

Constitution of Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association

PREAMBLE

The Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association exists to advance the ideals and goals of the sorority community. We aim to represent member sororities as a strong and effective voice for the campus community.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The Name of this organization shall be the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association.

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVE

The mission of this Panhellenic Association shall be to develop and maintain fraternity life and inter-fraternity life at a high level of accomplishment and in so doing to:

1. Serve as the governing body and official voice for the sorority community.
2. Consider the goals and ideas of member groups as continually applicable to campus and personal life.
3. Promote superior scholarship as basic to intellectual achievement.
4. Cooperate with member fraternities and the university administration in concern for and maintenance of high social and moral standards.
5. Act in accordance with the National Panhellenic Conference rules and policies.
6. Act in accordance with all rules established by Panhellenic Council as not to violate the sovereignty, rights, and privileges of member fraternities.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

There shall be three classes of membership: Regular, Provisional and Associate.

1. Regular membership

The REGULAR membership of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all chapter members in good standing of National Panhellenic Conference sororities at the Sam Houston State University.

2. Provisional membership

Provisional membership of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all chapter members in good standing of National Panhellenic Conference colonies at the Sam Houston State University.

- a. Provisional members will maintain all rights and privileges of regular members, with the exception of a Panhellenic vote and eligibility to hold an executive office. Provisional members will have a voice, but no vote in all Panhellenic matters.
- b. Provisional members will automatically become Regular members upon receiving a charter by the national organization.

3. Associate membership

The ASSOCIATE membership of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all members in good standing of local sororities or interest groups or national or regional non-National Panhellenic Conference member groups that have met the requirements for membership in the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association.

A. Criteria for Associate membership

1. The minimum membership size for prospective Associate member groups is 20, with no members belonging to a group currently in the Panhellenic Association.
2. Prospective Associate member groups must have been in existence (registered with Student Activities and Organizations) for a minimum of four long semesters.
3. Internal governance policies of prospective Associate members must comply with the requirements of the College Panhellenic Association's and university policies and with applicable laws (including policies on alcohol, social functions, and hazing).
4. A two-thirds vote is necessary for the Panhellenic Council to approve applications for Associate member status.
5. Applications for Associate member status will be reviewed by the Executive Board and considered by the Council within four Council meetings after the application has been received.

B. Privileges and responsibilities of Associate membership

1. Associate members must abide by all NPC Unanimous Agreements and be subject to the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association Constitution and Bylaws, recruitment rules and risk management policies.

2. Associate members have a voice, but no vote in all matters of Panhellenic.
3. Absences: Associate members are responsible for the absence policy in regards to Council meetings.
4. Associate members are not eligible to be considered for Greek Awards honors presented at the annual Greek Awards ceremony.
5. Associate members are not eligible to participate in Panhellenic Formal Recruitment.
6. Judicial Board: Associate members may not serve on the Panhellenic Judicial Board, but will be subject to judiciary proceedings.
7. Associate members are eligible to participate in Greek Week, Greek Homecoming activities, ect.

C. Recruitment expectations for Associate members

1. Associate membership recruitment may begin two weeks after the conclusion of Panhellenic Formal Recruitment. Associate members will not have access to the list of women who were not placed if any Regular member is still participating in open recruitment.
2. Recruitment Rules: Associate members shall follow Recruitment rules established for the whole of Panhellenic, unless otherwise stated and approved by the Panhellenic Recruitment Director.
3. Quota: Associate members shall be held to the quota set during Formal Recruitment period.
4. Total: Associate members are responsible to abide by chapter total set forth by the Panhellenic Association.
5. Publications: Associate members will be included in the publications that precede Recruitment. However, they will be designated as a local organization not participating in Recruitment at the same time.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

1. The officers of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall be President, Vice President, Recruitment Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and University Relations Officer
2. The officers shall be delegates from fraternities holding regular membership in the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association. Delegates from fraternities holding associate membership shall not be eligible to hold office.
3. The officers shall serve for a term of one year, with the term beginning with the Spring Semester.
4. The installation of officers will be held the last week of classes of the Fall Semester.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

1. Regular: The Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Council shall set the meeting day and time at the first meeting after registration of each semester.

2. Special: A special meeting of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association may be called by the President when necessary ~~and shall be called by her~~ or upon the written request of any regular or associate member fraternity at Sam Houston State University.
3. The delegate from each regular or associate member fraternity shall be responsible for notifying her chapter members of all regular and special meetings of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association.

ARTICLE VI. THE PANHELLENIC COUNCIL

The administrative body of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall be the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Council.

It shall be the duty of the Panhellenic Council to administer all business related to the overall welfare of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association and to compile rules governing the Panhellenic Association, including recruitment and new membership, which do not violate the sovereignty, rights and privileges of member fraternities.

1. **MEMBERSHIP:** The Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Council shall be composed of one delegate and one junior delegate from each National Panhellenic Conference fraternity chapter at Sam Houston State University and from such National Panhellenic conference fraternity colonies, local or national sororities at Sam Houston State University as the council may approve for membership in the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association.
2. **SELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ADVISORS:** Delegates and alumnae advisors to Panhellenic Council shall be selected by their respective fraternity chapters to serve for a term of one year beginning in the spring semester. Whenever possible, the alternate delegate of one year shall be delegate for the succeeding year.
3. **DELEGATE VACANCIES:** When a delegate vacancy occurs, it shall be the responsibility of the fraternity concerned to select a replacement within two weeks and to notify the Panhellenic Council Recording Secretary of her name, address and telephone number. When a meeting of the Panhellenic Council occurs while a delegate vacancy exists, the alternate delegate of the fraternity concerned shall fulfill the duties of the delegate.
4. **OFFICERS:** The officers of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall serve as the officers of the Panhellenic Council. These officers shall serve as the Executive Board of the Panhellenic Council and shall have such powers and duties as are prescribed in the Bylaws of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association.
5. **MEETINGS:** Regular meetings of the Panhellenic Council shall be held at a time and place established at the beginning of each college semester.

SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings of the Panhellenic Council may be called upon by the President when necessary and shall be called by her upon written request of any member delegate to the Panhellenic Council.

QUORUM: Two-thirds of the member fraternities shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ATTENDANCE: Any Panhellenic Delegate who does not attend a Panhellenic meeting or send a named delegate (member of her respective sorority) will be fined twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per meeting missed.

6. **VOTING:** The voting body of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall be its Panhellenic Council.
 - a. The voting members of Panhellenic Council shall be the delegates of each fraternity holding regular membership. If a delegate is absent the vote of her fraternity shall be cast by its alternate. If both delegate and alternate are absent the vote may be cast by a member of the fraternity providing her credentials have been presented in writing to the Council President prior to the meeting.
 - b. Two-thirds of the voting members of Panhellenic Council shall be required to establish recruitment rules, to set the date for recruitment, and to add a chapter. A majority vote shall be required to carry all other questions.
 - c. In the event of a tie vote among the Council, the Executive Board will cast the one final vote.
 - d. In matters calling for vote among the Executive Board, the President will not vote unless there is a tie.

7. **VOICE:** The Junior Delegates to Panhellenic Council shall have voice but no vote.

ARTICLE VII. PANHELLENIC ADVISOR

The Panhellenic Advisor shall be chosen by the Sam Houston State University Office of Student Activities and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association and its Council.

ARTICLE VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES

Such Standing Committees and special offices as may be needed to carry out the work of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Council shall be appointed by its Executive Board to serve during the tenure in office of the Board which appoints them.

ARTICLE IX. UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS AND POLICIES

1. The UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS will include but not limited to: The Panhellenic Compact, Standards of Ethical Conduct, College Panhellenic Agreements, Agreements in Questionnaires and Constitutions, and The Jurisdiction of a College Panhellenic Council.
2. All members of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association shall act in accordance with fundamental Panhellenic rules and policies established by National Panhellenic Conference in the UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS.
3. All Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Association rules and policies shall be in harmony with those currently established by National Panhellenic Conference.

ARTICLE X. VIOLATIONS

1. Violation of any regulations of this Constitution or its related Bylaws, of recruitment rules, of rules concerning matters other than recruitment, of the National Panhellenic Conference UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS shall be the occasion for penalties established by the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Council in conformity with those recommended by National Panhellenic Conference.
2. Any dispute growing out of the violation of the Panhellenic Association rules and regulations shall be adjusted through arbitration principles.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members of the Sam Houston State University Panhellenic Council provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given in writing at the preceding regular meeting.