# Constitution of the Interfraternity Council of Ball State University

**REVISED: January 30, 2017** 

#### **Interfraternal Code of Ethics**

(Revised: Nov. 2016)

We, the fraternity men of Ball State University who believe in the values of scholarship, honesty, integrity, accountability, honor, respect, faith, excellence, high ambition, brotherhood, friendship, service, justice, leadership, character, courage, power, and love, do hereby affirm and declare on our word as gentlemen that:

- 1. We will maintain a high standard for our GPA;
- 2. We will foster and develop the leadership of our Brothers:
- 3. We will fulfill all financial obligations to our chapter, the Interfraternity Council, Ball State, and our (inter)national headquarters;
- 4. We will provide service to both the Greek and local community;
- 5. We will be active members of Ball State life;
- 6. We will respect both fellow Greeks and non-Greeks, especially women and other fraternities:
- 7. We will promote the positive image of Greeks and aspects of Greek life;
- 8. We will have **no** tolerance for hazing;
- 9. We will have **no** tolerance for the use and abuse of illegal substances;
- 10. We will provide a safe atmosphere and environment for ourselves and others;
- 11. We will maintain a clean and respectable house and property;
- 12. We will take responsibility for our actions;
- 13. We will hold each other accountable;
- 14. We will live the charges set forth by our Ritual;
- 15. And we will hold our organizations to the highest standard.

With these statements, we pledge our constant belief in the value of Greek life and recognize the responsibility invested in us by the Greek letters that we proudly display.

# **Constitution of the Ball State University Interfraternity Council Preamble**

The Ball State University Interfraternity Council will commit to promoting positive values, providing experiential learning opportunities, and fostering leadership development while forging lifelong connections to Ball State University.

#### **Article I: Name**

Section I. This organization shall be known as The Interfraternity Council of Ball State University and hereafter referred to as the IFC.

## **Article II: Purpose**

- Section I. The purpose of this organization shall be to:
  - A. Create, maintain, and perpetuate better relations among (inter)nationally affiliated men's undergraduate fraternities on this campus;
  - B. Inform, educate, and promote the social Greek system to both those who are familiar and unfamiliar with it;
  - C. Encourage participation and excellence in Greek campus activities:
  - D. Encourage responsible participation in all areas of educational experiences including scholastic, social, intramural, and social service activities;
  - E. Promote effective communication within the Greek system and within the university and surrounding communities;
  - F. Provide a means of solving problems and injustices within the system itself;
  - G. Establish and promote programs in keeping with the university's purposes and objectives;
  - H. Ensure initial equal representation of every recognized fraternity within the IFC for each academic semester, and;
  - I. Provide a Judicial Council that includes a fair and equitable process with appeal.

#### **Article III: Membership**

- Section I. Full Member Status
  - A. Definition of a full member:

- 1. Full membership shall be those (inter)nationally recognized general social fraternities who have completed all the requirements set forth in Associate Member Status and are in compliance with all sections of these constitution and bylaws, and therefore making them in good standing with the IFC.
- 2. Full member fraternities will maintain the following as regular member:
  - a. Pay all dues and fines owed to the IFC as specified in this constitution or resolutions to maintain membership;
  - b. Abide by this constitution and the rules and procedures and the regulations adopted by the council;
  - c. Cooperate with all administrative actions of the Council and its counterparts;
  - d. Maintain an updated list of all its current members and officers in the Office of Greek Life;
  - e. Abide by all University regulations and policies; and
  - f. Encourage interfraternalism, scholarship, leadership, and good relations among the Greek system and its counterparts.
- 3. Full member fraternities shall have the following privileges:
  - Have all privileges and rights under this constitution and the rules and procedures, except as limited by IFC council sanction or by the University;
  - b. Participate in all IFC sponsored events:
  - c. Vote at meetings of the IFC when properly represented in good standing;
  - d. Put forth legislation;
  - e. Have its eligible members hold elected and appointed offices in the IFC;
  - f. Apply for all awards given by the IFC; and
  - g. Have a voice in all matters pertaining to IFC affairs.

#### Section II. Associate Member Status:

#### A. Definition of an associate member:

- 1. Associate membership shall be those (inter)nationally recognized general social fraternities, who have petitioned the IFC for admission as an associate member and are approved with a 3/4 vote by the IFC.
- An associate member shall have all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of regular membership, except the right to vote in matters pertaining to IFC business with the exception of IFC executive board elections.
- 3. Fraternities who hold dual membership in multiple inter/national governing bodies may be granted associate membership in IFC.

## B. Requirements of associate members:

- 1. Associate membership for a colony will last for a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of three (3) years;
- 2. Maintain an updated list of all of its officers, advisors and corporation board members (if applicable) in the Office of Greek Life;
- 3. Maintain an updated list of all its members in the Office of Greek Life;
- 4. During the expansion and colonization process, the group will report to the Expansion Committee at least once a semester for review and evaluation;
- 5. The IFC Executive Council may request a review at anytime deemed necessary;
- 6. Must maintain the number of undergraduate members outlined by the (inter)national fraternity's expansion plan at the conclusion of each semester;
- 7. Must complete the Greek Accreditation and Awards Program and meet the minimum requirements each year, commencing after the first year of associate membership;
- 8. Must have representation at all mandatory IFC meetings, retreats and events;
- 9. Must abide by all terms of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws;
- 10. Must pay all required fees, dues and fines within a timely manner (unless

otherwise agreed upon) (Refer to the IFC Bylaws Article IV);

- 11. Be in good standing with the IFC;
- 12. Cooperate in any proceeding of the Judicial Board with which it may be involved and abide by all Judicial Board rulings affecting it;
- 13. Abide by all University regulations and policies;
- 14. Encourage Interfraternity spirit among its members;
- 15. Encourage among its members a spirit of cooperation with the University community and the City of Muncie;
- 16. Encourage scholarship, service and leadership among its members; and
- 17. Encourage active participation in IFC sponsored programs.
- C. Process for granting full membership:
  - 1. At the end of a one (1) year period being present at Ball State University, the associate member may petition the IFC for full membership, provided they have met all the requirements of associate membership.
    - a. At the time of petition for full membership the associate member must be a chartered member of it's (inter)national fraternity.
  - 2. Associate members must receive three-fourths (3/4) vote of the IFC to be accepted into full membership.
    - a. If the associate member fails to pass the vote of the IFC, the IFC must submit, in writing, the reasoning why the associate member failed to pass the vote to the IFC Exec Board.
      - i. Reasoning must be specific and outline what the associate member must do in order to gain IFC approval.

## **Article IV: Member Representation and Voting**

- Section I. Member Fraternities' Numerical Representation
  - A. Each member fraternity will be allowed two (2) seats. One (1) chapter delegate and one (1) presidential delegate.
  - B. One (1) proxy may be granted in case of an absence.

- C. Each delegate and presidential delegate will count as one (1) vote.
- D. Proxies do not receive a vote.

## Section II. Qualifications

- A. Chapters may elect or appoint IFC delegates two (2) times a year.
  - 1. IFC delegates must have been involved in the Greek system a minimum of one (1) semester, unless approved by the IFC Executive Council.
  - 2. One (1) of the two (2) IFC delegates must be the President of the IFC member fraternity, and will hereafter be referred to as the Presidential Delegate in any case which specifically mentioned.
    - a. If a President is unable to attend IFC meetings due to a class scheduling conflict, or other reason deemed appropriate by the IFC Executive Council, a replacement delegate must be approved by the Executive Council.

# **Article V: Meetings**

- Section I. The IFC President may call a meeting at any time. The President shall, at the request of a majority in the IFC, be required to call a meeting.
- Section II. The meetings of IFC shall be open to all fraternity men and guests. Anyone shall have the privilege of the floor upon recognition by the IFC President.
- Section III. The IFC President shall call meetings of the Executive Council as needed.

#### Section IV. General Delegation:

- A. To ensure a sense of objectivity:
  - 1. Approved delegates and presidential delegates shall have one (1) vote on all matters of regular business.
  - 2. Executive Council members shall act as ex-officio non-voting members with the IFC President voting in case of a tie.
  - 3. Meetings shall be run in accordance to the newly revised <u>Robert's Rules of Order</u>.
- B. General delegation meetings of IFC shall be held every week.

#### Section V. Roundtables:

A. All roundtables must be announced two (2) weeks in advance via e-mail to Page **7** of **16** 

the appropriate chairman and at IFC meetings to the delegates.

- B. Any chapter chairman who cannot attend his roundtable must e-mail the IFC Executive Vice President in charge of the roundtable 24 hours in advance.
- C. Any chapter chairman who misses the roundtable and has properly notified the IFC Executive Council Vice President in charge of the roundtable must meet one- on-one with the IFC Executive Vice President within one (1) week of the original roundtable date.
- D. If an emergency arises that does not allow the Chapter Chairman to notify the IFC Executive Vice President in charge of the roundtable 24 hours in advance, then he must do the following:
  - 1. Submit an e-mail to the IFC Executive Vice President running the roundtable and to the IFC President within 24 hours following the roundtable to explain their reason for not attending with an advance notice.
  - 2. The IFC Executive Vice President in charge has the sole discretion to excuse his fine.
- E. One-on-one meetings are encouraged; however, not everyone can fit this into their schedule. A proxy may be sent to the roundtable in place of the appropriate officer.
  - 1. For any chapter chairman who does not notify the IFC Executive Vice President running the roundtable 24 hours in advance to set up a one-on-one, or does not send a proxy to the roundtable will be fined in accordance with Bylaws Article IV, Section II, F.

## **Article VI: Executive Council Members**

- Section I. The IFC Executive Council and their rank shall be:
  - A. President
  - B. Vice President of Internal Affairs
  - C. Vice President of Risk Reduction
  - D. Vice President of Administration
  - E. Vice President of Recruitment
  - F. Vice President of Membership Development

- G. Vice President of Academics and Scholarship
- H. Vice President of Public Relations
- I. Vice President of Community Outreach
- Section II. A person may only hold one (1) office at one time on the IFC Executive Council.
- Section III. Election of Executive Council members:
  - A. All nominees must complete and return an application.
    - 1. An application form must be completed and turned in at least 24 hours before the election.
  - B. The slating committee will be comprised of the standing IFC President, the VP of Internal Affairs, the VP of Risk Reduction, the VP of Administration (he will sit on from President through his own position, at which point he will rotate off) and three (3) chapter presidents currently seated on the IFC delegation.
    - 1. Two (2) of the chapter president seats will rotate every year on a schedule until all chapters have had representation, at which point a new schedule will be created and approved by the VP of Internal Affairs. The IFC delegation, subject to the approval of the IFC executive council, will appoint the third chapter president seat.
    - 2. In the slating of select executive positions; VP of recruitment, VP of Membership Development, VP of Academics and Scholarship, VP of Public Relations, and VP of Community Outreach, the standing position holder for each of these listed positions will temporarily occupy the VP of Administration's seat on the slating committee to slate their position
  - C. The slating committee will be responsible for recruiting, accepting applications from, and interviewing all men applying for the IFC executive council.
    - 1. The interview process shall be broken into two days. The first day shall begin with the President, the VP of Internal Affairs, the VP of Risk Reduction, and will conclude with the VP of Administration in that order. The second interview day shall begin with the VP of Recruitment, the VP of Membership Development, VP of Scholarship and Academics, VP of Public Relations, and VP of Community Outreach in that order.
    - 2. After the interview process is completed, the slating committee shall place a minimum of two (2) candidates per position on to the slate in the aforementioned order.

- 3. A candidate may be slated for any position that the slating committee believes them to be qualified for. Candidates may therefore be slated to another position for which they did not apply, at the discretion of the slating committee (including multiple positions).
- 4. On the day of elections, the floor will be opened to the delegates to make further nominations of non-slated candidates for all positions. If only one candidate or none is slated for a position, nominations by the IFC delegation will be taken, and that person(s) may run from the floor against the slated candidate. Nominees must be present to accept, and must meet the criteria of eligibility for an IFC Executive officer.
- D. The slating committee shall present their nominations for each IFC executive position to the general delegation no less than two (2) weeks before the scheduled election days. Any material gathered on the candidates will be presented here, and ever subsequent delegation until the election date.
- E. The manner of election of the Executive Council members shall be as follows:
  - 1. While each candidate is speaking, his opponent shall not be present.
  - 2. At the election meeting, candidates shall make a presentation in the reverse order in which they were nominated.
    - a. Presentations for IFC Presidential candidates shall last up to ten (10) minutes in length.
    - b. Presentations for all other Executive Council candidates shall last up to five (5) minutes in length.
    - c. Presentations for all candidates shall be followed by a question and answer period left to the discretion of the IFC ranking officer.
  - 3. After all candidates for an office have given their presentations, a discussion period will follow.
    - a. Candidates shall not be in the room during this discussion period.
    - b. Terms and limits of the discussion will be left to the discretion of the IFC ranking officer.
  - 4. If a slated candidate runs for a position and does not get it, he may be nominated by a delegate to run down for another position.
  - 5. Each member of the eligible, voting IFC delegation will have one (1)

vote conducted by secret ballot.

- 6. IFC delegates may vote no confidence if they feel the candidate(s) is/are unable to fulfill the duties of the office.
- 7. IFC Executive Council members shall be elected by a majority vote of the chapters that are eligible to vote.
- 8. In the case of more than two (2) candidates running for the same position, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated unless a majority is reached. The election proceeding will be continued, without presentations, until one (1) of the candidates receives a majority vote.
- 9. The IFC ranking officer shall vote in case of a tie.
- 10. A fraternity may have up to three (3) of its members hold Executive Council positions at one time.
- Section IV. The Executive Council members of the IFC shall take office during the last meeting held in the fall semester and shall hold office until the installation of new Executive Council members during the last meeting of the following fall semester.
- Section V. Removal from office shall be accomplished by any of the following procedures:
  - A. Members of the IFC bringing charges against any Executive Council member for the purpose of removal from office shall present these charges in writing, signed by one-quarter (1/4) of the membership of IFC, to the Executive Council. In addition, individual copies of such charges shall be provided for each member of the IFC at a meeting of the IFC.
    - 1. Any action on such charges will occur during the next meeting.
  - B. Removal from office shall be accomplished by a two-thirds (2/3) eligible vote of the delegation of the IFC. The vote shall take place at the meeting following the presentation of charges. Article X shall define an eligible vote, and voting privileges.
    - 1. The Executive Council member may be reinstated if he requests a hearing of the Judicial Board of Review and is found not guilty of violating the IFC Constitution and/or Bylaws.
  - C. The Executive Council can remove any executive member by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the whole Executive Council if that officer is found to be in violation of the IFC Constitution and/or Bylaws. The Executive Council member in question will not have a vote in this decision
    - 1. The Executive Council member may be reinstated if he requests a review

by the General IFC Delegation and is not found in violation of the IFC Constitution and/or Bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

## Section VI. Resignation of Executive Council members:

- A. The resignation of an Executive Council member must be presented in written form to the President at least one week prior to the resignation.
  - 1. If the President resigns, written notice will be presented to the Vice President of Internal Affairs at least two (2) weeks prior to the resignation.

# Section VII. Replacement of Executive Council members:

- A. If an office, except that of President, becomes vacant during the middle of the term, the procedures to replace the Executive Council member shall be as follows:
  - 1. The President shall have the sole responsibility of recruiting and appointing an IFC member in order to fill the vacancy.
  - 2. The appointee chosen by the President shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Council.
  - 3. Beginning with the delegation immediately following the approval by the Executive Council, any member of the IFC delegation shall have seven (7) days to disapprove.
    - a. If there is disapproval, a simple majority vote at the next delegation meeting shall rescind the appointment.
    - b. Following adjournment, normal procedures shall be required to remove an Executive Council officer, as provided in Article VI, Section V of the Constitution.

#### **Article VII: Executive Council**

- Section I. The IFC Executive Council shall hold a weekly Executive Council Meeting.
- Section II. There shall be an Executive Council, which shall be authorized to:
  - A. Plan and coordinate the activities of the IFC:
  - B. Make recommendations to the IFC;
  - C. Act as an interview board for all persons wishing to represent the IFC in any capacity;
  - D. Establish committees when necessary and to define the responsibilities of each committee based on a majority vote among all IFC delegation;

- E. Appoint, with the approval of the IFC voting delegation, representatives to campus boards and committees, other than the Student Senate;
- F. Perform all other duties that shall be delegated to it by the IFC, and;
- G. Serve as ex-officio non-voting members of the IFC.

#### Section III. Powers of the Executive Council:

- A. The Executive Council shall have the power to act for the IFC if the IFC is unable to meet or if there is not quorum.
- B. The Executive Council may investigate any crimes that are suspected to be occurring or have occurred which are in violation of the IFC Constitution and/or Bylaws in any manner they see fit, as long as it is in compliance with the Student Affairs Disciplinary Jurisdiction Memorandum of Understanding.
- B. Any action taken by the Executive Council may be rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the IFC.

#### **Article VIII: Attendance**

- Section I. Attendance is defined as being present from the opening roll call to the closing roll call. If a council member or his proxy fails to answer any roll call, the Vice President of Administration may at his discretion assess that member with an absence.
- Section II. Violation of the attendance policy shall be defined as two (2) consecutive absences or three (3) absences throughout the current semester by a delegate.
  - A. Each delegate shall be allowed two (2) proxies before an absence will be assessed.
  - B. Arriving late to an IFC meeting shall count as tardiness. Two tardies shall count as one absence and shall be subject to the aforementioned disciplinary action.
  - C. After two (2) consecutive absences or three (3) absences throughout the current semester by a delegate, the delegate shall lose voting privileges.
  - D. If both delegate seats are lost, the full member fraternity shall become an associate member for the rest of the semester.

#### **Article IX: Quorums**

Section I. The quorum for meetings of the IFC shall be two-thirds (2/3) of the voting delegation of the IFC.

Section II. The quorum for the meetings of the Executive Council shall be a simple majority of the Executive Council.

## **Article X: Voting Privileges**

- Section I. Each delegate and presidential delegate shall have one (1) vote in the IFC with the IFC President voting only in case of a tie.
- Section II. The voting privilege shall be extended only to those voting delegates of each fraternity, which are in attendance as prescribed in Article VIII.
- Section III. Voting privileges shall be revoked if a member fraternity is not in good financial standing, in accordance with the Bylaws Article IV, Section IV, A, with the IFC. Voting privileges will be reinstated upon fulfillment of financial obligations.

## **Article XI: Legislation**

# Section I. Types of legislation:

# A. Amendment (IFCA):

- 1. Defined as any legislation that deals directly with the addition or removal of a part of the IFC Constitution and/or Bylaws.
- 2. Must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote from the voting delegation of the IFC.

#### B. Resolution (IFCR):

- 1. Defined as any legislation that deals with the Greek or Ball State Community but does not need to be added into the IFC Constitution and/or Bylaws.
- 2. May be enforced in the same manner as an amendment in the sense that penalties and punishments may be issued if resolutions are not followed.
- 3. Must be approved by a majority vote from the voting delegation of the IFC.

# C. Bill (IFCB):

- 1. Defined as any legislation that directly deals with money in the IFC budget.
- 2. May not be used in relation to the fees that are associated with membership in the IFC.
- 3. Must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote from the voting Page **14** of **16**

delegation of the IFC.

## D. Policy (IFCP):

- 1. Defined as any legislation that deals with a document adopted by the IFC which dictates behaviors or procedures not currently in the Constitution or Bylaws.
- 2. To be added to the Appendix of the IFC Constitution upon approval of the IFC delegation.
- 3. Must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote from the voting delegation of the IFC.

# Section II. Legislation Authorship:

- A. Any IFC delegate or presidential delegate as defined by Article III, Section II, may write legislation.
- B. Any member of the IFC Executive Council, except the President, may write legislation.
- C. Legislation may be written by any Ball State University, IFC recognized fraternity member as long as he has a sponsor that sits on one (1) of the above groups.

## Section III. Legislative Flow:

- A. All legislation must go through the same legislative process.
- B. Legislation requires three (3) readings:
  - 1. The first reading is to take place at the Executive Council meeting.
    - a. The Executive Council may suggest amendments to the legislation that may be accepted or rejected by the author of that piece of legislation.
    - b. The Executive Council may not table a piece of legislation, nor can they hold legislation back in any way.
  - 2. The second reading is to take place at the next IFC delegation.
    - a. The IFC ranking officer must read the legislation aloud to the IFC

delegation.

- b. The IFC ranking officer, at his discretion, may open the floor up for a short question and answer period.
- c. No discussion of the legislation may take place during this reading.
- 3. The third reading is to take place at the next IFC delegation meeting following the second reading
  - a. The IFC ranking officer must read the legislation aloud to the IFC delegation.
  - b. The IFC ranking officer must open the floor for discussion.
  - c. The legislation may be voted upon or tabled until the next IFC delegation meeting.
- C. The IFC President may sign the legislation to show his support, or he may deny his signature at his discretion.

#### **Article XII: Amendments**

- Section I. The amendments to the IFC Constitution may be proposed any member of the following groups:
  - A. A representative of a member fraternity;
  - B. An IFC delegate or an IFC Executive Council member, or;
  - C. Any committee formed by the IFC for the purpose of Constitution revision.
- Section II. Proposed amendments to the Constitution must be submitted to the IFC Executive Council, in writing, at least 24 hours before the IFC delegation meeting in which they are to be proposed.
- Section III. Amendments shall become part of the IFC Constitution upon ratification by a two- thirds (2/3) vote of the present and eligible voting delegation of the IFC.

#### **Article XIII: Judicial Board Review**

- Section I. Judicial Board Procedure
  - A. The IFC will have the power to establish and maintain an Interfraternity Council Judicial Board and operate in accordance with the Constitution of the IFC as defined in Appendix E "Judicial Board of Review Policy."