

Constitution and Bylaws

Revisions begin April 23rd, 2023

Preamble

We, the representatives of historically established Black Greek-lettered fraternities and sororities, similar in structure and background, recognizing the need for coordination and cooperation in the activities of intercollegiate Greek letter fraternities and sororities, recognizing there are certain areas of action and programming that can be realized by formal organization, do hereby establish such an organization and bind ourselves to abide by the provision of the following Constitution and Bylaws.

Constitution

ARTICLE I - NAME

SECTION I

The name of this organization shall be the National Pan Hellenic Council Inc. The Ohio State University Chapter hereinafter referred to as “NPHC OSU.”

ARTICLE II -MISSION, PURPOSE AND GOALS

SECTION I

MISSION STATEMENT: National Pan-Hellenic Council at The Ohio State University is the umbrella agent for the nine historically black Greek lettered organizations chartered at The Ohio State University. We exist as a cooperative who strives to be an inclusive community dedicated to supporting and developing member organizations, individual members, and the community at-large through educational, social, and civic initiatives.

SECTION II

PURPOSE: The NPHC is designed to assure that member organizations cooperatively work together while maintaining their distinct identities. NPHC organizations have a profound commitment to providing community service and to uplifting and promoting the general public’s welfare. Students at The Ohio State University to excel academically. NPHC organizations should jointly provide programs that assist Greeks and non-Greeks in attaining this goal.

SECTION III

GOALS: Through intentional and impactful educational, social, and philanthropic initiatives, The Ohio State University National Pan-Hellenic Council, NPHC OSU, is committed to:

- A. Fostering an inclusive, social justice-oriented environment for all its members and the community at-large.
- B. Supporting all of its members with the campus and community resources to maintain high achievement and standards.
- C. Educating the campus and community at-large on the history and foundation of our member organizations.
- D. Acting upon mutual concern to the member organizations.
 - Maintaining positive relationships and collaboration with other governing councils within the sorority and fraternity community at The Ohio State University.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP: General membership in National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. includes Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. and any other affiliate organization of the NPHC as may, from time to time, be granted membership. No other organization shall have the right to sit on or have a voice in the NPHC and may not be considered for membership on the undergraduate level. Affiliate membership shall also include local undergraduate, and alumni councils chartered by the NPHC.

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP: The Ohio State University active chapter membership. The National Pan-Hellenic Council at The Ohio State University (NPHC OSU) is home to 9 active chartered organizations represented through the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. The NPHC OSU currently has 7 active chapters out of the 9 active charters:

1. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.- Kappa Chapter
2. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.- Theta Chapter
3. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.- Zeta Chapter
4. Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Iota Psi Chapter
5. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Epsilon Chapter
6. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.- Delta Omicron Chapter
7. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.- Xi Gamma Chapter

SECTION II

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

- A. The NPHC will consider any organization active who has paid all dues to the NPHC by deadline, follow Sorority and Fraternity Life expectations paperwork and financial obligations, maintain a GPA of at least 2.5, have at least five members in the organization, adheres to NPHC OSU Constitution and bylaws, and is recognized and in good standing with The Ohio State University as well as their respective national affiliation.

SECTION III

ORGANIZATIONAL INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

- A. The NPHC will consider any organization that is not in good standing with the Ohio State University, Sorority and Fraternity Life or by the National Headquarters of the respective organization as Inactive.
- B. Upon inactive status of the organization either by the Ohio State University or their National Headquarters, NPHC must be immediately notified.
- C. The NPHC will consider any organization that has failed to adhere to constitution and bylaws and pay all dues by the stated deadline stated in as Inactive.
- D. The NPHC will consider any organization that does not meet the minimum GPA requirement as inactive.
- E. If the organization does not have the minimum member requirement of at least 5 members that organization will be inactive.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

SECTION I

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

- A. The elected officers of this organization shall be: President, Vice President, Director of Finance, Director of Administration, Director of Community Engagement, Director of Judicial Standards, Director of Marketing and Public Relation, and Director of Programming and Special Events.
- B. Executive board membership in this organization is open to all Ohio State University students a part of the National Pan-Hellenic Council in Good Academic Standing who have paid their Sorority and Fraternity Life contribution and NPHC dues. Executive Board Membership will be revoked by half ($\frac{1}{2}$) votes from the executive board and three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) votes from Council of Presidents if actions are deemed inappropriate by the membership.
 - a. We need to define academic good standing, what is the gpa requirement. Check old constitution for this information
 - b. If a member of the executive board falls below the cumulative GPA requirement of a 2.8, corrective action will take place to ensure the struggling member success.
- C. All applications for officers/committee chairs positions to the Executive Board shall be reviewed by the current Council President, Vice President, and Director of Judicial Standards. Applicants must be interviewed, then present to the community and be voted on by the NPHC Council of Presidents with the advisement of the general membership.
- D. What are the executive board powers?**

SECTION II

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS

The Council of Presidents (COP) will be made up of presidents from all recognized/active NPHC chapters at The Ohio State University. This shall be the governing body of the NPHC. All council wide decisions must be approved by the Council of Presidents. Each member of COP will serve in their position at the discretion of their respective chapters as chapter delegates. The Council of Presidents will meet monthly with the executive board to review council initiatives and plans. These meetings will be open to the NPHC community.

SECTION III- need to define this and their powers?

GENERAL BODY

SECTION IV

ADVISOR

The Advisor will counsel and advise the NPHC by assisting students in their decision-making process, keeping them aware of University policies, and challenging the NPHC to go beyond the status quo. The advisor shall improve the effectiveness of the NPHC while assisting in the positive development of the students.

SECTION V

ORDER OF SUCCESSION

- A. In the event the Council President is unable to perform their duties or unable to attend The Ohio State University for any reason the Council Vice President is to succeed to the President.
- B. In the event that the Council Vice President cannot or does not wish to take their new office, then the Council Vice President must occupy the new office until a proper election process can be held to fill the vacancy. Following such election, the aforementioned officer has the option of returning to their former position or yielding that position to another council member selected through the election process. If an executive board officer not in a position of succession chooses to leave or be removed from their office, the acting Council President and Council Advisor will have the jurisdiction to make a recommendation to appoint another council member. In order to fill the newly vacant position, the council member being recommended must meet all requirements and

be approved half ($\frac{1}{2}$) votes from the executive board and three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) votes from Council of Presidents.

SECTION VI

OFFICER REMOVAL PROCESS

- A. The NPHC Council at The Ohio State University has elected officers and not general body members that make up the elected council, therefore a member removal process is not needed.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS AND QUORUM

SECTION I

- A. All council meetings for the following school year shall be scheduled prior to the beginning of the academic term. Council meetings shall be added to the calendar and final approval is given from the Council of Presidents.
- B. Executive Board meetings will be held bi-weekly; Council of Presidents and General Body meetings will held once a month.
- C. The Council President and Director of Administration and Communication shall notify the council of any changes to the meeting schedule. All council meetings are open to all general body members and special invited guests.

SECTION II

Special meetings shall be called by the Chair of the Council of Presidents, or at the request of a quorum of the general body or Executive Board. Each organization's president/representative deemed by the president shall be informed by a phone call or written form of communication from the Executive Board at least two day prior to the meeting. The Chair of the COP reserves the right to suspend the day limit if immediate action is necessary.

SECTION III

Two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the active organizations in NPHC constitute a quorum.

SECTION IV

Attendance at all COP meetings is mandatory for each respective organization. Failure to attend without one-day prior notification to the Director of Administration and Communication and/or the Council President will result in a \$25 fine.

SECTION V

Meetings shall be run in accordance with Robert's Rule of Order, except where they conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws. In those cases, the Constitution and Bylaws shall supersede Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VII - VOTING

SECTION I

In the event of officer elections, each active member organization present, shall have one vote.

SECTION II

All motions must pass by majority vote of the NPHC members in attendance. In the case of a tie, the Executive Board shall assume the responsibility of deciding the outcome of the motion.

SECTION III

No one NPHC officer shall have a vote. The collected Executive Board shall constitute one vote in the result of a tie on a motion against the member organizations.

SECTION IV

All voting rights and privileges of an organization shall be temporarily suspended while an organization is suspended from the council.

SECTION V

All votes are final.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

SECTION I

This Constitution shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of the COP/representatives, at a COP meeting.

SECTION II

Amendments may be proposed by a representative of a member organization, the Executive Board, the Judicial Standards Board, or the NPHC Advisor.

SECTION III

All proposed amendments should be submitted in writing to the Judicial Standards Board or the Executive Board.

SECTION IV

The proposed amendments will be presented and distributed to the council at the COP/Executive Board meeting or a special meeting following the submission of the amendments. The Director of Judicial Standards and Director of Administration and Communication shall be responsible for communicating all proposed amendments via email for documentation

SECTION V

The Council of Presidents (COP) shall review proposed amendments and approve or deny the amendment in an official vote of two-thirds (2/3). A subsequent amendment to the initial amendment must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the NPHC COP/deemed member representatives. The Director of Judicial Standards and Director of Administration and Communication shall keep record of the final decision and update governing documents at least 3 business days after the vote has been made.

ARTICLE IX- GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION I

NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE: This Organization and its members shall not discriminate against any individual(s) on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status or any other basis in accordance with the guidelines set by the Office of Student Life Student Activities.

SECTION II

STATEMENT OF NON-HAZING: Section 3335-23-04 (L) of the Code of Student Conduct prohibits hazing, which is defined as: Doing, requiring, or encouraging any act, whether or not the act is voluntarily agreed upon, in conjunction with initiation, continued membership, or participation in any group, that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm or humiliation. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, use of alcohol, creation of excessive fatigue, and paddling, punching, or kicking in any form. Failure to intervene, prevent, or report acts of hazing may constitute a violation of this section.

SECTION III

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH INSTITUTIONAL, LOCAL AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS: This organization shall comply with all Ohio State University policies and procedures, including but not limited to, those policies set forth in the Code of Student Conduct, Student Activities, Sorority and Fraternity Life, as well as local, state, and federal laws.