Constitution of the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC**, to fully realize our purpose, do hereby adopt and establish this constitution as the guiding instrument of our organization.

ARTICLE I

Purpose

The purpose of the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC** shall be: To help students, faculty, staff, and alumni attain their private pilots certificate and pass the FAA written examination, in a structured and safe learning environment, in accordance to federal, state, and local laws and within the rules and regulations of The University of South Carolina. Members and active participants shall not hold the Gamecock flight club, The University of South Carolina, or any other College member, faculty, staff, student, or college with in the university responsible for damages or losses due to club activities. All memberships herein are entered upon the free will of the participant, and therefore shall not hold any other parties liable for damages, injuries, personal losses, and or death.

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. Membership in the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC** shall be limited to persons officially connected with the University of South Carolina - Columbia as faculty, staff, or students. Students enrolled in the spring semester under the above conditions who have pre-registered for the fall semester, as well as students enrolled in summer classes, are eligible for summer membership.

Section 1A. Student/Faculty Membership: Student Membership in **Gamecock Flight Club at USC** shall be limited to persons officially connected with the University of South Carolina - Columbia as faculty, staff, or enrolled students. Students enrolled in the next upcoming semester with a verified schedule may join on a probationary term in the previous semester upon payment of membership dues and verification of future student enrollment. (i.e.: an incoming transfer for fall semester may join club activities in the previous spring and summer semesters, upon verification of enrollment in the next major semester.) Student members in good standing (i.e. not on a probationary standing) may nominate, be nominated, and vote for the executive committee. Each student member in good standing may cast one (1) vote for each position open on the executive committee and may cast one (1) vote where applicable according to this constitution during the course of normal activities in regards to the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC**.

Section 1B. Associate Membership: Any person or persons may join the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC** as an associate member as long as they meet the following criteria: Must be nominated and sponsored by an active student member in good standing with the **Gamecock Flight Club at USC**. Nominee must be of good moral standards and of good moral character. Probationary membership may be granted once the nominee is approved by a majority vote from the executive committee and payment of membership dues is complete. Associate member may enjoy the same privileges as student/faculty members.
Associate members are prohibited from nominating, being nominated, and casting any votes of any kind in regards to the Gamecock Flight Club at USC.

Section 1C. Probationary memberships: Any Student or Associate member of the Gamecock Flight Club at USC on a probationary membership may remove probationary status by way of either: A majority vote from the executive committee at any time, or being an active member in good standing for at least a 6 month period. A Student member on a probationary membership will become a full member in good standing upon the first day of classes at USC in their first full time semester. Any member on a probationary status is prohibited from nominating, being nominated, and casting any votes for positions on the executive committee.

Section 1D. Probation and dismissal: Any member may be put on a probationary status for any reason deemed necessary by a majority vote from the executive committee. Any member may be removed, dismissed, and banned membership at any time, for any reason by a 2/3rds majority vote by the executive committee and with approval by the acting faculty advisor at the time of the vote. In the event of any member being dismissed, all fees and dues paid to the Gamecock Flight Club at USC are forfeited and remain property of the Gamecock Flight Club at USC. Any member dismissed must return any and all property belonging to the Gamecock Flight Club at USC immediately upon notification of dismissal.

Section 2. The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or veteran status.

Section 3. Active membership in Gamecock Flight Club at USC shall be conferred upon those members who, in addition to the above requirements, have paid the semesters dues and fees with-in the first month of each semester, or at the time of acceptance into the Gamecock Flight Club at USC if the first month of the respective semester has already past.

ARTICLE III
Organization

Section 1. The officers of the organization shall be elected from the active members. Any student seeking to hold or holding office must maintain the cumulative GPR requirement for graduation and remain in good standing in their respective college.

Section 2. The elected officers of Gamecock Flight Club at USC shall consist of a President, Vice President, secretary, and Treasurer, which shall serve as the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Elections:
A. All officers shall be elected on or before September 30th of each year, and shall serve one-year terms.
B. All officers shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast. Only active members are eligible to vote. If no candidate for an office receives a majority of the votes cast, then only the top two candidates will be placed on a second ballot for that office until a majority is reached.
C. A quorum of one-half of the active membership shall be reached for all meetings where officer nominations or elections take place.
D. All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. Any two officers shall tabulate the ballots.
Section 4. Officer’s Duties

A. The President shall preside at all Gamecock Flight Club at USC meetings, and have the authority to appoint all committee chairpersons, to create new committees, to nominate a faculty advisor to be approved by the active members, and to act as a spokesperson for the organization.

B. The Vice President shall preside at all Gamecock Flight Club at USC meetings in the President’s absence, and upon his resignation, shall become the president of the organization for the duration of his term. The Vice President will support the President in all Special Projects.

C. The Secretary shall handle and keep a record of all Gamecock Flight Club at USC business and correspondence, including, but not restricted to: recording minutes at all NSO meetings; keeping an up-to-date file on all members; informing members of all Gamecock Flight Club at USC meetings and activities.

D. The Treasurer shall handle all financial transactions of the organization, including, but not restricted to: the collection of dues; managing all bank accounts; and recording all transactions in the appropriate books.

Section 5. The Faculty/Staff Advisor to Gamecock Flight Club at USC shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by a majority vote of a quorum of active members. The Faculty/Staff Advisor must be selected from full-time faculty or administrative staff members at the University. The Advisor shall serve as a liaison with the University, and help in the transition period between officers. The Advisor will be invited to and notified of all Gamecock Flight Club at USC meetings and activities.

ARTICLE IV

Dues and Finance

Section 1. The Executive Committee will establish the dues for the Gamecock Flight Club at USC at the first meeting of the fall semester. The Treasurer must receive payment of dues within one month of the first day of class of each semester to be an active member of Gamecock Flight Club at USC.

Section 2. Gamecock Flight Club at USC will finance its activities through membership dues, fundraising projects, from corporate sponsors, and may apply for funds from the Senate Finance Committee after Gamecock Flight Club at USC has been registered for one year and are eligible.

ARTICLE V

Meetings

Section 1. The first meeting of the fall semester shall be held within three weeks after classes start.

Section 2. Regular meetings shall be held at least once a month during the school year at a time set by the organization.

Section 3. The meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the revised edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

Section 4. The basic agenda at regular meetings shall be as follows:
   A. Call to order
Section 5. Action on any business, old or new, requires a quorum of one-half of the active student membership in good standing of the organization or a majority vote from the executive committee in the event that one-half of the student membership in good standing is not present.

ARTICLE VI
Removal from Office

Section 1. A Gamecock Flight Club at USC officer whose dereliction of duty adversely affects the operations of the organization shall be subject to disciplinary action or removal from office.

Section 2. A written request stating the reasons for dismissal and signed by at least three (3) active student members in good standing of the organization must be submitted at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 3. Before the next regularly scheduled meeting, written notification of the request and the reasons for dismissal must have been given to the offending officer, who should come to that regular meeting prepared to speak.

Section 4. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of all active members is required to remove the officer from office.

ARTICLE VII
Constitutional Amendments

Section 1. The Constitution is binding to all members of the Gamecock Flight Club at USC but is not binding unto itself.

Section 2. Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed in writing by any active student member in good standing of the Gamecock Flight Club at USC at any regular meeting at which one-half (1/2) of the active student members in good standing are present.

Section 3. Proposed amendments shall be voted upon only after two regular meetings following the introduction of the proposal.

Section 4. Proposed amendments will become effective following a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of the active student members in good standing.

ARTICLE VIII
Ratification

The undersigned student(s) of the University of South Carolina, after a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of active members, do hereby agree to follow the guidelines of this Constitution.
Signed: ____________________________________________ Date: ______________

(Constitution may be ratified by member’s signatures or officers’ signatures and attached petition sheet. All ratifications must be dated).