

MIDDLEBURY SWING DANCE CLUB CONSTITUTION

Article One: Name

The name of this organization is Middlebury Swing Dance Club

Article Two: Purpose

The purpose of this organization is as follows:

1. To provide an opportunity for Middlebury students to learn how to dance, specifically 8-count swing dancing (hereafter "Lindy")
2. To provide those students a chance to participate in workshops and dances outside of Middlebury and to augment their knowledge of dancing
3. To sponsor events at Middlebury, including dances and workshops, allowing students both inside and outside of Middlebury Swing Dance the chance to experience dancing, specifically Lindy
4. To aid in fostering other dance groups on campus
 - a. To provide freely all current knowledge of both dance-specific and general knowledge regarding running an organization at Middlebury to any interested parties
 - b. To provide basic financial support, to the best of our ability, to dancers who wish to start dance-related groups on campus

Article Three: Membership

Membership is open to all Middlebury students

Article Four: Officers

1. **Co-Presidents**

At all times, Middlebury Swing Dance will be run by two co-presidents. The distribution of duties between these individuals will be self-determined. One co-president will be chosen among the two as a liaison to the SGA Finance Committee. Decisions or actions of either or both co-presidents may be rescinded, if possible, by a majority of the Inner Circle. Both individuals must be Middlebury College students.
2. **Inner Circle**

The Inner Circle is open to any member of Middlebury Swing Dance. These are simply members who have expressed interest, through some written communication to one or both Co-Presidents, in having a say in the decisions of the organization. All individuals must be Middlebury College students.
3. **Mode of Succession**

If one co-president leaves during the middle of his term of office, elections will be held (as specified below) to replace him. In the interim, the remaining co-president will take on all duties of both offices, including Finance Committee liaison if required.
4. **Communication**

All major changes and decisions of the organization, including changes in the constitution

or any decisions made that affect the budget of the organization, will be communicated to all members of Middlebury Swing Dance. Questions and debates on organization policy, possible activities, teaching methods and teaching organization, and ways to use the budget will be communicated solely to the Inner Circle.

Article Five: Elections

Elections for the Co-Presidents will be held by March 15th. All members of Middlebury Swing Dance will have the opportunity in at least one of the weekly dance sessions, announced at least one week in advance, to cast a vote. If a vote is communicated to a co-president by any member that cannot attend a meeting in which a vote takes place, that vote will count toward the overall total. The two people with the highest number of votes toward them will become the two new presidents.

Article Six: Meetings

There will be at least one formal meeting a week. This meeting will include at least one hour of free dancing (uninstructed) for those that do not request instruction. Instruction will also be provided during these meetings. Instruction may vary based on the resources of the group, but there will always be regular methods for instructing complete beginners.

Article Seven: Committees

The co-presidents may decide to create committees at any time to aid in running Middlebury Swing Dance or to decide on particularly important issues. Each committee will consist solely of members of the Inner Circle.

Article Eight: Faculty Advisor

The membership agrees to maintain an adviser from the Middlebury College faculty or staff, as required.

Article Nine: Affiliations

The Middlebury Swing Dance has no affiliation with any other local, national or international organization.

Article Ten: 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 Swing Dance.

Article Eleven: 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 Twelve: Amendments

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

Committee.

Approved as to form as Ballroom Dancing Club

March 16, 1998

Several years later the name was unofficially changed to Footloose

Edited and approved as to form as Middlebury Lindy Hop

April 25, 2005

Edited and approved as to form as Middlebury Swing Dance Club

November 26, 2007