

CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

Cornell University
Ithaca, New York

PREAMBLE

We, the fraternities of Cornell University, in desiring to foster the intellectual, cultural, moral and social advancement in its members, to promote and perpetuate the best interests of the students, the fraternity system, the University, and the Tompkins County community and to assist each other and the University in attaining their educational mission do hereby establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be called the Interfraternity Council of Cornell University. This organization may be otherwise referred to as the "Interfraternity Council" or the "IFC".

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the IFC is to:

- A. create and maintain cooperation and coordinate interfraternal affairs among fraternities;
- B. provide programs to foster personal, scholastic, social, leadership and brotherhood development among member fraternities and their members;
- C. promote membership development, through rush;
- D. promote a positive relationship between the community and member fraternities;
- E. act as a medium between member fraternities; and
- F. to ensure that these members:
 1. other student organizations;
 2. the student body; and
 3. the faculty and administration; and
- F. institute policies and rules that will maintain the purposes of the IFC.

ARTICLE III

Classes of Membership

There are two classes of membership in the IFC: full and associate.

Membership and participation shall be free from discrimination based on race, religion, ethnic groups, national origin, or handicap.

ARTICLE IV Full Membership

Section A. Requirements to Become a Full Member.

To become a full member, a fraternity:

1. must be fully chartered on Cornell University's campus by its National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) or National Pan Hellenic Council (NPHC) organization or by its parent national organization; or
2. must have been a local chapter on Cornell's campus continuously for at least five years; and
3. must be recognized by the University as a fraternal organization and be in good standing with the University;
4. must have been an associate member of IFC and during that time must have met all of the obligations of an associate member; and
5. must receive a 2/3 vote of the Presidents' Council voting in a regular session by written ballot to affirm membership.

Section B. Privileges of a Full Member.

A full member shall:

1. have all privileges and rights under this Constitution and bylaws, except as limited by actions of the Judicial Committee or the University; and
2. receive coverage on a par with any other member in all IFC publications that list or describe member fraternities; and may
3. participate in IFC-sponsored rush;
4. participate in all IFC-sponsored programs;
5. vote at meetings of the Presidents' Council;
6. participate in the fraternity division of intramural sports; and
7. have its members, as they are eligible, hold elective and appointive offices of the IFC.

Section C. Duties of a Full Member.

A full member shall:

1. pay all dues and fees owed to the IFC;
2. abide by this Constitution and Bylaws and all regulations adopted by the Presidents' Council;
3. cooperate in any proceedings of the Judicial Board with which it may be involved and abide by all Judicial Board rulings affecting it;
4. cooperate with all administrative actions of the Executive Board and participation in IFC programs;
5. maintain an updated list of all of its officers, advisors, and corporation board members in the Office of the Dean of Students;
6. maintain an updated list of its current members in the Office of the Dean of Students;

7. file in the Office of the Dean of Students the name of each pledge/associate, and update the pledge's status when there is a change in that status;
8. abide by all University regulations and policies;
9. encourage Interfraternity spirit among its members;
10. encourage among its members a spirit of cooperation with the University community and the city; and
11. encourage scholarship and leadership among its members.

ARTICLE V Associate Membership

Section A. Requirements to Become an Associate Member.

To become an associate member, a fraternity:

1. must be sponsored as a colony or interest group by a National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) or National Pan Hellenic Council (NPHC) member; or
2. if unsupported by an NIC or NPHC group, must be established for the purpose of becoming a colony of one of these groups or for purposes that are commensurate with and in no way contrary to the purposes of the IFC; and
3. must be recognized by the University as a student organization;
4. must be in good standing with the University;
5. must, in a petition for associate membership, submit for review to the Office of the Dean of Students and the Executive Board:
 - a. its name;
 - b. the names of its members and their student classifications;
 - c. the names of its alumni advisors and patrons;
 - d. a copy of its local Constitution and Bylaws;
 - e. a statement of its purposes;
 - f. a record of its activities since its local inception;
 - g. plans for developing programs that will assist the members in realizing their potentials as students and leaders and which will meet the needs and interest of the members. These programs shall include leadership, pledge, rush and scholarship program;
 - h. plans for chapter judicial process, with right of appeal, to ensure fairness in the enforcement of chapter rules;
 - i. if appropriate, evidence of support by an NIC or NPHC member, and must, after favorable recommendation from the Office of the Dean of Students and the Executive Board, receive a 2/3 vote of the Presidents' Council voting in a Regular Session by written ballot to affirm associate membership.

Section B. Privileges of an Associate Member.

An associate member may:

1. participate in all IFC-sponsored programs;
2. speak at meeting of Presidents' Council; and
3. participate in the fraternity division of intramural sports.

Section C. Duties of an Associate Member.

An Associate member shall:

1. pay all dues and fees owed to the IFC;
2. abide by this Constitution and By Laws;
3. abide by all regulations adopted by the Presidents' Council;
4. cooperate in any proceeding of the Judicial Board with which it may be involved and abide by all Judicial Board rulings affecting it;
5. cooperate with all administrative actions of the Executive Board;
6. maintain an updated list of all of its officers, advisors, and corporation board members in the Office of the Dean of Students;
7. maintain an updated list of all its members in the Office of the Dean of Students;
8. file in the Office of the Dean of Students within one week of pledging the name of each pledge/associate, updating the pledge's status within one week of change in that status;
9. if it is seeking a Charter from an NIC or NPHC member, inform the Office of the Dean of Students of its progress to that end;
10. abide by all University regulations or policies;
11. encourage Interfraternity spirit among its members;
12. encourage amount its members a spirit of cooperation with the University community and the City; and
13. encourage scholarship and leadership among its members.

ARTICLE VI Standing

Section A. Good Standing.

A full member fraternity that satisfies Article IV., Section C. and an associate member fraternity that satisfies Article V., Section C. is in good standing with the IFC.

Section B. Loss of Good Standing.

A full member fraternity may lose its good standing with IFC if it is found guilty of violating any part of Article IV., Section C. As associate member fraternity may lose its good standing with IFC if it is found guilty of violating any part of Article V., Section C.

Section C. Consequences of Loss of Good Standing.

In accordance with the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board Bylaws a member fraternity that loses its good standing could be expelled from IFC or could lose some or all of its privileges as granted by this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII

President's Council

Section A. Duties.

The legislative powers of IFC lie in the President's Council, which shall:

1. approve all regulations that are necessary to maintain and execute the purposes of the IFC;
2. receive and conduct all business appropriately before it under this Constitution and Bylaws;
3. approve the IFC operating budget as submitted by the Vice President of Finance and approved by the Executive Board;
4. approve all proposals concerning fraternity rush.

Section B. Composition.

The Presidents Council shall be composed of the President, or in their absence a designated representative, from each member fraternity and the members of the IFC Executive Board shall be a member of the Presidents' Council. The chairman of the IFC President's Council shall be the President of the IFC. Note-if a chapter president is unable to attend, the Vice President of Communications must be notified prior to that meeting.

Section C. Obligations.

The Presidents' Council:

1. may amend this constitution and Bylaws by 3/4 vote;
2. may recall any administrative action of the President or Executive Council by a 4/5 vote; and
3. may, by a majority vote, uniformly assess member fraternities financially when necessary.

Section D. Duties of Members of Presidents' Council.

A member of Presidents' Council shall:

1. Attend each regular and special Session Meeting;
2. Abide by this Constitution and Bylaws and the regulations of the Presidents' Council;
3. Cooperate in any proceeding of the Judicial Committee or Judicial Board with which he may be involved and abide by all Judicial Committee and Judicial Board rulings affecting his fraternity; and
4. Cooperate with all administrative actions of the Executive Board.

Section E. Meetings.

1. The Presidents Council shall meet weekly in regular session during the Fall and Spring semesters.
2. Special sessions may be called by the President upon written request of the majority of the chapter Presidents, the request of the Executive Board and/or the Interfraternity Council Advisor;
3. Meet annually in an election meeting to elect officers of the IFC;
4. These meetings shall be attended by the IFC Executive Board, the IFC Advisor, and the President of each member chapter;
5. An IFC Executive Board member cannot represent their chapters on the IFC's President Council;
6. Any chapter that either President or delegate misses a meetings in any academic semester that chapter shall be fined \$100.00. Fines increase 100% for each additional absentee. Any

chapter that either President or delegate misses more than three consecutive meetings will be removed from the IFC.

7. Robert's Rules of Order will be standing operating procedures, unless otherwise stated in this Constitution and/or by-laws.

8. The President of the IFC may appoint a parliamentarian.

Section F. Voting.

1. No proposal or resolution may be voted on unless a quorum of member chapters, 50 percent plus 1, is established.

2. All voting shall be done in person by the chapter President; no proxy votes shall be accepted.

3. No IFC officer shall be entitled to a vote, except in the case of a tie where the IFC President shall be entitled to cast the deciding vote.

ARTICLE VIII Executive Board

Section A. Authority and Duties.

The administrative powers of IFC lie in the Executive Board, which shall execute this Constitution and Bylaws and the regulations of the Presidents' Council and shall:

1. by administrative action not contrary to the authority granted to the Presidents' Council or to the Judicial Board, facilitate on a daily basis the smooth operation of the IFC in accordance with its purpose;
2. submit annually to the Presidents' Council an operating budget;
3. develop proposals of policy for the operation of the IFC;
4. oversee the function of any Director placed into its custody;
5. cooperate with the Panhellenic Council, the Black Greek Council, the IFC advisor and any other member of the University community for the advancement of the purposes of the IFC;
6. meet in regular board meetings weekly during each full month of the Fall and Spring semesters, and special board meetings at the request of the President or the IFC advisor;
7. plan and implement programs for member organizations; and
8. hear requests for an appeal of a Judicial Board ruling.

Section B. Composition.

The Executive Council is composed of a:

1. President;
2. Executive Vice President;
3. Vice President of Rush;
4. Vice President of Judicial;
5. Vice President of Communications;
6. Vice President of University and Community Relations; and
7. Vice President of Finance.

Section C. Duties of a Member of the Executive Board. An IFC officer shall throughout the term for which he is elected:

1. attend each regular and special council meeting;
2. carry out his duties as specified in the bylaws;
3. maintain accurate records of all activities and programs for which he is responsible; and
4. participate in the transfer of files to and a training session with his successor.

ARTICLE IX Board of Directors

Section A. Membership.

All Board of Directors appointed by the President and approved by the President's Council shall be considered members;

Section B. Duties of a Member of the Board of Directors.

A member of the Board of Directors shall throughout the term of office for which he was appointed:

1. attend each meeting of the Board of Directors and of Presidents Council;
2. oversee the operation of his committee as necessary to carry out its function;
3. fulfill his duties as specified in the Bylaws;
4. meet weekly with the Vice President in which he reports
5. maintain accurate records of all activities and programs for which he is responsible and turn them over in finished form to the respective Vice-President;
7. perform duties related to his position as ordered by the Executive Board; and
8. prepare a typed annual report at the end of his term.

The Director of Technology shall report to the Vice President of Communications. He also shall maintain and monitor the IFC homepage and coordinate all efforts to improve or expand it. He shall provide and support information for houses wishing to statr their own list servers. He shall Head the technology team that will develop new innovations and implement projects as technology permits. He must have a strong background in computers and the internet, and can demonstrate mastery of the skills necessary to maintain said duties.

ARTICLE X Judicial Board

The power to adjudicate violations of this Constitution and bylaws, and to interpret this Constitution and bylaws shall be granted to the IFC Judicial Board.

The Interfraternity Judicial Board shall function under its bylaws, which shall not conflict with this Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI Discipline and Expulsion

A member fraternity that is found guilty of violating this Constitution and bylaws or any regulation or administrative action may lose its good standing or may be expelled from IFC in accordance with the bylaws of the IFJB.

ARTICLE XII IFC Advisor

The IFC Advisor is appointed by the Dean of Students from her/his staff.

The IFC Advisor may attend all sessions of the Presidents' Council and Executive Board and shall remain informed of all IFC business.

The IFC Advisor shall act as the IFC liaison to the University administration and the Ithaca community.

ARTICLE XIII Amendments

Section A. Right to Introduce Amendments.

Any member fraternity in good standing may introduce an amendment to the Constitution.

Section B. Procedure for Proposing Amendments.

After the session in which an amendment is introduced, the Presidents' Council shall hear one additional reading of the amendment in its next regular session and may vote on the amendment at any regular session after that.

Section C. Adoption.

An amendment that receives the affirmative vote of at least four-fifths of Presidents' Council is adopted as a part of this Constitution.