THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MIT CAR CLUB

Article 1: PURPOSE

The purpose of the MIT Car Club is to nurture and expand knowledge and to cultivate interest in the automotive culture. The automotive culture and its impact on society will be explored from a vintage, current-day, and future standpoint. The club will organize a series of how-to workshops that familiarize members with important knowledge about the motorcar ranging from “How to Drive a Stick-Shift,” to safe high-performance driving techniques. Other topics include “How to Safely Jump-Start a Modern Automobile,” “How to Safely Change Tires,” “How to Retrieve your Keys from your Locked Car,” and “How to Change the Oil and Filter while Protecting the Environment.”

Club discussions will detail the evolution of technology developments that lead to cleaner emissions (such as synthetic oils, improved gasket technology, introduction of unleaded fuels, lower compression engines with hardened valves, catalytic converters, electronic ignition and Onboard Diagnostic Systems such as OBD II engine management systems). The evolution of materials and manufacturing technologies behind key automotive innovations will be explored (frame vs. unibody, steel vs. aluminum vs. alloy vs. fiberglass and graphite) and technologies and novel applications addressing the physics of unsprung weight will be discussed.

The Big 3 rivalry (General Motors, Ford Motor Company, Chrysler) and its cultural impact will be explored as well as engineering breakthroughs applied to timeless designs such as the Porsche 550, Jaguar XKSS, Mercedes 300SL, Aston Martin DB5, and mechanical fuel injection as applied in early Corvettes in addition to requests and projects offered by club members.

Exercises such as “Is it possible to design and produce a four-place automobile that achieves 100mpg and retails for less than $10,000” will be explored.

The how-to workshops will be open to the entire MIT community to share and disseminate automobile knowledge. Furthermore, the Club will examine the impact of the car on American culture and explore how the design of cars affects society. A key aspect of the Club revolves around its bringing car experts to campus to share their knowledge base as well as excursions to significant car shows and industry events. The Club will endeavor to explore myriad aspects of the car culture including hosting a “Concours d’Elegance” (competition of elegant cars) event as a fundraiser as well as entering Club members’ vehicles in established car shows.

Article II: MEMBERSHIP

1. Any and all members of the MIT community are eligible to become a member of the MIT Car Club at any time throughout the academic year. The Club welcomes students who share a passion for cars, their evolution and their design. A student is considered a member of the Club in any given academic term if he/she attends a minimum of one club activity and one meeting in the current term.
2. The organization’s membership will, at all times, consist of at least five MIT students and more than half of its membership will be composed of MIT students.

3. This organization will not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in MIT’s Nondiscrimination Statement.

4. If this organization charges any monetary dues, there will be exceptions made for students who cannot afford these dues.

**Article III: Officers**

1. This organization will have four officers, all of whom must be MIT students. The four officers constitute the Executive Committee of the organization. The officers are as follows:

   a. **PRESIDENT**

      The duties of the President include:

      1. The President shall be the official representative of the group to any other organization and to MIT.

      2. The President will preside over all meetings.

      3. The President is responsible for determining when meetings are held and publicizing this to the organization.

      4. The President will be responsible for updating the organization’s website.

      5. The President shall be responsible, with the collaboration of the Executive Committee, to set strategy and lead the planning of special events for the organization.

   b. **VICE PRESIDENT**

      The duties of the First Vice President are:

      1. The First Vice President will work closely with the President and other members of the Executive Committee to further the agenda and ideals of the organization.
2. The First Vice President will preside over monthly meetings when the President has a conflicting commitment.

3. The First Vice President will assist the President in communicating the strategy and mission of the organization to the MIT community.

c. SECRETARY-TREASURER

The duties of the Secretary-Treasurer include:

1. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for chronicling and filing the minutes of each organization meeting.

2. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for all monetary transactions of the organization, including the signing of checks and/or vouchers.

d. PARLIAMENTARIAN

The duties of the Parliamentarian include:

1. The Parliamentarian will ensure that the monthly meetings adhere to a pre-determined, timed agenda and schedule therein, without unnecessary disruption.

2. The Parliamentarian will be familiar with Robert’s Rules of Order to ensure that all meeting attendees are fairly treated and that all voices are heard in a timely manner.

Officer Elections:

3. All officers of this organization must be distinct persons and MIT students.

   a. Elections of officers shall occur every year annually at the final meeting of the academic year.

   b. Any member of this organization who is an MIT student is eligible to run for any office if they meet the criteria of having attended at least one Club meeting during the current semester as well as one Club event during the current semester. Any member may nominate himself/herself. All candidates for office must receive a seconding nomination.

   c. Quorum for elections is two-thirds of the organization.
d. Any member is elected if he or she wins a majority of the voting members.

e. If more than two people are candidates and no one wins a majority, then the person with the fewest votes is dropped from the ballot and votes are recast.

f. The term of office is a full year, May through May, annually.

4 Removal: Officers may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members, following a discussion of the reasons for the consideration of termination of officer status.

Article IV: Meetings

1. Meetings shall be held twice monthly (every other week), September-May.

2. Meetings shall be presided over by the President, unless that individual is absent, and in that case the Vice President shall preside.

3. All decisions shall be made by a majority vote of all members present.

4. Quorum for a meeting shall be one quarter of the members of the organization.

Article V: Amendments

1. Amendments shall be presented by any member of the organization.

2. Amendments shall be passed by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

3. Quorum for amending this constitution shall be two thirds of all members of the organization.

Article VI: ASA Governance Clause

The MIT Car Club agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities, and its executive board. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to ensure that they are in accordance with the aforementioned rules and regulations.