

Constitution of Raas at IU

Preamble:

The official name of the organization shall be Raas at IU. Raas at IU spreads Gujarati and Indian culture through dance performance. Its venues include Indiana University and the surrounding Bloomington community, the national raas circuit, and other local or national opportunities. The mission of Raas at IU is to practice and perform raas as a way to both enrich its audiences as well as the performers themselves. In this manner, a great respect for and knowledge of the art form is cultivated. This is achieved through practice, open workshops for the public, performances, and competitions.

Statement of University Compliance:

Raas at IU shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state, and federal laws.

Personal Gain Clause:

Raas at IU, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation directly from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

Statement of Non-Discrimination:

Raas at IU allows any interested student to participate in, become a member of, and seek leadership positions in the organization without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Anti-Hazing Policy:

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

Article I: Construction

This club will exist in two parts, the team and the executive board. The team shall exist for the purposes of practicing, competing, and spreading the knowledge of Gujarati dance culture, while the executive board shall exist to serve the organizational interests of the team, as well as allowing those interested in learning about the culture to have educational exposure and involvement. Those who are part of the team may not necessarily be a part of the executive board, and vice versa.

Article II: Membership

Membership in both the team and the executive board shall be open to all interested students currently enrolled in Indiana University. If high volumes of people show interest in the team, tryouts for the team will be held. Raas at IU allows any interested student to participate in, become a member of, and seek leadership positions in the organization without regard to arbitrary consideration of such characteristics as age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. However, if any member's actions are contrary to Raas at IU's expectations, moral code, are a violation of the student code of conduct, put members or other students at risk, etc, they will be removed from the organization. The removal process will commence with a hearing, in which the member on trial will put forth their case. A majority of the organization members have to be present for a voting to occur. All captains must be present as well. The removal of the member will be decided on a majority vote of those present at the trial. If a member is voted off of Raas at IU, they are no longer a member of the organization.

Article III: Advisor

An advisor may be recommended by a past advisor or through recommendation by a captain or an Executive Board member. The advisor must serve at least one term through the full academic year. Advisor may remain stagnant from year to year until they or the captains decide otherwise. More than one advisor is allowed, and more than two is left up to the discretion of the captains. The advisor will work closely with the captains to plan for the challenges for the upcoming school year, including but not limited to arranging class excusal forms, locating and securing practice spaces, and raising funds.

Article IV: Executive Committee

1. Two groups comprise the Executive Committee, namely the captains and the Executive Board.

2. There shall be no less than two and no more than four captains for the duration of each academic and competing year. The captains function as a part of all Executive Board members' committees and also oversee the team. Captains keep their positions for one full year.
3. All Executive Board members have a tenure of one academic year. The term will end at the conclusion of the academic year.
4. The Executive Board is comprised of a Public Relations Chair, Fundraising Chair, Logistics Chair, Theme Chair, and Culture Chair.
5. Each executive board member, with the exception of the Culture Chair, is the head of their own committee which is staffed by members of the team and organization as a whole. Committee members are not necessarily considered to be part of the Executive Board or Executive Committee, unless they are a captain.
6. The Logistics Committee must include captains as its primary committee members, and can add additional members depending on need.
7. Team members are to be divided into committees by captains after all members have filled out interest forms, which can be done through Google Forms, a written survey, or any other comparable means.
8. The captains shall preside over Executive Committee meetings, keep the Executive Board members up to date with all the ongoing issues, and act as a link between IU and the organization.
9. The outgoing captains will be responsible for re-registering the organization annually with beINvolved.
10. The Public Relations Chair and committee is tasked with marketing the team and increasing awareness around IU's campus and Bloomington. They also help maintain social media presence, mainly through Facebook and Instagram.
11. The Fundraising Chair and committee is tasked with applying to grants and coming up with presentations for funding opportunities while finding innovative ways to fundraise money. They work with balancing the budget and keeping track of our expenses, as well as planning fundraiser events.
12. The Theme Chair and committee is tasked with designing and making props, and proposing ways of incorporating theme into the dance and mix.
13. The Culture Chair is tasked with keeping and promote the culture of the team. They work with captains and team members to come up with and plan bonding activities. Their work emphasizes making sure everyone feels included in the team.
14. Any officer or member can apply for the CPR/First Aid certification.
15. Any Executive Committee member deemed unable to perform his or her duties shall be removed and the position will be considered vacant.

16. The removal process will commence with a hearing, in which the officer on trial will put forth their case. In order for the vote to occur, $\frac{3}{4}$ of all organization members must be present, as well as all captains. The vote must pass with at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of members in agreement. If a member is voted off of Raas at IU, they are no longer a member of the organization.

Article V: Election

All interested in captainship will send a letter of intent to the current Executive Committee. A majority vote by all members at a scheduled meeting shall determine the captains for the following year.

1. Elections of the captains shall occur at the last general meeting each year.
2. Any student member of the team is eligible to run for captainship.
3. Quorum for elections is $\frac{3}{4}$ of the organizational membership.
4. Any member is elected if they win a majority of the votes.
5. If more than two people are running and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.
6. The term of office runs from the day of election in last meeting until the last meeting and elections the following year.
7. Elections will be advertised through email and at least the three general meetings prior to the election day.
8. All interested in being a member of the Executive Board will send a letter of intent to the past and current captains, who will work together with the advice of the previous Executive Committee to select the Executive Board for the following year.

Article VI: Resignation

A one month notice is required to be given by an Executive Committee member prior to resignation. Once resigned, the position is considered vacant and a special e-mail shall be sent to all members indicating the vacancy and requesting letters of intent from interested members. The new officer shall be elected at the next group meeting with the vote necessary for the particular position.

Article VII: Meetings

1. Executive Committee meetings shall be held at least every two weeks.
2. Captains shall preside over meetings.
3. All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of all members present.
4. Quorum for a meeting shall be one quarter of the Executive Committee.

5. Captains can call for emergency meetings, however, there needs to be majority consent of the Executive Board members to allow such action.
6. Team practice shall be held at least three times a week, with additions or reductions as mandated by Captains.
7. Captains must give at least 5 days notice of additional practices.
8. Practice duration and occurrence must be constrained within reason, and can be augmented during pre-competition periods.
9. Captains must recognize any injuries, illnesses, family emergencies, or mandatory academic events as valid excuses for missing practice or a team event.

Article VIII: Dues & Budgets

Dues are charged for membership at the end of the competitive season. The amount for dues is determined by subtracting all fundraised money from the total expenses of the team and dividing the remaining fees by the number of members. Members who fail to pay dues will no longer be a member of the organization and will be ineligible to reobtain membership. Dues will be determined and collected by the captains and the Fundraising Chair. The Fundraising Chair will be responsible for creating and maintaining the organization's budget and keeping the captains updated on all fiscal matters. This budget will be revised and updated monthly.

Article IX: Finances

The Fundraising Chair is in charge of all financial affairs, but must report back to the captains about monetary transactions. The captains will be responsible for maintaining the Raas at IU bank account through the Indiana University Credit Union. We agree to comply with all IUCU and IU office policies and procedures. If the group dissolves, remaining money in the Student Organization Account will be distributed evenly among all captains. Captains can split the money with the team members if they see fit.

Article X: Amendment

If the members feel that the constitution needs to be amended, anyone may submit a request to the Executive Committee. With the majority vote of the Executive Committee members, the proposal shall be put forth to the members of the club. The amendment shall then be passed with two-thirds vote of all the members of the organization.

Article XI: Ratification

The Constitution may be ratified with a majority vote of the members of the team.