

**CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL AT
Texas A&M University - Kingsville**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article I - NAME

Article II – PURPOSE OF THE IFC

ARTICLE III – IFC MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE IV – IFC GENERAL BODY

ARTICLE V – IFC EXECUTIVE BOARD

ARTICLE VI – OFFICER ELECTIONS

ARTICLE VII – THE IFC COUNCIL

ARTICLE VIII – JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE IFC

ARTICLE IX – IFC COMMITTEES

ARTICLE X – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE XI – AGREEMENTS, RULES, AND POLICIES

ARTICLE XII – VIOLATIONS

(MODEL BYLAWS)

ARTICLE I – RULES

ARTICLE II – FINANCES

ARTICLE III – ROLE OF THE IFC REPRESENTATIVE

ARTICLE IV – ROLE OF THE IFC EXECUTIVE BOARD

ARTICLE V – ROLE OF THE IFC JUSTICE

ARTICLE VI – ELECTED OFFICERS

ARTICLE VII – ROLE OF THE IFC ADVISOR

ARTICLE VIII – IFC CODE OF CONDUCT

ARTICLE IX – IFC JUDICIAL POLICY

ARTICLE X – EXPANSION POLICY

ARTICLE XI – RECRUITMENT POLICY

ARTICLE XII – HAZING

ARTICLE XIII – PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND

BYLAWS

MISSION

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) at Texas A&M University - Kingsville created this Constitution and Bylaws to promote better cooperation and coordination between its Member Fraternities and the university. This is done in line with the guidelines set by the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC).

BASIC EXPECTATIONS

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) at Texas A&M University - Kingsville recognizes and upholds the Basic Expectations of Fraternity Membership, as outlined by the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC). These expectations are applied to the behavior of every Fraternity member at the university, and the Fraternities are responsible for ensuring that their members and pledges/associates follow them.

The following Basic Expectations have been set to guide the conduct of Fraternity members:

1. Understand and live by the ideals expressed in the Fraternity's ritual.
2. Strive for academic success and uphold academic integrity.
3. Respect the dignity and worth of all people and avoid any form of abuse.
 4. Never engage in or tolerate hazing.
 5. Ensure the health and safety of all individuals.
6. Respect both personal and others' property, and do not tolerate property abuse.
 7. Fulfill financial responsibilities promptly.
 8. Do not use or support illegal drugs.
 9. Do not abuse or support the abuse of alcohol.
10. Respect and promote the Greek life community on campus.
11. Maintain a clean and safe environment for both physical and mental well-being.
12. Encourage fellow members to follow these expectations and address any violations.

ARTICLE I – NAME

This organization shall be known as the Interfraternity Council (IFC) at Texas A&M University - Kingsville.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE OF THE IFC

The purpose of the Interfraternity Council (IFC) is to:

1. Provide a governing structure for its Member Fraternities.
2. Promote the interests of its Member Fraternities and the University, focusing on scholarship, leadership, and responsible citizenship.
3. Foster a respected and strong environment for Fraternities.
4. Serve as a platform for discussing issues and policies affecting the Member Fraternities.
5. Promote the interests of Texas A&M University - Kingsville.
6. Encourage cooperation among the Member Fraternities.
7. Facilitate cooperation between the IFC, other governing councils, and student organizations at Texas A&M University - Kingsville.
8. Promote collaboration between the IFC and the university's students, faculty, staff, and local community.
9. Provide a Judicial Board to handle matters involving one or more Member Fraternities that concern other Fraternities or the University.
10. Organize events for Member Fraternities, such as recruitment, Greek Week, and guest speakers.
11. Promote the Greek system by informing the University and non-Greek students about it.

ARTICLE III – IFC MEMBERSHIP

Section I: Membership Eligibility

- **Full Membership:** Open to chapters or colonies of Fraternities that are part of a North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) member organization or any internationally or nationally recognized organization.
- **Associate Membership:** Open to chapters or colonies of local, state, or regional Fraternities that aren't part of NIC, NALFO, MGC, NPHC, or other internationally or nationally recognized organizations. These can join the IFC as Associate Members.

Section II: Membership Classification for Member Fraternities

- **A. Full Member:**
 1. Fraternities with a charter from their international or national organization.
 2. Full Members have all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities as outlined in the IFC Constitution and Bylaws.
 3. Must have been in existence at Texas A&M University - Kingsville for at least one year after being recognized by the university.

- **B. Associate Member:**
 1. Includes Fraternity colonies or local Fraternities.
 2. These groups have up to two years to gain international or national recognition and become Full Members.
 3. Associate Members have all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, but do not have voting rights, cannot hold IFC Executive Board positions, and cannot be part of the IFC Judicial Committee. Both Full and Associate Members are considered Member Fraternities under the IFC Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE III – IFC MEMBERSHIP

Section III: Minimum Expectations for Member Fraternities

Each Member Fraternity must adhere to the following expectations:

A. Compliance with Policies: Follow:

1. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and other policies.
2. Texas A&M University - Kingsville's rules and regulations.
3. Values-based conduct of fraternity men.

B. Academic Expectations: Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 for both active members and new members each semester. If an active member's GPA falls below 2.5, they must attend study hours, tracked by the Academic Chairman, and may face fines unless valid, documented exceptions are approved.

C. Financial Obligations: Pay all dues, fees, and fines to the IFC.

D. Membership Rosters: Submit rosters to the IFC President and Greek Advisor:

1. Active Member Roster: Due within one week of the semester start.
2. New Member Roster: Due within one week of pledging new members.

E. Attendance Policies: Follow the attendance policies for the IFC General Body and IFC Judicial Committee meetings.

F. Event Participation: Participate in all required IFC events.

G. Tobacco and Alcohol: Refrain from using tobacco or alcohol at mandatory IFC or Texas A&M University - Kingsville Greek Life events.

H. University Recognition: Maintain status as a recognized Student Organization at Texas A&M University - Kingsville.

I. Upholding the Constitution: Follow the IFC Constitution and Bylaws as the governing document for fraternal matters.

If a Member Fraternity fails to meet any of these expectations, the matter may be referred to the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs for review.

Section IV: Membership Status for Member Fraternities

Membership status is determined as follows:

A. Good Standing: A Fraternity that meets all minimum expectations and is not under any sanctions.

B. Good Standing on Probation: A Fraternity that is under Non-Status Sanctions but meets the minimum expectations.

C. Poor Standing: A Fraternity under suspension or failing to meet minimum expectations.

Section V: Suspension

A Fraternity may be suspended for financial issues or misconduct, resulting in the loss of IFC privileges.

Section VI: Removal from the IFC

A Fraternity may be removed from the IFC if:

A. Its charter is revoked by its national organization.

B. Its recognition is removed by the university.

C. The IFC may recommend removal if the chapter violates IFC, university, or legal rules, requiring a 2/3 majority vote.

Section VII: Reinstatement

To rejoin the IFC, a Fraternity must:

A. Be unrecognized by the University for at least one year.

B. Have recognition from its national organization.

C. Obtain a 2/3 majority vote from all chapters for re-admission.

Section VIII: Individual Member Definitions

A. Active Member: A man initiated into a fraternity at Texas A&M University - Kingsville.

B. New Member: A man who has accepted a bid but has not been initiated.

C. Potential New Member: A man who has not accepted a bid from any fraternity.

Section IX: IFC Affirmation and Adoption of NIC Standards

The IFC adopts the NIC standards, requiring each Member Fraternity to:

A. Communicate its values through its Ritual at least annually.

B. Provide educational programming on academic achievement, alcohol, career prep, civic engagement, hazing, leadership, sexual assault, and ethics.

C. Adopt the following policies:

1. Minimum educational standards for Potential New Members.
2. Maintain a cumulative GPA requirement of at least 2.5 or above the all-men's average.
3. Limit New Member education to a 12-week program.
4. Have risk management policies for alcohol, fire safety, hazing, and sexual assault.
5. Support open recruitment and expansion.
6. Keep recruitment and New Member education alcohol-free.

ARTICLE IV – IFC GENERAL BODY

The IFC General Body holds the governing legislative power of the IFC. It is responsible for establishing policies, electing the Executive Board, and guiding the Executive Board in its activities. The General Body respects the sovereignty of each Member Fraternity and does not transfer governance authority to any other body.

Section II: IFC General Body Composition

The IFC General Body consists of voting IFC Representatives from each Member Fraternity.

Section III: IFC Representatives

Each Member Fraternity selects one IFC Representative to serve in the IFC General Body.

Section IV: IFC Alternate Representatives

Each Member Fraternity may also choose an IFC Alternate Representative to step in and represent the Fraternity if the main IFC Representative is absent.

Section V: IFC Representative and Alternate Representative Eligibility

To serve as an IFC Representative or Alternate Representative, an individual must:

- Be an Active or New Member in good standing of a Member Fraternity.
- Maintain good academic standing at Texas A&M University - Kingsville.
- Represent the ideals and principles of fraternity life and conduct themselves professionally.
- Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution, Bylaws, university policies, NIC Standards, and FIPG risk management policies.
- Not be a current member of the IFC Executive Board or serving as the Fraternity's IFC Judicial Committee Justice.

Section VI: Term of Office of IFC Representatives

The term of office for IFC Representatives lasts until their graduation, resignation, or replacement by the Member Fraternity, or if they are elected to the IFC Executive Board or serve as their Fraternity's IFC Judicial Committee Justice.

Section VII: IFC Representative Cord Recognition

IFC Representatives who complete a full-year term and graduate are eligible to receive a recognition cord.

Section VIII: IFC General Body Meeting Policies

Meetings of the IFC General Body are governed by these guidelines:

- A. Meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order.
- B. A quorum is established when a majority of Member Fraternities are present.
- C. Regular meetings will be held at least twice a month during the academic year.
- D. Special meetings can be called by the IFC President or by two Member Fraternities, with at least 72 hours' notice.
- E. Each Member Fraternity's IFC Representative or Alternate must attend all meetings. Absence may lead to referral to the Vice President of Judicial Affairs.
- F. After two or more absences per semester, the Member Fraternity will be referred to the Vice President of Judicial Affairs.

- G. Any guest speaker must notify the council president at least five business days prior to the meeting.
- H. Each IFC Executive Board member and Representative must submit a weekly report to the IFC Secretary. Failure to submit reports three times will result in a \$10 fine for each additional occurrence.

Section IX: IFC General Body Voting Policies

The voting policies for the IFC General Body are as follows:

- A.** Each Member Fraternity in good standing has one vote.
- B.** IFC Executive Board members do not have voting rights.
- C.** In case of a tie, the **IFC President** will cast the deciding vote.
- D.** Except for the election of IFC Executive Board positions, all votes will be **public** (no secret ballot voting).

ARTICLE V – IFC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section I. IFC Executive Board

The IFC Executive Board is responsible for carrying out the purpose and policies of the IFC and for its day-to-day operations and activities, as directed by the IFC General Body Section II. IFC Executive Board Composition

The IFC Executive Board shall be composed of the following positions, with duties and responsibilities outlined within the IFC Bylaws:

- A. President
- B. Vice President of Judicial Affairs
- C. Vice President of Recruitment
- D. Treasurer
- E. Secretary
- F. Scholarship Chair
- G. Community Member Relations Chair

Section III: Duties of the IFC Executive Board

- **A.** The Executive Board has the authority to amend IFC policies, if they don't conflict with the Constitution or university rules.
- **B.** They work with the IFC Advisor to coordinate beneficial events for chapters and the Greek community.
- **C.** They support and guide chapters through recognition programs and other events.

Section IV: IFC Executive Board Eligibility

- **A.** Must be an Active Member in good standing of a Member Fraternity.
- **B.** Maintain good academic standing.
- **C.** Be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours at Texas A&M University - Kingsville.
- **D.** Minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA, maintained throughout the term.
- **E.** Be financially in good standing with the chapter.
- **F.** Candidate chapters must be full members in good standing.
- **G.** Chapter presidents cannot run for IFC president.
- **H.** Officers cannot serve if their chapter is suspended.
- **I.** Must have served as a delegate for one semester before running for office.
- **J.** Must have served on the IFC Executive Board for one year before running for president.
- **K.** Be dedicated to fraternity life ideals and the IFC mission.
- **L.** Must understand the IFC Constitution, Texas A&M policies, NIC standards, and risk management policies.
- **M.** Cannot be an IFC Representative or Judicial Committee Justice for their chapter.
- **N.** Must complete judicial policies and procedures training.
- **O.** No more than two Executive positions may be filled by members of the same fraternity, unless decided by the Greek Advisor.
- **P.** If no eligible candidate exists for president, the position may be filled by the IFC Board, with assistance from the Greek Advisor and a 3/4 vote of the IFC General Body.

Section V: IFC Executive Board Meeting Policies

- **A.** Meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order.
- **B.** A majority of the Executive Board members present will constitute a quorum.
- **C.** Regular meetings are held weekly.
- **D.** Special meetings can be called by the President or three members with 48 hours' notice.
- **E.** Members must attend all meetings. Failure to do so may result in removal.
- **F.** Exceptions can be made for holidays, etc., by a majority vote.
- **G.** At least 2/3 of the Executive Board must be present for official business.
- **H.** Roundtables may be scheduled by officers to discuss specific areas of interest.
- **I.** Two weeks' notice is required for roundtable announcements.

Section VI: IFC Executive Board Voting Policies

- **A.** Each Executive Board member gets one vote.
- **B.** The IFC President refrains from voting unless there is a tie, in which case they cast the deciding vote.
- **C.** The Board makes decisions necessary for the betterment of the IFC.

Section VII: IFC Executive Board Election Policies

- **A.** Applications for office are available in November.
- **B.** Elections are held at the last IFC meeting in November.
- **C.** The term starts the week after elections and ends the following November.
- **D.** Each chapter casts one vote per position.
- **E.** Majority vote elects the officers. In case of a tie, the highest-ranking officer who is not related to the candidates casts the deciding vote.

Section VIII: Report of IFC Officers

- Newly elected or appointed officers must be reported to the NIC within a week of election or appointment.

Section IX: Vacancy of Office

- **A.** If the presidency becomes vacant, a 2/3 vote from the Board is needed to appoint a new president.

- **B.** Other vacancies are filled by an application process, with candidates approved by the IFC Advisor and voted on by the General Body by simple majority.

Section X: Removal from Office

An officer may be removed from office for:

- **A.** Violating the Student Code of Conduct or university policies.
- **B.** Failing to meet GPA requirements.
- **C.** Not fulfilling duties.
- **D.** Exceptions to removal must be approved by a 3/4 vote.
- **E.** Two unexcused absences from meetings in a semester.
- **F.** Becoming unaffiliated with their fraternity.

Section XI: Executive Board Cord Recognition

Officers may be eligible for a cord upon completing a full year of service, with recognition at graduation.

Section I: Application

Applications: Available at least two weeks before elections.

Requirements: Candidates must submit an application and have their GPA and credit hours confirmed by the IFC Advisor.

Section II: Format and Procedure

Presiding Officers: The IFC President and Secretary/Treasurer will preside over the election process unless they are candidates themselves. In that case, the next lower officer takes over.

Voting Procedure:

- Only non-voting members will sit during speeches but must leave during voting.
- **Election Order:** President, Vice President of Judicial Affairs, Vice President of Recruitment, Secretary, Treasurer, Member Relations, Community Relations, and Scholarship.

Section III: Speeches and Presentations

Time Limit: Each candidate has 3 minutes for their speech.

Order of Speeches: Candidates will speak in alphabetical order based on their last name.

Post-Speech: After speeches, the council may provide a maximum of 3 'pros' and 3 'cons' for each candidate.

Section IV: Voting

Voting Method: Secret ballot.

Vote Counting: The President, Advisor, and Secretary will count the votes.

Announcement of Results: The President will announce the outcome, but the actual vote count will not be disclosed.

Tie or No Majority: If no candidate gets a majority, the floor opens for additional 'pros' and 'cons' before another vote is taken, after three pros and cons are voiced.

ARTICLE VII – THE IFC COUNCIL

Summary of IFC Council Structure and Policies

Section I: The Composition of the Council

- The Council is composed of:
 - The **IFC Advisor**
 - The **Executive Board**
 - **One delegate from each member chapter**

Section II: The Duties of the IFC Council

- The Council serves as a forum for discussing issues and ideas concerning the Greek Community.
- Proposals or changes made by a chapter or the Executive Board, or any issues affecting the entire Greek community, must be passed through the Council.

Section III: Attendance Policies

- **Weekly Meetings:** The Council will meet once a week, with the time and date for the first and last meetings announced by the IFC President.
- **Attendance Requirements:**
 - Attendance is **mandatory** for both the Executive Board and Council delegates.
 - **Unexcused Absences:** \$5 fine. If an Executive Member is absent, the chapter they represent will be fined \$5.
 - **Tardies:** Three tardies will count as one absence.

Section IV: Representation

- **Voting Rights:**
 - Each chapter gets one vote on Council matters, **excluding the Executive Board**.
 - Chapters must select their **delegate and an alternate delegate** for a term of one year, aligning with the Executive Board's term.
 - **Alternate delegates** attend only if the primary delegate is unable to attend.
 - Delegates must report back to their chapters on the Council's decisions.

Section V: Voting

- **Full Members:** Each full-member chapter has one vote, cast by the delegate, and the delegate must have the authority to vote on behalf of their chapter.
- **Associate Members & Suspended Chapters:** Not eligible to vote. They may share their opinion unless restricted by their national organization.
- **Absentee Votes:** If a chapter is absent, their vote is lost, and there will be **no voting by proxy**.

Section VI: Fraternity Events

- **Event Attendance:**
 - Member chapters must attend all **IFC-sponsored** events, and any event deemed **mandatory by the Greek Advisor**, with at least **70% of the chapter roster present per semester**.
 - Chapters failing to meet this attendance requirement will be fined **\$10 per missing member**, up to the required attendance amount.
 - The **mandatory event requirement** will be announced 2 weeks in advance, along with the fine policy.
- **Excuse Policy:** Excuses for mandatory events must be submitted **48 hours before** the event.
- **Weekly Reports:** Each **IFC Executive Board member** and **IFC Representative** must send a weekly report to the **IFC Secretary**. Failure to submit a report after the third time results in a **\$10 fine** for each subsequent occurrence.

ARTICLE VIII – JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE IFC

Section I: IFC Judicial Committee Jurisdiction

The **IFC Judicial Committee** has the authority to handle cases involving alleged violations by Member Fraternities. This includes violations related to:

- The **IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct**, and other policies
- The **rules and regulations** of **Texas A&M University - Kingsville**
- The general **values-based conduct** of fraternity members

Section II: IFC Judicial Committee Composition

The **IFC Judicial Committee** will consist of:

- **One IFC Justice** from each Member Fraternity, chosen by that fraternity
- The **IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs**, who will serve as the **Chair** of the committee

The Committee is governed by the **Judicial Board bylaws**.

Section III: IFC Judicial Committee Duties

The Committee has the authority to:

- **Amend policies** related to the Judicial Committee (as long as it does not conflict with the Constitution).
- Serve as the **disciplinary body** of the IFC, addressing violations of IFC or University policies.
- In certain situations, the **Greek Advisor** or **Dean of Students** may take disciplinary action without involving the Judicial Committee.

Section IV: IFC Justice Eligibility

To serve as an **IFC Justice** for a Member Fraternity, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- Be an **Active Member** or **New Member** in good standing of both their fraternity and the University.
- Must be **currently enrolled** at Texas A&M University - Kingsville with a **minimum of 6 credit hours** and a **cumulative GPA of 2.5**.
- Conduct himself in a manner consistent with the **Mission** and **Purpose** of the IFC.
- Have a working knowledge of:
 - The **IFC Constitution and Bylaws**
 - **Texas A&M University policies**
 - **NIC Standards**
 - **FIPG risk management policies**
- **Not** be a current member of the **IFC Executive Board** or serve as their fraternity's **IFC Representative** or **Alternate Representative** for the IFC General Body.
- Complete **formal judicial policies and procedures training** before participating in hearings.
- After serving one full term, a justice may be eligible to serve as the **IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs**, provided they meet all other Executive Board eligibility requirements.

Section V: Term of Office of IFC Justices

- The term of office for an **IFC Justice** is **two (2) full semesters**.

Section VI: IFC Judicial Policy

- The **IFC Judicial Committee** will perform all its duties and be governed by the rules and regulations contained in the **IFC Judicial Policy** in the **Bylaws**.

ARTICLE IX – IFC COMMITTEES

Section I: Standing Committees

The **IFC** shall establish the following **Standing Committees** to assist in fulfilling the responsibilities of the IFC. These committees are appointed by the **IFC President** and **Executive Board** and serve for the duration of the Board's tenure:

1. **Recruitment Committee**
2. **Finance Committee**
3. **Scholarship Committee**
4. **Member Development Committee**
5. **Community Relations Committee**

Each of these committees is chaired by a member of the **IFC Executive Board** responsible for overseeing the respective committee.

Section II: IFC Committee Meeting Policies

All committees of the IFC are required to conduct their meetings according to the following guidelines:

- The most recent edition of **Robert's Rules of Order** shall be followed for all meetings.
- A **majority of committee members** present will constitute a quorum, allowing the committee to conduct business.
- Each committee will meet as **called by its committee chair**, based on the committee's schedule and needs.

Section III: IFC Committee Member Penalties

To ensure accountability and commitment, committee members must adhere to the following obligations. Failure to meet these obligations will result in penalties, as outlined below:

Obligations include:

- Attendance at **committee meetings**
- Participation in **events** they volunteered for

- **Completion of assigned tasks**
- If a committee member has **two unexcused absences**, they will be **removed from the committee**, and their fraternity will be required to replace them before the next committee meeting.
- If a committee member consistently fails to fulfill their duties, their fraternity will be referred to the **IFC Judicial Board** for further action.

ARTICLE X – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Section I: Constitutional Amendments

The **Constitution** may be amended by a **three-fourths (3/4)** affirmative vote of the **IFC General Body**, if notice of the proposed amendment has been provided to the Member Fraternities at the preceding regularly scheduled business meetings of the **IFC General Body**.

1. **Proposed amendments** to the Constitution or its **Bylaws** must be presented in writing to the **Executive Board** before being brought before the Council.
2. The proposed amendment must be **tabled for one week**, allowing time for review, and then voted upon at the next **regular meeting**. A **two-thirds (2/3)** majority vote from the voting delegates is required for passage.
3. All amendments to the **Constitution** and **Bylaws** take effect only after being approved by the **Interfraternity Council Advisor**.

Section II: Adoption

This **Constitution** shall become effective and will supersede all previous **Constitutions** of the IFC once it has been adopted by a **three-fourths (3/4)** affirmative vote of the **IFC General Body**.

ARTICLE XI – AGREEMENTS, RULES, AND POLICIES

All Texas A&M University - Kingsville IFC rules and policies should not conflict with the Texas A&M University System policy and procedures, the Texas A&M University - Kingsville Student Code of Conduct, the Recognized Student Organization handbook, the specific policies of the individual national and international organizations, or federal, state, or municipal laws that govern the University.

ARTICLE XII – VIOLATIONS

Section I. Hearing Process

A. Standards Board: The accused shall have a hearing before the Fraternity Standards Board to determine if a violation occurred.

B. Sanctions: If found responsible, the Board will assign appropriate penalties, such as fines or probation.

Section II. Appeals Process

A. Right to Appeal: Organizations found responsible can appeal to the Executive Board within 10 business days.

B. Appeal Review: The Executive Board will review the appeal and decide whether to uphold, modify, or overturn the decision.

Section III. Admission of Responsibility

A. Voluntary Admission: An organization may admit its violation and accept responsibility with the IFC Advisor.

B. Sanctions: If the organization admits responsibility, sanctions will be determined by the IFC Advisor and Fraternity Judicial Board without a hearing.

MODEL BYLAWS
BYLAWS OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL AT TEXAS
A&M UNIVERSITY - KINGSVILLE

ARTICLE I – RULES

Section I. Meetings

All meetings and business of the organization shall be conducted according to Parliamentary Procedure as outlined in the 9th or most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE II – FINANCES

Section I. Calendar Year

The fiscal year runs from **September 1st to August 31st**.

Section II. Expenditures

- Expenditures must be approved by the **President, Treasurer, and Advisor**.
- **Two signers** are required for all contracts and checks.
- All contracts involving university funds must go through the university's approval process.
- Officers must get approval before making purchases, and receipts are required for reimbursements.
- **Alcoholic beverages** cannot be purchased or reimbursed.

Section III. Payments to IFC

Payments should be given to the **Treasurer** or **Advisor** and recorded within **three days**.

Section IV. IFC Member Fraternity Dues

- If the **Executive Board** proposes a change to dues, the **Finance Committee** will review and recommend amendments.
- **2/3 vote** of the General Body is required to amend dues.

Section V. Membership Dues

- **Dues** are paid each **Fall and Spring semester**.
- **Chapter rosters** are due **two weeks** after recruitment, with a **\$10 fine** for each day they are late.
- Dues are due **one week** after billing, with a **\$10 fine** for late payments.
- A **\$30 service charge** is applied to returned checks.
- Failure to pay within **30 days** results in loss of privileges (e.g., recruitment, voting).
- New and Associate Members cannot participate in IFC events if dues are not paid.

ARTICLE III – ROLE OF THE IFC REPRESENTATIVE

Section I. IFC Representative Duties

The responsibilities of IFC Representatives include:

- Representing their chapter's concerns within the fraternity community.
- Attending all **meetings, roundtables, and functions**.
- Voicing their chapter's vote on elections and policies, staying in constant communication with the chapter.
- Ensuring their chapter's **rosters, grade reports, and financial obligations** are up to date.
- Representing the interests of the broader fraternity community.
- Informing their chapter of IFC actions and discussions.
- Serving as a liaison between the IFC and their chapter.
- Participating actively in **IFC Standing Committees**.
- Upholding the ideals of fraternity life within the broader campus community.

ARTICLE IV – ROLE OF THE IFC EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

Section I. IFC President

The responsibilities of the IFC President include:

- Providing guidance to the General Body and Executive Committee.
- Presiding over all General Body and Executive Committee meetings.
- Casting the final vote in case of a tie.
- Building relationships between IFC and Member Fraternity leaders.
- Serving as the official spokesperson for the fraternity community.
- Establishing positive relations with campus and local law enforcement.
- Interacting regularly with other campus organizations and governing councils.
- Building relationships with key college administrators.
- Communicating campus issues and trends to the NIC.
- Maintaining up-to-date Member Fraternity rosters.
- Delegating responsibilities to the IFC and Executive Board Officers.
- Signing IFC checks and contracts when necessary.
- Acting as the official representative and liaison between the IFC and the University.
- Meeting weekly with the IFC Advisor.
- Assisting the IFC Advisor in planning the Executive Board's annual retreat.

Section II. IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs

The duties of the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs include:

- Chairing the IFC Judicial Committee and serving as the Chief Justice for hearings.
- Investigating violations of IFC policies, university regulations, and laws.
- Ensuring compliance with judicial actions and educating fraternities on policies.
- Conducting training for new committee members and mediating conflicts.
- Reviewing IFC documents annually and assisting with special events.
- Assuming the President's duties in their absence.

Section III. IFC Vice President of Recruitment

The duties of the IFC Vice President of Recruitment include:

- Leading the IFC Recruitment Committee and using technology for recruitment efforts.
- Distributing promotional materials and developing recruitment programs.
- Ensuring compliance with recruitment policies and maintaining accurate New Member rosters.
- Advising recruitment officers and managing recruitment events.

Section IV. IFC Treasurer

The duties of the IFC Treasurer include:

- Supervising IFC finances, preparing the annual budget, and managing payments.
- Sending statements and receiving payments from chapters.
- Reporting financials regularly and maintaining up-to-date records.
- Chairing the Finance Committee and reviewing expenditure requests.

Section V. IFC Secretary

The duties of the IFC Secretary include:

- Maintaining attendance records, minutes, and files from meetings.
- Handling official correspondence and ensuring the distribution of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section VI. IFC Scholarship Chair

The duties of the IFC Scholarship Chair include:

- Coordinating scholarship programs and distributing academic performance rankings.
- Working with faculty, academic offices, and providing academic resources to member fraternities.
- Offering support to scholarship officers in member fraternities.

Section VII. IFC Community Member Relations Chair

The duties of the IFC Member Relations Chair include:

- Developing member education programs and new member orientation.
- Organizing leadership, academic, and values-based educational programming.
- Managing the IFC website and social media presence.
- Coordinating Greek Week and external PR activities, including media relations.
- Developing service projects, philanthropic events, and tracking community service contributions.
- Providing advice and support to community service and philanthropy officers in fraternities.

ARTICLE V – ROLE OF THE IFC JUSTICE

Section I. IFC Justice

The duties of an IFC Justice include:

- Serving as an impartial participant in IFC Judicial Board hearings.
- Upholding the IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, Texas A&M University - Kingsville and System regulations, and fraternity values.
- Maintaining confidentiality in all judicial hearings and deliberations.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTED OFFICERS

Section I. General Duties

The duties of IFC members include:

- Supporting fraternities as a positive influence on student development.
- Fulfilling office expectations and working as part of the IFC team.
- Promoting the interests of the Greek system, chapters, other Greek governing bodies, and the University.
- Upholding the IFC Constitution and Bylaws.
- Attending all Executive Board, Council meetings, and roundtables.
- Participating in special programs and events organized by IFC.
- Keeping a notebook of program ideas, duties, and resources.
- Performing other duties as necessary for their office.

ARTICLE VII – ROLE OF THE IFC ADVISOR

Section I. IFC Advisor Duties

The duties of the IFC Advisor include:

- Advising the IFC and its member fraternities.
- Providing guidance on financial processes.
- Acting as a liaison between Greek organizations and administration.
- Coordinating life safety, facility management, and risk management programs with local agencies.
- Facilitating workshops, programs, and seminars on topics like leadership, recruitment, and risk management.
- Monitoring membership and academic retention for improvement.
- Sharing information through various platforms (meetings, websites, social media, etc.).
- Assisting in planning and assessing IFC and Member Fraternity programs.
- Organizing leadership programs, retreats, and workshops.
- Connecting members to leadership opportunities on campus and within their organizations.
- Publishing documents related to fraternity life and leadership opportunities.
- Archiving information about the fraternal community.
- Reviewing decisions made by the Executive Board or Council and having the authority to make changes if necessary.
- Meeting regularly with the IFC President.
- Serving as an ex-officio member of the Executive Board and Council.
- Holding veto power over policies or decisions that violate laws or harm the Greek community.
- Making necessary decisions to help the IFC function effectively.

Section II. Annual Data Reporting to the NIC

In accordance with the NIC Standards, IFC Advisors shall assist the IFC in providing the following data to the NIC annually:

- A. Campus, All-Men's, All-Fraternity, and individual Member Fraternity GPA by semester.

B. The total number of men who pledged all Member Fraternities each academic year.
The total number of men who were initiated in all Member Fraternities each academic year

C. Percentage of fraternity men compared to the total number of all men at Texas
A&M University - Kingsville.

D. The total number of chapters and colonies opened and closed in each academic year.

E. The total number of Greek full-time professionals at Texas A&M
University - Kingsville.

F. Graduation rate of fraternity men compared to the total number of men at
Texas A&M University - Kingsville.

ARTICLE VIII – IFC CODE OF CONDUCT

Section I. IFC Code of Conduct

As members of the IFC, we, the Member Fraternities, agree to the following code of conduct:

- **Honor Rituals:** Strive to live by the ideals expressed in our fraternity Rituals.
- **Academic Integrity:** Commit to academic achievement and integrity.
- **Respect for All:** Treat all individuals with dignity, avoiding any form of abuse or harm.
- **Health and Safety:** Prioritize the health and safety of all people.
- **Property Respect:** Care for and respect both our own and others' property.
- **Financial Responsibility:** Meet our financial obligations on time.
- **Substance Use:** Refrain from using or supporting the use of illegal drugs and the misuse of alcohol.
- **Maintain Environment:** Keep our properties clean and well-maintained for physical and mental well-being.
- **Support Greek Life:** Promote and respect Greek Life.
- **Accountability:** Encourage all fraternity members to follow these expectations and hold each other accountable.

ARTICLE IX – IFC JUDICIAL POLICY

Section I. IFC Judicial Powers and Responsibilities

Under Article VII, Section I of the IFC Constitution, the IFC operates as a self-governing organization with an independent Judicial Committee. This Committee has jurisdiction over cases involving alleged violations of IFC policies, including but not limited to:

- **IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and Policies**
- **Texas A&M University - Kingsville rules and regulations**
- **General values-based conduct of fraternity men**

Section II. Filing of Complaints

In the event of a complaint, infraction, and/or action or event requiring a Judicial Hearing, the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** has **seven (7) business days** to recognize and respond to the complaint. The complaint must be presented within **thirty (30) days** of the alleged offense in writing to the VP of Judicial Affairs and the IFC Advisor.

Section III. Investigatory Evidence (I)

Once the issue has been recognized, the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will call a meeting between the **IFC Judicial Board** and the accused parties. The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will provide all necessary information for a defense, including the details of the accusations and evidence presented to the IFC.

Section IV. Investigatory Evidence (II)

All evidence related to a complaint shall be compiled and presented to all parties prior to any **Informal Judicial Board Hearing** or **Formal Judicial Board Hearing**. All evidence must be directly related to the complaint(s) alleged against the Member Fraternity and shall be approved by the **IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs** prior to circulation.

Section V. Informal Judicial Hearing

If the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** determines a filed complaint has merit, the charged **Member Fraternity** will be offered the opportunity to participate in an **Informal Judicial Hearing**. If the charged Member Fraternity agrees to an Informal Hearing:

- The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will meet with a representative of the charged fraternity to discuss the allegations.
- Within **three (3) business days** of the Informal Hearing, the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** may either dismiss the complaint or recommend disciplinary sanctions.
- If the charged fraternity accepts the resolution, it waives its right to appeal, and the decision is final.
- If rejected, a **Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing** will be convened.

Note: All Informal hearings are subject to review and acceptance by the **IFC Advisor**.

Section VI. Prohibited Sanctions for Informal Judicial Hearings

The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** cannot recommend suspension or loss of IFC recognition through an Informal Judicial Hearing. If suspension or loss of IFC recognition is deemed appropriate, the case will be referred to a **Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing**.

Section VII. Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing

A **Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing** will be convened if:

- The charged fraternity rejects the Informal Hearing.
- The charged fraternity rejects the Informal Hearing's resolution.
- The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** determines the violation is severe enough to warrant suspension or loss of IFC recognition.

The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will serve as the **non-voting Chief Justice** and procedural officer for all **Judicial Board** hearings.

Section VIII. Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing Proceedings

The following procedures apply to **IFC Judicial Board** hearings:

- **Participants:** Attendance is limited to the Member Fraternities involved, witnesses, **IFC Justices**, the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs**, and the **IFC Advisor**. The charged fraternity's chapter advisor may also attend, provided they are the official chapter advisor.
- **Confidentiality:** All participants must agree to confidentiality and are prohibited from disclosing information regarding individuals, Member Fraternities, proceedings, or testimony.
- **Hearing Process:**
 1. **Initiation:** The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will inform all participants about the hearing process.
 2. **Presenting Allegations:** The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will present the allegations and evidence against the charged fraternity. Both the charged fraternity and **IFC Justices** may ask questions.
 3. **Defense Presentation:** The charged fraternity will present its defense, and **IFC Justices** may ask questions.
 4. **Witnesses:** Witnesses will be called, and both parties may ask questions.
 5. **Final Statement:** The charged fraternity may give a final statement.

6. **Deliberation:** The **IFC Justices** will deliberate in closed session to determine findings and potential sanctions.

Section IX. Conflicts of Interest

In the event that the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs'** fraternity is involved in the violation, the highest-ranking **IFC Executive Board officer** (starting with the **IFC President**) shall serve instead. If a **Justice's** fraternity is involved, that Justice will not participate in the vote.

Section X. Recruitment Restrictions as a Sanction

The **IFC Judicial Board** may impose educational and punitive sanctions as outlined in the **IFC Bylaws**, but cannot prohibit a fraternity's ability to recruit without **IFC Advisor** approval.

Section XI. Non-Status Sanctions

These sanctions may be imposed by the **IFC Judicial Board** or **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** and include:

- Letter of apology
- Fines
- Restitution
- Educational programming
- Public service to campus or community
- Loss of social or campus event privileges
- Loss of eligibility for leadership and service awards

Section XII. Status Sanctions

For severe violations, the following **status sanctions** may be imposed for a specified period:

- **Suspension:** Loss of IFC voting rights, removal from Good Standing, and additional non-status sanctions.
- **Loss of IFC Recognition:** Loss of IFC recognition, rights, and privileges.

Section XIII. Duration of Sanctions

The duration and deadlines for sanctions must be specified. If a fraternity meets all the requirements of its sanctions, it will return to good standing. If the requirements are not met, the **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will convene a Formal Judicial Hearing to determine further actions.

Section XIV. Notification of Findings

The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** shall notify the charged fraternity, its international headquarters, its chapter advisor, and relevant **Texas A&M University - Kingsville** administrators of the findings and sanctions within **three (3) business days** of any Informal or Formal Hearing.

The **IFC Judicial Vice President** shall also notify the **IFC General Body** of any sanctions imposed on a fraternity.

Section XV. Appeals

A fraternity may appeal the **Judicial Board's** decision within **two weeks** of receiving written notification. Appeals must be based on one of the following:

- Error in charges or hearing process.
- Severity of the sanction being disproportionate to the violation.
- New information that could not have been discovered before the hearing.

Sanctions remain in place until an appeal is heard.

Section XVI. Non-Status Sanctions Appeals

The **IFC General Body** will hear appeals for **Status Sanctions**. The **Vice President of Judicial Affairs** will present the decision and rationale. The appealing fraternity will present its case.

Following the appeal:

- The **IFC General Body** will vote on whether to uphold the status sanction. A **two-thirds**

(2/3) vote is required.

- If the vote fails to uphold the decision, the **General Body** will decide, by **two-thirds (2/3) vote**, whether to dismiss the charge or alter the sanctions.

The **General Body's** decision is final, with no further appeals.

ARTICLE X – EXPANSION POLICY

Section I. Expansion Philosophy

In alignment with the **North American Interfraternity Conference's (NIC) Position on Open Expansion**, the **IFC at Texas A&M University - Kingsville** believes that the best interests of both higher education and the fraternity movement are advanced through the establishment of new chapters. Expansion offers the opportunity to provide a fraternal experience to more college men, bringing fresh leadership and renewed motivation to the campus community. To that end, the **Member Fraternities** of the **IFC**:

- A. Will manage expansion in accordance with the NIC gentleman's agreement, which states:
 - All IFC fraternities will be allowed to find interest on campus and will be given adequate time to become chartered.
- B. Will not prevent an international organization from selecting undergraduates for the purpose of establishing a chapter on the campus.
- C. Will not impede expansion by withholding IFC membership from any international member organization.

Section II. Expansion Processes

There are various paths available for expansion, as outlined below:

- A. **Open Invitation to Colonize:** If the IFC wishes to explore expansion opportunities, a formal invitation shall be sent to international organizations requesting **Letters of Intent**. The **IFC President** will collaborate with the **North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC)** to communicate with these organizations. If multiple international organizations submit Letters of Intent, the **IFC President** will work with the international organizations and the NIC to develop an agreed-upon timeline for expansion.
- B. **International Fraternity Colonization:** If an international fraternity submits a petition to join the IFC, it must include a **Letter of Intent** to the **IFC President**.
- C. **Student Interest Group Colonization:** A group of enrolled students at **Texas A&M University - Kingsville** may choose to form a chapter affiliated with an international organization and seek IFC membership as a result of that affiliation. The group of interested students must submit a **Letter of Intent** along with a **Letter of Endorsement** from the international organization.

Section III. Letter of Intent

A **Letter of Intent** is required from any organization seeking to establish a chapter at Texas A&M University - Kingsville and must include the following information to educate the fraternity community about the international organization:

- A. **Overview of the Fraternity's History, Mission, and Values:** A brief history, mission, and set of core values that define the organization.
- B. **Summary of the Colonization Plan:** This should include:
 - An outline of the colonization timeline.
 - Any international or local support for the colonization effort.
 - Contact information for all involved parties.
- C. **Statement of Agreement:** A declaration that the organization agrees to meet the **Minimum Expectations** outlined in **Article III, Section III** and adhere to the **NIC Standards** stated in **Article III, Section IX** of the **IFC Constitution**.

Upon receipt of the **Letter of Intent**, the **IFC President** and **Advisor** will meet with the interested chapter(s) to discuss an appropriate timeline. The **President** will notify the **IFC General Body** of the international fraternity's intent and its proposed colonization process at the next business meeting. Following **NIC Standards**, the **IFC General Body** will grant **Associate Membership** to the organization.

Section IV. Granting of Associate Member Status

Associate Membership grants a new Member Fraternity certain rights, privileges, and responsibilities as defined by the **IFC Constitution and Bylaws**. However, Associate Members:

- Do not have voting rights.
- Cannot hold positions on the **IFC Executive Board**.
- Are not eligible to have an **IFC Judicial Committee Justice**.

Section V. Granting of Full Membership Status

Upon chartering with its international organization, the **Associate Member Fraternity** will transition to **Full Membership** status. This grants the organization all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities outlined in the **IFC Constitution and Bylaws**.

ARTICLE XI – RECRUITMENT POLICY

Section I. Recruitment Philosophy

The **IFC** supports **open recruitment** and believes that a man should be free to join a Member Fraternity at a time that is mutually beneficial for both him and the Fraternity. To this end, the **IFC** shall not establish policies that restrain men from participating in recruitment activities or from joining Member Fraternities.

Section II. Membership GPA Requirements

A Potential New Member (PNM) must meet the following GPA requirements in order to be accepted as a New Member by any Member Fraternity:

A. For first-semester freshmen: A minimum high school GPA of **2.5**.

B. For college students:

- A minimum college GPA of **2.5**, or
- At or above the institution's all-men's average, or
- Work with the **Greek Advisor** to create a tailored plan for the individual.

If a Potential New Member has signed a Bid and Grade Release Form and does not meet the required cumulative **2.5 GPA**, that New Member will be automatically **disassociated** or **de-pledged**.

Section III. IFC Sponsored Recruitment

Under the guidance of the **IFC Vice President of Recruitment**, the **IFC** shall designate periods during each semester to assist Member Fraternities by advertising their recruitment events, hosting campus-wide recruitment events, and educating Potential New Members about the fraternity community.

The **IFC Vice President of Recruitment** will maintain a **Potential New Member Roster**, a list of men interested in fraternity recruitment, and make it available to each Member Fraternity.

Section IV. Year-Round Recruitment

Member Fraternities are encouraged to engage in **year-round recruitment**. Each Fraternity may establish its own recruitment practices and timelines that best serve its interests.

Section V. Member Fraternity Recruitment

Each Member Fraternity shall develop recruitment events, materials, and activities that are:

- A. **Values-based**: Recruitment efforts should align with the values and mission of the organization.
- B. **Alcohol-free and illegal substance-free**: No recruitment events should include alcohol or illegal substances.
- C. **Generally in good taste**: All activities should reflect the highest standards of integrity and respect.
- D. **Not derogatory, degrading, or slanderous**: Recruitment practices should never be harmful or disrespectful to any individual or group.
- E. **Adherence to local, state, federal, and international rules regarding alcohol**: All events must comply with legal requirements.
- F. Recruitment activities should **promote and strengthen** the membership programs of the Member Fraternities.
- G. In support of the **National Panhellenic Conference's Unanimous Agreement X**, recruitment activities will also respect the **College Pan-Hellenic's** stance on not allowing undergraduate Panhellenic women to participate in men's recruitment.

Section VI. Bidding

Each Member Fraternity reserves the right to extend or retract a bid following a process and timeline determined by that Fraternity.

- A Potential New Member reserves the right to **accept or decline** any bid at any time without penalty or pressure.

Section VII. Report of New Members

Each Member Fraternity must submit a **New Member roster** to the **IFC Vice President of Recruitment** within one week of pledging any New Member.

Section VIII. New Member Disassociation or De-pledging

A New Member may choose to disassociate or de-pledge from any Member Fraternity at any time. After disassociation or de-pledging, the New Member is free to accept a bid from another Member Fraternity.

Each Member Fraternity must submit an updated **New Member Roster** to the **IFC Vice President of Recruitment** within one week of any New Member disassociation or de-pledging.

Section IX. Definitions

A. **Recruitment:** The process by which an IFC Member Fraternity promotes itself to influence and recruit new members from the enrolled students at **Texas A&M University - Kingsville**.

B. **Formal Recruitment:** A period during which all IFC Member Fraternities participate in recruitment activities as coordinated by the **Interfraternity Council**.

C. **Informal Recruitment:** Any recruitment activity by an individual fraternity outside of the Formal Recruitment period.

D. **Potential New Member:** A currently enrolled or admitted male student at **Texas A&M University - Kingsville** who is not an initiated member of any fraternity under the **National Interfraternity Conference (NIC)**, **National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC)**, or **National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO)**, participating in either Formal or Informal Recruitment.

E. **Fraternity:** This term includes members, associate or pledge members, alumni, and related clubs (e.g., mother's or father's clubs).

F. **Alcohol:** Any intoxicating beverage, including 3.2% beer and non-alcoholic beers.

G. **No Contact Period:** A designated period during which no Fraternity, Fraternity member, or agent of the Fraternity may contact Potential New Members.

H. **New Member:** A Potential New Member who has signed a Bid or Grade Release Form.

I. **Bid:** Any oral or written invitation extended to a student to join an IFC Member Fraternity.

ARTICLE XII – HAZING

Section I. Texas A&M University - Kingsville & IFC's Definition of Hazing

Hazing is 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**, or any other activities that are not consistent with the regulations and policies of **Texas A&M University - Kingsville** or the statutes of the **State of Texas**.

This definition includes, but is not limited to, any actions or situations that endanger the mental or physical health or safety of individuals, involve forced consumption of substances, or cause humiliation or stress as part of initiation or membership activities. Such actions are prohibited under both University and state law and go against the core values of fraternity life.

ARTICLE XIII – PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Section I. Publication and Distribution of Constitution and Bylaws

The IFC's current Constitution and Bylaws shall be published on the IFC website for public access and transparency.

An updated copy of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws will be electronically distributed to each Member Fraternity and the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) after any amendment or change is adopted to ensure that all parties are informed and in compliance with the updated rules and regulations.

Updated March 10th, 2025, by VP of Judicial Affairs Steven A. Rodriguez and President Guillermo Medina