

Here are some of the thoughts and consideration that went into making all of the recruitment events mandatory.

The Original Problem

The initial problem that needed to be addressed was the situation in which brothers would attend Deliberations without having attended a single recruitment event. This is a situation that, although rare, has come up in the past. This raises the following problems:

1. Some brothers may be voting throughout Deliberations without having met even a single PNM.
2. By not coming to recruitment events, a large chunk of PNMs were stripped of the ability to make an impression on another member of the brotherhood.

It's pretty easy to see why the first problem should be avoided. Brothers in this category would be voting solely based on the opinions of other brothers. Based on principal, we should always take the opinions of other brothers seriously, so there is no problem with brothers voting based on what they hear from others since it would be nearly impossible for all the brothers to know all of the PNMs. However, for those PNMs that are a few votes away from passing our voting margin, is it really fair that some of the votes that swung out of their favor are from people they didn't have the chance to meet organically from the recruitment process.

The second problem is the one that I personally feel is the one that needs to be avoided more. By nature, people are different, so different people will click with different people. A PNM should not be stripped of the ability to meet a brother. The people in this organization are a large part of what will attract the PNMs to us. It would be quite a sad situation if some PNMs opted not to continue with the recruitment process because they couldn't find anyone that they truly liked and little do they know, a brother they would have liked existed but just didn't come out to any events.

Analysis of the Problem

We believe that part of the reason for this occurring is that these members came to Deliberations because it is a mandatory event and did not want to be fined for missing it but did not come to recruitment events because they are non-mandatory events.

Potential Solutions

We drew up two solutions that could avoid this problem. One would be to prevent brothers who didn't come to recruitment events from participating or voting during Deliberations. If we tried to implement a rule that did so or even tried to pass an amendment to the Bylaws that would do so, we would be going directly against the sections of our Bylaws that state that all members have the right to vote in assemblies of the Chapter if they are members in good standing. So that wouldn't work.

One way to bypass that would be to suspend any brothers who didn't come to recruitment events during the day of Deliberations. This way they would no longer be brothers in good standing during the time of voting for Deliberations. This plan would bring up different issues. All suspensions have to be submitted to Nationals with legitimate reason for suspension and an action plan for the uplifting of the suspension. We probably would not have legitimate reason for these suspensions considering technically what we're doing is suspending brothers for missing non-mandatory events. We probably also wouldn't have a valid action plan considering the suspension would be uplifted by the passage of time until Deliberations is over.

After determining that the aforementioned proposed solution would not work, we decided to go with another solution. To make part or all of recruitment mandatory.

How the E-Board Came to a Final Decision

First we tried to hypothesize what would happen if we made only a part of recruitment necessary. This would ensure that PNMs at least have a chance to meet all the brothers organically if they come to all of the events. This however could cause some brothers to plan to meet the bare minimum and only attend enough of the recruitment events to meet the threshold. Especially now that the number of PNMs have been so high because of our name getting bigger across campus, we're going to need as many brothers as we can get at our recruitment events.

Therefore, we decided to make ALL of recruitment mandatory. We do realize that the immediate drawback of doing this is that brothers will have a lot of events to attend in a short time period. To alleviate this we stretched out recruitment as much as we could within reason. We also replaced a few chapters with recruitment events to lessen the load as well. Recruitment is one of the most important things we do, so we believed that it was not too unreasonable to make all the events mandatory as long as we spaced the events out. Hope this clears up some of the questions from the members of the chapter that we're confused about this change.

Quick Aside about Info Sessions

For those of you that think that it's unnecessary for brothers to have to come to both info sessions, here is our justification for making both mandatory. Keep in mind that the presentation for the info session is there for the PNMs. We understand that you guys don't want to have to sit through it twice, but your roles in being at the info session are not to sit through the presentation but to network with the PNMs afterward. The reason we have multiple info sessions in the first place is for any PNMs who didn't make the first info session to come to the second one. Therefore, PNMs in the second info session are a completely different group from the group in the first info session, and this has historically always been the case. We need as many brothers as possible to speak to both groups. First impressions matter a lot especially considering PNMs are now going to the info sessions of both AKPsi and DSP.