



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNMENT

## **Parkinson's Pals**

### **ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT**

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish the Parkinson's Pals chapter (URPALS) of the University of Rochester and enact this constitution for its governance. Failure to follow this constitution could result in penalties or revocation of Students' Association recognition of this organization.

### **ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT**

Parkinson's Pals strives to create intergenerational connections between students and individuals with Parkinson's Disease. Through conversations, we address the psychosocial disruptions in the form of demoralization, loneliness, and social isolation that often go undiagnosed and untreated throughout their treatment journey.

### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION ONE - MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Eligibility - All Students' Association (SA) members shall be eligible for membership. An SA Member is a University of Rochester undergraduate of the College who has paid their SA activities fee. All members and associate members shall be listed on the organization's CCC site. Membership is automatically renewed yearly unless the member graduates, requests to cancel their membership, or fails to meet membership requirements.
- B. Definition of active member - To maintain an active member of URPALS, a student must attend 75% of General Member meetings per semester. If a student is away for sport, sickness, and/or family emergency, and so wishes to Zoom in from their remote location, this is permissible and will count toward their attendance. Furthermore, students who wish to interact directly with Parkinson's patients *must* complete mandatory training through the Parkinson's Pals organization.
- C. Definition of associate member - All University of Rochester faculty, staff, undergraduate students and Eastman students shall be eligible for associate membership. Graduate students, faculty, and staff are not eligible to perform, compete, nor travel as part of the college student organization.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING**

### **SECTION ONE - QUORUM**

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as between  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the active membership plus one or more officers.

### **SECTION TWO - VOTING**

- A. Voting on any issue shall be official only if the meeting is valid.
- B. All members shall have equal voting power.
- C. Procedure – All decisions shall be arrived at by simple majority using a hand vote unless otherwise specified by the presiding officer. The President shall only vote to break a tie.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

### **SECTION ONE - OFFICER POSITIONS**

- A. President: Experience must entail having served as a general member of the organization, as well as having demonstrated noteworthy commitment to the organization and its cause, unless no one is qualified.
- B. Business Manager (Vice-President): Experience must entail having served as a general member of the organization, as well as having demonstrated noteworthy commitment to the organization and its cause, unless no one is qualified.
- C. Director of Marketing: Experience must entail having served as a general member of the organization, as well as being able to provide a small portfolio of prior marketing experience/social media incentives, etc., unless no one is qualified.

### **SECTION TWO - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- A. All officers shall be members of the Students' Association.
- B. All officers shall promote active recruitment of new members.
- C. All officers shall enforce this constitution.
- D. All officers shall be responsible for knowing the sections of the Students' Association constitution and bylaws that apply to this organization.
- E. The President shall preside over the meetings and shall maintain organization within the club, communicate with other officers and delegate duties to maintain a functioning club that fulfills the purposes set forth above. The President shall be responsible for maintaining a current copy of this constitution open to inspection by all members of this organization, Senators, and all members of the Students' Association. The President shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes.
- F. The Business Manager (Vice-President) shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keep detailed records of all transactions.
- G. The Director of Social Media and Marketing shall be responsible for creating weekly Instagram posts (promoting General Interest Meetings, Member Meetings, cosponsorship events, etc.) and posting monthly eye-catching flyers around campus. Shall be responsible for reaching out to neighboring organizations to create collaborative events, increase joint efforts, etc.

### **SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - Open nomination.
- B. Term of Office - Officers will be elected at the conclusion of each spring semester, and be tasked with holding that position until the following spring election.
- C. Timing of Elections - Elections must be held at least 2 weeks prior to the last day of classes every spring semester.
- D. Nominations for office will be opened 14 days prior to elections. All active members can nominate candidates, including themselves.
- E. Nominees will subsequently be voted on by all active members. Votes shall be cast by secret ballot. Ties may be resolved by a President's vote to either candidate.

#### **SECTION FOUR - VACANCIES, RESIGNATIONS, AND REMOVALS**

- A. At the first valid meeting following a vacancy of an office, the position is to be filled by the same manner described in *Article V, Section Three*.
- B. A vote of no confidence is a vote to remove an officer. Such a vote shall require a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of the entire active membership to pass. Any member of the organization may call for a vote of no confidence.
- C. If a vote of no confidence on any officer is to take place, they must be notified one week in advance.
- D. An office shall be declared vacant as the result of a vote of no confidence.

### **ARTICLE VI - RESOURCES**

#### **SECTION ONE - RESOURCES**

- A. The Parkinson's Pals Chapter (URPALS) of the University of Rochester will abide by their Resource Agreement.

### **ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY**

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by the Parkinson's Pals Organization. Behavior prohibited under this rule includes actions threatening substantial risk of physical or mental injury; actions exposing the individual to distressing, repulsive, or alarming situations or sensations; forced consumption of alcohol or drugs; actions in the form of social pressure which might cause harm to an individual.

### **ARTICLE VIII - NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Parkinson's Pals Organization abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.

*Charlotte Hennessey*

05/08/2025

Signature of Confirmation

Date

Charlotte Hennessey

**President, Parkinson's Pals**



5/14/2025

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Signature of Approval

Date

Jessie Li

**Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee**