The University of Southern Mississippi
Chapter of
National Pan-Hellenic Council

PREAMBLE

We, the representatives of Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Phi, Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Iota Phi Theta, recognizing the need to unify and coordinate the activities of inter-collegiate National Pan-Hellenic Council Black Greek letter fraternities and sororities and recognizing that there are certain areas of action and programming that can best be carried out by the joint efforts of all such organizations, and believing that these needs can be realized by formal provision of the following Constitution and By Laws, however, we will be affiliated with the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be:

Section 1.
To promote higher standards of scholarship, a greater degree of culture, closer social fellowship and a stronger interfraternal spirit among affiliate members.

Section 2.
To coordinate activities that benefit member organizations.

Section 3.
To stimulate affiliate organizations to foster and sponsor projects which encourage educational, moral, and cultural progress of the campus and community.

Section 4.
To serve as a forum for the consideration of issues of mutual interest to affiliate organizations.

Section 5.
Act in accordance with all rules established by the National Pan-Hellenic Council, International Fraternity Council, and the Panhellenic Council as neither do nor violate the sovereignty and privileges of member fraternities and sororities.
Section 6.
Act in accordance with the University regulations as stated in the University of Southern Mississippi Handbook for students.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.
The following sororities and fraternities are the members of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council. The Council is composed of two (2) delegates from the following approved Greek letter fraternities and sororities on campus:

- Alpha Kappa Alpha
- Delta Sigma Theta
- Zeta Phi Beta
- Sigma Gamma Rho
- Alpha Phi Alpha
- Kappa Alpha Psi
- Omega Psi Phi
- Phi Beta Sigma
- Iota Phi Theta

Section 2.
Membership to the National Pan-Hellenic Council is limited to those social Greek letter organizations that are recognized by the University of Southern Mississippi and the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Section 3.
Additional National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities may be admitted to the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council with the consent of the Council’s Executive Committee and Advisors.

Section 4.
It must have members, organizations that are active both nationally and locally.

ARTICLE IV: DELEGATES

Section 1.
The University of Southern Mississippi chapter of National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be composed of two (2) delegates from each affiliate chapter.

Section 2.
Delegates to the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be selected by their respective fraternity or sorority chapter to serve for a term of one year commencing on the last meeting in November.

Section 3.
When a delegate vacancy occurs, it shall be the responsibility of the fraternity or sorority concerned to select a replacement within two weeks.
ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1.
The officers of the National Pan-Hellenic shall be:

- President: Parliamentarian/Chief Justice
- Vice President: Social Chair
- Secretary: Philanthropy Chair
- Treasurer: Public Relations Chair

Officers of the Council shall be considered as a representative for their respective organization. New officers will be installed at the last regular meeting in November.

Section 2. Number of Terms
Their term of office will be one (1) calendar year. This term of office is to begin the first meeting in the fall semester or spring semester.

Section 3.
The goal of the National Pan-Hellenic Council is to have at least one representative from each active organization on the National Pan-Hellenic Council Executive Board.

Section 4. Election of Officers
a. A formal election will be conducted by secret ballot.
b. The current National Pan-Hellenic Council President will take applications for the office of President, as well as, open applications for the remaining executive positions one week prior to scheduled National Pan-Hellenic Council officer election for the upcoming year. Only by submission of application for National Pan-Hellenic President can an individual be eligible for the office, and only by submission of an open application can an individual be eligible for any remaining executive office.
c. Upon the closing of nominations for each position, the floor will be opened for discussion on the nominees for the position. The National Pan-Hellenic Council will have the opportunity to express the pros and cons of each candidate.
d. Each organization will have three delegates that are eligible to vote.
e. Only one delegate from each organization will be eligible to hold a National Pan-Hellenic Council executive position.
f. After a delegate from an organization has been elected, no one else from that organization can be nominated to hold a National Pan-Hellenic executive position. The two remaining delegates from that organization are eligible to nominate a delegate from another organization and vote for the remainder of the election.
g. If a delegate fails to nominate any delegate from their organization to fill a National Pan-Hellenic Council executive position, the National Pan-Hellenic President-elect has the discretion to appoint a delegate from any organization present during elections.
Section 5. Vacancy
In the case of National Pan-Hellenic Council position is not filled or becomes vacated, the current National Pan-Hellenic President has the discretion to appoint a delegate from any organization present during elections.

Section 6. Qualifications of Officers:
An officer must be a full-time or part-time undergraduate student in good standing at the University of Southern Mississippi. An officer must be an active member of one of the active chapters which form the Council.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1.
The Executive Committee shall be consisted of the elected officers of the National Pan-Hellenic Council and the Advisor of the Council.

Section 2.
The executive committee resolves the right to make decisions on behalf of the University of Southern Mississippi’s National Pan-Hellenic Council in emergency situations.

Section 3.
University mandated policies can be added to the constitution at any time deemed necessary by the NPHC Advisor.

ARTICLE VII: POWERS

Section 1.
To make and enforce laws that pertains to National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Section 2.
This council will make no rules that conflict with International Fraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic, Panhellenic Council the University of Southern Mississippi, or organizations (individual chapters).

Section 3.
To levy and collect annual dues if deemed necessary.

Section 4.
To suspend an organization when deemed necessary.
ARTICLE VIII: MEETING

Section 1.
The University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council shall hold at least two regular meetings monthly. The regular meeting times for each term shall be scheduled at the first regular meeting. The President may call a special meeting of the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council when necessary.

ARTICLE IX: FINANCE AND FINES

Section 1.
Each affiliate chapter shall be charged thirteen dollars ($13.00) a member per semester (Fall/Spring). If an affiliate chapter falls below ten (10) active members, their dues will be no less than one hundred thirty dollars ($130.00) per semester.

Section 2.
Member organizations not represented at general body meeting and Council sponsored activities without giving prior notification shall be fined according to the following scale:

- First absentee: ten dollars ($10.00)
- Second absentee: ten dollars ($10.00)
- Third absentee: ten dollars ($10.00)
- Tardy: five dollars ($5.00) per meeting

Section 3.
After the fourth (4th) absentee, your organization will be notified in writing and given one (1) week to pay.

Section 4.
If any fine has not been paid within seven (7) days, the right to participate in the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council and its activities as a member of a Black Greek Organization guest will be relinquished.

Section 5.
The Executive Board and advisor may levy a fine against member organizations for violations of any part of the Constitution or By-Laws as recommended.

The Executive Board and advisor may levy a fine against member organizations for violations of any part of the constitution or By-laws as recommended. The fine must be levied no later, and/or within 14 days from the date of the violation.
Section 6.
Funds of the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be used for expenses and/or activities as relating to the purpose of the Council.

Section 7.

a. Planning of the master calendar shall be done a month prior to the end of the spring semester and will cover booking up to one academic year. Each organization can reserve one week per academic year. If you have a week in any one semester, you may not reserve more than three consecutive days in the same semester. The Vice-President of the NPHC will specify a time for the president from each NPHC organization to meet and plan the calendar. If the president is not able to attend, then they are responsible for appointing a representative from their organization to attend. Calendar priority will be based on grade rank from the previous semester. At that time, the president and vice-president of NPHC shall discuss the calendar with the president or representative of each member organization. The organization with first priority will have first choice on one event date. Then the organization chosen second, will have second pick, they will also be able to choose one date and so on. After each organization has picked their first date, they will go around again for the second date and so on until the calendar is finished.

b. In the event of conflict or violation of the master calendar protocol after the calendar has been established by the vice-president in the master calendar meeting, the conflicting parties must submit an event agreement form stating the positions of both parties/organizations conflicting. The event agreement form must be submitted at least one week prior to their event. If and only if the violators/potential violators refuse to sign an event agreement form will they be violating with malice of forethought and subject to the following penalties:

a. The fines shall be as follows: Programs/Events one hundred dollars ($100), with fifty dollars ($50) granted to the National Pan-Hellenic Council and fifty dollars to the violated organization; ticket sales two hundred fifty dollars ($250) with one hundred twenty five dollars ($125) granted to the National Pan-Hellenic Council and one hundred twenty five dollars ($125) granted to the violated organization; money making events or parties fifteen hundred dollars ($1500) with seven hundred fifty dollars ($750) granted to the National Pan-Hellenic Council and seven hundred fifty dollars ($750) granted to the violated organization which must be paid to the National Pan-Hellenic Council before the violating group can have a function on or off campus.

b. Special conditions apply for: Homecoming/Home football games, Reunions, Socials/Rush/Interest Meetings, Spring Semester: First Thursday and Last Thursday

Section 8. Participation
a. Participation in NPHC hosted events shall be based on percentage determined by the Office of Greek Life and NPHC Executive Council. The violating organization(s) will be subject to the following penalty:
   1. Absences- $10 per person
   2. Tardies- $5 per person
b. Each Southern Miss NPHC organization is required to participate in the NPHC hosted stepshow or find an organization to step in its place. Failure to do so will result in the following penalty:
   1. Fine of one thousand dollars ($1,000)

ARTICLE X: AMENDMENTS

Section 1.
This Constitution or its By Laws shall be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members of the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council.

Section 2.
A proposed amendment or By Laws shall be presented in writing to the member organizations for study at least fourteen (14) days prior to a regular meeting of the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council.

ARTICLE XI: SIDEWALK STEP SHOW

Section 1. Definition
A Sidewalk Step Show should be defined as where an organization is performing a step and or strut sequence. This is not a competition.

Section 2.
A Sidewalk Step Show can be held at anytime of the day and on any day of the week with the universities’ approval.

Section 3.
During the Sidewalk Step Show DJ and amplified sound may not be used.

Section 4. Participants
Any invited organizations whether on or off campus can participate as long as they are approved by Greek Life.

Section 5. Audience
An audience can consist of The University of Southern Mississippi’s students, faculty, and staff, as well as, visitors from off campus.

Section 6. Violations
Violations of these guidelines will result in a fine of one hundred ($100) dollars, payable to the National Pan-Hellenic Council.
ARTICLE XII: HOP CONTEST

Section 1. Definition
A Hop Contest should be defined as where there are two or more Greek Letter Organizations competing against each other with a strut, hop, etc.

Section 2.
A Hop Contest should be organized through the Office of Greek Life and held at a university approved location and time.

Section 3. Music
During the Hop Contest a DJ or amplified sound must be used.

Section 4. Violations
Violation of these guidelines will result in a fine of one hundred ($100) dollars payable to the National Pan- Hellenic Council.
a student organization.

**Section 2. New Membership**
Any Black Greek Letter organization seeking membership in the University of Southern Mississippi chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, which meets the above criteria set forth in Section 1, may be granted membership.

**ARTICLE II: SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Goal**
The goal of the National Pan-Hellenic Council is to have at least one representative from each active organization on the National Pan-Hellenic Council Executive Board.

**Section 2. Election of Officers**
- a. A formal election will be conducted by secret ballot.
- b. The current National Pan-Hellenic Council President will take applications for the office of President, as well as, open applications for the remaining executive positions one week prior to scheduled National Pan-Hellenic Council officer election for the upcoming year. Only by submission of application for National Pan-Hellenic President can an individual be eligible for the office, and only by submission of an open application can an individual be eligible for any remaining executive office.
- c. Upon the closing of nominations for each position, the floor will be opened for discussion on the nominees for the position. The National Pan-Hellenic Council will have the opportunity to express the pros and cons of each candidate.
- d. Each organization will have three delegates that are eligible to vote.
- e. Only one delegate from each organization will be eligible to hold a National Pan-Hellenic Council executive position.
- f. After a delegate from an organization has been elected, no one else from that organization can be nominated to hold a National Pan-Hellenic executive position. The two remaining delegates from that organization are eligible to nominate a delegate from another organization and vote for the remainder of the election.
- g. If a delegate fails to nominate any delegate from their organization to fill a National Pan-Hellenic Council executive position, the National Pan-Hellenic President-elect has the discretion to appoint a delegate from any organization present during elections.

**Section 3. Officer Vacancy**
In the case of National Pan-Hellenic Council position is not filled or becomes vacated, the current National Pan-Hellenic President has the discretion to appoint a delegate from any organization present during elections.

**Section 4. Removal of Officer**
Any officer of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote.
ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF DELEGATES

Section 1. Membership
The University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be composed of two delegates from each affiliate chapter.

Section 2. Selection of Delegates
Delegates of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be selected by their respective chapters to serve for a term of one year commencing on the last regular meeting in November.

Section 3. Delegate Vacancies
When a delegate vacancy occurs it shall be the responsibility of the chapter concerned to select a replacement within two weeks and to notify the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council’s Secretary, President, and Advisor of the new delegate’s name, address, and telephone number.

Section 4. Voting
a. The voting body of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be its council members.
b. The voting members of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council shall be the delegates of each regular membership. If a delegate is absent, its alternate shall cast the vote of his or her organization. If both delegates are absent, the vote may be cast by a member of the fraternity or sorority present.

Section 5. Voice
The Presidents of each fraternity and sorority to the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council shall have voice but no vote.

Section 6. Responsibilities of Officers
a. The President shall:
   1. Serve as the chairperson of the Executive Board, as coordinator of all executive functions and as chief public representative.
   2. Preside at all Council and Executive meetings.
   3. Serve as ex-officio member of all Council committees.
   4. Have the power to establish committees and appoint committee chairpersons subject to the approval of a simple majority of the members present.
b. The Vice President shall:
   1. Preside at all meetings of official function in the absence of the President.
   2. Serve on the Executive Board.
   3. Serve as the chairperson of all un-appointed committees.
   4. Serve as the coordinator of the master calendar.
c. The Secretary shall:
1. Keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the Council and be responsible for records, files, and distribution of typed minutes to each member organization and advisors, as well as other indicated officials, prior to the next official meeting.

2. Be responsible for notifying all Council Members of meeting times and place at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

3. Serve on the Executive Board.

d. The Treasurer shall:
   1. Bill and collect the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council dues as stated in the By-Laws and give receipt of such.
   2. Budget finances and regulate and audit the accounts of the Council.
   3. Disburse funds of the Council with the President and an advisor countersigning all orders.
   4. Serve on the Executive Board.

e. The Parliamentarian/Chief Justice shall:
   1. Be well versed or willing to learn parliamentary procedures, as prescribed by Robert’s Rule of Order, to safeguard the rights and privileges of all members equally.
   2. Keep an accurate account along with the secretary and treasurer of all dues and fines collected and stated in the National Pan-Hellenic Council By-Laws.
   3. Preside over the justice board.
   4. Serve on the Executive Board.

f. The Philanthropy Chair shall:
   1. Keep an accurate and updated list of all events.
   2. Will distribute these lists to each member organization.
   3. Will chair and plan all philanthropic events and activities sponsored by the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council.
   4. Serve on the Executive Board.

g. The Social Chair shall:
   1. Announce all meeting dates at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting along with the secretary.
   2. Publicize programs and projects of the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council to the media and campus community.
   3. Maintain and update the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council’s scrapbook.
   4. Serve on the Executive Board.

h. The Public Relations Chair shall:
   1. Assist Minority Affairs with events of interest to the National Pan-Hellenic Council.
   2. Conduct PR that reflects the outstanding performance of the National Pan-Hellenic Council (this will include, but is not limited to: The Student Printz, Greek Life publications, campus advertisements, and various other newsletters deemed proficient at the elected officer’s discretion)
   3. Serve on the Executive Board.
ARTICLE IV: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1.
The Executive Board shall administer routine business between meetings of the Council when advisable and of other business as has been approved for action by the National Pan-Hellenic Council vote.

Section 2.
All actions taken by the Executive Board shall be reported at the next meeting of the Council by the Secretary and inserted in the minutes of the meeting.

ARTICLE V: MEETING TIMES

Section 1.
The University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council shall meet within the academic year. The regular meeting times for each term shall be scheduled at the first regular meeting and governed by Robert’s Rule of Order.

Section 2.
The Executive Board shall meet when called by the President of the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council.

ARTICLE VI: FINANCES

Section 1.
Each affiliate chapter shall be charged thirteen dollars ($13.00) a member per semester (Fall/Spring). If an affiliate chapter falls below ten (10) active members, their dues will be no less than one hundred thirty dollars ($130.00) per semester.

Section 2.
A fine shall be levied against an affiliate chapter violating any part of this Constitution and/or By-Laws.

A fine shall be levied against an affiliate chapter violating any part of this constitution and/or By-laws. The fine must be levied no later than, and/or within 14 days from the date of the violation.

Section 3.
Failure to pay dues shall entail the relinquishing of the right to participate in the University of Southern Mississippi chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council and its activities.

Section 4.
Funds of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic shall be used for expenses and/or activities as relating to the purpose of the Council.
Section 5.
All groups will pay fifty dollars ($50) for each newly initiated member. This is a one time fee to be paid to the University of Southern Mississippi chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP INTAKE PROCESS

Section 1. Membership Intake
The Membership Intake Process and procedures for each member organization shall be in accordance with the guidelines established by their national office and The University of Southern Mississippi.

Section 2. Grade Point Average
All candidates for the University of Southern Mississippi chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council intake process must have a minimum grade point average of 2.5.

Section 3. Potential Members
A potential member must be allowed to maintain a normal lifestyle. They are encouraged to attend all scheduled classes during the membership intake process.

Section 4. Hazing
Hazing is any intake activity not of a constructive nature in accordance with the purposes and objects of the fraternity or sorority system. The University of Southern Mississippi chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council does NOT permit hazing. Each member organization must conform to the hazing policies of their individual national office and the University of Southern Mississippi.

a. Some Non-Acceptable Practices
   1. Paddling, switching, slapping, or burning with cigarettes
   2. Excessive physical and or mental abuse
   3. Morally degrading or humiliating abuse
   4. Consumption of unusual combinations of food and beverages
   5. Being subjected to a chore of servitude.
   6. Appearance in public as a spectacle or public nuisance in dress or behavior.

Section 5. Goals
The goals of each intake activity should be to prepare the potential member for the benefits of fraternal membership and to help them become a good leader and brother or sister through well planned programs.

Section 6. Guidelines
Guidelines for intake will be reviewed annually.
ARTICLE IX: PAN-HELLENIC ADVISORY

Section 1. Advisory Selection
The Office of Greek Life shall choose the University of Southern Mississippi National Pan-Hellenic Council Advisor.

Section 2. Advisory Duty
The advisor shall serve in an advisory capacity to the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council.

ARTICLE X: AGREEMENTS, RULES, AND POLICIES

Section 1. Adhering to Regulations
All members of the University of Southern Mississippi chapter of National Pan-Hellenic Council shall act in accordance with fundamental Council rules established by their National Constitution, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, and the University of Southern Mississippi.

ARTICLE XI: VIOLATIONS

Section 1. Consequences
Any fraternity or sorority violating any part of this Constitution and/or By-Laws thereof shall be subject to the action of the University of Southern Mississippi Chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council Judicial Board and/or the Office of Greek Life.

The University of Southern Mississippi
Chapter of
National Pan- Hellenic Council

JUDICIAL BOARD
BY- LAWS

ARTICLE I: STRUCTURE OF THE GREEK JUDICIAL BOARD
The Board shall be composed of a Chief Justice and at least one representative from each fraternity and sorority active at The University of Southern Mississippi, allowing each organization to partake on the board. Only one (non-voting) member may sit on the Board, the Greek Life Advisor.

The Board shall be composed of a Chief Justice/Parliamentarian and at least one representative/Justice from each fraternity and sorority active at The University of Southern Mississippi, allowing each organization to partake on the board. Each Justice is appointed for lifetime/Greek career at the University of Southern Mississippi, by the current president of NPHC when there is a vacancy. The appointed Justices are to be confirmed for service by the NPHC general body. Only one (non-voting) member may sit on the Board, the Greek Life Advisor.

**Section 1. Duties of Chief Justice**

The Chief Justice is subject to all criteria, duties, and responsibilities of a Justice of the Judicial Board and, in addition, the following responsibilities:

a. The Chief Justice is responsible for consulting with the NPHC Advisor concerning the validity and soundness of charges and the determination of action regarding incident reports.

b. The Chief Justice serves as a spokesperson for the board. In this capacity, the Chief Justice notifies chapters of the charges brought against them, their rights to fairness and due process, the Judicial Board process, and the appeal process. Following a decision, the Chief Justice submits the decision in writing to the affected chapter(s), with copies to the Dean of Students, Chapter/Graduate Advisor, Greek Life Advisor, and notification of the decision to the complainant.

c. At judicial sessions, the Chief Justice serves as a moderator for the Board’s activities, including supervision of the Justices’ responsibilities.

**Section 2. Duties of Justices:**

a. Justices will attend all Judicial Board informational sessions and familiarize themselves with the Judicial Board operation.

b. Justices will attend all NPHC meetings and forums.

c. Justices will treat alleged student violators with courtesy and have the utmost concern for the rights of students and in fairness in proceedings.

d. Justices must be prepared to arrive at a fair decision and impose appropriate sanctions.

e. Justices must uphold the confidentiality of the case, the proceedings, and the outcome.

f. Justices will consider themselves special representatives of the Greek and judicial system. They should take care to uphold their responsibilities and obey the University and NPHC rules and regulations.
Section 3. Absenses
a. If a justice misses two meetings a meeting must be scheduled with the NPHC Advisor and Chief Justice to discuss absenses.
b. After the 2nd absence, Justice may be considered for removal.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Justice Eligibility:
a. Any person who is an initiated member in good standing (academic and financial) with the University and of a recognized fully chartered NPHC organization at The University of Southern Mississippi is eligible to be a justice and may apply.

Exceptions to this include the following:
- No NPHC Executive Officer may serve as a member of the board at any time during his/her term as an Executive Officer.

Section 2. Justice Selection:
a. The Greek Judicial Board including returning and continuing justices and the NPHC Advisor will do selection of the justices at the end of each academic year. New justices will be chosen to fill the positions of retiring justices or those who are not re-appointed.
b. Justices shall be appointed on the basis of objectivity, integrity, maturity, and chapters who have not had recent representatives on the Board.

Section 3. Application Process:
a. Written applications will be provided to any eligible member of a National Pan-Hellenic Council organization and will consist of general information and essay questions. In addition, the Board will have the option to conduct a formal interview with each applicant.

Section 4. Voting:
a. Each justice shall have a vote with the exception of the Chief Justice, who shall only vote in case of a tie.

ARTICLE III: ETHICAL STANDARDS AND REMOVAL

Because the Dean of Students delegates the authority of the Greek judicial board, certain institutional guidelines regarding discipline must be observed by all members of the Board. Violation of these standards is cause for an individual’s removal from the Board.

Section 1. Standards:
It is the responsibility of each Judicial Board member to observe the following ethical standards: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
a. Information regarding the disciplinary status of any student or fraternity/sorority
chapter is NOT to be discussed with anyone outside the Board.

b. When talking with a student, Judicial Board members should REFRAIN FROM MAKING ACCUSATIONS OR STATEMENTS of any kind that cannot be supported.

c. In cases involving discipline, the vote of each Board member is confidential. The vote of the entire Board, however, is shared with the chapter(s) when the Board’s decision is announced.

d. All members of the Board must UPHOLD ALL DECISIONS OF THE BOARD, even though there may be dissenting opinions.

e. The confidentiality of the Judicial Board proceedings under these standards must be stressed. The association of students with the Greek community and the unique identification of members with their fraternity/sorority are strong forces within the community and on campus at large. When disciplinary proceedings are undertaken, strict confidentiality is the best means to ensure that the individual’s right to privacy is maintained, and that the reputation of other chapter members and indeed all of the University of Southern Miss Greek members are upheld.

f. Within the University system all members must follow University and Student Code of Conduct policies and regulations as well as existing Greek codes and guidelines as stipulated by NPHC Constitutions or otherwise.

g. Mandatory attendance to all NPHC general meeting.

Section 2. Removal:
A Judicial Board member may be removed by the remaining Board membership for breach of any of the aforementioned standards or any actions or circumstances that are considered to be substandard and damaging to the integrity of the Board.

Section 3. FORMAL PROCEDURES:

Initiation of a Case - A case may be referred to the Judicial Board from any source. Anyone filing a report should be prepared to present such evidence or testimony to the Board.

Section 4. Conduct Policies:
Any action by a member or members of a formally recognized Fraternity/Sorority, casting an unfavorable reflection on their respective chapter or the Greek Community as a whole may be considered to be sufficient reason for a conduct case. All conduct cases shall come under the heading of one or any of the combination of the following:

1. Violation of The University of Southern Mississippi Student Code of Conduct.

Section 5. Procedures:
All cases, from the initial receipt of a complaint, shall take no longer than thirty-one (31) days (including weekends) to complete, including investigations, hearings, and notice of sanction/appeal. To protect the rights on the accused group, the Judicial Board will follow the procedures outlined below when conducting an investigation:
a. Chief Justice shall notify the president of the organization of complaint against it. Included in this notice will be:
   1. A description of the actual complaint received by the Board.
   2. Notification that the Chapter President has five business days to respond in writing to the Board regarding the complaint.
   3. Description of the date/time/location of the forthcoming hearing.
   b. Chief Justice shall also notify the complainant of receipt of his/her complaint and of the forthcoming procedure. The President shall serve as the official representative and respondent for the organization. The entire Board will be presented with the case, hear from the complainant(s), Chapter representative(s), and any witness(es), and make a decision regarding responsibility and any applicable sanctions or referrals.
   c. Chief Justice shall inform the Chapter via a letter to the President within two business days of the hearing of:
      1. The Board’s decision.
      2. The Chapter’s right of and process for an appeal.
   d. Chief Justice shall inform the complainant that the hearing has taken place and that the Board has reached a decision.

ARTICLE IV: APPEALS PROCESS.

Section 1. Appeal:
An accused group may appeal the decision of the Greek Judicial Board in writing within three (3) business days of the date of the decision letter. A group not appealing within that time period will lose its appeal rights, and all action on the matter shall be considered closed. A case for appeal must be made in writing to the NPHC Advisor within three business days as outlined.

Section 2. Conditions for Appeal:
Appeals may be granted for one or more of the following reasons:
   1. Improper procedure was followed by the Greek Judicial Board.
   2. Proper due process was denied.
   3. Further evidence has been found since the decision was rendered which may affect or change in the Board’s decision.
   4. The penalty or sanction imposed was excessive.

Section 3. Appeal Procedures:
   1. All appeals must be submitted in writing to the NPHC Advisor within three (3) business days of the date of the decision letter.
   2. The appealing chapter must indicate what condition(s) for appeal (see above) it thinks support the request for an appeal. The chapter must also indicate whom it wants to review the appeal and make a final decision.
   3. The NPHC Advisor will forward the appeal to the appropriate venue within three (3) business days of receiving it.
   4. Once the appeal is reviewed and a decision is made, the chapter will be notified in writing.
   5. All appeals are final.
Section 4. Action of the Appeal:
An appeal may (1) void a decision rendered by the Judicial Board, or (2) modify or change the Board’s decision.

Section 5. Sanctions:
Possible Sanctions include but are not limited to:
   a. Dismissal of Case
   b. A violation did not occur indicating that a chapter’s actions were inappropriate and subsequent sanctions shall not occur.
   c. Formal apologies may be requested
   d. Payment of any damages incurred including property and physical injury
   e. Monetary Fine