

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL AT Tarleton State University**

## **MISSION**

We, the Interfraternity Council at Tarleton State University set forth this Constitution and Bylaws in order to cause closer working relationships and coordination among its Member Fraternities and Tarleton State University, in accordance with the policies and standards established by the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC).

## **ARTICLE I – NAME**

This organization shall be known as the Interfraternity Council (IFC) at Tarleton State University.

## **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE OF THE IFC**

The purpose of the IFC shall be to:

- A. provide a sovereign governance structure for its Member Fraternities;
- B. promote the interests of its Member Fraternities;
- C. promote the interests of men's fraternities in general;
- D. discuss questions of mutual interest and present to its Member Fraternities such recommendations as the IFC deems appropriate;
- E. promote the interests of Tarleton State University.
- F. promote mutual cooperation between its Member Fraternities;
- G. promote mutual cooperation between the IFC, fellow governing councils, and student organizations at Tarleton State University; and
- H. promote mutual cooperation between the IFC and Tarleton State University its students, faculty, staff, and local community.

## **ARTICLE III – IFC MEMBERSHIP**

### **Section I. Membership Eligibility**

Membership in the IFC is open to chapters and colonies of fraternities at Tarleton State University, as follows:

- A. Any chapter or colony of a North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) member organization shall hold membership in the IFC.
- B. Any chapter or colony of a local, state, regional, or international fraternity, which is not a member of the NIC, may hold membership in the IFC.

### **Section II. Membership Classification for Member Fraternities**

The membership classification of Member Fraternities shall be as follows

- A. Full Member: Any fraternity chapter which has obtained its charter from its international organization, or any local fraternity chapter. Full Membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution and Bylaws.
- B. Associate Member: Any fraternity colony of an international organization. Associate Membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution and By-Laws, except that it does not have voting privileges, cannot hold IFC Executive Board positions, nor have an IFC Judicial Committee Justice.

For the purpose of this Constitution and the IFC Bylaws, both Full Members and Associate Members are referred to as Member Fraternities.

### **Section III. Member Fraternity Minimum Expectations**

Each Member Fraternity shall adhere to and abide by the following minimum expectations:

- A. Each Member Fraternity shall comply with all policies set forth by:
  - 1. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and other policies.
  - 2. The rules and regulations of Tarleton State University.
  - 3. The general values-based conduct of fraternity men.
- B. Each Member Fraternity shall maintain a minimum annual cumulative GPA of 2.50.
- C. Each Member Fraternity shall be current on all IFC dues owed.
- D. Each Member Fraternity shall submit required membership rosters to the IFC President, as follows:
  - 1. Active Member Roster: Active Member Rosters shall be submitted within one week of the beginning of each semester.
  - 2. New Member Roster: New Member Rosters shall be submitted within one week of pledging any New Member.
- E. Each Member Fraternity shall comply with the attendance policies for the IFC General Body and the IFC Judicial Committee, as outlined within this Constitution.
- F. To uphold this Constitution and its Bylaws as the supreme governing document of fraternal matters pertaining to all member and associate member fraternities.

A Member Fraternity which has failed to meet any of the minimum expectations outlined in this Section shall be referred to the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs for potential judicial review.

### **Section IV. Membership Status for Member Fraternities**

The membership status of Member Fraternities shall be as follows:

- A. Good Standing: A Member Fraternity shall be deemed to be in Good Standing if the Member Fraternity is not currently operating under Non-Status Sanctions or Status Sanctions, as defined within the IFC Bylaws, and is

currently meeting the minimum expectations outlined in Section II of this Article.

- B. Good Standing on Probation: A Member Fraternity shall be deemed to be in Good Standing on Probation if the Member Fraternity is currently operating under Non-Status Sanctions and currently meets the minimum expectations outlined in Section II of this Article.
- C. Poor Standing: A Member Fraternity shall be deemed to be in Poor Standing if the Member Fraternity has been placed under Suspension by the IFC or has currently failed to meet the minimum expectations outlined in Section II of this Article.

### **Section V. Individual Member Definitions**

For the purpose of this Constitution and the IFC Bylaws, and with an understanding that each Member Fraternity may have its own terminology for internal use, individuals will be defined as follows:

- A. Active Member: An Active Member shall be defined as any man who has been initiated into any fraternity at Tarleton State University.
- B. New Member: A New Member shall be defined as any man who has accepted a bid to join a fraternity at Tarleton State University, but has not been initiated into that fraternity.
- C. Potential New Member: A Potential New Member shall be defined as any man who has not accepted a bid from any fraternity at Tarleton State University.

### **Section VI. IFC Affirmation and Adoption of NIC Standards**

The IFC affirms and adopts the NIC Standards, and each Member Fraternity shall be required to meet the following in order to maintain IFC membership:

- A. Each Member Fraternity shall communicate its values through its Ritual at least annually or as prescribed by its policies; and
- B. Each Member Fraternity shall regularly communicate the importance of its Active Members and New Members participating in educational programming covering the following topics: academic achievement, alcohol consumption, career preparation, civic engagement, hazing, leadership development, sexual assault/abuse, and values and ethics.
- C. Each Member Fraternity shall have policies addressing the following:
  - 1. A policy requiring any Potential New Member to meet the following minimum educational standards in order to be offered a bid to join:
    - a. For first semester freshmen, a minimum high school GPA of 2.30.
    - b. For any student with an established college GPA, a minimum college GPA of 2.25 or be at/or above the institution's all-men's average.
  - 2. A policy requiring the Member Fraternity to maintain an annual cumulative GPA requirement of at least a 2.50 or be at/or above the institution's all-men's average.
  - 3. A policy requiring its New Member education program be no longer than twelve weeks.
  - 4. A policy requiring the Member Fraternity to have a prohibition against women's auxiliary groups, such as "little sisters".

5. Risk management policies covering alcohol use, fire safety, hazing, and sexual assault/abuse.
6. A policy requiring the Member Fraternity to support open recruitment and open expansion practices.
7. A policy requiring all recruitment activities be alcohol-free.
8. A policy requiring all New Member education activities be alcohol-free.

## **ARTICLE IV – IFC GENERAL BODY**

### **Section I. IFC General Body**

The powers of the IFC shall be vested in the IFC General Body. The IFC General Body shall be the governing legislative body responsible for the general policies of the IFC, for electing its Executive Board, and for instructing its Executive Board as to the activities and operations of the IFC. All such activities shall respect the individual sovereignty of each Member Fraternity and shall not relinquish any governance authority to any other governing body.

### **Section II. IFC General Body Composition**

The IFC General Body shall be composed of voting IFC Representatives from each Member Fraternity.

### **Section III. IFC Representatives**

Each Member Fraternity shall have one IFC Representative, chosen by that Member Fraternity, who serves on the IFC General Body.

### **Section IV. IFC Alternate Representatives**

Each Member Fraternity may also choose an IFC Alternate Representative, who shall represent that Member Fraternity in the IFC General Body in the absence of its IFC Representative.

### **Section V. IFC Representative and Alternate Representative Eligibility**

In order to serve as the IFC Representative or Alternate Representative for a Member Fraternity, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- A. Be an Active Member or New Member, in good standing, of a Member Fraternity.
- B. Maintain good academic standing with Tarleton State University.
- C. Be devoted to the general ideals and principles of fraternity life and conduct himself in a professional manner consistent with the Mission and Purpose of the IFC, as defined within this Constitution.
- D. Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, Tarleton State policies, NIC Standards, and FIPG risk management policies.
- E. Not be a current member of the IFC Executive Board or currently serve as his Member Fraternity's IFC Judicial Committee Justice.

### **Section VI. Term of Office of IFC Representatives**

The term of office for IFC Representatives shall be until their graduation, resignation, or replacement under the procedures determined by each Member Fraternity; or upon his election to serve on the IFC Executive Board or as his Member Fraternity's IFC Justice for the IFC Judicial Committee.

### **Section VII. IFC General Body Meeting Polices**

The IFC General Body shall conduct its meetings according to the following requirements:

- A. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used to run all meetings.
- B. A majority of Member Fraternities present shall constitute a quorum in order to conduct IFC General Body business.
- C. The IFC General Body shall conduct regularly scheduled business meetings at least twice a month during the academic year.
- D. Special meetings may be called by the IFC President at any time or at the request of two Member Fraternities, with notice of the time, location, and purpose of the special meeting provided to all Member Fraternities at least 72 hours in advance.
- E. Each Member Fraternity's IFC Representative or Alternate Representative is required to attend all meetings of the IFC. Failure by a member fraternity to have attendance at a meeting will result in referral to the Vice President of Judicial Affairs.
- F. Any guest speaker shall correspond with the council president no later the five business days prior to the meeting for which they wish to be on the agenda.

### **Section VIII. IFC General Body Voting Policies**

The IFC General Body shall operate utilizing the following voting policies:

- A. Each Member Fraternity, in good standing, shall have one vote.
- B. Individuals holding IFC Executive Board positions are not entitled to a vote.
- C. In the event of a tie, the IFC President shall cast the deciding vote.
- D. With the exception of the election of IFC Executive Board positions, there shall be no secret ballot votes.

## **ARTICLE V – IFC EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **Section I. IFC Executive Board**

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

### **Section II. IFC Executive Board Composition**

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

- A. President

- B. Vice President of Judicial Affairs
- C. Vice President of Recruitment
- D. Finance Chair
- E. Scholarship Chair
- F. Member Relations Chair
- G. Community Relations Chair
- H. IFC Senator

### **Section III. IFC Executive Board Eligibility**

In order to be elected and serve as a member of the IFC Executive Board, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- A. Be an Active Member or New Member, in good standing, of a Member Fraternity.
- B. Maintain good academic.
- C. Be devoted to the general ideals and principles of fraternity life and conduct himself in a professional manner consistent with the Mission and Purpose of the IFC, as defined within this Constitution.
- D. Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, Tarleton State University policies, NIC Standards, and FIPG risk management policies.
- G. Not currently serve as his Member Fraternity's IFC Representative, Alternate Representative, or IFC Judicial Committee Justice.
- H. Must complete formal judicial policies and procedures training.
- I. Must have served as an IFC Representative for Two (2) semesters.
- J. There shall be no more than three (3) Executive positions filled by men of the same member fraternity at one time except in special cases including but not limited to:
  - I. Lack of experience in time served as an IFC delegate
  - II. Lack of good standing within the IFC and University
  - III. Lack of time served on the IFC Judicial Board

### **Section IV. IFC Executive Board Meeting Polices**

The IFC Executive Board shall conduct its meetings according to the following requirements:

- A. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used to run all meetings.
- B. A majority of IFC Executive Board members present shall constitute a quorum in order to conduct IFC Executive Board business.
- C. The IFC Executive Board shall conduct regularly scheduled meetings on a weekly basis.
- D. Special meetings may be called by the IFC President with notice of the time, location, and purpose of the special meeting provided to each IFC Executive Board member at least 72 hours in advance.
- K. Each IFC Executive Board member is required to attend all meetings of the IFC Executive Board and all meetings of the IFC General Body. Absences may result in removal from office.

### **Section V. IFC Executive Board Voting Policies**

The IFC Executive Board shall operate utilizing the following voting policies during IFC Executive Board meetings:

- A. Each IFC Executive Board member shall have one vote.
- B. The IFC President should refrain from casting his vote except for in the event of a tie. In such instances, the IFC President shall cast the deciding vote.
- C. There shall be no secret ballot votes.
- D. The IFC Executive Board shall make decisions deemed necessary and proper for the betterment of the Interfraternity Council.

### **Section VI. IFC Executive Board Election Policies**

The following policies and procedures shall be utilized for the election and removal of IFC Executive Board officers:

- A. Nominations for IFC Executive Board positions shall open two meetings prior to the last business meeting of each calendar year.
- B. Elections and installations of IFC Executive Board officers shall take place during the last business meeting of each calendar year.
- C. Each IFC Executive Board officer shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast by the IFC General Body.
  - a. In the event of a tie, the tiebreaker goes to the highest-ranking officer who has no relation to either candidates.
- D. Any individual serving in an IFC Executive Board position may be removed from his position by a 2/3 affirmative vote of the IFC General Body.
- E. Should a vacancy occur in any IFC Executive Board, a special election shall be held within two meetings after the vacancy was created.

### **Section VII. Report of IFC Officers**

A report of any newly elected or appointed IFC Executive Board officers shall be submitted to the NIC within one week of the election or appointment.

## **ARTICLE VI – IFC JUDICIAL COMMITTEE**

### **Section I. IFC Judicial Committee Jurisdiction**

The IFC shall be a self-governing organization with an independent Judicial Committee which shall have jurisdiction over cases involving alleged Member Fraternity violations, including but not limited to:

- A. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and other policies.
- B. The rules and regulations of Tarleton State University.
- C. The general values-based conduct of fraternity men.

### **Section II. IFC Judicial Committee Composition**

The IFC Judicial Committee shall be composed of one IFC Justice from each Member Fraternity, chosen by that Member Fraternity, and shall be chaired by the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs.

### **Section III. IFC Justice Eligibility**

In order to serve as the IFC Justice for a Member Fraternity on the IFC Judicial Committee, an individual must meet the following requirements:

- A. Be an Active Member or New Member, in good standing, of an IFC Member Fraternity.
- B. Maintain good academic standing with the institution.
- C. Be devoted to the general ideals and principles of fraternity life and conduct himself in a professional manner consistent with the Mission and Purpose of the IFC, as defined within this Constitution.
- D. Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, Tarleton State University policies, NIC Standards, and FIPG risk management policies.
- E. Not be a current member of the IFC Executive Board or serve as his Member Fraternity's IFC Representative or Alternate Representative for the IFC General Body.
- L. Must complete formal judicial policies and procedures training prior to serving on an IFC Judicial Board hearing.
- M. After serving one full term on the IFC Judicial Board, any justice that meets all other executive board eligibility requirements may be able to serve as the IFC VP of Judicial Affairs.

### **Section IV. Term of Office of IFC Justices**

The term of office for IFC Justices shall be for two (2) full semesters.

### **Section V. IFC Judicial Policy**

The Judicial Committee shall perform all duties and be subject to all regulations contained within the IFC Judicial Policy in the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE VII – IFC COMMITTEES**

### **Section I. Standing Committees**

The IFC shall have the following standing committees chaired by its respective corresponding member of the IFC Executive Board:

- A. Recruitment Committee
- B. Finance Committee
- C. Scholarship Committee
- D. Member Development Committee
- E. Community Relations Committee

### **Section II. Ad Hoc Committees**

The IFC Executive Board or the IFC President may form ad hoc committees as deemed necessary to perform the work of the IFC. The IFC President shall appoint the ad hoc committee chairman and committee members with the concurrence of the IFC Executive Board.



### **Section III. IFC Committee Meeting Polices**

All committees of the IFC shall conduct its meetings according to the following requirements:

- A. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used to run all meetings.
- B. A majority of committee members present shall constitute a quorum in order to conduct committee business.
- C. Each committee shall meet as called by its committee chair.

## **ARTICLE VIII – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

### **Section I. Constitutional Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) affirmative vote of the IFC General Body provided notice of the proposed amendment has been provided to Member Fraternities at the preceding regularly scheduled business meeting of the IFC General Body.

### **Section II. Adoption**

This Constitution shall become effective and shall supersede all previous Constitutions of the IFC when adopted by a three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) affirmative vote of the IFC General Body.

## **MODEL BYLAWS**

## **BYLAWS OF THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL AT TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **ARTICLE I – ROLE OF THE IFC REPRESENTATIVE**

### **Section I. IFC Representative**

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

- A. Serve as a representative and voice for his Member Fraternity's concerns regarding the fraternity community.
- B. Represent the larger fraternity community's interests.
- C. Inform his Member Fraternity of the actions, discussions, and workings of the IFC General Body.

- D. Serve as a liaison between the IFC General Body and his respective Member Fraternity.
- E. Serve as an active 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 Fraternity leaders.
- E. Serve as the official spokesperson for the fraternity community
- F. Establish positive working relationships with campus and local law enforcement 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 Fraternity rosters.

### **Section II. 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 Committee 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:
  1. the IFC Constitution, Bylaws, and policies;
  2. Federal, state, and local laws;
  3. the rules and regulations of Tarleton State University and
  4. 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 Fraternity.
- E. Educate Member Fraternities on the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, judicial processes, and risk management policies.
- F. Conduct judicial policy and procedures training for new IFC Judicial Committee justices.

- G. Assist in conflict mediation between Member Fraternities.
- H. Review all IFC governance documents, at least annually.

### **Section III. IFC Vice President of Recruitment**

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

- A. Serve as chair of the IFC Recruitment Committee.
- B. Utilize technology (social media, fraternityinfo.com, etc.) in recruitment and marketing efforts.
- C. Produce and distribute promotional materials to all incoming students and unaffiliated students.
- D. Develop recruitment workshops and programs for Member Fraternities.
- E. Uphold the IFC Recruitment Policy and ensure no restrictive policies are placed on new member recruitment.
- F. Maintain an interest list of Potential New Members.
- G. Collect and maintain accurate New Member Rosters for each Member Fraternity.
- H. Provide advice and support to Member Fraternity recruitment officers.

### **Section IV. Finance Chair**

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

- A. Serve as chair of the IFC Finance Committee.
- B. Supervise the annual budget process.
- C. Collect IFC Member Fraternity 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 Fraternities.
- H. Make bank deposits when necessary and in a timely manner.
- I. Provide advice and support to Member Fraternity financial officers.

### **Section V. IFC Scholarship Chair**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Scholarship Chair are as follows:

- A. Coordinate a scholarship chair orientation program for Member Fraternities.
- B. Collect and distribute academic performance rankings.
- C. Publish important academic dates and deadlines.
- D. Collect and distribute information about campus academic services, such as tutors, the writing lab, math lab, learning assistance programs, interest tests, career counseling, placement workshops, and library resources.
- E. Work individually with member fraternity scholarship chairs below the all-men's grade point average.
- F. Build and maintain relationships with faculty, academic offices, and academic honorary societies.
- G. Provide advice and support to Member Fraternity scholarship officers.

## **Section VI. IFC Member Relations Chair**

The duties and responsibilities of the IFC Member Relations chair are as follows:

- A. Develop best practices for new member and member education programs for Member Fraternities.
- B. Collect and report new member retention, academic, and involvement statistics.
- C. Organize, develop, and implement a new member orientation program.
- D. Develop opportunities for continuing member education by collaborating with alumni, Tarleton State University 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/abuse, and values and ethics.
- E. Provide advice and support to Member Fraternity member development officers.
- F. To attend and record minutes at all IFC meetings

## **Section VII. IFC Community Relations Chair**

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

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

## **ARTICLE III – ROLE OF THE IFC JUSTICE**

### **Section I. IFC Justice**

The duties and responsibilities of an IFC Justice are as follows:

- A. Serve as an impartial justice, as called, on IFC Judicial Board hearings.
- B. Uphold:
  - 1. the IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and policies;
  - 2. the rules and regulations of Tarleton State University; and
  - 3. the general values-based conduct of fraternity men.
- C. Maintain confidentiality in all judicial hearings, matters, and deliberations.

## **ARTICLE IV – ROLE OF THE IFC ADVISOR**

### **Section I. IFC Advisor**

In accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Fraternity and Sorority Advising Programs of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS), the duties and responsibilities of the IFC Advisor are as follows:

- A. Advise the IFC and its Member Fraternities.
- B. Advise financial processes.
- C. Coordinate life safety, facility management, and risk management programs in conjunction with local agencies.
- D. 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:
  1. Multicultural Competence.
  2. Leadership Development
  3. Recruitment and Intake
  4. Risk Management
- E. Monitor membership and academic retention by Member Fraternity and the entire community for purposes of improving academic support and recommending intervention strategies.
- F. Gather and disseminate information via meetings, websites, newsletters, social media venues, and/or information bulletins to the various entities in fraternity life.
- G. Provide assistance and advice in planning and assessing IFC and Member Fraternity programs.
- H. Organize and facilitate leadership programs, retreats, and workshops.
- I. Connect the Members and New Members of Member Fraternities to leadership opportunities across campus, in the local community, and within their international organizations.
- J. Publish or share documents that focus on current events, leadership opportunities, trends, and other information regarding fraternity life.
- K. Provide for the recording and archiving of information about the fraternal community and encourage Member Fraternity leaders to do the same within their organizations.
- L. Review questions and/or change any decision made by the executive or general council on aspects pertaining to amendments, judicial decisions, executive council member status and the overall state of IFC.
- M. The IFC advisor shall have the authority to make decisions deemed necessary and proper for the Interfraternity Council in order to better function within their capacity as the Assistant Director for Fraternity and Sorority Life.

### **Section II. Annual Data Reporting to the NIC**

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

- A. Campus, All-Men's, All-Fraternity, and individual Member Fraternity GPA by semester.
- B. Total number of men who pledged all Member Fraternities each academic year.
- C. Total number of men who were initiated in all Member Fraternities each academic year.
- D. Percentage of fraternity men compared to the total number of all men at Tarleton State University.
- E. Total number of chapter and colonies opened and closed in each academic year.
- F. Total number of Greek life full-time professionals at Tarleton State University.
- G. Graduation rate of fraternity men compared to the total number of all men at Tarleton State University.

## **ARTICLE V – MEMBER FRATERNITY FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS**

### **Section I. IFC Active Member Fraternity Dues**

The semester dues for each Member Fraternity shall be fixed at \$8.00 per member.

### **Section II. Establishment of IFC Member Fraternity Dues**

Any proposed amendment to the established per active 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 active 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 General Body.
- C. A 2/3 vote of the IFC General Body is required to amend the IFC Member Fraternity dues amount.

### **Section III. IFC Member Fraternity Dues Assessment**

The aggregate total of dues assessed shall be based upon each Member Fraternity's semester Active 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 Fraternity within one week of receipt of an Active 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 fine determined by the Vice President of Judicial Affairs and loss of representation in the IFC General Body until payment has been made. Any amount unpaid within one month of the due date shall result in the Member Fraternity being referred to the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs for possible judicial action.

### **ARTICLE VI – IFC CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### **Section I. IFC Code of Conduct**

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

- A. We will know and understand the ideals expressed in our fraternity Rituals and will strive to incorporate them in our daily lives.
- B. We will strive for academic achievement and practice academic integrity.
- C. We will respect the dignity of all persons; therefore, we will not physically, mentally, psychologically or sexually abuse or harm any human being.
- D. We will protect the health and safety of all human beings.
- E. We will respect our property and the property of others; therefore, we will neither abuse nor tolerate the abuse of property.
- F. We will meet our financial obligations in a timely manner.
- G. We will neither use nor support the use of illegal drugs; we will neither misuse nor support the misuse of alcohol.
- H. We acknowledge that a clean and attractive environment is essential to both physical and mental health; therefore, we will do all in our power to see that our properties are properly cleaned and maintained.
- I. We will challenge all fraternity members to abide by these fraternal expectations and will confront those who violate them.

### **ARTICLE VII – IFC JUDICIAL POLICY**

#### **Section I. IFC Judicial Powers and Responsibilities**

Per Article VI, Section I of the IFC Constitution, the IFC shall be a self-governing organization with an independent Judicial Committee who shall have jurisdiction over cases involving alleged member fraternity violations of IFC policy, including but not limited to:

- A. The IFC Constitution, Bylaws, Code of Conduct, and policies;
- B. the rules and regulations of Tarleton State University; and
- C. the general values-based conduct of fraternity men.

#### **Section II. Filing of Complaints**

In the event of a complaint, infraction, and/or action/event requiring the need for a Judicial Hearing, the Vice President of Judicial Affairs has one (1) week to recognize and respond to the complaint

### **Section III. Investigatory Evidence**

After the issue has been recognized, the Vice President of Judicial Affairs will then call a meeting between the IFC judicial board, and the accused parties. The Vice President of Judicial Affairs will make available to the respondents all information necessary for a defense and the information given to IFC that caused the accusations and the hearing.

### **Section IV. Investigatory Evidence**

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

### **Section V. Informal Judicial Hearing**

Upon a finding of the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs that a filed complaint has merit, he shall offer the charged Member Fraternity the opportunity to participate in an Informal Judicial Hearing.

In cases in which the charged Member Fraternity accepts an Informal Judicial Hearing, the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall meet with a representative of the charged Member Fraternity to discuss the allegations of the complaint. Within three (3) business days of the Informal Judicial Hearing, the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs may dismiss the complaint with a finding of no violations or provide the charged Member Fraternity with his finding of violations and recommendation for a resolution through disciplinary sanctions. The charged Member Fraternity has three (3) business days to accept or reject the terms of resolution. If the charged Member Fraternity accepts the resolution, the charged Member Fraternity waives all rights of appeal and the outcome is final.

If the charged Member Fraternity rejects the resolution, a Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing will be convened to hear the case.

All informal hearings are subject to review and acceptance by the IFC advisor.

### **Section VI. Prohibited Sanctions for Informal Judicial Hearings**

The IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall not recommend suspension or loss of IFC recognition through an Informal Judicial Hearing. Should the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs believe suspension or loss of IFC recognition is warranted, the case shall automatically be referred to a Formal IFC Judicial Board hearing.

### **Section VII. Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing**

If:

- A. the charged Member Fraternity rejects having an Informal Judicial Hearing;



- B. the charged Member Fraternity rejects the Informal Judicial Hearing recommendation for resolution; or
- C. the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs determines the allegation is egregious enough to warrant potential suspension or loss of IFC recognition; the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall convene a Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing.

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

### **Section VIII. Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing Proceedings**

For all IFC Judicial Board hearings, the following procedures shall be followed:

- A. **Participants:** Attendance at all IFC Judicial Board hearings shall be limited to the Member Fraternities involved, any witnesses, the IFC Justices assigned to serve on the Judicial Board for the hearing, and the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs. Additionally, the charged Member Fraternity may be accompanied by its chapter advisor during any Judicial Board hearing. The chapter advisor must be registered as the official chapter advisor of the Member Fraternity.
- B. **Confidentiality:** All individuals involved in a hearing are required to agree to a statement of confidentiality. Individuals shall not disclose information regarding the following:
  - 1. Any individuals, Member Fraternities, or IFC Justices involved.
  - 2. Details of the proceedings
  - 3. Witness testimony.
- C. **Hearing Process:**
  - 1. **Initiation of the Hearing:** The IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall inform all individuals present that the hearing will be conducted in an orderly manner and any person causing disruption will be asked to leave. Additionally, he shall advise the charged Member Fraternity of the formality of the hearing and the necessity of all parties to be truthful.
  - 2. **Overview of Judicial Hearing Process:** The IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall outline the process for the remainder of the hearing as follows:
    - a. **Presentation of alleged charges, violations, and investigatory evidence against the charged Member Fraternity shall be presented by the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs:**
      - i. Charged Member Fraternity may ask questions;
      - ii. IFC Justices may ask questions;
    - b. **Presentation of charged Member Fraternity:**
      - i. IFC Justices may ask questions;
    - c. **Calling of Witnesses**
      - i. Charged Member Fraternity may ask questions;
      - ii. IFC Justices may ask questions;
    - d. **Charged Member Fraternity may give final statement;**

- e. IFC Justices deliberate in closed session to determine findings of responsibility and if necessary, appropriate sanction(s).

### **Section IX. Conflicts of Interest**

In the event the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs' Member Fraternity is involved in the alleged violation, the highest ranking IFC Executive Board officer, starting with the IFC President, as listed in Article V, Section II of the IFC Constitution, shall serve in his stead.

In the event of a Justices' Member Fraternity is involved in the alleged violation, than that justice will not vote on the board.

### **Section X. Prohibition on Recruitment Restrictions as a Sanction**

The IFC Judicial Board may impose educational and punitive sanctions, as prescribed in the IFC Bylaws, but under no circumstances may it prohibit a Member Fraternity's ability to recruit.

### **Section XI. Non-Status Sanctions**

The following are sanctions that may be imposed by the IFC Judicial Board and/or IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs (including, but not limited to):

- A. Letter of apology
- B. Fines
- C. Restitution
- D. Educational programming
- E. Public service to the campus or community
- F. Meetings with campus office/departments
- G. Loss of social event and/or campus event privileges
- H. Loss of eligibility for leadership and service awards
- I. Censure

### **Section XII. Status Sanctions**

In the event of an egregious violation, the following are sanctions that may be imposed by the IFC Judicial Board for a specified period of time:

- A. Suspension: Loss of IFC voting rights, removal from Good Standing status, and any additional sanctions listed in Non-Status Sanctions.
- B. Loss of IFC Recognition: Loss of IFC recognition and its rights and privileges.

### **Section XIII. Duration of Sanctions**

Judicial action shall specify the duration and deadlines of any sanctions imposed. After such specified time, if the Member Fraternity has fulfilled the requirements of the sanctions imposed, the Member Fraternity shall return to good standing. In the event the Member Fraternity does not fulfill all of the requirements of the sanctions imposed, the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall convene a Formal IFC Judicial Board Hearing to determine future course of action.

### **Section XIV. Notification of Findings**

Within three (3) business days of any Informal or Formal Judicial Hearing, the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall communicate in writing to the charged Member Fraternity, its international headquarters, and its chapter advisor, as well as any relevant Tarleton State University administrators, the alleged violation, the findings of the hearing, and any sanction(s) imposed.

The IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall notify the IFC General Body of any sanctions imposed upon a Member Fraternity through any Informal or Formal Judicial Hearing.

### **Section XV. Appeals**

The IFC Judicial Board's decision is subject to appeal by a Member Fraternity within two weeks of receiving written notification of the decision. Appeals shall be made in writing to the IFC President and shall be made solely on the following grounds:

- A. Error in the charge and/or Judicial Board Hearing process that materially affected the outcome.
- B. The severity of the sanction did not match the severity of the violation.
- C. New information that could not have been discovered prior to the IFC Judicial Board Hearing through the exercise of reasonable diligence.

Sanctions imposed through the Judicial Process shall stand until an appeal is heard.

### **Section XVI. Non-Status Sanctions Appeals**

The IFC Executive Board shall hear appeals for Non-Status Sanctions. The IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall first present the IFC Judicial Board's decision and rationale for its actions. The appealing Member Fraternity shall then be afforded the opportunity to present its reasoning for seeking a reconsideration of the IFC Judicial Board's actions. Any individual from the appealing Member Fraternity serving on the IFC Executive Board shall not participate in the appeal proceedings. The IFC Executive Board may either dismiss the charge(s) with no sanctions or to alter the sanctions imposed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. The decision of the IFC Executive Board shall be final for Non-Status Sanctions.

### **Section XVII. Status Sanctions Appeals**

The IFC General Body shall hear appeals for Status Sanctions. The IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs shall first present the IFC Judicial Board's decision and rationale for its actions. The appealing Member Fraternity shall then be afforded the opportunity to present its reasoning for seeking a reconsideration of the decision. Upon completion of the Member Fraternity appeal presentation, all representatives of the Member Fraternity shall be dismissed from the meeting, including the Member Fraternity's IFC Representative and Alternate Representative.

The IFC General Body shall first vote on whether to uphold the status sanction, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote. In the event the IFC General Body fails to uphold the decision, the IFC General Body shall determine by a two-thirds (2/3) vote to either dismiss the charge(s) with no sanctions or to alter the sanctions imposed.

The decision of the IFC General Body shall be final with no further appeal rights.

## **ARTICLE X – EXPANSION POLICY**

### **Section I. Expansion Philosophy**

In accordance with the North-American Interfraternity Conference's Position on Open Expansion, the IFC at Tarleton State University believes the best interests of higher education and of the fraternity movement are served through the establishment of new chapters that provide a fraternal experience for an increasing number of college men. Expansion gives men more choices; it brings new influence and direction to a campus fraternal community; it provides new leadership and renewed motivation. To that end, the Member Fraternities of the IFC:

- A. Will not prohibit an international organization from selecting undergraduates for the purpose of establishing a chapter on the campus; and
- B. Will not deter expansion by withholding membership in the IFC for any international member organization.

### **Section II. Expansion Processes**

There are several routes for an expansion to occur, including:

- A. Open Invitation to Colonize: In the event the IFC wishes to seek expansion opportunities, a formal invitation shall be sent to international organizations requesting Letters of Intent. The IFC President shall contact the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) for assistance with communicating with international organizations. If multiple international organizations submit Letters of Intent, the IFC President will coordinate with the international organizations and the NIC to establish an agreeable timeline for expansion.
- B. International Fraternity Colonization: If an international fraternity petitions to join the IFC, a Letter of Intent shall be sent to the IFC President.
- C. Student Interest Group Colonization: A group of enrolled students at Tarleton State University may choose to form a chapter that is affiliated with an international organization and may seek membership in the IFC as a result of that affiliation. The group of interested students shall submit a Letter of Intent that includes a Letter of Endorsement from the international organization.

### **Section III. Letter of Intent**

A Letter of Intent shall consist of information pertinent to educating the fraternity community on the international organization, including:

- A. Overview of the Fraternity's History, Mission, and Values;
- B. Summary of the Colonization Plan, including: outline of the colonization timeline, international and/or local support, and contact information; and
- C. Statement of agreement with the Minimum Expectations as stated in Article III, Section III and the NIC Standards as stated in Article III, Section VI of the IFC Constitution.

Upon receipt of the Letter of Intent, the IFC President and advisor shall meet with the interested chapters to discuss a timeline that is best for both parties. The president shall then notify the IFC General Body of the international fraternity's intent and the process by which the international organization intends to colonize by the next business meeting. Following NIC Standards, the IFC General Body shall grant the organization Associate Membership.

#### **Section IV. Granting of Associate Member Status**

Associate Membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution and By-Laws, except that it does not have voting privileges, cannot hold IFC Executive Board positions, nor have an IFC Judicial Committee Justice.

#### **Section V. Granting of Full Member Status**

Upon chartering with its international organization, the Associate Member Fraternity shall become a full member of the IFC with all rights privileges and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution and Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE XI – RECRUITMENT POLICY**

#### **Section I. Recruitment Philosophy**

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

#### **Section II. Membership GPA Requirements**

Any Potential New Member shall meet the following GPA requirement in order to be accepted as a New Member by any Member Fraternity:

- A. a minimum high school GPA of 2.3 for first semester freshmen; or
- B. a minimum college GPA:
  - 1. of 2.25; or
  - 2. at/or above the institution's all-men's average.

#### **Section III. IFC Sponsored Recruitment**

Under the guidance of the IFC Vice President of Recruitment, the IFC shall designate periods of time during each Semester when the IFC will assist Member Fraternities by advertising their recruitment events, hosting campus-wide recruitment events, and educating Potential New Members on the fraternity community.

The IFC Vice President of Recruitment shall solicit and maintain a Potential New Member Roster, which shall be a roster of men interested in fraternity recruitment, and shall make that list available to each Member Fraternity.

#### **Section IV. Year-Round Recruitment**

Member fraternities are encouraged to participate in year-round recruitment and shall establish recruitment practices and timelines as determined to best serve that Member Fraternity.

#### **Section V. Member Fraternity Recruitment**

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

- A. Values-based;
- B. Alcohol-free and illegal substance-free;
- C. Generally in good taste;
- D. Not derogatory, degrading, or slanderous; and
- E. In support of the National Panhellenic Conference's Unanimous Agreement X that supports each College Panhellenic denouncing the participation of undergraduate Panhellenic women in men's recruitment.

#### **Section VI. Bidding**

Each Member Fraternity shall reserve the right to extend or retract a bid utilizing a process and timeline as determined by that Member Fraternity.

Each Potential New Member shall reserve the right to accept or decline any bid at any time without any penalty or pressure placed upon the Potential New Member.

#### **Section VII. Report of New Members**

Each Member Fraternity shall submit a New Member Roster to the IFC Vice President of Recruitment within one week of pledging any New Member.

#### **Section VIII. New Member Disassociation / De-pledging**

A New Member shall reserve the right to disassociate / de-pledge from the new member process of any Member Fraternity at any time and may accept a bid from another Member Fraternity at any time following that disassociation / de-pledging.

Each Member Fraternity shall submit an updated New Member Roster to the IFC Vice President of Recruitment within one week of any New Member disassociating / de-pledging.

#### **Section IX. Comity**

No Member Fraternity shall initiate communication with a New Member or Member of another Member Fraternity about disassociation / de-pledging in order to become a New Member or Member of their own Member Fraternity.

### **ARTICLE XII – PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

#### **Section I. Publication and Distribution of Constitution and Bylaws**

The IFC's current Constitution and Bylaws shall be published on the IFC website.

An updated copy of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws will be electronically distributed to each Member Fraternity and the NIC after any amendment is adopted.

## **ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS**

### **Section I. Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the IFC General Body provided notice of the proposed amendment has provided to Member Fraternities at the preceding regularly scheduled business meeting.

### **Section II. Adoption**

These Bylaws shall become effective and shall supersede all previous Bylaws of the IFC when adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the IFC General Body.

Adopted April 13, 2015