

# **The Constitution of Utah State University Women's Club Rugby Team**

## **Article I: Name of Organization**

The name of this organization shall be USU Women's Rugby Team, hereafter referred to as USU Women's Rugby Team.

## **Article II: Purpose**

The purpose of USU Women's Rugby Team is to promote rugby at USU and to encourage character, strength, and community via participation in the sport and a continued existence of the team. USU Women's Rugby Team aims to expand the presence and knowledge of rugby throughout Cache Valley so that we may establish greater interest and support for the sport.

## **Article III: Membership**

All female students at Utah State University are welcome to join the USU Women's Club Rugby Team. All participants must remain compliant with the bylaws hereby addressed, as well as those established by USA Rugby for the current year.

### *Section 1.1: Graduate students or Non-USU Enrolled Students*

Per National Collegiate Rugby policy, student-athletes must be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student seeking their degree and meet all requirements as determined by their school's Registrar's Office or equivalent. The student-athlete must be enrolled in a minimum of nine (9) credits (or the college's equivalent) to maintain NCR eligibility. Student-athletes' participation must fall within the seven (7) year eligibility period. The seven-year eligibility period begins in the Academic Year immediately following the high school graduation date or the graduation date of their class (as determined by the first year of high school enrollment). International student-athletes who complete high school at the end of the calendar year (i.e. December) have 6.5 years of eligibility to play college rugby. Non-USU Enrolled Students are not eligible for practice or game play, as they are not affiliated with the university and can neither represent the school in gameplay nor serve as a participant in training.

### *Section 1.2 Responsibilities*

Being an active member of the USU Women's Rugby Team includes paying dues, attending practices and matches, and participating in fundraisers and volunteer work. If a rostered and active member fails to abide by the aforementioned responsibilities, the team's current leadership will decide on a case-by-case basis the best course of action- including appropriate punishments- to mitigate issues that arise from non-compliance.

### *Section 1.3 Revocation of Membership*

If the situation arises in which a current rostered player is unable to continue being an active participant, the team member is free to disassociate themselves with the team at will. Such person will need to advise the current leadership team that they no longer intend to participate in the club and all future activities. If there is an occasion in which the existing team leadership concludes that a team member is unfit for play or participation with the team, such member will be asked to partake in an assessment meeting with the leadership team and the coordinator of club sports, Ashley Boles. Any member facing assessment must abide by the final decision and respect the wishes of the team and club sports organization.

### *Section 1.4 Number of Members*

USU Women's Rugby must maintain a minimum of three members for the first two semesters of club activity. After the initial two semesters, the club must be able to maintain seven members or appeal to the Student Senate for further action. There shall be no maximum number of members. Participation may be initiated at any time during the school year via contact with the current team leadership.

## **Article IV: Officers**

The USU Women's Rugby Team will have five officers: President, Vice President, Travel Officer, Social Media Manager, and Treasurer. The term for each position is one school year (Fall and Spring). The existing team members will participate in a designated vote at the end of the Spring season to establish members for each position. If a member wants to run for a position, they must present a speech in the presence of all current members indicating their intentions, goals, and validation for such position. The entirety of the current team will cast secretive votes for the contested position, which will be counted by the President. Whoever secures the most votes for each contested position will be sworn in as the new officer for such position. Should issues arise with a current member of the leadership team, their continued service in their position may be challenged via an assessment meeting conducted by the current leadership, coach, and club sports coordinator, Joshua Ryan. The officer in question must comply with any ruling, and in the instance that their term faces early termination, an emergency election will be held to determine a new member to fulfill such duties (if not absorbed by the existing leadership).

### ***Section 1.1: President***

The President for the 2025-2026 school year is Rachel Billings. This President represents USU both on and off the field and will dictate the rules and regulations for the team. The President will also serve as an omniscient server of the team and all members. Should issues arise or existing information change involving the team, USA Rugby rules, or

related issues, the President must be updated and be informed immediately. This role will also serve as the primary contact for all USU Women's Rugby-associated events and occurrences. She is responsible for maintaining a working relationship with the club sports department and student community.

#### *Section 1.2: Vice President*

The Vice President for the 2025-2026 school year is Maddy Martin. The Vice President serves alongside the president as a liaison between the USU Women's Rugby Team and the club sports organization. She is responsible for maintaining updated records for items such as player information and the team constitution.

#### *Section 1.3: Travel Officer*

The Secretary for the 2025-2026 school year is Camilla Wood. Her responsibility is to coordinate travel, lodging, and game information for events held away from USU. Travel plans must be discussed with and confirmed by the leadership team, and all plans must be proposed to the current club sports coordinator, Ashley Boles, at least three weeks prior to traveling for a given event.

#### *Section 1.4: Social Media Manager*

The Social Media Manager for the 2025-2026 school year is Frances Simmons. Any marketing activities, publicity, and recruitment will originate from the Social Media Manager, and she is expected to maintain an active presence on all USU Women's Rugby media accounts throughout the Fall and Spring seasons.

#### *Section 1.5: Treasurer*

The Treasurer for the 2025-2026 school year is Emma Gatherum. She must ensure that all members of the team pay dues and that team funds are handled appropriately. Should issues arise with the Treasurer's bookkeeping, the President reserves the right to oversee all treasury documentation. The Treasurer is responsible for making club-related purchases (equipment, tournament dues, travel arrangements, etc.), organizing fundraising opportunities, and continually logging and recording all monetary transactions. All expenses and fundraising must be discussed and approved by the current leadership team before pursuing.

### **Article V: Meetings**

Meetings between officers and meetings with club sports will occur as needed. Officers are expected to attend all meetings and club events unless they have a pre-existing requirement, such as work or class, that prohibits their ability to attend. Group text messages and email threads may be used in lieu of in-person meetings.

## **Article VI: Equal Opportunity Agreement**

It is the policy of USU Women's Rugby that we may not exclude students from participation on the basis of ethnicity, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, creed, disability, veteran status, or religion. This will be upheld to the furthest extent and any breach of such tolerance will result in immediate disciplinary action, permanent dismissal from the club not barred.

## **Article VII: Amendments**

Should complications arise with the current constitution and require amending, the proposal must originate from within the current leadership or from a two-thirds majority consisting of active team members. Following a motion for change being brought forward, an immediate vote shall ensue from within the leadership followed by all team members. The constitution and team policies can only be changed through a two-thirds majority vote from the team, and following an affirmative vote, the constitution will be amended immediately, and such new legislation will also be effective immediately.