



Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego Constitution.

ARTICLE I. NAME OF STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The organization shall be called Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego.

ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego (or “Triton Tails” for short), is a social student organization dedicated to fostering an inclusive, welcoming environment for students who are interested in the furry community and all the crossspaces that connect with it—or simply curious about it. We provide opportunities for members to connect, socialize, plan and attend events, and learn about various aspects of the furry fandom in a supportive setting.

Key aims include:

1. **Building Community:** We host informal gatherings, meetups, and other events where members can meet new people, make friends, and share common interests.
2. **Promoting Inclusivity and Diversity:** We welcome students from all backgrounds, whether or not they identify as furry. We are also proud to be a Queer-inclusive safe-space for all members of the LGBTQIA+ community and welcome all individuals regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
3. **Member Development:** By organizing social events, creative workshops, and collaborative projects, members learn valuable interpersonal and organizational skills.

The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports competition, or the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, as specified in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III. NONPROFIT STATEMENT

Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego is a non-profit student organization.

ARTICLE IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone who wishes to participate in our events and online spaces, including all UCSD students (undergraduate and graduate). Non-UC San Diego individuals may join our online spaces and may attend events with some restrictions (outlined per event when necessary).

A member is defined as anyone who has interacted with the community (via Discord, in-person events, or other official platforms) within the past academic quarter. We do not require dues; membership is free. There are no additional “eligibility” restrictions.

Members may be removed or banned from the organization if they engage in serious misconduct or behavior that endangers others or contradicts the values and policies of Triton Tails or those of the University of California, San Diego. If a situation presents an immediate threat (a known incident will happen in less than 24 hours) to the safety or well-being of others, the organization’s officers (or designated moderators) may remove or ban the member without delay. In other situations, the standard removal process consists of a documentation phase where officers collect information on an incident(s), a review phase, discussions/decisions where a simple majority agree, and notification/removal of member(s). More specific details can be found in the Officer Handbook, which is publicly available to members.

ARTICLE V. FREQUENCY OF ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

Triton Tails plans frequent socials and small gatherings to be scheduled at least once or twice per month. If we host larger events (e.g., campus-wide socials or collaborative events), these may occur quarterly or as needed.

- Annual Events Include:
 - Howloween: Occurs once a year during October
 - High Tide: Occurs once a year during Spring
 - Finals Howl: Occurs at end of every quarter, but extra long session for Spring due to graduations and end of year celebration

The Board (officers) typically meets weekly (in-person, if possible) to discuss upcoming events, handle administrative tasks, and address any member concerns. Minutes are taken during officer/board meetings to document decisions, event plans, and important updates. While not required for general socials, officer meeting minutes are stored to keep a record of organizational business.

ARTICLE VI. QUALIFICATIONS FOR HOLDING OFFICE AND METHODS OF SELECTING AND REPLACING OFFICERS

Only registered UC San Diego undergraduate students may hold office in the organization. Only registered UC San Diego undergraduate students may vote in elections for the selection of the organization’s officers. Only registered UC San Diego students may vote during HR decisions (e.g., election and removal of officers.)

Below is an infographic outlining the structure and positions within the board. This infographic is a summary for informational purposes. Position descriptions are available below and detailed in the

Officer Handbook.

The use of “officer” and “board member” is interchangeable; they both refer to a member of the Triton Tails Board.

Officers and Duties

- **President:**

Among the officer team, the President will be designated as the CSI President, whose purpose and responsibilities are exactly as follows:

- Schedule and manage All-Hands Board Meetings and the associated meeting minutes.
- Take attendance at all-hands meetings.
- Conduct votes to amend the constitution, board structure, and acceptance/election/removal of officers. (See Article IX about voting process.)
- Manage the election and removal of CSI Principal Members.
- Own the Triton Tails Discord servers.
- Oversee all Board actions

- **Vice President:**

Second to the President, the Vice President shall be selected by the President and perform the aforementioned duties:

- Fulfill the President’s duties when they are unable to (or absent)
- In the absence of a President due to resignation, the Vice President shall inherit the role of President
- Oversee all Board actions and act as a check on the President (to make sure they are completing all required duties and prevent tyranny)

- **CSI Principal Members:**

Among the officer team, 3–8 Principal Members must be designated to meet UCSD registration requirements. Only these Principal Members have access to official UC San Diego systems (TAP, EMS, etc.).

- **Additional Officers:**

May include Secretary, Treasurer, Event Coordinators, Social Media/Marketing Director, etc. Roles are defined according to organizational needs (with descriptions maintained in the Officer Handbook).

Acceptance of Prospective Officers into Board:

The process for accepting prospective officers into board is as follows:

1. Prospective officers must take an **onboarding test** with questions about Triton Tails knowledge, Principal Member knowledge, board processes, and culture fit. The application is always open, and results are reviewed on a rolling basis.
2. The President or Vice President forwards passing applications to the department leads, who then **select some applicants to be interviewed**. (i.e., Not all applicants may be selected to continue the application process.)
3. The prospective officer is **interviewed** by the President/Vice President and the lead of the department they’re applying for.

- a. They must be deemed fit for officer duties (e.g., active at in-person events, truly motivated, responsible, works well with a team, knows how to communicate and resolve conflict, etc.) by both the HR Lead and the department lead.
 - b. If the interviewer(s) have a **conflict of interest** with the interviewee: they must declare so, and a replacement interviewer must be selected. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest is grounds for removal.
Examples of conflicts of interest: Living in the same apartment, being in the same workplace/program.
Friendships are not inherently a conflict of interest.
 - c. Interviews **must always be conducted**, because 1) the process needs to be fair and documented, 2) you need to know how they work with others in the workplace, and 3) accepting board members always presents security risks.
4. New officers assume their positions at the beginning of the next academic quarter.

Election of Officers into specific positions (e.g., department lead):

- At the first board meeting of the academic **year**: Officers are elected into **specific positions**, based on a majority vote from all officers (as time permits).
 - The only exceptions are as follows:
 - The next President and Vice President will be appointed and trained by the former before they graduate/retire (person will be picked off of expressed interest in role and interviews for qualifications/experience)
 - Those qualifications are as follows:
 - Has to have served on board for at least 2 quarters prior
 - Is a currently enrolled undergraduate student at the University of California, San Diego
 - Has good written/oral communication skills
 - Preferably has leadership or management experience
 - Preferably media-trained or has experience with public speaking
- At the first board meeting of each academic **quarter**: Officers are elected into **remaining** open positions, based on a majority vote from all officers (as time permits).
- See Article IX about Voting Process.

Term of Office:

Each officer's standard term is one academic year, with a suggested maximum of two consecutive terms in the same or higher role. Officers are automatically re-elected into the next academic year.

Removal from Office:

Officers may be removed by a majority vote (see Article IX about voting process) for consistent failure to fulfill duties, misuse of authority, and severe violations of organizational policy under UCSD's code of conduct OR as deemed so by a majority from the rest of the board members. The removal procedure includes notification, the opportunity for the officer to respond, and a board vote. Further details

(including immediate removal for extreme safety/security threats) can be found in the Officer Handbook.

ARTICLE VII. RISK MANAGEMENT

Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego is a registered student organization at the University of California, San Diego, but not part of the University itself.

Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego understands that the University does not assume legal liability for the actions of the organization.

Nature of Activities:

As a social organization primarily hosting meetups, the inherent risk is minimal. Activities may include general gatherings on campus, gaming sessions, and casual socials. If any planned event poses greater risk (e.g., large gatherings over 100 participants, special off-campus trips), we will follow UC San Diego's guidelines for obtaining appropriate insurance, security, and approvals.

Working with Minors or the Elderly:

Triton Tails does not currently plan activities involving minors or the elderly. If that changes, we will abide by UC San Diego policies, including required training on abuse prevention and mandatory reporting.

Medical Assistance:

Triton Tails does not provide medical assistance. If we co-sponsor events with any medical component, we will adhere to UCSD's requirement that only licensed professionals oversee care.

International Travel:

Triton Tails does not currently engage in international travel. If we plan to do so, we will follow the university's recommended guidelines, including checking U.S. State Department advisories, obtaining travel insurance, and completing relevant campus forms.

Handling Hazardous Chemicals, Material, Equipment, and/or Machinery

Triton Tails does not handle hazardous materials. Should a future event involve such materials, we will comply with UC San Diego's laboratory safety requirements, training protocols, and supervision guidelines.

ARTICLE VIII. HAZING PREVENTION

Triton Tails - Furries at UC San Diego is committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all its members and does not condone hazing. Hazing, in any form, is strictly prohibited within the organization in compliance with state and federal law, Regents' policies and University regulations. Participation in hazing or any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, activity, or method committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or

persons, including current, former, or prospective students, regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that is committed in the course of a preinitiation, an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, an official or unofficial student organization or other student group that i. causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury, including personal degradation or disgrace, and/or ii. the person knew or should have known was likely to cause serious bodily injury. As an organization, we understand that failure to abide by hazing policies and laws will result in referral to the Center for Student Accountability, Growth, and Education (SAGE) for an organizational violation and/or individual violation(s).

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The organization's primary financial support may come from A.S. funding (Programming Funds, Operating Funds), and the sale of merchandise. The Treasurer (or designated officer) maintains records of all transactions and ensures compliance with UC San Diego and A.S. funding guidelines.

Article IX. Meeting Quorum and Voting Process.

Meetings can always be conducted regardless of the meeting requirements listed below.

- However, to conduct **votes** during the meeting **for the following reasons**:
 - Amendments to the constitution
 - Election of officers into specific positions
 - Removal of officers
- ...then two **meeting requirements** must be met:
 - **Quorum Met**: At least 50% of department leads must be in attendance.
 - **Notice Given**: The meeting date, time, location, and minutes must be clearly posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting time. If a change to the meeting date, time, or location (not minutes) is necessary, a new notice must be posted with at least 24 hours advance notice.
- ... If the meeting requirements are **met**, then this meeting is considered "**votable**". Votes are to be conducted as follows:
 - All members of board can vote.
 - Make sure the vote is being recorded and fully visible in the recording.
 - Display the arrangement (what's being voted on) on the meeting minutes and fully visible on-screen. For example: Officer names and associated positions they are being appointed into.
 - "We're voting whether to approve the arrangement as clearly listed on the meeting minutes and visible on-screen. All in favor of this arrangement, raise your hand now."
 - Votes may directly pass with a majority, without anyone having to use extra votes (via SP).
 - Otherwise: If extra votes are used, they must be considered.
 - The majority is considered $\frac{2}{3}$ of the board that is present.
 - If a vote has more than 2 options, the option with at least 50% of votes will be chosen.
 - If 50% cannot be reached, further deliberation and a secondary vote will

be taken at a later time.

- Add the recording/photo of the vote to the meeting minutes.
- ... If the meeting requirements are **not met**, then any votes conducted during the meeting for the aforementioned reasons are invalid.

Article X. Amendments to the Triton Tails Constitution.

Amendments to the Triton Tails Constitution must be presented during an all-hands board meeting and approved by simple majority vote. See Article IX about voting process.

Article XI. Dissolution Clause

Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed to another exempt organization as approved by the IRS. Such an organization will be elected by the President, Vice President, Head of Finance, and any other pertinent or present officers to meet the goals of Triton Tails as best as possible. In the event that no such organization can be found, the assets of this organization shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes. All such distribution or disposal will be done in such a way that it does not violate laws of private inurement.

Article XII. No Private Inurement Clause

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the Purpose Clause hereof.

Appendix: Public Links

(These are not hyperlinked above because it's easier to update them in one place)

Member Resources

- [Linktree \(all social media\)](#)
- [Triton Tails Website](#)
- See discord for: Full event calendar, how to pay for merch, how to join board, and additional forms/resources

Officer Resources

- [Officer Handbook](#)
- [CSI General Knowledge for Principal Members](#)
- See board discord for: Full board calendar, and additional forms/resources

Legally Binding and Official Documents

- [Seniority Point Tracker](#)
- [Triton Tails Terms of Service](#)