

CHI CHAPTER STANDING RULES

motions to amend the Standing Rules must be passed by a majority vote of the chapter

Clarification:

When we are referring to Standing Rules, we are talking about mandates the chapter voted on, so only the chapter can vote to change it. Policies are guidelines set by ExComm, where our constitution gives the respective office/committee, responsibility for determination.

Policies (as they are determined by committee) can be overridden by the chapter (with $\frac{2}{3}$ affirmative vote), at which time the outcome becomes a Standing Rule.

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP

Alumni Members have the same rights and privileges as Active Members.

Background:

In Spring 2007, there was an issue over event caps and who had priority on the sign up lists. ExComm had decided that bad-standing Actives and Alumni were going to be unable to sign up for events, unless they waited until three days prior, and then contacted the chair personally. Some of the more veteran members of the chapter were upset by this, and a member of the chapter made the following motion, "I move that Alumni have the same rights and privileges as Actives." It was passed by 2/3 affirmative vote (as that is what is needed to override a decision made by a chapter committee). This prerogative had been listed in the Chi Chapter Articles of Association as Article III, Section 7.1 under Alumni Membership, but due to concerns over possible abuse, it was moved to Chi Chapter's Standing Rules on 11/07/07 to make it easier to manage. Technically, this also means that Alumni are eligible for Active subsidies, but few have made use of that benefit.

Alumni Members still cannot vote or hold office on ExComm, with the exception of Chairman of the Advisory Committee, as those rights are reserved specifically for Actives in our constitution (Chi Chapter Articles of Association, Article III, Section 3.5).

DRIVER REIMBURSEMENT

Driver's will be reimbursed at a fixed mileage rate no greater than half of the current IRS business mileage reimbursement rate.

Background:

We used to offer service hours for driving.

Due to the cost of rising gas prices, we recognized that there was a financial burden for being a driver in APO. We used to ask passengers to chip in money for their drivers, but since there were issues over collecting, we created a fund and reimbursed for mileage at the end of the term. However, using that method, drivers got a percentage of the fund, which if the amount allocated was small, meant that they would get very little per mile. With the passing of this motion, once the Driver Reimbursement Fund was exhausted, the chapter could either allocate more funds, or if not, drivers could decide if they still wanted to be available for driving, or passengers would know to personally reimburse their drivers.

DUES

Active Members will receive a \$2.50 discount for each term that they have completed Active Requirements.

Background:

It has been a policy of Membership VPs for actives to declare their status by signing the Active or Associate contract.

In Spring 2007, a motion for Active Members to receive a \$5.00 discount for every two consecutive and continuing terms that they complete Active Requirements, not including probationary active term, was passed to reward and recognize continued dedication to the Fraternity. If they entered Associate or Inactive status at any time, the starting term from which their discount is calculated would be reset.

In Fall 2009, the discount was changed to a 5% discount to the Active Member for each active term completed in Good-Standing. EXAMPLE: If one pledged and activated in Fall 2007, Spring 2008 (Probationary) would be regular dues (\$75), Fall 2009 would be 95% Dues (\$71.25), Spring 2009 would be 90% Dues (\$67.50), Fall 2009 would be 85% Dues (\$63.75) and so on.

In Spring 2011, the discount was rolled back to Spring 2007 values, except becoming Associate would not reset the calculation.

In Spring 2014, the chapter changed the discount to a flat \$2.50 per term of Active Requirements completed.

ELECTIONS (as of November 17, 2004)

NOMINATIONS

The President takes additional nominations for the position in question.

If there are no candidates running for the position, the next position in the Order of Elections is considered.

A special Elections will be conducted at the meeting after Activation for any vacant positions.

SPEECHES

3 minutes for each candidate(-pair)

Q & A, 5 per candidate(-pair)

1 minute response per candidate(-pair)

DISCUSSION

3 speakers per candidate(-pair)

Take turns to speak for a candidate(-pair) or pass on the opportunity

VOTE

Announce winner (must have majority of ballots cast or voted in by acclamation).

Move on to nominations for next position in the Order of Elections.

Background:

Elections is intended to be completed in one evening.

It used to be that only non-probationary Actives held ExComm positions. However, during a term when there were not enough Actives running for positions, Pledges were allowed to run. During Spring 1999 term, the constitution was amended with the following clause: "Active Members and Pledges may vote upon Chapter business. Only Actives may run for the office of President, Pledge Parent, or Membership Vice President. Pledges must "co-VP" with an Active for Fellowship Vice President or Service Vice President. Both Actives and Pledges in good standing may run for Administrative Vice President, Finance Vice President, Historian, Sergeant at Arms, or Interchapter Chair." It was pointed out that allowing Pledges to run for ExComm positions did not make sense when they were not even Actives yet, as well as allowing them to vote on issues they were not familiar with. This practice was ended with subsequent revisions of the constitution.

In November 2004, the clause was changed to, "Probationary Active Members shall only be eligible to run for Administrative Vice President, Finance Vice President, Historian, Sergeant-At-Arms, and Interchapter Chair, and shall be eligible to run for Service Vice President and Fellowship Vice President by having a non-probationary Active Member as a running mate."

During Fall 2006 term, the clause was changed to, "Only non-probationary Active Members may hold the office of President, Membership VP(s) and Pledge Parent(s)." After Elections, there were still positions that remained empty, so we conducted a Special Elections at the following Chapter Meeting, which happened to be after Activation. We decided to make this more permanent so that experienced Actives would have the initial opportunity to run for ExComm.

Spring 2006 term was the last time that Elections was conducted after Activation.

A pattern had emerged where the newly activated class tended to vote in members of their own pledge class rather than more experienced actives, and there are concerns that newly activated classes are not familiar with certain chapter issues (i.e. what it is like to be an Active).

NAMESAKES

Pledge classes will be referred to by their namesake designation, instead of Greek letter. (i.e. Betty Tran Class instead of Alpha Alpha Class).

Background:

In Spring 2003, we began awarding the honor of pledge class namesake to dedicated members of the fraternity. The habit of using a Greek designation persisted, although there was an expectation that it would end after Fall 2008 Wilfred Krennek Class (Omega). In Spring 2009, to preserve the honor of awarding namesake, a motion passed to use the namesake for APhiO terms instead of using Greek letters.

PLEDGE EVALUATION

Pledge Parent(s) will verify the Pledges that have completed their Requirements, and announce who will be crossing over, unless a formal Pledge Evaluation is requested.

Background:

In Fall 2001, ExComm had a meeting where they evaluated and voted-in with a $\frac{3}{4}$ affirmative vote, pledges that had completed the objective portion of their Pledge Requirements. Each pledge was discussed to determine if they had exemplified LFS. In later terms, this was done at a special meeting of interested Actives that we called Quorum (it was just a title, it didn't always have a majority of all good-standing Actives).

REQUIREMENTS

Membership Requirements remain the same, term-to-term, unless there is a successful motion that amends them.

Membership VP(s)-elect will present their proposed Active Requirements for their serving term at a chapter meeting prior to that term.

Pledge Parent(s)-elect will present their proposed Pledge Requirements for their serving term at a chapter meeting prior to that term.

Background:

A motion had been passed, where Requirements for the next term would need to be presented before the next term began.

It became necessary for Elections to be conducted earlier due to scheduling, so Membership VP(s) & ExComm could consider Active Requirements and present and propose amendments to it at a meeting before the following term.

SENIOR STOLES

Chi Chapter will buy Graduation Stoles for Active Seniors who, prior to walking in Spring, finish two

Active terms in Good-Standing before Spring Term & pay Active Dues for Spring Term.

Chi Chapter will subsidize 1/2 the cost of Graduation Stoles for Active Seniors who pay Active Dues for Spring.

Chi Chapter will not pay for stoles for Pledge Seniors who pledge in the Spring.

Members who do not satisfy the above guidelines may pay for their own stoles or have other people pay for them.

Background:

This motion was initiated by Paul Choung in Fall 2006 to honor graduating seniors for their contribution and commitment to the chapter. Subsidizing half addressed concerns about seniors who pledge in the Fall, people who joined APO late in their college career, or (what Alvin Chu was asking us to consider) people who tried to remain Active after pledging, but were unable to fulfill requirements due to career commitments. Paying for it in FULL for members who have spent a significant time as a part of APO, and fulfilling their requirements, honors them for their contribution and commitment to the chapter.

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