

Constitution of the Interfraternity Council at Winthrop University

Fall 2018

Abbreviations

Interfraternity Council (IFC)

Fraternal Conduct Board (FCB)

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs
(OFSA)

Assistant Director of Fraternity and Sorority
Affairs (ADFS)

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1.1. Name. The name of this council shall be known as the IFC at Winthrop University.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Section 2.1. Purpose. The purpose of the IFC shall be to promote the well-being of its member fraternities by providing such services to them as the Membership may determine. These services are to include, but not be limited to, providing a sovereign governance structure for its Member Fraternities, promoting the interests of its Member Fraternities, promotion of cooperative action in dealing with fraternity matters of mutual concern, fostering constructive relationships between its Member Fraternities, promoting the interests of Winthrop University, promoting mutual cooperation between the IFC, fellow governing councils, and student organizations at Winthrop University, and supporting the scholarly achievement of all members. Council actions shall not in any way abrogate the right of its member fraternities to self-determination.

Section 2.2. Affirmation and Adoption of NIC Standards. The IFC Chapter agrees to uphold all standards set upon by the NIC, while complying with all policies set forth by Winthrop University, so long as they allow the IFC Chapter membership at the university.

ARTICLE III

Members

Section 3.1. Membership. Any fraternal chapter or colony at Winthrop University may hold membership in the IFC.

Section 3.2. Classes of members. Member Fraternities shall be classified as follows:

1. Full Member: Any fraternity chapter, which has been chartered by their inter/national organization. Full membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution.
2. Associate Member: Any fraternity colony of an inter/national organization. Associate Membership grants the Member Fraternity all rights, privileges, and responsibilities under the IFC Constitution, excluding voting privileges, holding positions on the IFC Executive Board, or holding positions on the FCB.

Section 3.3 Definition of individual members. The individuals of each Member Fraternity will be defined as follows:

1. Active Member: An Active Member shall be defined as any man who has been initiated into any IFC member fraternity at Winthrop University, and who is on the current Member roster on file with the OFSA.
2. New Member: A New Member shall be defined as any man who has started the New Member process of any IFC member fraternity at Winthrop University, and who is on the current New Member roster on file with the OFSA.

Section 3.4. Dues. Each Member Fraternity will pay \$15.00 by the fourth meeting of each semester for all Active Members and New Members. The President and Treasurer of a Member Fraternity may opt to establish a payment plan by scheduling a meeting with the IFC Executive Board.

Section 3.5. Membership Expectations. Each Member Fraternity shall adhere to and abide by the following minimum expectations:

1. Each member fraternity shall comply with all policies set forth by the IFC, Winthrop University, and Town & Gown.
2. Each Member Fraternity, including new members, shall meet or exceed a cumulative semester GPA of 2.70.
 - a Scholastic Expectations shall be used to increase the All Greek Men's GPA. These Expectations will focus on increasing the GPA of fraternity men through incentives and requirements.
 - b Incentives
 - i The chapter with the highest GPA for the semester will receive \$150 as a donation to their Philanthropy
 - ii The chapter with the most improved GPA will receive \$150 as a donation to their Philanthropy.
 - iii No chapter can win both awards. If one does, the award shall go to the chapter with the 2nd most improved GPA.
 - c Consequences:

- i If a chapter's average semester GPA is below a 2.7 that chapter will not be eligible to have any social events approved by the OFSA for the next semester.
- 1 This is subject to appeal by the Fraternal Conduct Board.
3. Each Member Fraternity shall be current on all IFC dues and owed or have an established payment plan by the fourth meeting of the semester.
 4. Each Member Fraternity shall pay all owed fines by the following meeting that fines are given, unless they choose to establish a payment plan with the IFC exec for the fines incurred.
 5. Each Member Fraternity shall submit required membership rosters to the OFSA within the first week of each semester.
 6. Each Fraternity shall submit a New Member Roster within one week of the start of any New Member Class.
 7. Each Fraternity shall comply with the attendance policies for the IFC General Assembly.
 8. Each Fraternity shall be recognized as being in "Good Standing" OFSA, Winthrop University and the IFC.
 - a. Member Fraternity which has failed to meet any of the minimum expectations outlined in this Section shall be referred to the Executive committee, the meeting officiated by the IFC Vice President of Judicial Affairs for potential judicial review with FCB.

Section 3.6. Status of members. The membership status of Member Fraternities shall be defined by the following:

1. Good Standing: A Member Fraternity shall be deemed to be in Good Standing if the Member Fraternity is in compliance with the rules and regulations of Winthrop University and the minimum expectations outlined in Article III, Section 3.5.
2. Poor Standing: A Member Fraternity shall be deemed to be in Poor Standing if the Member Fraternity has been placed under suspension by the Dean of Students Office, The FCB, the ADFS, the Director of the DiGorgio Campus Center, or if the chapter has failed to meet the minimum expectations outlined in Section 3.5.
 - a. A Member Fraternity has the right to appeal the decision made regarding standing, with the FCB, following all the required procedures set forth in the FCB Bylaws.
3. Academic Probation: functions on a semester basis, with review at the start of every new semester by the IFC Executive Committee.
 - a. A chapter will be removed from Academic Probation during the review if the chapters collective GPA has risen to a 2.7 as stated in section 5.3 line 3.
 - b. If a chapter fails to remove itself from Academic Probation for the time of two semesters, they will be brought up for discussion of removal from IFC at the first business meeting held the following semester.

Section 3.7. Privileges of Full Members. A Full Member, unless in poor standing, shall:

1. Have all privileges and rights under Winthrop University's IFC Constitution, except as limited by the actions of Winthrop University.
2. Receive coverage on all IFC publications that list, describe, or promote Member Fraternities.
3. Be allowed to vote at all IFC meetings.
4. Allow its members to hold positions on the IFC Executive Board.
5. Allow its members to hold positions on the FCB.
6. Allow its members to join the Order of Omega.

Section 3.8. Privileges of Associate Members. An Associate Member, unless in poor standing, shall be able to:

1. Have all privileges and rights under Winthrop University's IFC Constitution, except as limited by the actions of Winthrop University.
2. Receive coverage on all IFC publications that list, describe, or promote Member Fraternities.
3. Participate in all IFC-sponsored programs.
4. Allow its members to serve on IFC committees.

Section 3.9. Consequences of losing good standing. If a Member Fraternity fails to meet the expectations outlined in Section 3.5, or has been placed under suspension by the Dean of Students Office, the FCB, ADFS or the Director of the Digorgio Campus Center the Full Member Fraternity shall:

1. Be placed on Poor Standing.
2. Give up all rights and privileges entitled to it in sections 3.7 and 3.8.
3. Work with the IFC Executive Board and OFSA to establish a mandatory recovery plan.
 - a. Have its inter/national organization contacted and sent a copy of the recovery plan, and charges and/or findings if applicable.
4. If a Full Member Fraternity remains on Poor Standing for the time of an entire academic semester a vote, requiring a 2/3 vote, shall be called at the subsequent IFC General Assembly meeting to remove the chapter from the IFC.
 - a. GPA Requirement shall function on a yearly basis.
 - b. Decisions made by the ADFS, the Director of the Digorgio Campus Center or FCB may be the exception to this rule.
5. If an Associate Member is found to be in violation of the expectations outlined in section 3.5 for the time of an entire academic semester a vote, requiring a 2/3, to remove recognition shall be called at the subsequent IFC General Assembly meeting.
 - a. GPA Requirement shall function on a yearly basis.

ARTICLE IV

General Assembly

Section 4.1. Composition. The IFC General Assembly shall be composed of one voting representative from each Member Fraternity.

Section 4.2. Representatives. Each Member Fraternity shall have two representatives that are Active Members in good standing with their respected fraternity.

Section 4.3 IFC Representative Qualifications. To serve as the IFC Representative or Alternate Representative for a Member Fraternity, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- A. Be an Active Member in good standing, of a Member Fraternity.
- B. Maintain good academic standing with Winthrop University.
- C. Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws, Winthrop University policies, NIC Standards, and Social Event Guidelines.
- D. *Not be a current member of the IFC Executive Board.

Section 4.5. Duties. The duties of the General Assembly are as follows:

- 1. To vote on amendments, policies, and officers;
- 2. To vote on IFC sponsored events.
 - a Sponsored events must presented to, and then approved by a majority vote of the General Assembly
 - b Chapters must meet attendance requirements set by the general assembly at all IFC-Sponsored Events, as long as six week's notice is given by the IFC Executive Council
 - i Failure to meet attendance requirements will result in Chapter being charged \$10.00 for every unexcused active member that fell short of for the attendance requirement. A payment plan for these charges will be set up by the following IFC Meeting.
 - ii Fees will go towards IFC Budget Surplus
 - iii Individual excuses for not being able to attend must be submitted to the IFC Executive Board email address 24 hours in advance for approval.
- 1 Acceptable excuses for not attending an IFC Educational Event or IFC-sponsored event will be deemed so by the IFC Executive Council on a situation-by-situation basis.

An appeal against the IFC EC's decision can be filed and submitted to the Fraternal Conduct Board.

3. Report all proceedings of the IFC meetings to their respective Chapters;
4. Report all upcoming Chapter Events.
5. All chapters shall be allowed one unexcused absence per semester.
 - a. Past this chapters will receive a fine of \$30 for the first absence, subsequent absences will be \$50.

Section 4.6. Powers of the General Assembly. The IFC General Body shall have the power to hear and approve the annual IFC budget, to set and collect dues from members on a per capita basis, to approve appointments to the IFC Executive Board, to amend this Constitution and By-laws, to establish standing rules and pass all guidelines that shall be necessary and proper to secure the purposes of the IFC. Powers not explicitly given to individual IFC Officers, the IFC Executive Board, and all other IFC Committees here in the Constitution or Bylaws shall rest with the IFC General Body.

ARTICLE V

Officers

Section 5.1. Officers. The officers that compose the Executive Board of the Council shall be a president, vice president of judicial affairs, vice president of administrative affairs, vice president of recruitment, vice president of Greek relations, and IFC vice president of philanthropy.

1. This Board shall have the power to enforce all of the policies set forth by the Exec and General Assembly, place fines on a member fraternity that is found in violation of its' policies, and any other powers not given to the General Assembly that are deemed fit.
 - a. These fines shall not exceed \$50

Section 5.2. Nominations and elections. At the last meeting of March, the President of IFC shall open the floor for nominations for positions that are up for election, Nominations from the floor shall open two meetings prior to the meeting in which elections will occur.

Section 5.3. Eligibility. In order to be eligible for and maintain office, candidates must meet the following:

1. Be a full-time student at Winthrop University;
2. Be an Active Member, in good standing, of a Full Member Fraternity in Good Standing.
3. Maintain or exceed a 2.7 cumulative GPA;

4. Presidents of member organizations can run for Vice President of Administrative affairs, Vice President of Greek Relations, and Vice President of Philanthropy.
 - a. Presidents of member organizations may not run for President, Vice President of Judicial affairs, and Vice President of Recruitment.
5. Have a working knowledge of the IFC Constitution, Winthrop University policies, and policies of the FCB;
6. Be devoted to the general ideals and principles of fraternity life and conduct himself in a professional manner consistent with the Purpose of the Council, as defined in Section 2.1.

Section 5.4 Ballot Election and Term of Office. Officers will be elected by ballot for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. Election of officers shall be a block vote by each organization using written ballot.

Section 5.5 Representation. All IFC member fraternities in good standing can hold Executive position on the board.

- A. Each organization shall hold a maximum of two (2) positions on the IFC Executive Council.
 - a. If two or more fraternities do not send two (2) applications, section 5.5.A becomes invalid.

Section 5.5. Limitations. Each person elected shall only hold one office at a time. Each person can serve two consecutive terms in the same office. The president and vice president of judicial affairs shall not be from the same Member Fraternity.

1. No Fraternity can have a majority of IFC executive positions.
 - a. Under all circumstances this bylaw remains in effect.
 - b. This bylaw can not be suspended.

Section 5.6. Vacancies. If there is a vacancy in the office of president, the vice president of judicial affairs will become the president. At the next regularly scheduled meeting, there will be an election for the vice president of judicial affairs. If there is a vacancy in any other office, members will be elected from the Member Fraternities IFC representatives at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

- A. The general assembly may choose to hold elections for IFC president instead of Judicial affairs.

Section 5.7. Removal from Office. Officers can be removed from office with proper cause by:

1. A majority vote at a regular meeting where previous notice has been given.
2. Failing to maintain eligibility standards stated in Section 5.3.
3. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs as deemed necessary for the overall benefit of fraternal life.

- a OFSA must formally present Justification for removal of an office at the following IFC meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of Officers

Section 6.1. President. The president shall be responsible for the following:

1. Preside over all Interfraternity Council meetings;
2. Be empowered to call special meetings of the Interfraternity Council at Winthrop University his discretion with 72 hours' notice;
3. Countersign all checks for the expenditures of the Council;
4. Cast vote in case of an Executive Committee Tie.
5. Serve on University committees (Council of Student Leaders) as the official representative for the Interfraternity Council. In his absences, the President will choose any remaining IFC Executive Member to fill his seat;
6. Attend all regularly scheduled Town and Gown meetings;

Section 6.2. Vice President of Judicial Affairs.

1. Serve on the Fraternal Conduct Board;
2. Serve on University committees as the official representative for the IFC should the President not be available. (CSL, SOAR, Allocations, etc.);
3. Serve as the Risk Management Chair, and maintain and update the IFC Risk Management Policy;
4. Attend all regularly scheduled Town and Gown Meetings;
5. Attend all regularly scheduled Fraternal Conduct Board Meetings;
6. Assist the Vice-Presidents in coordinating educational seminars revolving around risk management, judicial affairs, and Town and Gown;
7. Preside over IFC meetings in the President's absence.

Section 6.3. Vice President of Administrative Affairs.

1. Maintain and conduct the official General Assembly Roll.
2. Keep full minutes of all meetings of the IFC. A record of these should be distributed to all currently active members of IFC fraternities within 48 hours of the previous meeting.;
3. Maintain a complete and up-to-date file which will include the minutes of meetings, copies of all contracts made by the IFC, current correspondence, copy of the current constitution and bylaws, and other pertinent materials;
4. Be responsible for the general supervision of the finances of the Winthrop University IFC;
5. Coordinate all activities with regards to community service, fundraising, and IFC sponsored programs;
6. Receive all payments due to the IFC, collect all bills, and give receipts;

7. Establish the due date of IFC dues at or before the fourth meeting.
 - a Work with IFC member organization to create a payment if necessary.
8. Create and present the current semesters budget to be approved before the fourth meeting of the semester.

Section 6.4. Vice President of Recruitment.

1. Organize events promotional tables and materials prior of IFC 101 to inform men about fraternal life in coordination with the IFC VP of Greek Relations;
2. Organize a recruitment committee consisting of representation from each chapter;
3. Coordinate a rush schedule approved by the General Assembly;
 - a All rush week events for the fall and spring semester must be submitted to the VP of Recruitment and the Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life two weeks prior to Rush Week
 - b All chapters must submit their Notice of Recruitment Form 10 days prior to their first event.
4. Coordinate a fraternal life informational session for incoming freshman during each Orientation Session, Preview Days, World Wide Winthrop Day, and Freshman Move In Day;
5. Coordinate an IFC 101 semesterly
 - a The IFC Vice President of Recruitment shall determine the format and presentation of IFC 101.
6. Make Chapters aware of the policy of IFC concerning recruitment.
 - a Outsiders/ Participation of Women Prohibited.
 - i Women affiliated with an IFC chapter are exempt from this policy.
 - ii Women may not be present at an open rush event, but presentations to the chapters shall be allowed.
 - b Update Recruitment Page on Chapter Information and Bid processes.
 - i Chapters must provide biography of chapter information as well as the process of receiving, accepting, and denying a bid from the chapter.
 - c Parties of any sort are not to occur during the rush week period created by the IFC General Assembly every semester.
 - d All recruitment events will be DRY and will follow all applicable laws, rules and regulations of the State and of the University. Any chapter choosing not to abide by this rule will be subject to consequences.
 - e Refer to OFSA Membership Policy.

Section 6.5. Vice President of Greek Relations.

1. Promote all IFC activities;
2. Work steadily with chapters to plan events, activities, and meetings to promote chapter relations;

3. Coordinate all activities with regards to Homecoming, Greek Week, and the new member conference;
4. Compile a monthly newsletter to be sent to chapter presidents and Fraternity advisors associated with Winthrop University's IFC. This newsletter shall also be sent out to the Panhellenic and National Pan-Hellenic chapters and advisors, along with chosen University officials;
5. Responsible for creating all publications for the Interfraternity Council (flyers, banners, display board, etc);
6. Help the Vice President of Recruitment with organization of promotional tables and materials.

Section 6.6 Vice President of Philanthropy.

Section 6.7. Other Duties. These officers shall perform all other duties pertaining to this office or any other requirements that the IFC President or Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs deem necessary.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

Section 7.1. Regular Meetings. The regular meeting of the General Assembly and the officers governing this Council shall be determined by the general assembly.

- A. The first meeting of the council will be the first Friday of the semester at 2:00 P.M. to discuss the official meeting time of the IFC for the semester.
 - a. The council must meet between the allotted Friday times OFSA reserves.

Section 7.2. Quorum. The quorum shall be 2/3 of Member Fraternities.

Section 7.3. Special Meetings. The president may call a special meeting; or, two Member Fraternities submitting a written request to the secretary can call a special meeting. Previous notice of the meeting shall be sent to the members with 72 hours advanced notice. The notice can be given by email, written notice, or phone call.

ARTICLE VIII

Voting

Section 8.1. Regular Meeting procedures. The General Assembly and Executive Board shall operate utilizing the following voting policies:

1. Each Member Fraternity, in Good Standing or in shall have one vote;
2. Individuals holding IFC Executive Board positions are not entitled to a vote;

3. In the event of a tie, the IFC Executive Board shall cast the deciding vote, by simple majority among the officers;
 - a The president shall not be a voting member. In the case of an executive tie the president shall cast his vote.
4. Officer Elections and removal of office must use a ballot vote.

Section 8.2. IFC Executive Board Meeting procedures. The IFC Executive Board shall operate utilizing the following voting policies during IFC Executive Board meetings:

1. Each Officer on the Executive Board shall have one vote;
2. 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;
3. There shall be no secret ballot votes.

ARTICLE IX

Committees

Section 9.1. Recruitment. The vice president of recruitment shall compose a committee consisted of at least one individual from each Member Fraternity to work out the logistics of recruitment. He will also Co-Chair the Judicial Board

Section 9.2. Constitution & Bylaws. The vice president of judicial affairs shall create a committee to work on yearly constitution, bylaw, and policy revisions.

ARTICLE X

Parliamentary Authority

Section 10.1. Application of Rules. The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern meetings where they are not in conflict with the bylaws, rules or order, or other rules of the Council.

ARTICLE XI

Hazing

Section 11.1. Policy on Hazing. The Winthrop University Interfraternity Council will not tolerate hazing by any of the member organizations. The Winthrop University Board of Trustees defines hazing as: “...any action taken or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off campus premises, to produce physical or mental discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities and situations include paddling of any form, creation of excessive fatigue, physical and psychological shock, quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips, or any other such activities carried on, in or

outside of the confines of the house; wearing publicly apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and buffoonery; morally degrading humiliating games and activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with the regulations and policies of Winthrop University.” Any violations of hazing will not be tolerated and will be reported directly to the Fraternal Conduct Board and the Dean of Students.

ARTICLE XII

Amendment of Bylaws and Constitution

Section 12.1. Amendments. Any amendment to this constitution must be proposed, in writing, at least one week before any vote thereon. There must be at least one reading of the proposed amendments during separate regular or special meetings prior to the vote. Amendments must be approved by a two-thirds vote.