


Bylaws

of the

One Chicago

Chapter



an unincorporated association of the **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** 

Includes *General Standing Rules*

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DRAFT

Bylaws of the **One Chicago** Chapter
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ATTENTION: IMPORTANT FOR ALL BROTHERS

The *One Chicago Graduate Chapter Bylaws Committee* of Bro. Anton White, Bro. Tony Harris and Bro. Leonard Langston, Sr. provide this document for review and comment from the Brotherhood. This is the first **DRAFT** of the proposed Bylaws being submitted to the Brotherhood for review and comments, that once in final form will be proposed for the *combined graduate chapter* should that effort come to fruition.

There are 3 critical themes in the document that will be seen repeatedly and must be maintained through to the final version:

- 1. Focus on the *Fraternity* mission.**
Getting away from the silos that divide us that have been intentionally created over the years with the creation of each chapter;
- 2. Change the current “non-brotherly” culture.**
Be intentional to make *Brotherhood* and *Friendship* our default attitude with all Brothers in our interactions;
- 3. Recognize that Fraternity membership is a *responsibility*, that also comes with *privileges*.**

Also, anything **RED** in the document means **Newly Proposed, To Be Discussed, Not Yet Agreed To** or **To Be Determined**.

Request One: The Basileus of each of the 10 chapters in the Chicago Metro area - ***but especially of the 4 chapters in the city of Chicago*** - is asked to make room on your chapter website to add a copy of this document for your membership to have access to view it. Since this is a **DRAFT**, expect *numerous* updates that will need to be uploaded regularly as they are received to replace obsolete previous editions of the documents they replace. The Iota Chapter website - IotaChapterQues.org - will have the current draft at all times and any Brother will be able to access the site to view the draft, but with 10 chapters making the draft available on 10 different websites it will reach different types, a larger selection and a greater number of Brothers.

Request Two: Advise your chapter membership that it is critically important for them to please *read* the drafts and understand every aspect of what is being proposed since the final document will be the blueprint as to how well the **combined chapter** operates. These are NOT just a regurgitation of boiler-plate bylaws you may be used to

seeing or have seen in the past. We are attempting to be a model to the rest of the Fraternity and have "best practices" in the administration of our chapter.

Request Three: Submit ALL requested edits to the Bylaws Committee. It's also critically important to include the rationale behind the requested change. The edits can be as big as a chapter or article in the document, or as small as one word; submitted with a signature or anonymously; individually or as a group as small as 2 Brothers or as large as your chapter; by financial or non-financial Brothers; it does not matter. We are trying to get to the reality of what the Brothers think and how they feel.

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All submissions will be compared to the Fraternity Constitution and Fraternity & District Bylaws for compliance, then siphoned thru a vetting process that compares the submission to the intent of the 3 critical themes. At the end of the process we expect to have Bylaws that are a best practice model for the entire Fraternity. Looking forward to your comments...

Bro. Kenny Coles, Committee Chairman



A Brief History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in Chicago...

From its beginning, **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity** was created as an undergraduate organization that would have its chapters established strategically at colleges and universities. The concept of *graduate members* existed but their membership was initially viewed as honorary and termed, "elected active" - as opposed to being initiated - beginning with **Founder Dr. Ernest E. Just** "elected" into **Alpha Chapter** at Howard University on February 28, 1912.

The chapters initially established were therefore undergraduate chapters. Some were established on the campuses - like **Alpha Chapter** in 1911 at Howard University. Others were established to service multiple institutions within a larger jurisdiction starting with **Gamma Chapter** in 1916 for colleges and universities in the city of Boston including Harvard University, Boston University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As more Brothers graduated, and as more elected active graduate honorary members became Brothers, the desire to continue associations with the Fraternity beyond the college years grew. Graduate brothers continued to be active members of the undergraduate chapters in existence but their *focus* as graduates was understandably different. This led to the establishment of graduate chapters in the Fraternity. In many areas the graduate chapters still had undergraduate members as well, but they operated as a graduate chapter. The closest comparison as to how these chapters would be viewed today in how they functioned would be as intermediate chapters.

As chapters were established they were named following the order of the Greek alphabet – **Alpha Chapter** in 1911, **Beta Chapter** in 1914, **Gamma Chapter** in 1916, **Delta**, **Epsilon**, **Zeta** and **Eta Chapters** in 1919. After skipping **Theta Chapter** which would have been next, it was Iota next, however, after the establishment of **Iota Chapter** on August 17, 1920 in Atlantic City, NJ **as the first graduate chapter of the FRATERNITY** (ref: *Oracle*, May 1921), this naming convention did not allow for distinguishing undergraduate chapters from graduate chapters. Nineteen months later the 11th **GRAND CONCLAVE** in Philadelphia in December 1922 was first to address the way the Fraternity was to standardize the naming convention of new chapters established and their chapter types.

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Sigma Chapter had been established as an undergraduate chapter in Chicago in April 1921 for the University of Chicago and Northwestern University (*ref: Oracle, May 1921*), making **Sigma Chapter**, **the first chapter of the FRATERNITY established in Chicago – undergraduate or graduate**. The mandate from the 1922 Grand Conclave instructed that when a new graduate chapter was chartered, the chapter name would be assigned by adding "Omega" as the second Greek letter at the end of the name of the *undergraduate* chapter that existed in that city. That meant **the first graduate chapter established in Chicago would be named Sigma Omega**...which happened on October 1, 1923. This action simultaneously caused the **Sigma Chapter** undergraduate charter to be separated from Northwestern University and anchored solely on the campus of the University of Chicago.

The **Sigma Chapter** undergraduate charter remained at the University of Chicago until **Iota Chapter** was re-designated an undergraduate chapter and relocated from Atlantic City to the University of Chicago on November 1, 1923, displacing the undergraduate **Sigma Chapter** assigned there just one month previous. The Sigma charter was then relocated to McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on December 15, 1923 - and became **the first International chapter of the FRATERNITY**. (NOTE: Since March 4, 1961, Sigma Chapter has been in the Tenth District, located at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI.)

Iota Chapter continued in operation at the University of Chicago as an undergraduate chapter for more than 30 years until a point the chapter did not constitutionally have enough members to operate as a chapter in good standing in the Fraternity. **Sigma Omega Chapter** supported the efforts of the undergraduate brothers of **Iota Chapter** by initiating a series of undergraduate lines between 1954 and 1957 with the intent to re-activate the chapter, culminating with the May 27, 1957 "Application for Undergraduate Chapter Charter" and the September 9, 1957 petition. These efforts resulted in the **Iota Chapter** being recognized by the Fraternity to be in good standing, and the charter being re-activated and re-designated - first as a *citywide undergraduate chapter*, then shortly afterward as an Intermediate Chapter for both graduate and undergraduate members.

Intermediate chapters had been created as a vehicle for undergraduate students to have access and opportunity to join the fraternity, and for recent college graduates to continue to associate with the fraternity, in locations where a graduate chapter did not exist, or in larger urban areas with multiple colleges and universities but no chapter of the Fraternity on the campus. It was also a bridge to allow those recent graduates a chance to establish themselves in their careers and earn wages to be better able to financially support Omega through their dues payments.



Sigma Omega Chapter as a graduate chapter and **Iota Chapter** as an intermediate chapter continued as the only non-undergraduate chapters of the Fraternity in the City of Chicago until **Epsilon Eta Chapter**, *a.k.a. Eternal Hell*, was established as an undergraduate chapter at Chicago State University in 1978 and **Kappa Mu Chapter**, *a.k.a. The Circle Ques*, was established as an undergraduate chapter at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1983. On March 1, 1987 **Rho Gamma Gamma Chapter** was chartered as the second graduate chapter established in Chicago. Then, after a twelve-year inactive period that began in 1983, again for a lack of members to constitutionally operate as a chapter of the Fraternity in good standing, **Iota Chapter** was re-activated on February 12, 1995, retaining its Intermediate Chapter status. Shortly after the February reactivation, **Iota Chapter** was re-chartered and returned to its original designation as a graduate chapter on July 12, 1995 creating a third graduate chapter in Chicago. **Rho Mu Mu Chapter** was the fourth and final graduate chapter established in the City of Chicago on September 6, 2011 as part of a strategy to primarily serve the grossly and historically underserved west side of Chicago.

“A Brief History of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in Chicago”

Compiled by Bro. Kenneth E. Coles
International History and Archives Committee

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IMPORTANT NOTE: A Constitution for the chapter is not required. Typically, subordinate entities of the organization utilize the constitution of that entity and only enlist bylaws as their administrative plans. This draft of the constitution is only presented because creation of the document was indicated as a deliverable in the charge for this committee. The position of the committee is to not adopt a constitution. Articles covered in the constitution are duplicative in the bylaws.

Constitution



PREAMBLE

We, the members of the One Chicago Chapter, believing that men of similar ideals of fellowship should bind themselves together in order to form a more perfect union among college educated men; to promote the principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift; to further brotherly love and fraternal spirit within the organization; and to protect the sanctity of the home and the chastity of woman, do enact and establish this Constitution and accompanying Bylaws for the governance of its members.

Article I: Name and Symbol

Section 1 – The name of the organization is **ONE CHICAGO CHAPTER**, an unincorporated association of the **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc** ®.

Section 2 – The symbol of the Chapter shall be the Greek letters **TBD** (To Be Determined).

Article II: Purpose

The purpose of the Chapter shall be to bring about a union of college educated men of similar high ideals of scholarship and manhood in order to:

- (a) Stimulate the attainment of ideals and ambitions of its members;
- (b) Disseminate and inculcate those ideals among those with whom its member come in contact;
- (c) Cooperate with the community of the City of Chicago where its chapter is located in fostering these ideals;
- (d) Occupy a progressive, helpful and constructive place in the civic and political life in the City of Chicago;
- (e) Prepare its members for greater usefulness in causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual; and,

- (f) Aid down-trodden humanity in the Black community in its effort to achieve higher social, economic, and intellectual status.

Article III: Organization

The members of the Chapter shall be organized into a central body, subdivided by Areas, and such other subdivisions as may from time to time be established by the Chapter.

Article IV: Officers of the Chapter

The officers of the Chapter shall be Basileus, Vice Basileus, First Vice Basileus, Second Vice Basileus, Keeper of Records and Seal, Keeper of Finance, Area Representatives, Counselor, Chaplain, Keeper of Peace, Chapter Reporter, Parliamentarian, Immediate Past Basileus, Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal, Assistant Keeper of Finance, Assistant Chapter Reporter and Assistant Keeper of Peace.

Article V: Governing Bodies

Section 1 – The supreme governing body of the Chapter shall be the Chapter Meeting. The Chapter Meeting shall adopt and maintain Bylaws and Policies and take such other actions as are necessary for the welfare of the Chapter.

Section 2 – The Executive Council shall act in the place of the Chapter Meeting whenever the Chapter Meeting is not assembled. Between Chapter Meetings, the Executive Council shall be responsible to the Chapter Meeting for executing its policies, decisions, and mandates; enacting necessary policies between Chapter Meetings; and, conducting the day-to-day affairs of the Chapter.

Article VI: The Chapter Meeting

Section 1 – The Chapter Meeting shall comprise the Executive Council, Committees and the financial Members of the Chapter.

Section 2 – The Chapter Meeting shall assemble regularly, but not less than bi-monthly, at such times and places as may be decided by the Executive Council.



Section 3 – Official representation from at least one-third (1/3) of the financial Members in the Chapter shall be a requisite to convene the Chapter Meeting. More than one-third (1/3) of the Brothers present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4 – Other financial members of the Fraternity shall be admitted to the Chapter Meeting, having limited voice therein.

Section 5 – Voting Eligibility

- (a) Financial Members of the Chapter shall be entitled to one vote each at any Chapter Meeting and may not vote or act in any other capacity in the Chapter that one vote is entitled to.

Article VII: Composition of the Executive Council

Section 1 - The Executive Council of the Chapter shall consist of the following elected officers:

- (a) Basileus
- (b) Vice Basileus
- (c) First Vice Basileus
- (d) Second Vice Basileus
- (e) Keeper of Records and Seal
- (f) Keeper of Finance
- (g) Counselor
- (h) Chaplain
- (i) Area Representatives
- (j) Immediate Past Basileus

Section 2 – All members of the Executive Council shall be members in good standing with the Fraternity at all levels.

Article IX: Amendments to the Constitution

This Constitution may be amended only upon at least a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Chapter Meeting, subject to veto by at least one-third (1/3) of the Brothers in good standing.



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Bylaws



CHAPTER 1 – ORGANIZATION

Article I: Name; Symbol, Meaning & Letters; Designation; Jurisdiction.

Section 1 – Name of Organization.

The name of this organization is **ONE CHICAGO CHAPTER** ("CHAPTER"), an unincorporated association of the **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated**®. ("FRATERNITY").

Section 2 – Chapter Symbol, Meaning & Letters.

The symbols of the FRATERNITY are represented by the Greek letters ΩΨΦ for Omega Psi Phi which represents the Greek words *Ophelima Philia Psurkis*, meaning *Friendship is essential to the soul*. The symbol of the CHAPTER is represented by the Greek letters TBD, which represents the Greek words *To Be Determined*, meaning *To Be Determined*.

Section 3 – Chapter Designation.

The designation of the CHAPTER within the FRATERNITY is Graduate, number 000 (XXX).

Section 4 – Chapter Jurisdiction.

The jurisdiction of the CHAPTER is the City of Chicago, divided into geographical service areas within the city limits *as determined by the CHAPTER*.

CHAPTER 2 – GOALS

Article I: Purpose; Mission; Motto.

Section 1 – Purpose.

The Purpose of this CHAPTER will be to bring about a union of college educated men of similar high ideals of scholarship and manhood to promote the ideals of the FRATERNITY.

Section 2 – Mission Statement.

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The mission of this CHAPTER will be to:

- a. Keep alive the interest of the financial MEMBERS of the CHAPTER ("MEMBERS") by furthering brotherly love and fraternal spirit within the CHAPTER;
- b. Provide a medium of expression for the MEMBERS during the interim between the Tenth District Fall Council ("FALL COUNCIL"), Tenth District Convention ("DISTRICTS"), International Leadership Conference ("LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE") and International Grand Conclave ("CONCLAVE");
- c. Coordinate activities of the CHAPTER MEMBERS, and those with membership in the FRATERNITY ("BROTHERS"), with the graduate chapters in the Greater Chicago Metropolitan Area;
- d. Provide mentoring in an advisory capacity to the undergraduate chapters in the City of Chicago; and
- e. Consider problems of the predominately Black communities in the City of Chicago then develop, plan and implement solutions specific to those communities.

Section 3 – Motto.

To Be Determined.

CHAPTER 3 – MEMBERSHIP

Article I: Standing; Status; Composition.

Section 1 – Good Standing

All BROTHERS are in good standing if they have no current or pending disciplinary actions against them on any FRATERNITY level to prohibit it.

Section 2 – Status: Active Membership.

All BROTHERS in good standing with active membership status are eligible to be MEMBERS in the CHAPTER. Active membership status is defined as being on record as a BROTHER who was financial both the previous fiscal year and current fiscal year, because they are a Life Member, or by payment of their annual membership fee to the International Headquarters ("IHQ").

Section 3 – Status: Inactive Membership.

All BROTHERS in good standing with inactive membership status are also eligible to be MEMBERS. Inactive membership status is defined as being on record as a BROTHER who is not a Life Member, who was not financial the previous fiscal year or current fiscal year on the international level by payment of a Reinstatement fee and an annual membership fee to the IHQ.

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Section 4 – Status: Financial.

For any **BROTHER** to have full financial **MEMBER** status during any fiscal year with the **CHAPTER**, the following amounts must be received in full by the **CHAPTER** by required deadlines:

1. Any required **CHAPTER** receivables from any previous period, then;
2. International Membership Dues (excluding Life Members);
3. **DISTRICT** Dues;
4. **CHAPTER** Dues (excluding **BROTHERS** with Inactive Membership Status - described in *Chapter 3, Article I, Section 3* - who are making payment in lieu of Chapter Dues - described in *Chapter 5, Article III, Sections 4-6*);
5. Any required late fees; and
6. Any required Reinstatement fees.

Section 5 – Chapter Composition: Regular Members.

The **CHAPTER** will consist of **BROTHERS** in good standing, with active or inactive membership status, generally residing within the City of Chicago, who are reported by the **CHAPTER** to the **IHQ** as fully financial **MEMBERS** of the **CHAPTER** after payment of full **CHAPTER** Dues and fees.

Section 6 – Chapter Composition: Dual/Multiple Membership.

The **CHAPTER** will also consist of **BROTHERS** in good standing, with active membership status, who are reported by another chapter to the **IHQ** as fully financial members of that chapter, who also elects to hold dual or multiple graduate chapter memberships, and who pays full **CHAPTER** Dues and fees; except he will not be reported to the **IHQ** as a **MEMBER**, but may affiliate with the **CHAPTER** and not be limited in his rights and privileges as a **MEMBER**; except that he cannot hold an elected or appointed office, cannot represent the interests of the **CHAPTER**, or to be a Delegate, Alternate or otherwise represent the **CHAPTER** at **DISTRICTS**, **LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** or **CONCLAVE**.

Article II: Courtesy; Rights; Privileges.

Section 1 – Courtesy to Brothers.

BROTHERS in good standing with inactive membership status will be extended a *Courtesy to Brothers* to attend **CHAPTER** activities and **CHAPTER MEETINGS**, but do not have the *Rights of Brothers* or *Privileges of Members* to participate in discussions, debate or committee activities; attend closed **CHAPTER** activities; vote on any matter; recommend or sponsor candidates for membership in the **FRATERNITY**; chair any committee; be nominated for, run for, or be appointed to or elected to any office in the **CHAPTER**; or to represent the interests of the **CHAPTER**, or to be a Delegate, Alternate



or otherwise represent the CHAPTER at DISTRICTS, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE or CONCLAVE.

Section 2 – Rights of Brothers.

BROTHERS in good standing with active membership status will be extended the *Right of Brothers* to attend activities and CHAPTER MEETINGS, and to have a limited voice in the MEETING to participate in discussions, debate and in committee activity, but do not have the *Privileges of Members* to attend closed CHAPTER activities, vote on any matter, recommend or sponsor candidates for membership in the FRATERNITY, chair any committee, be nominated for, run for, or be appointed to or elected to any office in the CHAPTER, or to represent the interests of the CHAPTER, or to be a Delegate, Alternate or otherwise represent the CHAPTER at DISTRICTS, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE or CONCLAVE.

Section 3 – Privileges of Members.

In addition to the *Courtesy to Brothers* and *Rights of Brothers*, MEMBERS in good standing with active membership status are granted *Privileges of Members*. These privileges allow MEMBERS to have unlimited voice in the CHAPTER MEETING to participate in discussions or debate in accordance with these *Bylaws*, CHAPTER *General Standing Rules* or *Roberts Rules of Order, Revised*®; attend closed CHAPTER activities provided there are no additional requirements specific to the activity to prevent it; vote on all matters at the CHAPTER MEETING; recommend and sponsor candidates for membership in the FRATERNITY; chair committees, sub-committees and ad hoc committees – and except for any BROTHER who is reported to the IHQ as a fully financial member in another graduate chapter, who elects to hold dual or multiple graduate chapter memberships, and who pays full CHAPTER Dues and fees – be nominated for, run for and be appointed to or elected to an office, and can represent the interests of the CHAPTER or be a Delegate, Alternate or otherwise represent the CHAPTER at DISTRICTS, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE or CONCLAVE.

CHAPTER 4 – CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Article I: Officers; Manner; Positions; Approvals.

Section 1 – Chapter Officers.

The Officers of the CHAPTER will be:

- a. Basileus;
- b. Vice Basileus;
- c. First Vice Basileus;
- d. Second Vice Basileus;

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- e. Keeper of Records and Seal;
- f. Keeper of Finance;
- g. Area Representative (4)
- h. Chapter Reporter;
- i. Immediate Past Basileus;
- j. Counselor;
- k. Chaplain;
- l. Keeper of Peace;
- m. Parliamentarian;
- n. Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal;
- o. Assistant Keeper of Finance;
- p. Assistant Chapter Reporter; and
- q. Assistant Keeper of Peace.

Section 2 – Manner of Office.

Excluding the office of Immediate Past Basileus, all other officers of the **CHAPTER** are elected by the **MEMBERS** or appointed by the Basileus.

Section 3 – Elected Positions.

The positions of the **CHAPTER** elected by the **MEMBERS** will be:

- a. Basileus;
- b. Vice Basileus;
- c. First Vice Basileus;
- d. Second Vice Basileus;
- e. Keeper of Records and Seal;
- f. Keeper of Finance;
- g. Area Representatives;
- h. Chapter Reporter; plus
- i. Immediate Past Basileus (elected during previous administration).

Section 4 – Appointed Positions.

The positions of the **CHAPTER** appointed by the Basileus will be:

- a. Counselor;
- b. Chaplain;
- c. Parliamentarian;
- d. Keeper of Peace;
- e. Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal;
- f. Assistant Keeper of Finance;
- g. Assistant Chapter Reporter; and
- h. Assistant Keeper of Peace.

Section 5 – Appointed Officer Approvals.

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First recognizing that the Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal; Assistant Keeper of Finance; Assistant Chapter Reported and Assistant Keeper of Peace are intended to be entry-level positions of leadership training, the Basileus should make every effort to appoint MEMBERS to those positions with CHAPTER leadership aspirations. The Basileus must submit all appointments to the Executive Council for their information, and individually to the CHAPTER for its approval.

Article II – Duties.

Section 1 – Duties of Officers.

The principal duties of the CHAPTER officers as listed herein are not intended to be a full or comprehensive listing of every duty. They are:

- Basileus.** While the prevailing governing body of the CHAPTER is the CHAPTER MEETING, the Basileus is understood to have the presiding administrative responsibility for the CHAPTER as the Chief Executive Officer and spokesperson, and jurisdictional responsibility to ensure all directives and day to day operational requirements on every FRATERNITY level, and for every office, committee, or by every MEMBER is adhered to. The principal duties of the Basileus include:
- a. Schedule the meeting date, time and place, prepare an agenda and be the presiding officer at CHAPTER MEETINGS and Executive Council meetings;
 - b. Order disbursements of funds as the CHAPTER may direct or require;
 - c. Submit regular reports of the CHAPTER's work to the CHAPTER and to the District Representative;
 - d. Enforce the FRATERNITY's non-hazing policy;
 - e. Suspend any MEMBER, pending an investigation or for cause, but report any such actions to the Executive Council for their information, and to the CHAPTER for their approval;
 - f. Appoint the Officers listed under *Chapter 4, Article I, Section 4a*;
 - g. Appoint the Chairmen of all Standing Committees, Ad hoc committees and Committee members as necessary;
 - h. Be the spokesperson for, and represent the CHAPTER, at all public events and activities the CHAPTER is a participant in;
 - i. Represent the CHAPTER on the Tenth District Council, at the LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE and as a delegate to the CONCLAVE; and
 - j. Perform such other duties as required, or as directed by the CHAPTER, or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Vice Basileus. The principal duties of the Vice-Basileus include:

- a. Assist the Basileus;



- b. Be first in line of succession to preside over meetings of the CHAPTER in the absence of the Basileus and maintain continuity of day to day CHAPTER operations during any incapacitation of the Basileus;
- c. Exercise coordinating supervision over the activities of all Area Representatives;
- d. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

First Vice Basileus. The principal duties of the First Vice-Basileus include:

- a. Assist the Basileus;
- b. Be second in the line of succession to preside over meetings of the CHAPTER in the absence of both the Basileus and Vice Basileus and maintain continuity of day to day CHAPTER operations during any incapacitation of the Basileus and Vice Basileus;
- c. Exercise coordinating supervision over the activities of all Standing Committees of Mandated Programs of the Fraternity to ensure that the committees are compliant with Fraternity requirements and operating as charged;
- d. Serve on the Tribunal Panel, and chair the Tribunal when required; and
- e. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Second Vice Basileus. The principal duties of the Second Vice-Basileus include:

- a. Assist the Basileus;
- b. Be third in the line of succession to preside over meetings of the CHAPTER in the absence of the Basileus, Vice Basileus and First Vice Basileus and maintain continuity of day to day CHAPTER operations during any incapacitation of the Basileus, Vice Basileus and First Vice Basileus;
- c. Exercise coordinating supervision over the activities of all Standing Committees of Non-Mandated Programs of the FRATERNITY to ensure that the committees are compliant with FRATERNITY requirements and operating as charged;
- d. Serve on the Tribunal Panel and chair the Tribunal when required; and
- e. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Keeper of Records and Seal. The principal duties of the Keeper of Records and Seal include:

- a. Having the administrative responsibility for the CHAPTER as the Chief Operating Officer;
- b. Keep a strict record of the official proceedings of the CHAPTER, and a copy of the Chapter Charter;



- c. Carry on the correspondence of the CHAPTER;
- d. Receive all funds of the CHAPTER, keep a record of same, and deliver said funds to the Keeper of Finance immediately after recording;
- e. Sign and record all written orders from the Basileus for disbursement of CHAPTER funds to forward same to the Keeper of Finance;
- f. Use a standard form to collect the personal history of each member of the CHAPTER and furnish the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal with a duplicate copy of such history, with additions and changes;
- g. Furnish the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal and the District Keeper of Records and Seal such data concerning the CHAPTER as the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal might consider necessary to keep the history of the FRATERNITY complete;
- h. Upon the death of any member of the CHAPTER, to officially inform the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal and the District Keeper of Records and Seal of such death and to forward to them a biography of the deceased member;
- i. Countersign all membership cards;
- j. Direct and mentor the activities of the Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal; and
- k. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Keeper of Finance. The principal duties of the Keeper of Finance include:

- a. Receive from the Keeper of Records and Seal and account for all funds payable to the CHAPTER;
- b. Disburse funds of the CHAPTER only upon written order of the Basileus, countersigned by the Keeper of Records and Seal;
- c. Keep a business-like record of all funds received and disbursed, and to submit such record together with all original orders for and receipts for disbursements at such time required or as the CHAPTER may direct;
- d. Be Comptroller for the CHAPTER;
- e. Co-chair the Ways and Means Committee;
- f. Direct and mentor the activities of the Assistant Keeper of Finance; and
- g. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Area Representatives. The principal duties of the Area Representatives include:

- a. To assist the Basileus with administrative duties assigned to them by the Basileus;
- b. Exercise coordinating supervision over the activities of the CHAPTER within their jurisdictional area of responsibility; and



- c. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Chapter Reporter. The principal duties of the Chapter Reporter include:

- a. Submit articles from the CHAPTER for publication in the *Quemunicator*, *Oracle* or any other FRATERNITY instrument;
- b. Submit to the editors of newspapers, CHAPTER news for publication in local newspapers published in the City of Chicago;
- c. Carry on such publicity as the CHAPTER might direct, provided that such publicity will be confined to matters concerning the CHAPTER, or its MEMBERS;
- d. Be the official photographer for the CHAPTER;
- e. Direct and mentor the activities of the Assistant Chapter Reporter; and
- f. Perform other such duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Immediate Past Basileus. The principal duties of the Immediate Past Basileus include:

- a. Provide counsel to the Basileus on matters of efficient, effective CHAPTER operations from an experiential viewpoint;
- b. Be the Chairman of the Past Basileus Committee; and
- c. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Counselor. The principal duties of the Counselor include:

- a. Be an active member in good standing of the Bar of the State of Illinois;
- b. Be the legal consultant to the CHAPTER;
- c. Chair the Tribunal Panel;
- d. Act as liaison to the District Counselor as needed; and
- e. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Chaplain. The principal duties of the Chaplain include:

- a. Be the spiritual advisor to, and to provide the moral direction of the CHAPTER;
- b. Ensure the *Annual Memorial Service* is conducted;
- c. Conduct other religious or ritualistic services of the FRATERNITY for MEMBERS of the CHAPTER;
- d. Commemorate life milestones of the MEMBERS and their families with cards, flowers, Resolutions, or any other commemorative, congratulatory, celebratory, or sympathetic token as he or the CHAPTER may direct; and



- e. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Parliamentarian. The principal duties of the Parliamentarian include:

- a. Provide counsel to the Presiding Officer or the MEMBERS on the proceedings of the CHAPTER MEETING and Executive Council Meeting as directed by these *Bylaws*, the Bylaws of the DISTRICT, the FRATERNITY "Constitution and Bylaws" and "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised";
- b. Provide interpretation of these *Bylaws*, CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*, the FRATERNITY "Member Code of Conduct, Revised" and parliamentary procedure in "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised", recognizing the role and any opinion of the Parliamentarian is advisory, and the Presiding Officer may overrule any advice or opinion of the Parliamentarian;
- c. Serve on the Tribunal Panel;
- d. Serve on the Nominations Committee; and
- e. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Keeper of Peace. The principal duties of the Keeper of Peace include:

- a. Admit to the CHAPTER MEETING only those who are officially recognized as BROTHERS of the FRATERNITY;
- b. Maintain order in all meetings of the CHAPTER as outlined in these *Bylaws*, the CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*, and at the direction of the Basileus;
- c. Collect fines for breaches by MEMBERS and BROTHERS to meeting decorum, described in *Chapter 7, Article II, Section 2*, for violations of any of the CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*, or levied because of any action described in *Chapter 10, Article I, Section 1*;
- d. Submit all fines he collects to the Keeper of Records and Seal immediately upon collection;
- e. Direct and mentor the activities of the Assistant Keeper of Peace; and
- f. Perform such other duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal. The principal duties of the Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal include:

- a. Assist the Keeper of Records and Seal;
- b. Perform the Keeper of Records and Seal duties in his absence;
- c. Maintain the KRS module of the CHAPTER website; and
- d. Perform such other duties as directed by the Keeper of Records and Seal, Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.



Assistant Keeper of Finance. The principal duties of the Assistant Keeper of Finance include:

- a. Assist the Keeper of Finance;
- b. Perform the Keeper of Finance duties in his absence;
- c. Maintain the KF module of the CHAPTER website; and
- d. Perform such other duties as directed by the Keeper of Finance, Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Assistant Chapter Reporter. The principal duties of the Assistant Chapter Reporter include:

- a. Assist the Chapter Reporter;
- b. Be the Webmaster for the CHAPTER's website and any other social media sites; and
- c. Perform other such duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

Assistant Keeper of Peace. The principal duties of the Assistant Keeper of Peace include:

- a. Assist the Keeper of Peace; and
- b. Perform other such duties as directed by the Basileus, CHAPTER or as provided by these *Bylaws*.

CHAPTER 5 – REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

Article I: Fiscal Year; Bonding; Budget; Expenses; Non-Administrative Cost Cap.

Section 1 – Fiscal Year.

The CHAPTER will operate on a fiscal year beginning November 1st and ending the following October 31st, or otherwise on a fiscal year consistent with the fiscal year of the FRATERNITY.

Section 2 – Position Bonding.

The CHAPTER must engage a *Directors and Officers Policy* of insurance. All positions of the CHAPTER with bank signatory rights must be insured to an amount sufficient to address covered loss under the policy. The policy covered loss amount should always equal or exceed CHAPTER fund balances.

Section 3 – Budget.

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The proposed budget for any subsequent Fiscal Year period must be developed during the annual Budget Retreat commissioned by the Basileus. All CHAPTER MEMBERS are encouraged to attend and participate in discussions and other deliberations, however:

- a. All elected officers of the CHAPTER plus the Immediate Past Basileus and chairmen of Ways & Means, Budget and Audit committees are required to attend;
- b. All other officers of the CHAPTER, plus all remaining committee and sub-committee chairmen are encouraged to attend, but at minimum, *must* submit a written budget request with rationale for their office or committee, covering its operation for the upcoming fiscal year; and
- c. The proposed budget developed at the Budget Retreat must be disseminated to the MEMBERS of the CHAPTER for their review and comments at least thirty (30) days prior to the CHAPTER MEETING with an agenda item requesting the proposed budget's approval.

Section 4 – Officer Expenses.

The budget of the CHAPTER should provide for a reasonable budget for the expenses of the CHAPTER officers.

Section 5 – Administrative Expenses.

The budget of the CHAPTER should provide for a reasonable administrative budget to ensure compliant CHAPTER operations. Whenever possible, approved disbursements by the CHAPTER for goods and services should be:

- a. Paid directly to a creditor as an invoiced pre-payment or billed invoice; or
- b. Reimbursed to a MEMBER after receipt of supporting documents – which include receiving final reports from MEMBERS representing the CHAPTER as Delegates and Alternates at DISTRICTS, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE and CONCLAVE.

Section 6 – Administrative Costs Cap.

No budget of the CHAPTER shall provide for more than ten percent (10%) of the CHAPTER's revenues for approved administrative costs.

Article II: Application of Funds; Payment Schedule.

Section 1 – Application of Non-Dues Receivables.

Any non-dues receivable amounts due and payable to the CHAPTER from any BROTHER or MEMBER for any previous or current fiscal year must be satisfied first before any amounts towards FRATERNITY, DISTRICT or CHAPTER Dues or fees can be received and applied as *dues* for any current or future fiscal year.

Section 2 – Application of Dues.

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Once non-dues receivable amounts are satisfied, and except for International MEMBERS and BROTHERS who hold dual or multiple chapter membership, the FRATERNITY mandate for the application of any amounts received towards FRATERNITY, DISTRICT and CHAPTER Dues and fees requires International Dues and fees to be applied first, followed by DISTRICT Dues and fees, then CHAPTER Dues and fees. To ensure compliance with this FRATERNITY mandate, current fiscal year FRATERNITY, DISTRICT and CHAPTER Dues and fees must be paid in full by November 1st.

Section 3 – Payment Schedule.

If current fiscal year FRATERNITY, DISTRICT and CHAPTER Dues and fees are not paid in full by November 1st, and a MEMBER elects to pay any amount towards FRATERNITY, DISTRICT and CHAPTER Dues and fees in installments, the following CHAPTER hierarchy payment schedule will apply:

By December 31st – MEMBER must have paid an amount (that when dues are disbursed to the IHQ by the CHAPTER), the amount is sufficient to cover International Dues and Late Fee if necessary, Reinstatement Fee if necessary, DISTRICT Dues and \$50.00 of CHAPTER Dues. These funds are to be held by the CHAPTER as a donation pending receipt of the balance due.

By March 15th – MEMBER must have paid an amount (that when dues are disbursed to the IHQ by the CHAPTER), the amount is sufficient to cover International Dues and Late Fee, Reinstatement Fee if necessary, DISTRICT Dues and Late Fee if necessary, and balance of any CHAPTER Dues and fees. Once received, the MEMBER is considered fully financial and a disbursement by the CHAPTER for dues is authorized to be made, first to the IHQ for international dues and fees, then to the DISTRICT for dues and fees, then to the CHAPTER for dues and fees.

Article III: Exceptions; Other Qualifications; Requirements; Waivers.

Section 1 – Dues Exceptions: Donations.

Any amounts received by the close of DISTRICTS, that when totaled are insufficient to meet full payment amount to authorize disbursement by the CHAPTER to the IHQ for FRATERNITY, DISTRICT and CHAPTER Dues and fees, will be considered a donation to the CHAPTER unless the arrearage is paid in full by the first CHAPTER MEETING immediately following the closing date of DISTRICTS.

Section 2 – Dues Exceptions: International Members.

International Members only pay international dues, fees and assessments and have chosen not to affiliate with any chapter or District in the FRATERNITY, and therefore



cannot affiliate with the CHAPTER as a MEMBER without also paying full DISTRICT and CHAPTER Dues, fees and assessments.

Section 3 – Dues Exceptions: Dual/Multiple Chapter Memberships.

Duplicate international and DISTRICT dues, fees and assessments cannot be imposed on a BROTHER with active membership status with the IHQ, who is reported by another chapter to the IHQ as a fully financial member of that chapter, who also elects to hold dual or multiple graduate chapter memberships. Their only payment requirement for recognition as a MEMBER is payment of full CHAPTER Dues, fees and assessments as described in *Chapter III, Article I, Section 2*.

Section 4 – Dues Exceptions: Payments in Lieu of Chapter Dues.

Payment in Lieu of CHAPTER Dues can only be made by BROTHERS who qualify by being approved to do so by a simple majority vote of the MEMBERS, and verified by the CHAPTER to be on a fixed benefit income, **and**, who have received at least a 50-year Service Pin from the FRATERNITY; or are at least 65 years of age; or are disabled; or who have Inactive Membership Status and are eligible to be Reclaimed - described in *Chapter 3, Article I, Section 3*.

Section 5 – Payments in Lieu of Chapter Dues: Other Qualifications.

BROTHERS that do not qualify under *Chapter 5, Article III, Section 4* can also qualify for Payment in Lieu of CHAPTER Dues by at least a two-thirds majority vote of the MEMBERS at a CHAPTER MEETING with an agenda item specifically for that purpose, that approves their qualification.

Section 6 – Payments in Lieu of Chapter Dues: Requirements After Qualification.

After being qualified as eligible and approved by a vote of the MEMBERS, the BROTHER must submit to the CHAPTER the total proceeds from his allotment of tickets sold for CHAPTER sponsored events or activities, that when on a per ticket basis is totaled and expressed as a calculated, derived or estimated net amount from gross sales, that net amount is sufficient to meet or exceed what would be recognized as the full payment amount for CHAPTER Dues, times a multiplier based on the Fiscal Year administrative budget for that year. FRATERNITY and DISTRICT Dues are not eligible for dues exceptions or waivers and must be paid in full.

Section 7 – Dues Waivers.

Any applicable waiver *to Chapter 5, Article II or Article III*, must be approved by at least a two-thirds majority vote of the voting MEMBERS in attendance at a CHAPTER MEETING that includes this item as an agenda action.

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CHAPTER 6 – VOTING

Article I: Eligibility; Exclusions.

Section 1 – Eligibility for Nomination.

For a MEMBER to be eligible for nomination to any CHAPTER office, ~~all five (5) criteria must apply~~ the MEMBER:

- a. Must have been a financial MEMBER in good standing in the CHAPTER the immediate prior fiscal year; and
- b. Must be a financial MEMBER in good standing of the CHAPTER at the time of their nomination; and
- ~~c. Must not be an elected Honorary Member of the FRATERNITY; and~~
- ~~d. Must have been registered for and attended at least one (1) of the last two (2) COUNCIL MEETINGS or DISTRICTS; and, must have been registered for and attended at least one (1) of the last two (2) LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES or CONGLAVES; and~~
- ~~e. Must be a registered voter in the City of Chicago.~~

Section 2 – Eligibility Exceptions.

For the purposes of eligibility under *Chapter 6, Article I, Section 1*:

- a. Newly initiated BROTHERS that were initiated through any chapter during the immediate prior fiscal year are exempt from the requirements of *Chapter 6, Article I, Sections 1a and 1d*, but only for appointed positions.
- ~~b. MEMBERS nominated by the Basileus to fill an unexpired term, plus the positions of Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal, Assistant Keeper of Finance, Counselor, Chaplain, Keeper of Peace, Assistant Keeper of Peace and Parliamentarian are exempt from Chapter 6, Article I, Section 1d.~~
- c. BROTHERS currently reported to IHQ by another chapter as a fully financial member, who paid full CHAPTER Dues and who simultaneously hold dual or multiple chapter memberships, are prohibited from also holding any CHAPTER office under *Chapter 3, Article II, Section 3*.

Article II: Elections; Manner; Votes to Elect; Exceptions; Tenure; Line of Succession.

Section 1 – Elections.

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Elections will be held at the October **CHAPTER MEETING** (“**Election Meeting**”). Except for any term limits in effect, and provided they remain eligible for the office as required under *Chapter 6, Article I*, all officers may be a candidate for re-election or re-appointment, provided in their immediately previous elected or appointed term they have not failed to perform their duties as prescribed in these *Bylaws*, or in any amendments there to.

Section 2 – Manner of Voting.

Election of officers will be by blind ballot from the **MEMBERS** in attendance at the **ELECTION MEETING** after direct nominations:

- a. as listed on the slate of candidates for office submitted by the Nominations Committee; or
- b. as a write-in candidate for office after being nominated from the floor at the **ELECTION MEETING**, then vetted and determined eligible under *Chapter 6, Article I* by the Nominations Committee.

Section 3 – Votes Needed to Elect.

A simple majority of the ballots cast, a quorum being present and voting, will be necessary to elect an officer.

- a. In case of multiple nominees, where no candidate receives a simple majority of the votes cast for that office (including ties), a runoff will immediately be held between the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast; and
- b. Successive blind ballots will be taken until one of the nominees is elected by a simple majority vote.

Section 4 – Voting Exceptions.

In addition to election of officers by blind ballot from the **MEMBERS** in attendance at the **ELECTION MEETING** after direct nominations, candidates for elected office who run unopposed, may be elected by any form of affirmation - including unanimous consent, voice vote, rising vote, show of hands, counted vote or roll call.

Section 5 – Tenure.

The length of a full term of office for each officer of the **CHAPTER** is one year, beginning on November 1 and continuing for twelve consecutive months until the following October 31. Additionally:

- a. Elected officers are limited to serving no more than two (2) consecutive full terms, however each full term must begin on November 1 and end on October 31, or until his successor is duly elected or appointed and qualified.
- b. Within ten (10) business days of election or appointment to office, the past officers must surrender all **CHAPTER** materials and equipment of that office.



- c. The term of any appointed officer will begin after approval by the **CHAPTER MEETING** and upon formal notification by the sitting Basileus and will continue until the next appointment is deemed necessary by the sitting Basileus.

Section 6 – Biennial Terms.

Elections for two (2) year biennial terms as provided for in the **FRATERNITY Bylaws**, may be conducted by the **CHAPTER** for cause or need as determined by a vote by the **MEMBERS** on the term of office, after a recommendation is made by the Nominations Committee. The recommendation for any two-year term of office must be indicated on the slate of offices in the report of the Nominations Committee during the **ELECTION MEETING** and approved by a majority vote of the **MEMBERS** in attendance at the **ELECTION MEETING**.

Section 7 – Line of Succession.

Upon the death, incapacitation, resignation, refusal to serve or removal of the Basileus:

- a. the Vice Basileus will succeed to that office to complete the unexpired term. If both offices are simultaneously vacated for any of the stated reasons;
- b. the First Vice Basileus will succeed to that office to complete the unexpired term. If all three (3) offices are simultaneously vacated for any of the stated reasons;
- c. the Second Vice Basileus will succeed to that office to complete the unexpired term. If all four (4) offices are simultaneously vacated for any of the stated reasons;
- d. the Executive Council will call a special election to be held, only to fill the office of Basileus to complete the unexpired term. Once the Basileus is elected, the Vice Basileus, First Vice Basileus and Second Vice Basileus vacancies will be filled by the Basileus to complete the unexpired terms.

Article III: Removals.

Section 1 – Basileus Removal from Office.

The Basileus can only be removed from office for cause, defined as, “deficient improvement as required after the stated cure period”.

Section 2 – Determination of Cause.

Cause for removal of the Basileus from office can only be determined after passage of a motion of *No Confidence* by the **MEMBERS**. At least a two-thirds majority vote of the financial **MEMBERS** of the **CHAPTER** in good standing is required to pass a motion of No Confidence, defined as a motion passed by the **MEMBERS** at a **CHAPTER MEETING** *with an agenda item specifically for that purpose*, that states how the Basileus:

- a. failed to perform his duties as outlined in these *Bylaws*, or in any amendments there to; or



- b. demonstrated how he is no longer deemed fit to hold that position because of inadequacies; or
- c. demonstrated how he is failing to carry out obligations; or
- d. is making decisions that the MEMBERS have determined are detrimental to the continued viability of the CHAPTER or the FRATERNITY.

Section 3 – Time Limit on No Confidence Motion.

A strict time limit must exist as to the proposal of a No Confidence motion, with a vote only allowed once every four (4) calendar months. Thus, the timing of the motion of No Confidence is a matter of judgment since using a motion of no confidence on a relatively trivial matter may prove counterproductive if a more important issue suddenly arises which warrants a motion of No Confidence.

- a. If passed, the Basileus should be given 30 days to provide the MEMBERS with a Corrective Action Plan (“CAP”). The CAP would require a majority vote of more than fifty percent of the voting MEMBERS in good standing, to be approved.
- b. If a CAP is not approved, or if a CAP is approved but the requirements of the CAP are not met within the prescribed timeframe, the Basileus can be removed from office for cause in the manner described in *Chapter 6, Article III - Removals*.
- c. The Basileus will be removed for cause only upon a vote of at least two-thirds of the financial MEMBERS in good standing, and only after notice of a Regular CHAPTER MEETING that included an agenda item for that purpose.

Section 4 – All Other Removals from Office.

Any other officer who fails to perform his duties as outlined in these *Bylaws*, or in any amendments there to, can be removed for cause by a two-thirds majority vote by the MEMBERS at a CHAPTER MEETING, with an agenda item specifically for that purpose, or by the Basileus, but in either case, the vacancy created will be filled by the Basileus to complete the unexpired term, but not before notification of the removal (if necessary) and appointment by the Basileus, to the Executive Council for their information, and pending ratification by the MEMBERS at the next Regular CHAPTER MEETING.

CHAPTER 7 – MEETINGS

Article I: Types; Powers; Quorum.

Section 1 – Regular Meetings.



Regular MEETINGS of the CHAPTER will typically be held monthly as part of an annual meeting calendar for the purpose and mission stated in *Chapter 2, Article I, Sections 1 & 2*, and include:

- a. to elect officers for the ensuing year;
- b. to receive written reports of officers and committees; and
- c. to transact any such other business necessary for the welfare of the CHAPTER and the MEMBERS.

Section 2 – Special Meetings.

Special Meetings of the CHAPTER, except for any with the purpose to amend the *Bylaws*, may be called by the Basileus or the Executive Council if either determines that an urgency or emergency exists requiring such a meeting. In such cases, all MEMBERS will be given at least five (5) calendar days' notice by electronic mail and website posting, of the time, place, and object of the meeting.

Section 3 – Powers.

The supreme governing body of the CHAPTER will always be the decisions of the CHAPTER MEETING. With a quorum present, the required majority vote of the financial MEMBERS in good standing in attendance will represent the ultimate authority and decisions of the CHAPTER on all matters, and among other things will have the power to:

- a. Amend or revise Bylaws consistent with the provisions of these *Bylaws*, DISTRICT Bylaws and the FRATERNITY Constitution and Bylaws;
- b. Remove officers or elect officers for the ensuing terms;
- c. Sustain, modify or overturn a decision by the Tribunal Panel; and
- d. Perform all other duties as may be necessary or required for the welfare of the CHAPTER, including decisions over all CHAPTER activities and expenditures of all CHAPTER funds.

Section 4 – Quorum.

A quorum will be at least one-third of the financial MEMBERS in good standing in attendance at the CHAPTER MEETING and must include any two officers between the Basileus, Vice Basileus, First Vice Basileus or Second Vice Basileus, plus the Keeper of Records and Seal or Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal.

Article II: Order of Business; Decorum; Reports.

Section 1 – Order of Business.

The order of business at the CHAPTER MEETING will include:

- Opening
- Roll Call

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- Recognition of Visiting Brothers
- Adopt Agenda
- Basileus Report
- Minutes of Previous Meeting and Action on Same
- KRS Report and Action on Same
- KF Report and Action on Same
- Other Officer Reports and Action on Same
- Area Representative Reports and Action on Same
- Committee Reports and Action on Same
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- For the Good of the Order
- Announcements
- Closing

Section 2 – Meeting Decorum.

Each **BROTHER** and **MEMBER** will maintain proper decorum during **CHAPTER MEETING** as outlined in the, *FRATERNITY Member Code of Conduct, Revised; FRATERNITY Policy & Procedure Manual, Revised; FRATERNITY Etiquette and Protocol Manual, Revised; CHAPTER General Standing Rules, Bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*®. Any **BROTHER** or **MEMBER** violating proper decorum will first be warned - but also can be fined. Further violations can be cause for additional fines, dismissal from the meeting, censure by the body, or suspension.

Section 3 – Officer Reports.

All officers must submit written reports for those needing an action or providing a financial status. Oral reports and any written reports not needing an action or not providing a financial status are those reports for information only. Unless approved by the Basileus or by a simple majority vote by the **CHAPTER** to overturn, reports not submitted as required or outlined may not be presented to the **CHAPTER MEETING**.

Article III – Meetings of the Fraternity.

Section 1 – Appointed Delegates.

Under the direction of the Basileus, the elected officers of the **CHAPTER** have a responsibility to represent the **CHAPTER** at all required meetings, or those requiring delegate representation.

District Convention. By his position in the **CHAPTER**, the Basileus holds a position on the District Council and therefore cannot also be a **CHAPTER** Delegate to the **DISTRICTS**. The two (2) **CHAPTER** Delegates to **DISTRICTS** will be (in order):

- a. Vice Basileus; then
- b. First Vice Basileus; then

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- c. Second Vice Basileus (if necessary); then
- d. If two or more of these officers cannot serve as a Delegate, a simple majority vote by the CHAPTER MEMBERS will select Delegates if necessary.

International Grand Conclave. In addition to the Basileus, Delegates to the CONCLAVE will be (in order):

- a. Vice Basileus; then
- b. First Vice Basileus; then
- c. Second Vice Basileus; then
- d. Keeper of Records and Seal; then
- e. Keeper of Finance; then
- f. A simple majority vote by the CHAPTER MEMBERS to select Conclave Delegates if necessary

Section 2 – Selected Alternates.

By a simple majority vote of the CHAPTER MEMBERS, the appointed officers of the CHAPTER have a responsibility to represent the CHAPTER at all required meetings, or those requiring delegate representation.

District Convention. Alternates to the DISTRICTS will be determined by a simple majority vote of the CHAPTER MEMBERS. Selections are recommended to include (in order):

- a. Keeper of Finance (if not already a Delegate); then
- b. Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal; then
- c. Assistant Keeper of Finance

International Grand Conclave. Alternates to the CONCLAVE will be determined by a simple majority vote of the CHAPTER MEMBERS. Selections are recommended to include (in order):

- a. Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal; and
- b. Assistant Keeper of Finance

Section 3 – Appointed or Selected Chapter Representation.

Under the direction of the Basileus, the elected and appointed officers of the CHAPTER also have a responsibility to represent the CHAPTER at all required meetings that may not require delegate representation.

International Leadership Conference. In addition to the Basileus, and if necessary, CHAPTER representation at the LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE will be (in order):

- a. Vice Basileus; then
- b. First Vice Basileus; then
- c. Second Vice Basileus; then
- d. Keeper of Records and Seal; then
- e. Keeper of Finance; then



- f. If two or more of these officers cannot serve as a CHAPTER Representative, or if additional CHAPTER Representatives are needed based on CHAPTER membership above twenty MEMBERS, a simple majority vote by the CHAPTER MEMBERS will select CHAPTER Representation if necessary

Section 4 – Other Fraternity Meeting Reports.

Each MEMBER who represents the CHAPTER at DISTRICTS, LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE or CONCLAVE as an appointed Delegate or Representative must submit a written final report of the proceedings to the CHAPTER MEETING. The final report can be individual or collaborative, but the final report must provide a full accounting of the proceedings, activities and actions of the meeting. The final report is a required condition as part of supporting documentation for the reimbursement of any expenses approved by the CHAPTER MEETING as provided in the annual budget.

CHAPTER 8 – EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Article I: Composition, Function; Meetings.

Section 1 – Composition.

The Executive Council (“EC”) consists of the elected officers of the CHAPTER: Basileus, Vice Basileus, First Vice Basileus, Second Vice Basileus, Keeper of Records and Seal, Keeper of Finance, Area Representatives, Counselor, Chaplain and Chapter Reporter; plus, the Immediate Past Basileus.

Section 2 – Function.

The EC is chiefly an advisory body that works at the direction and under the leadership of the Basileus, providing council on the day to day administrative management of the CHAPTER and assisting the Basileus in the development, planning and implementation of directives, activities and reporting requirements in the operation of the CHAPTER, as directed by decisions of the CHAPTER MEETING and these *Bylaws*.

- a. The EC can also take any appropriate action as necessary that ensures compliant operation of the CHAPTER, provided such actions are not inconsistent with, nor prohibited by, the actions approved by the CHAPTER MEETING, these *Bylaws* or the Bylaws of the FRATERNITY or the DISTRICT.
- b. The EC will report to the CHAPTER at the next CHAPTER MEETING on all actions taken, and the CHAPTER will ratify or revoke such actions.
- c. Other actions by the EC on any other CHAPTER related matters can also be binding, but only during the interim between CHAPTER MEETINGS, and only to the extent that those actions address an urgency or emergency, and the MEMBERS ratified such actions at the next CHAPTER MEETING, but the EC will

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have no power or authority to alter, change, or amend any action taken by an action or decision of the **CHAPTER MEETING**.

Section 3 – Executive Council Meetings.

The **EC** should meet regularly, typically monthly. The **EC** may hold meetings via web and/or by teleconference or by other electronic means. In such cases, all **MEMBERS** will be given at least five (5) calendar days' notice by website posting or electronic mail, of the time, place, and object of the meeting to allow for their attendance or participation.

CHAPTER 9 – PROGRAMS & COMMITTEES

Article I: Mandated Programs.

Section 1 – Mandated Programs.

The **FRATERNITY** has identified the following Nationally Mandated Programs:

- a. Achievement Week
- b. College Endowment Fund (*CEF*)
- c. Health Initiatives
- d. Memorial Service
- e. N.A.A.C.P.
- f. Reclamation and Retention
- g. Scholarship
- h. Social Action
- i. Talent Hunt
- j. Voter Registration, Education and Mobilization (*VREM*)

Article II: Committees; Charge; Ad Hoc; Composition; Duties; Meetings; Reports.

Section 1 – Standing Committees and their Sub-committees.

The **CHAPTER** Standing Committees and their sub-committees are:

Community and Civic Affairs. In addition, the sub-committees of Community and Civic Affairs will be:

- a. Achievement Week*
- b. College Endowment Fund*
- c. Health Initiatives*
- d. N.A.A.C.P.*
- e. Pan-Hellenic Council
- f. Project Manhood

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- g. Scholarship*
- h. Social Action*
- i. Talent Hunt*
- j. Voter Registration, Education and Mobilization*
Mandated Program sub-committee indicated by (*)

History and Archives.

Membership. In addition, the sub-committees of Membership will be:

- a. Membership Selection (*MSP*)
- b. Memorial Service*
- c. Past Basileus Council
- d. Reclamation and Retention*
Mandated Program sub-committee indicated by (*)

Public Relations. In addition, the sub-committees of Public Relations will be:

- a. Information Technology
- b. Website

Rules. In addition, the sub-committees of Rules will be:

- a. Bylaws
- b. Nominations
- c. Recommendations

Ways and Means. In addition, the sub-committees of Ways and Means will be:

- a. Audit
- b. Budget
- c. Economic Development
- d. Fundraising
- e. Housing

Section 2 – Committee Charge.

All committees work on behalf of, and at the direction of the CHAPTER, and at the pleasure of the Basileus. In addition to fulfilling the CHAPTER Mission and Purpose as outlined in *Chapter 2, Article I, Sections 1 & 2*, Committees of the CHAPTER are charged with ensuring, at a minimum, that activities of the FRATERNITY’s Mandated Programs are conducted each year. Each committee will compile a summary of all programs/projects held within the CHAPTER’s fiscal year to be presented as part of the CHAPTER’s annual report during DISTRICTS.

Section 3 – Ad Hoc Committees.

Ad Hoc Committees can be formed by the Basileus, but only for the particular end or case at hand, and without consideration of wider application.

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Section 4 – Committee Composition.

In addition to MEMBERS who volunteer, the Basileus will assign MEMBERS to all Committees, and after notice to the EC for their information, appoint the Chairmen of each.

Section 5 – Committee Duties.

The duties of the Committees are as follows:

Community and Civic Affairs. Is the major committee responsible for conducting most the FRATERNITY's Mandated Programs, and therefore shoulders the majority responsibility for the CHAPTER's success, operational compliance and community viability. All MEMBERS are encouraged to participate in this committee's activities on some level to help ensure compliance with FRATERNITY mandates and the CHAPTER's success in achieving the stated Purpose and Mission.

Achievement Week is observed each November and is designed to recognize those individuals at the local and international levels who have contributed to uplifting the Black community. In partnership with the Scholarship Committee, the committee will implement a *High School Essay Contest* to be held in conjunction with Achievement Week. The committee will also select an *Omega Man of the Year* and *Omega Citizen of the Year* each year and will provide for the appropriate recognition and awareness thereof; and will coordinate the selection and recognition of such other awards or activities as the CHAPTER may direct during that week, to include the annual **Founders Banquet**.

College Endowment Fund is responsible for the CHAPTER's efforts and participation in the FRATERNITY's pledge to give at least fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) in furtherance of Omega's commitment to provide philanthropic support.

Health Initiatives facilitates, participates and coordinates activities that promote good health practices for the Black community. Some of the programs are the *Dr. Charles R. Drew Blood Drive* and partnership with the *American Diabetes Association®*.

N.A.A.C.P. facilitates the CHAPTER's requirement to maintain a Life Membership at Large in the NAACP and to encourage all MEMBERS of the CHAPTER to join the NAACP.

Pan Hellenic represents the CHAPTER at Pan Hellenic Council meetings and events and reports on same to the CHAPTER.

Project Manhood has the responsibility of developing programs that will explore the problems of the Black male in Chicago and seek solutions.

Scholarship promotes academic excellence for Black male students by providing direct financial assistance. The committee will prepare regulations, policies, procedures and announcements for awards, and select qualified high school



seniors whose scholarship is noteworthy, and present same to the CHAPTER and to DISTRICTS for recognition in the form of awards, inclusive of the *High School Essay Contest* held during Achievement Week each November.

Social Action develops and participates in activities that will uplift the Black community. The committee will prepare and submit to the CHAPTER for approval, programs embracing social issues like *Assault on Illiteracy Program* (AOIP), voter registration, *Habitat for Humanity*®, mentoring, and participation in fundraisers for charitable organizations.

Talent Hunt provides exposure, encouragement and financial assistance to talented Black youth participating in the performing arts. Winners are awarded recognition and may be given college scholarships. The committee is responsible for organizing and developing the CHAPTER's Talent Hunt Program. Its responsibility will include all aspects of promoting the program as well as the responsibility of transportation, lodging and per diem of the winner and their chaperone to the *District Talent Hunt Demonstration* at the annual DISTRICT CONVENTION.

Voter Registration, Education and Mobilization facilitates and participates in voter registration initiatives and other activities that uplift the Black community through the power of the vote. This sub-committee Chairman must be a Registrar in the City of Chicago.

History and Archives. Calls upon, inquires of, aids, and encourages BROTHERS and their survivors to donate to the CHAPTER or the FRATERNITY, for preservation and display, FRATERNITY artifacts and memorabilia as they, in their generosity, may wish the CHAPTER or the FRATERNITY to have and keep. All items are to be carefully preserved. The committee will research and make known the identity, life, practices, accomplishments and worldly contributions of persons of African descent. They will recommend such actions as to give proper recognition to such individuals.

Membership. Is responsible for ensuring engagement of the esprit de' corps of the overall CHAPTER MEMBERS.

Membership Selection Process (MSP) only acts after the CHAPTER approves a MSP process, then under the direction of the DISTRICT MSP Chairman and the Basileus, implements, then manages all aspects of the CHAPTER's Membership Selection Process, including the post process Education Phase.

Memorial Service is recognized March 12th of each year as an appropriate service to recall the memory of those MEMBERS who have entered OMEGA CHAPTER and encouraged to be a joint event with other area chapters.

Reclamation and Retention is responsible for the CHAPTER's concerted effort to formulate programs and activities to retain active BROTHERS and reclaim inactive BROTHERS to full participatory status.



Past Basileus Council is a non-binding advisory committee to the Basileus charged with development and planning of recommended strategies that optimize all aspects of MEMBER contributions and CHAPTER operations.

Public Relations. Is responsible for developing, planning and implementing a strategy for maintaining a favorable public image for the CHAPTER with the goal of enhancing the reputation of the CHAPTER, using tools such as press releases, speech writing, blogging and other print, television and social media outlets.

Information Technology. Provides cost effective technology solutions and functional ways to streamline processes and electronically communicate pertinent information to all the MEMBERS. The committee assists the CHAPTER with utilization of technology.

Website. Collaborates with the Basileus and Keeper of Records and Seal to manage and insure timely and substantive updates to the chapter's website and any additional social media sites, and to manage and maintain chapter notification system to dispense information and announcements to the CHAPTER in a timely and confidential manner.

Rules. Is responsible for statutory or regulatory compliance in the governance aspect of CHAPTER operations and MEMBER participation in that process.

Bylaws will receive and review all proposed amendments or revisions to the FRATERNITY & DISTRICT Constitution and Bylaws, and to the CHAPTER'S Constitution and Bylaws submitted in accordance with *Chapter 9, Article I*, then recommend to the CHAPTER a position that it determined is in the best interest of the CHAPTER. Amendments determined not to be in the best interest of the CHAPTER will be presented rationalizing the committee's inability to recommend. Supported amendments approved by the CHAPTER for the DISTRICT or FRATERNITY are to be submitted on behalf of the CHAPTER to the DISTRICT or FRATERNITY Bylaws Committees for consideration. The committee will also be a repository for, and provide MEMBERS with, a copy of the current *Bylaws*, information on properly utilizing *Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised®* and Parliamentary Procedure to effectively conduct the CHAPTER MEETING, and to update and distribute to the MEMBERS the CHAPTER *General Standing Rules* as necessary.

Nominations will be a temporary Ad Hoc Committee with the responsibility of recommending any biennial term of office to the MEMBERS if needed, presenting a slate of nominees, preparing ballots and conducting the election process. This process includes entertaining and resolving all election protests, challenges, and/or appeals to the satisfaction of the voting body at the ELECTION MEETING.

Recommendations will receive and review all proposed recommendations presented to the committee from MEMBERS, DISTRICT or FRATERNITY, then recommend to the CHAPTER a position that it feels is in the best interest of the



CHAPTER. Recommendations felt not to be in the best interest will be presented rationalizing the committee's inability to recommend. Supported Recommendations originating from and approved by the **CHAPTER** for the **DISTRICT** or **FRATERNITY**, are to be submitted on behalf of the **CHAPTER** to the **DISTRICT** or **FRATERNITY** Recommendations Committees for consideration.

Ways and Means.

Works at the direction of the Basileus and in collaboration with the Keeper of Finance under his Comptroller responsibilities:

Audit is responsible for the oversight of the quality and integrity of the **CHAPTER's** accounting and reporting practices, internal controls and financial statements; **FRATERNITY**, legal and regulatory compliance; and the performance of the **CHAPTER's** internal audit function and any independent auditors.

Budget annually constructs the proposed budget for the **CHAPTER** as specified in these *Bylaws*, after giving due consideration to the financial needs of each Committee, with said financial needs being necessary to implement the charges and duties of the several committees, will make budgetary allocations.

Economic Development will be a repository for initiatives it develops to improve the standard of living of the Black individuals and families that we serve, as well as the **CHAPTER MEMBERS**, through the support of innovation and new ideas for the creation of higher wealth and an overall better quality of life.

Fundraising will develop improving, enhancing or incentivizing strategies, activities or events that realize contributions from individuals, businesses, charitable foundations, public and private agencies, investors, sponsors or other sources of capital or in-kind services, to support the programs and philanthropic activities of the **CHAPTER** that benefit the needs of Blacks in the Greater Chicago Metropolitan Area.

Housing is to address all matters pertaining to **CHAPTER** housing, including acquiring by lease of rental property for housing facilities or places for **CHAPTER MEETINGS**; soliciting housing projects and proposals: explore, initiate, and execute same; and establish criteria, which upon publication, will efficiently and effectively implement its efforts.

Section 6 – Committee Meetings.

The committees should meet regularly, typically monthly, but suggested to be not less than quarterly, to discuss the directives of the **CHAPTER MEETING** and present the deliberations and recommendations of the committee to the **MEMBERS** at the **CHAPTER MEETING** for action. The committees can hold meetings via web and/or by teleconference provided notice to the **MEMBERS** was given by email or by website posting to allow for their attendance or participation.

Section 7 – Committee Reports.

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All committee chairmen must submit written reports for those needing an action by the CHAPTER, and oral reports for those for information only. Further, committee chairmen should submit written reports prior to the CHAPTER MEETING to the Vice Basilei as part of their committee coordinating responsibilities. Unless approved by the Basileus or by a majority vote by the CHAPTER to overturn, reports not submitted as required or outlined may not be presented at the CHAPTER MEETING.

CHAPTER 10 – ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Article I: Non-disciplinary Actions: Fines; Censure.

Section 1 – Fines.

Nominal monetary fines imposed for non-disciplinary, minor infractions will be the majority consequence of a breach by MEMBERS or BROTHERS in the meeting decorum or of the CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*, as well as for initial or minor infractions by MEMBERS or BROTHERS to the meeting decorum or of the CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*. Fine amounts, though nominal, are levied at the discretion of the Basileus. Fines cannot be appealed.

Section 2 – Censure.

Any censure of a MEMBER or BROTHER by the CHAPTER is reserved only for more than minor but less than major or egregious infractions of meeting decorum, CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*, these *Bylaws*, or any requirements of the FRATERNITY or the DISTRICT. Infractions resulting in censure can include repeated minor violations. A vote for censure can only be ratified by a more than two-thirds majority favorable vote at a CHAPTER MEETING that included the notice of a censure vote as a part of the agenda. Censure cannot be appealed.

Article II: Disciplinary Actions: Suspension; Petitions.

Section 1 – Suspension.

Any suspension of a MEMBER by the Basileus for major or egregious violations of meeting decorum, FRATERNITY *Member Code of Conduct, Revised*; FRATERNITY *Policy & Procedure Manual, Revised*; FRATERNITY *Etiquette and Protocol Manual, Revised*; CHAPTER *General Standing Rules*, these *Bylaws*, or any other requirements of the DISTRICT or the FRATERNITY can only be imposed as a final action, and only after less punitive fines or censure has been considered or imposed. If the violation is determined



to be egregious with special circumstances, suspension can be both immediate and indefinite. Only an indefinite suspension can be appealed.

Section 2 – Petitions.

If a decision of indefinite suspension has been imposed, the **MEMBER** has a right to petition for an appeal. The petition can be verbal or in writing and must be made directly to the Basileus during any Regular **CHAPTER MEETING**. If after a fifteen (15) calendar day review period from receiving the petition, and there is no change in the decision of the Basileus of indefinite suspension, the petition must be submitted to the Counselor to constitute a Tribunal Panel.

Article III: Tribunal; Composition; Evidence; Process; Appeals.

Section 1 – Tribunal Panel.

After receiving a decision from the Basileus that sustains the indefinite suspension of a **MEMBER**, the Counselor will convene a Tribunal Panel ("**TRIBUNAL**") by the next scheduled **CHAPTER MEETING** that will have the authority to hear and adjudicate appeals by **MEMBERS** under indefinite suspension.

Section 2 – Panel Composition.

The **TRIBUNAL** will consist of a Chairman and six (6) additional **MEMBERS**, four (4) of whom are the First Vice Basileus, Second Vice Basileus, Parliamentarian and the Immediate Past Basileus. The Chairman of the **TRIBUNAL** will be the Counselor. The suspended **MEMBER** will have the authority to appoint the remaining one (1) **MEMBER** to serve on the **TRIBUNAL**. Each **TRIBUNAL MEMBER** will serve at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairman.

- a. If the Counselor is the subject of the appeal, the Chairman of the **TRIBUNAL** will be the Vice Basileus.
- b. A sitting Basileus is prohibited from being Chairman of the **TRIBUNAL**, and in all cases no past Basileus can serve on the **TRIBUNAL** to hear any appeal by an indefinitely suspended **MEMBER**, of a decision made by that past Basileus during his time in office, unless they were appointed to the **TRIBUNAL** by the indefinitely suspended **MEMBER**.

Section 3 – Evidence.

The **TRIBUNAL** process will be to evaluate whether the facts presented support the decision of the Basileus for indefinite suspension. Since the decision to impose indefinite suspension is somewhat discretionary by the Basileus, the **TRIBUNAL** will review the rationale used by the Basileus in reaching his decision as a part of their preponderance



of evidence in making their decision whether to sustain, modify or overturn the indefinite suspension.

Section 4 – Review Process.

In considering an appeal of a disciplinary action of indefinite suspension, the **TRIBUNAL's** review is limited to:

- a. Determining whether the grounds for indefinite suspension were factual;
- b. Determining whether the **MEMBER** was afforded a fair process in the preponderance of any evidence presented on his behalf; and
- c. Determining whether the discipline imposed is commensurate with the allegations.

Section 5 – Appeals.

Decisions of the **TRIBUNAL** are final and can only be modified or overturned by a simple majority vote to overturn and reconsider, by the **CHAPTER MEETING** with a quorum present, but with not less than fifteen (15) calendar days' notice to the **MEMBERS** prior to the **CHAPTER MEETING** in which this decision and vote is to be acted upon.

CHAPTER 11 – GOVERNANCE

Article I: Amendments; Reviews; Severability; Authority; Version Control.

Section 1 – Amendments.

Amendments to these *Bylaws* may be proposed by any **MEMBER** and submitted to the Bylaws sub-committee for action, but only if the **MEMBER** is fully financial and in good standing. To ensure a reasonable degree of stability and to guard against hasty, emotionally stimulated changes, the following methods will be used to amend:

- a. Amendments or revisions to these *Bylaws* as provided in *Chapter 11, Article I* will be submitted by the Bylaws sub-committee to the Keeper of Records and Seal for dissemination to all **MEMBERS**, but not less than fifteen (15) calendar days prior to the **CHAPTER MEETING** in which it is to be acted upon. Such proposals will:
 - i. Be submitted in writing by the Bylaws sub-committee, naming the submitter and including submitter comments, except if submitted by the Bylaws sub-committee; and
 - ii. Include a written report from committee deliberations that states the committee's rationale for the submission for amendments directly from the



- committee, or written recommendations for support to amend or lack thereof for submission from non-committee MEMBERS.
- b. Such proposals will then be acted upon by the CHAPTER MEETING and will be considered adopted upon a more than two-thirds majority favorable vote.
 - c. Amendments adopted by the CHAPTER in this manner will become effective - first by any proviso, or lacking a proviso, by the beginning of the next Regular CHAPTER MEETING following adoption.

Section 2 – Revision Reviews.

A complete revision review of these *Bylaws* will be performed by the Bylaws sub-committee no less than every three (3) years to determine any need for full revisions. Any revision *Bylaws* adopted by the CHAPTER must be done so at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, and will become effective: first by any proviso, or lacking a proviso, by November 1st of the fiscal year immediately following adoption, and finally by a date determined by a majority vote by the MEMBERS at the CHAPTER MEETING the Revision was adopted.

Section 3 – Severability.

These *Bylaws* and amendments or revisions thereto will be adopted and/or rejected in whole or in part, section by section. The rejection of any section or sections will not affect or impair any of the remaining section or sections if such remaining section or sections can be made operative.

Section 4 – Parliamentary Authority.

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised*® will be the parliamentary authority to govern the CHAPTER in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these *Bylaws* and any special rules of order the CHAPTER, DISTRICT or FRATERNITY may adopt.

Section 5 – Version Control.

DATE	VERSION	REASON	COMMENTS
March 16, 2018	Committee Draft v1.0.3.16.2018	Initial draft	Blended draft discussion document taken from RhoGG, RhoMM, SigO & I current bylaws
March 21, 2018	Committee Draft v1.1.3.21.2018	Initial draft #2	Updates after initial 3/16 distribution, 3/21 conference call discussions

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March 22, 2018	Committee Draft v1.2.3.22.2018	Initial draft #3	Updates after 3/21 conference call
March 30, 2018	Committee Draft v1.3.3.30.2018	Initial draft #4	Updates after previous draft #3
April 5, 2018	Committee Draft v1.4.4.05.2018	Initial draft #5	Updates after previous draft #4 and 4/5 conference call
April 10, 2018	Committee Draft v1.4.4.10.2018	Initial draft #6	Draft presented to One Chicago Chapter full meeting. Additional edits received since committee distribution of draft document 4/12/18
April 13, 2018	OCGC Members v2.0.4.13.2018	OCGC Members draft #1	

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General Standing Rules

"Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is not a status club, but a fraternity; a Brotherhood of high minded, serious thinking, noble living men; leaders not followers, makers of policy and molders of opinion. Let us never forget that we're developed out of the friendship of three young men and a young college professor." - Honorable Edgar Amos Love-

The words above remind Brothers of the original vision of our **Founders** regarding brotherly conduct, both within and external to the organization. In that spirit, these **General Standing Rules** are to be used as a guide for every Chapter Meeting. They can be amended/ suspended on a simple majority vote by the voting members present.

GSR #1

With a quorum, Regular Meetings are intended to start and end on time and to last no longer than two hours. Any agenda items not of an emergency or urgent nature that must be disposed of during the meeting, become an agenda item under Unfinished Business at the next Regular Meeting or Special Meeting called for that purpose.

GSR #2

Cell phones are to be turned off or otherwise silenced. Brothers must leave the room to use their device for incoming and outgoing calls, however Instant Messaging is exempt.

GSR #3

Dress code for the Chapter Meeting is Business Casual: collared shirt – (tie is optional unless required for the activity), with a suit, sport coat or ensemble vest or sweater. Dress code for summer session meetings is Casual. Hats on indoors are not allowed.

NOTE: The Fraternity dress code for business meetings is suit or sport coat with collared shirt and tie. The Fraternity recognizes each chapter meeting as a business meeting but allows for deviations to the Fraternity dress code if the Chapter has a dress code for meetings.

GSR #4

Fines imposed by the Chair are \$1 per occurrence for *each occurrence* during the meeting to no more than \$5 total in fines per Brother, per meeting before next step actions are taken. Members not properly dressed can be allowed to remain by paying the maximum \$5 fine - but ONLY with rights described under *Chapter 3, Article II, Section 1: Courtesy to Brothers*.

GSR #5

The Chair will close debate after identifying those Brothers who desire to speak on a question or offer unreadiness on a motion, however Brothers must immediately acknowledge their desire to speak on a question or offer unreadiness on a motion or they lose their right to do so.

GSR #6

Brothers allowed 2-minute unreadiness including 1 follow-up question. A Brother can only speak once on the question until all Brothers have had an opportunity to speak, before being allowed to speak on the same question again if recognized to do so by the Chair.

GSR #7

Questions to be directed to the Chair and be recognized by the Chair before speaking.

GSR #8

Profanity & inflammatory remarks are prohibited when addressing the Chair or other Brothers and incur the maximum fine. Members should be addressed as "Brother_____".

GSR #9

These rules will be enforced by the Chair and Keeper of Peace. Violations are subject to incur fines as determined by the Chair, censure by the Chapter Members or suspension by the Basileus, or other disciplinary actions imposed by the Tribunal Panel.

