

# Constitution of “Junoon Dance Club UofT ”

## 1. Name

The official name of this recognized campus group is “Junoon Dance Club UofT”

## 2. Purpose and Objectives

The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of organization is outlined here:

To connect students, staff, faculty and alumni across the St. George campus through Bollywood dance. Junoon Dance Clubs aims to promote passion and development of its members (and non-members) through training mainly in “Bollywood, Bollywood-Hip Hop fusion, Lyrical Hip Hop and Contemporary” dance styles. Junoon Dance Club also aims to promote collaboration with different cultural groups across the St. George Campus through “multicultural events and collaborated performances”. To engage and promote non-members, Junoon Dance Club aims to plan, organize and conduct dance workshops and training sessions to promote and maintain inclusivity.

Junoon shall be an inclusive club and shall not discriminate against any member based on their age, sex, gender or religion. Any concerns brought up by members regarding discrimination based on these grounds will be taken seriously and may result in expulsion from the group.

## 3. Membership

Voting Membership to the group is open to all the registered students at the University of Toronto.

Only registered U of T students are permitted to run, nominate, and vote in elections and constitutional amendments. Members must register with a designated executive by submitting their full name and a valid UofT email address.

Membership at JDC will be divided into General Membership (Section 3.1) and Executive membership (Section 3.2). The membership fee will be \$0.00 per year.

### 3.1. General Membership

There will be two types of membership to the Junoon Dance Club UofT:

#### 1. General Membership

The general membership is open to all registered UofT students. They will be eligible to sign-up to our events and workshops through the link in our instagram bio and/or by emailing the club. The auditions hosted for the performance club will not bar entry into the Junoon Dance Club.

#### 2. Membership to the performance club

U of T registered students are permitted to run, nominate, and vote in elections and constitutional amendments. Induction of members to the performance club will occur through an audition process. The audition process will be overlooked and conducted solely by both incoming Co-Presidents and final recommendations for incoming members will be made by both

Co-Presidents through email. The date, time, location, duration and structure of the audition(s) will be published through the official Facebook, Instagram and emails of Junoon Dance Club. The details of the auditions will be published by the incoming Co-Presidents at least five (5) days before prior to conduction. Previous members (and non-

members or interested members) will be permitted to share details of auditions through social media, word of mouth and other appropriate media.

Interested participants will not be required to physically attend the auditions. Online video submissions, personal social media accounts displaying performances and/or alternative audition dates will be allowed. Interested members will also be required to register for induction into the club by submitting their full name and a valid email address at the end of the auditions. The audition date for recruitment of new members must commence by the second week of September and finish by the 30th of the same month.

Auditions for the incoming team of Junoon Dance Club will occur either on one (1) or two (2) dates depending upon:

1. Turnout at the first audition
  1. If twenty (20) or more participants attend the first audition a second audition will not be conducted for the same year
2. Inducted Members Quota
  1. If the number of inducted members does not meet the quota agreed upon by the incoming presidents, a second round of auditions will be conducted. The appropriate quota will be under complete discretion of incoming Co-Presidents

Non-members of Junoon Dance Club are not allowed to attend, record and/or publish videos or photographs of dance routines and members of the Club unless registered for the dance workshops or training session conducted for non-members. Non-members also do not hold the aforementioned rights of running, nominating and voting in Junoon Dance Club's elections and cannot suggest or advise constitutional amendments. Members must register with a designated executive by submitting their full name and a valid email address.

Term of general membership positions shall commence from audition result date till the last annual meeting of the membership year.

### **3.2. Executive Membership**

All voting positions on the Executive committee shall be filled through an annual election and each voting position is open to all student members of the dance club.

Executive membership to Junoon Dance Club will be divided into two categories,

1. Co-Presidents (2)
  - a. The position of Co-President is open to all members of Junoon. It is recommended but not required to have maintained membership status for a minimum of one complete general membership term. The elections process for the Co-President's can be found in Section 5.1
  - b. Term of office shall commence from the election date till the day of last Annual Meeting of the membership year
2. Social Media Directors (2)
  - a. These members will be elected through an interview process conducted by the Co-Presidents. Details of the procedure for appointment of this position can be found in Section 5.2
  - b. Term of executive positions shall commence from interview result date till the last annual meeting of the membership year

## **4. Executive List and Duties**

The executive committee shall be comprised of four (4) officers. These include two (2) Co-Presidents, one (1) Team Manager and one (1) Audio and Visual Director:

*The Co-Presidents shall:*

- Oversee the operations, management and success of the group
- Be the spokesperson for the group
- Hold signing officer authority for financial purposes
- Preside over board meetings as well as general meetings
- Ensure transition of office to the future Executives
- Conduct interviews to appoint and once appointed, oversee the following executive members:
  - Social Media Director
    - Be the final point of contact for all collaborative activities with other student groups/clubs
    - Manage all social media communication and posts/stories

Additional responsibilities may include:

- Instructing choreography of performances and workshops to all members
- Promote the club's activities through social media engagement
- Respond to messages received through all social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook and Email

The group may appoint Directors or Coordinators for various committees such as social committee, publicity committee, and so on; however, such positions do not hold executive decision-making authority.

#### **Termination of Executives or General Members:**

Any member of the club who commits an act negatively affecting the interests of the club and its members, including non-disclosure of a significant or continuing conflict of interest, may be given notice of removal.

The member up for removal shall have the right to defend his/her actions.

If terminated, the member(s) will be removed from the club's membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the club.

#### **4.1 General Members:**

Non-compliance with the following rules will result in the removal of the concerned member from the performance/club:

1. Mandatory attendance of all rehearsals: Unless approved by the Co-President(s) due to unavoidable circumstances, all performing members of Junoon must attend all rehearsals. In the event of a member failing to notify one/both Co-Presidents of absence from a rehearsal, a warning will be given out for the same. A maximum of two (2) absences shall be allowed to performing members per event. If exceeded, the Co-Presidents hold the executive right to remove the concerned member from the event. If the member is removed from a total of three (3) events, the Co-Presidents hold the executive right to remove the member from the club.
2. Punctuality of performing members during rehearsals and performances: All performing members are expected to abide by the timings specified for rehearsals and performances. Performing members will be expected to arrive at the venue decided by the Co-Presidents no later than ten (10) minutes from the start of rehearsals. If the member(s) are frequently late for rehearsals, the Co-President(s) will issue a warning. If no improvements are made, the Co-President(s) hold the right to remove the member(s) from the event.

The member must have the right to an appeal before the general membership, and a majority vote of the general membership will have the final say on the matter.

#### **4.2 Executive members:**

Executive members are subject to the same termination or impeachment process as general members (Section 4.2) and may lose their executive position along with their membership to the group.

Failure to keep up with the responsibilities assigned to the executive member will result in a warning issued by the Co-presidents. If the Co-Presidents do not notice any improvement following the issuance of two fair warnings, the Co-Presidents hold the executive right to remove the concerned member from their executive position. A new executive member shall be appointed for that executive position in this case through an interview process. The interview process will be conducted at

It is mandatory for at least one Co-President to be present during all rehearsals. In the event of a situation where neither Co-President is able to attend the rehearsal, either one performing executive member (if available) or one performing member shall be appointed to conduct the rehearsal as planned.

## **5. Elections**

### **5.1 Co-Presidents:**

The Co-Presidents shall be elected under the supervision of the Elections Committee.

The Elections committee, that includes all members, will conduct and hold elections after one membership year has been completed. All members of the Elections Committee shall be unbiased in the results of the election and shall be required to disclose any and all conflicts of interest in the election.

The Elections Committee shall accept nominations only from general group members that are also registered U of T students only for candidacy for Co-Presidents from the general membership before the beginning of the next membership year. Candidates must be members in good standing and are recommended but not required to be part of the group for one membership year prior to the nomination period.

The Elections Committee shall conduct the election during the final annual meeting of the membership year (before September 1st). The date will be announced in a minimum of one (1) week prior to the election date and must fall on a weekday.

The Elections Committee shall provide each U of T student with a paper ballot on the voting dates and ask the member to place their ballot in an enclosed box.

In preparation for a tie, the Elections Committee shall select an executive from amongst the executive committee, to cast their ballot and seal it in an envelope. In the event of a tie for an executive position, one of the members from the Elections Committee shall break the seal and count the ballot in order to break the tie.

After the election is over, the Elections Committee shall count the ballots. The candidate with the most votes shall be elected to the position. The Elections Committee shall submit a report of the results of the elections to the Executive Committee and general members.

Registered U of T students may not vote by proxy. Non-U of T members may not nominate or vote in elections.

Elections are to be held in a non-biased manner. Therefore, no candidate running in the elections is permitted to be a part of planning or administering the election.

Only U of T students who have paid any applicable membership fees and have been a member in good standing for 30 days prior to election dates are eligible for voting. No one may vote twice in any voting situation where there is a tie.

## **5.2. Executive and general members:**

The Executive members will be appointed through an interview process conducted by an interviewing committee. The interviewing committee shall include:

1. The incoming Co-President(s)
2. The outgoing director for the position interviewed

The interview(s) for the executive committee shall be conducted starting from June of the new membership year till the date of the vacant position being filled. If one or more executive positions remain vacant after the first round of interviews, then a second round shall be conducted within three (3) weeks of the first round.

The General performing members will be selected through an audition process conducted by the Co- Presidents as mentioned in Section 3.1.

## **6. Finances**

The Team Manager shall keep records of all income and expenses. The Team Manager shall present the group's financial health at the annual general meetings. The Executive Committee will vote on expenditures of over \$100.00 by majority vote at an executive meeting.

The group's executive or members may not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature. This is not intended to preclude the collection of membership fees to cover the expenses of the group, or of charges for specific activities, programs or events, or to prohibit groups from engaging in legitimate fundraising. However, the group will not have as a major activity a function that makes it an on-campus part of a commercial organization, will not provide services and goods at a profit when that profit is used for purposes other than those of the organization, and will not pay salaries to some or all of its officers.

## **7. Meetings**

### **A) Annual General Meetings (AGMs):**

The group shall hold general meetings at least twice per year, i.e. once per academic term.

The Executive Committee will announce these dates two (2) weeks prior to holding the meetings. These meetings are intended to go over the group's annual activity plan, financial health and propose or vote on constitutional amendments, if any. Motions will require 2/3 majority of registered members in attendance for a vote to be cast. The motion with the most votes will be passed.

The last AGM must be held in the month of April of the upcoming year, to conduct the elections of the incoming Co-Presidents.

### **b) Executive Meetings:**

The executive committee shall meet on a monthly basis where date and times are to be set by an executive. The quorum of executive meetings shall be 50%+1 of executives.

## **8. Amendments**

Any registered U of T student may propose and vote on amendments to this constitution. The Executive Committee will administer the process of having amendments discussed at general meetings.

Constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority to be passed at Annual General Meetings by registered U of T students in attendance.

The Executive Committee shall formally adopt the new constitution and submit the revised constitution to the respective University offices (i.e. The Office of Student Life, The University of Toronto Students' Union, etc) within two (2) weeks of its approval by general members.