TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL
BYLAWS

ARTICLE I
LEGISLATION

Section 1. All members of the Executive Council, both elected and appointed, except the president, may bring motions before the Interfraternity Senate and participate in all discussion.

Section 2. All legislation, when approved by the Interfraternity Senate in the proper manner, shall be binding upon all the member chapters of the Interfraternity Senate.

ARTICLE II
CANDIDATES, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Candidates

A. The following officers are to be elected annually:

1. President
2. Executive Vice President
3. Parliamentarian
4. Vice President for Administrative Affairs
5. Vice President for Finance
6. Vice President for Interfraternal Relations
7. Vice President for Public Relations
8. Vice President for Recruitment
9. Vice President for Scholarship

B. Qualifications

Officers of the IFC Executive Council shall:

1. Have and maintain active status within their fraternity.
2. Have completed thirty semester credit hours of academic coursework prior to the academic year in which the position will be held.
3. Have at least a 2.5/4.0 cumulative GPR or a 3.0/4.0 GPR for the semester preceding their election, while taking a minimum of 12 semester credit hours per semester.
4. While in office stay enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester credit hours, unless the officer does not need 12 hours to graduate.
5. Maintain at least a 2.5/4.0 GPR for every semester he is in office.
6. Be in good standing and registered as a student at Texas A&M University.
7. Belong to a recognized IFC chapter that is in good standing
8. Candidates for the office of President must have previously served in the capacity of at least one of the following
   a. On the IFC Executive Council;
   b. On the IFC Judicial Board, having heard at least one case;
   c. As an IFC Director;
   d. As a chapter president for at least a semester;
9. Candidates for the office of Parliamentarian must have previously served in the capacity of at least one of the following:
   a. On the IFC Executive Council
   b. On the IFC Judicial Board, having heard at least one case
   c. As an IFC Director
   d. As a chapter president or judicial/standards boards chairman for at least a semester

Section 2. Nominations and Election

A. All men seeking candidacy for an IFC Executive Council position shall submit the Nominee Certification Form by 5 p.m. the day prior to election(s) for the office(s) they are seeking.

B. At the first meeting of the Interfraternity Senate during the month of February, nominations for the Vice President for Recruitment shall be taken. The election for this position shall take place at the following IFC Senate meeting.

C. At the last meeting of the Interfraternity Senate during the month of March, nominations for all remaining Executive Council Positions shall be taken. The elections for these positions shall take place at the following IFC Senate meeting.

D. Procedures

   1. All meetings of the Interfraternity Senate that include elections, shall take place without recess or adjournment, and have 2/3’s of chapter representation from chapters currently in good standing with the IFC in attendance.

   2. All voting shall be conducted by secret ballot assembled, distributed, and collected by the IFC Parliamentarian.
3. The election of officers shall take place in the following order: President, Executive Vice President, Parliamentarian, Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Vice President for Finance, Vice President for Interfraternal Relations and Vice president for Public Relations.

4. All men whose candidacies have been certified shall be allowed to deliver a speech to the Interfraternity Senate. Candidate speeches shall be delivered in alphabetical order by last name. Any candidate not speaking shall leave the room. These speeches shall be no longer than three (3) minutes. Immediately following each candidate’s speech, the Senate Floor shall be open for questions directed to the candidate. Candidates for the president’s position will have a three (3) minute question period and all other candidates will have a two (2) minute question period. The Vice President of Administrative Affairs shall monitor all time keeping.

5. After all of the candidates have spoken and fielded questions for a respective office, the Senate Floor shall be open for a period of two (2) minutes. During this time, all candidates shall remain outside of the room.

6. Immediately following the completion of open-discussion, the Parliamentarian shall distribute the secret ballots. There shall be a separate ballot for each position.

7. The Parliamentarian and IFC Advisor shall count the votes and announce the winner prior to moving onto the election for the next position.

8. Providing no candidate receives fifty-one (51) percent of the votes, a run-off election shall be held immediately after each respective general election between the two candidates receiving the most votes in the general election. A candidate must secure a simple majority of the votes in the run-off election to be declared the winner. Each candidate shall be allowed an additional two (2) minutes to give a speech. The non-speaking candidate shall remain outside of the room. After both candidates have spoken, the senate floor shall be open for a period of two (2) minutes. Candidates shall remain outside of the room until after the votes have been tabulated.

**ARTICLE III**

**OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

Section 1. Duties of Elected Officers
A. All duties of elected officers are outlined in the IFC Operations and Procedures Manual.

Section 2. Vacancies

A. Resignation of Executive Council positions shall be submitted in writing to the Interfraternity Senate

B. Nominations and elections for vacancies on the Executive Council shall be made at the Interfraternity Senate meeting immediately following receipt of the official written resignation.

C. The term of office for those elected to fill such a vacancy on the Executive Council shall be through the next scheduled election of the Executive Council officers.

D. If the office of president is vacated, The Executive Vice President will assume the position. An election will be held to fill the Executive Vice President position.

Section 3. Procedure for Removal of Executive Officers

A. All elected officers may be subject to removal by the Interfraternity Senate.

B. Removal procedures may be initiated by written petition of not less than 1/4th of the total membership of the Interfraternity Senate.

C. A removal of any members of the Executive Council may be executed by 2/3rd ballot vote of the members of the Interfraternity Senate.

D. The Council shall then hold elections for the vacancy in accordance with the Section 3 of this Article.

ARTICLE IV
RECRUITMENT

Section 1. Eligibility

A. Any man who has completed thirty (30) or more hours of academic course work must have no less than a 2.5 cumulative GPR to receive an invitation to pledge a member fraternity.

B. Member fraternities shall not extend an invitation to pledge to any man who is not enrolled in at least twelve (12) credit hours at Texas A&M University. However, men enrolled in the Blinn Team Program are eligible for fraternity membership, if allowed by the inter/national headquarters of that fraternity.
Section 2. Informal Recruitment

A. Formal recruitment is the second full academic week of each semester. The remaining weeks shall be considered informal recruitment weeks.
B. Informal and formal recruitment shall be without the use of alcohol.

Section 3. Formal Recruitment

A. Formal Recruitment shall begin the midnight before the first scheduled formal recruitment event, and shall end at midnight after the last scheduled formal recruitment event. All other times of the year are considered “Informal” unless otherwise agreed upon by the Interfraternity Council.

B. The Vice President for Recruitment shall be responsible for collecting the schedules for each chapter’s formal recruitment. Member fraternities shall only perform formal recruiting activities with potential new members during the formal recruitment period.

C. All formal recruitment events shall take place within a twenty (20) mile radius of Bryan/College Station.

D. Alcoholic beverages shall not be advertised in connection with any recruitment event.

E. Organizations may participate in extended recruitment or continuous open recruitment after Bid House during the fall and spring semesters if permitted to do so by the Interfraternity Council.

Section 4. Bid Cards and Registration

A. Each chapter shall submit bid cards for every potential new member they are extending a bid to by Wednesday of formal recruitment by 11:59 p.m. to the Greek Life Main Office.
   1. There will be a fine of $45 imposed on any fraternity who turns in their bid cards past the designated time.
B. Any form of bid (verbal or written) extended prior to the time each new member is able to pick up their bid card(s) on the Thursday of formal recruitment at 8 a.m. shall be considered an “early” bid and is strictly forbidden. Any violation of this early bid policy will result in a hearing by the Judicial Board to determine further sanctions.

C. Every potential new member who is to walk the steps on Bid Day must be registered and paid in the recruitment database by Wednesday of formal recruitment at 11:59 p.m.

D. Potential new members will be allowed to pick up their bid cards from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Thursday of formal recruitment.

E. Potential new members will be allowed to sign and return their accepted bid cards from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Thursday of formal recruitment.

Section 5. General

A. Recruitment activities during formal recruitment cannot include any behavior that may be considered sexist or degrading to women.

B. No member fraternity should, at any time, purposely misrepresent its chapter in order to benefit its own recruitment process. This includes but is not limited to, providing false information in academics, athletics, awards (University, Inter/nationally), membership status or any other forms of recognition status at Texas A&M University.

ARTICLE V
FINANCES

Section 1. The Executive Council shall present a budget to the Interfraternity Senate at the last March Senate meeting. This budget shall outline the financial operation of the Interfraternity Council for the calendar year from the date of its approval.

Section 2. Chapters shall be assessed $15.00 for each new member who is added to the IFC database by the start of Formal Recruitment or to their roster at any time throughout the semester.

Section 3. Chapters shall be assessed $45.00 for each new member who is added to the IFC database during Formal Recruitment.

Section 4. Chapter Member Rosters

A. Chapters shall be assessed $15.00 per member each semester. These dues shall be calculated based on a roster provided to the Vice President of Finance at the beginning of each semester. The due date for this roster, and
its content shall be determined by the Vice President of Finance but no later than 45 days after the start of the semester.

B. Chapters that fail to provide a current roster to the Vice President of Finance will be invoiced as follows:

1. Active chapter members shall be considered the total number of Active Members from the previous semester.
   
   a. New Members shall be assessed as the number of new members from the current semester and the number of New Members listed for the previous semester.

   b. A fee of 10% the total amount owed will be assessed on the Invoice.

C. Chapters relegated to the Affiliate Council as outlined in Article VII(3) shall be charged a participation fee assessed at a rate of 60% of full chapter dues. This fee shall be paid in accordance with the standard Interfraternity Council payment and penalty schedule.

Section 5. Each fraternity shall be notified by email or at the Interfraternity Senate meetings for the charges due to the Interfraternity Council. Upon receipt of the invoice, payment is due in full. Penalties may be imposed and will remain in effect until the balance is paid in full or alternative arrangements are made with the Vice President for Finance. The payment penalty schedule is as follows:

0-14 days: No Penalty

15-30 days: Finance charge of 10% of remaining balance owed; Suspension of voting privileges.

31-60 days: Additional 10% finance charge of balance owed; Inter/national office contacted and advised of delinquency.

60+ days: Continued 10% finance charge of balance owed assessed each month; Loss of all Interfraternity Council privileges; Referral to the Judicial Board for further review.

Section 6. A member fraternity may appeal to the Executive Board for an alternative payment schedule, which would waive the above stated plan. Any given plan shall be approved with a 3/4ths majority vote of the Executive Council.
ARTICLE VI
JUDICIAL BOARD

Section 1. There shall be a judicial body of the Interfraternity Council known as the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board.

Section 2. Regulations

A. The Board shall perform all duties and be subject to all regulations contained in the Interfraternity Council Judicial Code.

B. The Code shall become effective upon adoption by a 3/4ths vote of the Interfraternity Senate.

ARTICLE VII
CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Section 1. Scholarship

A. Any chapter that falls below the All Men’s University GPR during a given semester shall be issued a written warning. This chapter’s scholarship chair must meet with the Director of Scholarship monthly the following semester to discuss an action plan and review their chapter’s progress. If the chapter again falls below the All Men’s University GPR, they will be referred to the Judicial Board for a hearing to determine the necessary course of action.

B. Each semester, the Interfraternity Council shall award two (2) scholarships to individuals in its member fraternities. The winners shall be selected through an application process, and voted on by the Executive Council and the Director of Scholarship.

Section 2. Community Service and Philanthropy

A. IFC Fraternities associated with or hosting events in order to raise money for philanthropic purposes or perform community service shall:

   1. Refrain from having their event sponsored in any way by an alcoholic brand, distributor, or establishment generating more than half of its annual gross sales from alcohol;

   2. Not utilize alcohol in any way to promote the event;

   3. Only be required to maintain a guest list if alcohol will be present at the event;
4. Contact its inter/national headquarters to learn if their present insurance policy covers the event;

5. Secure insurance when their current policy does not cover the event.

Section 3. Chapter Expectations
A. In order to maintain active status within the IFC Senate, a chapter must score at least 90 points (out of a possible 219) on the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life’s Chapter Expectations Report. Failure to obtain the required score will result in a year-long relegation to the Affiliate Council.

B. Chapters may be reinstated as full IFC members by meeting the following criteria:

1. The Chapter completes its Affiliate Council term in material compliance with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life’s expectations, the IFC constitution, and has fulfilled the duties outlined in the Affiliate Council Charter.

2. The Chapter receives a score in the range of “Accomplished” or higher on the Affiliate Council “Chapter Portfolio Evaluation” rubric scored by the IFC Senate and based on the portfolio submitted to the community.

3. The Chapter receives a majority vote from the IFC Senate in favor of reinstatement.

Section 4. Little Sister Programs

A. Little Sister Programs shall be defined as a women’s sub-organization of any fraternity chapter which requires a framework including: officers, rituals, meeting schedules, dues collection, member rosters, hazing/initiation rites, or recruitment practices to acquire new women for the organization.

B. Little Sister Programs are strictly prohibited.