UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
FRATERNITY COUNCIL
BY-LAWS
Preamble
In order to promote and perpetuate the best interest of The University of South Carolina and the Greek letter social fraternities therein, to encourage the most complete intellectual, emotional, physical, and social development of the members of the fraternities, to ensure that the fraternities chartered establish high standards and lofty pursuits, and to foster cooperation among said fraternities, University authorities and community, we do ordain and establish this Constitution of the Fraternity Council of The University of South Carolina. The Fraternity Council of The University of South Carolina does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, race, national or ethnic origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation/preference.

Article I - Authority

Section 1

These Bylaws are established in accordance with the Constitution of the Fraternity Council of the University of South Carolina. In case of any conflict, the Constitution shall take precedence. No conflict with the Constitution or the rules and regulations of the University of South Carolina shall be allowed in the Fraternity Council. The Constitution and these Bylaws shall take precedence over the Bylaws of the Greek Conduct Board.

Section 2

The Fraternity Council of the University of South Carolina is an agent of the individual Fraternity Chapters of the University of South Carolina. As such, the Purpose of the Fraternity Council be to ensure and promote the activities of Fraternities at the University of South Carolina, and ensure its lasting viability.

Article II – Attendance

Section 1

A chapter from each Fraternity shall attend regular meetings of the Fraternity Council. Chapter attendance shall be mandatory for each meeting.

Section 2

More than two absences per semester will be considered excessive, and, as such, will result in sanctions. Sanctions are as follows:

a. For each absence after the first two, the Fraternity in questions will be fined $25.
b. After four absences in one semester, the Chapter will lose voting privileges for the current semester.
c. After five absences, the Fraternity in question will have a hearing before the Greek Conduct Board. Sanctions available to the Conduct Board are limited to a fine of no less than $500 and no more than $1000, social probation, and Fraternity Council recognition.

Article III – Council Meetings

Section 1

The Fraternity Council shall hold regular meetings, occurring every other week, beginning on the second Monday of each semester. Executive Board meetings will be held on the alternate Mondays, beginning on the first Monday of the semester. The Secretary shall notify all Fraternity Council Member Representatives of all meetings by announcement at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. The time of the meetings shall be determined by the President as to ensure maximum Chapter representation.

Section 2

Special Meetings may be called by the Fraternity Council President, or at the written request of one (1) voting member of the Fraternity Council as the discretion of the President. If four (4) voting members of the Fraternity Council call for a special meeting, one must be held within seventy-two (72) hours of the notice.

Section 3

The presence of two-third (2/3) or more of the total Fraternity Council Membership shall constitute a Quorum.

Section 4

The Fraternity Council meetings shall be run in accordance with the modified Robert’s Rules of Order. The agenda at regular meetings shall be as follows:

a. Call to order
b. Roll call
c. Approval of the minutes
d. Executive Committee Report
e. Officer Reports
f. Cabinet Reports
g. Old Business
h. New Business
i. Announcements
j. Adjournment

Section 5
Unless otherwise specified, a vote of greater than 50% of the present voting members shall represent an affirmative vote. Absentee ballots will be counted if the Executive Board approves their validity prior to the meeting. Absentee ballots will not be counted towards the quorum.

Section 6

During the New Business portion of the Fraternity Council meeting, any member (voting or otherwise) may propose a motion. The motion will then be discussed. A Fraternity Council vote of greater than 50% will be required to table the discussion. All motions passed will be enacted in the term prescribed in the motion. If no term is prescribed, good faith attempts must be made to perform the motioned actions before the next meeting of the Fraternity Council.

Section 7

Elections will occur as prescribed in the Constitution of the Fraternity Council.

Article IV – Conduct

Section 1

a. The Vice President of Conduct shall serve as the Chair of the Greek Conduct Board for Fraternities.
b. It shall be the purpose of the Greek Conduct Board to serve as the Judicial Body over the member Chapters of the Fraternity Council of the University of South Carolina.
c. The Greek Conduct Board shall judge any and all infractions by Fraternity Chapters against the Constitution and Bylaws of the Fraternity Council.
d. The Greek Conduct Board composition will be determined by the Greek Conduct Board Bylaws.
e. The Vice President of Conduct may, at his discretion, appoint temporary members from the Fraternity Council to serve with the Conduct Board upon approval of the Executive Council. No member serving in this role may also serve on an Appeal Committee.

Section 2

The Jurisdiction of the Greek Conduct Board shall be as follows:

a. The Greek conduct Board shall adjudicate violations involving Fraternity Chapter activities. Individual violations will be adjudicated through the University Student Conduct process.
b. Chapters and Members who commit offenses against the laws of Municipalities, States, or the United States of America are subject to persecution by those authorities, and may be subject to disciplinary action under University rules.

c. The jurisdiction of the Greek Conduct Board shall be to hear cases outlined in the Bylaws of the Greek Conduct Board and to mediate during disputes between chapters. All mediation and hearings shall be kept confidential.

d. Individual cases are to be heard by the University of South Carolina Student Conduct Board. However, if a chapter demonstrates a pattern of similar individual violations, a University official may recommend that the Greek Conduct Board hear the Chapter case. A vote of the entire Greek Conduct Board shall be required to try a Chapter for the summation of individual cases. Conditions of Chapter review before the Board must also follow the Bylaws of the Greek Conduct Board.

Section 3

If any Chapter has their charter revoked by their respective National Office, a period of six (6) semesters must pass before the Fraternity Council can reconsider them for recognition.

All recognized chapters of Fraternity Council are prohibited from interacting, supporting, partnering, or hosting events/activities with any fraternal interest groups that are not recognized by the institution and Fraternity Council. Failure to adhere to this standard will result in a referral to a Greek Conduct Board hearing.

a. The first violation shall result in a fine of $35 per Chapter Member. No other penalties will be levied for the first violation.

b. Following an additional offense, the case will be referred to the Greek Conduct Board. This Board will have a hearing to determine the sanctions to be applied to the chapter. The sanctions possible will be limited to further fines not exceeding $7,500, social suspension, educational programs, and loss of Chapter recognition by the Fraternity Council.

Article V – New Member Education

Section 1

To be eligible to accept a bid for membership into a Chapter, the Potential New Member in question must fulfill these requirements:

a. Must be a full time undergraduate student (12 credit hours per semester) at the University of South Carolina Columbia.

b. Must have a minimum 2.75 overall cumulative GPA as provided by the records in the Registrar Office (including institutional and transfer credits) or be an incoming freshman

c. Must sign a Hazing Policy Form with the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life
d. Must sign a Grade Release Form allowing Chapter’s to see individual member’s grades

Section 2

When a Fraternity and a New Member sever connections, the Fraternity must notify the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life within two (2) working days.

Article VI – Hazing

Section 1

All students and organizations must comply with the South Carolina state law regarding Hazing (S.C. Code of Laws section 16-3-510.)

No organization or its initiated or uninitiated members registered or otherwise, officially or in fact, may participate in the activity of hazing. Hazing is any activity undertaken by a group or organization or a member of that group or organization in which members or prospective or uninitiated members are subjected to activities which harass, intimidate, physically exhaust, impart pain, cause undue mental fatigue or mental distress, emotional distress or engages in any conduct which presents a threat to the student’s health or safety, or which cause mutilation or alteration of the body or parts of the body, which shall include but no limited to brutality of a physical nature such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to elements.

Such activities include but are not limited to, tests of endurance, personal servitude activities such as driving and running errands, submission of members or prospective members to potentially dangerous or hazardous circumstances, activities which have a foreseeable potential for resulting in personal injury, or any activity which by its nature is so profound that it would have a potential to cause severe mental anxiety, mental distress, emotional distress, panic, degradation, interference with a student’s academic progress or performance or public embarrassment.

Registered organizations and groups shall be permitted certain initiation ceremonies and activities, which when examined by the ordinary University student, would seem reasonable under the circumstances and justified in view of the purpose for which they are conducted.

Section 2

The Fraternity Council of the University of South Carolina at Columbia is in support of constructive, educational, and inspirational membership education programs among the member fraternities. The Fraternity Council further believes that a fraternity has a solemn obligation in the positive development of its members and associate members or pledges. The Fraternity Council, therefore, is unequivocally in opposition to all hazing and pre-initiation activities, which do not contribute to the positive development and welfare of new members or pledges.
Section 3

If hazing is alleged, the Greek Conduct Board will investigate the event, and take actions as it deems necessary or provide recommendations to the Office of Student Conduct.

Article VII – Recruitment

Section 1

The Recruitment Committee shall be comprised of the Vice President of Recruitment and the Assistant Vice President of Recruitment. They shall be responsible for the overall functioning of the recruitment process, and shall be members of the Executive Council.

Section 2

The Vice President of Recruitment shall be required to reside in Columbia during the summer of his term, as well as apply for a Student Life Internship supervised by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

Section 3

The Assistant Vice President of Recruitment will be required to reside in Columbia during the summer of his term, and must commit to becoming the Vice President of Recruitment the following year.

Section 4

The purpose of this Committee shall be the organization and supervision of all recruitment at the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

Section 5

The general duties of this Committee shall be:

a. To organize and conduct the Formal Recruitment Program in the Fall and Spring semesters.
b. To organize and promote a year-round continuous open recruitment program.
c. To provide consultation to Potential New Members during Formal Recruitment Week.
d. To conduct the Fraternity Life interest sessions during Summer Orientation.
e. To annually evaluate and revise the Recruitment Policies and Regulations, and present them to the Fraternity Council for approval.
f. To maintain, update, and oversee the online registration program.

Section 6
A Potential New Member (PNM) shall be defined as any student at the University of South Carolina who has signed up for recruitment with the University. In instances where a member of a Chapter is a former acquaintance of a PNM, this rule shall be in effect provided the Chapter member engaged in recruitment with the PNM.

Section 7

The Fraternity Recruitment Regulations will be as follows:

c. Formal Recruitment will take place the third week after the dormitory move in date in the Fall and Spring Semesters.

d. Fraternity Council will host official sponsored events during the first two (2) weeks of the semesters, including USC Welcome Week in the Fall and Spring.

e. All Recruitment Policies and Penalties are to be upheld during Formal Recruitment Week, as well as at any event recruiting new members throughout the year.

f. Recruitment is drug and alcohol free. No fraternity shall have drugs or alcohol present while in the company of a PNM, nor shall they provide drugs or alcohol to any PNM.

g. PNM registration deadline will be set as the Wednesday at COB prior to Formal Recruitment.

h. Chapters will not be able to contact with any PNMs from the hours of 10:00 pm to 8:00 am every night during the week of Formal Recruitment. Chapters found in violation of this rule will be charged $25 per offense. Chapter members will be allowed to make phone calls during this time, but cannot be in the same physical location as a PNM within reason. This regulation can be waived if an event is registered with the Fraternity Council Executive Board.

i. Bids issued at the end of Formal Recruitment are due online through the ICS system to the Vice-President of Recruitment by 8:00 am on Bid Day. The Vice-President of Recruitment may prescribe an alternate way to provide the list. Failure to provide the list of bids will result in a $50 fine, and risks not having the bids listed during Bid Day.

j. Chapters must register any off-campus recruitment events with Fraternity council by filling out online forms provided by the Vice-President of Recruitment on the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life website. All recruitment events must be submitted by the first day of class that semester (any summer events must be submitted 72 hours prior to that event).

k. A fee of $20 shall be charged to all Chapters for each PNM who accepts one of their bids, or $40 if they fail to complete the service and educational requirements. This money shall be used to fund Formal Recruitment activities for the following fiscal year, and cannot be used for another purpose. If the money is unspent, then the remaining revenue will (minus what the VP of Recruitment will require for rollover funding) will be automatically deposited into the Fraternity Council endowment accounts.
1. Fraternities are able to add New Members to their rosters at any point during a semester’s New Member Education Period. New Members are not required to partake in formal recruitment in order to join an organization. The Fraternity must notify the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and the New Member must sign the Hazing Policy Form and the Grade Release Form. Once added to a roster, the New Member must still be initiated by the end of the New Member Education Period as set by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. Their New Member Education Process may not be extended beyond the previously set date.

Section 8

Chapters found in violation of the Formal Recruitment Regulations will be referred to the Greek Conduct Board. The Procedure is as follows:

m. A complaint will be filed within twenty-four (24) hours of the Fraternity Council’s discovery of the violation.

n. The Vice-President of Conduct and Vice-President of Recruitment shall determine within forty-eight (48) hours whether there is substantial evidence to warrant a hearing.

o. If any incidents occur during the summer/winter break (while classes are not in session) they will be referred to Greek Conduct Board on the 1st day of class as the date the complaint is filed.

p. The Vice President of Conduct shall notify the Chapter President within five (5) days (days will be defined as 8:30am to 6:30pm Monday through Friday, excluding weekends and holidays) of the determination of the hearing, and the date and time, which is it to take place.

q. The first violation shall result in a fine of $35 per active Chapter Member and $50 per New Member who accepts a bid. No other penalties will be levied for the first violation.

r. Following an additional offense, the case will be referred to the Greek Conduct Board. This Board will have a hearing to determine the sanctions to be applied to the chapter. The sanctions possible will be limited to further fines not exceeding $7,500, social suspension, educational programs, and loss of Chapter recognition by the Fraternity Council.

s. The Vice-President of Conduct shall have the authority to accept a guilty plea by a Chapter with a set agreed upon sanction.

Article VIII – Dues

Section 1

Dues and fees are $7 per active Chapter Member, and will be collected each semester for men affiliated with each Chapter. If a motion is made to change the dues, it must be voted on prior to the start of the new fiscal year.
Chapter dues are calculated based on the previous semester’s numbers on the Fraternity and Sorority Report.

Section 2

Dues are payable within ten (10) working days of billing. Dues shall be delivered in a check or money order to the Vice-President of Finance, who will provide a receipt to each Chapter.

Section 3

Failure to pay dues within the prescribed time period will result in the following sanctions:

a. Failure to pay dues within the original period will result in a warning.
b. Failure to pay dues within fifteen (15) working days of billing will result in a $250 fine.
c. Failure to pay dues within twenty-five (20) working days of billing will result in financial delinquency to the Fraternity Council. At this time, a letter will be sent to the National Headquarters of the delinquent Chapter explaining the penalties for delinquency. The penalties are a loss of voting rights for the current and following semester and social probation for the current semester.
d. Failure to pay dues within thirty (25) working days of billing will result in loss of Fraternity Council recognition. The delinquent Chapter shall be forbidden from conducting any activities on campus or off campus. A letter will be written to their National Headquarters explaining the consequences detailing the loss of recognition.
   a. Working days are defined as Monday – Friday 8:30am – 6:30pm.

Article IX – Expansion Guidelines

Section 1

The Fraternity Council recognizes the potential positive benefits which affiliation with inter/national fraternities can have on the development and growth of students. Accordingly, the Fraternity Council supports the expansion of the Greek community when this leads to the fulfillment of the goals of the system.

The Fraternity Council supports the National Interfraternity Council (NIC) recommendation for open expansion in support of issues to Freedom of Speech and Association. If a social Fraternity is to remain active at the University of South Carolina, it must be a member of the Fraternity Council. Expansion is a step-by-step process, and the completion of one or more steps in no way guarantees a commitment to extend an invitation to colonize.
The University of South Carolina does not recognize local Fraternities. All men’s Fraternities who desire membership in the Fraternity Council at the University of South Carolina must have an affiliation with a National Organization recognized as a member of the National Interfraternity Conference (NIC).

Section 2

The Fraternity Council Executive Board will appoint an Expansion Committee each year following the election of the new Fraternity Council Executive Board to examine the feasibility of expansion of the Fraternity Community. The Expansion Committee shall consist of the following members:

a. The Fraternity Council Vice-President of Recruitment will serve as the Expansion Committee Chair.
b. The Fraternity Council Vice-President of Conduct.
c. The Fraternity Council Vice-President of Programming.
d. Two (2) Chapter Presidents from Fraternity Council Member Fraternities to be appointed by the Committee Chair.
e. A Chapter Member from the most recently colonized Fraternity at the University of South Carolina.
f. A Chapter Member from the most recently chartered Fraternity at the University of South Carolina.
g. The Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, the Fraternity Council President, and the Fraternity Council Vice-President of Conduct shall serve as ex-officio Committee Members.

Section 3

The Expansion Committee shall deal with all matters pertaining to expansion of the Fraternity Community. All action in the area of colonization must be approved and sanctioned by this committee.

a. As their primary mission, the Committee shall review the current climate of the Fraternity Community at the University of South Carolina. The review will focus on the interest of unaffiliated male students on campus and their interest in a new opportunity for Fraternity Membership.
b. The concern of the Committee should be for the long-term benefit of all male students to have the opportunity to join a Fraternity. They need also to focus on the benefit to the University of South Carolina Fraternity Council with additional Chapters.
c. Each year, the Expansion Committee’s first task will be to determine whether or not the Fraternity Community at the University of South Carolina is in need of expansion.
   a. If the Committee votes to expand, the Committee will notify the Fraternity Council and wait for its approval before beginning the formal process of expansion.
b. The Expansion Committee will exercise the expansion inquiry process every five (5) years, beginning from the time of the last Expansion Process of the Fraternity Community. This process will be carried out without the vote of the Expansion Committee.

d. If the Committee determines that expansion is not feasible, all interested parties will be notified in writing by the Chairman of the Expansion Committee, in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs.

Section 4

The steps for approval to begin the Inquiry Stage are as follows:

a. In order for the Expansion Committee to move on to the Inquiry Stage, there must be a Fraternity Council discussion and vote of the present members.
b. After discussing the motion to expand, the Fraternity Council must approve the recommendations from the Expansion Committee with a ¾ vote in order to move ahead with expansion.
c. It is essential that the Fraternity Council be wholeheartedly supportive of expansion before Fraternity Council propositions proposals from NIC affiliated Fraternities to expand.
d. It will require a ¾ vote of the Fraternity Council to reverse the decision to allow a Fraternity to expand into the University of South Carolina.

Section 5

The Inquiry Stage will be as stated:

a. The Expansion Committee Chairman shall compose a letter to all NIC-affiliated Fraternities not established on campus extending the invitation for each to submit a letter of interest of expansion to the University of South Carolina. The invitation should include a copy of pertinent campus policies, including the Expansion Policy.
b. Upon invitation, any interested Fraternity must provide to the Expansion Committee the following information:
   a. The number of alumni within a 150-mile radius of Columbia, SC.
   b. The number of colonization attempts in the last five (5) years, their respective status, and the names of institutions at which they are located.
   c. The number of colonization attempts presently pending and the names of the respective institutions.
   d. The name of the institution housing the nearest chartered Chapter of the Fraternity and its status.
   e. The ratio of field staff/consultants to Chapters/Colonies and the set visitation program.
   f. The reason for interest in colonizing at the University of South Carolina.
   g. The status of the Housing Corporation/Alumni Boards, and the plans for facilities in Columbia, SC.

d. The Committee shall give consideration to the following instances in the decision for invitation to colonize:
   a. National Fraternities who have previously had a Chapter on campus, which was removed for non-disciplinary measures.
   b. National Fraternities who have filed letters with the Committee, the Fraternity Council, or Fraternity Advisor expressing previous or continuing interest in the campus.

e. All members of the Committee shall take time to review all materials received in order to familiarize themselves with all the respective Fraternities’ programs and philosophies prior to any discussion on such information.

Section 6

The Selection Stage shall follow the Inquiry Stage, and shall proceed as following:

a. Upon Review of submitted information, the Expansion Committee, through open discussion and dialogue, shall develop a small fixed group no larger than three (3) candidate Fraternities per expansion opening. These groups will be invited to visit the campus and make presentations before the full Fraternity Council.

b. The Committee Chairman shall compose a letter to those finalists inviting them to campus for the purpose of educating the full Fraternity Council on the philosophies and programs of the Fraternity.

c. The visits by the Fraternities shall be individual and distinct for each invited Fraternity.

d. The Committee shall prepare data sheets for Fraternity Council Chapter Delegates for use in evaluating Fraternities for potential Colonization. The following criteria shall be considered in selection of colonizing Fraternities:
   a. The success ratio of colonization over the past five (5) years.
   b. The number of alumni within a 150-mile radius of Columbia, SC.
   c. The number of Chapters within a 150-mile radius of Columbia, SC.
   d. The location of National Headquarters and respective staff members.
   e. The completeness of requested application materials.
   f. The timeliness of application materials.
   g. Former affiliation with the University of South Carolina.
   h. Specific student, faculty, and/or staff interest in establishing a new Chapter.
   i. Demonstrated interest by the Fraternity.
   j. The quality of the presentation by those Fraternities invited to appear before the Expansion Committee.

e. Following the final presentation of the National Fraternities, a special meeting will be held to select the Fraternity or Fraternities that will be invited to expand.
f. The invited group must attain a simple majority vote by the Fraternity Council. If no group retains a majority in the first round of voting, the top two Fraternities will participate in a second ballot.
g. If the Fraternity Council no longer wishes to expand following the campus presentations of the finalists, a vote by the Fraternity Council is necessary to cancel expansion.
h. Fraternity Council approval authorizes the President and Expansion Chairman to present to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life the recommendation and desire to extend an invitation to the selected Fraternity.
i. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life shall have the opportunity to review the Fraternity Council’s decision in an open forum, and shall make the final decision to approve or disapprove the Fraternity Council recommendations.
j. If University approval is granted, the Expansion Committee shall compose a letter of invitation to the selected Fraternity to expand on campus.
k. If the invited Fraternity declines, the Committee shall then invite the next Fraternity on the priority list with the approval of the Fraternity Council.
l. The Expansion Committee shall keep on file the information submitted from all Fraternities not selected for colonization for one calendar year.

Section 7

The Petition and Colonization Stage will proceed as follows:

a. Upon receipt of the Fraternity’s acceptance, the Fraternity Council and Fraternity advisor shall work with the appropriate Fraternity staff member(s) to offer any assistance possible to ensure the success of the Colonization.
b. The Fraternity Council and Fraternity advisor shall determine the beginning date of the Colonization in consultation with the respective Fraternity.
c. The approved Fraternities will submit to the Fraternity Council and Fraternity advisor a plan/program for their colonization at the University of South Carolina within thirty (30) days of approval.
d. Upon receiving permission to Colonize, the new colony shall be a non-voting member of the Fraternity Council, recognized as a “Petitioning Status” member.
e. The rights and privileges afforded the Colony shall be those denoted below. At their discretion, the Expansion Committee may waive any of the following requirements:
   a. Attend all Fraternity Council meetings as a petitioning status member.
   b. Receive all services granted to the full status members of the Fraternity council, except voting privileges.
   c. Pay no dues to the Fraternity Council.
   d. Comply with all University and Fraternity Council rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.
   e. Maintain and active alumni advisory committee as prescribed through the National Fraternity.

f. The Colony President must meet with the Fraternity advisor and the Fraternity Council President on a monthly basis.
g. Provide Fraternity Council and the Fraternity advisor with a report three (3) times per semester on the status of the colony.
h. Be encouraged to participate in all Fraternity and Sorority activities.
i. Have a National Representative visit a minimum of once each semester for as long as it exists as either a Colony of the National Fraternity, or a Petitioning Status member of the Fraternity Council.
j. Function as a Petitioning Status Chapter for not less than three (3) academic months and not more than two (2) years.

Section 8

The Procedure for transition to Full Status membership will be as follows:

a. A Petitioning Status Chapter or Colony may petition the Fraternity Council for membership after being an officially recognized Petitioning Status member for one (1) calendar year, or upon being granted a Charter from their respective National Fraternity. A petition for recognition as a Full Status Member of the Fraternity Council must be made no later than one month after the Chartering of the Chapter.
b. The petition shall be presented at any official Fraternity Council meeting, and voted upon at the next meeting.
c. Acceptance of the petition by a ¾ vote of the total membership of the Fraternity Council shall admit the Chapter as a Full Status Member.
d. Full Status Membership is contingent on approval by the Fraternity Council.
e. At the time of acceptance, the Chapter shall pay a one-time $250 admission fee to the Fraternity Council.

Section 9

Fraternity Interest groups with no predetermined affiliation shall proceed as follows:

a. For this policy, an Interest Group shall be defined as those Fraternities formed independent of the Fraternity Council with no pre-determined National Fraternity affiliation.
b. The Interest Group should seek Fraternity Council approval for assistance in selecting a National Fraternity.
c. The Expansion Committee shall work with the Interest Group to ensure sound investigation of the Interested Fraternities.
d. The Interest Group should express their choice to the Expansion Committee for support and approval.
e. The fraternity Council Expansion Policy should be followed after the Interest Group receives Expansion Committee approval.

Section 10

Interest Groups with predetermined Fraternity Association shall proceed as follows:
a. The Expansion Committee shall ask the Interest Group to provide written documentation from their chosen National Fraternity expressing a desire to expand with the Interest Group as their base.
b. The Expansion Committee shall clearly state that the Interest Group must abide by the stated Expansion Policy.
c. The Fraternity Council shall clearly inform the Fraternity of the Expansion Policy. This action should be taken within five (5) working days after receiving the documentation from the National Fraternity.
d. If the Fraternity and Interest Group seek and receive Expansion Committee approval, the Fraternity Council shall proceed with formal approval.

Section 11

In the event that a Fraternity attempts to expand into the University of South Carolina without contacting the Fraternity Council, the following procedure should be followed:

a. Upon being notified of a Fraternity’s attempts at on-campus Fraternity Expansion outside of the guidelines established by the Expansion Policy, the Fraternity Council should communicate to the Fraternity the Fraternity Council Expansion Policies.
b. The Fraternity shall be notified of the process of expansion and be requested to follow it.
c. The Fraternity Council shall understand the right of association that fellow students have on a Public University.

Section 12

The Procedures and policy on expansion shall be reviewed each year within one (1) month of the start of the Spring semester. If the Expansion Policy is deemed unfit, the Expansion Committee shall be charged with providing a new document for approval by the Fraternity Council.

Article X – Committees

Section 1

Chairmen of all Committees shall be nominated by the Fraternity Council President, disregarding Committees whose composition is prescribed in the Bylaws. Their nomination shall then be confirmed by an affirmative vote of the Fraternity Council Membership.

Section 2

The Fraternity Council President has the power to establish new Committees.

Article XI – Scholarship
The University of South Carolina strives for excellent academic performance from its students. The goal of the community is to not only comply with the academic policies of the University, but to also promote above-average academic performance. In congruence with the University of South Carolina Fraternity Council has developed the following:

Section 1: Fraternities under the 2.75 GPA
   i. As an effort to keep stress academics in the Fraternity and Sorority Community, all chapters should strive to be above the 2.75. For chapters that do not meet this standard, the percentage of the brotherhood whose GPA fell below 2.75 are required to attend an academic workshop. All fraternities who fail to comply will be referred to conduct board.
   ii. Chapters who find themselves below 2.75 two semesters in a row will be evaluated by the Fraternity Council for academic improvements.

Section 2: Fraternities under 2.5
   iii. 1. Fraternities whose GPA falls below 2.5 will be put on social probation, which will result in revocation of voting privileges until improvement on a chapter level has been shown.

Section 3: Chapters Repeatedly under 2.5
   iv. 1. Fraternities whose GPA falls below 2.5 three semesters in a row will be up for chapter review by Conduct Board.

Section 4: Individuals affiliated with member organizations under a 2.25 GPA will be mandated to take advantage of one of the following services provided by the Student Success Center listed below.
   v. Meet with their assigned ACE coach and develop an ACE Academic Plan.
   vi. Attend an ACE Workshop or Presentation organized by the Student Success Center and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

Section 5: Chapters/or individuals that fail to abide by the policies in place above as they relate to scholarship will be called before the Greek Conduct Board.