Spirit (not required)

The duties of Students With Spirit shall include but are not limited to the following:

1. Attending University functions to promote the University.
2. Attending community functions to promote the University.
3. To work with the Athletic Department to promote University teams.

III. MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Membership into Students With Spirit automatically qualifies the individual for membership into the National Headquarters.

A. Requirement for Membership (paragraphs 1, 2, OR 3--MUST BE INCLUDED in this section):

100% of active membership must be USF students. Associate membership may be granted to non-USF-students under special circumstances; these associate members shall not be given the rights and privileges of active USF students. Students with Spirit must have 10 active members (including officers) at all times to remain active with the Office of Engagement and Involvement.

B. Active membership continues until either the individual graduates or has been removed by the organization. Associative membership continues until either the individual withdrawals or has been removed by the organization.

C. Upholding the objectives and purpose of the organization, plus any requirements set upon by the executive board are the only requirements for continued membership.

D. If any member fails to uphold the purpose and objectives of the organization, does not meet membership requirements, or does not comply with University policies, he/she may be held accountable and in jeopardy of losing their membership. Reason for removal of member must be presented to the Executive Board. Written notification shall then be presented with reason for removal to the member in question. After the member in question has had his/her right to speak to the board/membership on their own behalf and a vote is taken and he/she may be removed by a 2/3's vote of the Active, voting members.

E. Only Active USF students in the organization have voting rights. Non-USF-students do not have voting rights.

IV. DUES/FEES

No dues, fees, assessments, donations, or other charges are levied for membership into Students With Spirit.

V. QUORUM

A quorum shall be composed of 50% + 1 of current, active voting members.

VI. OFFICERS

The required officer positions include: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers are elected to serve a term following elections of new officer(s) to the following school year's elections (i.e. May through April). The Historian is appointed by the President and serves a term from July to June. If the President's position is vacant, the Historian is appointed by a majority vote of the Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers are included in the Executive Board.

The optional officer positions include: Public Relations, Service Chair, and Webmaster. These officers are elected to serve a term from September to April and are included in the Executive Board. Additional officers may be created by a majority vote of the Executive Board to service the organization. The duties and titles of these offices will be created and established in the organizational bylaws.

DUTIES

President

The President must have served for at least one semester with the group. The President's duties shall be to preside over meetings, appoint and oversee organizational functions, and to act as the primary University liaison.

Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the president with his/her duties, preside over the organization in the president's absence, and act as the primary Athletic Department Liaison.

Secretary

The Secretary shall record, keep, and make available copies of the meeting minutes, and dispatch correspondence as directed by the President.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive, dispatch, and keep accurate records of all financial matters regarding Students With Spirit, submit annual budgets to the Financial Review for A&S allocation from Student Government.

VII. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

One month prior to the last general meeting of the Spring semester, the President must notify the members of the annual election of officers. The election shall take place during the last general meeting of the Spring semester.

Elections are by secret ballot. In the event of a tie, a run-off between those candidates who tied will take place the following week. If a tie still remains, the elected officer will be determined by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board, after individual interviews.

In the event that a required officer position becomes vacant during the school year, the President must motion for the election. In the event that the President's position is vacated, the Vice President takes on the interim responsibilities of the President and calls for a motion for the election. In the event that the Vice President's position is vacated, the Secretary makes the motion. In the event that the other officers' positions are vacated, the Treasurer makes the motion. The motion must be seconded. The motion carries with a simple majority vote of the Executive Board. The members must be notified one week prior to said election.

If the event that any other position is vacated during the school year, a simple majority vote of the Executive Board is required for the election. The members must be notified of said election.

VIII. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

If any officer fails to uphold the purpose and objectives of the organization, fulfill the duties of office, meet membership requirements, or does not comply with University policies, a vote of "no confidence" must be presented to the Executive Board. Written notification shall then be presented with reason for removal to the officer in question. After the officer in question has had his/her right to speak to the board on their own behalf, a vote is taken from the Executive Board. The officer in question does not have a vote. He/She may be removed by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

IX. Advisor(s)

The advisor is chosen by a majority (50%+1) of the membership after the executive board has reviewed the individual being considered for the position and has met all criteria set by the membership. The minimum duties for the advisor to fulfill his/her role is to 1) Attend the Center for Student Involvement Advising 101 Workshop; 2) Meet with the Organization President and/or the Organization Executive Board a minimum of once a month; 3) Be placed on all communication venues (listservs, blackboard etc.) the organization has set in place; 4) Attend a minimum of 1 meeting/event the organization holds a semester; 5) Provide general advisement/guidance to the organization and its members on organizational matters.

X. MEETINGS

The officer transitions meeting will be held 2 weeks following the election of new officers. Executive Board meetings are held every other week during the Fall and Spring semesters. The General Member meetings are held during the weeks in between the Executive Board meetings. The decision to call a special meeting maybe made by any officer, when deemed necessary, with a 48 hour notice.

XI. RULES OF ORDER

Meetings shall be run according to Robert's Rules of Order.

XII. AMENDMENTS

Students With Spirit shall operate in accordance to all University, Student Government, and the Office of Student Organizations provisions. Any amendment or bylaw changes regarding Students With Spirit shall be passed by a majority vote (75%+1), and will be considered pending until presented to and reviewed by the Office of Student Organizations

XIII. ANTI-HAZING CLAUSE

"This organization prohibits its members, both individually and collectively from committing any acts of hazing as defined herein:

"Hazing" as defined by §1006.63, Florida Statutes, means any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for purposes including, but not limited to, initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of a postsecondary institution, regardless of a person's willingness to participate. "Hazing" includes, but is not limited to, pressuring or coercing the student into violating state or federal law; any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student; and also includes any activity that would subject the student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student. Hazing does not include customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions or any activity or conduct that furthers a legal and legitimate objective.

In addition to Florida Statutes §1006.63, hazing as defined by the USF system also includes, but is not limited to, the forced use of alcohol; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; physical and psychological shocks; deception; verbal abuse; personal servitude; kidnapping; deprivation of privileges granted to others in the organization by use of force or duress; and any other activities which are contrary to academic achievement, the stated purpose of the local and/or (inter)national organization, and/or the mission, policies or regulations of the USF system or applicable state law."

XIV. **ORGANIZATION AGREEMENT**

Organization agrees to abide by Florida State Statute #1006.63 regarding hazing. Furthermore, agrees to abide by all Office of Student Organizations policies as outlined in the student handbook, to check the organization's mailbox regularly, to communicate via email upon request, and to update the organization's records whenever there is a change.