

The Lyndon Sting

Club Constitution

Last Amended on May 9th, 2024

Article I: Name

“The Lyndon Sting”

Slogan: “Feel the Impulse!”

Article II: Statement of Purpose

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees is licensed to operate The Lyndon Sting, through digital broadcast, from Vail Hill, Lyndonville, Vermont, in the interest of the surrounding and global community, with alternative, non-commercial, educational programming.

The Lyndon Sting is an educational organization designed to provide hands-on experience in most aspects of the radio field today.

The Lyndon Sting is a student organization of Vermont State University- Lyndon (referred to henceforth as VTSU- Lyndon) (formerly Northern Vermont University- Lyndon, formerly Lyndon State College), funded partially and authorized to operate by the Student Government Association (referred to henceforth as SGA) of VTSU- Lyndon, in the interest of the students of VTSU- Lyndon and the surrounding/global communities.

Article III: Emergency Clause

In addition to any other emergency powers enumerated in this constitution, the advisor, Director of Student Life, or Dean of Students shall have the authority to supersede portions of this document in order to continue the proper functioning of the SGA, and in order to provide quality and valuable services for students. These emergency powers can be invoked in case of local, state, national, or global crisis, emergency, or pandemic, in response to a declaration of emergency by government officials and/or at the direction of the College President or their designee.

Article IV: Statement of Membership

The Lyndon Sting does not deny participation to or discriminate against any student of VTSU- Lyndon on the basis of race, creed, religion, sex, color, nationality/national origin, ethnicity, sexual/romantic orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, economic or social class, major, minor, or political affiliation (provided that said political affiliation does not discriminate against any protected class listed above). Participation of diverse interests helps to enhance the quality of service that The Lyndon Sting provides.

To become a full voting member (henceforth referred to as “member”) of The Lyndon Sting, each student must qualify under both provisions #1 and #2:

1. To have attended $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) of all of The Lyndon Sting’s meetings in the current semester.
2. To have active involvement with The Lyndon Sting in the current semester.

The management of The Lyndon Sting reserves the right to remove a student from an on-air position, or, in some cases, more severe action, on the basis that said student has been found to be in violation of written station policy (including policy defined in this constitution). The Lyndon Sting also reserves the right to remove a student from an on-air position if said student has not completed all prerequisites listed below:

1. An extensive training program.
2. A per-semester review.
3. Attendance of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) of The Lyndon Sting’s meetings in a given semester.
Should a student fail to meet this attendance requirement, their broadcasting privileges will be suspended until the next academic semester.

Staff meetings are to be held bi-weekly or as needed, and all members of The Lyndon Sting are required to attend.

Article V: Elections and Duties of Management

A. Election, replacement, and impeachment of members of Management

1. The executive management of The Lyndon Sting includes the General Manager, the Program Director, and the Music Director.
2. Non-executive management of The Lyndon Sting includes the SGA Representative, and any subsidiary directors of the executive management.
3. In April of each year, there will be yearly elections for open management positions by way of nomination and second of the nomination.
4. All positions are open to all members with the exception of the General Manager, the Program Director, and the Music Director.
5. The candidates for the position of the General Manager must have held the position of the Program Director or the Music Director to be eligible.
 - i. In the event that the candidates for the position of the General Manager are not available or eligible, nominations will then be open to members who have held a management position for at least 2 semesters prior to the election.
 - a. In the event that no member of management who has held a management position for at least 2 semesters will accept

the candidacy for the position of General Manager, nominations will then be open to other members of management.

6. The candidates for the position of the Program Director and the Music Director must have held a management position for at least 2 semesters prior to the election to be eligible.
 - i. In the event that the candidates for the positions of the Program Director and the Music Director are not available or eligible, nominations will then be open to other members of management.
 - a. In the event that no other member of management will accept the candidacy for the position of the Program Director or the Music Director, nominations will then be open to other members of the club staff.
7. The persons elected to each of the above positions shall serve a term from the final day of the Spring Semester until June 1st of the next year (**see Article V-Section A- Parts 9 & 10**), graduation from VTSU- Lyndon, resignation, or dismissal.
 - i. In the case that a member of management cannot fulfill the responsibility of that position until the end of their term in office, that member has the option of resignation.
 - ii. In the event of resignation or dismissal of a member of management during the academic year, the empty position shall be filled at the discretion of the executive management.
8. In the event of graduation, resignation, or dismissal of the General Manager in the middle of the academic year, the most-highly positioned remaining member of the executive management shall assume the General Manager position until the next election cycle. The responsibility to make an appointment to the remaining open position is granted to executive management.
 - i. The most-highly positioned remaining member of the executive management shall be determined by the number of semesters as a voting member of The Lyndon Sting.
 - ii. In the event that both the Program Director and the Music Director have the same number of semesters as voting members of The Lyndon Sting, it shall be determined by the number of credit hours completed by that time, if an event shall occur.
 - iii. In the event that both the Program Director and the Music Director have the same number of semesters as voting members of The Lyndon Sting *and* the same number of credit hours completed by that time, it shall be determined by vote of the non-executive management of The Lyndon Sting.

9. The newly elected members of management shall work with the existing members of management for the remainder of the academic year.
 - i. The newly elected members of the executive management shall host the final club meeting of the Spring Semester.
10. Newly-elected management has the option of making suggestions to the existing members of management.
11. The removal from management of any member shall be suggested by any member of management and then be voted on by all members of management, except for the member facing removal. A majority vote is required for removal.
12. The warning and dismissal of any station personnel can be done by the executive management, no less than 5 days after fair written warning. The warning should be constructive, and remedies for the situation should be conveyed.
13. Major station policy violations, included but not limited to: harassment of any personnel (physical, sexual, verbal, etc.), destruction of property, theft, or severely irresponsible actions, are grounds for immediate dismissal, and are open to prosecution by law.
14. A person has the option of appeal to the existing executive management should that member be warned or dismissed. The executive management can vote to overturn their previous decision by a majority vote.
 - i. In the case of a member being dismissed for severe actions, such as a felony, appeals shall not be accepted.
15. All members of management shall have posted office hours of a minimum of one hour per week, and shall also attend a bi-weekly management meeting.
 - i. If, for whatever reason, a member of management is not available during their posted office hours, they should communicate this via e-mail to the club members.
16. The Executive Management has the right to add various station policies as it sees fit through the form of a station manual.
17. Before elections of new management members, the General Manager must review **Article V- Section B** of this constitution with all members present. This is done in order for members to be knowledgeable about the positions they shall be running for.
18. If the club gains and maintains a membership of 15 members or more, currently-archived Management positions (Traffic Director, Business Director, Social Media Director, and News Director) may be considered for reinstatement- that is, these positions may be considered to be filled again.
 - i. Some of the duties/responsibilities of General Manager, Program Director, and Music Director may be divided into these unarchived positions.

- ii. If such positions are considered for reinstatement, club members must vote in favor of such reinstatement by a simple majority.
- 19. The positions of General Manager and Program Director shall fill the roles of President and Vice President of the club, respectively.
 - a. The General Manager shall manage the roles of Secretary and Treasurer, unless archived positions are voted to be reinstated, in which case, these reinstated positions may be voted on by management to fill these two roles appropriately. The Music Director may also be voted in to fill one of these roles.

B. Duties of Elected Officers

1. General Manager

- i. To continue broadcast improvements and design
- ii. To monitor and analyze club success and problems through bi-weekly meetings with management and club members
- iii. To have authority to warn or dismiss any station personnel
- iv. To meet and consult with the Program Director and the SGA Representative on SGA meetings
- v. To set the general tone and direction of the station in any given year
- vi. To ultimately be responsible for The Lyndon Sting
- vii. To distribute and review this constitution with club members at the beginning of each semester
- viii. To be responsible for the club's social media pages
- ix. To be responsible for paying incoming bills
- x. To closely monitor all financial matters
- xi. To be responsible for depositing all income
- xii. To regularly communicate with club members regarding upcoming meetings and/or events

2. Program Director

- i. To develop programming to meet the needs of the broadcast audience served by The Lyndon Sting
- ii. To delegate some or all production duties to other officers or station personnel
- iii. To work with the general manager and any other club head to adapt or change station programming
- iv. To be informed of any inaccuracies in the music log or traffic log
- v. To warn or take action with any station member for on-air conduct, logs being filled out inaccurately, and general misconduct

- vi. To fill shows left vacant (by assigning people to them, finding new DJs, or filling in)
 - a. To update the program schedule in the event of a DJ changing the day(s)/time(s) of their show(s), leaving the club, or being dismissed from the club
- vii. To assume the responsibilities of General Manager, in the event that the General Manager is absent
- viii. To ensure consistency for sign-on, sign-off, station IDs, etc.
- ix. To develop a comprehensive training program with the rest of the members of management that will fully train new members and help the experienced members review
- x. To develop a cohesive daily traffic log
- xi. To make up for underlining, promotions, liners, etc. that were missed
- xii. To update the traffic log setup and define the traffic logs' role in situational operations

3. Music Director

- i. To input information of musical adds to the database
- ii. To keep in contact with record companies and promotional companies on a regular basis about the music that the station receives (e.g., CDs received via mail)
- iii. To listen to the music that the station receives and decide what to do with it (e.g., add it to the station's automated music playlist or not)
- iv. To maintain a music library in content and physical shape
- v. To work with the Program Director in developing a station sound and direction for the broadcasted music

4. SGA Representative

- i. To attend all SGA weekly meetings
- ii. To report to the executive management about the proceedings of the latest SGA meeting at the executive management's bi-weekly meeting
- iii. To vote on all propositions set forth in SGA meetings

5. Advisor

- i. To be picked based on merit in the broadcast media
- ii. Must be nominated
- iii. To be picked by management via a majority vote of the nominees

Article VI: Rules for Amending Constitution

Any amendment to the constitution shall be proposed by any member of the staff. A copy of the proposed amendment must be distributed to all station personnel at least three weekdays before the general staff meeting when it is to be voted on. The amendment will be offered for debate on the floor of the meeting. The amendment can then be ratified by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of members present.

Article VII: Ratification

Ratification of this constitution shall be effective by the process stated above in “Rules for Amending Constitution”. Upon ratification, the new constitution will take effect once passed by the SGA, and shall supersede and nullify all previous constitutions at that point.