

## ChoMUN/Team Constitution

This Constitution shall be the basis of operations of ChoMUN/Team, and shall be considered binding upon its ratification by two-thirds of present ChoMUN/Team members.

ChoMUN shall refer to all matters of the spring quarter conference while Team shall refer to the Model United Nations Team as described in this document. The order of ChoMUN/Team does not imply a difference in rank or title. The use of ChoMUN first is simply to allow our organization to be distinguished from other MUN groups on campus.

ChoMUN/Team is endowed by the University of Chicago to promote competition and scholarly pursuit. ChoMUN/Team serves as an official representative of the University and should always seek to both embody the high principles and academic excellence of the University and advance the reputation of the University in all its endeavors. These three principles – competition, academics, and promoting the University’s standing in the community – shall constitute the basis of adopting this Constitution and shall remain at the heart of ChoMUN/Team policy in the future.

ChoMUN/Team engages in two activities. The first of these is competition at the best possible Model United Nations Conferences. The second is hosting ChoMUN (Chicago Model United Nations), a Model United Nations Conference for college students from around the country. ChoMUN should endeavor to present innovative committee experience to delegates and to absorb the lessons of the competing team in its operations. For this reason, ChoMUN should be inseparable from the Model United Nations competing team.

### I. Membership

Membership in ChoMUN/Team is open to all University of Chicago students. For purposes of voting, a member shall be defined as an individual who has attended at least one conference, including ChoMUN.

### II. Elected Officers

The following officers of ChoMUN/Team shall be elected annually and should be nominated on the basis of their ability to fulfill the responsibilities enumerated here.

*Team President* – The Team President shall be the chief executive of the competitive Model United Nations team and shall oversee all operations thereof. The Team President shall additionally be the co-chief executive of the CLI registered organization “ChoMUN/Team.” The Team President shall be the officer primarily responsible for securing funding for “ChoMUN/Team” through the Coalition of Academic Teams. The Team President or designees thereof shall be responsible for:

- i. Making travel and hotel arrangements,
- ii. Making committee assignments,

- iii. Recruiting of new members,
- iv. Training members of the new team,
- v. Coordinating with the Secretary-General of ChoMUN to budget for the collective operations of "ChoMUN/Team,"
- vi. Execution of all duties necessary for the operation of the competitive Model United Nations team that are neither assigned to another officer of "ChoMUN/Team" nor reserved for University of Chicago staff.

*Secretary-General of ChoMUN* – The Secretary-General shall be the chief executive of the ChoMUN conference and shall oversee all operations thereof. The Secretary-General shall additionally be the co-chief executive of the CLI registered organization "ChoMUN/Team." The Secretary-General shall appoint Under-Secretaries-General to assist him in this capacity as necessary. The Secretary-General or designees thereof shall be responsible for:

- i. Purchasing and Contracting as necessary for the operations of ChoMUN,
- ii. Marketing and public relations,
- iii. Selecting staff,
- iv. Training staff,
- v. Coordinating with the Team President to budget for the collective operations of "ChoMUN/Team,"
- vi. Execution of all duties necessary for the operation of ChoMUN that are neither assigned to another officer of "ChoMUN/Team" nor reserved for University of Chicago staff.

*Team Vice Presidents* – The Team Vice Presidents, of whom there shall be two, shall assist the Team President in all of their enumerated duties.

### III. Appointed Officers

The elected members of Team Secretariat (i.e. the Team President and the Team Vice Presidents), may choose to appoint an additional member or members to Team Secretariat. All nominations for appointment must occur within the first week of elected officials taking office or the first week of the quarter, and will involve a process to be defined and determined by the elected Team Secretariat. The nominee or nominees for appointment will then be subject to confirmation by the voting body, requiring a two-thirds majority for appointment. Team Secretariat will also present a detailed explanation of the roles the appointee will occupy; these roles are also subject to confirmation. If the appointment is granted by the body, the appointee shall then occupy the specified roles and be subject to the same procedures of impeachment as all other officers of ChoMUN/Team, as outlined in this Constitution.

### IV. Election Procedures

Members are eligible to vote in annual elections if they have attended at least one conference, including ChoMUN, during the academic year. Elections shall take place no later than the sixth week of Spring Quarter or two weeks after the adoption of this Constitution. Fourth-year

members of ChoMUN/Team shall be considered eligible to vote. Officers shall be elected in the following order:

1. Secretary-General of ChoMUN
2. Team President
3. Team Vice Presidents (simultaneously)

The chair of all elections and election discussions shall be the Team President unless they are standing for election, in which case the responsibility passes to the senior Vice President.

Nominations shall be taken by the chair and can be made by any ChoMUN/Team member eligible to vote. A second shall be required for all nominations. No candidate may stand for election without their explicit consent. Under no circumstances can a ChoMUN/Team member nominate or second the nomination of themselves. Proxy nominations shall not be permitted. No member may hold more than one elected office.

When electing all single-winner officers (i.e. the Team President and the Secretary-General of ChoMUN), the instant run-off method shall be used, by which:

- i. Voters will rank all candidates in preferential order from first to last.
- ii. A count of first choice votes will be taken. If any candidate has a majority of all first place votes, s/he is declared the winner. If no candidate has a majority of all first place votes, the candidate with the fewest first place votes has his/her second place votes distributed among the remaining candidates. This process continues until one candidate has a majority of all counted votes, at which point s/he is declared the winner.

When electing all multiple-winner officers (i.e. the Team Vice-Presidents), the Copeland method shall be used, by which:

- i. Voters will rank all candidates in preferential order from first to last.
- ii. Winners will be computed based on pairwise rankings. That is, every matchup between two candidates will be tabulated based on which candidate more voters ranked closer to first. The two winners are the candidates who have the greatest "winning percentage" versus all other candidates.

In the event that any of these elections result in a tie, a runoff vote will be conducted with the remaining voting members at the election meeting while also recounting the votes of all members who are no longer able to cast their ballots in person.

Each candidate standing for election shall deliver a short speech in support of their candidacy before leaving the room. These speeches shall be followed by a period of discussion, during which ChoMUN/Team members shall be recognized by the chair for comments. Sitting officers shall be treated like every ChoMUN/Team member, and shall not be excluded from discussion. Speakers should refrain from *ad hominem* attacks during debate. Should they engage in such behavior, they must be held to account by the chair.

Balloting at the site and time of the election shall take place secretly and in writing. Proxy votes shall be allowed if they are delivered in person, by e-mail, or by telephone to the Team President and, if he/she be standing for election, to the senior Vice President before voting begins. Proxy votes shall count in each successive round of voting so long as a candidate for whom the vote is cast remains under consideration. In the event that a proxy vote is cast for a person not nominated for election, that proxy vote is to be considered null and void.

#### V. Impeachment

An officer may be removed from office for dereliction of duty, deliberate violation of this Constitution, financial improprieties, or other unethical conduct. Charges of misconduct must be brought at a ChoMUN/Team meeting and receive a majority vote to open debate on removal. If charges are brought by majority vote, removal proceedings shall begin one week later or at the next regularly scheduled ChoMUN/Team meeting. The Team President shall act as a chair of these discussion and shall recognize ChoMUN/Team members for comment. If the Team president is under threat of indictment or is under indictment, the Secretary-General of ChoMUN shall act as chair. A two-thirds vote of present ChoMUN/Team members shall be required to remove an officer. Proxy votes shall under no circumstances be permitted in impeachment proceedings.

#### VI. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any time, in accordance with the following procedure:

Amendments must be presented in writing to the Team President one week in advance of voting.

Any amendment must have at least 5% of the ChoMUN/Team voting body, as a percentage of the staff of the previous ChoMUN, as signatories in order to be considered.

Duplicates shall be provided and placed on the ChoMUN/Team desk or in the ChoMUN/Team office for any interested party. The amendment shall be read out in its entirety and discussed for a minimum of fifteen minutes (as long as there are people interested in speaking.) The amendment shall be voted upon and adopted if it receives no fewer than two-thirds of the votes of attending ChoMUN/Team members. Proxy votes shall be allowed in voting on amendments.

#### VII. Vacancies in the Team Vice Presidential Office

In the event that either of the Team Vice Presidents shall be absent for any quarter of their term, for the duration of said Vice President's absence, there shall be an interim Team Vice President. Furthermore, for the week before and the week after the Vice President's absence, they shall work with, train, and debrief the interim Vice President. This interim Team Vice

President shall be elected in following manner: following the election of the two Team Vice Presidents, nominations will be accepted for the interim replacement in accordance with the aforementioned nomination procedures. If more than two candidates are nominated, there shall be a two-round election. The first round shall eliminate all but the two candidates with the most votes. The second round shall decide the election on the basis of a simple majority decision between the two remaining candidates. In the event of a tie, there will be five minutes of discussion and a second ballot will be taken until the election is decided. This balloting procedure shall be repeated until a majority decision is reached. In the event that both Team Vice Presidents are absent, there will be a separate replacement voting procedure for each interim Vice President.