

## *South Alabama IFC Greek Board of Magistrates* Bylaws

### ARTICLE I: PREAMBLE

The mission of the Greek Board of Magistrates (henceforth referred to as GBM) is to promote a sense of Fraternal standards, values, civility, accountability, responsible behavior, and the maintenance of good character among all fraternities at the University of South Alabama as is consistent with the mission of the University.

The primary responsibility of the board will be to resolve organizational violations of the bylaws, rules and policies of the Fraternity Council, the University, and other applicable risk management policies.

In conformance with applicable State and Federal laws and University policy, the Greek Board of Magistrates does not discriminate in any of its policies, selection procedures or practices on the basis of race, color, gender, national origin, ancestry, religion, age, physical disability, medical condition, sexual orientation, marital status or citizenship.

### ARTICLE II: JURISDICTION

1. The GBM will adjudicate violations involving fraternity **chapter** activities (see Article IV, Section B). Individual violations will be adjudicated through the University conduct process. This is to include academic and behavior violations worthy of probation via the IFC bylaws. Said violations will still be punished via the standards of the IFC bylaws and their suggested punishments. There will be no appeal for academic-based sanctions.
2. Chapters and members who commit offenses against federal, state, and local laws, are subject to prosecution by those authorities and may be subject to disciplinary action under University rules when their conduct violates institutional standards.
3. Specifically, the jurisdiction of the GBM shall be to hear the following cases:
  - a. Violations of the Interfraternity Council Constitution and bylaws
  - b. Violations of the Interfraternity Council Recruitment Rules
  - c. Violations of Risk Management Policies
  - d. Violations of University Alcohol, Drug and Hazing Policies by a chapter
4. When applicable, mediation may be available to resolve disputes between two or more organizations.
5. Individual cases are to be heard by the University. **However**, if a chapter demonstrates a pattern of similar individual violations, then a University official or GBM advisor may recommend that the Chapter be heard by the GBM. At some point, the summation of similar individual violations should be considered representative of the culture of the chapter as a whole.

- a. A University official or GBM advisor may suggest that a chapter be brought before the GBM in response to numerous individual violations, but it is left up to the discretion of the Vice President Judicial whether or not the chapter shall be heard.
  - b. The conditions by which a chapter may be heard based on individual violations are intentionally broad. It is up to the VP-JD to decide whether or not the case can be considered organizational given the relevant circumstances.
6. If it becomes clear to the VP-JD that a chapter is violating University policies and other risk management policies, but there is not enough evidence to charge the chapter with a violation, the VP-JD may contact the chapter to discuss the chapter's behavior without levying sanctions.
  - a. The VP-JD may ask the chapter President to attend a formal meeting but may not levy sanctions.
  - b. Any actions taken by the VP should be done with the GBM advisor's knowledge. However, since the aim of such a meeting is to establish accountability within the Greek community and since no formal charges are being submitted, the VP may choose to hold the meeting without the GBM advisor present in order to promote a more honest dialogue.

### ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

#### **Section A. Composition of the GBM**

1. The GBM shall be composed of the IFC Vice President Judicial, two members from each IFC represented fraternity with one being a delegate, and a Greek Conduct Board advisor. Other Office of Fraternity officials may advise the board in conjunction with the Greek Board of Magistrate advisor.
2. The Magistrate Board standing pool is defined as the group of members that has already completed training and may be selected by the VP-JD to hear cases.
3. The currently elected President of IFC as well as the former VP-JD may be requested to advise the GBM.
4. The current President of IFC may also attend any and all meetings if he chooses to do so with the consent of the VP-JD.

#### **Section B. Selection of GBM Members**

1. The process for selecting new members of the GBM should be started within a week following the installment of new council officers in November and should be completed in no longer than two weeks. Members of the GBM will serve for the duration of the fiscal year as long as they continue to meet the qualifications of GBM members.
2. Members must apply for the position and go through a subsequent interview process in order to be selected for the GBM.
3. The incoming and outgoing VP-JD and the GBM advisor will conduct the application and interview process and will also select the new members of the GBM.

4. Newly selected members will not be a part of the hearing board until they have undergone proper training and have been selected for the hearing board by the VP.
5. A selection to training does not guarantee the newly appointed member selection to the standing pool.

**Section C. Qualifications of GBM members:**

1. Have a minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA
2. Be in good standing, in terms of both conduct and academics, with the University of South Alabama.
3. Each member of the GBM must be in good standing with his fraternity. The respective chapter president must sign the application to verify this.
4. Affiliated with their fraternity for at least two semesters
5. Will not be graduating before the one year term expires
6. Is not a member of their fraternity's executive council

**Section D. Training of GBM Members**

1. All members must attend all training sessions and maintain their commitment to the board throughout their term. This commitment will include obligations beyond simply hearing cases.
2. A newly selected member must complete training before he or she is able to enter the standing pool and later serve on a hearing board.
3. It is the responsibility of the incoming GBM VP-JD and advisor to train the members of the board.

**Section E. Terms of Service**

1. Members of the GBM will serve for the duration of the fiscal year as long as they continue to meet the qualifications of GBM and their conduct and standing with the University remains in good standing.
2. Those members wishing to serve another term will not need to apply, but do need to be reviewed and approved by the new VP-JD.

**ARTICLE IV. REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS**

1. Board members found in violation of the University's Code of Student Conduct or the GBM member requirements as stated in these bylaws will be asked to resign by the VP-JD.
2. A GBM member's absence from more than two mandatory GBM meetings or training sessions without previous approval of a VP-JD will be considered grounds for termination at the discretion of the VP-JD

#### ARTICLE V. VACANCIES

1. Vacancies created by dismissal or withdrawal will be filled through an application process as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to select a replacement from the same chapter as the vacating member.