

CONSTITUTION FOR THE YEAR 2020-2021

CONSUMER RIGHTS CLUB

FLORIDA NACA CHAPTER

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

ARTICLE I. NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Section I. Name.

This organization shall be known as the Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter, hereafter referred to as CRC Florida.

Section II. Use of Name.

Authority to use the Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter name is vested in the executive board, with the approval and consent of the executive board by a 2/3 majority vote. Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter general body members do not have inherent authority to use the Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter name, logo, or reputation without receiving prior written approval from the president.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE STATEMENT

The mission/purpose of the Consumer Rights Club is to provide support, assistance, and resources to low-income consumers, as well as to educate University of Florida Students and the broader Gainesville community about consumer issues. A wide variety of activities, events, projects, and initiatives will be coordinated by the Consumer Rights Club to contribute to the Project's target communities.

ARTICLE III. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Upon approval by the Department of Student Activities and Involvement, Consumer Rights Club shall be a registered student organization at the University of Florida. Consumer Rights Club shall comply with all local, state and federal laws, as well as all University of Florida regulations, policies, and procedures. Such compliance includes but is not limited to the University's regulations related to Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking), Hazing, Commercial Activity, and Student Leader Eligibility.

ARTICLE IV. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS

Section A. - Non-Discrimination

Consumer Rights Club agrees that it will not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act.

Section B. - Sexual Harassment

Consumer Rights Club agrees that it will not engage in any activity that is unwelcome conduct of sexual nature that creates a hostile environment. Behaviors that could create a hostile environment include sexual harassment (which could include inappropriate sexual comments), sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Section C. - Hazing

Consumer Rights Club agrees that it will not initiate, support, or encourage any events or situations that recklessly, by design, or intentionally endanger the mental or physical health or safety of a student for any purpose including but not limited to initiation or admission into or affiliation with any student group or organization.

Section D. - Responsibility to Report

If this organization becomes aware of any such conduct described in this article, Consumer Rights Club will report it immediately to Student Activities and Involvement, the Director of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, or the University's Title IX Coordinator.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization is open to all enrolled students at the University of Florida. Non-enrolled students, spouses, faculty, and staff may be associate members; however, they may not vote or hold office. All members and associate members are free to leave and disassociate without fear of retribution, retaliation, or harassment.

ARTICLE VI. STUDENT ORGANIZATION ADVISOR

Faculty advisors are the official faculty representatives of the CRC FLORIDA and stand in an advisory capacity only have vote in situations necessary. Additionally, the CRC FLORIDA shall have a faculty advisor in the Office of Student Activities. This person is pre-appointed and requires no vote by the executive board. The faculty advisor will serve a term of one (1) academic year. In the event that the faculty advisor is unable to continue in their position, officers may nominate a replacement at any time, to be confirmed by a majority vote of the members.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

Section 1: Consumer Project's management consists of a board of officers. Any member of Consumer Project in good standing can become an officer of Consumer Project through a selection process determined by the discretion of the current board. New officers will assume office during the last month of the academic year.

Section 2: Officers and Duties. Example officers and corresponding duties are listed below. Fulfilling these or additional board positions is at the discretion of the current board.

A. President

- a. Sets Agenda of events for the semester. Specifically, sets out the minimum number of programs that should be executed per semester, a target goal for member recruitment, and legal service hours goals for members.
- b. Supports other members of the E-Board in executing e Agenda.
- c. Presides over meetings
- d. Maintains and Develops relationships with other campus organization leaders.

B. Programming Chair

- a. Develops at least two on campus events per semester that increased awareness and interest in Consumer rights.
 - b. Develops at least one off-campus event that educates the Gainesville community about consumer rights and legal services available to serve those needs.
- B. Legal Research Chair
- a. Develops and leads legal and policy research projects.
- C. Social Chair
- a. Manages Annual Career Fair.
 - b. Develops Networking events for members.
 - c. Provides member with information on Consumer Rights related career opportunities.
- D. Treasurer
- a. Maintains all financial records.
 - b. Oversees all payments to and from the group.
- E. Secretary
- a. Keeps minutes of all meetings, which are open to all group members and are to be retained for a minimum of three years.
 - b. Establishes and maintains roster of the organization.
- F. Membership Development Chair
- a. Hosts training sessions for new members.
 - b. Develops and maintains training guides and materials for Consumer Project.
 - c. Plans and oversees lunch events for Consumer Project at University of Florida Law School.
- G. Community Outreach Chair
- a. Plans and oversees workshops for low-income consumers in Gainesville area and educate them on consumer issues.
 - b. Plans direct services projects for low-income consumers in Gainesville area.
 - c. Oversees the direct service projects.

ARTICLE VIII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. - Time.

The election of officers shall be held during the spring semester by a majority 50% + 1 of the eligible voting memberships. Elections must be held on or before March 25th.

Section 2. - Eligibility for Office.

Candidates for the office of President, Vice-President and Treasurer must have:

- i. Attended the University of Florida for at least three (3) semesters
- ii. Served as an active member of the Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter for two (2) consecutive semesters excluding summers immediately prior to gaining eligibility for candidacy.
- iii. Served on the Executive Board of the Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter previously for one year.
- iv. At least a 2.75 GPA to be eligible to vote.

Section 3. - Eligibility to Vote.

Membership profiles must be submitted to the secretary by the last meeting of the fall semester. In order to vote, Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter members must be an active member as defined by ARTICLE VI.

Voting is only allowed upon the presentation of University of Florida identification card or other valid proof of identification.

In the event that any elected official positions are not filled, there shall be interviews conducted by the elected officers, CRC FLORIDA and CSAFL advisors. In the result of a tie of the current elected officials, the CRC FLORIDA advisor will serve as the tie breaker.

Section 4. - Nominations

All candidates for Consumer Rights Club - Florida Naca Chapter office must complete a nomination form to be distributed by the President.

A. Election Procedure

Speeches shall be given the same meeting as Election Day. Candidates running for the presidency will be allowed (10) minutes, vice presidency will be allowed (8) minutes. All other candidates will be allowed (5) minutes. Parliamentary procedure shall be adhered to.

B. Voting shall be by means of a secret ballot. In the event that no candidate receives a majority vote, there shall be a run-off election between the top two candidates receiving the most votes.

C. Ballots shall be counted by the current elected officers and at least one advisor from the CSAI.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCE

CRC FLORIDA will not require membership dues; however, it will raise funds through carwashes and similar activities, for t-shirts, travel to leadership conferences, and the purchase of books on leadership. Members are expected to participate in these fundraising activities. CRC FLORIDA will also apply for Student Government funding.

ARTICLE X. DISSOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION

In the event this organization dissolves, all monies left in the treasury, after outstanding debts and claims have been paid, shall be donated to a charitable organization.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Amendments to this constitution/charter may be proposed by any member, must be received in writing one day prior to the scheduled meeting and must obtain two-thirds (2/3) majority by a vote of the general body. Any changes will take place prior to the next meeting.

ARTICLE XII. SEVERABILITY

Any article or section thereof found to be invalid, does not render the entire Constitution invalid.