

THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

Mississippi State University

Revised October 4, 2021

PREAMBLE

In order to promote and perpetuate the best interests of Mississippi State University and the fraternities represented therein, to insure cooperation among said fraternities and between Mississippi State University administration and the community to the end that conditions of the fraternities and their relations with the Mississippi State University and the community may be improved, we the members of the Interfraternity Council do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Interfraternity Council of Mississippi State University.

Article I

NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1 Name

This organization shall be known as the Interfraternity Council of Mississippi State University and may hereafter be referred to as the Interfraternity Council.

Section 2 Purpose

It shall be the purpose of this Council to:

- A. Act as the governing and advising body of all North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) recognized men's social fraternities, the Fraternity Leadership Association, the Fraternity Executives Association, the National Pan-Hellenic Conference, and other fraternities recognized by the inter/national organizations.
- B. Organize, standardize, and regulate the recruitment and new member activities of said fraternities.

- C. Promote positive competition in scholarship, service, athletics, and any other events that may be deemed advisable for the betterment of the participants, fraternities, community, and Mississippi State University.
- D. Encourage cooperation and harmony among member fraternities.
- E. Provide educational programs and services for the member fraternities.
- F. Serve as the liaison between Mississippi State University administration and member fraternities in matters of common interest.
- G. Act as the judicial body for violations of the Interfraternity Council policies.

Article II

AFFILIATION

In order to fulfill its objectives, the Interfraternity Council of Mississippi State University shall be affiliated with the Southeastern Interfraternity Conference.

Article III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Types of Membership

Upon Interfraternity Council and Mississippi State University approval, all North American Interfraternity Conference, Fraternity Executives Association, and other fraternities that are inter/nationally recognized organizations shall hold membership in the Interfraternity Council.

The two (2) types of membership in the Interfraternity Council shall be the following:

- A. Associate Membership (pertaining to an inter/nationally affiliated organization that has not received the full charter from their inter/national organization but has Mississippi State University recognition).
- B. Full Membership (pertaining to chapters which have the charter from their inter/national headquarters and Mississippi State University recognition).

Section 2 Status of Membership

In order for any fraternity to continue as an active chapter on the Mississippi State University campus, said fraternity must be in good standing with the Interfraternity Council. To maintain good standing status, a chapter must meet the following requirements:

- A. Hold good standing with Mississippi State University and the chapter's inter/national headquarters.
- B. Hold recognition through the Center for Student Activities.
- C. Comply with all the document requests from Mississippi State University and the Interfraternity Council. This provision includes, but is not limited to grade release forms, new member programs, updated rosters, chapter contact information, and any other document requirements by the Interfraternity Council or Mississippi State University.
- D. Fulfill all financial obligations to the Interfraternity Council within ten (10) days.
- E. Adhere to the Interfraternity Council Constitution and Bylaws.
- F. Follow all local, state, federal laws, and the policies of Mississippi State University.
- G. Adhere to Mississippi State University's Student Code of Conduct.
- H. Consist of full-time registered students with Mississippi State University.
- I. Maintain a grade point average of 2.7 or above.

Section 3

Chapters not meeting the requirements in Article III, Section 2, will be informed of their failure to perform at an acceptable level. The chapter will go before the Interfraternity Council Conduct Board to determine the course of action. Both Associate and Full Members must meet the requirements set forth in Article III, Section 2.

Section 4

The Interfraternity Council does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, group affiliation, handicap/disability, or veteran status.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION

Section 1

The Interfraternity Council shall consist of an Executive, a Legislative, and a Judicial Branch.

Section 2

The Executive Branch of the Interfraternity Council shall consist of the Executive Council and all standing and special committees appointed by the President.

Section 3

The Legislative Branch shall be composed of the chapter president of each member fraternity.

Section 4

The Judicial Branch of the Interfraternity Council shall be composed of the Executive Vice President and each chapter's Conduct Board representatives.

Article V THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 1

The elected officers of the Interfraternity Council shall be: President, Executive Vice President, and Vice President of Administrative Affairs.

Section 2

The appointed officers of the Interfraternity Council shall be: Vice President of Recruitment, Vice President of Programming, Vice President of Community Service, and Vice President of Communications.

Section 3

The elected and appointed officers shall comprise the Executive Council which shall meet at least once per week. The President and Vice President of Administrative Affairs shall serve as the chairman and secretary, respectively, of the Executive Council.

Section 4

The following shall be the eligibility requirements for being elected or appointed to an office of the Interfraternity Council:

- A. All officers must possess a minimum 3.0 Mississippi State University cumulative grade point average as determined by the Registrar's Office.
- B. All elected officers must have passed a minimum of thirty (30) credit hours at Mississippi State University as determined by the Registrar's Office.
- C. No chapter president shall simultaneously hold any office in the Interfraternity Council, elected or appointed.
- D. No member fraternity shall have more than two (2) of its members simultaneously holding an elected or appointed office in the Interfraternity Council.
- E. All elected officers of the Interfraternity Council must have, prior to the elections semester, completed one (1) full semester as a member of the Legislative Council and/or served as a recruitment counselors (Rho Chi) and/or served on the Junior Interfraternity Council.
- F. All officers must be full-time students as defined in the Mississippi State University Handbook and as determined by the Registrar's Office.
- G. All officers must be active, dues-paying members in good standing with a Mississippi State University fraternity.

Section 5

All appointments made by the President shall come from the body of men in the member fraternities of the Interfraternity Council.

Section 6

The elected officers shall be elected to a one (1) year term by majority secret-ballot vote of those fraternities present and voting at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Legislative Council during the month of November. Forms of Intent for each elected and appointed position will open two (2) weeks prior to this date and will close at the beginning of the meeting of the Legislative Council on election day.

Section 7

All elected officers shall assume their duties after their installation at the second regularly scheduled Legislative Council meeting in the month of November.

Section 8

The IFC Executive Council shall be comprised of seven officers, three of which (President, Vice President, Director of Recruitment) being elected by the general body of IFC. The remaining 4 IFC executive officers (Director of Education, Director of Leadership Development, Director of Programming, and Director of Communication) are then appointed by the President-elect, Vice President-elect, and newly elected Director of Recruitment. Any member that will have been an active member of their chapter for two semesters by the beginning of their term is eligible to run for any IFC Executive Council position. Descriptions of each position are as follows:

A. President (Elected)

Responsibilities:

- Interact with Fraternity & Sorority Life staff (IFC Advisor) on a daily basis.
- Serve as voice for 1600+ IFC fraternity members
- Lead weekly general body meetings.
- Organize chapter president activities, dinners, etc.
- Serve as liaison between NPHC, MGC, & NPC chapters.
- Appoint all chairmen with the advice and consent of a majority of the other elected officers and the Interfraternity Council Advisor
- Create and appoint the members of any special committees that he may deem necessary.
- Serve as advisor to chapter presidents
- Organize and plan regular and special meetings of the Legislative Council and over meetings of the Executive Cabinet.
- Have the power to call special meetings of the Legislative Council when and where necessary, provided adequate notice is given.

- Be responsible for the execution of all motions passed by the Legislative Council.
- Serve as official representative of the Interfraternity Council on such committees as may be designed by the University and to other special meetings in which the Interfraternity Council may have been invited to participate. Ex: Big Dawgs
- Be responsible for the execution of all work and the proper performance of all duties assigned to all other offices or committees. He shall make recommendations to the legislative Council concerning removal from office any officer who he feels to not be performing his duties.
- Attend AFLV Conference, SEIFC Conference, IFC Presidents Retreat, and IFC Presidents' Summit (PRIME).

B. Vice President (Elected)

Responsibilities:

- Act in the capacity of the President in the absence thereof.
- Serve as advisor/chief aide to president.
- Serve as Chairman of the Conduct Board of the Interfraternity Council and shall be responsible for the performance of all the duties of that office.
- Maintain Social Matrix records.
- Present, at the first and last regularly scheduled IFC meetings of each semester, a written financial statement to the Legislative Council outlining the current financial position of the Interfraternity Council, including the amount remaining in each budgeted account.
- Hold IFC Senate Seat if Available
- Prepare and make available by the first meeting in March to each fraternity, a bill of the total amount currently owed to the Interfraternity Council. This bill shall include both assessments and fines.
- Develop and lead Jr. IFC program
-

C. Director of Recruitment (Elected)

Responsibilities:

- Implementation of a year round recruitment structure for the fraternity system
- Plan, organize, and participate in recruiting efforts, recruiting events, etc.
- Plan and carry out interest sessions for prospective recruits.
- Main planner, and contact for recruitment efforts.
- Participate in summer orientation recruitment events in Starkville
- Participate in Preview/Scholars Recognition Day events

D. Director of Education (Appointed)

- Assist in planning and organizing chapter advisor meetings and trainings.
- Assist with alumni relations efforts
- Manage and advise new member educators and bi-weekly meetings.

- Oversee new member class attendance and operations
- Implement and distribute health and wellness programs and publications
- Service as liaison between other councils concerning IFC/NIC policies and procedures.
- Host bi-weekly risk management meetings with chapter leadership
- Assist with Jr. IFC programming
- Assist chapters with academic improvement efforts
- Distribute semesterly IFC scholarships Lead Recruitment Counselor selection, training, & scheduling through formal recruitment.
- Assist in training, development, and implementation of new member experience class.
- Coordinate monthly Pledge Class President events and/or lunches

F. Director of Programming (Appointed)

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for all areas of programming.
- Create and host leadership development opportunities for IFC members.
- Identifying current issues facing our fraternity community
- Scheduling speakers
- Organizing and executing at least one IFC sponsored service or philanthropy event per semester
- Carryout one program a month for the IFC, Greek, or MSU Community.
- Helping with the logistical planning of events (booking rooms/space, etc)
- Work with Panhellenic, MGC, and NPHC to carry out the community wide projects.
- Work with the Director of Communications to promote any and all events sponsored by the IFC
- Will be required to network with the other councils (Panhellenic, MGC, and NPHC) to encourage collaboration.
- Maintain & update philanthropy calendar
- Serve as a resource for chapters during planning of community service and philanthropy efforts.
- Provide and develop diversity and inclusion opportunities and educational efforts
- Develop networking and collaboration opportunities with other councils and student organizations.

G. Director of Communication (Appointed)

Responsibilities:

- Will be responsible for all promotional and public relations materials related to IFC and the Greek community.
- Promotion of service and philanthropy within the fraternity community
- Will be responsible for all recruitment material
- Will be responsible for maintaining and updating Twitter, Facebook, & Instagram accounts

- Design and purchase t-shirts & clothing for recruitment, IFC Exec, chapter presidents, etc.
- Will work with the VP of Programming to design promotional materials for events such as Greek Week and any other programs/speakers sponsored by IFC.
- Responsible for creating and implementation of semester marketing campaign for IFC
- Responsible for organizing and publishing The Monthly Report.
- Ensure that the IFC or individual chapters receive proper recognition for their charitable efforts

Section 9

Following the election and appointment of the incoming Executive Council, a transition retreat will be held to help familiarize the incoming officers with his duties and responsibilities.

Section 10

Any vacancy of an elected officer of the Interfraternity Council shall be filled by holding nominations at the meeting at which the vacancy is formally recognized with the election at the following meeting by secret ballot.

Section 11

In the event that a fraternity is no longer a member of the Interfraternity Council while a member of that fraternity is holding an office in the Interfraternity Council, such office shall be declared vacant immediately, and an elected officer shall be filled as prescribed in Article V, Section 11; appointed offices shall be filled by appointment of the President.

Section 12

Any elected officer may be removed from office through proceeding initiated by a petition request representing at least one-half of the voting membership of the Legislative Council which may be submitted in the form of a motion at any duly constituted meeting. The motion shall be discussed and voted on at the next regularly scheduled meeting, and the officer(s) named in the

petition shall be declared removed from office upon receiving two-thirds negative vote. Any vacancy this created shall be filled according to the provisions of Article V, Section 11.

Section 13

The Assistant Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life shall be the faculty advisor for the Interfraternity Council.

Article VI

THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 1

The Legislative Branch shall be composed of the chapter president from each member chapter and shall be called the Legislative Council.

Section 2

No elected or appointed officer of the Interfraternity Council shall act in the capacity of representative of his member fraternity.

Section 3

All chapter presidents will be required to attend all official Interfraternity Council meetings. In order to vote on any issue, the chapter president must attend the meeting. If a chapter president is unable to attend, he must send a representative in his place. The chapter will not get voting privileges in such a scenario; however, the chapter will not receive an absence for the meeting. If more than three (3) meetings are missed, a fine of \$150 per absence thereafter will be assessed. The Vice President of Administrative Affairs will be in charge of recording absences.

Section 4

The presence of the voting representatives of two-thirds of the member fraternities shall constitute a quorum sufficient and necessary to carry on any business at any duly called meeting of the Legislative Council.

Section 5

Each fraternity shall be entitled to one (1) vote on each matter brought before the Legislative Council, to be administered by the chapter president.

Section 6

The President shall not have the right to vote except on any matter in which a tie vote is cast, in which case there shall automatically be a re-vote. Should a tie occur again, the President should have the power to cast the deciding vote.

Section 7

Regular meetings of the Legislative Council shall be held weekly during the school year, except during Mississippi State University closings, during periods of final examinations, or at such times as the Executive Council shall vote to dispense with the meeting.

Section 8

The time and place of regular meetings shall be set by the President at the beginning of each semester and published to the members of the Legislative Council at the first meeting of the semester.

Section 9

Special meetings may be called upon petition by the chapter presidents of one-fourth of the member fraternities or the President. In order for a special meeting to be duly constituted, at least one (1) representative of each member fraternity must be notified at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

Section 10

Meetings shall be conducted according to the Parliamentary usage prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order Revised subject to the limitations of this Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 11

All meetings of the Legislative Council shall be open to members of any member fraternity, but only members of the Council may participate in discussion, and the President shall have the right to evict any non-members who become disruptive. All chapter advisors shall have a standing invitation to all Legislative Council meetings and participate in the discussion at the discretion of the President.

Article VII

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

Operating Philosophy

All chapters and students who participate in the Mississippi State University IFC Conduct Board Process should be guaranteed a fair and objective hearing before a representation of the Mississippi State University IFC community in the case of alleged individual or organizational violation of the IFC Bylaws. The IFC Conduct Board Process experience should always be an educational opportunity to learn from past choices to in turn influence future decisions. The success of the IFC Conduct Board is contingent upon the conviction of its members to maintain a nurturing and caring environment while affording individual fraternity members and/or chapters an unbiased and equitable hearing experience.

Section 1

The Judicial Branch of the Interfraternity Council shall be composed of the Vice President and Board representatives. This group shall be the Interfraternity Council Board.

Section 2

The Interfraternity Council Board shall interpret and enforce the Interfraternity Council Constitution, Bylaws, policies, rules, and guidelines.

Section 3

The Vice President shall be referred to as the Chairman in this Article and shall preside over meetings of the Board.

Section 4

The President may remove the Chairman from office with two-thirds vote of approval by the Legislative Council. The President shall fill any vacancy of the chairman by appointment with the approval of the Legislative Council by two-thirds vote.

Section 5

No fraternity shall have more than one (1) of its members serving concurrently on the Board, other than by the Chairman.

Section 6

Each Board member shall have one (1) vote on each matter brought before the Board. The Chairman will vote only in the case of a tie.

Section 7

In each case brought before the Board, the members whose fraternities are involved will automatically be dismissed completely from any participation in the case and from any portion of the proceedings. If the Chairman's member fraternity is involved, the Chairman will be dismissed, and the Director of Communication will preside in the place of the Chairman.

Section 8

The records of Board proceedings shall be kept by the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life.

Section 9

The Board shall have the jurisdiction over member fraternities in some involving a violation of Interfraternity Council Constitution, bylaws, policies, rules, or guidelines and all cases referred to it. The jurisdiction of the Board over member fraternities shall extend to the cases involving:

- A. All member fraternities.

- B. Any single fraternity or group of fraternities.
- C. Individual fraternity members whose conduct is in violation of Interfraternity Council regulations or tends to reflect adversely on the fraternity system as a whole, and/or is under the direction of the fraternity, and/or is motivated substantially by their membership in the fraternity.
- D. Academics
- E. Chapter Conflicts
- F. Recruitment Violations

Section 10

The Chairman shall comply with the following procedures to begin the Board process:

- A. The student or fraternity affected, hereafter referred to as the accused, shall be notified in writing of specific charges brought against him and of the time and place where the hearing will be held.
- B. The letter of notification will inform the student/fraternity that he/it may bring any witnesses to the hearing to testify in his/its behalf.
- C. The letter of notification will further inform the student/fraternity that he/it may be accompanied and represented by an advisor of his/its choosing during any time he/it might appear before the Board.
- D. The letter of notification shall be emailed to the student's university email account no less than three (3) days prior to the time designated for the student's/fraternity's appearance before the Board unless a shorter period of notification is acceptable to the student/fraternity.

Section 11

The Chairman shall enforce the following procedures during the Board hearing:

- A. The hearing shall be closed to all individuals other than the following: The Board Chairman, the Board members, the Interfraternity Council Advisor, and a representative of the accused party. Upon request of the Board, other individuals may be permitted. The

presence of the voting representatives of 5 members of the Conduct board shall constitute a quorum sufficient and necessary to carry on any business at any duly called meeting of the Conduct Board.

- A. The Director of Communication shall record detailed minutes throughout the hearing and will ensure a typed copy is filed.
- B. All persons, including any witnesses are called into the hearing room. First, the Board members, the accused, and the representative will introduce themselves. The Board Chairman will begin the hearing by stating: “Thank you for attending this hearing of the Interfraternity Council Board. It is essential that all information presented in this hearing remain completely confidential. This hearing must be conducted in an orderly manner and anyone violating this directive will be asked to leave. All those participating are obligated to tell only the truth. Other actions may be pursued against anyone found to be misrepresenting the truth in this hearing. All discussion and questions must be limited to the specific acts and charges alleged in the incident report or written statement. I will now read the charges.”
- C. The Chairman will then present the charges.
- E. The accused party will be allowed to make an opening statement to the Board.
- F. Following the opening statement, the Chairman will present the findings of any investigations, police reports, or comments relevant to the case. After this presentation, the Board will have the opportunity to ask any relevant and pertinent questions.
- G. The accused party will then be asked to present to the Board any information they may feel is relevant to the case. The Chairman will state the following: “(Name and Fraternity), you have heard the charges against you. Would you like to make a statement or present any evidence on your behalf?”
- H. After the presentation, the Board will have the opportunity to question the accused party and clarify any information presented in the case.
- I. Following the hearing, all parties are dismissed, and a post hearing deliberation will begin. The Chairman will close the hearing by stating: “Is there any additional information or questions? If not, I would like to excuse all persons except for the Board members so that we can deliberate.

Section 12

The Chairman shall comply with the following procedures to conclude the Conduct Board process:

- A. The Board will first determine what information is clear and will go on to compare and contrast the information given in the hearing.
- B. A decision will then be made stating whether the accused party is “responsible” or “not responsible” for the alleged violation(s). The standard of proof by which decisions are made is met if the proposition is more likely to be true than not true (preponderance of evidence). This is decided by a simple majority vote of the Board members. The Chairman shall only vote in the case of a tie.
- C. The discussion will then shift to the sanctioning phase. The board should look at precedents set from previous hearings. The Board should also take in to account previous violations from the individual or chapter.
- D. The Board should then provide necessary, specific sanctions and provide reasons and outcomes of the proposed sanctions including a timeline for the sanctions to be completed. Sanctions should be graduated and related to the nature of the policy violation. Sanctions should strive to be educational in nature to encourage change in behaviors.

Section 13

The Board will notify the fraternity/individual of the Board’s findings and any sanctions in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of the hearing.

Section 14

Any ruling of the Board may be appealed by the responsible party if such appeal is filed in writing with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life within ten (10) days of the original hearing.

Section 15

Any appeal sanctioned from an Interfraternity Council Board hearing will be brought before an appeal board consisting of a representative from the Dean of Students Office, The Director of Student Activities, and the Interfraternity Council Advisor. After review, a decision will be

rendered, based on majority vote of this review board, concerning the sanctions. The review board may not increase sanctions originally imposed by the Board; however, the board may reduce or remove all sanctions relevant to the current review.

Section 16

The President, Vice President, and Interfraternity Council Advisor will ensure the enforcement of sanctions jointly. The Vice President will oversee the verification of all documentation presented by the organization in accordance with the Board's decision. If the sanctions are not met by the time designated by the Board, or, if the sanctions are violated, the organization will return to the Board for further review and possible additional sanctions.

Notification Template

Date:

Case number: (year followed by number of case in that year)

Chapter President member, Fraternity role

Fraternity Chapter

Email: Phone number:

Address (if needed)

Mr. _____,

This letter is to formally notify the (Insert Chapter Fraternity) chapter that a complaint has been filed against the (Insert Chapter Designation) chapter and its members. Based on the information provided by the complaint filed, your chapter and its members are being charged with the alleged violation(s) listed below:

Insert Allegations

Date and Location of Allegations

Rules Violated

A hearing has been scheduled for you to appear before the Mississippi State University Interfraternity Council Standards Board on (insert date and time) at (insert location).

Enclosed, you will find a copy of the charges filed and the information alleged against your chapter. During the hearing you will be, again, informed of the charges against your chapter and given the opportunity to respond to witnesses and present witnesses of your own. If you wish, an advisor of your choice may also attend the hearing.

It is important that you attend this hearing. Your attendance is not required for the Fraternity Standards Board to render a decision. Failure to attend will result in information and testimony being presented in your absence. Deliberation to reach a decision will follow based on the information available.

Please feel free to contact the Vice President of the Interfraternity Council with any questions.

(Insert VP name)

(closing signature)

Standards Board Minutes

Date:

Chapters Involved:

Board Members Present:

Accused Present:

Allegations:

Plea: **Responsible** **Not Responsible**

Opening Statements:

Discussion:

Closing Statements:

Findings: **Responsible** **Not Responsible**

Sanctions:

Sanction Notification Letter

Date:

Case number: (year followed by number of case in that year)

Chapter President member, Fraternity role

Fraternity Chapter

Email: **Phone number:**

Address: (if needed)

Mr. _____,

This letter is to formally notify you of the findings of the Mississippi State University Interfraternity Council Board hearing. Based on the information provided, (Fraternity Chapter) was found (responsible/not responsible) for (insert violations).

The Board has imposed the following sanction(s):

(Insert sanctions)

If you wish to appeal the sanction(s) made by the Standards Board, a written letter must be submitted to the Interfraternity Council Vice President, (insert Vice President's name and information) and the Interfraternity Council Advisor, (insert name) at (insert information).

If you have any questions, please contact the Interfraternity Council Vice President or the Interfraternity Council Advisor.

Fraternally,

(Insert Vice President Name)

Gentlemen,

This letter is to inform you of the recent hearing conducted by the Interfraternity Council Board.

On (Insert Date of Hearing), the Standards Board met to hear the accusations made against

(Insert Chapter). Upon consideration of both testimony and evidence, the Board requires (Insert

Chapter) to complete (insert punishment/educational sanction) by (insert date required for

completion). Details from this hearing can be requested from the Interfraternity Council Advisor.

If you have any questions regarding this case or wish to report any similar occurrences for

review by the Board, please contact the Vice President of the Interfraternity Council.

Fraternally,

(Insert VP Name)

Interfraternity Council Vice President

Article VIII

FINANCES

Section 1

Each chapter's semester Interfraternity Council dues shall consist of a per member (associate/active) assessment to be set by the Legislative Council each academic year when it approves the budget for that year.

Section 2

Fraternities with a chapter grade point average of 3.0 and above shall receive a ten (10) percent discount on their Interfraternity Council dues.

Section 3

Fraternity chapter dues shall be due on a date set by the Executive Vice President. This date shall be announced at least two (2) weeks in advance.

Section 4

Member fraternities have a ten (10) day grace period in which to pay all assessments in full. Beginning eleven (11) days after becoming delinquent, a \$50 per day fine will be added to the amount already owed until the payment is made in full.

Section 5

The Executive Vice President shall refer to the Conduct Board for action against any fraternity which, in his judgement, is excessively or habitually delinquent in the payment of its assessments. In this case, the Vice President of Administrative Affairs shall replace the Executive Vice President as the Chairman of the Conduct Board.

Section 6

The acting President and Vice President of Recruitment shall be compensated the sum of \$500 each for the summer provided that he stays in Starkville.

Section 7

Each Executive Council member will receive \$125 flex dollars per semester on their student account.

Article IX**CONSTITUTION COMMENTARIES****Section 1**

These Articles shall take effect immediately upon their passage and shall take precedence over and shall serve to revoke any previous Constitution of the Interfraternity Council at Mississippi State University.

Section 2

This Constitution may be amended in whole or part at any duly convened meeting of the Legislative Council by a two-thirds favorable vote of the representatives present and voting, provided that the amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the meeting of the Legislative Council at least one (1) week prior to the meeting at which the vote on the amendment is to be taken.

Section 3

All policy statements enacted by the Legislative Council shall become enforceable as of this Constitution and shall be placed in Chapter VII of the Bylaws for the duration of their enactment. However, no policy statement shall be considered valid which in any way contradicts any portion of this Constitution and Bylaws.

**BYLAWS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL
Mississippi State University**

Law 1

EXPANSION PROCEDURE

Section 1

An expansion file shall be maintained by the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life containing information on all fraternities which have indicated to either Mississippi State University or the Interfraternity Council that they are interested in establishing a chapter on this campus. This file shall contain copies of all correspondence and notations of all other contracts between that fraternity and Mississippi State University leading up to that fraternity's colonization on this campus.

Section 2

Before a fraternity may actively be considered for expansion, the following information regarding the national organization must be provided to MSU:

- A. Contact information for Headquarters Staff
- B. Organizational plan including the duties and responsibilities of the national organization, alumni, housing board, advisory board, and local chapter organization.
- C. Provisions of membership discriminatory clause if the organization has one.
- D. Requirements for membership.
- E. Policies and procedures for housing of collegiate chapters.
- F. Previous expansion summaries
- G. Names, titles, and addresses of the regional officers who would be responsible for a chapter at Mississippi State University.
- H. Names and locations of chapters within the region.
- I. Names and contact information of interested alumni in Starkville, MS, or local area.

- J. Names and addresses of any active members of the group now attending Mississippi State University if applicable.
- K. Financial assistance that the national office and alumni of the proposed fraternity will provide.
- L. Support that would be required from Mississippi State University and the Interfraternity Council.
- M. Copy of the constitution, bylaws, and other material concerning the organization.
- N. Proposed colonization date at Mississippi State University.
- O. Written statement from the national officers of the organization indicating that they understand Mississippi State University regulations, and they are willing to function under all regulations concerning fraternities as set forth by Mississippi State University and the Interfraternity Council.

Section 3

The following information shall be provided to all fraternities which desire to establish a chapter at Mississippi State University:

- A. Current information on fraternities concerning areas such as recruitment, membership, grades, etc.
- B. The Interfraternity Council Constitution and Bylaws.
- C. The Student Code of Conduct
- D. Any other information that will give an overall picture of fraternity & sorority life at Mississippi State University.

Section 4

Regardless of the nature of the initial contact with Mississippi State University, any fraternities who decide to establish a chapter at Mississippi State University will be evaluated in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth in these Bylaws. Before any new fraternity can colonize at Mississippi State University, the following actions must occur in the order stated:

- A. The on-campus interview shall include interviews with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life staff, the Dean of Students Office staff, and the Executive Council of IFC.

- B. After all fraternities invited have been interviewed, a two-thirds favorable vote by the Legislative Council shall select one (1) fraternity from those interviewed that it considers being the best fraternity for expansion.
- C. The Interfraternity Council shall then submit its decision to the Student Organization Committee for approval.
- D. If approved by the Organizations Committee, the new fraternity shall receive notification from IFC.

Law 2

DEFINITION OF FULL AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Once a new fraternity has been invited to colonize on the Mississippi State University, it must work toward becoming an associate member of the Interfraternity Council. The requirements for associate membership in the Interfraternity Council are as follows:

- A. Establish a minimum membership of fifteen (15) men.
- B. Attain a minimum colony grade point average equal to or above the all men's average for the previous semester.
- C. Elect these officers or their equivalents: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
- D. Establish a room, building, or residence hall that is accessible to all members for regularly scheduled meetings.
- E. Submit a detailed budget which shows evidence that they will be able to satisfactorily meet all financial obligations.
- F. Receive a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Legislative Council.

Section 2

After the new fraternity becomes an associate member; it must then work toward becoming a regular member. The requirements for regular membership in the Interfraternity Council are as follows:

- A. Complete a minimum of one (1) semester, but not more than two (2) years, as an associate member of the Interfraternity Council.

- B. Receive a charter from its national fraternity.
- C. Attain a minimum grade point average equal to or above the all men's average for the previous semester.
- D. Submit a formal petition to the Interfraternity Council stating in full its desire for regular membership in the Interfraternity Council, and the fulfillment of the above requirements.
- E. Receive a two-thirds favorable vote of the total membership of the Legislative Council.

Section 3

Should the petitioning fraternity fail to meet all the above requirements within the maximum three (3) year period, it shall be considered terminated.

Law 3

RECRUITMENT RULES

Section 1

At least one (1) month prior to the end of the semester, the Legislative Council shall enact a comprehensive set of recruitment rules for the following semester, which for the course of that semester shall have the status of a portion of these bylaws. These recruitment rules may be amended any time prior to the beginning of the formal recruitment week that semester.

Section 2

The president and recruitment chairman of each fraternity shall be given a copy of the recruitment rules approved by the Legislative Council for the following semester at least three (3) weeks prior to the end of the preceding semester.

Section 3

Any fraternity guilty of a gross violation as determined by the Conduct Board shall automatically be suspended from participation in all Interfraternity Council recruitment programs for the course of the semester.

Law 4

RISK MANAGEMENT/SOCIAL EVENTS/ALCOHOL POLICY

Section 1

Greek letter organizations strive to ensure the safety of their members and guests, as well as to provide an opportunity for responsible social interaction. The community also expects alcohol education from their chapters and recognizes abstinence from alcohol as healthy choice for its members.

Section 2

The Interfraternity Council fraternities at Mississippi State University are responsible for following their respective inter/national policies, Mississippi State University policy, local, state, and federal laws.

Section 3

To register a chapter social event, the chapter must complete the following:

- A. Register the event with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life by submitting an Event Form through the OrgSync portal.
- B. Receive approval for the event forty-eight (48) hours prior to the event.
- C. Use a guest list for events at a fraternity house where alcohol is present.

Section 4

Chapters are prohibited from having social functions until their president, social chairman, risk manager, and new member educator have attended the Fall Risk Management Seminar provided by the Dean of Students Office.

Section 5

Without having to call a Conduct Board hearing, the Executive Council reserves the right to reprimand any Interfraternity Council fraternity that does not meet the minimum required attendance percentage at any of the minimum standards events throughout the academic year. For the first failure, a warning will be issued, and for any repeated failure, the fraternity in

question will be required to pay a fine of \$25 per missing member. The Executive Council also reserves the right to omit the warning in serious cases and immediately require the fine, only in rare cases to which the fraternity showed a complete disregard and lack of respect to the event. Fraternities can also notify the Executive Council of any reasonable excuses ahead of time to why the respected fraternity cannot meet the required percentage of attendance and will be allowed to not meet the required percentage.

Law 5

POLICY STATEMENTS

The Interfraternity Council and its member fraternities shall also be governed by the following documents:

- A. Mississippi State University Student Handbook.
- B. North-American Interfraternity Conference.
- C. Fraternal Information and Programming Group Guidelines (FIPG Guidelines).

Council Standards

Chapters must follow Federal law, State of Mississippi law, City of Starkville ordinances, and Mississippi State University policy.

Chapters must achieve an average GPA above the Mississippi State University all men's average GPA.

Chapters must maintain an updated copy of their governing constitution and bylaws.

Chapters must have a copy of their event checklist, member education plan, academic achievement plan, and dues structure on file with the Interfraternity Council.

Chapters must attend and participate in programming and educational events hosted by the Interfraternity Council, the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life, and/or Mississippi State University. Specific participation requirements will be set for each event or program.

Chapters will not operate a Designated Driver program.

All registered events must follow Mississippi State University Policy and registration processes.

All registered events must be submitted a minimum of two weeks before the event.

All registered on campus events must have off duty law enforcement officers.

The Mississippi State University Interfraternity Council also adopted the policies below on January 27, 2019.

NIC ALCOHOL & DRUG GUIDELINES

1. In any activity or event sponsored or endorsed by the chapter/organization, including those that occur on or off organizational/chapter premises:

The chapter/organization, members and guests must comply with all federal, state, provincial and local laws. No person under the legal drinking age may possess, consume, provide or be provided alcoholic beverages.

2. The chapter/organization, members and guests must follow the federal law regarding illegal drugs and controlled substances. No person may possess, use, provide, distribute, sell, and/or manufacture illegal drugs or other controlled substances while on chapter/organizational premises or at any activity or event sponsored or endorsed by the chapter/organization.

3. Alcoholic beverages must either be:
 - a. Provided and sold on a per-drink basis by a licensed and insured third-party vendor (e.g., restaurant, bar, caterer, etc.); or
 - b. Brought by individual members and guests through a bring your own beverage (“BYOB”) system.

The presence of alcohol products above 15% alcohol by volume (“ABV”) is prohibited on any chapter/organization premises or at any event, except when served by a licensed and insured third-party vendor.

4. Common sources of alcohol, including bulk quantities, which are not being served by a licensed and insured third party vendor, are prohibited (i.e., amounts of alcohol greater than what a reasonable person should consume over the duration of an event).
5. Alcoholic beverages must not be purchased with chapter/organizational funds or funds pooled by members or guests (e.g., admission fees, cover fees, collecting funds through digital apps, etc.).
6. A chapter/organization must not co-host or co-sponsor, or in any way participate in, an activity or event with another group or entity that purchases or provides alcohol.
7. A chapter/organization must not co-host or co-sponsor an event with a bar, event promoter, or alcohol distributor; however, a chapter/organization may rent a bar, restaurant, or other licensed and insured third-party vendor to host a chapter/organization event.
8. Attendance by non-members at any event where alcohol is present must be by invitation only, and the chapter/organization must utilize a guest list system. Attendance at events with alcohol is limited to a 3:1 maximum guest-to-member ratio, and must not exceed local fire or building code capacity of the chapter/organizational premises or host venue.
9. Any event or activity related to the new member joining process (e.g., recruitment, intake, rush, etc.) must be substance free. No alcohol or drugs may be present if the event or activity is related to new member activities, meetings, or initiation into an organization, including but not limited to “bid night,” “big/little” events or activities, “family” events or activities, and any ritual or ceremony.
10. The chapter/organization, members or guests must not permit, encourage, coerce, glorify or participate in any activities involving the rapid consumption of alcohol, such as drinking games.

Mississippi State Interfraternity Council Requirements for Social Events

The **MAX** number of social events any IFC Fraternity is allowed to have per semester at Mississippi State is 10. In order to be granted 10 social events the chapter must complete certain requirements outlined in this document. The requirements have been separated into five different sections with each one having an equal weight of granting two social events upon completion for the next semester. For example, it is possible for a chapter to complete 4 out of the 5 sections to be granted 8 social events for the following semester. The sections are as follows: Grade Point Average (GPA), Involvement, Community Outreach, Educational Programing, and Alcohol-Free Events.

To achieve all possible social events (2) in regards to GPA, a chapter must have a combined member average of 3.25 or higher. Any chapters that have a combined member average of 3.24 to a 3.0 will be granted 1 social event for the following semester. Any chapters that have a combined member average below a 3.0 will not be granted any social events from the GPA section.

To receive all possible social events (2) in regards to Involvement, a chapter must have at least 60% of its members involved in one or more campus organizations. Any chapter that has between 59% and 45% of its members involved in one or more campus organizations will be granted 1 social event for the following semester. Any chapters that have less than 45% of its members involved in 1 or more campus organizations will not be granted any social events from the Involvement section.

To receive all possible social events (2) in regards to Community Outreach, a chapter must host a philanthropy event as well as have a member average of 5 or more community service hours to be granted the full 2 social events for the following semester. Any chapter that only hosts a philanthropy event but does not have a member average of 5 or more community service hours will only be awarded 1 social event for the following semester. As well as any chapter who does not host a philanthropy event but has a member average of 5 or more community service hours will be granted 1 social event for the following semester. Any chapter that does not met or exceed either qualifications will not be granted any social events from the Community Outreach section.

To receive all possible social events (2) in regards to Educational programing, a chapter must do a campus approved form of Health and Wellness programing as well as Co-Host an event with another campus organization. Any chapter that does a campus approved form of Health and Wellness programing but does not Co-Host an event with another campus organization will only be granted 1 social event for the following semester. Any chapter who does not complete any form of Health and Wellness programing but does Co-Host an event with another campus organization will only be granted 1 social event for the following semester. As well as any chapter who does not fulfill either requirements will not be granted any social events from the Educational Programing section.

To receive all possible social events (2) in regards to Alcohol-Free Programming, a chapter must host a campus approved form of Alcohol-Free Brotherhood programming as well as Host an Alcohol-Free event. Any chapter that does a campus approved form of Alcohol-Free Brotherhood programming but does not Host an Alcohol-Free event will only be granted 1 social event for the following semester. Any chapter who does not host any form of Alcohol-Free Brotherhood programming but does Host an Alcohol-Free event will only be granted 1 social event for the following semester. As well as any chapter who does not fulfill either requirements will not be granted any social events from the Alcohol-Free Programming section.

The Matrix is outlined as Follows:

	Two Social Events	One Social Event	No Social Events
<i>GPA</i>	4.0-3.25	3.24-3.0	≤ 2.99
<i>Involvement</i>	≥ 60%	59%-45%	≤ 45%
<i>Community Outreach</i>	Host 1 Philanthropy event as well as 5+ Hours of Community Service per member	Host 1 Philanthropy event OR have a chapter average of 5+ hours of community service per member	Neither
<i>Educational Programing</i>	Complete a campus approved Health and Wellness Program as well as Co-Host an event with another campus organization	Complete a campus approved Health and Wellness program OR Co-Host an event with another campus organization	Neither
<i>Alcohol-Free Programing</i>	Host an Alcohol-Free Brotherhood Program as well as an Alcohol-Free Event	Host an Alcohol-Free Brotherhood Program OR and Alcohol-Free Event	Neither