

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Constitution of the Interfraternity Council
Last Revised March 29, 2006

Preamble

We, the representative members of the fraternity system of Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi, believe the Greek Letter Fraternity is an inherent part of the University lifestyle; do hereby adopt the following Constitution.

We hereby delegate to the Interfraternity Council such powers and responsibilities as are necessary to establish and achieve our objectives to effectively regulate Interfraternity affairs, and to provide a framework for the expectations of the Interfraternity Council.

Mission Statement

We the gentlemen of Texas A & M University – Corpus Christi Interfraternity Council hold ourselves to the highest principles of interfraternalism. Our organization will strive for and sustain ethical academic standards. We encourage high integrity and values among the Texas A & M University- Corpus Christi fraternal orders. We believe in recruiting, retaining, supporting a diverse, and highly qualified fraternal community. The principles stated above will define us as leaders within the Greek Community and beyond.

Article I – Name & Purpose

- Section 1.** The official name of this organization shall be the Interfraternity Council hereafter abbreviated as IFC.
- Section 2.** The purpose of IFC is to promote the interests of member fraternities, in cooperation with the administration, faculty, and overall student body.

Article II – Membership

- Section 1.** IFC shall be governed by members who have been active in a recognized fraternity of IFC for a minimum of 1 academic semester, and currently enrolled student at Texas A&M — Corpus Christi.
- Section 2.** Any men's social fraternity at Texas A&M — Corpus Christi may become a member of the organization upon ratification of this Constitution; upon recognition by the University; and attaining compliance with the provisions of this Constitution, and upon approval of the IFC.
- Section 3.** Membership in IFC shall include all undergraduate chapters and colonies of male national or social fraternity recognized by North American Inter-Fraternity Council, and chapters and colonies of male national or social fraternities that have been found members of the IFC at Texas A&M – Corpus Christi on the 2nd of March 2006
- Section 3.** It will take a 2/3 vote by the IFC fraternities to approve membership. Without approval, membership will not be granted. Therefore, the fraternity will not be recognized as a member of IFC and will not receive any IFC benefits.
- Section 4.** Membership in IFC shall be maintained by the payment of dues each semester, as well as chapter conduct, in accordance with IFC policies and procedures

Section 5. Each member fraternity is expected to comply with the decision and policies of the IFC. Failure to do so may result in sanctions being applied and handled by the Vice President of Internal Affairs

Section 6. No man will be admitted into any IFC member fraternity with a college cumulative GPA less than 2.0 or a high school cumulative GPA of less than 2.3

Section 7. No man will be allowed to receive a bid into an IFC member fraternity until he has filled out the fraternity recruitment registration form and his GPA has been verified by the Greek advisor for Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi.

Section 8. Any fraternity wishing to admit a man to its membership that does not fit the above stated requirements in Article X must petition to the IFC executive board for an exemption at least 2 days before the semester's bid day.

Exemptions can only be offered with a 2/3 majority vote by the IFC executive council. There will be no tie breaker done by the president of IFC.

Article III – Government

Section 1. IFC is made up of a President, Vice President of Internal Affairs, Vice President of External Affairs, Vice President of Recruitment, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Operations, Vice President of Public Relations, and Delegates.

Section 2. Failure of an officer to meet or maintain these requirements will result in his being relieved of his office. In the event an officer resigns or is expelled from his position, another man will be elected to fulfill the unexpired term. After the term of office expires, the individual elected shall be eligible for re-election.

Article IV – Elections

Section 1. The Executive Board, consisting of a President, Vice President of Internal Affairs, Vice President of External Affairs, Vice President of Recruitment, Vice President of Finance, Vice President of Operations, and Vice President of Public Relations shall be elected.

Section 2. Any active member in compliance with Article 3 Section 2 shall be eligible for election to office, as long as he fulfills the following requirements:

1. All officers of the IFC must be currently enrolled at Texas A&M — Corpus Christi at the time of the election and during the term of office.
2. Any person serving as an IFC officer must be an active member of Texas A&M — Corpus Christi men's social fraternity for a minimum of 1 academic semester.
3. The person's social fraternity must be a fraternity approved by the IFC
4. Maintains a cumulative GPA of at least 2.25
5. The President of a fraternity may not hold office in IFC
6. The Recruitment officer of a fraternity may not hold the office of Vice President of Recruitment for IFC
7. The Financial officer of a fraternity may not hold the office of Vice President of Finance for IFC.

Section 3. Applications must be submitted to the Office of Student Activities at time to be determined by the IFC. Each application will be screened for qualification requirements as mentioned in Article IV, Section 2 of this Constitution. Following the application screening, each candidate will give a short two to three minute speech at a scheduled meeting determined by the Executive Council. The IFC representatives in that same meeting following the candidate speeches will do voting.

Article V – Voting

Section 1. Each recognized fraternity chapter shall be entitled to one vote. The number of votes a fraternity shall receive will be equal for all chapters.

Section 2. IFC regulations regarding representation shall be as follows:

1. At each official meeting of the IFC, each regular member fraternity shall be represented by 1 member
 - A. One primary delegate, selected by their chapter will be allowed one vote
 - i. One alternate delegate from the appropriate fraternity will be allowed to serve in the event of the primary delegate absence
2. All representatives or their alternates must be in attendance at all regular meetings
 - A. Exceptions may be made to the Vice President of Operations with notice of at least 48 hours prior to meeting, but a representative must be in attendance at all official meetings.
 - B. Failure of a regular member fraternity to comply with the attendance policy shall result in a fine of \$25.00 for a full absence and \$15.00 for tardiness or leaving prior to the ending of a meeting
 - C. In the event that the fines mentioned in Article V section 5 Clause B are not paid in the amount of time specified by the Vice President of Finance, a charge of 25% of the outstanding balance would be added on a weekly basis
3. Arriving late to an IFC meeting shall count as tardiness. Two “tardies” shall count as one as one unexcused absence and shall be subject to the aforementioned disciplinary action.
4. Substitutions of a non-delegates member for a representative or alternate representative shall constitute an unexcused absence with the exception of Article V, Section 2.2.A.

Section 4. A list must be handed in by the second meeting of the semester with two (2) names of each chapter’s delegates and alternates. In the case that two (2) delegates are not available than a special exception can be made upon approval of the IFC Executive Board. A completed chapter information sheet that was handed out at the beginning of each semester shall be turned in at the same time.

1. President of a chapter may change his delegate(s), if he feels it is necessary, and the IFC Executive Board must approve of the new delegate(s) prior to applicable meeting.
2. Any chapter found to have not handed in their delegates list to IFC, will be subject to a fine in the amount of \$25.

Section 5. To be eligible to vote a chapter must submit a current roster and pay all outstanding dues and fees.

Section 6. IFC officers will have no vote and may not act as their chapter's representatives. In the case of a tie the IFC President shall cast a vote to be the determining vote.

Article VI – Duties

Section 1. IFC Delegates

1. For as long as the delegate's fraternity is eligible, the delegate may vote and call motions on any issue in an IFC meeting.
 - a. Must attend all IFC meetings
 - b. shall have the ability to vote, motion, or bring legislation to the floor
 - c. shall be the liaison between IFC and the chapters

Section 2. IFC President

1. Preside over all IFC legislative meetings
2. Provide a semester report on the status of IFC and its executive officers.
3. Executive officer who votes in case of tie
4. Confers with Greek advisor on a regular basis.
5. To represent IFC at civic events, University events, and any other activities of importance to the Greek system.
6. To ensure that the Executive Council fulfills its duties.
7. To have overall responsibility of Interfraternity Council
8. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board
9. Shall co-sponsor President's Roundtable meetings every month during the spring and fall semesters

Section 3. Vice-President of Internal Affairs

1. Must have sat on Greek Judicial Board for at least (2) semesters.
2. Set and preside over Executive Council meetings.
3. Set agenda in Executive Council meetings for IFC Legislative meetings.
4. Sit as a Chief Justice on Greek Judicial Board.
5. Provide education programming and resources to member fraternities in areas including but not limited to scholarship, alcohol education, risk management, hazing education, new member education.
6. Interprets the IFC constitution.
7. Preside over Legislative meetings in absence of President.
8. Check Grades.
9. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board
10. To educate member fraternities about University Policies and FIPG
11. To maintain the rosters for each IFC member chapter
12. To keep accurate statistics of the number of men coming through recruitment and provide a report of the results following each recruitment period
13. Shall make 80% attendance events that follow Article XVI

Section 4. Vice-President of External Affairs

1. Serve as Co-chairmen over a Greek Week committee containing one member from each chapter in IFC and Panhellenic.
2. Plan campus and community service activities for Greek organizations as a whole
3. Provide education programming and resources to Greeks in areas including but not limited to scholarship, alcohol education, risk management, hazing education, new member education.

4. Serve as Panhellenic liaison for IFC and attend Panhellenic open meetings.
5. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board
6. Shall make 80% attendance events that follow Article XVI

Section 5.

Vice-President of Recruitment

1. Provide recruitment education and resources to fraternities.
2. Oversee compliance with recruitment rules.
3. Plan formal recruitment for IFC.
4. Attend summer orientation, Fall Fest, and Island Days as public relations and recruitment outreach
5. Propose the supplemental recruitment rules for each recruitment period
6. Keep accurate statistics of the number of men coming through recruitment and provide a report of the results following each recruitment period
7. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board

Section 6.

Vice-President of Finance

1. Oversee accounts receivable and payable.
2. Prepare annual budget.
3. Hold accountability of access to all IFC monies; i.e. checkbook, etc.
4. Get approval by IFC Executive members for all transactions.
5. Follow Article Eight.
6. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board

Section 7.

Vice-President of Operations

1. Distribute minutes for legislative meetings in a timely manner over the IFC listserv
2. Keep and maintain Executive meeting minutes in Greek office
3. Keep hard copy of records of IFC business in Greek office
4. Keep an accurate attendance record of all IFC meetings and report any absences to IFC president and Greek Advisor
5. Asses fines pertaining to absences and tardies
6. Responsible for collecting, organizing, and filling any written documentation created by IFC officers and representatives pertaining to IFC business
7. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board

Section 8.

Vice-President of Public Relations

1. To have a committee of all member fraternity public relations chairmen or said counterpart, and they should meet at least once a month during the normal school year.
2. Design and distribute written materials on behalf of IFC
3. Speak on the IFC behalf whenever is needed and permitted.
4. Promoting and marketing fraternity life on Texas A&M – Corpus Christi in a positive manner.
5. Work to better each IFC fraternity Public Relations Chair or said counterpart.
6. Island Waves article about fraternity life.
7. Coordinate all public relations matters with IFC.
8. To fulfill the IFC office hours every week that are mandated by the IFC executive board

Article VII – Meetings

- Section 1.** The IFC shall meet weekly, with a time and place to be determined by the IFC President.
- Section 2.** Executive officers shall be present at each IFC meeting. In the event of four absences in the one-year term, the Executive officer may be removed from the Executive Council. The IFC Executive board and the delegates shall determine removal from office.
- Section 3.** Chapter delegates shall be present at each Interfraternity Council meeting. In the event of four absences in the one-year term, the chapter delegate may be removed from the Interfraternity Council. The IFC Executive board and the delegates shall determine removal from office.
- Section 4.** The IFC President may call special meetings with 24-hour notice, three members of the Executive Council, or a signed petition of 2/3 of the chapter delegates.
- Section 5.** A quorum, 2/3 of all voting delegates of the IFC and 2/3 of the Executive Council must be present before any regular business may be dealt with.
- Section 6.** Conduct of meetings shall be according to Robert's Rules of parliamentary procedure, with the Vice President of Internal Affairs serving as respected chair.
- Section 7.** At the first IFC executive meeting of each semester the IFC executive board will mandate a set number of office hours not exceeding four hours a week, that each IFC officer must fulfill and then inform the hours to the delegation.

Article VIII – Finances

- Section 1.** By authorization of the Executive Council, every fraternity and colony under the jurisdiction of IFC shall pay the amount of \$3.00 per member for each academic semester. Dues and rosters are to be turned in to IFC on the first meeting in October and on the second meeting in February to the VP of Finance.
- Section 2.** Failure to submit payment of dues by the designated time set in ARTICLE NINE SECTION 1 will result in a late payment of \$25.00. In addition to the late fee of \$25.00, chapters could lose support of IFC. This includes, but is not limited to: voting privileges.
- Section 3.** IFC has the right to make special assessments as needed, throughout the semester. This requires one-week prior notice and a 2/3 vote by all voting members.
- Section 4.** All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disburse through a bank account established for this organization at a public banking facility. All funds must be deposited within 48 hours after collection. The advisor and an organizational member: President or VP of Finance must approve and sign each expenditure before payment or any withdrawal of funds from the account.

Article IX – Recruitment

- Section 1.** Formal Recruitment is one week of recruitment for each of the fraternities, sponsored by the IFC once a semester.
- Section 2.** The Recruitment committee shall be composed of the Vice President of Recruitment and the Recruitment Chairman from each member of the IFC fraternities.
- Section 3.** Recruitment Rules will be first composed by the VP of Recruitment.
- Then at a given date set by VP of Recruitment a formal meeting with the recruitment committee will be composed to amend the rules prepared by the VP of Recruitment
- Once these rules have been amended and are complete then the Interfraternity Council will be presented with the recruitment rules for a 2/3 approval
- Section 4.**
1. There shall be no provisions in the National or Local Constitution, By-Laws, Ritual, or other governing rules of the member chapters which require the student membership for the member fraternities or colonies to refrain from considering for membership, pledging, electing, or initiating any student on the basis of race, color, socioeconomic status, national origin, creed, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. There shall be no provisions on any of the above controlling regulations, which imply that any person should be considered socially or personally unacceptable as a member of his race, color, socioeconomic status, creed, lifestyle, or national origin.
 2. It shall be the policy of IFC that every member chapter shall be able to exercise free choice in selection of its membership. In addition, no recognized member chapter may affiliate with any national organization, which has restrictive requirements with respect to race, color, socioeconomic status, national origin, creed, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Any member chapter unable to document its ability to exercise such free choice shall be subject to a revocation of its recognition by IFC.
- Section 5.** The IFC Vice President of Recruitment empowered shall define recruitment by the IFC. Rules for Recruitment are given as Articles of Recruitment.
- Article 1: All Recruitment activities or events must be submitted to the Student Activities office 7 days in advance.
- Article 2: No before or after party event, that includes alcohol, directly before or following a recruitment event while potential rushees are present
- Article 3: No women before, after, or during recruitment events.
- Article 4: No bids can be extended verbal or written from the beginning of classes to formal bid day of each semester
- Article 5: No parties or social events at a chapter house or annex.

Infractions will be defined as a failure to comply with said Recruitment rules and a set of consequences will be imposed. Judicial board will be empowered to take the case with said infractions. If immediate action is necessary, the IFC executive council will be empowered to take action.

Article X – New Membership

- Section 1.** Any student who meets academic standards of each men's fraternity and meets minimum currently enrolled hours of each men's social fraternity at Texas A&M — Corpus Christi , is eligible for bidding or pledging.
- Section 2.** To become a new member the student must sign a dated new member card. This card must be filed with the Greek Advisor's Office within seven (7) from the date on the card to considered valid.
- Section 3.** A member chapter or colony cannot bid or pledge and individual enrolled in another university or college, or in high school.
- Section 4.** A student's membership is released when the fraternity secretary has removed the person from membership record in the Greek Advisor's Office and at Inter/National Headquarters.
- Section 5.** Any man whose membership is released for any reason shall lose all privileges of a fraternity and shall in no way be considered or treated a part of that fraternity.

Article XI – New Member Development

- Section 1.** A chapter shall instill to new members good scholarship, university objectives, chapter history, brotherhood, and social graces.
- Section 2.** The length of new membership shall be no longer than eight weeks.

Article XII – Hazing

- Section 1.** The fraternities of Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi, acting through IFC, have taken the position of being unequivocally opposed to all forms of hazing. It is the policy of IFC that hazing, in any form be prohibited and its practice, in any fashion, be condemned.
- Section 2.** All fraternities and their members shall be prohibited from participating in activities, which recklessly or intentionally endanger mental or physical health or involve the force consumption of liquor or drugs for any reason.
- Hazing Activities are: Any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule.
- Section 3.** Any violation of hazing regulations will subject an individual and chapter to disciplinary action, including possible suspension or expulsion from the University. In addition, the offender may be subject to any applicable criminal statues defined by Texas Law.

Article XIII – Amendments

- Section 1.** An amendment can be brought forth by an IFC executive officer or fraternity chapter delegate at scheduled IFC delegate or officer meetings.
- Section 2.** Amendments must go through a first reading in front of IFC delegates and officers.
- Amendments will then be open to discussion and all changes are to be made at this time.
- All amendments must then go through a discussion at an IFC officer meeting and time must be allowed for the chapters themselves to discuss the amendments
- After these steps have been completed a second and final reading will be made of the amendment to the IFC officers and delegates. Final changes can be made at this time if needed.
- Section 3.** Upon completion of the second reading a 2/3 majority vote is required by the chapter delegates which if received will put the amendment into practice.
- In the event of a tie then a tie breaker vote will be made by the IFC president.

Article XIV – Scholarship Expectations

- Section 1.** All IFC Chapters/Colony(s) are required to maintain a minimum term GPA of 2.3 each semester.
- Section 2.** If the minimum GPA of an IFC Chapter/Colony is not met, that Chapter will be turned into the Greek Judicial Board.
- Section 3.** The GPA for each IFC Chapter/Colony will be reviewed by the Vice President of Internal Affairs.
- Section 4.** The GPA requirement for IFC Chapters/Colony(s) will be reviewed each semester and is subject to change by 2/3's majority vote by the delegates.

Article XV – Expansion

- Section 1.** To regulate the expansion process, the Interfraternity Council shall reserve the right to openly support the search for national/international fraternal organizations interested in colonization of Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi.
- Section 2.** The Screening of these interested fraternal organizations will yield a committee made up of current IFC advisor(s), President of IFC, Expansion Chairman appointed by President, 1 delegate from each IFC fraternal chapters, and representatives of Student Activities at Texas A&M — Corpus Christi .
- After the screening process is completed, a specified number of applicants will be allowed to make presentations to the Greek governing body involved. The Greek governing body, in conjunction with the university student activities personnel, will then make the final decision on which fraternal organization is selected.

Should the IFC in conjunction with the appropriate offices of Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi determine that an additional Greek organization is in fact the best interest of the whole TAMU-CC Greek system then the national/international organizations will be notified by the University Student Activities personnel for the opportunity to colonize on this campus.

Section 3. The Interfraternity Council recognizes the right of any organized collegiate group or groups to seek affiliation with national/international organization of its choice.

However, this choice is subject to the approval of the IFC and the appropriate offices of Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi.

Section 4. The IFC will also not recognize or consider for expansion any fraternities that are not current members of the National Interfraternity Council (NIC) or currently found at Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi.

Section 5. All new and recognized chapters and colonies of international or national fraternal organizations must join the IFC upon establishment at Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi.

Article XVI – Attendance

Section 1. At IFC sponsored events, 80% of each chapter is required to attend

Section 2. Failure to have 80% of a chapter/colony at an IFC sponsored event will cause that chapter/colony to be given a fine/punishment set forth by the IFC executive board

Section 3. The IFC member fraternities must be informed 21 days in advance of all IFC sponsored events for them to be considered sponsored

The fines/punishments must be announced at least 21 days in advance for those that fall under 80% at the event

Section 4. VP of External Affairs will decide on the IFC sponsored events that involve more than IFC member fraternities
VP of Internal Affairs will decide on the IFC sponsored events that involve IFC member fraternities

Section 5. Rosters and reasons for not attending are due to the IFC at least 3 days in advance of the IFC sponsored events.

Section 6. President's Roundtable meetings will be considered an IFC sponsored event that all presidents of member IFC fraternities must attend

If a president is unable to attend, he must give notice to IFC President 24 hours in advance

Failure to attend meeting will result in a chapter/colony fine/punishment to be decided at the first Presidents Roundtable meeting every semester by the presidents