

Constitution of the College of Charleston Interfraternity Council

Preamble

We, the members of the Interfraternity Council of the College of Charleston, in order to further cooperate between the member fraternities and the College of Charleston and in order to further mutual interests and aims of the member fraternities of the College of Charleston, do hereby establish this Constitution.

Article I - Title

The name of this organization shall be the Interfraternity Council of the College of Charleston.

Article II - Objective

Section A.

The Interfraternity Council shall further cooperation between the member fraternities and the College of Charleston.

Section B.

The Interfraternity Council shall further the interests and aims of the member fraternities.

Section C.

It shall take as its own and champion the cause of any act unjustly wrought against any member or group of members of the Interfraternity Council which tend to suppress fraternal principles and ideals.

Section D.

The Interfraternity Council endeavors to establish cooperation and mutual understanding between the local community and member fraternities.

Section E.

The Interfraternity Council shall engage in and encourage philanthropic activities by member fraternities as a means of public service.

Section F.

The Interfraternity Council shall act as disciplinarian, through its Judicial Board, when necessary, for offending fraternities.

Article III - Membership

Section A.

1. Membership shall consist of each National Social Fraternity of the College of Charleston, which has been duly recognized by the Administration of the College of Charleston and the Interfraternity Council of the College of Charleston.
2. Each fraternity shall be represented by two (2) delegates, one being a voting member of the fraternity, and one being a pledge representative, or a voting member of the fraternity if the chapter has no pledges.
3. No more than two like-fraternity members shall serve simultaneously on the Executive Committee.
4. The procedure for admission of new member fraternities shall be as follows:
 - i. Any male fraternity which has been approved by the Administration of the College of shall be eligible for membership in the Interfraternity Council.
 - ii. A three-fourths (3/4) vote of the eligible voting membership shall be required for admission to membership in the Interfraternity Council.
 - iii. The group wishing to gain membership to the Interfraternity Council may only apply for admission once per semester (Spring and Fall). In order for a group to gain membership to the Interfraternity Council, the guidelines for establishing a colony on the College of Charleston campus must be followed. Groups who do not properly follow these guidelines may not be considered for membership into the Interfraternity Council.

Article IV - Officers and Elections

Section A.

1. There shall be a President to the Interfraternity Council who shall be elected from among the representatives of the Interfraternity Council.
2. Any officer running for or serving on the Executive Committee of the Interfraternity Council must be current member in good standing with a fraternity presently recognized by the College.
3. A nominee for President must have served on the Interfraternity Council Executive Committee for at least one term of office or have served on his fraternity's executive board.
4. All Chapter Presidents are strictly prohibited from serving on the Interfraternity Council Executive Committee. This only applies to the incoming Chapter President or the Chapter President for the Fall semester following elections in March.

Section B.

The duties of the President shall be as follows:

- i. He shall be the presiding officer of the Interfraternity Council and shall perform the duties normally associated with the chair.
- ii. Shall call meetings of the Interfraternity Council weekly and whenever necessary.
- iii. Shall call meetings of the Executive Committee weekly and whenever necessary.
- iv. To execute and enforce all resolutions duly incorporated by the Interfraternity Council.
- v. To create administrative positions with Interfraternity Council approval.
- vi. To make temporary summer appointments with Interfraternity Council approval.
- vii. Shall prepare an agenda for meetings of the Executive Committee and the Interfraternity Council.

Section C.

Terms of office shall begin after elections in the last week of March.

Section D.

1. There will be a Vice President of the Interfraternity Council who shall be elected from the representatives who shall have served as a representative for a minimum of one term of office.
2. The duties of the Vice President shall be as follows:
 - i. Serve as liaison to Panhellenic.
 - ii. Preside over all Judicial Proceedings of the Interfraternity Council.
 - iii. Assume duties of President in his absence.

Section E.

1. There shall be a Treasurer of the Interfraternity Council who shall be elected from the representatives who shall have served as a representative for a minimum of one term of office.
2. The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:
 - i. Establish and maintain all ledgers on financial matters pertaining to the Interfraternity Council.
 - ii. Be required to countersign with the President on all disbursements from the treasury.
 - iii. Issue financial reports at all meetings.
 - iv. Prepare a budget for coming semester.
 - v. Chairman of financial committee.

Section F.

1. There shall be a Secretary of the Interfraternity Council who shall be elected from the representatives who shall have served as a representative for a minimum of one term of office.
2. The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:
 - i. Record and maintain all minutes of the Interfraternity Council meetings and report minutes within fort-eight hours.
 - ii. Shall conduct all correspondence.
 - iii. Shall keep constant status of delegates at meetings.
 - iv. Shall keep constant up-to-date rosters of all member fraternities including name, social security numbers, etc.
 - v. Shall serve as chairman of the Greek Week committee

Section G.

1. There shall be a Recruitment Chairman of the Interfraternity Council who shall be elected from the representatives and shall have participated in a minimum of two Interfraternity Council Recruitment periods.
2. The duties of the Recruitment Chairman shall be as follows:
 - i. Be in charge of all aspects of fraternity Recruitment, including:
 1. Recruitment booths
 2. Establish written, published Recruitment rules and regulations with the consent of the Interfraternity Council Recruitment Committee
 3. Recruitment brochures
 - ii. To establish and administer an Interfraternity Council Recruitment Committee that shall consist of no less than one (1) representative of each member fraternity.
 - ii. Present an Interfraternity Council social calendar with events sponsored by the Interfraternity Council.
 - iii. Keep up-to-date rules concerning social policies of member fraternities.

Section H.

1. There shall be a Public Relations Chairman of the Interfraternity Council who shall be appointed from among the representatives who shall have served as a representative for a minimum of one term of office.
2. The duties of the Public Relations Chairman shall be as follows:
 - i. To oversee the publishing of all Interfraternity Council publicity, including, but not limited to a banner, posters, flyers, booklets, brochures, pamphlets, etc...
 - ii. Assist the Recruitment Chairman in the publicity for Interfraternity Council Recruitment.

Section J.

Officers chosen shall remain in office for the full school year. In the event of a vacancy should occur, the vacancy shall be filled by a new election in accordance with regular election procedures.

Section K.

Impeachment procedures may be brought against any officer of the Interfraternity Council by presenting a motion to impeach by a representative any one fraternity or an officer of the Interfraternity Council. A two-thirds (2/3) vote by the Interfraternity Council to accept such a motion shall constitute the removal of said officer.

Section L.

1. Officers of the Interfraternity Council Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Recruitment Chairman, and Public Relations Chairman) will be paid one hundred (\$100) dollars per term for a salary.
2. If a member of the Executive Board of the Interfraternity Council leaves office before his term is over, he must repay his salary in full.

Article V – Meetings

Section A.

There shall be meetings held weekly throughout the academic year. The President may call additional special meetings in which proper notice must be given.

Section B.

Special meetings must be announced at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance through written communication to each member fraternity. Any business conducted in meetings in which proper notice was not given shall be held null and void.

Section C.

The selection of place and time of meeting shall be at the discretion of the President.

Section D.

Each member fraternity shall have one (1) vote. All matters, unless specified by this Constitution, shall be decided by a majority vote of the Interfraternity Council. A majority vote shall be sufficient to table any motion for one week. Ties will be broken by the presiding officer.

Section E.

1. Any member fraternity not present at a meeting after having been given proper notice of the time and place shall be fined.
 - i. The first meeting missed will result in a fifty (\$50) dollar fine.
 - ii. The second meeting missed will result in a one hundred (\$100) dollar fine.
 - iii. The third meeting missed will result in a two hundred (\$200) dollar fine.
 - iv. The fourth meeting missed will result in a four hundred (\$400) dollar fine.
2. After the fourth missed meeting that is deemed unexcused, the chapter will be placed on Social Probation for a period of no less than 9 academic weeks (weeks that fall within the Fall and Spring Semester, in which school is in session.)
 - i. Chapters that are delinquent on payment of their fines will be placed on automatic Social Probation.
 - ii. Social probation extends to all events planned during the probationary period. A member fraternity must cancel all pre-planned social activities if they are placed on social probation and those activities fall during the probationary period.
3. Excuses for missed meetings will be given out only by the Executive Committee and confirmed by the Associate Director of Greek Life.

Section F.

A quorum shall exist if two-thirds (2/3) of the member fraternities are present. A 3/4 vote of the Interfraternity Council shall be required to enact all business.

Section G.

In order for a member fraternity to have a vote, one if its two (2) representatives must be present.

Section H.

Roberts Rules of Order shall be used to conduct meetings unless otherwise specified in this Constitution.

Article VI - Judicial Policy

Section A.

The members of the Judicial board shall have jurisdiction over violations of the Interfraternity Council By-Laws, the Interfraternity Council Recruitment rules, and any other provisions set forth by the Interfraternity Council, and shall insure due process and equal treatment to fraternities so accused.

Section B.

1. The Vice President shall be the Chairman of the Judicial Board. He shall serve for the year that he is in office.
2. The Vice President shall preside at all Judicial Board hearings.

Section C.

1. There shall be a Vice Chairman of the Judicial Board who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Judicial Board. His appointment shall occur at the time of the first meeting of the Judicial Board.
2. He shall assume the duties of the Chairman in his absence.

Section D.

1. There shall be a Secretary of the Judicial Board who shall be appointed by the Chairman.
2. His duties shall include recording the proceedings of the Judicial Board hearings, whether by tape recording or by writing in hand; providing transcripts to the accused; in case of conviction and subsequent appeal, providing signed decisions of the Judicial Board to the accused, the accuser, and the Interfraternity Council; and shall report the decision to the Interfraternity Council at the next meeting.

Section E.

The Presidents of the member fraternities will serve as a chapter representative, plus one regular representative. These names shall be turned in to the Secretary within twenty-four (24) hours of the meeting of the Judicial Board. The list of names must be kept updated in case a chapter has a change in office.

Section F.

The procedures of the Judicial Board shall be as follows:

1. All violations must be reported in writing to the Chairman of the Judicial Board as soon as possible from the time of the actual violation. This report should include all the factual allegations, names of witnesses, dates, places and times.
2. The accused shall be informed in writing of the charges being brought, including a copy of the violation report, a list of probable witnesses, and the names of the Judicial Board members, as soon as practical after the report has been received by the Chairman of the Judicial Board. Along with this notification will be a copy of these rules and regulations and the procedures to be followed. The accused shall be given the date, time and place of the hearing, which should be held within five (5) days, or as soon thereafter as is practical, of this notification.
3. Should the accused fail to appear at the hearing, the Judicial Board shall be vested the power to try the accused in his absence upon a showing that the accused received proper notice of the hearing and has not requested a continuance.
4. The accused shall have the following rights:
 - i. Right to have any person or persons advise him at the hearing.
 - ii. Burden of proof is upon the accuser.
 - iii. The accused does not have to testify and no adverse inference can be drawn from his failure to testify.
 - iv. Right to present a defense.
 - v. Right to cross-examine.
 - vi. Right to impartial tribunal.
 - vii. Right to be confronted by the accuser.
 - viii. Right to a transcript of hearing proceedings (at the accuser's expense).
 - ix. Right to a written decision.
5. All proceedings and testimony at the hearing must be recorded as previously stated.
6. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Judicial Board shall set the tone of the punishment decided upon, if conviction occurs. The Chairman will break any ties.
7. A two-thirds (2/3) quorum of Judicial Board members must be present at the hearings for the proceedings to legal.
8. The decision of the Judicial Board will be sent in writing to the accused and signed by the Chairman, within seventy-two (72) hours after receipt of decision.
9. If a member of the Judicial Board brings up charges, himself against the fraternity, he shall lose his power to vote on the matter.

Section G.

Appeal Procedures of the Judicial Board

1. A member fraternity convicted by the Judicial Board has the right to appeal the decision. A notice of appeal must be made to the Chairman within seventy-two (72) hours after the receipt of the notice of conviction.
2. The Appeal Board will consist of the voting members of the Interfraternity Council Executive Committee and the Director of Greek Affairs of the College of Charleston.
3. The Appeal Board, when it receives a request for review, will consider the written decision of the Judicial Board and the transcript of the hearing, which is to be supplied to the Appeal board by the appealing party.

Article VII – Elections

Section A.

Elections of officers of the Interfraternity Council shall be held on the last week in March and installation shall take place at that time with a regular meeting to follow, unless agreed upon by the Executive Board.

Section B.

Nominations shall open in the week before elections and continue until the week of elections.

Section C.

Election of an officer shall occur when he has received a majority vote of the voting Interfraternity Council representatives that shall consist of one vote per fraternity. In the event of a tie, each of the executive members shall cast one vote deciding the outcome the election.

Section D.

No member fraternity shall hold more than two offices at a time.

Section F.

1. Any candidate may contest the election by submitting to the Judicial Board a statement requesting an investigation and specifying irregularities. The Judicial Board shall investigate and hear all election contestation according to the standards set down in Article VI, and if sufficient cause exists, they shall order a new election or any part of the election. If no sufficient evidence is presented, the election shall stand.
2. Reasons for contestation include, but shall not be limited to:
 - i. Illegal balloting
 - ii. Vote fraud
3. When a contestation is before the Judicial Board, all involved candidates shall be allowed to speak.
4. Decisions of the Judicial Board shall be final in election matters; there shall be no appeal.

Article IX - Discrimination

The College of Charleston Interfraternity Council shall in no way discriminate against member fraternities or individual members because of age, race, religion, color, creed or national origin.

Article X - Open Recruitment/Bidding Policy

Section A.

Open Recruitment is held at all times unless scheduled as Formal Recruitment.

Section B.

Open bids may be given at all times except specified in the IFC Constitution, Section D.

Section C.

All students must pass a review by Student Affairs to ensure adequate grade point average (2.0) before receiving a bid.

Section D.

No bids are to be given to any student from the time of matriculation (the time at which a student enrolls at the College of Charleston) until the date specified by the Interfraternity Council.

Section E.

Fraternities may receive pledges through open bids each semester after the day specified by the Interfraternity Council.

Section F.

The Recruitment Committee shall consist of the IFC Recruitment Chair and one representative of from each IFC Member Fraternity.

Section G.

All IFC Fraternities must abide by the rules set forth by a majority vote of the Recruitment Committee.

Article XI – Amendments

Section A.

All proposed amendments shall be submitted to the President and Secretary.

Section B.

Proposed amendments shall lie on the table for one week.

Section C.

An affirmative vote by three-fourths (3/4) of the quorum stated in Article V, Section F, of the Interfraternity Council Constitution shall constitute adoption.

Section D.

Ratification of the Constitution shall occur upon a three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of the Interfraternity Council.

Section E.

This Constitution supersedes all previous Constitutions and renders them null and void upon ratification.