

Constitution Of Veg At Indiana University

The Veg Club at IU is an organization that brings animal rights awareness to students. The Veg Club at IU does public advocacy events on campus such as leafleting and tabling. The Veg Club also screens animal rights documentaries. In addition to raising awareness for animals, the Veg Club at IU also aims to provide a community for vegan and vegetarian students through restaurant outings and other social events.

Article I: Membership

Section A. Statement of Non-Discrimination

The Veg Club at IU allows any interested individual 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.

Section B. Eligibility

All undergraduate students enrolled at the Indiana University Bloomington campus are eligible for membership in the Veg Club at Indiana University.

Section C. Structure

The Veg Club at Indiana University is composed of three (3) levels of membership.

1. Member: student who has joined the association at a member level, participates regularly in the Veg Club at Indiana University programs and events.

2. Officers: student who has joined the organization at a member level, participates regularly in the Veg Club at Indiana University programs and events, attends bimonthly officer meetings.
3. President: student who has joined the organization at a member level, participating regularly in the Veg Club at Indiana University programs and events, serves as President for the Veg Club at Indiana University, attends board meetings, and attends bimonthly officer meetings.

Section D. Dues

At this time, dues are not required to join the Veg Club at Indiana University. If dues are required in the future, all dues will be processed through the Veg Club at Indiana University SOA account.

Article II: University Compliance

Section A. Statement of Compliance

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state, and federal laws.

Article III: Officers

Section A. Duties and Responsibilities

The Veg Club at Indiana University Officer Board will be comprised of the President and a minimum of four (4) Officers. The President will be responsible for providing leadership and guidance to all Officers and overseeing all events. The Officers will be responsible for the planning and execution of events for the Veg Club at Indiana University members.

Specific duties and responsibilities of each are as follows: attending all board meetings; attending all mass member meetings; attending all functions designated as official by the Veg Club at Indiana University President; maintaining all areas of budget under their responsibility; meeting at least bimonthly with all officers under their respective supervision; and fulfilling all requirements necessary to implement programs that meet the standards, goals, and objectives

established by the President. All members of the Officer Board will be responsible for meeting all other requirements set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Veg Club at Indiana University where expressly stated or implied.

Section B. Eligibility Requirements

The Officer Board will be limited to undergraduate students who have served at least one semester as a Veg Club at Indiana University member prior to serving on the Officer Board.

Section C. Selection

Applications for the Officer Board will be available no later than the third week of March and shall be available for no fewer than ten (10) days. A Veg Club at Indiana University advisor will verify that an applicant can only join the Officer Board if the applicant is eligible according to Article III, Section B. The applications will be submitted to the Selection Committee for review. The Selection Committee will be comprised of the current President of the Veg Club at Indiana University and the four (4) Officers. The Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor has the option of sitting in on the Selection Committee, but will not have voting rights. The Veg Club at Indiana University Selection Committee will be responsible for interviewing all Officer Board candidates and for positioning the new Officer Board members. The current Veg Club at Indiana University President will chair all Selection Committee meetings and interviews. Each Selection Committee member will have (1) vote in the Officer Board officer selection and placement, and all decisions will be reached by consensus of the Selection Committee. The Veg Club at IU Advisor will have final approval over Officer Board selection and placement.

Section D. Term of Office

The Officer Board officers will be selected in the spring of each year and will serve one (1) academic year term beginning in May. Membership on the Officer Board is limited to one (1) term of office, unless reappointed for another term.

Section E. Meetings

The Officer Board will meet bimonthly during the academic year with the exceptions of official University holidays. The President of the Veg Club at Indiana University will call these meetings. Decisions will be reached by consensus of Officer Board members with approval from the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor.

Section F. Resignations

All resignations from the Officer Board will be presented to the President of the Veg Club at Indiana University in writing. In the event of the President's resignation, the letter of resignation will be given to the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor. The resignation will occur no fewer than five (5) days and no longer than ten (10) days after the letter of resignation has been received by the President or Advisor.

Section G. Removal from Office

Failure to perform the duties and responsibilities of an Officer Board member as specified in the Veg Club at Indiana University Constitution, whether expressed or implied, will constitute reason for removal from office. Proceedings to remove a member of the Officer Board will only be initiated by another Officer Board member. The proceeding will be initiated during an official meeting of the Officer Board following at least seven (7) days notice to the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor. The request to initiate the proceedings must be presented in writing at the Officer Board meeting. The written request must include a list of grievances. All alleged grievances must be attested by signature of at least one other current member of the Officer Board. A time and place for an official hearing will then be selected.

The hearing will take place no fewer than three (3) days and no more than seven (7) days after the request is received by the Officer Board. The hearing for removal from office will be closed to the public. Those authorized for attendance will be: the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor; the current members of the Veg Club at Indiana University Officer Board as defined in Article III, Section A of the Constitution; witnesses called by the President of the Veg Club at Indiana University; and witnesses called by the Officer against whom the proceedings were initiated. The room will be cleared of all those present except the Officer Board members before the vote is taken. If no unanimous decision is reached, the majority vote for removal will serve to censure the Officer in question. The Officer Board will decide at that time the extent of the censure.

Section H. Vacancies

Any vacancy of the Officer Board created through resignation, dismissal, or other circumstances will be filled at the discretion of the Officer Board and the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor. If the Officer Board and the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor elect to fill the vacancy, interviews will be held to decide on the replacement. The selection proceedings to fill the vacancy will be conducted in the same manner as the proceedings in Article III, Section C of the Constitution.

Article IV: Revisions of Organization Structure

Section A. Program and Project Assignments

Prior to the selection of the incoming Officer Board, the outgoing board will meet to determine what projects and programs will be implemented the following year. All proposals rendered by the outgoing Officer Board under the provision of this section will be subject to review and modification by the incoming Officer Board.

Section B. Number of Officers

The outgoing officers will determine the number of officers that will comprise the incoming Officer Board.

Article V: Advisor

Section A. Duties and Responsibilities

Specific duties of the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisors are as follows: attendance at meetings of the Officer Board at the request of one or more Officer Board members; attendance at all functions designated as official by the President of the Veg Club at Indiana University at the request of one of the Officer Board members; oversight of the Veg Club at Indiana University funds.

Section B. Advisory Board Members

Official advisory members of the Officer Board will be: Faculty of Indiana University Bloomington campus that is selected by the Officer Board, and other individuals as designated by the Officer Board. These individuals will serve on the board of advisory, non-voting capacity, except where otherwise noted in the constitution and bylaws. There is no limit to how many advisors the Officer Board can select. The Officer Board can remove an advisor by a majority vote.

Article VI: Meetings

Section A. Regular Meetings

The Officer Board will each meet bimonthly during the academic year, with the exceptions of official University holidays. The President of the Veg Club at Indiana University will officiate and set the agendas for meetings.

Section B. Special Meetings

The President of the Veg Club at Indiana University will have the authority to call special meetings of the Officer Board. Members of the Officer Board will receive no less than forty-eight (48) hours advance notice of the time and place of the special meetings.

Section C. Mass Member Meetings

Mass member meetings will take place at least once every month during the regular school year. Mass members will be notified at least one (1) week ahead of time of the time and location. The President of the Veg Club at Indiana University will officiate and set the agenda for mass member meetings.

Section D. Attendance

Officer Board members will be required to attend all Officer Board, and mass member meetings. Attendance at all the Veg Club at Indiana University Officer Board meetings will be recorded with a sign-in sheet. Absence will be excused for the following reasons: academic class, illness, family emergency, observance of religious holidays, or work schedule. Excused absences will be reported to the Veg Club at Indiana University President and appropriate Officer Board members no later than twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled meeting. Any and all other absences will be considered unexcused. Acquiring more than two (2) unexcused absences will result in a probationary period.

Attendance at mass member meetings will not be required of mass members.

Article VII: Non-Hazing

Section A. Statement of Compliance

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 VIII: Finances

Section A. Management of Finances

The President will be responsible for managing funds with the Officer Board. The budget must be available to the Officer Board and the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor at the request of an Officer Board member or the Veg Club at Indiana University Advisor. The Officer Board will determine the appropriation of funds within the Veg Club at Indiana University programs and mass member meetings. The Officer Board will have the authority to assess and, if necessary, reassess those funds on a yearly basis.

Section B. Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Veg Club at Indiana University, all assets will be transferred to Mercy For Animals non-profit.

Article IX: Personal Gain

This organization, if raising funds, will 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 the for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

Article X: Amendments

Section A. Voting Eligibility

The Veg Club at Indiana University constitution may be amended by the two-thirds majority vote of those eligible to vote in amendment proceedings. Those eligible to vote on amendments are the current members of the Veg Club at Indiana University as designated in Article I, Section C of the Constitution.

Section B. Procedure

Any member of the Veg Club at Indiana University may offer an amendment or proposal to the Officer Board. Proposed amendments must be discussed at a minimum of one Officer Board meeting prior to final vote. The decision to discuss the proposed amendment will be decided by the Officer Board at the time of the proposal. A unanimous vote by the Officer Board against the proposed amendment will rescind the amendment and terminate further consideration. Approval of the amendment for purpose of further consideration will mandate the placement of the amendment of the Officer Board meetings agenda for discussion for the next two regular meetings. The final vote on the proposed amendments will be taken at the next regular meeting following the Officer Board discussion. No absentee ballots will be permitted on any vote pertaining to an amendment to the Constitution. Amendments will be effective beginning with the next Officer Board term.

Article XI: Ratification

Section A. Voting Eligibility

Those eligible to vote on ratification of the constitution will be all voting members of the Officer Board as defined in Article III, Section A of the Constitution.

Section B. Approval Requirement

Ratification will require a unanimous vote of all those eligible to vote. No absentee ballots will be permitted.