College of Charleston Panhellenic Association Constitution

We the representatives of Alpha Delta Pi, Chi Omega, Delta Delta Delta, Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Delta, Phi Mu, Sigma Delta Tau, Zeta Tau Alpha, and associate members at the College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, in order to develop a greater understanding among the service of the Greek organizations, to seek solutions to our common problems, to assist each other and the College of Charleston attaining their educational and cultural objectives, do hereby establish this constitution.

Article I. Name
The name of this organization shall be the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association.

Article II. Object
The object of the Panhellenic Council shall be to develop and maintain fraternity life and interfraternity relations at a high level of accomplishment and in so doing to:

1. Consider the goals and ideals of member groups as continually applicable to campus and personal life.

2. Promote superior scholarship as basic to intellectual achievement.

3. Cooperate with member fraternities and the College of Charleston administration in concern for and maintenance of high social and moral standards.

4. Act in accordance with National Panhellenic Conference UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS and policies.

5. Act in accordance with such rules established by Panhellenic Association as to not violate the sovereignty, rights and privileges of member fraternities.

6. Provide programs and activities, both developmental and social, for all member organizations to help improve their functioning and to improve common experiences that encourage cooperation and unity among organizations.

Article III. Membership
There shall be two classes of membership: Regular and Associate.

1. The REGULAR membership of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all chapter members in good standing of National Panhellenic Conference fraternities at the College of Charleston.

In order to become a REGULAR member of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association:

a. Colonization must be complete.
b. At least two members must attend all Panhellenic meetings for one semester.

c. Panhellenic Council must vote to approve membership.

2. The ASSOCIATE membership of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all members in good standing of National Panhellenic Conference colonies or pledged chapters.

ASSOCIATE membership shall be granted under the following conditions:

a. Candidate must be any non-NPC sorority who is truly interested in bettering their chapter by participating in the Panhellenic Association.

b. Associate members have voice but no vote.

c. Associate membership is automatically extended to an NPC chapter during its colonization process.

Article IV. Officers

1. The officers of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be President, Vice-President Administration, Vice President Communications, Vice President Risk Management & Education, Vice President Programming, Vice President Finances, Vice President of Membership, Assistant Vice President of Membership and the Director of Pi Chi’s.

2. The officers are appointed or elected by Panhellenic member groups and the groups are selected by an application and selection process.

3. The officers shall be members of fraternities holding regular membership in the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association. Delegates from fraternities holding associate membership shall not be eligible to hold office.

4. The officers shall serve for a term of office of one year, by calendar year.

5. If any officer fails to perform her duties as outline she shall resign or should she choose to resign, a successor from the same affiliation shall be designated by the Panhellenic council through an informal election.

Article V. Meetings
1. The College of Charleston shall hold weekly meetings for the purpose of conducting its business.

2. Regular meetings are open to all chapter members.

3. Special open meetings may be held if decided upon by the executive board and announced in advance.

3. The delegate from fraternity shall be responsible for notifying her chapter members of all information discussed at meetings of the College of Charleston Panhellic Association.

4. QUORUM. Two-thirds (three-quarters) of the member fraternities shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article VI. VOTING

1. The voting body of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be its Panhellenic Council.

2. 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 a member of the fraternity, providing her credentials have been presented in writing to the Council President prior to the meeting. Only chapters present will have the right to vote.

3. Two-thirds (three-fourths) of the voting members of Panhellenic Council shall be required to establish recruitment rules, to determine quota and establish Total Chapter Size, to set the date for pledging and to add a chapter. A majority vote shall be required to carry all other questions.

Article VII. Panhellenic Advisor

1. The Panhellenic Advisor shall be appointed by the College of Charleston administration.

2. The advisor shall serve in advisory capacity to the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association and it’s Council.

Article VIII. Standing Committees

Such Standing Committees and special officers as may be necessary to carry out the work of the College of Charleston 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. All members of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall act in accordance with fundamental Panhellenic policies established by National Panhellenic Conference in the UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS.

2. All College of Charleston Panhellenic Association rules and policies shall be in harmony with those currently established by National Panhellenic Conference.

3. All members of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall not participate in any men’s formal recruitment activities or hold any social events with a fraternity until the completion of the Interfraternity Council’s Bid Day.

Article X. Violations

1. Violation of any regulations of this Constitution or its related Bylaws, of membership recruitment rules, of rules concerning matters other than membership recruitment, of the National Panhellenic Conference UNANIMOUS AGREEMENTS shall be the occasion for penalties established by the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council in conformity with those recommended by National Panhellenic Conference. (See the College Panhellenics Association Judicial Procedures in the National Panhellenic Conference Manual of Information.)

2. Any dispute growing out of the violation of Panhellenic Association rules and regulations shall be adjusted through arbitration principles of the National Panhellenic Conference.

Article XI. Amendments
This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (three-fourths) vote of the voting members of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given in writing at the preceding regular meeting.

BYLAWS

Article I. Financial Policy
- PHILOSOPHY.

The purpose of financial management in the operations of all College of Charleston’s Panhellenic Council activities is to fulfills the organization’s mission in the most effective and efficient manner and to remain accountable to all stakeholders, including National Panhellenic Conference, the Director of Greek Life, all College of Charleston women’s fraternities and sororities under Panhellenic Council, the College of Charleston, and the surrounding community. In order to accomplish this, Panhellenic
Council commits to provide accurate and complete financial data for internal and external use by the Treasurer and Council Officers of Panhellenic Council.

**AUTHORITY.**
The Council Officers are ultimately responsible for the financial management of all activities. The President and Treasurer are authorized to act on the Council’s behalf on financial matters when action is required in advance of a meeting of the Council Officers. The Treasurer is also responsible for the day-to-day financial management of the Council. The Council authorizes the Treasurer to pay bills, receive funds, and maintain bank accounts. The President and the Treasurer are authorized to enter into contracts for activities that have been approved by the Council as a part of budgets or plans. The Council must authorize any contracts outside of these parameters and all contracts with a financial value greater than $3,000. The Treasurer is authorized to manage expenses within the parameters of the overall approved budget, reporting to the Council and its delegates on variances and the reasons for these variances. The Council must approve any use of the Council’s designated cash reserve fund.

**RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- The Treasurer shall:
  - Report the financial results of Panhellenic Council operations on the schedule established by the Council, bi-weekly.
  - Inform the Council officers and delegates of any variances and the reasons for these variances in any officers’ budget upon the first available meeting.
  - Pay all obligations and file required reports in a timely manner.
  - Make no contractual commitment for bank loans or corporate credit cards without specific approval of the Council.
  - Invest money in accordance with Council-approved investment policies.
  - Avoid actions that would expose the Council, its Officers, or members to claims of liability.

- The Council shall:
  - Obtain competitive bids for items or services costing in excess of $100. Selection by the Council will be based on cost, service, and other elements of the contract. The Council will award the bid to any provider and is not required to accept the lowest cost proposal.
  - Review the Council’s financial policy annually.

**TRANSACTIONS WITHIN COUNCIL.**

No advances of funds to Council officers, Director of Greek Life, or Greek Life graduate assistants are authorized. Direct and necessary expenses including travel for meetings and other activities related to carrying out responsibilities shall be reimbursed.
In no case shall Panhellenic Council borrow funds from any Council officer, Director of Greek Life, or Greek Life staff without specific authorization from the Treasurer.

- **BUDGET**
  In order to ensure that planned activities minimize the risk of financial jeopardy and are consistent with Council-approved priorities, long-range organization goals, and specific five-year objectives.

  - The Council Officers shall:
    - Submit operating and capital budgets to the Treasurer one week before the semester begins.
    - Use responsible assumptions and projection background to create a realistic operating and capital budget.
    - Not overspend their budget unless the Council approves this excess spending. If the Council officer exceeds her budget without approval or disregards the Council’s rejection of excess spending, the Council Officer is held personally responsible for any and all expenses over the initial amount budgeted.
    - Sign the “Compliance with the Budget” document upon the budget’s approval from the Council delegates. This document shall also be signed by the Director of Greek Life, the Greek Life graduate assistants, and anyone else with purchasing power on behalf of Panhellenic Council.

  - All Council delegates shall:
    - After being presented the budget by the Panhellenic Treasurer at the first Panhellenic meeting of the semester shall present the Council’s budget to their respective voting body within the delegate’s chapter before the next Panhellenic meeting.
    - Vote on the Council’s budget (on behalf of their sorority’s voting body) at the very next Council meeting, approximately two weeks from the day they initially received it.
    - Approve the Budget with a two-thirds majority of quorum.

  - **FISCAL YEAR.** The fiscal year of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be from July 1 to June 30.

  - **CONTRACTS.** The signatures of the President and Panhellenic Advisor shall be required to bind the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association.

  - **CHECKS.** All checks issued on behalf of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be signed by the President and the Treasurer.
• **PAYMENTS.** All payments due to the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association shall be made to the Treasurer, who shall record them. Checks for payments shall be made payable to the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council/Association.

• **MEMBERSHIP DUES**
  • **Amount.** The dues of each Panhellenic Association member fraternity shall be $5.00 per member and new member per semester.
  • **Time of Payment.** The dues of each Panhellenic Association member fraternity shall be payable on or before the second scheduled October/February meeting of the Panhellenic Council.
  • **Late Dues.** All late dues will be assessed a fifty dollar ($50.00) fine.

**Article II. Selection of Officers**

1. All member organizations shall be represented by one voting executive officer and one chapter appointed delegate.

2. All executive officers shall:
   a. Be an undergraduate for the duration of her term.
   b. Be initiated and in good standing with her chapter and the College of Charleston at the time of her office and for the remainder of her term.
   c. Must have experienced both sides of FORMAL Recruitment.
   d. Be in her junior year at the college to apply for Panhellenic President.
   e. Unless otherwise approved, Panhellenic president must have served on the Panhellenic executive board before.

3. Panhellenic Executive Board members must submit an application and evaluation form filled out by their chapter president and executive board. Applications will be reviewed by the Elections Committee which is headed by VP Administration as well as the other Panhellenic Officers from that term that will not be eligible to run for a second term. In addition, other members may be added to the Elections Committee (such as the Greek Life Staff and Panhellenic Advisor) this is to be determined by the VP Administration.

**Article III. Officer Duties**

1. The President shall:
a. Have the overall responsibility for the operation of the Panhellenic Council.

b. Call and preside at all regular and special meetings of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association/Council and Executive Board meetings.

c. Review, approve and co-sign all Panhellenic Association checks and contracts involving the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association.

d. Serve as member ex-officio of all Panhellenic Council Committees with voice but no vote.

e. Vote in case of a tie.

f. Report as required to the NPC Area Advisor.

g. Maintain a complete and up-to-date President's file which will include a copy of the current College of Charleston Panhellenic Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules; the current Panhellenic Association budget; the current NPC Manual of Information and related materials, current correspondence and materials received from her NPC Area Advisor; all Panhellenic weekly meeting minutes and other pertinent materials.

h. Install the incoming officers of the Panhellenic Council once all chapters have selected their Panhellenic executive delegates.

i. Serve as a member of the Judiciary Board

j. Assist the Office of Student Life during summer orientation.

k. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to this office.

l. Always remain impartial.

2. The Vice President Administration shall:

a. Perform the duties of the President in her absence, inability to serve, or at her call.

b. Serve as Chairman of the Constitutional Review Committee, to meet toward the end of her term to assess and update the Panhellenic Constitution.
c. Serve as Chairman of the Elections Committee. This includes (but is not limited to) collecting all applications and arranging times for elections committee to meet.

d. Organize and Plan the Borelli Awards every year as needed.

e. Serve as a liaison between Panhellenic and IFC as needed.

- Serve on Judiciary Board
- Be responsible for all matters pertaining to promotion of superior scholarship as basic to intellectual achievement.
- Have up-to-date statistics in all women, Greek women, all male, Greek male, all campus, and all Greek grade point averages.
- Make sure all Chapters are above the all woman`s gpa, if they fall below must warn chapter and send information to Judiciary Board for possible Social Probation.
- Hold application review for Order of Omega and Rho Lambda.
- Keep an up-to-date list of each sorority’s academic standards and requirements.
- Submit scholarship reports to the National Panhellenic Conference as needed.

3. The Vice President Communications:

- Be responsible for coordinating all forms of publicity dealing with the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council.
- Communicate with each officer to make certain that the public and the news media are informed about Panhellenic and its member sororities through press releases.
- Reserve a room for Panhellenic Council meetings.
- Keep an up-to-date roll of the members of Panhellenic Council and call it at all Council meetings.
• Keep full minutes of all weekly meetings of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council and a record of action taken by the Executive Board. A record of these minutes should be distributed to the Presidents of member organizations, and the Panhellenic advisor within 48 hours.

• Maintain a complete and up-to-date file which will include the minutes of meetings of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council; copies of all contracts made by the Panhellenic Council, current correspondence.

• Be responsible for the official correspondence of the Panhellenic Council unless provided for otherwise.

• Keep current statistics concerning the number of initiated members of each Panhellenic Association member fraternity.

• Complete and submit administrative reports to the National Panhellenic Conference as needed.

• Coordinate and execute a Greek week philanthropy project. As well as any goodwill social events including invitations and food service.

• Compose a monthly calendar highlighting all chapters' activities for distribution to Panhellenic members and the George Street Observer.

• Create and continually update a Panhellenic Association website.

• Perform all other duties usually pertaining to this office.

4. The Vice President Membership Chair shall:

   a. Plan and coordinate Formal Recruitment

   b. Review and compile new Recruitment Greek Life booklets and have them printed prior to the first orientation session.

   c. Set up a schedule for Recruitment activities.

   d. Coordinate room assignments for Recruitment.

   e. Coordinate summer orientation sessions.

   g. File and register each Potential Member as applications are received.
h. Visit each chapter prior to Recruitment and explain Recruitment rules and have each chapter member sign a compliance letter.

i. Work closely with the Director of Pi Chi’s and Assistant Membership Chair

- Live in Charleston for the entire summer.

5. The Assistant Vice President of Membership shall:
   a. Assist the VP of membership in all tasks

   b. collect any withdrawal or excuse forms that are filled out during the Recruitment period, as well as entering them into the ICS program.

   c. Coordinate upperclassmen drop-ins in the Spring.

6. The Director of Pi Chi’s shall:
   a. review Pi Chi applications and hold interviews

   b. be responsible for training Pi Chis. Holding one training in the spring before disaffiliation and holding a pi chi training in the pre recruitment week.

7. The Vice President Risk Management & Education Chair shall:
   a. Chair the Judiciary Board.

   b. Chair the Risk Management Committee.

   c. Plan at least one educational program per semester for Panhellenic.

   d. Report to President, other VP’s and Director of Greek Life.

   e. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to this office.

8. The Vice president of Finances shall:

   a. Be responsible for the general supervision of the finances of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association.
b. Be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget and, following its approval by the Panhellenic Council, for providing a copy to each College of Charleston Panhellenic Association member fraternity.

c. Educate Panhellenic officers about the budget and their allotted monies.

d. Receive all payments due to the Panhellenic Association, collect all dues, and give receipts.

e. Be responsible for the prompt payment of all bills of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association.

f. Maintain up-to-date financial records; give a financial report at each regular meeting of the Panhellenic Council and an annual report at the close of her term of office.

g. Complete and submit monthly reports to the President.

h. Perform all other duties usually pertaining to this office.

9. The Vice President of Programming shall:

a. Coordinate and execute Greek Week activities.

b. Assist in the Greek Week philanthropy projects.

c. Form a Greek Week Committee that will be responsible for Greek Week.

d. Assist in promotions involved in Greek Week.

e. Organize Pep Supper and make appropriate reservations.

f. Distribute Pep Super rules and approve all skits.

g. Be responsible for impartial judges during Pep Supper, Greek Week, etc.

• Serve on the programming Committee.

• Organize Panhellenic week
Article IV: Delegates
There shall be one chapter-appointed delegate from each NPC member organization. The delegate shall:

1) Panhellenic Delegates are the liaison between Panhellenic Executive Board and the individual chapters.

2) A delegate must:
   a. Communicate effectively Panhellenic reports and announcements to her chapter.
   b. Notify chapter members of all regular and special meetings of the College of Charleston Panhellenic Association.
   c. Support Panhellenic decisions and programs.
   d. Possess thorough knowledge of Panhellenic policies and procedures.
   e. Attend officer turnover.
   f. Attend delegate training/retreat.
   g. Attend all Panhellenic meetings.
   h. Exercise ethical and professional behavior.
   i. Express the chapter’s opinion rather than individual convictions.
      j. Possess a general respect for all sororities and be willing to cooperate with them to promote the Greek community.
   k. Be organized, responsible, and punctual.
   l. Possess and promote a positive “Panhellenic spirit.”
   m. Uphold the National Panhellenic Conference Creed and College of Charleston creed.
   n. Attend the Southeastern Panhellenic Conference in the spring.

Article VI. Standing Committees

The Standing Committees shall serve for a term of one year. Such term of office is to begin no later than six weeks into the spring semester. A committee chairman or member may be appointed to serve for a further term of office. Each Panhellenic delegate will serve on at least one standing committee.

1. The Judiciary Committee shall:
   a. Consist of the Vice-President Risk Management & Education and Scholarship chair as co-chairman and consist of Panhellenic President, Vice President Administration, as well as two appointed chapter delegates. The Panhellenic Advisor will serve as an ex officio member.
   b. Direct judicial hearings and administer sanctions as appropriate for violations of the Panhellenic Association Constitution, Bylaws, Standing
Rules, Recruitment Rules, and policies established by the College of Charleston Panhellenic Council.
c. The Judicial Board will handle all cases except when the discussion is confidential.

2. The Constitutional Review Committee shall:
   a. Be responsible for undertaking an extensive review of the Constitution every fall, amending it as deemed necessary, and bringing these changes before the Panhellenic council for proper review and implementation into the Constitution. The amendments must pass by a two-thirds vote.

3. The Risk Management Committee shall:
   a. Consist of each sorority's Risk Management Officer and be chaired by the Vice President Risk Management & Education.
   b. Meet twice a semester.
   c. Meet with sorority social chairs & risk management chairs, collect information, and perform other preventative duties.
   d. Organize and facilitate programming for a Risk Management Program.
   e. Keep up to date records as to how each sorority is dealing with risk management for sorority functions

4. The Elections Committee shall:
   a. Consist of each Panhellenic Executive Board officer and be chaired by the Vice President Administration.
   b. Collect applications for the new Panhellenic Executive Board.
   b. Meet at the end of the fall semester to fairly elect council officers for the next calendar year.

5. The Programming Committee shall:
   a. be chaired by the Vice president of programming
   b. be responsible for coordinating all events during Panhellenic Week and Greek Week.
   c. organize and coordinate all Greek Speakers
   d. coordinate with IFC and NPHC to bring promotional programs to the college.

Article VII. Administration of Membership Recruitment

1. An early fall membership shall be held.
2. The National Panhellenic Conference Quota-Total system shall be followed. Each chapter will be responsible for maintaining total membership which will be voted on by the Panhellenic council each fall semester following the completion of recruitment.

3. The preferential bidding system shall be used.

4. Except during the formal membership recruitment period, Continuous Open Bidding shall be in effect during the school year (fall through spring) for all eligible women students.

5. Chapters which do not fill basic Quota during formal membership recruitment may continue to bid and pledge to Quota in Continuous Open Bidding even though reaching Quota puts them over Total.

6. All membership events shall be held at the location designated by the Panhellenic VP Membership.

7. Every regularly enrolled new member, initiate or affiliate of a chapter shall be counted in the Chapter Total.
   a. A list pledged, initiated and affiliated members shall be filed with the President of the Panhellenic Association and within the Panhellenic Advisor on the first week of classes of each fall semester.
   b. Any depledging, termination or other change in membership shall be reported to the President of the Panhellenic Association and the Panhellenic Advisor no later than 24 hours after it has occurred.

8. Summer contacts will be made at Greek Life sessions during the summer by the Vice President Membership.

Article VIII. Pledging and Initiation

1. A woman must be a regularly matriculated student to be eligible for membership recruitment and pledging.

2. A Panhellenic Association member fraternity may not issue an invitation to membership of formally pledge a woman during any school recess.

3. A new member may be initiated whenever she has met the requirements of the fraternity to which she is pledged.

Article IX. Hazing
All forms of hazing, pledge day and/or pre-initiation activities which are as defined as hazing shall be banned. Hazing is defined as any action or situation with or without consent which recklessly, intentionally or unintentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or creates risk of injury, or causes discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for he purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in a chapter or colony of an NPC member fraternity. Such activities and situations include, but are not limited to, creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; wearing, publicly, apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts and jokes; participating in treasure or scavenger hunts; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; late night sessions which interfere with scholastic activities or normal sleep patterns; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law, ritual, or the regulations and policies of the member fraternity or educational institution or state or federal law.

Article X. Extension

1. When all NPC chapters at the College of Charleston are close to or over Total the Panhellenic Council shall consider raising Total or adding another chapter.

2. Panhellenic will consider once annually recommendations from the Director of Greek Life to extend.

3. Such a chapter shall be organized through colonization by an NPC fraternity or through organization of a local sorority which may petition an NPC fraternity for a chapter.

4. Consideration should be given to NPC fraternities that have previously had chapters on the campus and to those NPC fraternities which have filed letters expressing an interest in the campus.

5. Approval of the request to extend will result in the formation of an Extension Committee that will work in conjunction with an NPC Extension Coordinator.

Article XI. Alcohol and Drugs

1. College of Charleston Panhellenic Council members shall follow a policy consistent with the University guidelines and rules. Absolutely no alcohol or narcotics are permitted in any sorority house.

2. It shall be the responsibility of the individual sororities to make their members aware of the alcohol policy.
3. College of Charleston Panhellenic Council members who cause infractions are subject to disciplinary action by the Judicial Board.

Article XII. Programming

- Each chapter will be responsible for hosting one educational program with the campus each year. Part of the responsibility includes all reservations and publicity. No more than two sororities may jointly put on a program.
- A Panhellenic Week will be held every spring semester to promote the Panhellenic community.

Article XIII. Sorority GPA

Each chapter’s overall GPA must be equal to or above the all-woman’s overall GPA. If it is not, they will be sent to Judiciary Board for review. First offense, they will be warned and asked to put an educational program in place (i.e. study hours, tutoring, etc). Second offense, the sorority will be place on social probation for one semester.

Article XIV. Violations

1. Any dispute arising out of the violation of Panhellenic Association rules and regulations shall be addressed through mediation.

2. If an agreement is not reached through the mediation process, the matter shall be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

3. If the decision of the Judiciary Committee is not acceptable, the matter may be appealed. Notice of the intention to appeal shall be given to the Panhellenic Council President. All requirements as stated in the NPC Manual of Information shall be met.

Article XV. Amendment

These Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds (three-fourths) vote of the voting members of Panhellenic Council, provided notice of the proposal amendment has been given in writing at two weeks prior to the voting meeting.