

# **Constitution of *Jack.Org University of Toronto Scarborough Student Chapter 2024-2025***

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

- 1.1 The official name of the organization will be *Jack.Org University of Toronto Scarborough Student Chapter*
- 1.2 The *Jack.Org University of Toronto Scarborough Student Chapter* may be referred to by the acronym *Jack.org UTSC Chapter*.

## **Article II: Purpose**

- 2.1 The purpose of Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will be to promote mental health and well-being of all individuals on campus as well as empower the student body to take steps towards eliminating stigma surrounding mental health.
- 2.2 The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will enhance the educational, recreational, social, or cultural environment of the University of Toronto Scarborough by promoting a sense of belonging, self-empowerment, self-confidence through events related to mental health.
- 2.3 The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter fundamentally serves a non-profit function within the University of Toronto Scarborough, and will not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature.
- 2.4 The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter operates as an independent entity working within the University of Toronto Scarborough community subject to the values and policies of the University.

## **Article III: Membership**

- 3.1 Membership in Jack.org UTSC Chapter is open to all students, staff, faculty and alumni of the University of Toronto Scarborough.
- 3.2 The term of membership for the Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will be from September 1 – August 31 each year.
- 3.3 Each member shall be afforded the following rights through membership in the Jack.Org UTSC Chapter:
  - 3.3.1 The right to participate and vote in group elections and meetings;
  - 3.3.2 The right to communicate and to discuss and explore all ideas;
  - 3.3.3 The right to organize/engage in activities/events that are reasonable and lawful;
  - 3.3.4 The right to freedom from discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, or sexual orientation;
  - 3.3.5 The right to be free from censorship, control, or interference by the University on the basis of the organization's philosophy, beliefs, interests or opinions unless and until these lead to activities which are illegal or which infringe on the rights and freedoms already mentioned above;
  - 3.3.6 The right to distribute on campus, in a responsible way, published material provided that it is not unlawful;
- 3.4 Each member shall possess the following responsibilities relative to participation in the Jack.Org UTSC Chapter:
  - 3.4.1 Support the purpose of the organization;
  - 3.4.2 Uphold the values of the organization;
  - 3.4.3 Contribute constructively to the programs and activities offered by the organization;

- 3.4.4 Attend general meetings;
  - 3.4.5 Abide by the constitution and subsequent official organizational documents;
  - 3.4.6 Respect the rights of peers and fellow members;
  - 3.4.7 Abide by University of Toronto policies, procedures, and guidelines;
  - 3.4.8 Abide by the Laws of the Land, including but not limited to the Criminal Code of Canada.
- 3.5 The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will collect a mandatory membership fee from each member each year. This fee will be proposed as part of the operating budget presented to general members for approval at a valid general meeting.
- 3.6 The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter values and respects the personal information of its members. The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter secures its memPer's information at all times and will not supply names or other confidential information to third-parties.
- 3.7 The Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will protect the privacy of member information and must use it only for the delivery of service and not for commercial gain.
- 3.8 The process for becoming a member of the Jack.Org UTSC Chapter is as follows: Individuals wishing to become a member will need to join an emailing list created for the Jack.org UTSC Chapter general members, and provide their contact information. General members will not be required to participate in any of the club events or in the planning of such events unlike executive members, but will be exclusively notified when opportunities arise.

#### **Article IV: Executive**

- 4.1 The executives of the organization shall include Co-Presidents (2) , Director of Administration (1), Co-Director of Operations (3), Co-Director of Marketing (2) , Director of Relations (1), Co-Director of Graphic Designs (3), Volunteer Coordinators (2)
- 4.2 The broad responsibilities of each executive position are as follows:
- 4.2.1 **President(s)** This individual is the official spokesperson of the organization. They oversee and manage the organization. They maintain the integrity of the organization by ensuring that all of the events and functions are allied with the mission of Jack.org. They must plan, approve and facilitate the club events. They ensure cohesiveness within the organization and ensure that each executive is carrying out their respective responsibilities accordingly. They serve as the official signing officer of the organization
- 4.2.3 **Vice President of Operations** This individual will be responsible for creating a year plan with the co-presidents. They will be expected to plan for and implement all event logistics as well as delegate tasks to team members. The Director of Operations will also account for any supplies, room bookings, volunteers, etc. needed for all events. They will also act as the main contact during Jack.org UTSC Chapter events.
- 4.2.4 **Director of Operations** They will be responsible for planning events and implementing logistics.
- 4.2.5 **4,3Director of External Relations** This individual will be responsible for maintaining relations with other campus groups/relevant organizations at UTSC by attending their events and acting as a representative on behalf of Jack.org UTSC Chapter. This individual will also be responsible for reaching out to other Jack.org chapters in the GTA as well as to professors and mental

health professionals.

4.2.6 **Marketing Director** This individual will be expected to manage our social media (facebook, instagram, etc.) accounts to promote our chapter activities by sharing pictures, and connecting with the rest of the Jack.org network across Canada. This person will be responsible for coming up with creative marketing techniques and implementing them. This may include delegating roles to other executive members such as handing out and putting up event flyers, conducting classroom announcements, sending out emails to students and sharing chapter posts on social media. This person will also aid the Director of Graphics Design with creating promotional material such as posters, banners, etc., which may include collaborating on the Jack.org UTSC Chapter podcast.

4.2.7 **Vice President of Internal Relations** This person is responsible for scheduling and booking meetings, recording meeting minutes, keeping the general membership mailing list updated, as well as booking spaces for our events. Additionally, this individual will be responsible for managing our chapter's socials (for members to get to know each other), along with conducting weekly check-ins with everyone in our chapter to ensure things are running smoothly. This individual will also be in charge of ensuring our protocols are being followed throughout the team.

4.2.8 **Volunteer Coordinators** This person is responsible for acting as a liaison between the current and upcoming students and the Jack.org UTSC chapter. Responsibilities include but are not limited to going to school events (including year specific ones) to represent Jack.org, help the operations director with implementing events, and promoting our events in different classes (including writing announcements and ensuring that all school departments are touched on). These individuals will be in charge of recruiting UTSC students/faculty to attend events. These individuals will also be responsible for keeping track of volunteers, the volunteers' attendance, and submitting these details to the co-presidents.

4.2.9 **Vice President of Finance** This person is responsible for managing all the club finances and co-ordinating with the SCSU or Jack.org parent organization to source funding. They will create the budget for events, complete funding application papers, and handle reimbursements. In addition, they will be responsible for leading a team of Finance Directors and assisting with club initiatives where needed.

4.3 Executive Committee positions are open to all members at the University of Toronto Scarborough

4.4 The executive positions collectively will form a committee that acts as the primary steward of the organization.

4.5 This committee is collectively responsible for the day-to-day decision making of the organization including but not limited to monitoring finances, event planning and execution, member services, and advocating on behalf of members to Administration and student government.

- 4.6 This committee cannot make amendments to the constitution without the approval of the general membership at a valid general meeting.
- 4.7 The term of each President(s) will last from May 1st to April 30th of the following year.
- 4.7.1 All other executive positions will last from September 1st to April 30th of the following year.
- 4.8 Any executive of the organization may resign, provided that such resignation is made in writing and delivered to the President. Unless any such resignation is, by its terms, effective on a later date, it shall be effective on delivery to the President, and no ratification by the organization shall be required to make the resignation official.
- 4.9 Any vacancy of executives shall be filled by the President or designate of the organization until such a time where a by-election is held, a permanent appointment occurs, or a hiring process is conducted.
- 4.10 If the President resigns, notice of such resignation must be submitted in writing and delivered to the executive committee at a valid executive meeting. Unless any such resignation is, by its terms, effective on a later date, it shall be effective on delivery to the executive committee, and no ratification by the organization shall be required to make the resignation official.
- 4.11 Any vacancy of the President shall be filled by another executive committee member appointed by a simple and clear majority of the executive committee until such a time where a by-election is held, a permanent appointment occurs, or a hiring process is conducted.

#### **Article V: Removal of Members and Executives**

- 5.1 The process for removing a member or executive may be initiated when a committee of no less than three (3) non-executive general members and two (2) executives appointed by the general membership to investigate a complaint determines that:
- 5.1.1 A member or executive has engaged in unlawful actions or activities;
- 5.1.2 A member or executive has violated the constitution;
- 5.1.3 A member or executive has violated University of Toronto policies, procedures, or guidelines;
- 5.1.4 A member or executive has violated the rights of a fellow member;
- 5.1.5 A member or executive has not fulfilled their organizational responsibilities;
- 5.1.6 Other criteria deemed to be appropriate by the Executive Committee in consultation with and approved by a majority of the general membership.
- 5.2 The process for removing a member or executive may also be initiated when:
- 5.2.1 A petition calling for a vote and bearing the signatures of a majority of the general membership is submitted to any member of the executive.
- 5.2.2 A motion for a removal vote is put forward by any member of the executive and passed by a two-thirds majority vote of the executives. The individual facing potential removal vote is entitled to vote on the motion if they are an executive or be given an opportunity to explain themselves if they are a non-executive general member.
- 5.3 The removal of members and executives will be facilitated by a *three tier* procedure which operates as follows:

- 5.3.1 First Tier:
- The executive or member will be warned both verbally and in writing that their behavior constitutes grounds for removal from the organization and that it should cease effective immediately.
- 5.3.2 Second Tier:
- Initiated because the member or executive has violated section 5.1 after receiving a first tier warning relative to a particular action or behavior.
  - The Director of Administration will be responsible for contacting the executive or member and facilitating training or suggesting best practices on how to correct the issues of concern.
  - The Co-President must address all complaints in writing by formulating an action plan and timeline to correct any issues involving executives or members within fourteen (14) calendar days.
  - The executive or member accused of violating section 5.1 will be given fourteen (14) calendar days from receiving the Co-Presidents' written response to demonstrate progress or correction of behavior.
- 5.3.3 Third tier:
- Initiated because the member or executive has violated section 5.1 after receiving second tier warning relative to a particular action or behavior.
  - The removal vote must take place at a valid general meeting of the membership. A representative supporting the motion for removal and the executive or member facing removal (or an individual they designate), may speak for up to five minutes each.
  - The removal of an executive or member requires a 2/3 majority vote of all of the members present at a valid general meeting (including executives). The executive or member facing removal is entitled to vote on the motion.

## **Article VI: Finances**

- 6.1 The funds of the organization shall be expended pursuant to the operating budget approved by the general membership at a valid general meeting.
- 6.2 Notwithstanding section 6.1, the executive committee may not approve any unbudgeted expenditure of the organization's funds above \$100.00 without the approval of the general members at a valid general meeting.
- 6.3 All Budgets shall be prepared by the VP of Operations and VP of Finance in accordance with the organization's priorities as determined by the executive committee in consultation with general members at a valid general meeting.
- 6.4 The Director of Operations shall present a proposed operating budget for the next fiscal year to the general membership for its consideration at the final general meeting.
- 6.5 The operating budget shall be the major budget for the fiscal year and provide for all expenditures of the organization for the subsequent year.
- 6.6 The operating budget shall be approved by a majority vote of the general members present and voting at a valid general meeting.
- 6.7 The banking business of the organization, or any part thereof, shall be transacted with such bank, trust company or other firm or body corporate as the Executive may designate, appoint or authorize from time to time and all such banking business, or any part thereof, shall be transacted on the organization's behalf by one or more

Officers or other persons as the Executive may designate, direct or authorize from time to time and to the extent thereby provided.

- 6.8 The Co-Presidents and only in special circumstances the Director of Operations shall be the sole signing authority of banking instruments for the organization.
- 6.9 Jack.org UTSC Chapter will ensure that proper and accurate financial records are maintained and passed on to incoming executives following each year's elections.
- 6.10 Jack.org UTSC Chapter will accept full financial and production responsibility for all activities it sponsors, plans, or executes.

#### **Article VII: General Meetings**

7.1 The purpose of General Meetings is to provide a forum for executives to overview the activities of the organization and solicit feedback from members, to engage in policy-making, to propose amendments to the constitution, and to report on the financial status of the organization.

7.2 General meetings will be facilitated by a Chairperson selected by the general membership from the executive committee.

#### **Article VIII: Executive and Departmental Meetings**

8.1 The purpose of executive meetings is to provide a forum for the organization's senior team to discuss and make decisions on day-to-day matters affecting the organization.

8.2 Executive meetings will be facilitated by the Presidents of the organization.

8.3 The purpose of departmental meetings is to provide a forum for the organization's executives to discuss, delegate, and plan for the organization's initiatives.

#### **Article IX: Emergency Meetings**

9.1 Emergency meetings can be called for extenuating or unforeseen circumstances that may arise from time to time.

9.2 These meetings must abide by the respective rules outlined in sections VII and VIII depending on the nature of the meeting.

9.3 Notice of these meetings must be provided a minimum of 24 hours in advance through email.

9.4 Less notice for emergency meetings may be provided at the discretion of the President in agreement with a minimum of five (5) general members.

#### **Article X: Executive Selection**

10.1 Executive selections for the co-president positions will be held at the end of the term.

10.2 Candidates for executive positions shall be selected through an application process subject to meeting a set of minimum qualifications for holding a particular position. These qualifications will be established by the outgoing co-president each year prior to the commencement of the application submission period.

10.3 Only student members who meet the minimum qualifications to hold an executive position shall be permitted to hold executive positions.

10.4 Successful candidates will be briefly interviewed by the existing co-presidents regarding their prospective role.

#### **Article XI: Amendments**

- 11.1 The organization may make, amend or repeal the constitution or certain sections therein.
- 11.2 Notice of a meeting called to consider such a resolution shall be given as follows:
  - 11.2 Notice of the full text of the proposed constitutional amendment shall be given to each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting called to consider the change;
  - 11.3 A summary of the rationale for the proposed amendment shall be given to each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting called to consider the change.
- 11.4 Amendments to the constitution require the approval of two-thirds of the members present at a valid general meeting (a general meeting that has achieved quorum).
- 11.5 The general membership must have the final say on amendments to the constitution.

#### **Article XII: Transition**

- 12.1 All outgoing executives are required to transfer all organizational resources used relative to a particular role over the course of the preceding year to new executives upon leaving the position.
- 12.2 All outgoing executives are responsible for providing a detailed report to incoming executives that stipulates the status of ongoing projects in their portfolio and evaluations of previous projects and programs that they lead.
- 12.3 All outgoing and incoming executives will participate in a joint training session occurring no later than the end of May each year to assist with the transition between new executive teams.

#### **Article XIII: Emergency Powers**

- 13.1 In the case of extenuating circumstances, the executive shall be afforded the ability to act without direction from the organization's members.
- 13.2 An extenuating circumstance is defined as any instance that may jeopardize the immediate functioning of the organization including but not limited to: executive vacancies, unexpected cancellations, removal from position, or lack of response from members.
- 13.3 Emergency powers may only be used for such a period of time as is needed to address an extenuating circumstance.
- 13.4 General members have the ability to remove emergency powers where appropriate through submission of a signed petition from at least 10% of the entire general membership.

#### **Article XIV: Food Handling on Campus**

- 14.1 Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will conform to Provincial and Municipal Health Regulations when events which include the sale and/or service of food products are held on the University of Toronto Scarborough campus.

## **Article XV: Precedence of University Policies**

15.1 Jack.Org UTSC Chapter will abide by all pertinent University of Toronto policies, procedures, and guidelines. Where the University's policies, procedures, and guidelines conflict with those of Jack.Org UTSC Chapter the University's policies, procedures, and guidelines will take precedence.

## **Article XVI: Legal Liability**

16.1 The University of Toronto Scarborough does not endorse the Jack.Org UTSC Chapter's beliefs or philosophy nor does it assume legal liability for the group's activities on or off campus.

## **Article XVII: Banking**

17.1 Jack.Org UTSC Chapter agrees to provide the name of the bank, the branch number and address, transit number, bank account number, and a list of all signing officers for all bank accounts opened in the organization's name to the Office of Student Experience and Wellbeing at University of Toronto Scarborough, should the university request it.

## **Appendix A: General Meeting Rules of Order**

### **I. Call to Order**

1. The Chairperson may call the meeting to order only if a quorum of executives and non-executive general members is present in person. If a quorum does not exist, the meeting is not qualified to conduct business. A general member may not appear by proxy or mail ballot.
2. The meeting must be open to all applicable general members. General members must receive notice of the meeting in accordance with the constitution.

### **II. Review of the Agenda**

1. The first draft of the agenda is prepared by the chairperson prior to the meeting. Agenda items should ordinarily appear in the order set forth in these rules of order.
2. The agenda belongs to all general members. The agenda may be modified only by a majority vote. This power should only be used when necessary as proper functioning of meetings and the organization requires advance planning.
3. At this point in the agenda, general members may add or delete items from the agenda and may change the order of presentation.
4. When possible, changes to the agenda should be done by acquiescence of all general members. Formal voting on the agenda is only necessary where it appears to the chairperson that there is a disagreement.

### **III. Approval of Previous Minutes**

1. The minutes need not be read aloud but they should be entered into the organization's official minute ledger upon approval by the general membership.
2. The minutes are prepared by either the secretary or some other individual appointed by the general membership to act as recording secretary. Any general member may suggest changes to the minutes before the general membership



- adopts them. The suggested changes should be set forth in the minutes for the record, and then the general membership should adopt or reject such changes.
3. Minutes should state precisely each motion considered by the general membership, and identify the general members voting in favor, against, or abstaining, and whether the motion was carried. Minutes need not reflect the comments made except in those instances when the member desires to make his/her comments recorded.

#### **IV. Executive Reports**

1. Executives may report their findings or recommendations to the general membership at this point of the agenda.
2. The full report should be presented and then general members, in turn, may ask questions or comment. It is not appropriate to make motions or discuss items of business during this portion of the meeting.
3. This time should also be used for any presentations to be made to the general membership.

#### **V. Open Forum**

1. It is the custom and practice of most organizations to allow general members an open forum to ask questions and speak about their concerns to an executive after a report has been provided.
2. Strict time limitations should be imposed by the Chairperson and these limitations must be enforced. Each general member should address the Chairperson regarding an issue and must speak courteously and to the point.

#### **VI. Old and New Business**

1. All items that were tabled during previous meetings must be revisited during the business portion of the agenda occurring after executive reports.
2. Except in the case of emergency business, all new items of business are heard only after all of the old items have been addressed by the general membership.
3. All business must be conducted in the form of motions or resolutions adopted by a vote of the general membership.

#### **VII. Motions and Deliberations**

1. When an item of business is to be discussed, the Chairperson announces the item to be discussed and opens the floor to discussion.
2. No general member may speak until recognized by the Chairperson. No general member may interrupt the speaker who has the floor.
3. The Chairperson may impose reasonable time limitations. All time limitations must be uniformly imposed upon all of the general members. The speaker shall be given a one-minute warning before time runs out. By vote of a majority of the general membership, time limits may be extended.
4. The Chairperson is to recognize each general member in turn. Discussion shall be limited to the item of business at hand, and the Chairperson shall have the authority to take the floor from a speaker who does not limit discussion to the item of business at hand.
5. No general member may speak to an issue for a second time until all other general members have had the opportunity to speak to it for the first time.

- Likewise, no general member may speak to an issue for a third time until all other general members have had the opportunity to speak to it for a second time.
6. When it appears to the Chairperson that all general members have had the opportunity to fully discuss the matter at hand, the Chair should announce that the item of business is ready for a vote.

## **VIII. Voting**

1. There are 3 basic motions for each item of business:
  - A motion to adopt a specific action by the board.
  - A motion to postpone the item to another meeting (including fact-finding assignments to a person or committee).
  - A motion to remove an item from consideration
2. The general membership is limited to discussing one item of business at a time, but there are no limits to the number of motions that may be considered as to how to dispose of that item of business.
3. After the general membership has had the opportunity to discuss each motion presented for consideration, the Chairperson will call each motion presented to a vote.
4. The fact that a motion has been adopted or failed does not prevent the item of business from being added to the agenda in the future and all motions may be reconsidered at any time by the general membership.