



**CONSTITUTION OF INDOOROOPILLY  
STATE HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE  
COUNCIL**

**Jake Morgan**  
SRC General President

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# Constitution of Indooroopilly State High School

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# **Constitution of Indooroopilly State High School**

## **Preamble**

The community of Indooroopilly State High School, consisting of the students, staff and school community builds and maintains its society and structure on the basis of mutual respect, equal grounds as well as adhering to the four ISHS core values – Each Person’s Dignity, Our Community’s Diversity, Open Communication and Quality Learning. In order to enforce these values and equal grounds, the Community establishes and ordains this Constitution, and the Student Representative Council (SRC) that it implements.

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The Student Representative Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land it gathers on, the Turrbal and Jagera People. It pays its respects to the elders past, present and future, for they hold the hopes, dreams, and traditions of Aboriginal Australia.

# **Constitution of Indooroopilly State High School**

## **Chapter I - Legislative Branch**

### **Section 1 - General**

#### **Article I – Legislative Power**

All legislative powers granted in relation to the student population shall be vested in the unicameral Student Representative Council, which shall consist of a body of student representatives, the elected presidents, the General Staff Representative, the Executive Staff Representative and the School.

#### **Article II – Definition of the School**

The School shall be defined as the executive and administrative powers of Indooroopilly State High School, chiefly the Executive Principal and the Deputy Principals.

#### **Article III – Operational Term**

A Student Representative Council runs from the beginning of Term 1 to the end of Term 4. The first meeting of the SRC can be organized by the teacher supervisor or by the SRC presidents.

Upon establishment the SRC has authority until the end of Term 4 unless dissolved by:

- i. The school's principal;
- ii. A majority of the members of the SRC.

The SRC's policies and decisions are independent from any department, and the SRC is at liberty to decide its own future.

### **Section 2 – Membership and Official Capacities**

#### **Article IV – The Executive Staff Representative**

The School may, at its discretion, appoint an Executive Staff Representative, who shall be responsible for the following:

- i. The representation of the School in the SRC;
- ii. The approval of motions once passed through the SRC;
- iii. The informing of the SRC of updates to official policies and procedures.

#### **Article V – The General Staff Representative**

The SRC shall have a General Staff Representative, whose shall be responsible for the following:

- i. Ensuring the SRC is in line with School policy;
- ii. Acting as the link between the SRC and the School Community/Staff;
- iii. Assisting the SRC with its executive duties and providing advice while respecting its autonomy.

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## **Article VI – The Presidency**

The SRC will be led by a General President, and a Junior President, both of which shall be elected by the general student population under the following conditions.

- i. A presidential candidate shall be a member of the SRC for no less than one year prior to the election, unless the number of candidates eligible numbers less or equal to one;
- ii. A presidential candidate shall have the support of at least one-quarter of representatives of the SRC;
- iii. A presidential candidate shall not have committed any of the offences listed under Article XII – *Disqualification of Members*.

The duties of the General President are as follows:

- i. Chairing meetings of the SRC;
- ii. Acting as the spokesperson for the SRC to enable communication with the school community;
- iii. Approving documents after consultation with and approval of the SRC;
- iv. Communicating with the General Captains to ensure consistency and prevent conflict of duties;
- v. Communicating with the Executive Principal;
- vi. Providing leadership within the student body.

The duties of the Junior President are as follows:

- i. Aiding the General President in the execution of the duties of the SRC;
- ii. Acting as the spokesperson for the SRC to enable communication with the junior school;
- iii. The representation and enactment of proportionate actions on behalf of the junior school in the SRC;
- iv. Communicating with the Junior General Captains to ensure consistency and prevent conflict of duties.

In the absence of the General President, the Junior President shall assume their duties. In the absence of both the General President and the Junior President, the General Staff Representative shall assume the duties of the General President. In the absence of all three of the aforementioned, temporary succession shall be as the following:

- i. The Secretary;
- ii. The Communications Officer;
- iii. Another position, in order of date of creation as determined by Article X – *Creation of New Positions*.

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## **Article VII – The Secretary**

The General President shall appoint a Secretary, whose responsibilities shall encompass the following:

- i. The recording of SRC proceedings;
- ii. The distribution of the SRC records to other members;
- iii. The preparation of the SRC agenda;
- iv. The representation of the SRC body on various committees as deemed appropriate by the General President.

The term of the Secretary shall be limited to one year, unless appointed by the General President for additional terms.

## **Article VIII – The Communications Officer**

The General President shall appoint a Communications Officer, whose responsibilities shall encompass the following:

- i. The distribution of the official activities of the SRC to the general school community;
- ii. The organisation of promotional notices for activities and events run by the SRC;
- iii. The representation of the SRC body on various committees as deemed appropriate by the General President.

The term of the Communications Officer shall be limited to one year, unless appointed by the General President for additional terms.

## **Article IX – Assumption of Multiple Capacities**

A member may assume two or more official capacities with the following conditions:

- i. The absence of any members interested in assuming the position;
- ii. The approval of a majority of the SRC.

## **Article X – Creation of New Positions**

New official capacities, with their respective terms and responsibilities may be created at the discretion of the General President. Such positions and duties shall be recorded above the article titled Assumption of Multiple Capacities, without the need to invoke Article XXVI – *Alteration of the Constitution*. In order to abolish a position, a 75% majority of votes of all members of the SRC must be attained.

## **Article XI - Admittance of New Members**

New members of the SRC shall be admitted by the agreement of the General President and the agreement of a majority of the representatives in the SRC.

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## **Article XII - Disqualification from Membership**

A member may be removed from their role, or disqualified from the SRC if any of the following instances arise.

- i. A vote of no confidence, passed by a 75 % majority of all representatives of the SRC;
- ii. The conviction of an indictable offence, as listed in Article XIII – *Indictable Offences*;
- iii. Commitment of fraud against the SRC;

## **Article XIII - Indictable Offences**

An indictable offence shall be defined as the following:

- i. Involvement in violent insurgency;
- ii. Suspension and Expulsion;
- iii. Breaking a law set out by the Queensland Government;
- iv. Breaking a law set out by the Australian Government;
- v. Disregarding a ruling set out by the International Criminal Court.

## **Article XIV – Interregnum of Official Capacities**

If the circumstance that a member of the SRC holding an official capacity is permanently unable to fulfill their duties, resigns of their own free will, or is disqualified from their position should arise, the position shall be declared vacant, and an election shall be held the following session. To accede the position, a candidate must receive a majority of the representatives of the SRC. In the case of the General President, they may choose their successor, provided the nominated candidate fulfills the requirements of a candidate as outlined in Article VI – *The Presidency*. If the situation should arise that an election is not possible at the following session, the succession plan established in Article VI – *The Presidency* shall be applied until such time an election can be held.

# **Constitution of Indooroopilly State High School**

## **Chapter II - Executive Branch**

### **Article XV – Legal Status of the SRC**

The SRC is an autonomous body under the legal jurisdiction of the School and is bound by its legal constraints.

### **Article XVI – Sessions of the SRC**

There shall be a session of the SRC twice at least in every term, so that five weeks shall not intervene between sessions.

### **Article XVII – Executive Powers of the SRC**

The SRC shall perform its functions in a way that benefits the student population, bound by the powers bestowed by the School. The SRC shall engage in, but shall not be limited to the following engagements:

- i. Organizing student run stalls;
- ii. Running fundraisers;
- iii. Organizing events for the student population;
- iv. Providing feedback about school policies.

The SRC may propose suggestions in regard to the following topics, but is not permitted to independently:

- i. Interfere with the management of the school and the curriculum defined by Education Queensland;
- ii. Make operational decisions about the use of teaching or learning resources at the school;
- iii. Make decisions about the individual teaching style used, or to be used, at the school;
- iv. Make decisions that is contrary to law or a written policy of the Queensland Government;
- v. Sue or be sued.

### **Article XVIII – Voting in the SRC**

Questions arising in the SRC shall be determined by a majority of votes with the exception of the General Staff Representative. In the case that the numbers are equal, the General Staff Representative shall have a casting vote.

### **Article XIV – Proposal and Assent of a Motion**

A motion may be proposed to the SRC by any student, staff, or school community member, which shall be taken into consideration by the SRC. The motion shall then be put to a vote, which shall require a majority of representatives to be passed in accordance with Article XVIII – *Voting in the SRC*. With the approval of the General President, the motion shall be taken to the School for assent.



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## **Article XX – Events Concerning Finances**

In the event that an aspect of a passed motion references finances, the withdrawal, collection or distribution of legal tender, the General Staff Representative must conduct the aforementioned processes to verify the movement of funds.

## **Article XXI – Disallowance of a Motion**

The School may disallow any motion passed by the SRC if any of the following circumstances arise:

- i. The motion goes against school policy;
- ii. The motion breaks a law enacted by the Queensland Government;
- iii. The motion breaks a law enacted by the Australian Government.

The School may return the motion to the SRC to be altered.

## **Article XXII – Repeal of a Motion**

If the SRC determines that a passed motion is not to the benefit of the students, or negatively impacts any sector of the school community, the motion may be repealed in one of the following processes:

- i. A majority of the SRC votes in favour of repeal;
- ii. The General President, Junior President and General Staff Representative are in favour of repeal.

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## **Chapter III – Rights of the Student**

### **Article XXIII – Rights of the Student**

All students, disregarding gender, ethnicity, beliefs, socio-economic status, or education have the fundamental rights to:

- i. Equality;
- ii. Equity;
- iii. Freedom of information regarding matters concerning the student population.
- iv. Freedom of religion;
- v. Freedom of thought;
- vi. Freedom of speech and expression;
- vii. Freedom of gender and sexuality;
- viii. Equal and good education;
- ix. Freedom of choice;
- x. Justice;
- xi. Equality before justice;
- xii. Dignity;
- xiii. Freedom from discrimination;
- xiv. Freedom of association;
- xv. Safety;
- xvi. Freedom from arbitrary punishment;
- xvii. Maintenance personal wellbeing;
- xviii. Freedom from arbitrary deprivation of property;
- xix. Representation in the SRC;
- xx. Participation in the cultural life of the community.

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## **Chapter IV – Miscellaneous**

### **Article XXIV – Name of the SRC**

The official name of the council shall be “the ISHS Student Representative Council”, which in shortened form shall be “ISHS SRC” or “SRC”.

### **Article XXV – Symbols**

Until otherwise provided, the SRC will bear the symbols of Indooroopilly State High School.

### **Article XXVI – Alteration of the Constitution**

The Constitution shall not be altered except in the following manner:

The announcement of a proposal to alter the Constitution shall occur not less than three days before the SRC meeting in which the vote shall be held. To pass the motion:

- i. A 75% majority of votes of all members of the SRC must be attained;
- ii. The motion must be approved by both the General President and the Junior President.

If the alteration is not passed, it may return to the SRC for debate. The resolution will be dropped if not passed within three voting sessions.