

THE CONSTITUTION
OF
PI LAMBDA PHI FRATERNITY

Preamble

(From the Founders' Bulletin-Yale University 1895)

“We, students pursuing courses at American Colleges, appreciating the need of a fraternity, which shall eliminate all prejudice and sectarianism, and desirous of affiliating ourselves in spirit, in feeling, and in action, do hereby associate ourselves in this Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity.”

Article I. Name

The Name of this Fraternity is Pi Lambda Phi, Inc.

Article II. Aims

The aims of this Fraternity are:

- A. To foster and develop among its members the true spirit of fraternity and the ideals of democracy.
- B. To perpetuate in the chapters of the Fraternity an atmosphere in which good scholarship and good conduct may thrive.
- C. To instill in its members a sense of responsibility to the campus and community.
- D. To promote the aims of the educational institutions at which chapters of the Fraternity are or may hereafter be established.
- E. To help prepare undergraduate members for leadership roles as students and afterwards.
- F. To foster lifetime relationships among members.

Article III. Membership

The Fraternity shall consist of the Undergraduate Chapters, all Alumni, and the Alumni Associations. There shall be no social, honorary, or other form of membership other than except as provided for herein.

Section 1. Any male person who is not a member of another social collegiate fraternity may be elected to membership in this Fraternity.

- A. Election and initiation shall be in the form and manner prescribed by the Bylaws.

B. Any person duly initiated shall be a member for life unless expelled as provided herein or as prescribed by the Bylaws

Section 2. The Undergraduate Chapters are composed of students at approved colleges and universities in the United States and Canada who have been initiated by the duly chartered chapter as provided herein.

Section 3. Alumni are members who are no longer enrolled in an undergraduate institution.

Section 4. Alumni Associations are composed of those Alumni who desire to associate themselves in a group with the basis of such grouping being their relationship to a particular undergraduate chapter, commonality of interest, or within a particular geographic locale, provided that such group has been duly chartered by the International Executive Council of the Fraternity.

Article IV. Government

The International Executive Council shall be the Supreme governing body of the Fraternity. It shall be composed of nine to fifteen alumni members, who shall serve for a term of three years and until their successor shall have been elected and taken office.

Section 1. The International Executive Council shall elect at a meeting to be held within 14 days before or no later than 14 days after June 1st each year, from among its members, the following officers: a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer and a Secretary who shall serve for a term of three years and who will automatically serve as members of the International Executive Council for the succeeding three years. The term of the newly elected officers and members of the International Executive Council shall begin at the annual gathering as the last act of the traditional banquet held at the annual gathering or no later than August 31st each year. No officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in any one office.

Section 2. Vacancies that occur for any reason shall be filled at the next meeting of the Electoral Board. A member's successor shall be elected to complete the term of his predecessor.

Section 3. At the discretion of the International Executive Council, vacancies that occur for any reason may be filled before the next meeting of the Electoral Board by submitting in writing to all alumni associations, undergraduate chapters in good standing, and Chapter Coaches notice of an election to fill the vacancy and the name of the nominee by a majority vote of the International Executive Council to fill it. Each such organization shall be required to report its vote thereon within a time specified in such notice. If such nomination receives the affirmative vote of a majority of such organizations in good standing, the nominee shall be deemed to be elected. A member's successor shall be elected to complete the term of his predecessor.

Section 4. When a vacancy of an officer position of the International Executive Council occurs, it shall be filled by election at the next properly noticed meeting of the International Executive Council.

Section 5. The International Executive Council or its duly constituted nominees shall have the power to perform the following acts on behalf of the Fraternity:

A. To purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire and hold, own, sell, or dispose of, real and personal property of all kinds;

B. To borrow money, to make, accept, endorse, execute, and issue promissory notes, bills of exchange, bonds, debentures and other obligations at any time and from time to time, for any purpose related to the business and activities of the Fraternity, and to secure the payment of any such obligations by mortgage, pledge, deed of trust or otherwise;

C. To grant and issue charters authorizing the establishment of undergraduate chapters and alumni associations, and suspend any charter in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws, or revoke any charter by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of those present at a regular meeting of the International Executive Council;

D. To promote the development of membership within the organization in accordance with the Bylaws.

E. To fix by resolution or in Bylaws, the respective functions, powers, duties of the officers of the International Executive Council, Professional Staff, and such other committees as it may appoint or authorize.

F. The International Executive Council shall levy dues, assessments and impose sanctions as it may in its discretion deem appropriate to provide funding for the operation and administration of the Fraternity.

G. To do and perform such other and further acts as it may deem necessary or desirable in the conduct of the business of the Fraternity and in maintaining its name and welfare and generally to secure and exercise any and all rights and privileges permissible under and pursuant to the laws of the states or provinces where the Fraternity is incorporated;

Article V. Voting

Section 1. Electoral Board: For the purpose of electing the members of the International Executive Council, or any vote of the members required by the Constitution or Bylaws, the Electoral Board shall be composed of one representative member from each Undergraduate Chapter and Alumni Association in good standing, as well as the Chapter Coach of each of the duly chartered Undergraduate Chapters in good standing.

Section 2. Nominating Committee: There shall be a nominating committee consisting of five alumni but not members of the International Executive Council; four members shall be elected by the International Executive Council. The Chairman shall be appointed by the President of the International Executive Council. The Committee shall nominate Alumni Members for election to the International Executive Council.

Section 3. Undergraduate Advisory Council: The delegates who assemble at the annual gathering shall elect representatives who will serve on the Undergraduate Advisory Council in accordance with the Bylaws.

Article VI. Bylaws and Rules of Order

The International Executive Council may enact such Bylaws and rules of order, consistent with the provisions hereof, as it deems proper for the conduct of business of the Fraternity. Except as otherwise provided the prevailing edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern in all parliamentary proceedings.

Article VII. Sanctions

The International Executive Council shall have the power and authority to fine, suspend, place on probation, expel any alumnus or undergraduate brother, or revoke any Charter for conduct deemed by the International Executive Council detrimental to the welfare or repute of the Fraternity as set forth in the Bylaws. No member shall be expelled, or Charter revoked except, after the presentation of charges said to require such expulsion or revocation and an opportunity for such member, or chapter, to be heard therein, in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.

Article VIII. Residual Powers

The interpretation of any article, provision or portion of the Constitution, is vested in the International Executive Council, and the governing body may from time to time confer other powers to the International Executive Council for the efficient operation of the Fraternity.

Article IX. Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be submitted in writing to the International Executive Council by any undergraduate chapter, alumni association, petition signed by 50 or more alumni members, or any member of the International Executive Council. Such proposed amendment shall be considered by the International Executive Council at a meeting of which written notice has been given setting forth that a proposed amendment to the Constitution will be considered at such meeting. If at such meeting of the International Executive Council, such proposed amendment is approved by a vote of three-fourths of the members present, such proposed amendment shall be submitted to all alumni associations, undergraduate chapters in good standing, and Chapter Coaches and each such organization shall be expected to report its vote thereon within a time specified in such notice. If such amendment receives the affirmative two-thirds of such voting organizations in good standing, it shall be deemed adopted and made part of the Constitution. A proposal to merge or combine with any other national social collegiate fraternity or to absorb any such fraternity shall for the purpose of this Constitution be deemed to be and shall be acted upon as an amendment to this Constitution.

Article X: Relationship

No undergraduate chapter, alumni association, or member or alumnus is at any time authorized to act on behalf of the International Fraternity and, therefore, no undergraduate chapter, alumni association, or member or alumnus is considered an agent of the International Fraternity. No undergraduate chapter, alumni association, or member thereof has been appointed as an agent of the International Fraternity. Undergraduate chapters and alumni associates are separate and distinct entities from the International Fraternity. Most undergraduate chapters operate as unincorporated associations. The International Fraternity is not involved in, nor does it control, or have the right to control the day-to-day activities of any undergraduate chapter or alumni association. The International Fraternity does not and cannot control or supervise the day-to-day operations or activities of an undergraduate chapter or alumni association.