

BYLAWS



Gamma Chapter
of the
PHI KAPPA TAU FRATERNITY

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PREAMBLE

WE, the men of The Ohio State University, in order to champion the ideals of Brotherhood, Learning, Ethical Leadership, and Exemplary Character through fraternal life, do hereby establish the Gamma Chapter of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity. The goal of this organization shall be nothing short of the perpetual civic, intellectual, and moral advancement of all our members. We are heirs to a legacy of achievement, philanthropic efforts, and unreserved fellowship, passed down to us by those who first founded this fraternity in the year 1906. In order to advance our founders' mission of creating a leadership organization that binds men together and challenges them to improve their campuses and the world, we shall be a city on a hill, rising above the sea of apathy, sloth and ignorance that has surrounded us. To these ends, we enact the following BYLAWS, upon which we hope to constitute and preserve our more perfect brotherhood.

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Resident Council of the Gamma Chapter of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity.

Article II – Statement of Compliance

1. The Gamma Chapter of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity shall comply with all policies, laws, rules, and regulations set forth by the National Constitution, namely Title VI, article 59, The Ohio State University, and state and local authorities. This includes, but is not limited to, rules, laws, and regulations concerning recruiting, membership orientation, initiation and risk management.
2. The Constitution and Statutes of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity shall supersede the Bylaws of the Gamma Chapter and its amendments. Any statute contained in the Bylaws conflicting with the National Constitution and Statutes shall be deemed null and void.
3. These Bylaws shall supersede all previous Bylaws and amendments of this chapter upon adoption by the Resident Council contingent upon approval of the Board of Governors and the Chief Executive Officer.
4. Gamma Chapter shall adhere to all applicable standards set forth by The Ohio State University and have a full understanding of Ohio State's Standards of Excellence.

Article III – Non-Profit Clause

1. No income or profit arising from the operations of the corporation is to inure to the benefit of any private person.

2. Upon dissolution of the corporation, any assets remaining after payment of debts shall be given to The Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, or any of their subsidiaries or successors. In the event that all the foregoing are non-existent, then to some other appropriate non-profit entity qualified under Section 501 (c)(3).
3. The Closing of the Resident Council is a cause of automatic dissolution of the corporation as a failure of purpose. Surplus funds of a Resident Council shall be invested only in United States government securities or financial institutions providing adequately insured deposit accounts.

Article IV – Organization and Membership

1. This organization shall consist of two councils, Resident and Graduate, and shall be under the general supervision of the Board of Governors, composed of members from both Councils as well as potential volunteers.
2. The Resident Council shall be composed of those members of the chapter enrolled as undergraduate students of The Ohio State University, with the exception of those members, for reasons deemed permissible by decision of the Board of Governors, who may be placed on the Graduate Council by their request or by the request of the Resident Council.
3. A member of a Resident Council of another chapter of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity may transfer membership to the Resident Council of the Gamma Chapter upon the approval of two-thirds of those in attendance at a regular or special meeting. The individual must also be in good standing with his former chapter and the executive director of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity must approve this transfer.
4. There shall be no “inactive” or “alumni” classification of membership in the Resident Council, except for those with extenuating circumstances which are approved by the board of governors.
5. The Graduate Council will be composed of former members of the Resident Council who are still in good standing with the Resident Council and the National Officers as well as members initiated directly into the Graduate Council.
6. Any male not a member or formerly a member of another national fraternity, other than an honor society or professional fraternity, who is pursuing undergraduate studies as a full-time student at The Ohio State University, is eligible for associate membership.
7. The chapter shall comply with all rules, regulations and requirements concerning recruitment, membership orientation, and initiation set forth by The Ohio State University, the Interfraternity Council and the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity.

Article V – Election to Membership

1. A recruitment committee will determine which potential new members (PNMs) will receive bids. The purpose of this committee is to allow efficient discussion of a PNM.

Committee Membership

The committee will consist of the Vice-President, the Recruitment Chair, the Upperclassman Standards Board member, the Lowerclassman Standards Board member, and at least one at-large brother.

The at-large brother(s) on the committee are selected by the Recruitment Chair, and confirmed by a majority vote of the Resident Council. Should the selected at-large member fail to receive confirmation, the Recruitment Chair must continue to nominate brothers until all are confirmed by the Resident Council.

In the event that there are recruitment co-chairmen, the chairmen will participate in discussion but have one vote in the committee.

The amount of members on the committee will depend upon the size of the Resident Council, and must always consist of an odd number of brothers:

- Resident Council Membership of 1-60: 5 member bid committee with 1 at-large brother
- Resident Council Membership of 61-80: 7 member bid committee with 3 at-large brothers
- Resident Council Membership of 81-100: 9 member bid committee with 5 at-large brothers
- Resident Council Membership of 101-120: 11 member bid committee with 7 at-large brothers
- Resident Council Membership of 121-140: 13 member bid committee with 9 at-large brothers
- Resident Council Membership of 141-160: 15 member bid committee with 11 at-large brothers

Committee Discussion

At least two of the committee members or one committee member and two outside brothers must speak to the merits of the PNM being considered. Discussion continues until a committee member makes a motion to either vote to bid or table the PNM being considered but no voting to bid motion may be considered on the floor until the speaking requirements have been met.

Brothers not a part of the committee must be permitted to speak formally in front of the committee in regard to a PNM being considered for bidding.

The committee's meetings must be open to all active members of the chapter. The committee may also request the presence of any active brother if the committee feels this brother may shed light on the merits of a PNM being considered for bidding.

The committee must notify the Resident Council, by any means of mass communication, at least 6 hours before the commencement of the committee meeting.

Voting Procedure

After the speaking requirements have been met, a member of the committee may motion to vote to bid a PNM. Voting will be completed by secret ballot, with the votes being collected and counted by the Vice-President.

Members of the committee may vote either "yes" or "no" on the motion to bid, there is no option to "trust your brother" or "abstain".

If a motion to table a PNM is made and a second is heard, the motion may be approved by hand vote of a majority of the committee.

2. Election to associate membership is contingent upon a grade check conducted by the Recruitment Chair to ensure that the candidate meets the requirements for associate membership set forth by these bylaws and the Interfraternity Council.
3. Length of associate membership shall be no longer than one grading period and no shorter than six weeks. At the end of this time, the associates are to be initiated after the Scholarship Chair or the Membership Orientation Chairman, in accordance with the Scholarship Program and its requirements, verifies their grades.
4. An associate member may be disassociated by a two-thirds vote 50% vote of the Resident Council. At the time the motion to dissociate is made, only the author may speak on it. It shall be tabled until the next general meeting at which time it shall be brought off the table automatically. The author shall then restate his reasons, discussion shall be held and the vote taken by secret ballot.
5. During the associate membership process, the resident council shall conduct two votes to approve the continuation of associate membership, with the final vote being a vote to initiate.
The three votes shall be:
 - a. One vote before the associate member is given a big brother.
 - b. One final vote before initiation.

6. The Associate member shall pass, with a grade of not less than eighty (80) percent, an examination prepared by the Chief Executive Officer.
 - a. The National Exam must be administered by the Chapter Advisor Membership Orientation Officer, the Chairman of the Board of Governors or by another appropriate alumnus with certification of that individual being made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer. The certification must have accompanying it a list of all the associate members who were tested and the grade that they received on the exam. This certification must be received by the Chief Executive Officer prior to permission being granted to initiate those associate members.

Article VI – Scholastic Requirements

1. Before initiation, the associate member must have attained, for a normal full-time load during the previous academic term, a cumulative scholastic average, equivalent to a 2.7 cumulative GPA or a 3.0 semester GPA in the previous grading term (semester).
2. To be eligible for election or appointment to any office of the Resident Council, an initiated member must have a cumulative scholastic average, equivalent to or above a 2.75 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale) or at least a 3.2 semester GPA in the previous grading term.
3. The chapter shall, under the supervision of the Board of Governors, upon the basis of official records of this institution, reprimand any member of the Resident Council whose scholastic record is such that The Ohio State University has placed him upon probation. This reprimand is to be determined at the discretion of the Board of Governors, but shall not include expulsion of membership.

Article VII – Chapter House Occupancy

1. Priority of room selection will be based on the following system:
 - a. Members of the Executive Council shall obtain first preference to rooms in the house in order of succession (President, Vice President, Vice President of Membership Development, Vice President of Finance, and Secretary).
 - b. Members not on the Executive Council applying to live in the house shall then be ordered by initiation class from oldest to newest, with the oldest class having highest preference and each successive class having the next highest preference.
 - c. Those members having held within the previous academic year the chair positions of External Social, Recruitment, Philanthropy, Brotherhood, and/or Membership Orientation Officer shall receive top preferences in their respective classes. All other members who have held a chair in the past academic year will be have preference after the aforementioned chairholders but before those who have not held any chairs. Spring semester initiates from the current year shall be ranked in the bottom tier by order of their associate class ranking.

- d. Previous semester GPA shall be the initial tiebreaker between those of the same initiation class and chairmanship holdings.
 - e. Should members of the same associate class and chairmanship holdings have the same previous semester GPA, cumulative GPA shall be the tiebreaker.
 - f. The tiebreaker for members of the same associate class, chairmanship holdings, previous semester GPA, and cumulative GPA shall be a random name draw.
 - g. Members applying jointly for a specific double room shall select their room using the preference rank of the highest-ranking member.
2. The housing contract shall be drawn up by the house corporation and will be due one month prior to the conclusion of the grading period.
3. The use or possession of any illegal substance in the house will result in the dismissal of the occupant from the house, and the member will appear before the Board of Governors for additional sanctioning.
4. All brothers must live in the chapter house for at least one year unless the brother has a housing-specific scholarship, an RA position, or is a commuter.
 - a. A commuter is defined as someone living with one or more family members.
 - b. The housing scholarship does not need to cover the full cost of OSU housing to apply.
 - c. A full chapter house is defined as 24 or more occupants for that semester.
5. If the chapter house is not determined to be full, the total rent dues for the unfilled occupancies shall be added together and divided by the total number of brothers living out of the house and not fulfilling the situations outlined in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. The resulting figure of the previous operation shall be applied to the parlor fees of all those meeting the criteria above.
 - a. This extra fee does not apply to brothers who have a housing-specific scholarship, an RA position, or are commuters, and therefore shall not be included in the number of people the rent dues are divided amongst.
 - b. This extra fee also does not apply during the spring semester to brothers who were initiated in the previous semester, and therefore shall not be included in the number of people the rent dues are divided amongst.

Article VIII – Fees

1. Each associate member shall be charged an associate member fee as may be required by the Fraternity.

2. Each member of the Fraternity shall be charged an initiation fee that may be required by the Fraternity. This fee is payable two weeks prior to initiation and is due along with the initiation forms. Each member shall pay at least the price of the least expensive badge available.
3. The chapter shall charge dues to every member. This amount is to be determined by the Executive Board in conjunction with the Board of Governors. The amount determined shall be due the at the start of the academic grading period.
 - a. Payment Plans
 - i. Members are eligible for payment plans so long as that plan has been set up and approved by the start of the semester.
 - ii. Each payment plan is subject to the approval of the Vice President of Finance, President, and Vice President of Membership Development.
 - b. Consequences for Delinquency
 - i. If a member does not pay his dues in full or arrange a payment plan before the beginning of the semester, this member will placed on financial probation until dues have been paid in full.
 - ii. If a member who has committed to a payment plan fails to make a scheduled payment, this member will be placed on financial probation until the scheduled payment has been made in full.
 - iii. Individuals on financial probation will be barred from attending any chapter event, including but not limited to: meetings of the resident council, social events, or brotherhood events.
 - iv. Individuals on financial probation shall also be prohibited from gaining swipe access to the chapter house, unless he is a resident of the house.
4. A member or associate member of the Gamma Chapter remaining in arrears with his account with the chapter for a period of 30 days or more shall, at the expiration of that time, be automatically suspended from the chapter. This suspension may be terminated only by payment of the arrears or by action of the Board of Governors.

Article IX – Officers

1. The officers of the Executive Council and of the Resident Council, in order of succession, shall be:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Vice President of Membership Development
 - d. Vice President of Finance
 - e. Chapter Secretary
2. Should the Executive Board deem it necessary to elevate a committee chairmanship to the level of Executive Council officer, they may do so by a majority vote amongst the Executive Council.

3. If any of these offices are vacated, they shall be filled within two weeks by an election conducted by the Resident Council as outlined in Article XI of these bylaws. The vacated role(s) shall be filled during the interim by any member(s) of the Executive Council chosen by election by the remaining members of the Executive Council, or any volunteers from the Resident Council as selected by the Executive Council.
4. If for any reason the office of President is vacated, the Vice President shall immediately fill the position until the Resident Council elects a new President.

Article X – Duties of Executive Council and Resident Council Officers

Executive Council Officers

1. President—The President of the organization has the responsibilities of overseeing all events, activities, and meetings. Problems should be directed to the President as the President has the responsibility to find a solution to the best of his ability. The President also has the responsibility of establishing a strong relationship with the chapter's advisor and Board of Governors as well as IFC. The President runs Chapter Meetings to the best of his ability and oversees the committee system executed by the remainder of the Executive Board. Should any member of the Standards Board be called before the Standards Board, his place as a member of the Standards Board shall be replaced by the President. Should any vote held by the Executive Council result in a tie, his vote shall be the tiebreaker. He is responsible for adhering to Ohio State's Standards of Excellence and Phi Kappa Tau's Borradaille Challenge. Lastly, the President is responsible for chapter protocol and executive board transitions.
2. Vice President —The Vice President shall be in charge of presiding over all Executive Council-related meetings. He shall oversee all chairs that direct external functions of the fraternity. This person is also second in line to the presidency, and would assume the position of President should the President resign or be removed, until a new President is elected.
3. Vice President of Membership Development – It should be the utmost goal of the Vice President of Membership Development that the men of this chapter are receiving the fraternal experience outlined by The Creed of Phi Kappa Tau. This position will make sure that this chapter is truly developing men of character, and will oversee all positions that deal with the experience of brotherhood. The Vice President of Membership is the head of the Standards Board. Should the Standards Board ever consist of an even number of members, his vote is the tiebreaker.
4. Vice President of Finance— The Vice President of Finance is responsible for financial bookkeeping. It is an expectation that he show honesty and accuracy in the area of finances. He

will be in charge of dues collection and the distribution of those dues into the chapter budget. He will be in charge of writing checks for fraternity supplies and keeping an updated spreadsheet of the fraternity's financial situation. He is responsible for keeping his training updated on a yearly basis through seminars and workshops provided by The Ohio Union. The House Manager works under the V.P. of Finance. The Vice President of Finance will attend all Board of Governors meetings with the President.

5. Chapter Secretary — The Chapter Secretary shall take the minutes of both the Resident and Executive Council meetings. The Chapter Secretary shall also keep track of attendance at chapter meetings and at all events directed by the Executive Board. The Chapter Secretary shall thus be in charge of maintaining the attendance log. He shall ensure that information is readily available to all brothers before each chapter meeting and be in charge of the maintenance of the chapter website. All brothers and associates in the chapter will report their absences to this person, and he shall decide whether or not an excuse is permissible.

Resident Council Positions

1. Committees and chairman positions shall be established by action of the Executive Council on the basis on their relevancy in the upcoming semester.
2. All established chairs shall be under the direction of their appointed Executive Board officer
3. Each committee shall have a clearly defined purpose and title, known to all members of the chapter.

Article XI – Election, Appointment, and Removal of Officers

Executive Council Officers

1. In order to run for any office (Executive Council officer or chairman), a candidate must be in good standing with the chapter in all respects.
2. Elections for members of the Executive Council shall take place during the third and second to last resident council meeting before winter break third meeting of the Resident Council during the month of October, with installation at the last resident council meeting of the year. The election process may be divided up into 4 days over 2 weeks (e.g. Sunday and Monday of both election weeks) to reduce the length of chapter those two weeks.
3. At least one week prior to elections, nominations for Executive Council officer candidates shall be made during the regular Resident Council meeting. The names of candidates for each office shall be posted until the date of the election.

4. Any brother nominated for an Executive Council position is thereby nominated for that office, and each Executive Council position below that in order of succession. A nominee may choose to decline or accept nominations for any of those positions during elections.
5. Executive Council officers shall be elected by a plurality of votes from eligible Resident Council members. In the case of a tie between two or more brothers, five more minutes of discussion will be held. A motion may not be made to extend time at this point. A revote will then take place by the resident council between the brothers involved in the tie. If a tie still exists between two or more brothers, five more minutes of discussion will held and a revote will again take place by the resident council. Again, time may not be extended. If a tie still exists at this point, no discussion will take place and a vote will be taken by the executive council only. If a tie still exists, the vote goes to the current President, Vice President, and Vice President of Membership Development.
6. Officers that are newly elected will officially take office during the 2nd chapter meeting in spring semester.
7. Any Executive Council office vacated during its term will be replaced by election no later than two weeks after the office has been vacated.
8. If any officer loses good standing with the chapter as determined by the Standards Board, he will automatically lose his office.
9. An officer may be impeached by a 75% secret ballot vote of the Resident Council. Prior to the impeachment ballot, the issue must be brought to the standards board and the ballot approved by a majority vote of the standards board. Impeachment charges must be made one week prior to the vote. At the voting meeting, the accused officer will have the chance to argue his case.
10. Should the vote for impeachment be denied by the standards board, a petition containing signatures equal to 25% of the resident council may be presented at any chapter meeting, and will initiate an impeachment ballot.
11. Executive Council officers shall hold their positions for the next calendar year after their election, and shall maintain their responsibilities until their replacements are installed through the process outlined in Section VI of this Article.

Chairmen Positions

1. All committee chairmen positions shall be open to occupation by any member of the Resident or Executive Council.

2. The Executive Council shall hold interviews of all interested members to determine which brother is qualified to hold each chair position.
3. Those seeking a specific chairmanship or chairmanships must declare their intentions to the Executive Council a week before the designated date of chairman candidate interviews.
4. The Executive Council shall appoint each chairmanship based on their honest belief in the ability of the member to do better in that position than any other applicant.
5. All committee chairmanships not applied for by any brother have the option of being filled by direct appointment by the Executive Council, or by having its overseeing Executive Council officer assuming the responsibilities of that chair.
6. Committee Chairmen shall take office immediately after their appointment. Their term shall last for one semester.
7. Committees and their respective chairs may be removed at any time by majority vote of the Executive Council.
8. Should the Resident Council wish to remove an individual from a chair, a motion to recall said chairman may be posed at a Resident Council meeting. This motion would require $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Resident Council's support in order to pass, with a vote taking place at the next meeting. A simple majority is required to remove the person from their chair position.

Article XII – Executive Council Composition and Function

1. The Executive Council of this chapter shall be composed of the following and are referred to as the officers of the resident council:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Vice President of Membership Development
 - d. Vice President of Finance
 - e. Chapter Secretary
2. The Executive Council shall promote inter-officer communication and set goals for the chapter.
3. The Executive Council shall serve as a cabinet to the President. Chaired by the Vice President, it and shall advise and direct chapter operations in general.
4. The Executive Council shall be responsible for preparing all material and discussion for the weekly Resident Council meetings.

5. The Executive Council shall hold meetings once a week that take place before the weekly chapter meeting.
6. All other officers not sitting members of the Executive Council will be considered as officers of the Resident Council.
7. Should the Executive Council be made up of an even number of members at any time, and any vote amongst them results in a tie, the President's vote shall count as the tiebreaker. If the President is absent, the tiebreaking vote shall proceed by order of succession.

Article XIII – Committees

1. When a new committee is created, its purpose and the Executive Council officer under whose jurisdiction it falls should be clearly defined and communicated to the chapter as a whole.
2. Committees shall be under the direction of their appointed chairmen, who are supervised by their respective Executive Council officer.
3. The members of these committees will assist their chairmen in performing the duties of their offices.
4. Committees shall have the express purpose of allowing all brothers an opportunity to participate in the decision-making and planning process of the fraternity.

Article XIV – Bid Extension Process

1. A bid shall be extended through a closed ballot vote during chapter. A bid is successfully voted to extend with a 2/3 majority and 50% quorum of the chapter.
2. The Recruitment Committee Chairman shall be responsible for running the bid extension meeting time during chapter and shall do his best to both have a comprehensive but not redundant discussion of the potential new members.
3. To be eligible to receive a bid, a potential new member must have at least a 2.7 cumulative G.P.A.

Article XV – Standards Board

1. The Standards Board serves as the judicial branch of the fraternity, and as such will oversee the disciplinary processes associated with the violation of its rules.

2. The Standards Board consists of five (5) members: the Vice President of Membership Development, the Vice President of Finance, the Scholarship Chair, one Upperclassman representative of the Resident Council, and one Underclassman representative of the Resident Council.
3. The Vice President of Membership Development shall hold the tiebreaking vote in all cases.
4. A majority vote by the Standards Board will decide all cases with the exception of expulsion. A unanimous vote by the Standards Board will decide for expulsion cases to be sent to the Board of Governors. Before being sent to the Board of Governors, the brother is asked if he would like to voluntarily withdraw. A 2/3 majority vote by the Board of Governors then decides the case. Communicating the withdrawal to Nationals is detailed in the expulsion handbook.
5. A Four (4) Strike Policy acts as the system to measure academic, financial, social, and other violations. Following are descriptions of the four (4) different strike levels. Violation of any imposed sanction immediately moves the individual up one (1) strike level.
 - a. At one (1) strike, the following sanctions may be imposed:
 - i. Submit a written apology to all those affected
 - ii. Immediate payment for all damages, debt, fines, etc.
 - iii. Referral to campus/community support structure
 - b. At two (2) strikes, the following sanctions may be imposed in addition to those sanctions for one (1) strike:
 - i. Up to one (1) month of social probation with any number of the following sanctions:
 1. Removal of office for period of probation, if applicable
 2. No unexcused absences at chapter meetings during period of probation
 3. Not allowed to attend some or all social events for the period of probation. This could include brotherhood events, socials, mixers, and/or themed gatherings.
 - ii. Regular progress meetings with big brother
 - iii. Attendance at an educational program that serves to educate member on the violation
 - iv. Mandatory community service hours
 - v. Development of written personal academic achievement plan
 - c. At three (3) strikes, the following sanctions may be imposed in addition to those sanctions for one (1) strike and two (2) strikes:
 - i. Up to one (1) semester of social probation
 1. Removal of office for period of probation, if applicable
 2. No unexcused absences at chapter meetings during period of probation
 3. Not allowed to attend some or all social events for the period of probation. This could include brotherhood events, socials, mixers, and/or themed gatherings.
 - ii. Permanent removal from office, if applicable
 - iii. Removal of privilege of running for office in upcoming election

- iv. Regular progress meetings with executive board or BOG
 - v. Plan an education program that serves to educate the chapter on the violation
 - vi. Weekly grade checks
 - vii. Make a verbal apology to the chapter
 - viii. Loss of rank in room choice, if applicable
 - ix. Loss of ability to take on a little
- d. At four (4) strikes, the following sanctions may be imposed in addition to those sanctions for one (1) strike, two (2) strikes, and three (3) strikes:
- i. Loss of privilege of living in the Phi Tau house for the next semester
 - ii. Suspension of membership in the National and Gamma chapter of Phi Kappa Tau
 - iii. Permanent loss of membership in the National and Gamma chapter of Phi Kappa Tau
6. This section describes violations and when strikes are added to an individual's record.
- a. Academic Violations
 - i. If the individual's Semester G.P.A. falls below a 2.7 in the previous semester, two (2) strikes are added to the individual's record. They will also meet with the Scholarship Chair within one (1) week of grade notification by the chapter.
 - ii. If the individual's Semester G.P.A. is below a 3.0 in the previous semester, they will meet with the Scholarship Chair within two (2) weeks of grade notification by the chapter.
 - b. Financial Violations
 - i. If associate dues and initiation fees are not paid at least two weeks before initiation by an individual, one strike is added to that individual's record.
 - c. Social Violations
 - i. Physical assault by a brother on another brother results in up to four (4) strikes being added to the individual's record.
 - ii. If a brother is accused of ungentlemanly actions, up to four (4) strikes may be added to the individual's record. Ungentlemanly actions include, but are not limited to, actions such as taking advantage of women.
 - iii. A brother is accountable for any guest(s) not in Phi Kappa Tau, Gamma chapter. Any violations of their guest(s) at any Phi Kappa Tau, Gamma sponsored event or on Phi Kappa Tau, Gamma property will result in at least one (1) strike for that brother.
 - iv. Drinking any alcoholic beverage in common areas in the house will result in a verbal warning for all brothers involved. A common area is defined as any area of the house that is not a brother's private room.
 - v. Drinking or purchasing any alcoholic beverage in the Φ KT letters in public will result in one (1) strike added to the individual's record.
 - vi. Hazing of associates by any brother results in four (4) strikes being added to the brother's record.
 - d. Other Violations
 - i. If a brother has more than three (3) unexcused absences at chapter meetings during one (1) semester, one (1) strike is added to the individual's record.

- ii. Any brother who destroys another brother's property or house property will receive at least one (1) strike.
 - iii. Any brother who is found guilty of a misdemeanor or felony by the U.S. justice system where the crime is not covered in any other part of Article XV, Section 4 may receive at least one (1) strike after a discussion held by the Board of Governors.
7. Other disciplinary proceedings over which the Standards Board has jurisdiction are presented below:
- a. Service Hour Violations
 - i. Service hours are defined as an unpaid, volunteer service to benefit the community.
 - ii. The semester service hour requirement shall adhere to the Maxwell Standard in accordance to the Borradaile Challenge.
 - 1. The Standards Board shall not reduce the service hour requirement below the Maxwell Standard.
 - 2. Should the Standards Board desire to raise the service hour requirement above the Maxwell Standard, this increase must be approved by majority vote of the Resident Council.
 - iii. The required number of service hours, beginning in the Autumn semester 2017, will be as follows:
 - 1. Autumn 2017: 15 Hours
 - 2. Spring 2018, and every Spring semester thereafter: 15 Hours
 - 3. Autumn 2018, and every Autumn semester thereafter: 20 Hours
 - iv. The Autumn semester hour requirement may be satisfied through service hours completed during either the Summer or Autumn semester.
 - 1. 5 hours of the Autumn semester requirement must be completed in Columbus.
 - b. Non-Chapter Involvement Violations
 - i. Each active member is required to either be a regularly attending member of at least one extracurricular organization outside of Phi Kappa Tau, including but not limited to clubs, intramural or club sports unaffiliated with Phi Kappa Tau, honor societies, and research groups, or to hold a job on campus.
 - a. "Extracurricular organization" shall be defined as a university sanctioned organization assembled from students at The Ohio State University, or any other group which has been approved by the standards board.
 - b. "Job on campus" shall be defined as a job working for the university or any other job which has been approved by the standards board as an exception to this requirement.
 - ii. The Standards board shall periodically require verification of involvement in exterior extracurricular organizations from all active members at the beginning of the semester, and then as needed.
 - iii. Members who fail to join and regularly attend qualifying organizations or hold a job on campus shall be required to meet with the Standards Board to discuss why

the member is not active in exterior organizations and/or to develop a plan to get the member more involved.

c. Ritualistic Violations

- i. Every brother is required to be at every Ritualistic Event, those consisting of the Pinning Ceremony, Big/Little Ceremony, and Initiation.
 - a. These dates shall be provided at the start of the semester by the Membership Orientation Officer.
 - b. Brothers planning to miss an event must notify the Secretary a month prior to each event, or a week for the Pinning Ceremony.
 - c. Brothers failing to give an excuse to the Secretary will be required to complete up to 10 additional service hours and/or a \$100.00 fine for Serious Fun as determined by the standards board.
 - d. Brothers providing an excuse within a month of Big/Little and Initiation, or a week for the Pinning Ceremony, will be assessed by a case-by-case basis by the board with up to 10 additional service hours and/or a \$100.00 fine for serious fund.
8. A brother can remove strike(s) from his record by not committing the same violation during the probation period (usually a semester determined at the discretion of the standards board) after the violation was committed. If not committed during this probation period, all strike(s) for that violation are removed at the end of the probation period at the discretion of the standards board.
9. Strikes given for academic violations will remain on a member's record until the member has met scholarship requirements for two consecutive semesters.
10. The Appeals Process is as follows:
 - a. The member charged has fifteen (15) days after receipt of the notice-of-decision letter to appeal to the Board of Governors.
 - b. The appeal must be written and submitted to the Board of Governors Chair and copied to the Standards Board.
 - c. Upon receipt of the appeal, the Board of Governors will hold a meeting with the charged member.
 - d. The Board of Governors will make a decision regarding the member's appeal within one (1) week and the member charged will be notified via writing. This letter should be copied to the Standards Board.
 - e. The member charged has fifteen (15) days after receipt of the notice-of-decision letter to appeal to the National Council.
 - f. The decision made by the National Council will be final.
11. The Standards Board will review the bid extension process for new members by checking G.P.A. requirements.

Article XVI – Chapter Meetings

1. The time of chapter meetings shall be set at the discretion of the Executive Council and shall take place in the Chapter Room of the Phi Kappa Tau Gamma Chapter house.
2. The order for such meetings shall be as prescribed in the Ritual Manual but adjusted for Gamma Chapter's best interests:
 1. Opening Ceremony
 2. Reading of Last Week's Minutes
 3. Officer Reports (Non-committee officers)
 4. Committee Break-out time (15 minutes or as needed)
 5. Committee Officer Reports
 6. Advisor's Report
 7. Unfinished Business
 8. New Business
 9. Proposals for Membership
 10. Balloting on Candidates
 11. Remarks for the Good of the Chapter
 12. Closing Ceremony
3. Attendance at all meetings by all Resident Council members shall be required.
4. Voting quorum for regular meetings shall be 50% of those eligible to vote.
5. Anyone wishing to receive an excused absence from any meeting for any reason should submit his excuse to the Chapter Secretary. The Chapter Secretary shall handle emergencies and exceptions on an individual basis. Valid excuses shall be:
 - a. College activities or classes;
 - b. Conflicting work schedule;
 - c. Illness;
 - d. Illness of a family member that requires the member to be absent;
 - e. Other situations, subject to the approval of the Executive Council.
6. The Executive Council or a majority vote of the Resident Council has the authority to deem any meetings or functions mandatory.
7. The President shall observe Robert's Rules of Order and the Ritual of Phi Kappa Tau during chapter meetings.
8. The President, with the support of the Executive Council, shall have the authority to call special meetings to conduct business that is pertinent to the chapter. The special meetings must be announced within 24 hours of the beginning of the special meeting.

Article XVII – Suspension

1. A member may be suspended by the chapter for disciplinary or academic reasons.
2. A member is automatically suspended by the chapter for financial delinquency or for falling below a 2.7 G.P.A. for at least 2 semesters in a row (4 strikes) after accumulating four or more strikes.
3. Any three brothers, outside of the Standards Board, may bring suspension charges. The accused must be informed 24 hours before the motion is made. He may present his case to the Standards board after the accusers. A positive vote of 3/5 of the Standards Board is required for suspension to occur.
4. The Standards Board must adhere to the Phi Kappa Tau Standard Board Handbook when making suspensions.
5. Suspension of a Resident Council member involves the loss of voting rights. A suspended member may not attend any chapter sponsored social functions and may not participate in chapter athletics or any other chapter funded events.
6. A member under suspension is not relieved of any other Fraternity obligations.
7. The suspension shall last for a length of time to be determined by a positive vote of 4/5 of the Standards Board after the vote for suspension. In cases of financial delinquency, the suspension shall continue until the individual is no longer financially delinquent.

Article XVIII – Expulsion

1. A brother may be expelled from the fraternity for continued disciplinary problems including (but not limited to) academics, refusal to pay dues, or disrespect of fellow brothers.
2. Expulsion will occur with a 4/5 Standards Board vote or a 75% Resident Council Vote. The member will have one week to make amends and then another vote will occur. This time, 2/3 of the Resident Council Vote will cause the member to be expelled.
3. Expulsion is the ultimate censure of a member.

Article XIX – Risk Management

1. The Gamma Chapter of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity shall adhere to all statements of the National Risk Management Policy. Any deviation thereof shall be reported immediately to the Executive Offices by the Risk Management Chair.
2. The Risk Management Policy adopted by the Convention and/or the National Council shall be considered as part of this Title VI of the Statutes. Said Policy shall be printed and distributed to all Chapters, Chapter Advisors, House Corporations and Boards of Governors and to others within the Fraternity as deemed appropriate. The Risk Management Policy shall be reviewed at least annually by the Chief Executive Officer and the National Council to keep it current with legal and policy changes. Punishment for violation of Phi Kappa Tau's Risk Management Policy may include: probation, suspension or revocation of Chapter charter; probation, suspension or expulsion of the individual(s) involved; removal from office of those officers of the Chapter involved, and the denial of membership to associate members who allow themselves to be involved in any of the aforementioned.

Article XX– Amendments

Adoption

1. Any member, in good standing, may propose an amendment to these By-Laws at any regular meeting of the Resident Council. The proposed amendment must be in writing and must be tabled until the next regular meeting after its first reading.
2. The proposed amendment must be both by the President and the Standards board (with a 3/5 vote).
3. Following adoption by the Resident Council requiring quorum and a 2/3 vote, an amendment shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Governors and the Executive Director.

Suspension

1. To suspend a bylaw, a motion in chapter must be made, and one week later, a quorum vote will decide whether or not to suspend the bylaw.
2. The length of suspension must be specified, with a maximum suspension length of one semester.
3. After the time of suspension has passed, the bylaw will be automatically re-enacted.

Repealing

1. To Repeal a bylaw, a three week process must be followed:
 - a. The first week will be the introduction for repealment, brought forth by the resident council.
 - b. The second week will be a discussion process in the chapter meeting.

- c. The last week will be a review of the previous weeks discussion, then followed by a vote.
2. A 75% vote will be needed for repealment of a bylaw.

Article XXI – Miscellaneous Amendments

Amendment I – Dream Girl Term

A Dream Girl shall be selected each year by vote of the Resident Council. Her term shall exist for the duration of the academic year that follows her election.

Article XXII – Ratification

1. Ratification of these By-Laws shall become effective by approval of 75% of the eligible Resident Council members and by approval from Board of Governors and the Executive Director.
2. Ratification of these Bylaws of the Gamma Chapter of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity was proposed on this 8th day of May in the year 2011.

President, Resident Council

Chairman, Board of Governors

Chief Executive Officer