

# **The Rube-Goldberg Team Constitution**

## **Article I**

### **Section 1: Club Name**

This Organization shall be known as "The Rube-Goldberg Team".

### **Section 2: Club Purpose**

The purpose of this organization is to build a Rube-Goldberg machine capable of competing in the Rube-Goldberg Machine Design Contest. This organization will undertake all steps necessary to participate in this contest, including: designing, building, securing funding for and transporting the machine.

## **Article II**

### **Section I: Membership**

Application for membership is open to all North Carolina State University students. Every year the membership in the club shall be limited to fifteen members in order to maximize efficiency.

### **Section II: Membership selection**

Members who were in the club from a previous year and contributed in the club and seek membership have implicit acceptance. A new member will be determined by the experience which that member can bring to the club. Acceptance of a member is to be made by a majority vote from the previous year's members. These votes will be made in late September or early October, at a date to be set up by the previous year's members. Anyone wishing to become a member of the club should inform an officer of the club of his/her intentions and be prepared to come to a preliminary meeting.

## **Article III**

### **Section I: Club Officers**

The officers of the club shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The President shall be the organizer of the design and construction process of the machine. This includes design team assignments and individual project goals. The duties of the Vice President are recruitment for the club at the beginning of the year. Also the Vice President is to seek the means of funding for the project that year. The Secretary shall be in charge of organizing meetings and keeping the club in close communication. This includes all informative e-mail, which will be a prime source of communication for

the club. The Secretary shall also be in charge of the actual design paperwork. The Treasurer is in charge of the club's funding. It is the Treasurer's responsibility to insure reimbursement of the club members for any club related expenses. It is also the Treasurer's responsibility to ensure that the expenses are truly club related. In each case, if for some reason one of the duties outlined above cannot be followed by one of the officers, the responsibilities of that officer will be distributed between the officers.

## Section II: Elections

The officers of the club for the following year shall be voted on during April. They will hold this position for a complete year. The voting date for the officers will be announced through e-mail by the Secretary to all club members. A nomination for an officer must be made by a person other than the nominee. The officer is decided by whom accumulates the most votes of the nominees through an open (hand-raising) election. Debates will take place as the club sees fit. If three fourths of the members that come to the election date vote to keep "status quo", the officers shall stay the same from the previous year except to fulfill any position that may be left vacant by an officer leaving the club. Officers of the club may be removed from office by a three fourths vote from the entire club. If this takes place, a vote for a new officer to fill that position will be taken within the week.

## Article IV

### Section I: Dues

There will be no dues to be a member of the club. If no funding can be found to cover the cost of the project that year, one of two courses of action may be taken. The first is to dissolve the club for that year. The second is to get a three fourths majority vote for dues that would cover the cost of operation for the club. If the second alternative is chosen, any member withdrawing from the club that year and not voting for the dues will not be penalized in the upcoming year's membership. That person will be treated as though they were a member for that entire year.

## Article V

### Section I: Amendments

Amendments to the constitution can only be written by active club members. Amendments to the constitution may be made with a three fourths majority of the entire club. The vote on the amendment may be taken by electronic mail or during a meeting in which everyone is present. In either case, an electronic mail will be sent to all club members with the proposed amendment attached. Instruction as to voting will also be included. This e-mail is the responsibility of the Secretary.

## **Article VI**

### **Section I: Fall Meeting Schedule**

In the Fall Semester the schedule would require at least two meetings a month. As long as each member comes to at least one meeting a month and remains in contact with the other club members, no action will be taken against them (see Article VII Section I).

### **Section II: Spring Meeting Schedule**

During the Spring Semester, since most work will be done in separate project groups, entire group meetings will only be held on an "as needed" basis. These meetings will be announced a week in advance through e-mail and determined by the club officers. Individual project groups are expected to devise their own meeting schedule. One representative from each project group must come in contact with an officer and give a progress report every two weeks. A meeting will be scheduled at least once a month where only the officers are required to attend. All other members are encouraged to come. In this meeting the overall progress of the project will be assessed and appropriate action taken. An informative e-mail will be sent to all group members as to the outcome of this meeting.

## **Article VII**

### **Section I: Project Group Assignment**

Groups within the club shall be assigned by the President to solve specific design problems. These groups make their own decisions that go towards achieving the goal. They will work without interference unless all officers decide to veto some design decision.

## **Article VIII**

### **Section I: Member Expulsion**

The expulsion of any member from the club can be achieved through a majority vote within the officers of the club (three of four). There are only two reasons for expulsion. The member may not be contributing to the club enough so that the deadline will not be met. The other reason is that the member makes the club a detrimental environment in which to accomplish goals by being difficult to work around. Whichever reason for expulsion, the officers that voted for expulsion must justify their action to the member.

### **Section II**

For decisions not covered within the constitution, the officers will decide between themselves the best course of action. They may delegate this decision to others. All officers have the power to delegate responsibility as he/she sees fit.