

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL, INC.
MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY CHAPTER**

Preamble

We, the representatives of the historically established community service fraternities and sororities, similar in structure and background with both graduate and undergraduate chapters, *recognizing the need for coordination and cooperation in activities of intercollegiate Greek letter fraternities and sororities, recognizing that there are certain areas of action and programming that can best be carried out by the joint efforts of all such organizations, and believing that these needs can be best realized by formal organization*, FIRST WHEREAS

do hereby establish such an organization and bind ourselves to abide by the provisions of the following Constitution and Bylaws.

Article I- Name

The name of this organization shall be the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. of Mississippi State University, hereinafter referred to as “National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc.,” or “MSU NPHC” or “NPHC”

Article II- Purpose

The purpose of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. shall be: to create and maintain high standards in the life of fraternities and sororities; to perpetuate constructive fraternity and sorority, while fostering an understanding of the structure, differences, and methods of operation among the affiliate organizations; to address, coordinate, and develop action strategies on matters of mutual concern to the affiliate organizations; and to serve as the conduit for such actions plans as may be developed to construct fraternity and sorority relations.

Article III- Membership

Section 1.

Membership in the National Pan-Hellenic Council shall include Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

Section 2.

Each organization's president shall be a representative for their respective chapter. If a chapter president cannot be in attendance, it is the organization's duty to send the vice-president in his or her place to the meeting. A list of alternates must be submitted to the NPHC Advisor for keeping within three (3) business days of the Council of Presidents meeting. Chapters shall be permitted only two properly notified absences. Any unexcused absences and/or unauthorized alternative appearances shall result in a fine under the discretion of the NPHC Executive Board and advisor(s).

Section 3.

In order to maintain active status, a member organization shall maintain at least a 2.6 GPA among its active members and be in good standing financially and judicially with the University and NPHC.

Section 4. – Intake Membership Requirements

- a. For all students seeking membership into any of the organizations listed in Article III Section I, entrance will be determined solely by the requirements for membership created by Mississippi State University Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and the governing national headquarters of the fraternity or sorority organization hosting intake activities. As such, minimal requirements to include, but not be limited to grade point average, and credit hour requirements will be set and enforced by the individual fraternity or sorority organization hosting intake.
- b. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life will also conduct a review of each potential new member student record, so no violations of the student code of conduct or honor code exist on the student's academic record. Recognition of such occurrences on a student's record will lead to immediate removal of any offer of membership to the aspirant from an organization mentioned in Article III Section I.
- c. No organization shall proceed with intake activities until their final list of candidates have been received by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and reviewed according to the guidelines stated above.
- d. All other intake practices and procedures will adhere to those listed in the NPHC Intake Guidelines.

Article IV- Officers**Section 1. - Elected Officers**

- a. The elected officers shall be the President and Vice-President. The officers shall be elected by affiliate organizations through the election stated in this constitution.
- b. The Advisor of the NPHC along with the executive council shall appoint the hereinafter-named council officers. The appointed council officers shall include: Director of Administration, Director of Programming, Director of Public Relations. and such others as may be required to carry out the designated business and programs of the NPHC.

Section 2. - Qualifications of Officers

- a. All officers must have good standing academically and financially with their respective NPHC affiliate organization,
- b. All officers shall have and maintain a semester and an overall MSU GPA of 2.75 or better.
- c. No more than one (1) member from anyone (1) organization may serve as officers.
- d. At least one semester membership in affiliate organization for elected officers.

- e. In addition, the NPHC President will not serve as a chapter delegate nor shall the remaining officers, unless that officer is the only individual representing their affiliate organization at the present time,
- f. Special considerations may be considered by the NPHC Executive Board and Advisors if they do not meet these requirements.
- g. NPHC Presidents must have one semester of NPHC Executive Board experience.
- h. No Chapter Presidents shall serve on NPHC Executive Board.
- i. All officers must serve a calendar year of two semesters. (Must serve a fall and spring semester)

Section 3. Election and Terms of Office

- a. There shall be an annual election. The term of new officers shall start at the last General Council Meeting in November after elected and end the following November.
- b. Nominations will be made from the chapter organization for the upcoming officer positions in which no more than three (3) nominations can be made.
- c. At the following meeting, the General Council shall elect a candidate to occupy the upcoming officer position.
- d. After direct nomination from respective chapters, all candidates shall be required to give a speech, not exceeding 3 minutes, detailing their reasons for seeking office and their qualifications.
- e. The mode of elections shall be secret ballot after direct nomination from respective chapters.
- f. The nominee receiving simple majority shall be elected. In the case of a tie, a run-off shall be held between the candidates.
- g. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the winner. In the case of three consecutive ties, the same procedure should apply.

Section 4. Vacancies and Impeachment

- a. Should the office of President be permanently vacated, the Vice-President shall immediately succeed into the office of President. A new Vice-President shall then be elected.
- b. For the vice-president election, and should any other elected office be permanently vacated, nominations from respective organizations will be taken. Elections shall take place at the meeting following these nominations and individual shall be appointed.
- c. Should the office of President and Vice President become vacant at once, the advisor along with the executive board shall appoint persons for each position.

Article V- Duties

Section 1.

- a. All officers are required to give a bi-monthly report at every meeting.
- b. NPHC officers are required to attend all NPHC meetings and events. If an officer's absence is unavoidable, communication (written, verbal, or electronic) should be submitted to the Advisor and/or President within 24 hours of the meeting.

- c. If any officer is absent from two (2) NPHC functions in one semester without permission from the president or Advisor, the NPHC executive committee may, with Advisor's approval, impeach that officer.
- d. During the summer, the NPHC President and the NPHC Director of Programming will work in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life during the June and July months. Each officer will be required to work 15 hours a week in the office. The president and director of programming will receive a stipend of \$500 at the end of June and the end of July totaling \$1000 each for the summer.

Section 2. – Officer Specific Responsibilities

- a. President shall:
 - Have overall responsibility for the operation of the NPHC.
 - Call and preside at all regular, Executive Committee and Special meetings of the NPHC, so that they are conducted with decorum and discipline.
 - Appoint committees and serve as ex-officio member of all committees.
 - Represent, or appoint a representative for, NPHC at all meetings dealing with the welfare of the Council.
 - Confer with the executive board concerning appointments of delegates to committees.
 - Remain neutral on all issues requiring a vote and shall only serve as the deciding vote in all ties except for impeachment matters.
 - Maintain a complete up-to-date President's file of all material pertinent to the running of the Council.
 - Perform all other duties pertaining to this office, and as specified elsewhere in this constitution and by-laws.
 - Maintain a working relationship with the NPHC Advisor and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and serve as a liaison between Advisor, other Councils and NPHC.
 - In the event of the President's absence, it is the President's obligation that the Vice-President has all materials needed to conduct the meeting (agendas, announcements, etc.).
 - Serve as the official representative of NPHC on such committees as many be designed by the University and to other special meetings in which the NPHC may have been invited to participate.
 - Assist in training, development, and implementation of new member experience.
 - Serve as a liaison between IFC, MGC, & NPC chapters.
 - Enforce laws and By-laws of the Constitution.
- b. Vice President Shall:
 - Perform the duties of the President in his/her absence, inability to serve, and removal from office or at his/her call.
 - Preside over all NPHC committees and be responsible for any special projects assigned by the executive board.

- Maintain a close working relationship with the President.
- Be responsible for assisting the President as requested and shall serve as liaison between all committees and the general body.
- Coordinate all service projects and fundraisers for the Greek Life Office and National Pan-Hellenic Council.
- Implement at least two (2) community service projects to be participated in by all member organizations, which will be carried out throughout the academic school year.
- Perform all other duties pertaining to this office, and as specified elsewhere in this Constitution and By-laws.
- Enforce laws and By-laws of the Constitution.

c. Director of Administration Shall:

- Keep an up-to-date roster of the members of the NPHC and make roll call at every NPHC meeting.
- Be responsible for keeping a record of attendance for all representatives at meetings, activities, and programs.
- Be responsible for keeping an accurate and strict record of all proceedings of the Council and shall keep record of all documents of the Council.
- Be responsible for keeping an accurate record of minutes for all meetings, always keeping these minutes readily available and distributing these minutes to all NPHC organizational Presidents.
- Be responsible for keeping current calendar of all NPHC and individual organization events.
- Be responsible for the official correspondence of the Council and correspondence with the NPHC Advisor.
- Perform all other duties pertaining to this office, and as specified elsewhere in the Constitution and By-laws.
- Be responsible for the general finances of the NPHC.
- Be responsible for the prompt payment of all bills of the NPHC.
- Receive all payments due to the NPHC: collect all dues and inform the President of those member fraternities/sororities who may be financially ineligible to vote.
- Be responsible for all deposits, balancing of the checkbook, and writing of receipts as well as notifying members of the NPHC regarding all internal affairs (e.g., fines, notices, etc.).
- Be responsible for maintaining order in NPHC meeting according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- Enforce laws and By-laws of the Constitution.

d. Director of Programming

- Responsible for all areas of programming including but not limited to: NPHC Step Show, NPHC Stroll Off, Yard Shows, Going Greek 101, Yard and Chill, and NPHC Week.
- Assist with logistical planning of events (booking rooms/space).

- Work with the Director of Public Relations to promote all events sponsored by the NPHC.
- Work with Panhellenic, MGC, and IFC to carry out campus wide projects.
- Participate in Summer Orientation events.
- Maintain and Update Activities Calendar.
- Develop networking and collaboration opportunities with other councils and student organizations.
- Assist in training, development, and implementation of new member experience.

e. Director of Public Relations

- Will be responsible for all promotional and public relations materials related to the NPHC.
- Assist with planning and approving chapter display materials and set-up.
- Responsible for maintaining and updating all social media accounts for the NPHC.
- Design and purchase t-shirts and clothing for recruitment, NPHC Executive
- Design and purchase promotional and marketing materials for the NPHC.
- Work with the Director of programming to design promotional materials for events.
- Responsible for creating and implementation of semester marketing campaign for NPHC.
- Responsible for NPHC or individual chapters that receive proper recognition for their efforts.

Article VI- Delegates/Representatives Responsibilities

Section 1.

- a. **Liaison:** The primary duty of the delegate is to act as a liaison between the Council and his/her chapter. This involves giving a full report of every Council meeting to his/her chapter, and following through with any request of his/her chapter of the Council
- b. **Stabilizer:** The delegate is responsible for being familiar with agreements and resolutions and the MSU NPHC.
- c. **Involved:** The delegate is to be active in all NPHC functions, and cooperate in all activities with the utmost speed
- d. **Educator:** The delegate must educate his/her chapter on basic NPHC ideas, as he/she works to improve the Council spirit in his/her chapter.
- e. **Attendance:** NPHC delegates are required to attend all NPHC meetings and events. If a delegate's absence is unavoidable, a substitute delegate should be present to represent that chapter.

- f. If any delegate is absent for two (2) NPHC meeting in one semester with no alternative present, the NPHC may request from the fraternity/sorority, in writing, a permanent replacement.
- g. Chapter Delegates must submit dues and an updated chapter roster by the dates specified by within this constitution.

Article VII- Council of Presidents

Section 1. - Purpose

The purpose of the Council of Presidents shall be to interpret the NPHC Constitution and By-laws and respond to alleged violations of the Constitution and By-laws by affiliate members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Section 2. – Composition

- a. The NPHC Council of Presidents shall be composed of chapter presidents from each active member organization of the NPHC. Council of Presidents members must be in good standing with their fraternity or sorority.
- b. Council of Presidents members must maintain a semester GPA of at least a 2.6 while serving on the board.
- c. The NPHC President shall be the chairman and preside over the meetings. The President only gets to vote in the case of a hung jury.

Section 3. - Procedures

- a. A signed, written notice of a violation of the NPHC Constitution and Bylaws by an affiliate chapter of the MSU Chapter of NPHC may result in mediation or a formal hearing of the NPHC Council of Presidents.
- b. Upon receipt of a signed, written notice of a violation, NPHC Director of Administration, NPHC Advisor shall meet to determine the following:
 - i. Whether there is enough information to warrant formal charges.
 - ii. Whether formal charges should be brought forward against the organization as an organizational event, or individuals.
 - iii. Including but not limited to:
 - 1. Would it appear like an organizational event to a third party?
 - 2. Was there a substantial amount of membership involved?
 - 3. What specific charges, if any, should be brought forward?
 - 4. The date of the hearing, if charges are brought forward.
- c. If mediation or formal charges are being brought forward, a charge letter is sent to the organization's president and advisor specifying the charges and the date and time of the hearing or mediation session.
- d. An information session will be made available for the chapter's use through the NPHC Advisor.
- e. All deliberations are to be kept strictly confidential.
- f. Appeals may be made to the Dean of Students up to five class days after receiving notification of a decision. All appeal procedures will be in accordance to the Student Code of Conduct.

Section 4. Rights of the Accused Organization

- a. To have in writing the specific offenses and rule(s) and regulations(s) which have allegedly been violated.
- b. To have an advisor present at the hearing. The advisor may not represent the chapter before the Council of Presidents. The representative for the chapter must speak for him/her-self.
- c. To receive notice of a formal hearing in writing at least seven days prior to the hearing.
- d. To know the accusers(s) charges, witness, and board members, at least three days before the hearing.
- e. Question all witnesses.
- f. Know that the hearing will be tape-recorded.
- g. Call witnesses and present evidence on the chapter's behalf.

Section 5. - Penalties

The following is a list of possible sanctions, which may, alone or in combination, be recommended by the Council of Presidents. The Council of Presidents is not limited to the recommended sanctions in the following list.

Section 6. – Types of Penalties

- a. **Expulsion from the university**- A permanent dismissal from the university with no opportunity for re-chartering. Dismissal is a separation from the university for an indefinite period of time. Readmission is possible.
- b. **Suspension** is a separation from the University for a specified period, not to exceed two years. A suspension restricts all fraternity and sorority activities for the specified period of time. A limited suspension may allow specific fraternity and sorority activities that will be determined by the Council of Presidents
- c. **Probation**
 - i. **Disciplinary Probation**- This probation serves as a final warning; more infractions could result in immediate suspension
 - ii. **Conduct Probation**- Serves as general chapter probation
 - iii. **Social Probation**- At the discretion of the NPHC Council of Presidents, limitation placed on social activities which includes but is not limited to, participation in on campus and off campus parties, formals, participation in Homecoming, Greek Week and other chapter events.
 - iv. **Intramural Probation**- Could limit intramural participation
 - v. **Event Probation**- Could limit participation in other campus and chapter events
 - vi. **Scholarship Probation**- Could include conduct, social, intramural, and event probation(s) as well as fines and mandatory study hours.

Section 7. – Fines

- a. Fines may be assessed as deemed necessary; however, each fine may not exceed the amount of **\$1000.00**
- b. All fines, including fines for disorderly conduct at functions, must be paid within **seven (7)** business meetings from the date it was issued.

- a. 1st offense: A formal warning will be issued to the chapter making aware of their failure to meet attendance requirements.
 - b. 2nd offense: A fine of \$50.00 will be assessed to the chapter.
 - c. 3rd offense: The chapter may be put on any of the aforementioned probations and fined \$75.00.
 - d. 4th offense: The chapter will be prohibited from Intake until requirements are met and fined \$100.00.
- c. The Executive Board and advisor may levy a fine against member organizations for violations of any part of the constitution or By-laws as recommended. The fine must be levied no later, and/or within 14 days from the date of the violation.

Section 8. - Intake Restriction

The Council of Presidents and NPHC advisor may levy a restriction of intake against chapters for violations of any part of the Constitution or By-laws as recommended. The restriction may be levied no later, and/or within 14 days from the date of the violation and may continue over semesters and/or school years.

Section 9. - Appeals

The student, group, or registered organization being disciplined may appeal a decision reached by the NPHC Executive Board and Advisor hearing. A request for an appeal must be made in writing by the student to the Dean of Students' Office within a period of seven (7) working days from the date of notification. An appeal made to the Dean of Students' Office will be reviewed to determine its merit and must be based on one or more of the following reasons:

- a. Due process rights were violated.
- b. The sanction received was arbitrarily harsh or capricious; or
- c. New evidence became available.

The student, group, or organization being disciplined must specify in detail why they believe they are entitled to an appeal. Based on its merit, the appeal will be heard by an empaneled appeals board or assigned administrative hearing officer. The decision of the empaneled appeals board or administrative hearing officer, granting or denying the appeal will be in writing. Following the notification by the student, group, or organization of intent to appeal and pending the appeal hearing, the disciplinary action taken by the university shall be stayed unless the Dean of Students' Office has determined in a case involving removal from the university that the continued presence on campus of the charged student, group, or organization poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process.

Article VIII- Finance

The fiscal year of the MSU NPHC shall be January 1 to December 31.

Section 1. - Contracts

- a. The signature of the President and the Director of Administration is required to bind the NPHC.
- b. No contract shall be signed or drawn without the permission of the NPHC advisor. Furthermore, no member or advisor shall sign or agree to a contract without it going through the proper channels of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

Section 2. - Checks

All checks issued on behalf of the NPHC shall have two (2) signatures as follows:

President and Advisor

Director of Administration and Advisor- with the knowledge of President
and Director of Administration President-with the knowledge of Advisor

Section 3. - Payments

All payments due to the NPHC shall be made to the Director of Administration, who shall record them. Checks for payments shall be made payable to the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Section 4. - Membership Dues

- a. Semester dues for each NPHC member organization shall be \$20.00 per member of each organization. These dues shall be made payable by the second general body meeting of the fall and spring semesters. If not paid by the second meeting, organizations will be assessed a \$25.00 late fee. Executive Board members are exempt from paying dues for each semester served.
- b. A Greek life infrastructure/Plot fee will be collected in addition to NPHC member dues. This payment is implemented directly by the university, not the Council, in pursuit of the impending Greek Life community center. Each organization shall be billed \$20.00 per member per organization.
- c. If excessive tardiness of dues becomes a burden, an additional penalty fee will be assessed according to the Executive Board with the Advisor's approval.
- d. Each member organization is responsible for submitting a current active member roster to the Treasurer by or before the 1st NPHC delegate meeting of the semester.
- e. Suspended member organizations shall pay dues by the first (1st) general body meeting of the semester that they are to be reactivated.

Section 5. - Restrictions

The Executive Board and/or the National Pan- Hellenic Council shall not use their monies to purchase any alcoholic beverages or any tobacco products. All Monies collected will be used to fund National Pan-Hellenic Council activities.

Section 6. -New Members Dues

All new members will be assessed a fee of \$30 to become members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council. Upon completion of the membership intake process each chapter will

have two weeks to updates their rosters to reflect the addition of their new members and two weeks to pay the dues of their new members

Article X- Order of Business

Section 1. – Order of Business

The Order of Business shall be:

Call to Order
 Roll Call
 Announcements
 Approval of Minutes
 Approval of Agenda
 Officer Reports
 Committee Reports
 Chapter Reports
 Old Business
 New Business
 Advisor's Comment
 Adjourn with Motto (Where there is unity, there is strength.)

Article XI- Meetings

Section 1. - Parliament Authority

The most recent edited edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern in all matters not provided for in this Constitution and By-laws.

Section 2. - Frequency

- a. Executive Board meetings shall be held bimonthly on the 1st and 3rd week of the month.
- b. General Body meetings shall be held bimonthly on the 2nd and 4th week of the month.

Section 3. - Special Meetings

The president shall call all special meetings. Each organization shall be notified of a special meeting in writing at least three (3) days prior to the meeting. Special meetings shall adhere to the rules and procedures of regular meetings.

Article XII- Amendments

Section 1.

To open the floor for amendments, two of the governing branches (which consist of the NPHC advisor, the Executive Board, and the Judiciary Board), must agree (by two-thirds vote) to allow amendments.

Section 2.

This Constitution shall be provisionally amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the MSU NPHC General Council membership, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given in writing at the preceding regular meeting and has been reviewed by the attorney general of NPHC.

Article XIII – Scholarship

Section 1.

The minimum grade point average for NPHC members individually on a 4.00 scale shall be a 2.6. The minimum grade point average for NPHC chapters shall be 2.6 per semester. Failure to achieve or maintain this standard will result in sanctions by the NPHC and points of action as to be determined by the NPHC advisor to include, but not be limited to mandatory study hours and attendance to class and workshop sessions.

Section 2.

The NPHC will impose the following sanctions on a chapter that fails to meet scholastic standards:

- a. The first semester that a chapter falls below the 2.6 overall GPA, the chapter will be placed on scholastic probation. Probation will serve as a warning period for the chapter to meet or exceed the GPA standard. Probation shall include the inability to conduct membership intake as well as any other affiliated social events. The chapter will only be able to conduct community service and nationally required events or programs.
- b. Community service events must be presented and approved by the NPHC Executive Board and advisor at least two weeks prior to the event.
- c. The second (2nd) consecutive semester that a chapter remains below the 2.6 standard will result in further sanctions. In addition to the social restriction above, the chapter will be restricted from participation in any University sponsored events. This will include Homecoming Step Show, Intramural, and any other events sponsored by the University.
- d. The third (3rd) consecutive semester that a chapter remains below the 2.6 standard will result in total suspension of the chapter and the loss of recognition in the NPHC. The only chapter activities allowed will be Chapter Meetings. This sanction will remain in effect until the chapter meets or exceeds the 2.6 standard.

Article XIV- Activities/NPHC Events

Section 1. – Social Affairs

- a. All NPHC events are mandatory. At least 75% of the members of an organization must be in attendance for NPHC sponsored events. At least 50% of chapter members must be in attendance for NPHC collaboration events. If a member of your organization cannot be at an event, it is the president's job to provide the NPHC advisor with a written excuse at least 48 hours in advance.
- b. Failure to provide proper attendance may result in the following sanctions as outline in the steps below:

- i. 1st offense: A fine of \$50.00 will be assessed to the chapter.
 - ii. 2nd offense: The chapter may be put on any of the aforementioned probations and fined \$75.00.
 - iii. 3rd offense: The chapter will be prohibited from Intake until requirements are met and fined \$100.00.
- c. Each chapter shall be given a period of 5 business days from the date of notification to request for an appeal, for these sanctions, in writing to the NPHC Executive Board.
- d. Participation in all NPHC-sponsored events are mandatory for all active member organizations.
 - e. No individual organizations are allowed to host events that may interfere with NPHC events. Any individual organization whom schedules an event during an NPHC-sponsored event, will lose their voting privileges for a semester and be assessed a \$500.00 fine to be paid within 10 business days to the NPHC treasurer.

Section 2. - Visibility Weeks

- a. Each individual organization is allowed one visibility week per school year, not to exceed seven (7) days long. This week will serve as a social week and a community service week. It is to discretion of each organization to determine the programs and events to be hosted during assigned visibility weeks.
- b. Events for individual visibility weeks should be submitted into Cowbell Connect two weeks prior to event even if an event is likely to change.
- c. The Council of Presidents will be implemented for mediation if problems arise between organizations about visibility weeks.

Section 3. - Fighting/Harassment

- a. In the event that a member of an NPHC organization is involved in a fight or the harassment of fellow NPHC members or non-Greek student, at an NPHC or organizational event or party, on or off campus, or on a social network (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) the involved chapter(s) will stand to lose membership intake privileges, programming privileges, voting privileges and will be assessed a fine of \$500 to be paid within 30 business days of the set hearing date. Involved organizations will be required to do a joint educational program that will be paid for by all involved chapters. The NPHC Advisor and the Director of Student Activities will decide the type of program.

Section 4. - Programming

- a. Outside of the predetermined dates of visibility weeks, all programming dates will be up to the discretion of the NPHC advisor. Priority for any date within a particular semester will be given to NPHC sponsored events. Following priority will be given to organizations on a first come, first serve basis as events are submitted via Cowbell Connect

- b. All Cowbell Connect requests should be completed at least two weeks in advance of the planned date.
- c. Cowbell Connect requests will not be approved without a location being reserved and/or a form of advertisement already created. This method of advertisement should be included in the Cowbell Connect request.
- d. If two or more organizations have scheduled events on the same day, the Advisor, along with chapter representative will determine a compromise for all participating chapters.

Section 5. - Restrictions

The possession, sale or use of any ILLEGAL DRUGS OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES while on campus premises or during a fraternity/sorority event or at any event that an observer would associate with a fraternity/sorority is strictly prohibited.

Article XV – New Members Requirements

Section 1. - Membership Intake

- a. The Membership Intake Process and Procedures for each member organization shall be in accordance with the guidelines established by The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. All intake activities including neophyte presentations must follow the current Membership Intake Guidelines. All membership intake activities shall be completed by the deadlines stated in the Membership Intake Guidelines or a deadline voted upon by the NPHC Executive Board.
- b. If Intake activities are conducted after respective dates, the chapter will be fined a minimum fee of \$500.00, and additional fines may be assessed by the NPHC Executive Board as deemed necessary.
- c. All active chapters must conduct New Membership Intake once per academic year. Chapters must follow the Membership Intake Guidelines.

Section 2. - Membership Intake Requirement

- A. In order for an organization to have membership intake they must maintain an overall chapter GPA of a 2.6 for the desired semester for membership intake.
- B. All potential new members will be required to attend the NPHC Interest Meeting which is an informational session that will inform potential new members about the NPHC's mission, rules and guidelines.
- C. All potential new members must have a 2.6 2.7 or higher GPA.
- D. All potential new members must attend NPHC Informational.

Section 3 –New Chapter Members Presentation Rules and Regulations

- A. Each organization shall have no more than 40 initiates.

- B. For organizations that observe a Legacy Clause, no more than 1/3 of selected applicants per intake period shall be legacy applicants.
- C. All funds generated by National Pan-Hellenic Council at Mississippi State University for new members presentation will be divided into eleven (11) equal parts. The NPHC will keep two (2) parts and each affiliate organization will receive one (1) part.
- D. In case where affiliate organizations are inactive or suspended, this portion will be dispersed among active organizations.

Article XVI- Hazing

Section 1.

The organizations of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. (NPHC) are committed to nurturing the ideals of sisterhood and fraternalism in an atmosphere of responsibility and respect. We are also committed to upholding the dignity and self-respect of all persons seeking membership therein. Hazing is antithetical to this commitment and is prohibited by the rules of each NPHC organization. In 1990, the member organizations of the NPHC jointly agreed to disband pledging as a form of admission. At the dawn of a new millennium, we the members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council do hereby reaffirm our unequivocal opposition to hazing and those who seek to perpetuate it.

Section 2.

WHEREAS the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. (NPHC) is comprised of local councils drawn from the ranks of 1.5 million college and professional members of the nine historically African American fraternities and sororities, namely: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. and the Council of Presidents of these member organizations who come together on issues that promote the common purposes and general good for which these organizations exist; and

WHEREAS these NPHC organizations, operating through chapters located in the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and Asia, are proud of their commitment since 1906 to scholarship, community service, leadership and the promotion of sisterhood and brotherhood in an atmosphere of respect and responsibility; and

WHEREAS these NPHC organizations are likewise committed to promoting the self-respect and dignity of all persons seeking membership in the respective organizations; and

Section 3.

WHEREAS hazing is antithetical to this commitment and is strictly prohibited by the constitution, policies and procedures of each NPHC organization; WHEREAS “pledging” has been officially abolished as a process for membership and pledge “lines” have similarly been abolished; and all members and prospective members are prohibited from engaging in hazing pledge or pre-pledge “lines”; and

WHEREAS in 1990 the NPHC organizations issued a joint statement announcing the elimination of pledging and each has instituted within its respective organization a revised membership development and intake process; and

WHEREAS each NPHC organization has instituted strong policies against hazing and has taken steps to reinforce and strengthen its stand against prohibited conduct; and WHEREAS as we begin this new century and a renewed commitment to the fundamental principles of brotherhood, sisterhood, human dignity and mutual respect, the NPHC organizations desire to make their commitment against hazing abundantly clear and fully intend for every member, prospective member, parent, university and the general public to be aware of the individual and collective position of the organizations against hazing; and

WHEREAS these NPHC organizations further desire to make known their respective commitment to hold any person who engages in hazing individually and personally liable to the monetary damages, civil and criminal penalties and severe disciplinary action by the organization, including expulsion; and

Section 4.

WHEREAS the definition of hazing has been held to include any action taken or situation created that involves or results in abusive , physical contact or mutual harassment of a prospective Fraternity or Sorority member; and that any such action is considered hazing, whether it occurs on or off the Fraternity or Sorority premises, campus or place where chapters or prospective members meet; and that hazing has also been described to include any action that results in excessive mutual or physical discomfort, embarrassment or harassment; that such activities include, but are not limited to, paddling, creation of excessive fatigue, physical or psychological shock, morally degrading or humiliating activities inconsistent with fraternal law and regulations and policies of the affiliated educational institution and federal, state or local law; and

WHEREAS such illegal conduct is inimical to the principles for which each organization stands and fails to foster respect for fellow members or preserve human dignity;

BE IT RESOLVED AND RESTATED WITH EMPHASIS ANEW that hazing, pledging, pledge “lines”, pre-pledge “lines” or post-intake hazing are strictly prohibited by these NPHC organizations; and

Section 5.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, RESTATED AND MADE KNOWN that these NPHC organizations are committed to eradicate the scourge of hazing; and to that end

That the intake process has been remodified by each organization, which permits the conduct of intake only when specifically authorized by the officer placed in charge of the process and only at such times, places and in the presence of persons specifically authorized and certified to conduct the intake process;

That prospective members and the parents of collegiate applicants are advised that hazing is not a requirement for membership, nor is it tolerated;

That members and prospective members must attest that they are fully aware of the organization’s policy against hazing and will not engage in prohibited conduct and that

the organization will fully cooperate with law enforcement authorities and with university officials in the investigation and prosecution of hazing or other illegal activity;

That members and applicants for membership are also put on written notice that they will be held responsible to the organization for violation of policies against hazing and the organization will pursue full remedies allowed by law to obtain indemnification or damages caused by the actions of the members or applicants who participated illegal, unauthorized or prohibited conduct despite notice to refrain from such conduct;

That each organization shall enforce severe penalties, including expulsion, for proven violations of its policies against hazing and impose sanctions against a chapter involved and cooperate with the university in implementing sanctions by the university;

That members and applicants for membership shall be required to immediately notify the national office of the Fraternity or Sorority, the local chapter advisor, university officials and law enforcement official of any observed hazing incident or improper activity believed to be in violation of the policy against, without fear of reprisal and their application for membership will not be affected by so doing; and, indeed, failure to report known violations may disqualify a candidate for membership; and, finally,

That these NPHC organizations shall continue to encourage their members to participate in activities which promote high scholastic achievement, sisterhood, brotherhood, loyalty and leadership; and shall continue to affirm sound values and the worth of every member working together to accomplish organizational goals and serve the community.