

IU Rec Sports Club Constitution  
Indiana University Brazilian Jiu Jitsu  
Rev. 08.20.12

The Indiana University Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Club (IUBJJ) is a student organization that holds the primary purpose of teaching the art of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. The club is open to any student, faculty or member of the community who expresses a desire to learn and is willing to pursue that desire in a manner that is safe and productive to others. Through this goal we hope to not only further the reaches of the art but more importantly to serve as an outlet for physical fitness, personal safety, recreation and character development for all members of the organization. We will not be teaching cage fighting or mixed martial arts; while Brazilian Jiu Jitsu has proven very effective when used by competent martial artists both in and outside of MMA competitions, our goals in teaching BJJ will extend to sport competition and self defense; no further. Further, we seek to create a safe place for students, faculty and members of the community to become more physically fit through study of the art, to gain confidence in him/herselves and their peers, and finally to create personal connections.<sup>42</sup>

# Article I: Membership

1. Participation in the proposed organization must be 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. (See section I.D.2© on page 6 of the Code)
2. The club's membership will be at least 51 percent students enrolled at Indiana University in Bloomington. All Officers must be IU students with the exception of the club's Instructor and Adviser.
3. Membership in the club will be organized into three classes. The first class will be members who will make up the body of the club. The second class will be officers who serve as the primary liaisons between the University and the club. The third and final class is the smallest group, made up of club instructors. This should not be considered a hierarchy of importance, only of responsibility.
4. IUBJJ will admit all person for membership after he/she have signed a liability waiver to be provided by the university and after he/she have paid their dues. Being understanding of the economic status and exploratory nature of many students, IUBJJ permits members to train for two weeks in order to decide if the art is truly for him/her. This way we do not risk making the club some kind of an economic venture, keeping it as purely educational as possible. Students who cannot pay dues can discuss their situation with an officer who has the discretion to waive the fee. Membership and participation in the IUBJJ Club is a privilege extended to those seeking a safe and enjoyable alternative form of self-defense and recreation. Any person who, in the discretion of the Club's Instructor, creates an unsafe or hostile environment may be removed without notice. If such disciplinary action is taken, membership privileges will not be re-conferred until such a time as the person seeking re-admittance has demonstrated his/her commitment to safety. For further discussion, See III(7) infra.
5. Any member of the club wishing to use the name of the club as an endorsement for an event, an organization or otherwise must seek permission in writing from the Instructor, President and Adviser of the club and may be further required to seek the permission of Rec Sports on the matter. Members of the club may not act as spokespersons for the club unless he/she are Officers of the club. This includes giving quotes to news organizations. Members can certainly state their membership and explain their experiences with the club, but any statements about the activity, opinion, goals, etc of the club should be withheld and requests for such information directed to a club officer.

## Article II: University Compliance

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

# Article III: Executive Officers

## 1. Officer Positions within the Club

Instructor- Responsible for the creation of lesson plans and the teaching and running of club sessions. He/she is the ultimate authority on safety issues while he/she is instructing. He/she should be included whenever possible in administrative decision making by the other officers of the club. In cases where a knowledgeable source cannot be found within the university, and a suitable instructor can be found elsewhere in the community, it would be permissible for such a non-student to accept this role. Such cases should be mediated by officers of the club and put to vote using voting methods described hereafter. Instructors do not cast votes in administrative matters unless they also hold another officer position. An instructor who is not a fulltime student is not able to vote on club matters. The instructor may hold another officer position and may vote in that position. The club may have multiple instructors.

In the case of a guest instructor, whether it be a seminar, former instructor, etc., it should be noted that the guest instructor does not have the same rights as another club instructor. In that case, the most senior club instructor will still be the authority on safety.

President- Responsible for making sure that all meetings are attended and paper work is filled out properly. The President will act as a liaison between the university and the club. The President will serve as the Instructor's right-hand and is responsible for both the Vice President and the Treasurer.

Vice President- Works with the president to make sure all of their duties are carried out. In the event the president is not capable or willing to carry out duties, he/she will be replaced by the Vice President. The term of that replacement will be as long as necessary according to the discretion of the Instructor, providing it is less than one semester. If a semester lapses during the course of that term change, members of the club will vote on an official change in officers.

Treasurer- Responsible for collecting dues and keeping club accounts. Primary liaison between SOA and the club and all that entails. The Treasurer will work with the Secretary in order to keep up to date records of Members of the club and appropriate contact information. The Treasurer will help the Vice President to make sure that all of their duties are complete.

Secretary- Responsible for the collection and signing of waivers. If conditions arise where attendance sheets are deemed necessary or the recording of other club related data, the secretary will be responsible for that. The Secretary will be responsible for assisting the Treasurer.

Adviser- Faculty Adviser will not have an active duty in running the club but will maintain an ability to veto actions by the club with which he or she is not comfortable. Their level of involvement is dependent on their willingness and time.

Other officers positions can be created to fulfill unforeseen needs of the club by agreement between the President and Instructor. Those positions will have the same term limits as all other positions.

2. Executive Officers must first and foremost hold the trust of the Instructors. He/she must be people of good character who live up to the virtues of the Club. He/she will maintain good academic standing (he/she may not be on academic probation). He/she are first and foremost students. Their experience level, particularly that of the President, should be sufficient to understand the atmosphere of the club, its traditions, and the culture that is inherently involved with Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. There will be no rank or specific time requirements to make someone eligible to hold office.

3. Officers will serve for one semester. At the end of every semester, officers will be elected by the club by means of a vote. This vote will be announced in the club and on the club's web site, by email, word of mouth, phone, etc. The vote can be carried out either at a specified club meeting, electronically or both. Officers can serve as many terms as he/she are elected for. He/she will take office at the end of the last club meeting of whatever semester the election which votes him/her into office is held. Past officers have no specific role in the organization, except for past Instructors whose guidance should be sought whenever it is necessary.

4. Vacancies are filled by means of a vote. The vote will be publicized to club members as well as time allows and carried out in the manner described above. Ideally, the vote should be publicized for two week prior to its occasion. Officers are responsible for filling vacant Presidential positions should he/she arise in the middle of a semester. Instructors may grant Presidents authority to hold elections to fill any other vacancies should he/she arise in the middle of a semester. Officers resign in writing to the Instructor in order to vacate their offices, should such an event become necessary in the middle of a semester.

5. Executive meetings will not be held on a regular basis. Officers can feel free to set a schedule amongst him/herselves that will be held in accordance with their class and personal schedules. Officer may request a meeting that can also be held via email. If a member of the club wishes to speak to the officers, he/she may inform an officer who will in turn set up a meeting. The Adviser is privy to all discussions and is entitled to attend any and all meetings of the club. Advisers must be told of such meetings with ample time to plan for their attendance. For this reason and for reasons of accountability, holding meetings and discussions via email has some merit. Decisions are made at these meetings through discussion and voting. A simple majority is required for any decision. Each officer will have one vote. In the event of a tie, the club should consult the Adviser who will not vote but can make a recommendation. At that point, officers will revote until they have come to an agreement. Responsibility for keeping minutes and recording the result of any and all votes will fall on the Secretary or most junior Officer present at such meeting, unless other arrangements are made at the outset of the meeting.

6. Officers must volunteer him/herselves as being willing to accept the responsibilities of office and must be eligible for office as described above. All candidates wishing to assume a position should make that known to the Instructor and will be given the chance to address the club during or before the election in order to explain their candidacy. A vote of club members will be held to determine officers. Each member will be allowed to cast one vote. Voting will be by hand raising or by email. If no candidate wins a simple majority, the candidates with the most votes will be given a chance to again address the club and another vote will be taken. In the event that no majority can be reached after three (3) rounds of voting, the Instructor and Adviser will meet and pick the candidate who he/she feel will best fill the position.

7. In order to remove a person from office, a complaint must be filed with an Instructor or the Adviser. Complaints do not have to be made publicly but also should not be anonymous. Complaints

about either the Instructor or Adviser should be directed to both the President and a Rec Sports administrator who will mediate the problem in such a case. Complaints will be dealt with first in a spoken warning. On a second offense, complaints will result in a written warning; on third offense by removal from office. Should the actions causing the complaint be of a nature that he/she are detrimental to the club, the safety or wellbeing of any members, that officer may also be subject to expulsion from the club. This determination should be carried out with the full knowledge and cooperation of Rec Sports. Similarly, any member who puts at risk another member, puts at jeopardy another member's wellbeing or ability to train will face the same judicial process. The Instructor is responsible for carrying out this process, unless he/she is the object of the complaint, at which time the President will take that responsibility. If the President feels he/she cannot carry out that responsibility, he/she may go to a Rec Sports administrator for help.

# Article IV: Adviser

See Description in Article III, Section 1.53



# Article V: Meetings

1. Regular club membership meetings and regular club practices run concurrently. Concerns and other announcements should be made at the beginning of club practices or brought to the attention of Instructors or other Officers who will in turn make announcements at an appropriate time or send announcements via email or the club's web site.

2. The agenda for meetings will be set by the Instructor, President or concerned party. Rules of Order will be informal. Should this fail to be effective, use Parliamentary Procedure. That determination should be made by the Instructor, Adviser or President presiding over the meeting.

3. Emergency or special meetings will be called by the Instructor, President or concerned party via email or phone. Members will be notified via email, the web site, other electronic means, phone, word of mouth, posted signs, mailings or any combination thereof.

4. If necessary, attendance will be kept by the Secretary as he/she sees fit.

# Article VI: Elections

1. Officers will serve for one semester. At the end of every semester, officers will be elected by the club by means of a vote. This vote will be announced in the club and on the club's web site, by email, word of mouth, phone, etc. The vote can be carried out either at a specified club meeting, electronically or both. Officers can serve as many terms as he/she are elected for. He/she will take office at the end of the last club meeting of whatever semester the election which votes him/her into office is held. Past officers have no specific role in the organization, except for past Instructors whose guidance should be sought whenever it is necessary.

2. Officers must volunteer him/herselves as being willing to accept the responsibilities of office and must be eligible for office as described above. All candidates wishing to assume a position should make that known to the Instructor and will be given the chance to address the club during or before the election in order to explain their candidacy. A vote of club members will be held to determine officers. Each member will be allowed to cast one vote. Voting will be by hand raising or by email. If a simple majority isn't won by any candidate, the candidates with the most votes will be given a chance to again address the club and another vote will be taken. In the event that no majority can be reached after three (3) rounds of voting, the Instructor and Adviser will meet and pick the candidate who he/she feel will best fill the position.

3. Voting carried out during meetings will be by open show of hands. Voting carried out by email will be sent to the election moderator (either the Instructor or club President) and will not be further disclosed. If verification is necessary or requested, the moderator will present information to the Adviser who will in turn verify the results to the club via email or personal announcement to the club during a club practice. The winner of an election will be the candidate who wins a simple majority of votes cast, regardless of the number of members eligible to vote.

# Article VII: Non-Hazing

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: Dues and Budget

1. Dues are charged by the club. Dues are determined by the administrating officers of the club. Dues should be kept to a reasonable minimum in order to make the club as accessible as possible. Officers will also keep in mind that members must also furnish the cost of a gi in which to train. The club will never pay fees to any Jiu Jitsu association or instructor in order to be considered members of a larger team or governing body. Changes to the cost of membership will come at the behest of the Treasurer, President and Instructor and should be considered every semester.

2. Dues are collected every semester. Members who haven't paid their dues risk loss of privileges including the right to train with IUBJJ. All potential members of the club can train for two weeks consecutively or three classes non-consecutively before paying their dues. Anyone training with the club, as a member or potential member, must sign liability waivers in accordance with Rec Sports policy.

3. Dues should be collected by the Treasurer. When the Treasurer is not present, dues can be collected by Instructors who are entrusted to in turn give said dues to the Treasurer at their earliest possible meeting.

4. Budgetary concerns are addressed by the Treasurer who will assess the monetary situation of the club at the beginning of their term and are expected to keep a handle on all budgetary matters for the duration of their service to the club. If another officer wishes to propose an addendum to the budget, he/she should do so in writing or in person to the Treasurer. Any decisions must be decided by not only the Treasurer but also all other executive officers.

# Article IX: Finances

1. Financial affairs will be the responsibility of the Treasurer.
2. IUBJJ will be applying for and maintaining an SOA account if such an account is so granted.
3. IUBJJ will be in full accordance with all SOA office policies and procedures.
4. Should IUBJJ dissolve, dues paying members of the club can make a request for a refund of dues paid that semester. Remaining dues should be donated to the Save the Whales Foundation. Returns of dues are to be handled by the most recent treasurer of the dissolved organization. They must keep payment records in order to confirm that requests are coming from dues paying members of the club.

# Article X: Amendments

1. All eligible voting members will be notified of proposed amendments to this constitution via announcements at club practices, emails, phone calls, the group's web site or any combination thereof.
2. Any amendment to this constitution must be ratified through a vote by 2/3 voting members. This vote will be carried out in the same manner as a vote to fill an officer's position.
3. Once approved by the organization, all constitutions with amendments must be submitted to the Assistant Director of Club Sports.
4. This organization, 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.

# Article XI: Personal Gain Clause

This organization, 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 from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.





## Article XII: Non-Discrimination Clause

Indiana University Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu) 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. \*