

The Constitution of the Outdoors Club
Bakersfield College

Article I. Preamble

The Outdoors Club is a student organization that takes students on outdoor adventures to experience nature first hand amid different terrain and climates as well as different varieties of wildlife, all while being a student at Bakersfield College.

We the members of the Outdoors Club do hereby establish this Constitution in order that our mission and purpose is realized to its fullest extent.

Article II. Name

Section 1. The Outdoors Club

The name of the organization will be the Outdoors Club henceforth referred to as The OC.

Article III. Purpose

Section 1. Mission Statement

The Mission of the Outdoors Club is to engage students in hiking, wilderness trekking, mountaineering, backpacking, and helping our community by planting trees and cleaning local recreation areas.

Section 2. Purpose

The Purpose of the Outdoors Club is to get back to nature. To experience what our ancestor's felt and had to live with. To get away from our everyday stresses. We will even get to get a work out at the same time.

Section 3. Authority

The Outdoors Club will register with the Office of Student Life in accordance with policies and procedures set forth to be a registered student organization at Bakersfield College within the Bakersfield College's Office of Student life. The Outdoors Club understands and is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities of abiding by Bakersfield College Student Government Association (BCSGA), the Office of Student Life, Bakersfield College, Kern Community College District's policies, conditions, and procedures.

Article IV. Membership

Section 1. General Membership

- 1) The Outdoors Club accepts all members of the Bakersfield College community.
- 2) Membership in the organization shall be open to all students who are enrolled at Bakersfield College. Each active member has equal rights and privileges regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap, or sexual orientation.
- 3) The general membership will be responsible and strongly encouraged to attend StudOrg meetings and events.
- 4) Each active member is required to pay \$20 every semester as part of club dues.
- 5) StudOrg leadership positions will only be filled by general members.

Section 2. Active Members

- 1) Active Members shall be limited to students who are registered and enrolled at Bakersfield College at least part-time.
- 2) Any BC student from the General Membership who pays the StudOrg bi-annual due or signs the membership agreement form will be considered an Active Member of the StudOrg.
- 3) Student participants are expected to engage in activities suitable to their ability, experience and physical condition.

Article V. Officers

Section 1. Executive Board

- 1) The StudOrg Executive Board is comprised of:
 - I. President
 - II. Vice President
 - III. Secretary
 - IV. Treasurer
 - V. ICC Rep
 - VI. Faculty Advisor
- 2) The StudOrg Executive Board is responsible for providing all aspects of leadership for the student organization and is responsible for the actions of all organization members.
- 3) Be a BC student and active in the StudOrg.
- 4) Officers may refuse to take anyone who lacks the capacity or capability or is not properly dressed and equipped for a planned activity.
- 5) Officers are required to participate in as many club activities as possible.

Section 2. President

- 1) The President is the primary student contact for the StudOrg and the external spokesperson of the group who regularly interacts with other student organizations and college officials. The

President is the liaison between the student organization, the advisor, and other university or community contacts.

- 2) The responsibilities of this position include but are not limited to:
 - a) Providing guidance, direction, and support for the StudOrg in pursuit of its goals and objectives.
 - b) Voting in cases where there is a tie.
 - c) Chairing all StudOrg meetings.
 - d) Overseeing the process of student organization event planning.
 - e) Maintaining a current list of the members of the StudOrg.
 - f) Submitting all required paperwork for StudOrg renewal.
 - g) Holding a minimum of two meetings for the general membership per semester.
 - h) Representing the StudOrg at official functions.
 - i) Maintains contact with the StudOrg advisor and the Office of Student Life.

Section 3. Vice President

- 1) The Vice President should be the President's right hand and should maintain continuous contact with the President. The Vice President must be up-to-date on all student organization communication and events.
- 2) The responsibilities of the Vice President include but are not limited to:
 - a) Chairing StudOrg meetings in the absence of the President.
 - b) Assisting the President with the oversight of the StudOrg including committees, event planning, etc.
 - c) Scheduling locations for meetings and events.
 - d) Planning new officer orientation and organization retreats.
 - e) Obtaining appropriate facilities for StudOrg activities.
 - f) Coordinating organizational recruitment efforts.
 - g) Maintains contact with the StudOrg advisor and the Office of Student Life.
 - h) Must be able to attend activities in absence of President.

Section 4. Treasurer

- 1) The Treasurer (Chief Financial Officer) manages the financial matters of the StudOrg. The Treasurer should keep the officers and members informed about the students organization's financial activities.
- 2) The responsibilities of the Treasurer include but are not limited to:
 - a) Preparing the annual StudOrg budget.
 - b) Monitoring the StudOrg's budget.
 - c) Tending to the status of all purchase requests.
 - d) Collecting funds and depositing to the StudOrg's Club Account.
 - e) Paying bills in a timely manner.
 - f) Keeping a record of all monetary transactions to include deposits, withdrawals, and purchases.
 - g) Preparing monthly financial reports and documents to keep the StudOrg's membership informed about the StudOrg's financial situation.

- h) Collect and maintain accurate information regarding membership dues or agreements.
- i) Should be familiar with the SOF Conditions and Procedures.
- j) Oversees all StudOrg fundraising activities.
- k) Maintains contact with the StudOrg advisor and the Office of Student Life.

Section 5. Secretary

- 1) The Secretary keeps the StudOrg afloat and running efficiently. Record keeping and operational duties are vital. The Secretary works hand in hand with the other officers for the day-to-day needs of their StudOrg.
- 2) The responsibilities of the Secretary included but are not limited to:
 - a) Taking the minutes to every StudOrg meeting.
 - b) Keeping an accurate record of all proceedings of the StudOrg meetings.
 - c) Maintaining the StudOrg history for the academic year.
 - d) Assisting with StudOrg projects where needed.
 - e) Maintaining StudOrg overall communication, which may include emails, letters, phone calls, and social media.
 - f) Maintain and update membership roster for the StudOrg.
 - g) Be responsible for notifying all active members of all meetings.
 - h) Provide copies of the minutes of the previous meetings to all members present at each meeting as well as submitting the minutes in a timely manner to BCSGA.
 - i) Maintain contact with the StudOrg advisor and the Office of Student Life.

Section 6. Inter-Council Council Representative

- 1) The Inter-Council Council Representative (ICC Rep) is the main point of contact for the StudOrg and BCSGA by attending bi-monthly meetings.
- 2) The responsibilities of the ICC Rep include but are not limited to:
 - a) Attend ICC meetings held by BCSGA.
 - b) Relate information from BCSGA back to the StudOrg.
 - c) Maintains contact with the StudOrg advisor and the Office of Student Life.

Section 7. StudOrg Advisor

- 1) The StudOrg Advisor is chosen and approved by the members of the StudOrg and confirmed by the Office of Student Life at Bakersfield College.
- 2) Behind most successful student organizations is an effective advisor. The StudOrg Advisor provides the organization with continuity from year to year by sharing StudOrg history and assisting new officers during the transition process. The StudOrg Advisor selected should be an individual who has a high level interest in the activity of the StudOrg and preferably some experience or expertise in the area or activity. The StudOrg Advisor is a vital link between the StudOrg and Bakersfield College, providing guidance and offering mature judgment and experience in program development.
- 3) The responsibilities of the StudOrg Advisor include but are not limited to:
 - a) Attend monthly StudOrg Advisor Round Discussions when possible.

- b) Recognize and support participation in the StudOrg for its contribution to the educational and personal development of students within the higher education setting.
- c) Provides continuity within the student organization and should be familiar with the StudOrg's history.
- d) Be familiar with the StudOrg's constitution and bylaws and be prepared to assist the StudOrg Advisor's Executive Board and other members with interpretation when necessary.
- e) Be available during the development and coordination of programs for the StudOrg. The StudOrg Advisor shall ensure the activities and undertakings of the StudOrg are sound and reflect favorably on the College by offering suggestions or ideas for the group's discussion.
- f) Be aware of the goals and direction of the StudOrg by attending StudOrg meetings and consulting with the Executive Board. StudOrg Advisor should monitor the StudOrg Advisor's progress toward predetermined organizational goals and objectives.
- g) Be aware of the general financial condition of the StudOrg Advisor and encourage the keeping of good financial records.
- h) Assist the StudOrg in complying with College policies and procedures. The StudOrg Advisor needs to be aware of the StudOrg conditions and procedures, the Student Code of Conduct, and the BC/KCCD Policies and procedures.
- i) Monitor group functions and encourage members to participate and maintain a balance between academic endeavors and co-curricular commitments.
- j) Assist in orienting new officers and developing the leadership skills of all members.
- k) Consult the Office of Student Life about organizational opportunities, plans or changes in StudOrg status or a member's status when appropriate.
- l) Attend most, if not all, StudOrg meetings and events. While StudOrg Advisor is not required to attend all meetings, they should meet with the club at least once a month and the Executive Board bi-weekly. Notes from these meetings should be placed in the club's records.
- m) Continue the voluntary association of being the StudOrg Advisor as long as both parties believe the relationship is productive and mutually satisfying.
- n) Refrain from managing the StudOrg or completing the tasks assigned to the StudOrg. The management of the StudOrg is each member's responsibility.
- o) Maintains contact with the Office of Student Life

Article VI. Operations

Section 1. StudOrg Meetings

- 1) The Outdoors Club shall have scheduled meetings at least twice a month, beginning within eight weeks of the start of the semester and continuing throughout the year at the same

regularity so long as this StudOrg continues to remain registered with the Office of Student Life.

- 2) The President, or designee, shall be responsible for requesting items to be placed on the agenda, developing the agenda of the meeting, and posting the agenda at least three (3) instructional days before the meeting is held.
- 3) The Secretary, or designee, shall be responsible for taking minutes and presenting them to the membership at the next scheduled meeting
- 4) All meetings will occur at the time selected and will follow the procedure set forth below:
 - a) Attendance
 - b) Report by the President
 - c) Committee reports
 - d) Vote on all committee motions and decisions
 - e) Any other business put forward by the members of the club
 - f) Dismissal by the President

Section 2. Quorum

In order to hold a bona fide meeting, the President or the Vice President, and Secretary must be in attendance.

Section 3. Standing Committees

- 1) The President shall have the authority to establish ad hoc committees as may be necessary from time to time to carry out the work of the organization.
- 2) The President shall appoint the chairpersons and members of all committees.
- 3) The organization shall have the following standing committees (membership permitting):
 - a) Fundraising Committee.
 - b) Public Relations.
 - c) Logistics (where we want to go).
- 4) The duties of each of Standing Committees are as follows:
 - a) Do the job that the title entails.
 - b) Getting stuff ready for an event.
 - c) Have the necessary paperwork done in a timely fashion.
 - d) Having at least a bi-weekly meeting to talk about what the committee was has to do.
 - e) Committee decisions are affirmed by a majority vote and the results are forwarded to the general club meeting for a decision and vote.
 - f) If the committee needs to have a decision within 24-48 hours the committee representative will need to go to the President or Vice President and the Executive Board will vote on the matter.

Section 4. Executive Committee

- 1) The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected and appointed officers, with the StudOrg Advisor(s).
- 2) StudOrg Advisor(s) serve as non-voting member(s).

- 3) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month unless otherwise posted in the academic year.
- 4) Special meetings may be called by the President or a majority of the Executive Committee. All members must be given 24 hour's notice of the meeting. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Executive Committee members.
- 5) When necessary, Executive Committee business can be conducted via email or via online meetings, but all decisions and actions must be reflected within the next scheduled StudOrg meeting for verification.
- 6) The Executive Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the organization between meetings and is authorized to take action when action must be taken prior to the next meeting.
- 7) The Executive Committee shall report to the membership all actions taken between meetings. Except when it is too late to do so (such as when a contract has been executed), any actions taken by the Executive Committee may be rescinded or modified by the Active Members by a majority vote.

Section 5. Voting

- 1) All official StudOrg decisions shall require a simple majority vote of the membership present at either a regular or called meeting provided a majority of the Active Members are present.
- 2) The exceptions of voting quorum are of impeachment votes which require a three-fourths vote plurality, and amendments which require two-thirds plurality.
- 3) All of the nominations are put out at one meeting and then the next meeting the voting will begin. The voting will be done via ballot.

Section 6. Election of Officers

- 1) All officers shall be elected by a majority vote of eligible Active Members of the Outdoor Club.
- 2) All elections will be held on an annual basis during the month of May.
- 3) The StudOrg Advisor will take nominations from the floor, the nomination process must be closed and the movement seconded.
- 4) The nominated parties will be allowed to vote.
- 5) All voting shall be done by secret ballot to be collected and tabulated by the StudOrg Advisor and one voting member appointed by an outgoing officer.
- 6) No officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in any office.

Section 7. Removal of Officers

- 1) Any officer in violation of the StudOrg's purpose or constitution may be removed from office by the following process:
 - a) A written request by at least three active members of the organization.
 - b) Written notification to the officer of the request, asking the officer to be present at the next meeting and prepared to speak.

- c) Discussion by the membership in regular or called meeting where a majority of the active members are in attendance.
- d) Opportunity for the accused to testify and/or defend.
- e) Motion to impeach followed by a second.
- f) Three-fourths voting plurality at said meeting in support of the impeachment.

Section 8. Filling Vacancies

- 1) In the case where an officer's position becomes vacant, the replacement shall be according to the normal procedure:
 - a) Vacancy placement on the next agenda.
 - b) Nomination from the floor.
 - c) Confirmation of position by majority vote.

Article VII. Finances

Section 1. Membership dues

- 1) Membership dues shall be \$20 per semester or otherwise indicated by the Executive Board.
- 2) Dues shall be paid by the fourth week of each semester.
- 3) General Members who have not paid their dues by the deadline shall not be considered Active Members thus losing privileges, including leadership roles or voting, until the dues are paid.
- 4) Those who join mid-semester are required to pay dues within four weeks.

Section 2. Finance Code

- 1) The Outdoors Club will finance the activities it engages in by the following means:
 - a) Membership dues are \$20 each semester.
 - b) The StudOrg will contact the Office of Student Life before obligating funds (including initiating, purchasing or committing funds) and to adhere to the BC's Procurement Process.
 - c) The StudOrg may NOT have a bank account outside the College.
 - d) Organization funds shall not be used to purchase or reimburse members for alcoholic beverages.
- 2) The President, Treasurer, and StudOrg Advisor agree to attend financial meetings as needed.
- 3) StudOrg agrees to maintain a detailed budget and understand that the members are liable for overdrafts. If there are insufficient funds to cover bills accrued on the organization's behalf, the officers and StudOrg Advisor responsible at the time of incurring these costs agree to pay such expenses.

- 5) The members of the StudOrg agree to contact the Office of Student Life to develop fundraising strategies that comply with the College and Foundation conditions and procedures prior to soliciting or receiving.

Article VIII. Amendments

Section 1. Amendments of the Constitution

- 1) This StudOrg constitution is binding to all members of the Name of StudOrg. But the constitution is not binding unto itself.
- 2) Amendments to the constitution may be proposed in writing by any voting member at any meeting at which two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members is present.
- 3) These amendments will be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the executive council or other officer grouping.
- 4) Proposed amendments will become effective following approval of two-thirds (2/3)-majority vote of Active Members.
- 5) Amendments shall come from the floor at any regular or called meeting, provided a majority of the membership is in attendance.
- 6) Amendments require:
 - a) Motion
 - b) Second
 - c) Discussion
 - d) Two-thirds voting plurality

Article IX. Registration

Section 1. Annual Registration Renewal

- 1) The Outdoors Club will update with the Office of Student Life within one two (2) weeks after new officer are elected
- 2) The Outdoors Club active registered status commences when the StudOrg has completed the requirements for registration with the Office of Student Life
- 3) The Outdoors Club registered status continues until Labor Day of the each academic year where then the StudOrg must resubmit a renewal form with the Office of Student Life

Article X. Amendments

Section 1. By- Laws

Amendments to these by-laws shall be made by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the active membership present after having been proposed at the previous meeting and accepted for inclusion on the agenda at such previous meetings.