**INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL**

**OF WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I**

**MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1.  Member Fraternities

        A.        Member fraternities are those chapters currently recognized by the Interfraternity Council.

Section 2. Associate Membership

        A.        Associate membership in the Interfraternity Council shall meet the requirements listed below:

1. 1.        Be eligible for membership with a North-American Interfraternity Conference fraternity.
2. 2.        Submit a letter to the Interfraternity Council requesting membership, including: a roster of a minimum of eight (8) members with officers, a currently used constitution, and a strategic plan for recruitment of a full calendar year.
3. 3.        Submit the following literature from the national organization: risk management policy, academic/scholarship programs, financial support, and future community service programs.
4. 4.        Have one faculty/staff and one alumni advisor.
5. 5.        Pass a seventy-five percent (75%) majority vote by current member fraternities.
6. 6.        Abide by the Interfraternity Council Constitution, Judiciary Constitution, and By-laws.
7. 7.        Maintain good standing with West Texas A&M University and the Interfraternity Council.

        B.        A timetable of 3 long semesters shall be used in which associate member fraternities                          are required to complete and uphold requirements to be activated to member status.                          Associate member status may be dropped after the maximum time allowed has passed                         and they have not met the previous requirements.

C.        Failure to meet and/or uphold any requirements will result in a referral to the Judicial       Board for possible revocation of Associate member status.

Section 2.  Voting

        A.        Only member fraternities shall have voting privileges on the Interfraternity Council.

        B.        Each member fraternity present at the meeting and in good standing with the University and IFC shall have one vote.

**ARTICLE II**

**MEETINGS**

Section 1.  Interfraternity Council

        A.        Unless contrary to these By-Laws or to the Constitution, the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.

        B.        A quorum shall be necessary to conduct any official business.  It shall consist of 51% of the voting membership.

Section 2.  Executive Council

        A.        The Executive Council of the Interfraternity Council shall meet biweekly at a time specified by that Council.

B.        A professional staff member of Student Affairs/CORE Center shall serve as IFC                  Advisor and attend all meetings of the Executive Council and Interfraternity Council.

**ARTICLE III**

**OFFICERS**

Section 1.  Duties of Elected Officers

        A.        President

                1.        To be spokesman for the Interfraternity Council and be ultimately responsible for the meetings, agenda and communication of the decisions of the body.

                2.        To be manager of the Executive Council.

                3.        To be responsible for the formation of goals and the direction of the Executive Council and the Interfraternity Council.

                4.        To work closely with the President of the Panhellenic Council for the beneficial exchange of information.

                5.  To sign legal contracts along with the Secretary of IFC.

                6.  To meet with the IFC Advisor on a weekly basis to facilitate communication.

                7.        Approval of Chairpersons that have been selected by the Vice President.

        B.        Vice-President

                1.        To assume the duties of the President in his absence.

                2.        To work closely with the Interfraternity Council President in helping him discharge his duties and shape policy.

                3.        To oversee the selection of chairpersons for all official committees of the Interfraternity Council.

                4.        To oversee the operation of all the Interfraternity Council committees.

                5.          To work closely with the Recreational Sports office in order to form a positive relationship with IFC, and to report on all Recreational Sports activities.

        C.        Secretary

                1.        To maintain a complete filing system of the business/programs of the Interfraternity Council.

                2.  To notify all fraternities of meeting place and item three (3) days prior to meeting and to follow-up on those fraternities absent from a Council meeting.

                3.        To work with the Treasurer in preparation of the Interfraternity Council budget.

                4.        To prepare, with the input of the Executive Council, the Council meeting agenda and to maintain a complete record of all Interfraternity Council action, e.g., communications, minutes of meetings.

                5.          To account for the attendance at council meetings

                6.          To coordinate a process in the CORE office to handle incoming mail.

        D.        Treasurer

                1.        To be responsible for all funds assessed, collected, and distributed by the Interfraternity Council.

                2.        To prepare the Interfraternity Council budget on a semester basis for presentation to the IFC.

                3.        To prepare a final financial statement for presentation to the IFC just prior to the completion of his term.

                4.        Must sign a financial contract with IFC that must be notarized.

E.        Recruitment Chair

                1.        To be ultimately responsible for scheduling all phases of Interfraternity Informal and Formal Rush.

                2.        To work closely with the Panhellenic Rush Chairman for beneficial exchange of information and coordination of similar projects.

                3.        To be responsible for the rush budget preparation and financial records.

                4.        To be the official liaison with parents and students during summer orientation.

                5.        To coordinate the evaluation and update of the Interfraternity rush rules and regulations (subject to affirmation of the IFC and IFC Advisor as interpreted by the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board).

                6.  To work with all chapters to improve the rush system as a whole.

F. Chief Justice

                1.        To act as the chief administrator of the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board.

                2.        To ensure the just and equitable operation of the Judicial Board.

                3.        To serve as the official spokesperson for the Judicial Board.

                4.        To guide the Judicial Board in its interpretation and enforcement of the Interfraternity Council Constitution, Judicial Constitution, By-Laws, and Rush policies.

5.        To coordinate an annual review of the Constitution and By-Laws.

                6.        Responsible for Risk Management oversight along with IFC Exec and the IFC Advisor.

Section 2.  Duties of Non-Elected Officers

A.   Scholarship Chairman

1.        Shall be responsible for providing scholarship information for IFC.

2.         Shall be responsible for any and all Greek Scholarship Committee work.

3.        Compile academic assistance resource packets working with the University to                 include available academic resources for both on campus and off campus students,                 including but not limited to Supplemental Instruction and Tutoring.

4.        Conduct a scholarship seminar for new members with the assistance of scholarship                 chairmen and new member educators.

5.        Work closely with chapter scholarship chairmen to raise the All-Fraternity GPA                 above the All-Men’s average.

6.        Assist IFC Advisor in compiling semester grade rosters for semester grade reports.

B.  Public Relations Chairman

1.        Responsible for issuing press releases regarding IFC events and news.

2.        Responsible for exploring ways for disseminating information regarding IFC.

3.        Works closely with Recruitment Chair to publicize Rush Week.

4.        Works to promote image of Greeks on campus and in the community.

C.        Community Service Chairman

1.        Responsible for promoting opportunities for community service to all chapters.

        2.        Responsible for compiling semesterly records of community service from all chapters.

        3.        Responsible for promoting the value of community service to the campus in

        general.

D. CORE Roundtable Representative

1.        Responsible for attending all CORE Roundtable meetings, retreats and workshops

        on behalf of IFC.

2.        Responsible for providing IFC related information to CORE Roundtable, as well

        as reporting CORE related activities to IFC.

Section 3.  Vacancies

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

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

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

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

Section 4.  Recall Procedures of Executive Officers

        A.        Elected officers shall not be subject to recall until two weeks after their election.

        B.        After that time, recall procedures may be initiated by written petition of not less than 40% of the IFC.

        C.        A recall of any members of the Executive Council may be executed by 2/3 ballot vote of the members of the IFC.

        D.        The Council will hold a special election within seven days for the replacement of such officers, after the proper initiation and completion of recall.

**ARTICLE IV**

**CANDIDATES, NOMINATIONS, AND ELECTIONS**

Section 1.  Candidates

        A.        The following officers are to be elected annually:

                1.        President

                2.        Vice President

                3.        Chief Justice

                4.        Secretary

                5.        Treasurer

                6.  Recruitment Chair

        B.        Qualifications

                1.        Candidates shall be of active status within their fraternity.

                2.        Each must be currently registered and maintain at least 12 semester hours. This does not mean that the candidate has to be a full time student at West Texas A&M University.

                3.        Each candidate must have earned at least 30 semester hours at West Texas A&M University by the end of the semester in which they are seeking office.

                4.        Each must have a minimum of a 2.7 cumulative grade point average and not have been on scholastic probation for the most recently completed term prior to the semester of election.

                5.        Not have been or be on university disciplinary probation.

                6. The candidate’s own fraternity cannot be on any kind of suspension from the university or IFC.

                7.  Qualifications shall be verified by the CORE Center.

                8.  Candidates for the office of President must have held a prior office on the

          Executive Council or within their own chapter.

Section 2.          Nomination and Election

        A.        At the next-to-last meeting of the IFC during the Fall semester, nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Chief Justice, Secretary, Treasurer, and Recruitment Chairman will be taken.  The election for these members shall be held at the next meeting of the Council.

        B.        Each fraternity that is in good standings with IFC is intitalled to hold at least one office.

        C. Procedures

                1.        After all candidates have been nominated for office, the nominees shall be allowed to deliver speeches to the IFC followed by a question and answer session.  These speeches shall be no longer than five minutes.  After this, a member from the IFC may deliver a speech on a candidate.

                2.         3/4 of the member fraternities must be in attendance at the election meeting.

                3.         All voting shall be done by secret ballot.

                4.         The Council shall elect all officers, and if, on the first ballot, none of the candidates for the designated office receives the vote of at least 51% of those cast, the two candidates who received the most votes will be the candidates in a runoff election.

5.        If there is a tie vote by the IFC in any election, the President for IFC will make the                 final decision for the tie breaker.

**ARTICLE V**

**LEGISLATION**

Section 1.  Introduction

        All members of the Executive Council, both elected and non-elected, except the president, may bring motions before the IFC and participate in all discussion.

Section 2.          All legislation, when approved by the IFC in the proper manner, shall be binding upon all the members of the IFC.

**ARTICLE VI**

**FINANCES**

Section 1.                The treasurer shall present a budget to the IFC at the third meeting of the Council year.  This budget shall outline the financial operation of the Interfraternity Council for the coming semester.

Section 2.                         All chapters will be assessed $10 per rushee following bid signing.

Section 3.                Any fraternity that becomes delinquent in their responsibility to pay the Interfraternity Council for both their formal and open rushees will be fined 25% of their balance on the due date.  If failure to pay continues, another 30% fine will be levied two weeks after the original due date and will continue in two week intervals until the final amount is paid in full.

Section 4.                The fall rush budget shall be presented to the IFC no later than the last meeting prior to Spring break; and, for spring rush, the last meeting before Thanksgiving.

Section 5.                A minimum of 100 dollars shall be paid by all IFC fraternities except for the fraternity with the highest previous semester GPA.

**ARTICLE VII**

**JUDICIAL BOARD**

Section 1.        Name

                A.                There shall be a judicial body of the Interfraternity Council known as the

                Interfraternity Council Judicial Board.

Section 2.        Regulations

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

        B.                The constitution shall become effective upon adoption by a 3/4 vote of the IFC.

**ARTICLE VIII**

**SCHOLARSHIP EXCELLENCE**

Section 1.        If a chapter falls below a 2.7 term G.P.A., then the chapter will be put on probation losing its intramural privileges.  The chapter also must present a scholarship proposal to the Executive Board on how the chapter intends to raise its grades.

Section 2.        If the same chapter falls below a 2.7 term G.P.A. for the second consecutive semester, the chapter will continue to be on probation.  The chapter must re-propose its scholarship proposal and explain why the first plan did not work.  The chapter will also lose its intramural and social privileges.

Section 3.        The third consecutive semester that a chapter falls below a 2.7 term G.P.A., the chapter then has to restate its scholarship plan and its changes to be reviewed by the Executive Board.  It also loses its intramural, rush and social privileges for that semester.

Section 4.        If a chapter is above a 2.7 term G.P.A. for one semester, it regains its good standing with IFC.

**ARTICLE IX**

**REINSTATEMENT**

Section 1.          IFC Probation and Suspension

        A.        If a chapter is suspended or placed on probation by the IFC Judicial Board, it will be required to meet regularly with the IFC Judicial Board to reveal the current status of the chapter.

        B.                If the IFC Judicial Board determines the chapter has not fulfilled its obligations, it may not reinstate the chapter into IFC.  This may require a longer term of probation or suspension.

        C.                A chapter may appeal only once per semester to the Judicial Board regarding its reinstatement.

        D.                If the IFC Judicial Board sees that this chapter has fulfilled all obligations for its reinstatement, it will then be reinstated into the IFC in good standing.

**ARTICLE X**

**IFC RECRUITMENT REGULATIONS**

The purpose of the rush regulations governing men’s rush at West Texas A&M University is to provide maximum opportunity for rushees to obtain an objective view of all the fraternities.  It shall be the duty of the IFC Judicial Board and the Recruitment Chair to insure a respect for this purpose.

Section 1.          Formal Rush Week

        A.        Eligibility:

                1.        Any male who is interested in going through rush, formal or informal, must have been accepted to WTAMU with a 2.5 GPA.  He may not go through rush if he was accepted as a provisional student or is on academic probation; however, once he has completed at least 12 hours at WTAMU and has a GPA at or above a 2.5 for the previous term (or he has a 2.7 cumulative GPA), then he may be allowed to go through rush.

                2.        Any transfer student desiring to rush must have at least a 2.5 transfer GPA.  (Including dual credit) The Interfraternity Council reserves the right to ask for official transcripts from transfer students to verify GPA.

                3.        Appeals for grades may be made as a motion to IFC and must be approved by an IFC vote.  If the individual who is appealed is not a member of the chapter who appealed him with a Term GPA of 2.7 or above at the time that grade rosters are collected at the end of the semester of the appeal then the chapter will be fined $150 for that individual. (voted in by IFC 2/14/2012 and retroactive for the Spring 2012 Semester) (Limit 2 appeals per chapter, per semester)

        B.        General Regulations**:**

                1.         All University regulations will apply during Formal Rush Week.

                2.        All chapters are required to participate in Formal Recruitment Week activities unless on third term academic probation.

3.        The possession, use, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages with the rushee(s) during the IFC Formal Rush Period at any entertainment or function of any chapter and/or with any member of a chapter, or at any entertainment or function sponsored by any individual chapter member(s) shall be prohibited.

4.        If a rushee is found in violation of the IFC rush regulations, including but not limited to the use of alcohol, or found committing criminal acts, he will be subject to the penalty of not being able to pledge any fraternity until the start of the next semester.

                5.        Chapter Rush Chairmen are responsible for having all necessary rush materials: detailed rush week schedule, rush regulations, and policies, etc.

        6.        A rushee will not be able to sign a bid card on Bid Day if he hasn’t signed a registration form (“Blue Sheet”).

                7.        A list of planned rush dates (location sheets) including times and places, will be submitted to the IFC Recruitment Chair at least one week prior to rush week.  Failure to register these rush dates will result in review by the IFC Judicial Board.

                8.        Fraternity members, with the exception of the chapter president and rush chairman, are expected to stay clear of the site of bid signing.  This is to minimize pressure on the rushees.

                9.        Each fraternity must turn its Formal bid list into the CORE Center by 9:00 a.m. on Bid Signing Day.

                10.        Dirty Rush.  “DIRTY RUSH” is defined as any action detrimental to a fraternity, group of fraternities, or the Interfraternity Council.  Specific examples include, but are not limited to the following:

a. “Bad-mouthing” another group, i.e., through implication, giving false information, etc.

                                        b. Giving an oral bid, or handing a bid, prior to the IFC specified time.

        c. Putting undue pressure on a rushee to join.  Pending review of the IFC Executive Board.

d. Pressuring a rushee to drop all fraternities and/or participate in open recruitment.

e. Violating any IFC rush regulation for the purpose of getting a rushee to join.

        f. Any other act deemed by the IFC Judicial Board or Recruitment Chair as “Dirty Rushing.”

                12.        All chapters are required to abide by these regulations and policies.  Rush regulations and policies are subject to the interpretation of the IFC Recruitment Chairman and the IFC Judicial Board.  Any complaints shall be directed to the IFC Recruitment Chairman or the Chief Justice for the appropriate action to be taken.

                13.  IFC Rush regulations

                        a. If a rushee signs a bid for one fraternity and decides to go to another fraternity         during the semester he will have to wait one semester before he is able to join another fraternity.

                14. Continuous open biding starts the day after formal recruitment is over. All formal recruitment requirements still apply to join a fraternity.

                15. The penalties shall be loss of rush privileges for the current semester, loss of ability to rush an individual or a fine not less than $100 or exceeding $500. The penalty will be selected by an IFC Judicial Board, taking into consideration the seriousness of the offense and the effects upon the other fraternities.