



## EDICTS OF PHI KAPPA PSI

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*The following edicts have been adopted by the Executive Council of Phi Kappa Psi at various times. The following edicts were updated and reaffirmed by the Executive Council during its March 16, 2019 meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. (Scholarship, Alcohol Use in Chapters, Hazing, Drug Possession and Use, Fraternity Education, Legacy Candidate in Membership Recruitment)*



## SCHOLARSHIP

Be it resolved that all Chapters of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity be required to maintain an average in excess of the all men's average at their institution of learning, or in excess of 2.75 (On a 4.0 base), whichever is higher. That all chapters shall request their respective campus governing offices to supply the Phi Kappa Psi Headquarters with those figures on a semiannual or quarterly basis as is appropriate with the academic schedule of the institution involved. That such chapters that fail to meet these standards, shall, at the Grand Arch Council assembled, be required to show just cause why they should not be reprimanded, placed on academic probation, or placed under an academic or general supervisory committee.



## ALCOHOL USE IN CHAPTERS

Whereas, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity and its member chapters are concerned about the increasing consumption and abuse of alcoholic beverages on college campuses, and

Whereas, the dangers of misuse of alcohol to individuals, to groups, to the fraternity system, and to the campus communities are becoming increasingly evident, and

Whereas, an affirmative program to deal with the problems will only be effective by common consent and unified action, now.

Therefore, be it resolved that the following policies be adopted and incorporated as the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity Policy:

1. The possession, use, sale and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises of any Chapter or at any entertainment or function of any Chapter shall be in compliance with all fraternity and University risk management guidelines as well as all applicable federal, state and local laws.
2. That moderation be encouraged during lawful consumption, and that Chapters develop and support programs in those groups and organizations seeking to educate Chapter members on alcohol awareness.
3. That open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access or structured solely around the sale of alcoholic beverages, shall be prohibited.
4. That alcohol at recruitment events shall be prohibited.
5. That alcohol at any new member function shall be prohibited.



## HAZING

The fraternity experience is shaped largely, often decisively, by the new member education process. Throughout the initial period of Fraternity Education, the new member learns what is expected of him as a future member and what the Fraternity can mean to his life. New member education should prepare him to accept the responsibilities of membership, to develop his best potentialities, and to meet the demands of academic life. These aims require a commitment from the Chapter to do everything within its power to support those persons who commit themselves to earn the privilege of initiation. At the very least, the Chapter is responsible for safeguarding the health, safety, and well-being of its new members.

In light of these convictions, Phi Kappa Psi refuses to tolerate hazing-the physical or mental abuse inflicted upon new members. Whatever form it takes-humiliating pranks, stunts, or attire, "road trips," and other hazardous, antisocial or unlawful activities; deprivation of sleep and food; personal servitude; harassment at the "line-ups" and work sessions; punitive calisthenics; paddling or any other action to degrade or intimidate a person. Hazing subverts and corrupts the true experience of fraternity. Hazing risks human lives, brutalizes everyone involved, and jeopardizes the very existence of the Chapter and, moreover, of the entire Fraternity.

Hazing is a recurrent blight that can attack any chapter whenever a few persons attempt to substitute force for reason, and expediency for understanding. Such persons seem to believe that arbitrarily subjecting new members to a series of ordeals will make them fit to become Brothers; that fear will somehow make them disciplined and mature. There can be no justification whatsoever for hazing, for it destroys the values of kindness, generosity, and compassion that the Fraternity's teaching of brotherly love affirms.

Accordingly, the Executive Council of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity directs all members, Chapters, and Alumni Associations to oppose hazing and to stop it immediately wherever it may now exist. Any member who engages in hazing risks expulsion from the Fraternity, and any Chapter that practices or condones hazing risks suspension or revocation of its charter. Chapter officers, alumni advisors, and directors of House Corporation boards should be alert to take firm action against hazing

The moral integrity of Phi Kappa Psi is inseparable from the conduct of its members. It is enough for the Fraternity to celebrate the dignity of man in its teachings; each member must accept as a personal obligation the upholding of basic human rights. As men of honor and good will, the members of Phi Kappa Psi cannot allow the Fraternity to be debased by hazing. Both decency and honor require that the principles of the Fraternity be borne out in the actions of its Chapters at all times.



## DRUG POSSESSION AND USE

In order to maintain a healthy fraternity environment conducive to academic achievement and personal growth, members of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner, and

Whereas, the dangers of illegal and controlled drugs to individuals, groups, the Greek System, and college campuses, and our communities as a whole are ever increasing; and

Whereas, use of illegal drugs is a serious health concern, contributing to a host of physical and mental health problems; and

Whereas, individuals and groups who violate state and federal laws on illegal and controlled drugs face serious ramifications that can affect themselves and others far into the future; and

Whereas, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, its members, chapters, and alumni associations are concerned about the possession and use of illegal drugs by its members and guests; and

Whereas, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity and its house corporations are concerned about the possession and use of illegal drugs by any person on their properties; and

Whereas, an affirmative program to address the problems of drugs abuse requires common consent and unified action among all Fraternity members.

Therefore, be it resolved;

- The use, possession, sale, manufacture, or cultivation of illegal drugs by Fraternity members is prohibited.
- The use, possession, sale, manufacture, or cultivation of illegal drugs on Fraternity owned property or on property associated with the Fraternity is prohibited.
- The illegal sale or abuse of prescription medication and the abuse of over the counter medication by fraternity members is prohibited.
- The illegal sale or abuse of prescription medication and the abuse of over the counter medication on fraternity owned property or on property associated with the Fraternity is prohibited.
- Any chapter member or pledge found to be in violation of the prohibitions of this edict shall be removed from fraternity property and referred for action pursuant to fraternity law.
- Each chapter shall develop and implement a drug abuse education program at least once per year. Each chapter is encouraged to work with and make this program available to the campus and community.

These prohibitions apply to all aspects of college and fraternity life.

Resources are available to assist members with any problems associated with substance abuse. These services include information, assessment, treatment and referral.



## FRATERNITY EDUCATION

The New Member Education Process, freely offered by a Fraternity Chapter and freely accepted by an individual, is the period of education and training that educates potential members on the values prior to initiation into a fraternity. Initiation into full membership and Brotherhood is a privilege, not a right, conferred on a new member by the members of a private, voluntary society.

The new member is expected to demonstrate academic competence, good character, knowledge of the Chapter and the Fraternity, and loyalty to the Fraternity and its values. He is expected to fulfill the requirements of the Phi Kappa Psi New Member Education Program as well as meeting all membership standards, provided that these are legal, ethical and moral.

It must be understood that no new member is automatically entitled to be initiated. He must prove himself personally acceptable to the members of his Fraternity Chapter. If a new member is found unsuitable for membership, the Fraternity Chapter should either ask him to resign or cancel his new member status as soon as incompatibility becomes evident. In that event, the separation of a new member from the Fraternity Chapter should be carried out humanely and discreetly.

The new member should always bear in mind that his conduct reflects not only on himself and his Fraternity, but on his college and the fraternity community at large.

1. The new member should be assured that his Fraternity Chapter will conscientiously foster and safeguard his health, safety and well-being.
2. The new member shall be enabled to pursue his academic studies and educational interests through the help and support of his Fraternity Chapter.
3. The new member shall be properly housed, fed, and provided with adequate facilities for residence, study and sleep, if he lives in a facility operated by his Fraternity Chapter.
4. The new member shall be free to associate with whomever he chooses, provided that such associations do not bring disrepute to the Fraternity.
5. The new member shall be prepared for initiation into his Fraternity throughout the course of a period of education, training, and service as conducted by his Fraternity Chapter. He will be eligible for initiation upon the satisfactory completion of the stated requirements.
6. The new member shall not be subjected to hazing and cannot consent to being hazed; that is, any physical, mental, or emotional indignity or objectionable activity that might be required under the threat of dismissal from the pledge class, whether implicit or explicit.
7. The new member shall not be required to perform any duty or take part in any activity that violates any law, ordinance, or university regulation, or is contrary to the dictates of his own conscience.
8. The new member shall be entitled to inform the officers of his Fraternity Chapter, officers of the house corporation, alumni and faculty advisors, officers of the National Fraternity, or responsible persons, of any action or practice that he believes illegal or immoral; no penalty or reprisal of any kind shall be taken against him if the report is made in good faith.



9. the new member shall enjoy the full rights and privileges as well as the obligations and responsibilities of any other student at the university.
10. The new member shall be entitled to a satisfactory explanation and adequate arrangements for resettlement in the event that his Fraternity Chapter decides to dismiss him.



## LEGACY CANDIDATE IN MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

In light of the frequency with which chapter and colony candidates are pledging who are relatives of Phi Psis, or who have been recommended by Phi Psi alumni, the Fraternity wishes to outline a viable method to handle what can sometimes be an awkward situation.

The chapter should not offer or feel obligated to offer Fraternity Membership to the rushee on the basis of said rushee's relations or recommendations, but rather should accord him the same concern, interest, and attention as any other candidate. Similarly, the Chapter should not assume a legacy or recommended candidate will automatically accept an offer of membership. Simply, all candidates for membership should be treated with the same care.

However, should the candidate who has been recommended by a Phi Psi alumnus be in any way unacceptable for membership, for whatever reason, the Chapter, specifically the Rush Chairman, with the aid of the Corresponding Secretary, has an obligation to send a note to the alumnus tactfully explaining the situation. It is also important that the recommendations themselves be answered by a thank you note or card. (Rush recommendation acknowledgement forms are available through Phi Psi Headquarters).

These simple steps will give the Chapter the confidence to act fairly and honestly with regard to rush candidates, while maintaining the needed sense of cooperation with alumni.





## STATEMENT OF DIVERSITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity is a men's organization committed to leadership, scholarship, service and brotherhood.

Since its founding, no policy, bylaw, or procedure has been created by the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity with the intention of discrimination toward any person, with the exception of gender.

Membership in Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity is based on the qualities and character of each collegiate man who seeks to embrace the values of the organization.

Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity embraces diversity within its Ritual and expects each member to practice acceptance and tolerance of diversity within its membership and throughout the community.

Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity will not condone or tolerate behavior by any member, pledge member or employee that is deemed discriminatory of a person's race, color, marital status, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, disability or sexual orientation.