

# World Freerunning Parkour Federation

## College Affilate Team Constitution

### Article I – Title and Purpose

#### Section A: Name

The official name of this Registered Student Organization (RSO) is “\_\_\_\_\_” hereafter referred to as “XYZ University Parkour”.

#### Section B: Mission Statement

XYZ University Parkour strives to promote the physical and mental development of its members through the discipline of Parkour. Our mission is to provide a space within the XYZ University community where interested parties can gather on a regular basis to safely and responsibly further their training in the techniques of Parkour, as well as deepen their understanding it’s philosophy.

### Article II – Background, Philosophy and Code of Conduct

#### Section A: Historical Background

Parkour originates from the French word *parcours*, meaning “the way through” and began in the 1980s in the Parisian suburb of Lisses. David Belle, the discipline’s most credited founder, was strongly influenced by the teachings of his father, Raymond Belle, a soldier in the French Special Forces who trained with his comrades in the *methode naturelle* developed by physical theorist George Hébert. The “natural method” consists of physical conditioning patterned after the skills utilized by prehistoric humans and indigenous peoples for survival. Since its founding, modern parkour has developed into an international movement and is practiced widely in cities around the world.

#### Section B: Philosophy of Parkour

*“At the physical end, Parkour is getting over all the obstacles in your path as you would in an emergency situation. You want to move in such a way, with any movement, that will help you gain the most ground on someone/something as if escaping from or chasing toward them.”* – David Belle, July 12, 2005

Additionally, the mental philosophy of parkour is to apply training in the physical environment to all other situations encountered from day to day. A traceur (aka “Freerunner”) knows that any obstacle or challenge faced in life can be overcome if approached with dedication, flexibility, commitment and confidence.

A third tenet of parkour is to train oneself in order to be maximally useful to others. A traceur always seeks to help others in need whenever possible.

Finally, the discipline of parkour emphasizes progression over competition. There is no competition *between* traceurs because the only true opponent is oneself. When taking up the pursuit of parkour, a traceur begins a personal path of self-improvement that can last a lifetime.

### Section C: Code of Conduct

All members of XYZ University Parkour are expected to demonstrate through their actions an understanding of the philosophy of Parkour as given above, to approach training with a positive attitude and open mind, to respect all other members, to follow all safety protocol and precautions as outlined in the WFPF curriculum and elsewhere, to know their physical limits and act accordingly, to pursue their personal progression while also helping others with theirs, and to refrain from trespassing on or causing damage to private property. This organization shall comply with all XYZ University regulations, and local, state and federal laws. All members, past, present, or future, must NEVER practice on a campus rooftop unless given explicit permission from campus police, building managers, and any other necessary authority.

## **Article III – Membership Definition and Rights**

### Section A: Eligibility and Voting

General membership is open to all students, alumni, faculty and staff of XYZ University and to the general public. Voting member status is open to all undergraduate students at XYZ University. In accordance with the SGA by-laws, at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority, and no less than ten (10) active voting members must be full-time undergraduate students. Training sessions are open to anyone of all skill levels; membership is not mandatory for participation in training. Interested parties may become members by signing up at any of the sessions or meetings.

### Section B: Statement of Non-Discrimination

XYZ University Parkour does not discriminate on the basis of sex, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identification, age or disability, and will not tolerate any instances of such discrimination.

### Section C: Statement of Free Speech and Expression

Except where it would violate the Code of Conduct or Statement of Non-Discrimination, all members are assured of their right to free speech and expression.

### Section D: Non-Hazing

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.

#### Section E: Revocation of Membership

Members who violate the Code of Conduct or endanger themselves and others through unsafe behavior will receive a warning from present officers. Repeat offenders may be banned from training sessions and their membership revoked with a consensus between the Primary and Secondary Facilitators. Any member who presents a negative representation of the disciplines of parkour or freerunning or of XYZ University Parkour, the executive officers retain the right to revoke his/her membership in said organization. Revocation of membership may be appealed, and overturned with a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting body.

### **Article IV – Officer Duties, Elections and Impeachment**

#### Section A: Officer Duties

1. President: Supervises training sessions and facilitates meetings, maintains contact with the Campus Activities Office, settles disputes, and acts as spokesperson and representative in relations with the university and general public. The President holds Signature Responsibility.
2. Vice President: Assists the President in the execution of duties and acts as substitute in the absence of the President. Takes over duties entirely in the event of the resignation or recall of the President.
3. Treasurer: Manages all financial and clerical tasks, including record keeping, seeking appropriate funding, budgeting, and bringing plans to the membership for the spending of acquired funds. The Treasurer holds Signature Responsibility.
4. Equipment Manager: Collaborates with the Treasurer in establishing and maintaining an inventory of training equipment for the organization's use. Acts as liaison between the organization and the university fitness centers and storage facilities.

#### Section B: Elections

Officer elections are to be held at the end of spring semester, for offices beginning the following fall semester, but may also occur during the year in the event of the resignation or recall of an officer. Any active voting member may nominate him or herself or be nominated by another active voting member. Voting will be by secret ballot, and the candidate receiving the largest percentage of the vote for the position for which they were running shall be elected.

#### Section C: Impeachment

Officers who do not fulfill their duties or who break the Code of Conduct may be removed from office at any organizational meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. If the President is recalled, the office shall be filled by the Vice-President. If any other officer is recalled, then a replacement for the position shall be elected at the next meeting.

## **Article V: Sessions and Meetings**

### Section A: Training Sessions

Training sessions will be scheduled regularly throughout the semester, generally two to three times week. Whether training takes place indoors or outdoors will be dependent upon the curriculum and weather. Any changes to training times and/or locations will be made known to the membership verbally and via announcements on the mailing list and website.

### Section B: Organizational Meetings

Organizational meetings will be scheduled on an as-needed basis, to be announced to the membership two weeks in advance verbally at training sessions and via announcements on the mailing list and website. Meetings will proceed informally, with the President or their designee as meeting chair. The President or designee shall have the power to direct the meeting to appropriate topics of discussion, and the President or designee shall oversee all votes taken and decisions made.

### Section C: Quorum for Meetings

For official business to be conducted at a meeting, the number of voting eligible members present must be greater than or equal to 50% of the eligible members, plus one.

### Section D: Record-Keeping

The Treasurer shall keep all financial records and any minutes taken at organizational meetings. All organizational and financial dealings of our organization are transparent to the membership and available to any member that requests access to them.

### Section E: Resolving Disputes

Should a dispute arise between members, the President or designee will act as mediator and attempt to reach a solution between the parties. If there is substantial disagreement with a decision made by the President, such a decision may be vetoed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority at a meeting provided that a quorum is present.

## **Article VI: Release of Liability**

Members of XYZ University Parkour are aware that participation involves risks of injury and understand the importance of following instructions regarding techniques, training

and other rules for reasons of safety. Members assume all associated risks and agree to hold harmless XYZ University, its employees or agents, as well as World Freerunning Parkour Federation, its employees and agents, from any and all liability, causes of action, debts, claims or demands of any nature whatsoever which may arise in connection with their participation.

#### **Article VII: Amendments**

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed at a regularly scheduled meeting and voted upon during the next scheduled meeting. The adoption of any amendments will be made upon the concurrence of a 50%+1 majority of the voting body submitted to the Secretary of the Registry.