

Constitution of “Film Freaks Club UofT”

1. Article One – Name and Purpose of Group

1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “Film Freaks Club UofT”

1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “Film Freaks”

1.2. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the group is to “expose the University of Toronto student body to a wide range of films by hosting regular screenings of cult, genre, and classic films – with no limits in terms of era or country-of-origin – to provide an educational component via brief lectures on the context and merits of each film, as well as to facilitate relevant critical group discussion.”

2. Article Two – Membership and Membership Fee

2.1. The group shall maintain a list of group members.

2.2. Voting membership is open to all registered University of Toronto students.

2.3. Voting membership is open only to registered University of Toronto students.

2.4. Non-voting membership is open to University of Toronto staff, faculty, alumni, and to persons from outside the University of Toronto. Unless otherwise stated, non-voting members do not hold any rights awarded to voting members.

2.5. The membership fee will be \$0 per year.

3. Article Three – Rights of Members

3.1. All members may apply for a full refund of their membership fee within one (1) month of becoming a member.

3.2. All voting members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.

3.3. All voting members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.

3.4. All voting members have a right to stand for election unless otherwise stated in this document.

3.5. All voting members have a right to cast votes in all group elections and referenda.

3.6. All voting members have a right to propose and vote on amendments to this constitution.

3.7. The rights prescribed in Article Three are not awarded to non-voting members as described in Article Two.

4. Article Four - Executive Council

4.1. The term for all positions on the Executive Council shall last for one year.

4.2. The Executive Council shall be comprised of three (3) voting members, although a fourth voting member, the Treasurer, shall be added should the Executive Council vote to create the position, as described in Article Seven.

4.3. All voting members of the Executive Council must be currently registered University of Toronto students.

4.4. Non-voting members may hold only non-voting positions on the Executive Council.

4.5. The maximum amount of non-voting positions on the Executive Council shall be one (1) position or ten per cent (10%) of the positions on the Executive Council, whichever is greatest.

4.6. Members holding non-voting positions on the Executive Council cannot serve as an officer, financial authority, signing authority, primary contact, or secondary contact.

4.7. No person may serve as a financial authority or signing authority for the group if they are currently serving as a financial authority or signing authority for another University of Toronto recognized student group.

4.8. The Executive Council is responsible for the creation of an annual activities schedule, which shall be made available to both group members non-group members within two (2) weeks of the election of a new Executive Council.

5. Article Five - Executive Council Composition and Responsibilities

5.1. The First Councillor shall:

5.1.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Council,

5.1.2. Oversee the operations, management, and success of the group,

5.1.3. Serve as spokesperson for the group,

5.1.4. Hold signing and financial authority along with the Treasurer, should that position be created as described in Article Seven,

5.1.5. Preside over meetings of the Executive Council and/or members,

5.1.6. Ensure a transition of office from one year to the next,

5.1.7. And act as “Primary Contact” between the group and the University of Toronto.

5.2. The Second Councillor shall:

5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Council,

5.2.2. Assume duties of the First Councillor in their absence,

5.2.3. Ensure group activities comply with University of Toronto policies,

5.2.4. Coordinate group recruitment efforts,

5.2.5. And act as “Secondary Contact” between the group and the University of Toronto.

5.3. The Secretary shall:

5.3.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Council,

5.3.2. Maintain a list of group members,

5.3.3. Maintain the group website and member contact list,

5.3.4. Maintain a list of all terminated group members,

5.3.5. Record notes and motions for meetings,

5.3.6. And notify all members of general meetings.

5.4. Should the Executive Council vote to create the position of Treasurer, the one elected to that position shall:

5.4.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Council,

5.4.2. Record all financial transactions of the group,

5.4.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with the First Councillor,

5.4.4. Maintain a budget of income and expenses,

5.4.5. Advise members on the financial position of the group,

5.4.6. Prepare an annual group budget,

5.4.7. And oversee and manage the group general fund if one has been created, as described in Article Seven.

6. Article Six – Elections

6.1. All voting positions on the Executive Council shall be filled through an annual election, to be held before the end of the Winter semester of the current academic year.

6.2. All voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination to and cast a ballot for each voting position.

6.3. All non-voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination only for non-voting positions on the Executive Council.

6.4. Non-voting group members shall not be eligible to cast a ballot for any elected position.

6.5. The nominee who receives the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.

6.6. On the condition that multiple candidates are to be elected for a single position, the nominees who receive the largest share of the votes cast shall be deemed the winners until all positions are filled.

6.7. To avoid conflicts of interest, no individual seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

6.8. The newly elected Executive Council will take over group operations from the current Executive Council at the end of the Winter semester of the current academic year.

6.9. If the current Executive Council has opened any accounts to facilitate group activities, access to and control over these accounts, including any credentials or login information necessary to fully access and use the accounts created, shall be transferred to the voting members of the newly elected Executive Council by the end of the Winter Semester of the current academic year.

6.10. If any accounts opened to facilitate group operations has been enabled with two-factor authentication (i.e., a 'recovery' phone number or email address), the recovery contact will, if possible, be changed to one chosen by the new Executive Council.

6.11. Any documents produced by the current Executive Council as part of group operations shall be transferred to the voting members of the newly elected Executive Council by the end of the Winter Semester of the current academic year.

6.12. After a newly Elected Executive Council has taken over group operations, the Primary Contact of the previous elected council will make themselves available to answer any questions the new Executive Council may have about group operations for one year (365 days) after the transfer-of-power between Executive Councils.

7. Article Seven – Finances

7.1. Should it be deemed necessary to support group activities, the Executive Council is empowered to vote on the creation of the position of Treasurer as described in Article Five.

7.2. The Treasurer shall keep an active record of income and expenses.

7.3. The Treasurer shall present the group's updates on the group's financial position at annual general meetings.

7.4. The Executive Council must approve all expenditures over \$100.00 through a majority vote at a meeting of the Executive Council.

7.5. The group may not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature.

7.6. The group will not have as a major activity a function that makes it an on-campus chapter of a commercial organization.

7.7. The group will not provide services and goods at a profit when that profit is used for purposes other than those of the group.

7.8. Should it become necessary to support group activities, the Executive Council may vote on the creation of a group general fund in the form of a bank account which will hold all income received by the group, and from which all group expenses will be deducted.

7.9. The group will not pay salaries to any of its officers.

7.10. Any monetary donations to the group will be documented and will be used exclusively for the purchase of perishable goods (i.e., food and drink) for group members.

7.11. As Film Freaks is not a registered tax body, the Executive Council will not claim any monetary donations to the group as tax deductible.

8. Article Eight – Meetings

8.1. The Executive Council shall meet monthly. The quorum for Executive Council meetings shall be 50% + 1 of Executive Council voting members.

8.2. The group shall hold general meetings at least twice per year to provide general membership an opportunity to review the group’s annual activity plan, financial health, and propose or vote on constitutional amendments.

8.3. The Executive Council must announce the date of a general meeting to the general membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

8.4. A record of decisions made during any group meetings must be kept and made accessible to group members.

9. Article Nine - Termination of Membership

9.1. The Executive Council may revoke the membership of any group member who commits an act negatively affecting the interests of the group and its members, including non-disclosure of a significant or continuing conflict of interest.

9.2. A vote to revoke membership must be held at a meeting of the Executive Council.

9.3. A two-thirds majority of the Executive Council is required to approve any motion to revoke membership.

9.4. Any member facing removal shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Executive Council to the general membership.

9.5. In the case of an appeal, a simple majority vote at a meeting of the general membership shall be required to sustain the revocation of membership.

9.6. Following a termination of membership, the member will be removed from the group membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the group.

9.7. Executive Council members are subject to the same termination of membership process as general members.

9.8. Upon termination of membership, the names of ex-members will be removed from the group’s list of members and added to the list of terminated members described in Article 5.

10. Article Ten – Film Screenings

10.1. Film screenings will be preceded by a brief introduction that will be delivered by the person who has chosen the film, whether they be part of the Executive Council or a general member.

10.2. Film screenings will be followed by a discussion period where all group members will have the opportunity to discuss and critique the film that has just been shown.

10.3. If a group member for whatever reason is unable to attend the entirety of a screening and wishes to view the film chosen at a later time, the Executive Council will suggest other legal means by which they may watch that film.

10.4. Where possible, subtitles will be enabled during film screenings.

10.5. The Executive Council will ensure screenings are as accessible as possible to group members.

10.6. Group members will be empowered to be involved in the group's programming, in the form of a dedicated screening, to be held every four weeks, in which the film shown will be chosen by a volunteer group member.

10.7. The Executive Council will encourage Group members to select a film to be screened for the group and to provide a brief introduction in the manner described in 10.1.

11. Article Eleven – Amendments

11.1. All constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote to be passed at a general meeting.

11.2. All voting members may propose and vote on constitutional amendments.

11.3. The Executive Council shall submit the amended constitution to the University of Toronto Division of Student Life within two (2) weeks of the passing of a constitutional amendment.

11.4. Constitutional amendments shall take effect only once the amended constitution has been approved by the University of Toronto Division of Student Life.