

The Middlebury Paradiddles Constitution

Article I

Name: The name of this organization shall be the Middlebury Paradiddles.

Article II

Purpose: The purpose of the organization is as follows:

1. Arrange, rehearse and perform a cappella music that is markedly different from all other a cappella music being performed on campus. Particular attention shall be given to well know and popular songs that audience members can identify with (ie. the kind of music that may be heard on the radio or that people find "catchy" and can sing along with). Selected styles of music shall include, but not be limited to: pop, rap, heavy metal, Disney and jazz. We shall consistently "push the envelope" in terms of challenging peoples' conception of what types of songs can be sung in the a cappella style.
2. Maintain an organized but non-hierarchical structure. Members of the group shall lead warm ups and rehearsals on a rotational basis so that all members are encouraged to take an active role in musical development. All members must have equal opportunity to arrange singing materials, lead warm ups, direct songs and shape the group's character.
3. Have fun singing in a productive environment that is more relaxed than those of other a cappella groups on campus. Our group's crazy, passionate and fun-loving spirit shall be particularly apparent during performances. Our songs shall be performed in a more active style than is used by other performers of all-female a cappella music on campus. Performance "spice" may include, but shall not be limited to: creative body movements, skits, wild sounds, "scratching," dance, clapping, costumes, yelling, screaming and audience participation.
4. An encouraging and supportive initiation process shall be maintained that is less intense and intimidating than those of other a cappella groups on campus. A student's level of ability or desire to take place in an initiation or welcome process should never affect her decision to audition for or join our group. Our group's official social activities will not put pressure on new members, or any members of the group, to drink or use other substances.

Article III

Membership: Membership shall be open to all female Middlebury College students selected by way of an audition process.

Article IV

Officers: Officers must be Middlebury College students who are official members of the Paradiddles. The officer positions shall be as follows.

1. Manager: Oversee the functioning of the organization and direct public relations. Arrange for appropriate rehearsal and performance times and locations. Hold all Paradiddles members responsible to the stated purpose of the organization.
2. Musical Director: Oversee the musical growth of individual members and the group as a whole. Help to organize musical selections and the content of rehearsals and performances. Make sure Paradiddles members are having fun singing.
3. Publicist: Spread the word within the Middlebury Community and beyond regarding the Paradiddles' performance times and locations through the use of varied media.

4. Treasurer: Act as the formal liaison between the Paradiddles and the SGA Finance Committee.

Article V

Elections: Elections shall be held at the end of each Middlebury College academic semester by way of secret ballot. A full three fourths percentage of Paradiddles members must be present for elections to be valid. In the event of a tie, a re-vote for the position in question shall be held. At this time voters will choose only between the candidates involved in that tie. If extenuating circumstances present themselves, members may elect to hold an additional election at another time during the school year.

Article VI

Meetings: Meetings shall be held twice a week on a continual basis. Frequency of meetings and the addition of sectional rehearsals may be called for by the Manager or Musical Director when needed. The purpose of meetings is to rehearse a cappella music, prepare for musical performances, elect songs to arrange and sing in the a cappella style and to have fun experimenting with original ways of singing and producing percussive sounds through the use of voice. Special meetings/discussion times may be called for by any member of the Paradiddles in order to address issues that fall outside the usual scope of rehearsals.

Article VII

Committees: The Manager of the Paradiddles may appoint temporary committees as/if the need arises.

Article VIII

Faculty Advisor: The membership recommends a member of faculty/staff to advise the organization.

Article IX

Affiliations: The Paradiddles shall not be associated with any affiliates.

Article X

Discrimination Policy: This student organization operates in full accordance with Chapter Four, Section II, A of the Middlebury College Handbook concerning Student Organization Policies of Discrimination, Freedom of Association, Anti-Hazing, Freedom of Inquiry and Expression, Student Publication, Funding, Advertising, and Scheduling. Any and all changes made to the Student Organizations Policies section of the Middlebury College Handbook will immediately become policies adopted by the Middlebury Paradiddles.

Article XI

Ratification:

- A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Article XII

Amendment:

- A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
- B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.