Standing Rules of the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board

1. Definitions

The Standing Rules establish guidelines for the operation of the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board, hereafter referred to as the IFJB. All incidents brought before the IFJB will follow these Rules. The Interfraternity Council will be referred to as IFC hereafter.

2. Purpose of the IFJB

The purpose of the IFJB is to:

a. Promote harmony among chapters
b. Ensure positive representation of IFC to the University
c. Encourage and uphold the IFC Standards of Conduct
d. Address violations of the IFC Standards of Conduct

3. Structure of IFJB

The IFJB is composed of the Chief Justice, four Associate Justices and the IFC Advisor.

a. Chief Justice
   ii. Conduct educational meetings with chapter officials or other persons pertinent to the meeting for the purpose of addressing violations of the IFC Standards of Conduct
   iii. Decide on appropriate educational sanctions with the advice, counsel and approval of the Associate Justices and IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant.
   iv. The Chief Justice chooses which two Associate Justices will serve on the Board for each situation brought before the Board.

b. Associate Justices
   ii. Provide assistance and perspective on issues that are presented to the IFJB. In the case of producing a decision, Associate Justices have equal consideration as the Chief Justice and IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant.
   iii. Avoid conflict of interest. If an Associate Justice is a member of the fraternity in question, he will recuse himself from the seat of Associate Justice. The resigned Associate Justice will be replaced by one of the other two Associate Justices. This conflict of interest is generally avoided by the
Chief Justice as he is responsible for choosing the Associate Justices for each situation.

c. IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant
   ii. Assists the Chief Justice and Associate Justices in conducting educational meetings.
   iii. Advises the Chief Justice or Associate Justices on appropriate educational sanctions.
   iv. Approves all educational sanctions and decisions.
   v. In the event of the absence of the IFC advisor the IFC Graduate assistant may fill this role.

4. Educational Meetings

   a. Purpose:
      The purpose of IFJB Educational Meetings is to discuss issues with any of the involved parties. These meetings are an opportunity for the IFJB to discover the truth of a situation and assess the impact on individual chapters and IFC as a whole. In addition, Educational Meetings serve as the means by which IFJB can determine any violations of the IFC Standards of Conduct by chapters or individuals. If any violations are found, the IFJB will base its sanctions on the discussion during the Educational Meeting. Accused or proven violators of the Standards will have an opportunity to discuss the situation and communicate their position.

   b. Process:
      i. Notice:
         A Notice sent to a chapter is a formal request to attend an Educational Meeting with the IFJB. The Notice will explain the reason for the meeting, including any appropriate details concerning reported violations of IFC Standards. The recipient of the Notice must reply within seven (7) days of receiving the Notice. The reply’s content will only consist of scheduling the date and time for the Educational Meeting.

      ii. Expedited Adjudication
         In the event that the Chief Justice, Associate Justices, and IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant unanimously determine that circumstances warrant expedience in scheduling the Educational Meeting, the recipient of the Notice must reply within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the Notice and attend the Educational Meeting as soon as reasonably possible. If the recipient fails to reply within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the Notice or seems to be exhibiting evasive behavior, the IFJB may immediately sanction the accused party. In such circumstances the Chief Justice, Associate Justices, and IFC Advisor/IFC
Graduate Assistant must unanimously approve sanctions. If not all members of the IFJB are able to assemble, or if the IFC Advisor is unavailable, sanctions may be issued with the approval of the Chief Justice, two (2) Associate Justices, and the IFC Graduate Assistant. Evidence for an expedited Educational Meeting must be made available to the IFJB and accused party for a reasonable period of time prior to the Educational Meeting. The Chief Justice determines what constitutes a reasonable period of time to review evidence prior to the Educational Meeting.

iii. Right to be Heard

The IFJB recognizes that any party brought before the Board deserves the right to be heard. The IFJB encourages the party in question to explain and/or defend their position. This will be accomplished through appropriate, educational dialogue during a formal Educational Meeting.

1. Evidence:
   The Chief Justice will compile evidence into a file which will be made available to the involved parties, the IFC Chief Justice, and IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant at least two (2) days prior to the scheduled hearing. Evidence shall consist of exhibits, names of witnesses, or any other piece of evidence relevant to the situation.

   a. Exhibits. Exhibits must be filed with the Chief Justice at least four (4) days prior to the Educational Meeting.

   b. Witnesses. Names of witnesses must be filed with the Chief Justice at least four (4) days prior to the Educational Meeting.

   c. Any other forms of evidence must be filed with the Chief Justice at least four (4) days prior to the Educational Meeting.

   d. If any evidence cannot be submitted with the Chief Justice before the time required, the allowance of said evidence will be at the discretion of the Chief Justice.

2. Participants:
   The allowance and role of participants in the Educational Meetings other than the accused, the complainants, and the IFJB are subject
to the Chief Justice and the IFC Advisor’s/IFC Graduate Assistant’s decision. Requests for the allowance of other participants (such as an advisor) can be made by contacting the Chief Justice or IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant two (2) days prior to the meeting.

3. The decision of the IFJB will be submitted in writing to the IFC Adviser and involved parties within two business days of the scheduled Educational Meeting date. Included in this ruling shall be (1) the judgment of the IFJB; (2) the sanctions to be imposed on the Accused Student/Fraternity, if any, and the interpretations thereof; and (3) references to existing IFC laws and past rulings used in making the judgment.

5. **Sanctions**

   a. **Purpose:**
      
      ii. Sanctions are educational in nature.
      iii. Sanctions focus on behavioral and cultural change within the fraternity.
      iv. Sanctions aim to accomplish restitution to damaged parties.
      v. Sanctions will be appropriate and fitting to the violation that induced them.

   b. **Types:**
      The IFJB shall have the power to impose one or more of, but not limited to, the following sanctions upon determining a violation of IFC Standards:

      ii. **Admonition:** A letter of condemnation of a violation of IFC Standards and suggests further modification of behavior. This sanction will not be included in the fraternity’s permanent judicial file.
      iii. **Warning:** A written letter of an official warning which indicates a violation of IFC Standards and suggests future modification of behavior.
      iv. **Fines:** A monetary fine which shall not exceed $5,000. All fines are to be used for IFC scholarship purposes as approved by the IFC Executive Council.
      v. **Probation:** A defined period of probation during which further violations of IFC Standards will result in substantially harsher sanctions.
      vi. **Restitution:** A monetary payment to an individual or group for the cost of damages.
      vii. **Community Service:** A community service project assigned to an individual or group as a form of non-monetary restitution to the community.
      viii. **Programming:** A program hosted or attended by the guilty student/fraternity, relevant to the Standards violation. The outline of the program must be cleared with the IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant before the program may take place.
      ix. **Suspension:** This sanction may include the loss of voting privileges in IFC
Congress, and any IFC related committees, for a period no greater than one calendar year and may include any of, but not limited to, the following stipulations:

a. Restriction of participation in intramurals, social events, and CAC events. The specifics and extent of these restrictions will be purely dependent upon the discretion of the IFJB.

x. Expulsion:
This sanction will result in an indefinite loss of IFC recognition at the University of Oklahoma. It will also result in an official recommendation to the University of Oklahoma that the member fraternity’s status as a registered student organization be removed. An official letter citing the reasoning and resulting consequences of the IFC expulsion will be sent to the member fraternity’s national organization. This form of sanction is reserved for member fraternities who continually, either deliberately or negligently, defy previous IFJB sanctions or instructions or commit an offense that is unequivocally deemed significantly unbecoming and in direct contradiction to the moral character of the Interfraternity Council at the University of Oklahoma.

xi. Any other sanction that is approved by the IFJB and accomplishes the purpose of sanctions.

6. Appeals

Appeals shall be made within one week of receipt of the IFJB’s ruling. Appeals may be made by either the accused party or the complainant for one or more of the following reasons: (1) the accused student/fraternity was not notified of the Educational Meeting or was not given the opportunity to defend their position, (2) the facts appear insufficient to establish a decision, (3) the imposed sanction is inappropriate for the violation, or (4) new facts that have great relevance to the situation can be presented. All appeals shall be submitted in writing and shall include a copy of the charges, a copy of the decision, and a statement detailing the reasons for appeal. All appeals shall be referred to the IFC Executive Committee. If the appeal is granted by the Executive Committee, it shall be sent to an Appellate Board consisting of the IFC President, IFC Chief Justice and IFC Advisor/IFC Graduate Assistant. This Appellate Board will establish another Educational Meeting and have the authority to come to a decision. The Appellate Board’s role and authority mirrors the IFJB’s explained throughout these Standing Rules.

7. Amendment
These rules may be amended at a regularly held meeting by a majority vote of the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board.

8. **Adoption**

These rules shall be adopted at a regularly held meeting by a majority vote of the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board. These rules shall be applicable in perpetuity.