Rockets and More

Article I- Name and Purpose

Rockets and More has been established for the purpose of launching unmanned systems into the atmosphere. Specifically, this group will engage in the design, construction, and deployment of model rockets, near-space weather balloons, and other high altitude vehicles. Members will work in teams on projects related to the RAM purpose stated above. RAM's projects will be suggested and chosen by its members. Through participation in this organization, members will be able to learn and apply knowledge beyond the walls of a classroom.

Article II- Scope

This organization is subject to the jurisdiction of the Student Government Association of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, as well as to the President of the University and his/her designee.

Article III- Membership

A UMBC student can become a member of this organization by:

- Attending at least 1 meeting
- Completing a membership form

Membership in this organization is open to any UMBC undergraduate student (without restriction of GPA requirement, try-outs, etc.)

Membership in this organization will not be denied because of race, color, age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, disabled veteran or veteran status, national origin, or religion.

Article IV- Officers and Elections

a. Officers

The officers of Rockets and More shall be the President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary, and PR Officer.

The duties of the President shall include:

- serving as the organization's official representative for communicating with SGA and UMBC staff

The duties of the Vice-president shall include:

- assuming the role of President in the event of the President's absence or incapacity

The duties of the Treasurer shall include:

- managing the organization's funds and ensuring compliance with all financial rules and guidelines
The duties of the Secretary shall include:

- recording and archiving information from meetings and activities

b. Elections

All officers shall be elected to a term of one year starting and ending on May 1st.

Elections will be held between April 15th and April 30th. In addition, in the case that a vacancy occurs in any of the elected positions identified in this Article, an election will be held to fill the position.

At least 14 days notice shall be given to all members before the annual election meeting.

Nominations shall be initiated from the floor and elections done by a ballot where the person receiving the majority of votes wins, but if no one receives a majority a runoff occurs between the two candidates with the most votes.

Officers may be removed throughout the year by a 2/3 vote of the other members present at a meeting.

Before the vote, the individual(s) proposing to remove the officer will explain the specific reasons for the proposed action, which must involve misconduct or failure to fulfill officer responsibilities, and the officer will have the opportunity to respond.

Article V- Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of all members present at the meeting. All amendments must be approved in accordance with Student Government Association policy before becoming legally binding.

Additional Notes

Because of the nature of this organization, it will abide by the below guidelines listed below:

- This organization will only use commercially purchased solid fuel model rocket engines in the rockets it constructs. The organization will never produce engines or modify commercial engines.
- Because of their inherent hazards, rocket engines, lifting gas, and similar equipment will be distributed by officers immediately prior to their use to prevent abuse of such equipment. This equipment will be stored in a suitable location, specifically, not a dorm room or student org locker.
- Because of UMBC’s unique proximity to air traffic, any launches of balloons or rockets projected to reach of a height greater than 150 feet will be conducted from a suitable off campus location.
- Prior to every launch or rocket ignition, two officers must approve the launch. This approval will include the system used, the launch site, the date and time, and safety procedures specific to that launch. At least one officer must be present at every launch.
- On campus launches will be conducted from suitable locations on campus that limit potential hazard to bystanders. Specifically, the group will choose locations outside of the loop.
- At every launch, appropriate safety equipment will be present. This may include fire extinguishers, fire blankets, safety glasses, and other equipment as deemed necessary. The officer present will ensure members understand the use of the safety equipment present.
- The organization will develop more specific safety procedure for each launch that will account for factors such as weather and the specific design of the system.
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