



Constitution

Recognizing Student Excellence in Robotics

Introduction

This version of the International Robotics Honor Society Constitution has been approved for all chapters on **January 15, 2018** by the REC Foundation International Robotics Honor Society Committee.

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|--|
| ARTICLE I: Name and Purpose | ARTICLE X: Discipline and Dismissal |
| ARTICLE II: The International Council | ARTICLE XI: Chapter Officers |
| ARTICLE III: State Organizations | ARTICLE XII: Executive Committee |
| ARTICLE IV: Local Chapters | ARTICLE XIII: Meetings |
| ARTICLE V: The Principal | ARTICLE XIV: Activities IRHS Constitution, Version |
| ARTICLE VI: The Chapter Adviser | ARTICLE XV: Official Insignia |
| ARTICLE VII: Faculty Council | ARTICLE XVI: Chapter Bylaws |
| ARTICLE VIII: Membership | ARTICLE XVII: Amendments |
| ARTICLE IX: Selection of Members | |

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1.

The name of this organization shall be the International Robotics Honor Society (IRHS).

Section 2.

The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for STEM scholarship through robotics, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools.

Section 3.

IRHS is a program of the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation 1519 Interstate 30 West Greenville, TX 75402, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit association.

ARTICLE II: THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

Section 1.

The control of this organization shall be vested by the REC Foundation IRHS Committee.

Section 2.

There shall be an International Council to advise the REC Foundation International Robotics Honor Society Committee regarding IRHS and its policies and procedures.

Section 3.

The International Council shall consist of between three and five members appointed by the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation, one representative chosen from each of the RECF administrative regions, two at-large school administrators (from any region). The program director from the REC Foundation of shall be an ex-officio member of the International Council.

Section 4.

Members shall be appointed for a term of no more than three years.

Section 5.

A simple majority of members shall constitute a quorum of the International Council.

ARTICLE III: STATE ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1.

Local chapters may choose to organize state associations.

Section 2.

Any state association of International Robotics Honor Society chapters shall conform to this Constitution and shall work with REC Foundation in furthering the purposes of this organization.

Section 3.

All state associations shall be affiliated with the International Robotics Honor Society.

Section 4.

The state affiliate shall not serve as an appeal board for local chapter non-selection or dismissal cases.

Section 5.

Bylaws of the state associations must be approved by the REC Foundation and must be consistent with the IRHS Constitution.

ARTICLE IV: LOCAL CHAPTERS

Section 1.

Any secondary public school is eligible to apply for a charter for a local chapter. Nonpublic secondary schools that are accredited or approved by state departments of education or by accrediting agencies approved by NASSP are eligible to apply for a charter for a local chapter. Each school shall have its own chapter.

Section 2.

Each school with a chapter shall pay an annual affiliation fee approved by the REC Foundation International Robotics Honor Society Committee.

Section 3.

The annual individual member dues paid to a chapter if any, shall not exceed twenty dollars inclusively. The exact amount shall be determined by the executive committee of the chapter and shall be subject to the approval of the chapter membership.

Section 4.

Duly chartered local chapters shall conform to this Constitution as set forth by the REC Foundation International Robotics Honor Society Committee. Failure to do so may result in the loss of the charter.

ARTICLE V: THE PRINCIPAL

Section 1.

The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter.

Section 2.

The principal shall annually appoint a member of the faculty as chapter adviser, who may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3.

The principal shall annually appoint a Faculty Council composed of three members of the school's faculty who may serve consecutive terms and may include school administration.

Section 4.

The principal shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

ARTICLE VI: THE CHAPTER ADVISER

Section 1.

The chapter adviser shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision of the chapter and act as liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community.

Section 2.

The chapter adviser shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions. The chapter adviser shall send the annual report to the REC Foundation.

Section 3.

The chapter adviser shall regularly review each member for compliance with IRHS standards and obligations.

Section 4.

The chapter adviser shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties.

Section 5.

The chapter adviser shall be a member of the Faculty Council.

Section 6.

The chapter adviser shall be a member of the faculty, appointed annually by the principal, and may serve consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VII: FACULTY COUNCIL

Section 1.

The Faculty Council shall consist of three voting faculty members appointed annually by the principal. The chapter adviser shall be a member of the Faculty Council. The principal or assistant principal may be included on the Faculty Council.

Section 2.

The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms.

Section 3.

The Faculty Council shall meet at least once a year to review the procedures of the chapter, select members, and to consider non-selection, dismissal, other disciplinary actions, and warning cases.

Section 4.

The Faculty Council will develop and revise, when necessary, all chapter procedures for selection, discipline, and dismissal of members, all of which must remain in compliance with this Constitution and IRHS policies.

ARTICLE VIII: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.

Membership in local chapters is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council and is based on outstanding STEM scholarship, Robotics participation, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2.

Membership shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. Active members shall become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 3.

The Faculty Council shall reserve the right to award honorary membership to school officials, principals, teachers, IRHS advisers, adults, students with disabilities, or foreign exchange students in recognition of achievement and/or outstanding service rendered to the school in keeping with the purposes of the International Robotics Honor Society. Honorary members shall have no voice or vote in chapter affairs.

Section 4.

Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 5.

An IRHS member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the principal or chapter adviser to the new school adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. Transfer members must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership.

Section 6.

Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership or its benefits.

ARTICLE IX: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1.

To be eligible for membership the candidate must be a member of those classes (sophomore, junior, senior) designated as eligible in the chapter bylaws. (Freshmen [ninth graders] are not eligible.) Candidates must have attended the school the equivalent of one semester.

Section 2.

The national minimum standard for scholarship shall be a cumulative scholastic average of at least 85 percent, B+, or 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) or the equivalent standard of excellence. Candidates shall then be evaluated on the basis of STEM Education, Robotics participation, service, leadership, and character.

Section 3.

The selection of each member to the chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council. Prior to notification of any candidates, the chapter adviser shall review with the principal the results of the Faculty Council's deliberations.

Section 4.

A description of the selection procedure shall be published in an official school publication that is widely available in a timely fashion to all students and parents of the school. The selection procedure shall be determined by the Faculty Council and shall be consistent with the rules and regulations of IRHS.

Section 5.

The Robotics Education & Competition Foundation shall not review the judgment of the Faculty Council regarding selection of individual members to local chapters.

ARTICLE X: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1.

The Faculty Council, in compliance with the rules and regulations of the International Robotics Honor Society, shall determine the procedure for dismissal. A written description of the dismissal procedure shall be available to interested parties.

Section 2.

Members who fall below the standards that were the basis for their selection shall be promptly warned in writing by the chapter adviser and given a reasonable amount of time to correct the deficiency, except that in the case of flagrant violation of school rules or the law, a member does not have to be warned.

Section 3.

The Faculty Council shall determine when an individual has exceeded a reasonable number of warnings.

Section 4.

In all cases of pending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the Faculty Council. Note: This hearing is required and is considered "due process" for all members.

Section 5.

For purposes of dismissal, a majority vote of the Faculty Council is required.

Section 6.

A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council to the principal and thereafter under the same rules for disciplinary appeals in the school district.

Section 7.

The REC Foundation shall hear no appeals in dismissal cases.

Note: Refer to Article VIII, Section 6 regarding the permanent consequences for members when dismissed.

ARTICLE XI: CHAPTER OFFICERS

Section 1.

The officers of the chapter, their duties, and the method of their election shall be determined by the members of the chapter, approved by the Faculty Council and the principal, and described in the chapter bylaws.

Section 2.

New officers shall be installed at a special ceremony. This can be the same ceremony as the student induction ceremony.

ARTICLE XII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1.

The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the chapter and the chapter adviser.

Section 2.

The executive committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the chapter between its business meetings, make recommendations to the chapter, and determine and perform such other duties as are specified in the chapter bylaws. All actions and recommendations of the executive committee shall be subject to the review of the chapter membership.

Section 3.

The executive committee shall have the responsibility for ensuring that chapter activities and procedures follow school policy and regulations.

ARTICLE XIII: MEETINGS

Section 1.

Each chapter shall have regular meetings during the school year on days designated by the executive committee and in accordance with school policy and regulations.

Section 2.

The regularity of the meetings (i.e., weekly, monthly, or bimonthly) shall be designated in the chapter bylaws.

Section 3.

The chapter president or other designated student leader may call special meetings approved by the executive committee.

Section 4.

Chapters shall conduct meetings according to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised in all points not expressly provided for in this Constitution or the chapter bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV: ACTIVITIES IRHS Constitution, Version

Section 1.

Each chapter shall determine at least one STEM/Robotics service projects for each year.

Section 2.

All members shall regularly participate in approved chapter projects.

Section 3.

These projects shall have the following characteristics: Fulfill a need within the school or community; have the support of the administration and the faculty; be appropriate and educationally defensible; be well planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4.

Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and participating in an individual service project that reflects his or her particular talents and interests. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute.

Section 5.

Each chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE XV: OFFICIAL INSIGNIA

Section 1.

This organization shall have an official emblem. The emblem shall be uniform and its distribution and rules for its use shall be determined by the REC Foundation.

Section 2.

Each active, graduate, or honorary member in good standing with the chapter shall be entitled to wear this emblem.

Section 3.

Any member who resigns or is dismissed shall return the emblem to the chapter adviser.

Section 4.

All insignia must be procured from the REC Foundation office of the International Robotics Honor Society, 1519 Interstate 30 West Greenville, TX 75402. All insignia are registered with the United States Patent and Trademark Office and may not be copied by anyone without written permission of the IRHS national office. (See also, Logo Usage Guidelines as found at www.roboticseducation.org/IRHS)

Section 5.

The tagline of the International Robotics Honor Society shall be Recognizing Student Excellence in Robotics

Section 6.

The official colors of the International Robotics Honor Society shall be Silver and Blue.

Section 7.

A graduate member may purchase a replacement for a lost emblem by verifying membership to their high school and requesting them to place an order through the provider.

ARTICLE XVI: CHAPTER BYLAWS

Section 1.

Each chapter shall write bylaws to amplify sections of this Constitution and to clarify operating procedures of the chapter. Bylaws do not need the approval of the REC Foundation but must be consistent with this Constitution.

Section 2.

The chapter bylaws shall contain information concerning the election and duties of officers, the schedule of meetings, member obligations, dues, and the like.

ARTICLE XVII: AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by the REC Foundation based on input from the RECF staff and the International Council.

Notes:

1. Article IX, Section 1

Some candidates may be ineligible for induction because of the semester ruling. Many students, including students of military parents, are required to move with parents or guardians that have transferred in their work. The present school principal should seek a recommendation from the previous school principal or chapter adviser pursuant to the candidate's selection. On the basis of the recommendation of the previous principal or chapter adviser, the Faculty Council may waive the semester regulation.

2. Article IX, Section 2

Local chapters may raise the cumulative GPA standard above the national minimum, or increase standards for the remaining selection criteria, apply them fairly and consistently, and include these standards in their locally published selection procedures.

3. Article X, Section 1

To maintain compliance, all local procedures must conform to the full provisions of this article. Faculty Councils can consider disciplinary actions that are less severe than dismissal if circumstances warrant.

4. Article XII, Section 3

This section is generally viewed to include chapter activities except those with regards to the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members which are the sole domain of the chapter's Faculty Council per the provisions of Article VII, Section 4.