Constitution of the Flying Raiders of Middle Tennessee State University
Proposed: December 6, 2010

Article I
The name of this organization shall be the Flying Raiders of MTSU.

Article II
The primary purpose of the Flying Raiders of MTSU shall be to promote interest in general aviation among the students of MTSU. Its secondary purposes include the following:

- to further the causes of aviation in all its branches,
- to instill in the public mind a confidence in aviation,
- to foster relationships between aviation students and professionals,
- to promote and practice the highest level of safety in aviation, and
- to provide an opportunity for aviation students to compete at the National Intercollegiate Flying Association’s (NIFA) airmeets.

Article III
A. Membership shall be limited to currently enrolled MTSU students who are highly interested in aviation, provided they maintain a minimum course load of at least six credit hours per semester and a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.
B. Membership shall not be denied to any person because of age, race, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin.
C. A prospective member must attend at least seventy-five percent of all scheduled general and special meetings held during the period of a semester to be recognized as an active member.
D. Active membership is maintained by continuing to meet all requirements of sections A and C of this article for each succeeding semester once this status is attained. Only active members possess voting rights and are eligible to compete in NIFA airmeets.
E. A member is considered inactive once he or she fails to comply with the requirements of either section A or C of this article. An inactive member must regain active status within one semester of being designated inactive to remain associated with the Flying Raiders.

Article IV
A. No dues will be assessed for membership.
B. If possible, the Flying Raiders will incur all expenses associated with participation in NIFA airmeets. Otherwise, members will be responsible for covering those expenses.
Article V

A. Active members of the Flying Raiders are eligible for consideration as officers once they have maintained active membership status for at least one semester. At least two officers must hold a private pilot certificate or greater and at least three officers must have declared aerospace as their major.

B. The following officers shall govern the Flying Raiders and will comprise the Executive Council:
   • Captain (President)
   • First Officer (Vice-President)
   • Flight Engineer (Secretary)
   • Controller (Treasurer)
   • Dispatcher (Communications Officer)

C. The duties of the officers and Executive Counsel shall be as follows:
   • Captain: The Captain shall be chairperson of the Executive Council and presiding officer at all general and special meetings. The Captain shall appoint all committees.
   • First Officer: The First Officer shall, in the absence of the Captain, perform the duties of the Captain. It shall be the duty of the First Officer to inform any member of a change or impending change in membership status.
   • Flight Engineer: The Flight Engineer shall record the attendance and happenings of all general, special, and Executive Council meetings. He or she shall file a copy of all records with the Dispatcher. It shall also be the duty of the Flight Engineer to announce all meetings to appropriate members and handle all internal communications for the Flying Raiders.
   • Controller: The Controller shall work with the Advisor of the Flying Raiders concerning the organization’s financial matters. The Controller shall report financial information to the Executive Council. The Controller shall organize and supervise all fundraising activities.
   • Dispatcher: The Dispatcher shall act as a historian for the Flying Raiders. The Dispatcher shall maintain the attendance records for all activities of the organization. The Dispatcher shall also be responsible for coordinating the Flying Raiders’ recruiting campaign, public relations efforts, and any non-fundraising project committees that the Captain appoints.
   • Executive Counsel: The Executive Counsel shall coordinate all activities of the Flying Raiders, maintain membership rolls, approve all monetary expenditures, and propose amendments to this constitution.

D. The term of office for each normally elected officer shall be twelve calendar months after the month in which he or she was elected unless he or she resigns or is removed from office
prior to the end of his or her term. Removal from office requires a 2/3 vote of the active members present at a general or special meeting. The term of office for each specially elected officer shall be the remainder of the term associated with the vacancy being filled. Officers may be reelected for the same office for one additional term.

E. Normal election of officers will be by a simple majority vote of active members present and will be conducted at the general meeting held during the month of April every spring semester. Special election of officers will be by a simple majority vote of active members present and will be conducted at a general or special meeting held as necessary to fill any officer vacancies that exist. If the office of Captain becomes vacant, the First Officer will assume that office and a special election will be held to replace the First Officer.

F. Normally elected officers will begin their term on May 1. Specially elected officers will begin their term immediately upon election.

Article VI

A. General meetings of the Flying Raiders shall be held monthly during the fall and spring semesters and are open to all prospective, active, and inactive members. The date, time, and place of each general meeting shall be determined by the Captain and announced at least one week in advance.

B. Special meetings of the Flying Raiders shall be held as necessary at the discretion of the Captain and are open to all prospective, active, and inactive members. The date, time, and place of each special meeting shall be determined by the Captain and announced at least three days in advance.

C. Executive Council meetings of the Flying Raiders shall be held on a monthly basis during the fall and spring semesters and are only open to the officers which comprise the Executive Council. The date, time, and place of each Executive Council meeting shall be determined by the Executive Council. A majority of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum.

D. All meetings will be conducted in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order.

Article VII

A. This constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the active members present at a general meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been read and discussed aloud at the previous general meeting.

B. Approved amendments shall be effective immediately after a vote.

Amendment I

A. Coaches shall be appointed by the Executive Council to prepare active members for NIFA airmeeets. Currently employed MTSU faculty, staff, and flight instructors who are ineligible to compete in NIFA airmeeets may be appointed as Coaches. Additionally, active members of
the Flying Raiders who are ineligible to compete in NIFA airmeets may also be appointed as Coaches.
B. Coaches shall be appointed during the month of November every fall semester.
C. A Coach shall be assigned a maximum of three NIFA airmeet events to train active members in.
D. A Coach may be compensated for his or her time.

Amendment II
A. Practices shall be established for each NIFA airmeet event during the fall and spring semesters. Active members desiring to compete in NIFA airmeets must attend eighty percent of all scheduled practices during the semesters preceding the airmeet for the NIFA event(s) which they plan to participate in. Coaches reserve the right to excuse absences with sufficient cause. At least one event must be designated as a ground event.
B. Practices shall be conducted for each event by the respective Coach assigned to that event.
C. Attendance shall be recorded for each practice by the Coach conducting the practice and then submitted to the Dispatcher.