

# **Cornell IFC Bylaws**

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Presented by the IFC Executive Board  
Amended on 4/29/26

BYLAWS OF THE

# INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL

Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York

## ARTICLE I

### *Role of the IFC Representative*

#### **Section I: IFC Member Chapter Representative**

The duties and responsibilities of all IFC Member Chapter Representatives are as follows:

- A. Serve as a representative and voice for their member chapter's concerns regarding the fraternity community.
- B. Represent the larger fraternity community's interests.
- C. Inform their member chapter of the actions, discussions, and workings of the IFC General Body.
- D. Serve as a liaison between the IFC General Body and its respective member chapter.
- E. Serve as an initiated member of IFC Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees, as necessary.
- F. Represent the highest ideals of fraternity life to the greater campus community.

## ARTICLE II

### *Role of the IFC Executive Board Officers*

#### **Section I: IFC President**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC President are as follows:

- A. Provide guidance and focus to the efforts of the General Body and Executive Committee.
- B. Preside over all meetings of the General Body and Executive Committee.
- C. Cast the final vote in the event of a tie.
- D. Build rapport and establish positive working relationships between IFC and member chapter leaders.
- E. Serve as the official spokesperson for the fraternity community.
- F. Establish positive working relationships with campus and local law enforcement and health and safety agencies.
- G. Regularly interact with the leaders of other governing councils and campus organizations.
- H. Establish a working relationship with key college administrators.
- I. Establish a working relationship with and communicate campus data, issues, and trends in a timely manner to the NIC.
- J. Maintain current information for accurate member chapter rosters.

#### **Section II: IFC Executive Vice President**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Executive Vice President are as follows:

- A. Assist the President in their duties, and act as President in their absence.
- B. Work in tandem with the President to oversee the actions and deliverables of all other Executive Board members.

- C. Serve as Chair of the Andrew Dickson White Annual Leadership Summit for Greeks Steering Committee with MGFC and PHC.
- D. Serve as the chair of the Interfraternity Development Council.
- E. Plan the annual SFLGreek Awards Ceremony and Leaders Retreat with MGFC and PHC.
- F. Oversee IFC Executive Board Elections.
- G. Work on individual programs and Initiatives for the IFC and greater community as deemed necessary

### **Section III: IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs are as follows:

- A. Serve as chair of the IFC Judicial Board and serve as the non-voting Chief Justice of all IFC Judicial Board hearings.
- B. Investigate and refer to the IFC Judicial Board alleged violations of IFC policy, including but not limited to:
  - a. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, and policies;
  - b. Federal, state, and local laws;
  - c. The rules and regulations of Cornell, and
  - d. The general values-based conduct of fraternity men.
- C. Ensure proper filing and preparation for all judicial actions.
- D. Ensure compliance with all IFC judicial action imposed upon a member chapter.
- E. Educate member chapters on the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, judicial processes, and risk management policies.
- F. Represent the IFC during Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (OSCCS) meetings involving IFC chapters during Group Behavior Conferences.
- G. Assist in conflict mediation between member chapters.
- H. Review all IFC governance documents at least annually.

### **Section IV: IFC Vice President of Recruitment**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President of Recruitment are as follows:

- A. Work with member chapters and the Sorority and Fraternity Life Office to establish a recruitment process that meets the needs of chapters and potential new members, as well as provides opportunities for interested individuals to learn about the fraternity experience.
- B. Will focus on fostering interest in joining fraternities and marketing the fraternity experience to incoming students and potential new members.
- C. Serve as chair of the IFC Recruitment Committee.
- D. Utilize technology (social media, etc.) in recruitment and marketing efforts.
- E. Produce and distribute promotional materials to all incoming students and unaffiliated students.
- F. Develop recruitment workshops and programs for member chapters.
- G. Uphold the IFC Recruitment Policy and ensure no restrictive policies are placed on new member recruitment, and will not restrict the ability of chapters to distribute bids outside of any designated recruitment period.
- H. Maintain an interest list of Potential New Members.
- I. Collect and maintain accurate New Member Rosters for each member chapter.
- J. Provide advice and support to member chapter recruitment officers.
- K. Work with SFL staff to facilitate IFC Recruitment and New Member Orientation events and Intervene Trainings.

### **Section V: IFC Vice President of Finance**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President of Finance are as follows:

- A. Serve as chair of the IFC Finance Committee.
- B. Supervise the annual budget process.
- C. Collect IFC member chapter dues or other assessments as needed.
- D. Maintain accurate records throughout the year through invoicing and receipts.
- E. Review and approve all IFC Expenditure Request Forms and IFC Reimbursement Request Forms.
- F. Make all disbursements with a cosigner.
- G. Prepare financial statements monthly and at the end of each term for distribution to all member chapters.
- H. Coordinate IFC Dues Assistance Program.
- I. Make bank deposits when necessary and in a timely manner.
- J. Provide advice and support to member chapter financial officers.

### **Section VI: IFC Vice President of Inclusion**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President of Inclusion are as follows:

- A. Coordinate community building and inclusion programming for the member chapters
- B. Promote inclusion within member chapters in order to make the fraternity community more welcoming and inclusive to individuals from diverse backgrounds.
- C. Publish important educational programming dates and deadlines.
- D. Collect and distribute information about campus diversity and inclusion programming and resources.
- E. Build and maintain relationships with faculty, academic offices, and/or departments that support diversity and inclusion.
- F. Provide advice and support to member chapter new member education officers and programming officers to provide diversity and inclusion programming.

### **Section VII: IFC Vice President of Member and Alumni Development**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President of Member and Alumni Development are as follows:

- A. Develop best practices for new members and member education programs for member chapters.
- B. Collect and report new member retention, academic, and involvement statistics.
- C. Organize, develop, and implement a new member orientation program.
- D. Maintain and expand alumni relations, as well as manage the alumni-active mentorship program (e.g., including mock interviews, networking sessions, resume reviews)
- E. Develop opportunities for continuing member education by collaborating with alumni, Cornell offices and departments, and student organizations to offer educational programming covering the following topics: academic achievement, alcohol consumption, career preparation, civic engagement, hazing, leadership development, sexual assault, and values and ethics.
- F. Provide advice and support to member chapter development officers.
- G. Work with SFL staff and the VP of Recruitment to facilitate mandatory PNM training leading up to recruitment.

### **Section VIII: IFC Vice President for Service and Philanthropy**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President for Service and Philanthropy are as follows:

- A. Develop and execute public relations.
- B. Develop service projects for member chapters.
- C. Collect and report member chapter community service hours, philanthropic dollars, and activities.
- D. Collect and disseminate information on the fraternity community to all campus and community media sources.
- E. Keep the media informed about upcoming events or potential news.
- F. Establish a positive working relationship with external constituents.
- G. Assist in the development of various IFC publications and outreach programs.
- H. Provide advice and support to member chapter community service/philanthropy officers.

### **Section IX: IFC Vice President of Membership**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Vice President of Membership are as follows:

- A. Educate member chapters on the NIC Health and Safety Guidelines, the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, judicial processes, and risk management policies.
- B. Assist member chapters in the implementation of and compliance with the NIC Alcohol & Drug Guidelines.
- C. Coordinate Health and Safety efforts with other councils and stakeholders
- D. Assist in the management of the social event registration and monitoring process.
- E. Provide support to chapter Risk Management and Health and Safety Officers.

### **Section X: IFC Vice President for Programming**

The duties for the IFC Vice President for Programming Initiative are as follows:

- A. Provide members of IFC chapters with opportunities to engage with others, both within and outside of the community.
- B. Collaborate with other IFC Vice Presidents to assist with organizing events (e.g. philanthropy events, recruitment events)
- C. Serve as the IFC or Tri-Council representative in the following capacities:
  - a. Cornell SFL Growth Committee
  - b. Mental Health Coalition
  - c. Student Assembly Tri-Council Liaison (Ex-Officio)
- D. Organize events in order to improve the SFL experience for members of the IFC
- E. Coordinate with the Tri-Council's Vice Presidents of Programming to organize events similar to the aforementioned events, but for all Tri-Council members
- F.

### **Section XI: IFC Vice President for Communications**

The duties for the IFC Vice President for Communications are as follows:

- A. Collaborate with other IFC Vice Presidents to assist with advertising their events (e.g., philanthropy events, recruitment events)
- B. Manage all social media accounts and run social media campaigns, as well as serve as the main coordinator of graphic designs for such purposes
- C. Serve as (oftentimes, the first) point-of-contact between external campus organizations and the IFC, to work toward the larger goal of integrating the IFC more deeply with the rest of campus
- D. Coordinate with SFL regarding updating and adding website content. Take and keep track of attendance at the Presidents' Council to ensure all chapters are meeting the

- required attendance policy
- E. Take meeting minutes at Executive Board and Presidents' Council meetings
- F. Organize and ensure accurate record-keeping of the Google Drive is maintained

ARTICLE III  
*Executive Board Elections*

**Section I: Composition**

The elections for the executive board for the following academic year, held in the spring semester, are attended by the following individuals:

- A. All voting and non-voting (associate) Chapter Presidents
  - a. In the absence of the president, a proxy will be able to vote on their Chapter's behalf
- B. The current executive board as non-voting members to assist in the running of the election procedures
- C. One individual selected by the candidates to speak on their behalf
- D. Any qualified Chapter executive board member who wishes to run off the floor
  - a. Chapter Risk Manager, Treasurer, or Vice President
- E. General Chapter members or members of the community

**Section II: Procedure**

The current Executive Vice President will preside over the elections, which will be structured as follows:

- A. Each candidate will have the opportunity to speak for 2 minutes on their proposed platform and qualifications for the position
- B. A two-minute question and answer will then follow
- C. The candidate will leave the room, and may choose an individual in the room to speak on behalf of the candidate for one minute
- D. After all the candidates for the specific position have had their turn, voting will commence for the Chapter Presidents (or proxies)

If someone wishes to be nominated off the floor, the following will need to take place:

- A. A chapter president has to nominate the individual, and that nomination needs to be seconded by another chapter president
- B. The individual will then follow normal procedures for candidates

If a candidate will not be present for the election, they must proceed as follows:

- A. Submit a two-minute video speaking on their proposed platform and qualifications for the position
- B. An individual in the room may speak on behalf of the candidate for one minute

**Section III: Voting**

When a quorum is called with the number of presidents in the room, a two-thirds majority vote is needed in order to elect the individual. In the event that there are more than two candidates for a specific role, the candidate with the fewest votes will be eliminated, and a second vote will take place. This process will continue until one candidate is selected.

- A. In the event of a tie, the IFC Advisor, President, and Executive Vice President will convene to break the tie.

#### **Section IV: Qualifications**

Anyone who is a member of a recognized fraternity is eligible to run for a position. However, to be eligible to run for President or Executive Vice President, one must meet the following qualifications: served as a former member of the IFC executive board or a current or former chapter president. An individual serving in the Office of the President, Office of the Vice President of Judicial Affairs, or Office of the Executive Vice President cannot also serve as the President of their own chapter. Individuals will also have to complete the following:

- A. An application as outlined in the IFC elections packet.

### ARTICLE IV

#### *Role of IFC Standing Committees*

#### **Section I: IFC Recruitment Committee**

The IFC Recruitment Committee shall assist the IFC Vice President of Recruitment in the development and implementation of activities, programs, and resources that foster its member chapters' ability to implement a successful and quality recruitment effort while ensuring no restrictive policies are imposed on new member recruitment and will not restrict the ability of chapters to distribute bids outside of any designated recruitment period. The IFC Recruitment Committee shall work with the IFC Vice President of Recruitment, IFC Advisor, and member chapters to establish a recruitment process that meets the needs of chapters and potential new members, as well as provides opportunities for interested men to learn about the fraternity experience. They will focus on fostering interest in joining fraternities and marketing the fraternity experience to incoming students and potential new members.

#### **Section II: IFC Finance Committee**

The IFC Finance Committee shall assist the IFC Vice President of Finance in the development of IFC fiscal policies, annual budgets, and programs that assist member chapters' financial officers. The Committee shall also review and/or propose changes to the IFC dues structure.

#### **Section III: IFC Inclusion Committee**

The IFC Inclusion Committee shall assist the IFC Vice President of Inclusion in the development and proposal of recommended diversity and inclusion educational programming for the IFC and its member chapters.

#### **Section IV: IFC Scholarship Committee**

The IFC Scholarship Committee shall assist the IFC Vice President of Membership and Alumni Development in the development and implementation of activities, programs, and resources that promote academic achievement within its member chapters.

#### **Section V: IFC Member Development Committee**

The IFC Member Development Committee shall assist the IFC Vice President of Member Development in the development and implementation of activities, programs, and resources for continuing and new member development covering topics such as alcohol consumption, career preparation, civic engagement, hazing, leadership development, sexual assault/abuse, and values and ethics.

#### **Section VI: IFC Community Relations Committee**

The IFC Community Relations Committee shall assist the IFC Vice President for Service and Philanthropy in the development and implementation of activities, programs, and resources that promote the fraternity community and the encouragement of member chapter involvement in

service and philanthropic endeavors that enhance the reputation of the fraternity community at Cornell.

ARTICLE V  
*Role of the IFC Advisor*

**Section I: IFC Advisor**

The IFC Advisor should work to support all NIC Standards, policies, and practices. In addition, the duties and responsibilities of the IFC Advisor are as follows:

- A. Advise the IFC and its member chapters.
- B. Advise and consult with the IFC Judicial Board on all conduct cases.
- C. Advise financial processes.
- D. Coordinate health and safety, facility management, and risk management programs in conjunction with local agencies.
- E. Facilitate or provide resources, including potential presenters of campus or national renown, to conduct workshops, programs, retreats, and seminars on relevant topics, including the following:
  - a. Multicultural Competence
  - b. Leadership Development
  - c. Recruitment and Intake
  - d. Risk Management
- F. Monitor membership and academic retention by member chapters and the entire community for purposes of improving academic support and recommending intervention strategies.
- G. Gather and disseminate information via meetings, websites, newsletters, social media venues, and/or information bulletins to the various entities in fraternity life.
- H. Provide assistance and advice in planning and assessing IFC and member chapter programs.
- I. Organize and facilitate leadership programs, retreats, and workshops.
- J. Connect the Members and New Members of member chapters to leadership opportunities across campus, in the local community, and within their inter/national organizations.
- K. Publish or share documents that focus on current events, leadership opportunities, trends, and other information regarding fraternity life.
- L. Provide for the recording and archiving of information about the fraternal community and encourage member chapter leaders to do the same within their organizations.

**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 each term:

- A. The all-university, all-men's, all-fraternity, and individual member chapter grade point averages, reported each term.
- B. The total number of men who pledged to all member chapters during each academic year.
- C. The total number of men who were initiated in all member chapters during each academic year.
- D. The percentage of fraternity men compared to the total number of all men enrolled at Cornell during each academic year.
- E. The total number of chapters and colonies opened and closed during each academic year.
- F. The total number of full-time professionals employed by [campus] who work directly within fraternity and sorority life, during each academic year.

ARTICLE VI  
*Financial Management Policy*

**Section I: Fiscal Year**

The IFC Fiscal Year shall be from August 23rd to May 22nd.

**Section II: IFC Annual Budget**

The Vice President of Finance and the IFC Finance Committee shall propose an annual budget to the IFC Executive Board by December 14th. Upon adoption by the IFC Executive Board, the budget shall be presented to the IFC General Body for ratification.

**Section III: IFC Contingency Account**

The IFC Budget shall include a contingency account that equals 10-15% of the overall expenses. The contingency account shall be utilized for cost overruns in budgeted areas and/or unanticipated, unbudgeted items, such as new IFC programs developed after the budget was finalized. At the end of the fiscal year, any amount remaining in the IFC Contingency Account shall be carried over to the next fiscal year.

**Section IV: Appropriate Use of IFC Funds**

IFC funds are under the jurisdiction of the IFC member chapters and shall only be used in a manner that benefits the fraternity community and that is congruent with the values of fraternity life. IFC funds shall not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages.

**Section V: Expenditure Approval**

The IFC President and the IFC Vice President of Finance shall approve all budgetary expenditures. Requests for budgetary expenditures shall be made utilizing the IFC Expenditure Request Form.

**Section VI: Requests for Reimbursement**

Individuals or member chapters conducting business on behalf of the IFC may request reimbursement for their expenses utilizing the IFC Reimbursement Request Form. All reimbursement requests shall be submitted within two weeks of the purchase and are subject to the approval of the IFC President and IFC Vice President of Finance.

**Section VII: Signature Requirements for Financial Accounts and Transactions**

The signature of both the IFC President and the IFC Vice President of Finance shall be required on all IFC financial accounts and transactions.

**Section VIII: Financial Reporting**

The IFC Vice President of Finance shall provide a financial report to the IFC Presidents' Council on a monthly basis, including all income and expenses during the given period of time and in relation to the overall budget for each line item.

**Section IX: Financial Record Keeping**

The IFC Vice President of Finance shall maintain accurate and organized financial records consisting of all receipts and invoices, copies of all monetary disbursements and deposits, IFC financial forms and reports, actual dues levied, canceled checks, ledgers, and journals.

## ARTICLE VII

### *Member Chapter Financial Obligations*

#### **Section I: IFC Initiated Member Chapter Dues**

The term dues for each member chapter shall be fixed at \$25 per initiated member.

#### **Section II: Establishment of IFC Member Chapter Dues**

Any proposed amendment to the established per-initiated member dues in Section I of this Article shall be initiated utilizing the following protocol:

- a. If the IFC Executive Board determines a need to amend the established per-initiated member dues amount, it shall charge the IFC Finance Committee with assessing the current dues amount and providing a recommendation for possible amendments.
- b. The IFC Executive Board shall consider any recommendations made by the IFC Finance Committee and propose an amendment to the dues amount to the IFC Presidents' Council.
- c. A 2/3 vote of the IFC Presidents' Council is required to amend the IFC member chapter dues amount.

#### **Section III: IFC Member Chapter Dues Assessment**

The aggregate total of dues assessed shall be based upon each member chapter's term Initiated Member Roster that is filed with the IFC President in accordance with the requirements of Article III, Section III(E) of the Constitution. The IFC Vice President of Finance shall invoice each member chapter within one week of receipt of an Initiated Member Roster or New Member Roster. Invoices shall be paid within two weeks of receipt.

#### **Section IV: Delinquent Payments**

Any amount unpaid by the due date shall result in a 10% penalty and loss of representation in the IFC Presidents' Council until payment has been made. Any amount unpaid within one month of the due date shall result in the member chapter being referred to the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs for possible judicial action.

## ARTICLE VIII

### *IFC Code of Conduct*

#### **Section I: The Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board Jurisdiction**

- I. The Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board shall be a peer-governing organization with an independent Judicial Board, which shall have jurisdiction over cases involving alleged member chapter violations, including but not limited to:
  - A. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and other policies.
  - B. The Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board Policy and Procedures
- II. The IFC Judicial Board shall work with the campus to implement a comprehensive conduct program that enhances peer-governance, respects the authority of the campus to adjudicate alleged violations of the Student Code of Conduct, and avoids multiple, overlapping conduct processes.
  - A. The IFC shall develop an agreement with the campus that identifies the role of The Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board in adjudicating allegations of chapter-level misconduct.
  - B. The IFC Judicial Board shall defer to the campus to investigate and adjudicate hazing and sexual misconduct allegations, or any other allegation that is being investigated and/or adjudicated through the campus's conduct

process.

- III. Cornell University Policy 6.4 defines bias activity as an action of mistreatment or incivility (verbal, physical, in written or digital form) taken by an alleged offender(s) and motivated in whole or part by an actual or perceived aspect of diversity/identity of the harmed or impacted party. Identity may include, but is not limited to, ability, age, ancestry or ethnicity, color, creed, gender, gender identity or expression, immigration or citizenship status, marital status, national origin, neurodiversity, race, religion, religious practice, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or weight. IFC will use these same guidelines within our own community.
  - A. The IFC and all associated individuals, organizations, and events agree to operate without discriminatory regard to race, color, creed, age, marital status, ability, national origin, sexual orientation, or any other seen or unseen marginalizing characteristic. The IFC will not discriminate on any of these bases in administering its policies, recruitment of new members, membership, and all other operations.
  - B. The IFC Executive Board will immediately refer all reports of bias to the appropriate University channels and/or internal Chapter Judicial Processes.
  - C. Any attempt to stifle reports or incidents of bias will be regarded as a violation of this policy and will be immediately reported to the appropriate Judicial Process.
- I. For all other instances—outside of hazing and sexual misconduct—the Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board has the autonomy and responsibility to adjudicate chapter-level violations.

## **Section II: IFC Judicial Policy**

The IFC Judicial Board shall perform all duties and be subject to all regulations found in the Policies and Procedures Section of the [SFL Website](#).

## **Section III: IFC Judicial Board Hearing Voting Policies**

All IFC Judicial Board hearings shall operate utilizing the following voting policies:

- A. Each IFC Justice serving on a hearing shall have one vote.
- B. A majority vote shall govern all actions of an IFC Judicial Board.

## **Section IV: Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board Hearing Voting Policies**

All Greek Tri-Council Judicial Board hearings shall operate utilizing the following voting policies:

- A. Each VP of Judicial Affairs and respective council president shall have one vote.
- B. A majority vote shall govern all actions of an IFC Judicial Board.

## **Section V: Impeachment, Censure, and Removal of Executive Officers**

- I. Sitting members of the IFC Executive Board shall be subject to impeachment, censure, and/or removal for reasons including:
  - A. Violations of the IFC Constitution or Bylaws;
  - B. Violations of the University Campus Code of Conduct;
  - C. Criminal indictment or conviction in a court of law;
  - D. Or Improprieties concerning the discharge of official duties.
- II. Any fully recognized chapter member may submit Articles of Impeachment in the form of a written accusation to the IFC Advisor that shall include:
  - A. A statement of each allegation;
  - B. Supporting evidence;
  - C. And supporting witness testimony from two (2) individuals.
- III. Upon formal presentation of Articles of Impeachment, the IFC Advisor shall present the complaint to the IFC Presidents Council; a two-thirds majority vote shall be required to impeach the accused officer and initiate a formal removal tribunal.
  - A. The accused party shall enjoy all the rights and privileges stipulated under Article IX, Section II of this Code.
  - B. A three-person panel composed of the IFC Advisor, Director of Sorority & Fraternity Life, and IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall preside over the tribunal and have authority to consider and adjudicate on all matters concerning evidence, witness credibility, and procedural objections.
    1. If the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs is the subject of the removal action, the next ranking and eligible IFC officer shall serve as an ex officio panelist.
  - C. The standard of proof required shall be clear and convincing evidence.
  - D. The Presidents' Council shall appoint a Special Advocate to pursue the removal of the respondent party.
    1. Only full member chapter presidents shall be eligible to serve as a Special Advocate for the duration of the removal proceedings; upon completion of the hearing, they shall relinquish their role in pursuance of this provision.
    2. The Special Advocate shall be nominated by a full chapter member and is subject to a simple majority vote of confirmation by all eligible voting members of the Presidents' Council
  - E. Upon conclusion of removal proceedings, a four-fifths majority of full chapter members shall be required to remove an officer.
    1. The respondent party enjoys rights to appeal under Article IX, Section XVI; any procedural language in the aforementioned section shall apply to an individual.
    2. The respondent party shall enjoy the right to due process as defined in the Bylaws herein.