



# ASHOKA

## NEXTGEN LEADERS

*Where Legacy Meets Critical Thinking*

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### CLUB CHARTER

*Governing Document of the Ashoka NextGen Leaders Club*

Registered with

**Student Life Office, Ashoka University**

Co-Founders

**Suryansh Dalmia**

BSc Economics and Finance · ID: 1120241002

**Madhav Wadhvani**

BSc Economics and Finance · ID: 1020241622

*Effective Date: [Date of SLO Approval]*

Version 1.0 · April 2026

## PREAMBLE

*We, the founding members of the Ashoka NextGen Leaders, establish this charter to create a durable, inclusive, and policy-compliant student club at Ashoka University. This club exists to serve all students interested in the intellectual and practical dimensions of family enterprise, succession, governance, leadership, and stewardship in India. We commit to operating with transparency, integrity, and humility — faithful to Ashoka's values and to the policies of the Student Life Office. This charter is designed to outlast its founding members and to provide a stable framework for every generation of the club's leadership.*

## 01 Name & Identity

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**Registered Name:** Ashoka NextGen Leaders

**Short Form:** ANG / NextGen Leaders

**Type:** Non-academic Student Club

**Registered With:** Student Life Office, Ashoka University

**Tagline:** Where Legacy Meets Critical Thinking

**Contact Email:** [To be assigned upon registration]

## 02 Purpose & Scope

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### 2.1 Purpose

The Ashoka NextGen Leaders club exists to provide an open, interdisciplinary community for all Ashoka students interested in family enterprise, succession, governance, leadership, and stewardship. The club addresses a specific and currently unmet need: students who expect to return to, lead, or engage with family enterprises find no dedicated peer community, programming, or academic forum to support that journey at the undergraduate level.

The club brings this community together through peer learning, expert engagement, case-based inquiry, and structured programming — grounded in Ashoka's commitment to critical thinking, interdisciplinary inquiry, and ethical leadership.

### 2.2 Scope of Activities

The club's activities fall within the following approved scope:

- Speaker series, panel discussions, and fireside conversations with family business leaders, successors, and professional managers.
- Case study workshops, governance and succession workshops, and peer learning circles.
- Mentorship programming between current students and Ashoka alumni who have returned to family enterprises.
- Student-led research and publications on family enterprise in India.
- Institutional collaborations and inter-club programming, subject to Student Life Office approval.
- Approval-dependent educational site visits and industry immersions, in accordance with university off-campus event procedures.

- An annual conference modelled on established precedents, subject to advisor and Student Life Office approval.

Expansion of scope beyond the above requires formal review and written approval by the Student Life Office before any new activity is undertaken.

## 03 Membership

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### 3.1 Eligibility

Membership is open to all currently enrolled, bonafide Ashoka University students, regardless of academic programme, year of study, or personal background. The club does not restrict membership to students from family business backgrounds. Membership tiers of any kind are strictly prohibited.

Faculty, staff, and alumni may participate in club activities as guests, speakers, or mentors, but may not serve as members, hold leadership positions, or engage in club decision-making.

### 3.2 Induction

New membership recruitment may only commence at the annual Clubs and Societies Fair, once an incoming student is officially a bonafide student of Ashoka University. The club will advertise openly and recruit broadly, giving all students an equal and transparent opportunity to join.

### 3.3 Active Membership

A member is considered active in any given semester if they meet at least one of the following:

- Attend a minimum of two club events or meetings during that semester; or
- Participate meaningfully in at least one club programme, workshop, or initiative during that semester.

Active membership status is required for voting rights and election eligibility. This distinction is based solely on participation — it does not constitute a membership tier.

### 3.4 Renewal & Restrictions

Membership renews automatically each semester subject to the active membership criteria above. There is no renewal fee or reapplication process. Members on academic probation, disciplinary suspension, or Leave of Absence may not participate in club activities for the duration of that status.

### 3.5 Minimum Membership

The club must maintain a minimum of ten regular and contributing members at all times to retain Active status with the Student Life Office, as per university policy.

### 3.6 Data Confidentiality

The club will not collect, store, or share any information pertaining to a member's financials, government-issued identification, medical records, or any other data protected by applicable law. All personal data held in electronic form will be encrypted and will not be stored on any individual's personal device.

## 04 Leadership Structure

### 4.1 Formal Structure

The club's formal leadership structure is as follows:

Role	Responsibilities
<b>President</b>	Overall strategic direction; primary liaison with the Student Life Office and faculty advisor; institutional representation; convenes general body meetings; co-signs all official financial submissions.
<b>Co-Vice-Presidents (×2)</b>	Member engagement, onboarding, and internal coordination; operational support to the President; external coordination as required; acts as point of contact in the President's absence.
<b>Treasurer / Financial Officer</b>	Budgeting, expenditure approvals, reimbursement submissions, financial ledger maintenance, and compliance with university financial policy; liaises with Student Life Office on all monetary matters.
<b>Vertical Heads (×5)</b>	Lead one of the five thematic verticals — Governance, Legacy, Innovation, Community, or Outreach — and manage all vertical-specific programming, events, and responsibilities.

The three policy-critical roles — President, Co-Vice-President, and Treasurer / Financial Officer — must be held by three different individuals at all times. All leadership positions must be held by currently enrolled, bonafide Ashoka students.

### 4.2 Five Club Verticals

The club's programming and operations are organised across five thematic verticals, each led by a Vertical Head:

<b>Governance</b>	Succession frameworks, board structures, ownership vs. management, family constitutions, and leadership transition models.
<b>Legacy</b>	Business history, intergenerational case studies, identity, stewardship, and ethics in family enterprise.
<b>Innovation</b>	Digital transformation, professionalisation, new ventures inside legacy businesses, and student-led research and publications.
<b>Community</b>	Member engagement, onboarding, internal culture, peer learning, case labs, and mentorship coordination.
<b>Outreach</b>	Speaker series, alumni relations, institutional collaborations, communications, and approval-dependent industry immersions.

### 4.3 Duties of Leadership

- All leadership members must attend mandatory university townhalls, training sessions, and meetings convened by the Student Life Office.
- The President is the primary point of contact with the Student Life Office and the faculty advisor.
- The Treasurer / Financial Officer liaises with the Student Life Office for all monetary matters and co-signs financial submissions with the President.

- Leadership members are expected to communicate all relevant university policies to the general membership.
- All leadership members must obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Registrar's Office before taking up their role.

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## 05 Electoral Process & Leadership Transitions

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### 5.1 Primary Leadership Elections

The three primary leadership positions must be elected annually by the active membership through a fair and transparent democratic process — after Annual Production Fortnight (APF) and before the end of the Spring semester. Results must be communicated to the Student Life Office during Appraisal II.

- Elections will be conducted by secret ballot among active members in good standing.
- Any active member who has been a club member for at least one full semester may stand for a primary leadership position.
- Quorum for a valid election requires a minimum of 50% of active members to be present or to have submitted valid proxies in advance.
- In the event of a tie, a run-off vote will be held at the same session.
- Election results will be communicated to the Student Life Office within 10 working days.
- Existing leadership may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms in the same role.

### 5.2 Vertical Head Selection

Vertical Heads are secondary leadership positions selected through a transparent, participation-based process subject to Student Life Office approval. Selection criteria must be objective and based solely on direct participation, including duration of involvement, regular attendance, demonstrated contribution to the relevant vertical, and availability throughout the leadership term.

The use of resumes, academic transcripts, LinkedIn profiles, or equivalent external credentials in the selection of Vertical Heads is strictly prohibited.

### 5.3 Leadership Transitions

- Outgoing leadership is responsible for a structured, written handover to incoming leadership before the conclusion of each academic year.
- The handover must include: event records, financial ledger, membership records, vendor contacts, SLO correspondence, and any pending commitments.
- Newly confirmed leadership must inform the Student Life Office of their composition within 10 working days of election or appointment.
- If a primary leader undertakes a Semester Abroad programme during their tenure, new interim representatives must be appointed and notified to the Student Life Office.

### 5.4 Resignation & Removal

- Any leadership member may resign by providing written notice to the President and the faculty advisor. The Student Life Office must be informed promptly.
- Members on disciplinary probation, suspension, or Leave of Absence must resign from all leadership positions immediately.
- The President may be removed by a two-thirds (67%) majority vote of active members, with at least seven calendar days' written notice given before any such vote.

- The Student Life Office reserves the right to terminate the leadership of any member found to be in violation of university policies, after adequate investigation.

## 06 Decision-Making Process

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### 6.1 General Decisions

Day-to-day operational decisions — including event planning, programming, internal communications, and routine expenditure within pre-approved budgets — may be made by the President in consultation with the relevant Vertical Head and Treasurer.

### 6.2 Decisions Requiring Advisor Consultation

The following must be discussed with the faculty advisor in advance:

- All major events, speaker invitations, and institutional collaborations.
- Any new activity that falls outside the club's approved scope.
- Any financial commitment above routine operational costs.
- Any external partnership, affiliation, or memorandum of understanding.
- Any situation involving a potential conflict of interest.

### 6.3 Decisions Requiring Student Life Office Approval

The following require prior written approval from the Student Life Office before any action is taken:

- All events — including scale, venue, and participant scope.
- All financial commitments, fundraising plans, and sponsorship arrangements.
- All external collaborations and institutional partnerships.
- All off-campus activities and industry immersions.
- Any expansion of the club's approved scope of activities.

No member may sign a contract or enter into any written or verbal agreement on behalf of the club without prior approval from the Office of the Registrar and the Student Life Office.

### 6.4 Role of the Faculty Advisor

The faculty advisor serves as a mentor and institutional guide. The advisor will meet with the club leadership at least once every three weeks during active semesters, interact with the general membership at least once per appraisal cycle, and complete the mandatory Advisor Assessment Form for each appraisal. The club may have up to three faculty advisors; no individual advisor may be associated with more than two registered clubs simultaneously.

## 07 Conflict of Interest Policy

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Club members — especially those in leadership positions — are expected to avoid actual or apparent conflicts of interest in all club activities and decisions.

### 7.1 Disclosure Requirement

If any of the following involves a club member's family business, personal commercial interest, or any arrangement from which a member may derive personal benefit, that relationship must be disclosed in writing to the faculty advisor and the Student Life Office before any commitment is made:

- Sponsorship arrangements or fundraising partnerships.
- Speaker invitations or institutional partnerships.
- Vendor or service provider engagements.
- Site visits or industry immersions hosted by a member's family enterprise.
- Any contractual or financial arrangement entered into on behalf of the club.

## 7.2 Recusal

Once a conflict is disclosed, the concerned member must recuse themselves from all related discussions and decisions without exception. Non-disclosure of a known conflict of interest will be treated as a serious conduct violation and may result in removal from leadership.

## 7.3 No Personal Use of Club Resources

Club resources — including budget, name, platform, and institutional access — may not be used for personal commercial interests, private initiatives, or any purpose outside the club's approved scope.

# 08 Finance & Resource Management

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## 8.1 Funding Model

The club is fully self-funded and makes no funding request of the Student Life Office. All operational costs will be met through:

- Club-led fundraising events and initiatives, planned in advance and approved by the Student Life Office.
- External sponsorships from family business networks, industry bodies, and aligned organisations — each subject to prior written SLO approval and a full conflict-of-interest review per Section 7.
- Approved institutional partnerships that carry programmatic or in-kind support, subject to SLO approval.

The club will not apply for university seed capital or SLO budget allocations. It requests only formal recognition and standard administrative support from the Student Life Office.

## 8.2 Financial Controls

- No member may make a financial commitment, advance payment, or purchase without express written approval from the Student Life Office.
- All expenditure submissions must be signed by the President and submitted by the Treasurer / Financial Officer.
- Reimbursement claims must be submitted with fully itemised, legible receipts within 10 working days of expenditure.
- Unauthorised expenditures will not be recoverable from any club or university fund.
- The club may not pay its own leadership or members for their services from the club budget.
- All advance amounts drawn from fundraising reserves will be tracked against the approved budget for that event and reconciled within 10 working days.

## 8.3 Financial Reporting

The club will maintain a complete and updated financial ledger at all times. A financial report will be submitted to the Student Life Office at the end of each appraisal cycle in the format specified by the Office, regardless of whether any university funds are involved.

## 09 Activities, Collaborations & Compliance

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### 9.1 Mandatory Participation

The club will participate in all mandatory events organised by the Student Life Office:

- Clubs and Societies Fair — early September each year.
- Jashn-e-Jazba — mid-November.
- Annual Production Fortnight (APF) — end of March.
- All quarterly townhalls — at least one leader must attend each session.

### 9.2 Activity Planning

The club will submit a tentative activity schedule to the Student Life Office at the beginning of every semester, or as and when requested. All large-scale activities must be notified to the Student Life Office well in advance; implementation may only begin once formal written approval has been received.

### 9.3 Collaborations

The club will host at least one collaborative event per appraisal cycle with another registered Ashoka club, society, or academic body. The club is also encouraged to build programmatic affiliations with contemporaries at other universities and organisations, subject to SLO approval and the autonomy framework below.

### 9.4 External Autonomy

Any affiliation with external organisations — including the ISB Thomas Schmidheiny Centre, Harvard Business School Family Business Club, or USC Family Business Society — will be advisory and programmatic in nature only. All decision-making authority rests with Ashoka student leadership. Ashoka University policy takes precedence in all matters relating to the club. No arrangement will be entered into that creates dependency on or control by an external organisation.

### 9.5 Off-Campus & Site Visit Activities

All off-campus activities, industry immersions, and educational site visits require prior written SLO approval and must comply with the university's Policy on Off-Campus Events. A member's family enterprise may serve as a site visit host only after a conflict-of-interest disclosure has been filed and approved per Section 7.

### 9.6 Communications

The club will keep the Student Life Office informed of all communications and publications on any platform, copying [life@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:life@ashoka.edu.in) on all relevant official email exchanges. No use of the Ashoka University name, logo, seal, or institutional identifiers will be made without proper authorisation from the relevant University official.

## 10 Accountability & Documentation

### 10.1 Records

The club will maintain updated records covering: charter and objectives; current and past membership and leadership; all events and activities hosted or participated in; financial ledger; semester activity calendars; meeting minutes; and a media archive of events.

### 10.2 Appraisal

The club will submit a full appraisal report at each of the two annual cycles — Appraisal I (late November to mid-December) and Appraisal II (late March to mid-April). The report will cover all elements specified by the Student Life Office. The club commits to acting upon all feedback received from the Office, faculty advisor, and general student body.

### 10.3 Emergency Protocol

In the event of an emergency or injury during any club activity — on or off campus — the leadership must immediately notify the Student Life Office (or, outside office hours, Residence Life staff). All injuries must be directed to the Infirmary as soon as possible. An incident report must be filed with the Student Life Office within 24 hours.

## 11 Amendment Procedure

This charter may be amended only through the process outlined below. No amendment takes effect before receiving the required approvals. All amendments will be documented and the updated charter will be made publicly accessible.

Amendment Type	Quorum Required	Approval Requirement
<b>Minor amendments (editorial / clarifications)</b>	Simple majority of active members at quorum	Advisor review + SLO notification
<b>Substantive amendments (purpose, scope, structure)</b>	60% supermajority of active members	Advisor approval + SLO approval before effect
<b>Dissolution of the club</b>	Two-thirds (67%) of active members	Written notice to SLO; full financial reconciliation

Proposed amendments must be circulated to all active members in writing at least seven calendar days before the vote. The faculty advisor must be consulted before any amendment is put to a vote.

## 12 Public Accessibility

In accordance with Ashoka University policy, this charter is a publicly accessible document available to all members of the Ashoka University community. The club will ensure that an updated version is available on its official communications channels at all times and will provide a copy to any student, staff member, or faculty member upon request.

## 13 Signatures & Ratification

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This charter has been read, understood, and agreed to by the founding members and, upon approval, by the authorised representative of the Student Life Office. By signing below, all parties affirm their commitment to operating in accordance with this charter and all applicable Ashoka University policies.

Co-Founder  
**Suryansh Dalmia**  
BSc Economics & Finance · ID: 1120241002

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*Signature & Date*

Co-Founder  
**Madhav Wadhvani**  
BSc Economics & Finance · ID: 1020241622

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*Signature & Date*

Faculty Advisor  
**[Name, Designation]**  
Ashoka University

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*Signature & Date*

Student Life Office  
**[Authorised Signatory]**  
Ashoka University

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*Signature & Date*