

**INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL**  
**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH**  
**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

ΚΣ    ΔΣΦ    ΒΘΠ    ΣΠ    ΘΧ    ΩΔΦ    ΔΧ

**PREAMBLE**

Fraternalities at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh exist by the consent and support of the University administration and the Oshkosh Student Association. Recognizing that close InterFraternity, University and community relationships are essential in promoting and perpetuating the ideals of fraternity life, we hereby establish for that purpose the InterFraternity Council of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

We the InterFraternity Council at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh are individuals coming together for a common purpose. To promote Knowledge, foster Leadership, facilitate Social Interaction, and teach true Gentlemanly Conduct, knowing more can be accomplished collectively than individually.

Ratified: March 1991

Revised: February 6, 2007

**ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1.

- A. A chapter or colony may petition the InterFraternity Council for a membership hearing at any official meeting of the IFC. The petition will be accepted with a majority vote. The membership hearing will be held for two consecutive meetings then called to a vote on the 2nd meeting. Acceptance of membership will require a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the total membership of the IFC (each chapter receiving one (1) vote), where upon the chapter or colony shall be admitted as a member of the IFC.
- B. All fraternities must be a member of the IFC to be recognized by the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

SECTION 2. Developmental Status

- A. Colonies with less than one year IFC recognition are on developmental status.
- B. Colonies that are on developmental status are exempt from membership dues and may fully participate in IFC meetings with exception of vote.
- C. Colonies with less than one year IFC recognition are considered in a developmental status unless they declare regular status by the second meeting of the semester.

SECTION 3. Inactive Chapter

- A. No recognition by IFC and/or the University of Wisconsin/Oshkosh
- B. If a chapter becomes inactive according to the IFC bylaws as stated in Article 5 Section 1 Clause D, the inactive chapter is still required to pay dues to the IFC.
- C. No participation in any University or Greek sponsored events is allowed

**ARTICLE II REPRESENTATIVE**

SECTION 1.

Each fraternity shall have a member with at least 1 full year of fraternity experience as the official representative. Each fraternity shall have one vote.

**ARTICLE III ELECTIONS**

SECTION 1. Nominations shall be open for the first time two (2) weeks prior to the elections. Nominations shall be reopened the day of elections.

SECTION 2. Elections for President, VP of Recruitment, and VP of Membership Development will be held at third week prior to the end of the Fall semester. Elections for VP of Philanthropy and Secretary/Treasurer will held at three (3) Weeks prior to the end of Spring Semester. In case of a tie, two (2) re-votes will be taken following discussion. If a tie vote remains, the IFC President shall break the tie. The new officers will take office the week following elections.

SECTION 3. The order of elections shall be as follows: President, Vice President of Recruitment, Vice President of Membership Development, Vice President of Philanthropy, and Secretary/Treasurer. The Executive Board will appoint positions and committees as necessary with a two thirds (2/3) vote of approval by the Council.

SECTION 4. Election Day

- A. The officer nominees will be allowed to give a no more than a five minute speech and distribute literature about their platforms

- B. All elections shall be by secret ballot.
  - C. The nominees will not be present for deliberations and voting.
- SECTION 5. Qualifications of Officers
- A. No fraternity President may hold any office of the IFC while he is serving as President of his fraternity.
  - B. All IFC officers must be full-time students at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh with a cumulative GPA equal to or greater than 2.5 at the time of the election.
  - C. All officers of the IFC shall have been in attendance at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh for at least one (1) full school year immediately prior to the time of the election.
  - D. All officers of the IFC must be members in good standing in their respective fraternity for one (1) full year immediately prior to the election and during their term.
    - 1. It is the chapter's president's responsibility to verify standing of nominees within the chapter.
  - E. All officers of the IFC must be or have been an Executive Board member or Committee Chairmen of their fraternity.
  - F. No individual fraternity shall hold more than two IFC Executive Board positions.
  - G. All officers must report their cumulative GPA to the Greek advisor at the completion of each semester.
  - H. All officers must be members of a recognized fraternity.

**ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- SECTION 1. Duties of the President are:
- A. To conduct the meetings of the IFC and Executive Board.
  - B. To call special meetings of the IFC and the Executive Board when necessary.
  - C. To supervise all activities and operations of the IFC.
  - D. To represent the IFC in all dealings with the university administration, other Greek organizations, and the general public.
  - E. To serve as an ex-officio member of all IFC committees, including Judicial Board.
  - F. To immediately appoint an IFC Chairman to oversee the following special events: Greek Week, Greek Man of the Year.
  - G. To be responsible for the maintenance of the IFC office.
  - I. To verify qualifications of officers under Article III, Section 5.
  - J. To sit as the Chief Justice of the Judicial Board.
- SECTION 2. Duties of the Vice President of Recruitment:
- A. To form and Chair a committee of Recruitment Chairman, to direct and coordinate the IFC's Recruitment Program, and an evaluation of this Recruitment Program.
  - B. To develop and coordinate an IFC Summer Recruitment publication to be sent to all incoming freshmen and students who are not members of a fraternity.
  - C. To be in charge of overseeing compliance of the adopted recruitment rules and Article VII.
  - D. To assume the role of President, in absence of the elected President.

- SECTION 3. Duties of the Vice President of Membership Development:
- A. To serve as chairman of retreats in areas of fraternity operations.
  - B. To develop a program to enhance the scholarship of the fraternities with IFC approval.
  - C. To manage all Risk Management concerns. (Ref. to Article IX).
  - D. To Chair the expansion committee
- SECTION 4. Duties of the Vice President of Philanthropy:
- A. To collect and maintain a list of all possible philanthropic events.
  - B. To coordinate at least two All-Fraternity community service projects per year.
  - C. To promote the activities of the fraternities at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh through campus and local news outlets.
  - D. Shall investigate all charges brought before the Judicial Board.
  - E. To be the Presenter of IFC's case in the Judicial Board hearings and proceedings
  - F. To educate and train all member chapters in the utilization of the Judicial Board
  - G. They shall be responsible for assembling a report of Greek Community which will be given to the Chancellor as well as Vice Chancellor For? Student affairs.
- SECTION 5. Duties of the Secretary/ Treasurer:
- A. To submit to the IFC before the end of semester a financial statement.
  - B. To bill for, receive, disburse, and keep accurate account of all IFC funds, so that he can give an accurate financial report at any time.
  - C. To conduct seminars on the financial aspects of fraternities during the year if needed.
  - D. Is responsible for chairing a fund raising committee if needed.
  - E. To record the minutes of all IFC and Executive Board meetings.
  - F. To distribute the minutes of all meetings with one copy going to each fraternity president, the Greek Life Advisor and the Panhellenic President.
  - G. To report the financial transactions of each week at the IFC Meetings.

## **ARTICLE V MEETINGS**

### **SECTION 1.**

- A. The IFC shall charge each chapter a five-dollar (\$5.00) per initiated member semester fee at the first meeting of each semester.
- B. A fine of 10% of the amount due shall be assessed weekly if the bill is not paid in full by the third meeting of the semester.
- C. A \$5.00 fine per fraternity per meeting (unexcused) missed will be assessed for the next semester's dues.
  - I. An absent is define as missing the old and new business portions of the meeting.
- D. Three (3) unexcused absences will result in the loss of voting rights for the remainder of the semester and the Chapter will be listed as inactive as defined by Article I Section 3.
  1. An inactive Chapter may appeal to the body one (1) time in the same

semester they were put on inactive status to regain IFC/University of Wisconsin Oshkosh recognition, but the Chapter's voting rights will still remain lost.

2. If the Chapter has five (5) unexcused absences, that Chapter will be listed as inactive for the rest of the current semester and lose its voting rights for the entire current and next semester.

SECTION 2.

- A. IFC meetings shall be run by Roberts Rules of Order.
- B. The president must review parliamentary proceeding at the first meeting of each semester.

SECTION 3. Voting

- A. Quorum shall be set at one-half (1/2) of the Fraternities on the Council with voting rights plus one (1).
- B. No voting may be conducted without a quorum present.

**ARTICLE VI HAZING**

SECTION 1 Introduction

- A. Membership in a fraternity at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh should be a valuable and beneficial experience. Registered fraternities are encouraged to provide new members with an orientation that is positive, informative, and consistent with federal, state, and local laws, and policies and procedures at UW Oshkosh. Specifically, hazing will not be tolerated by any fraternity at UW Oshkosh.

SECTION 2 Definition

- A. Hazing activities are defined as: "Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on, outside or inside of the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution, or applicable state law." Adapted from the FIPG
- B. In this section "forced activity," means any activity, which is a condition of initiation or admission with a fraternity, regardless of a student's willingness to participate in the activity.
- C. No person may intentionally or recklessly engage in acts, which endanger the physical health or safety of a student for purpose of initiation or admission into a Fraternity. Under those circumstances, prohibited acts may include but are not limited to brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, and branding, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, forced confinement or any other forced activity which endangers the physical health or safety of the student.

## **ARTICLE VII RECRUITMENT GUIDELINES**

- SECTION 1. A Recruitment event is defined as formal documentation or literature distributed about the event, being held at the chapter house or another location off campus where the majority of the members are present with the intent to recruit new members.
1. Literature and posters may be distributed at any time.
- SECTION 2. All fraternities will participate in dry recruitment. Any infraction shall be brought before the IFC Judiciary Board.
- SECTION 3. Before a Fraternity officially initiates in a new member, that person must participate in a new member workshop held by the IFC Advisor. A failure to do this will result in an infraction being brought before the IFC Judiciary board.
- SECTION 4. Compliance with these guidelines shall be monitored by the IFC Vice-President of Recruitment.
- SECTION 5. All infractions shall be brought before the IFC Judiciary Board.
- SECTION 6. All chapters must give a copy of their initial individual Recruitment Schedules to the Vice-President of Recruitment and the IFC Advisor by the first day of the semester.
1. An updated schedule of events (if changed) must be turned into the Vice-president of recruitment and the IFC advisor.

## **ARTICLE VIII FRATERNITY EXPANSION PROCEDURES**

Realizing that growth is important to the fraternity system, the UW-Oshkosh-IFC hereby sets forth the following procedures for colonization on the campus. The IFC and the University jointly reserve the right to invite specific fraternities to be subject to the expansion procedures from the time of first contact with the IFC and/or fraternity advisor until accepted as a voting member of the IFC.

### SECTION 1.

- A. An expansion committee will be formed every fall semester to determine the feasibility of expansion of the fraternity system. The committee will consist of one (1) member from each chapter approved by the IFC and the IFC Advisor. The committee will be chaired by the Vice-President of Membership Development.
- B. If it is determined that expansion is a possibility, the expansion committee will notify former UWO chapters, NIC fraternities, and any other national fraternities that they are accepting expansion requests. If expansion is not feasible, an advisory letter will be sent to the IFC Advisor.
- C. The expansion committee will set minimum guidelines by which invitations for a campus presentation will be given. Former UWO chapters will be preference.
- D. The committee shall report its findings to the IFC.

### SECTION 2.

- A. Upon invitation, a staff member of the national fraternity shall meet with

members of the Expansion Committee at which time the fraternity's representative shall provide the following information:

1. Number of colonization successes; number of colonization attempts in the last five (5) years and the names of those institutions.
  2. Number of colonization attempts presently pending and names of the institutions.
  3. Name of the institution housing the nearest chartered chapter of the fraternity and its status.
  4. Reason for interest in colonizing at UW Oshkosh.
  5. Status of housing corporation and plans for facilities at Oshkosh.
  6. A copy of its National Constitution and/or By-laws.
  7. Any other documents deemed necessary by the expansion committee.
- B. This information will be examined by the Expansion Committee. Upon review the committee will invite a group of candidates to make presentations before the IFC.
- C. After presentations to IFC, at the following IFC meeting, the entire IFC shall vote to recommend or not recommend admission of a particular fraternity. A three-fourth (3/4) vote will permit the colonization of that chapter.
- D. A letter shall then be sent by the Vice President of Membership Development to the IFC Advisor advising him/her of IFC approval or disapproval of particular fraternity colonization. With University approval, a joint invitation will be extended to the approved fraternity.

### SECTION 3.

- A. The approved fraternity must establish an interest group within national guidelines.
- B. Once an interest group has been established it must report to the next IFC meeting for recognition (Ref. Article 1, Section 1).
- C. The interest group will then have 30 days to submit a plan for colonization.

### SECTION 4.

- Upon being granted permission to expand at the University, the new interest group is a non-voting member of the IFC. The new interest group shall:
- A. Receive all services granted to the other IFC chartered chapters.
  - B. Pay no dues to the IFC, but be expected to participate in all fund raising and other activities that benefit the UW-Oshkosh fraternity system.
  - C. Provide the IFC with a report at each IFC meeting on the status of the colonization.

### SECTION 5.

At the time the National Fraternity Office installs the local colony a petition may be made to the IFC at any regular meeting, and then called to a vote at the next IFC meeting. Acceptance of the petition by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the total membership of the IFC (each chapter with one (1) vote) shall admit the chapter as a member of the IFC. At the time of acceptance the chapter shall pay a fifty-dollar (\$50.00) admission fee.

## **ARTICLE IX Social/Party/Alcohol Policy**

The following guidelines have been adopted by the IFC in an effort to ensure the safety and future existence of the University Fraternity System. These guidelines include universal rules for all fraternities under the jurisdiction of the IFC.

SECTION 1. Definition of a Social/Party/Function (here within referred to as social): A social is an event involving alcohol characterized and defined by one or more of the following, but not limited to:

- A. Registration through the IFC or PHC.
- B. Any chapter member took part in the coordination of the event for the benefit of other members of the chapter.
- C. Chapter funds from the treasury, individual members, or collective member's monies were used to sponsor the event.
- D. The following indications of forethought imply a social:
  - i. Information concerning the event was announced in a chapter meeting.
  - ii. Information concerning the event was posted in the chapter meeting.
  - iii. Band/DJ or other entertainment present.
  - iv. Attendance List.
  - v. Workers Present.
  - vi. Bar.
  - vii. Common area of substantial amount of people.
  - viii. All attendees from the same chapter.
  - ix. Advertisement via bulletin boards or electronic media (i.e. listservs, Facebook, Myspace, etc.)
- E. Any event an observer would associate with the fraternity or sorority.

SECTION 2. Alcohol Control

- A. The possession, sale, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages, while on chapter premises must be in compliance with any and all applicable state and local laws.
- B. All events should comply with the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Alcohol Policies.
- C. One or more fraternity executive officers must be in charge of each door distinguishing minors from those of age.
- D. There will be 1 sober monitor per 20 guests
- E. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through the chapter treasury nor may the purchase of alcohol for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter.

SECTION 3. Security/Safety

- A. All socials are to be "invitation only".
- B. All non-members are to be signed up beforehand on a guest list that is checked at the door.

SECTION 4. Social Announcements

- A. Every social function is to be announced at the IFC meeting prior to the event-taking place.
- B. The sanctioned IFC social form must be completed 24hrs prior to the event and returned to the IFC executive board.

1. If a change is needed on the social form, the IFC President or

VP of Membership Development must be contacted prior to the event.

SECTION 5. Enforcement

- A. The president of each chapter is responsible for the announcements accuracy. The IFC will monitor all organized fraternity functions and oversee compliance with Risk Management concerns.
- B. Violation of these guidelines will be dealt with by the IFC Judicial Board.
- C. The degree of severity of any sanction placed upon a chapter will be determined by the IFC Judicial Board.

**ARTICLE X JUDICIARY BOARD**

SECTION 1. Composition

- A. The IFC Judicial Board shall be composed of the two delegates representing each member fraternity, but that member fraternity appearing before the board will have representation with no vote.
  - 1. IFC Executive Board officers will serve as ex-officio members of the Judicial Board hearings and proceedings. They will be able to voice their opinions, but will have no vote.
  - 2. Deliberations will consist of two members of each fraternity with one vote from each fraternity. The IFC Executive Board officers will be present, but have no vote.
    - a. No members of the accused fraternity shall be present for deliberations.
  - 3. The President serving as Chief Justice will speak only on matters of due process and will have no vote.
  - 4. The Chief Justice will also appoint a Secretary to record the minutes. The Secretary shall have no voice during the proceedings or vote.
- B. The President, serving as Chief Justice, will be the presiding officer (except in those cases as seen in Article X, Section 3, and Part C) and a non-voting member of the board, ensuring due process and a non-voting member of the Board.
  - 1. The President shall designate the Vice-President of Philanthropy to present IFC's case and if he is a member of the accused fraternity, the President shall designate a different representative with approval of the IFC.
- C. Special sessions called hearings of the IFC shall be called prior to the convening of the Judicial Board proceedings to discuss matters concerning the items listed under Article X, Section 2.

SECTION 2. Powers

- A. The IFC Judicial Board has jurisdiction and may take any measures it deems appropriate in cases involving:
  - 1. Alleged infractions of IFC rules and regulation, constitution.
  - 2. Final interpretation of the IFC constitution.
  - 3. Controversies between two or more fraternities.
  - 4. Violation of University rules and regulations by fraternities.

### SECTION 3. Procedure

- A. Complaints shall be registered in writing with the Vice-President of Philanthropy of the IFC, within 14 days of the legal infraction.
  1. The Vice-President of Philanthropy will investigate the matter and convene the Judicial Board hearing within 14 days of receiving the complaint if necessary.
- B. A Judicial Board trial will be held according to the following outline:
  1. A Hearing of the charges will be held within 14 days of the complaint being filed.
  2. The Proceedings will be held one week following the Hearing (if necessary).
    - i. All parties involved in the trial will present their case at the Proceedings.
    - ii. The Judicial Board will put together a draft of sanctions.
  3. The Sanctioning will be held one week following the Proceedings (if necessary).
    - i. The Judicial Board will finalize and approve the sanctions.
    - ii. The Judicial Board will deliver the sanctions to the accused.
- C. In the event the Chief Justice is a member of the chapter that is being accused, the Chief Justice will appoint the Vice-President of Recruitment with approval of the Interfraternity Council.
- D. Decisions and sanctions of the Judicial Board shall be considered binding, having obtained a three-fourths consent of the voting member delegates present.
- E. The Chief Justice shall appoint a Secretary at the hearing to record minutes of the proceedings.
- F. The Chief Justice shall file a written report with the President of each of the fraternities, the Greek Advisor, and any other necessary parties.
  1. One week after the Judicial Board trial the Judicial Board will reconvene to distribute and approve the minutes.
- G. Any sanction shall be determined only by the Judicial Board and at the time of the hearing all conditions of the restrictions will be determined.

### SECTION 4. Sanctions

Sanctions placed on a member fraternity/colony for violations may include, but not be restricted to, the following:

- A. Member fraternities/colonies shall maintain their delegate to the IFC as provided for in the constitution with voice, but no vote.
- B. Any Chairman of an IFC committee may be replaced.
- C. A probation period of up to two (2) semesters: The conditions will be decided upon by the IFC Judicial Board in keeping with the violation.
- D. Any other restrictions of lesser nature deemed necessary and appropriate by the IFC Judicial Board.

### SECTION 5. Expulsion of IFC Member Fraternities

- A. A member fraternity may be expelled from the IFC for any violation of the IFC Constitution, Judicial Code, or University rules and the chapter's

risk management policy.

- B. A recommendation for expulsion of a fraternity may be made to the President only upon a unanimous vote of the Judicial Board in accordance with Article X, Section 3.
- C. Expulsion proceedings and evidence must be filed with, collected by, and carried out by the IFC Judicial Board.
- D. Expulsion of a fraternity from IFC results in loss of University recognition; which includes recommending a charter revocation from the fraternity's national body.

**SECTION 6. Appeal Procedure**

- A. The IFC Appeal Board will consist of three (3) students (non-Greek) from the Student Conduct Panel of the Oshkosh Student Association (OSA), and the University Greek Advisor will be a non-voting member of the board.
- B. A request delineating the grounds for a hearing before the Appeal Board must be made in writing to the University Greek Advisor within one week of the decision of the Judicial Board.
  - 1. The ruling of the IFC Judicial Board will remain valid and in effect until such time as the Appeal Board has reached its decision.
- C. The decision of the IFC Judicial Board may be upheld or modified, but not increased in severity.
- D. The decision of the Appeal Board is final, pending review of the IFC President as to a conclusion beyond a reasonable doubt that such charges are indeed violations of written IFC law; and that the appeal proceeding was conducted in a just and fair manner.
- E. The decision of the Appeal Board will be sent in writing to each member fraternity of the IFC.

**ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

- SECTION 1. Any member of the IFC may propose amendments to the constitution. Such proposed amendments shall be filed with the secretary for submission to the IFC.
- SECTION 2. At the next meeting following submission of proposed amendments, such amendments shall be valid as part of this constitution when and if approved by a Two Thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates of the IFC.
- SECTION 3. Copies of all amendments to the IFC Constitution and By-Laws shall be kept by the President and distributed to each member fraternity.
- SECTION 4. The executive board shall establish a By-Laws Committee every two years to review the By-Laws and suggest any possible revisions.

**ARTICLE XII STATEMENT OF POSITION ON SCHOLASTICS**

- SECTION 1. The goal of each fraternity will be to maintain a GPA at, or above, the all-male GPA at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Each chapter should maintain a minimum GPA of 2.50.