

# Constitution of the Recreational Sports Fraternity Council

Dedicated to Enhancing the Recreational Sports Experience of Fraternities

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## Article I.

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### Name

The name of this council shall be the Recreational Sports Fraternity Council.

## Article II.

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### Purpose

The purpose of the Recreational Sport Fraternity Council shall be to promote health and wellness and enhance the recreational sports experience for its member fraternities by providing services and initiatives that the House of Delegates may determine. Council actions shall not in any way abrogate the right of its member fraternities to self-determination.

## Article III.

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### Membership

The Council shall be composed of the men's general college fraternities which are members of the Interfraternity Council or the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

## Article IV.

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### House of Delegates

The Powers of the Council shall be vested in a House of Delegates.

#### Section 1: Composition

The House of Delegates shall be composed of one (1) delegate from each member fraternity, whom will be chosen by that fraternity for such term and upon such qualifications as it may determine. Each member fraternity may also choose an alternate delegate who shall represent the fraternity in the absence of the delegate.

#### Section 2: Voting

Each delegate present or in his absence, the alternate delegate, is vested with one (1) vote. Each past President of the Council shall have the privilege of a seat in the House of Delegates with voice and shall have the right to participate in all discussions, but in such capacity may not vote.

### Section 3. Responsibilities

The House of Delegates shall be responsible for the broad general policies of the Council, for electing an Executive Board, for advising the Board activities and dealing on behalf of the Council. All such activities and dealings shall preserve the autonomous right of each member fraternity over its own affairs.

## Article V.

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### Executive Board

The executive and administrative powers of the House of Delegates shall be vested in a board of four (4) Board Members from which a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected as herein provided.

#### Section 1: Qualification

As provide herein, four (4) Board Members shall be elected at the second-to-last meeting of each academic year. No Board Member shall serve more than two (2) full terms, including time served as President. Two (2) Board Members shall constitute a quorum. All Board Members shall have served either as Intramural Chairman or Council Delegate for their respective fraternities. A full term is defined as one (1) academic year in length.

#### Section 2: Eligibility

No person shall be elected or chosen as a Board Member unless he is a member of a fraternity which is a member of the Council with its dues paid and in good standing. An elected member of the Executive Board whose fraternity is not in good standing because of failure to pay its dues and/or withdraws membership in the Council shall have his office vacated forthwith.

#### Section 3: Elections

As provide herein, four (4) Board Members shall be elected at the second-to-last meeting of each academic year. Elections will occur for the following Executive Board positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary (position description and duties explained in section 5). Officers are elected by majority vote at the second-to-last council meeting of each academic year.

#### Section 4: Vacancies

In the event of the incapacity or resignation of the President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer occurring such vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Board Members, and the person thus elected shall serve the unexpired term of the incapacitated or resigned person. In the case of an act or event that could cause for the removal of an officer, the Executive Board along with the Recreational Sports

advisors shall meet with the Board Member under review. The representative will be able to argue his case and provide insight to the situation, but the majority vote of both the Executive Board and the advisors will determine the Board Member's standings. The resignation of a Board Member shall be submitted to the House of Delegates. A Board Member elected to serve an unexpired term may be elected thereafter to two (2) full terms. In the event of a vacancy in the position of President, the Vice President shall assume the duties of President until the next election.

### Section 5: Duties

The Executive Board shall be responsible for carrying out the purpose and policies of the Council. Each Board Member will have position specific duties. The duties are as follow, but are not limited to:

#### President

- A. Conduct meetings.
- B. Act as the liaison between the Council, the University, and Campus Recreational Sports.
- C. Define goals and meeting agendas.
- D. Oversee the Campus Cup.

#### Vice President

- A. Preside over the Council upon the absence of the President.
- B. Oversee and supervise committees.
- C. Preside over all hearings and cases.
- D. Assist the President and other Board Members as needed.

#### Secretary

- A. Take minutes at all meetings.
- B. Take attendance at meetings.
- C. Carry responsibilities over maintaining attendance.
- D. Handle all written correspondence, both internally and externally, required in Council affairs.
- E. Keep a tally of the Campus Cup points.

#### Treasurer

- A. Keep financial records.
- B. Oversee and approve all expenditures.
- C. Ensure all membership dues are paid in a timely and appropriate manner.

## Article VI.

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### Committees

There shall be the following committees composed of members of the House of Delegates:

### Honor Committee

The Honor Committee shall be responsible for hearing all disciplinary and appeal cases. The Honor Committee shall be composed of eight (8) members of the House of Delegates. An election will be held to determine members of the Honor Committee.

### Campus Cup Committee

The Campus Cup Committee shall be responsible for the maintenance of the Campus Cup. The President and Vice President of the Council shall oversee the Committee. The Committee will be responsible for making sure that the Cup is conducted in a fair and proper manner. The Committee shall advise the Council on any necessary changes to the Cups format, structure, and anything else involving the overall composition of the Cup.

## Article VII.

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### Advisors

The Council shall be advised by three (3) staff members of Campus Recreational Sports: the Coordinator of Outreach to Sororities and Fraternities, the Director of Intramural Sports, and the Assistant Director of Informal Sports. The advisors have deep knowledge as well as functional and multidisciplinary expertise in recreational sports. The advisor's role is that of a mentor. While the advisors will provide guidance and insight to the council, the council itself will be primarily student-run.

## Article VIII.

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### Conduct & Disciplinary Action

#### Section 1: Detrimental or Prejudicial Conduct

No Recreational Sports Fraternity Council member fraternity shall engage in any conduct or activity which is detrimental or prejudicial to the University, community, or the Council. A violation or attempted violation of this Constitution or of the By-Laws shall be deemed evidence per se that the conduct or the activity is detrimental or prejudicial.

#### Section 2: Membership

The Council may establish in its By-Laws Standards of Membership to be maintained by all member fraternities.

#### Section 3: Investigation & Hearing

The Executive Board, through the Honor Committee, shall investigate all complaints which come to it in writing and shall forthwith communicate any such complaint to the alleged offender. Such written complaint

shall specify the section of the Constitution or By-Laws alleged to have been violated and shall, in general, set forth the conduct or activity complained of. Both the complainant and the alleged offender shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to appear and be heard before the Honor Committee. The Executive Board, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all its members, may expel, or impose lesser disciplinary action which the Board may determine to be appropriate under the circumstances, against the offender for conduct or activity found by the Board to be detrimental or prejudicial to the University, community, or the Council. Lesser disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, fines, public censure, or a period of suspension of voting rights. If the fraternity of a member of the Honor Committee is being investigated or disciplined, then that Honor Committee member will be recused and the Vice President will take that member's place in the proceedings. All correspondence and communications which occur during the investigation of a complaint, along with any testimony or evidence presented during a hearing of the Honor Committee are of a privileged and confidential nature between the complainant, alleged offender, the Honor Committee, and the Executive Board. No such correspondence, communications, testimony and/or evidence, except for any final decisions or reports, shall be shared with any individual or group who was not a party to the investigation and/or hearing. A fraternity is also subject to further sanctions or disciplinary action through the University and Campus Recreational Sports. Sanctions and disciplinary actions through the University and/or Campus Recreational Sports and the Council will be independent of each other. A fraternity will be required to meet each set of independent requirements set forth through the sanctions and disciplinary action conducted by the University and/or Campus Recreational Sports.

#### Section 4: Appeal

The member fraternity shall have the right to appeal the disciplinary action of the Honor Committee to the House of Delegates following the next meeting after the decision. Appeals may be taken by the filing of a written notice or appeal with the office of the within four (4) weeks from the date of the notice of the disciplinary action. The disciplinary action of the Honor Committee shall stand until the appeal shall be heard by the House of Delegates. The House of Delegates, by a majority vote of the members in attendance, may affirm or reverse the action of the Honor Committee and may lessen or increase the disciplinary action imposed by the Board. If the fraternity of a member of the Honor Committee making an appeal, then that Honor Committee member will be recused and the Vice President will take that member's place in the proceedings. The University and/or Campus Recreational Sports shall conduct their own independent appeal process (if applicable) through their terms and conditions. It is not guaranteed that a fraternity will be afforded the opportunity to appeal any University and/or Campus Recreational sanctions and disciplinary actions.

## Article IX.

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### Dues and Finances

The annual dues of members shall be fixed from yearly by the House of Delegates. All member fraternities of the council shall be required to pay the annual fee.

### Section 1: Finances

An annual budget will be provided by Recreational Sports, and the financing of that budget shall be determined by the council members and reviewed by the Recreational Sports staff advisors. The elected Treasurer shall oversee the maintenance of the budget as well as keeping track of each purchase.

### Section 2: Payment: delinquency

All dues shall be paid in full by the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) week of the academic year. On any amount unpaid after the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) week of the academic year, a charge of ten percent (50%) will be imposed. An additional charge of one percent (5%) will be added on the first day of each calendar month thereafter in which default continues.

### Section 3: Suspension of Representation

If dues have not been fully paid for the current academic year prior to the first Council meeting of the upcoming academic year, then the delinquent member shall be denied representation in the House of Delegates and shall be dropped from membership in the Council unless granted an extension by the Executive Board.

### Section 4: Personal Gain Clause

This organization, if raising funds, shall ethically raise and distribute profits from organizational functions to either the organization or to members who provide a service that directly benefits the organization. Individual members may not receive compensation from for-profit companies if acting as a representative of a student organization.

## Article X.

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### Amendments

The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the member fraternities entitled to vote in the House of Delegates, whether or not present at the meeting. If written notice of any proposed amendment has been e-mailed to all member fraternities at least seven (7) days before such meeting, then such amendment may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all member fraternities present and voting on such amendment, provided that such two-thirds (2/3) vote is not less than one half (1/2) of all members entitled to vote in the House of Delegates, whether or not present at the meeting. Amendments may be adopted without a meeting by the written approval of two-thirds (2/3) of all member fraternities

entitled to vote in the House of Delegates. The Executive Board may make recommendations to the House of Delegates regarding action to be taken on any proposed amendment.

## Article XI.

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### Incorporation

The Council shall be incorporated under the student organization requirements and policies of the Student Life and Learning department of Indiana University.

#### Section 1: Statement of University Compliance

This organization shall comply with all Indiana University regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

## Article XII.

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### Risk Management

Each member Fraternity will abide by University and Campus Recreational Sports risk management policies. Failure to adhere to these policies will be deemed as conduct detrimental or prejudicial to the University and the Council.

#### Section 1: Anti-Hazing Policy

Hazing is strictly prohibited. Hazing shall be defined as any conduct which subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of association with a group or organization, regardless of the person's consent or lack of consent.

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## Section I.

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### Membership Requirements

To be eligible for membership in the Council, a fraternity must:

- 1) Be devoted to general fraternity ideals and in compliance with Indiana University and Campus Recreational Sports policies.
- 2) Be a recognized member of the Interfraternity Council or the National Pan-Hellenic Council.
- 3) Attend the monthly meetings and specific meetings of the House of Delegates.
- 4) Timely payment of the annual membership dues, fee determined by the council yearly.
- 5) Abide by the Recreational Sports Fraternity Council and By-Laws.
- 6) Honor the resolutions adopted by the House of Delegates.
- 7) Share best practices, statistics and information that will benefit member organizations.
- 8) Hold all chapters accountable to all policies/procedures and values statement(s) (Ex: Creeds) of their fraternity.

## Section II.

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### Academic Year

The Council shall follow the academic calendar set by Indiana University.

## Section III.

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### Governing Rules

The business of the Council shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

## Section IV.

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### Amendments

Amendments to By-Laws relating to membership in the Council, the qualifications, or privileges of membership of members may be made in the same manner as amendments to the Constitution are made. Other amendments to the By-Laws may be made by the House of Delegates by a majority of the voting members voting thereon, with or without notice of the proposed amendment.

## Section V.

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### Basic Expectations

These expectations are set out not just for the Recreational Sports Council, but for all who join a fraternity. Fraternity men are united in this obligation regardless of the letters they wear. These basic expectations create an environment where fraternities can accomplish their mission of building better men. The basic expectations are as follows:

- 1) Fraternities will know and understand the ideals expressed in their Fraternity Ritual and will strive to incorporate them in their recreational sports experience.
- 2) Fraternities respect the dignity of all persons; therefore, members will not physically, mentally, psychologically or sexually abuse or haze anyone throughout their recreational sports experience.
- 3) Fraternities will protect the health and safety of everyone participating in recreational activities.
- 4) Fraternities will respect the property and equipment of others; therefore, they will neither abuse nor tolerate the abuse or destruction of property.
- 5) Fraternities will meet any financial obligations in a timely manner.
- 6) Fraternities will challenge its members to abide by these fraternal expectations and confront those who violate them.