



**The Constitution and Bylaws of
The Council
Mississippi College**

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be The Council at Mississippi College.

Section 2: The Council shall be defined as the governing body over Clubs and Tribes

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of The Council is to be a unified body whose goal is to support one another in order to provide an authentic and welcoming atmosphere that allows for the Clubs and Tribes to disciple their members to the glory of God in the community of Mississippi College for generations to come. In order to accomplish this we will hold to the following standards:

1. Maintain on a high plane, the social relationships within our college through social organization.
2. Coordinate activities involving the various chartered social organizations at Mississippi College.
3. Maintain the credibility of social organizations by monitoring their activities and financial status.
4. Compile rules governing rushing, pledging, and initiation on our campus and with administration.
5. Maintain communication with the administration and campus as a whole of Mississippi College.

ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION

Section 1: Each social organization must contribute four members to The Council. The Council members shall be composed of the President, Vice President(s), Council Representatives and Rush Chair.

Section 2: These delegates may serve for as many terms as they are elected by each social organization.

Section 3: A Council Representative Board will be made up of the Council presidents and Council representatives from each organization. The two organizations which the Council presidents represent will elect new Council representatives to serve on the Council. The Council Representative Board members will each serve as the spokesperson for the Council within their individual club or tribe.

Section 4: A Presidents' Executive Board will be made up of the club and tribe presidents and Council presidents. The Presidents' Executive Board will meet as needed to address topics for discussion involving the club and tribe system as a whole.

Section 5: Committees may be formed consisting of Council members and club and tribe member for certain Council events such as squeal day/night, General Rush Events, Derby Week, etc. Committees will be chaired by the respective Council officer overseeing said event. Other Council committees may be appointed as deemed necessary by the Council presidents.

ARTICLE IV. COUNCIL OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1: The officers of The Council shall be two Council Presidents (one male and one female), Vice-President, Business Manager, two Activities Chairs (one male and one female), Publicity Chair, Chaplain, and Squeal Day Chair.

Section 2: Officers shall serve for a term of one year beginning in mid-April of the spring semester.

Section 3: The Council officer body shall be made up of Council representatives from each organization.

Section 4: No Council member may hold more than one position on The Council.

Section 5: The duties of each officer shall be:

Council Presidents (2 members):

1. To work with the fellow Council President on all matters involving social organizations on campus including general rush, the pledging process, student organization conduct issues, and events.
2. Meet weekly with the Director of Student Development, the advisor of The Council.
3. To plan and call meetings with fellow Council President and jointly preside over them.
4. To preside over all General Rush activities.
5. To serve on the student organization conduct committee on issues involving social organizations when requested.
6. To serve as a non-biased, non-voting leader of the Council, Council Representative Board and any and all committees appointed through the Council. Council Presidents shall not wear their club or tribe active jersey at any campus or public events until the conclusion of the General Rush period.

Vice President:

1. To assist Presidents with General Rush planning and activities.
2. To carry out duties of either President in their absence.

3. To keep Council meetings in order by reprimanding out of order and unruly comments by Council members.
4. To serve as the Follies chairperson and assist the Director of Student Engagement in editing scripts, attending practices, scheduling dress rehearsals, etc.

Business Manager:

1. To keep an accurate record of all meeting minutes and rules.
2. To compile all names of Potential New Members and coordinate list to be checked off at each rush activity and then turn into Office of Student Development.
3. To take attendance at Council meetings and manage absences and fines.
4. To enforce and collect any absence fines.
5. To decide on General Rush Fee every year in conjunction with the Council Presidents.
6. To create an itemized budget and present to Council each semester.
7. To communicate to selected offices budgets for events and activities.
8. To manage financial standings and ensure money is used appropriately.
9. To distribute funds to each social organization for General Rush events.

Activities Chairs (2 members):

1. To plan General Rush activities sponsored by the Council.
2. To plan "Derby Week" with fellow Activities Chair.
3. To be responsible for assisting Business Manager in yearly fundraising event.
4. To work with Council Presidents to plan Rush Skits and Rush Skit Videos.
5. To assist the Chaplain with worship event each year.

Publicity Chair:

1. To work with the Council presidents to decide on General Rush theme.
2. To help Council Presidents create and order General Rush Books for new student's rooms.
3. To promote General Rush events, managing and creating all General Rush publicity materials including banners, posters and door sliders.
4. To assist with the management of The Council social media accounts.

Chaplain:

1. To come prepared to meetings with a devotional.
2. Take prayer requests.
3. Organize one worship event each year for all clubs and tribes.
4. Plan service days

Squeal Day Chair:

1. To organize and coordinate all activities included with Squeal Day.
2. To communicate plans of day with Tribe Council Members
3. To get volunteers to assist in waking girls up on day of event.
4. After each pref day, compile the final list of pledges for each social organization including expected attendance on Tribe Squeal Day.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Section 1: Meetings shall take place at a time set by The Council presidents and the Director of Student Development. Meetings may include the full Council or the Council Representative Board, depending on the agenda items for the meeting. If any additional meetings are deemed necessary, they shall be called by The Council Presidents.

Section 2: Meetings of the Presidents' Executive Board may be called by the Council presidents when deemed necessary. Any club or tribe president can petition the Council presidents to call a meeting of the Presidents' Executive Board, at which time the Council presidents will decide if a meeting is necessary.

Section 3: There must be at least two members from each organization present at every organized meeting of the full Council.

I. *Every meeting an organization fails to meet this requirement the organization will be charged a fee of twenty-five (25) dollars. This fine must be paid by the social organization prior to being allowed to participate in General Rush and the Pledging Process.*

Section 4: Each Council member is allowed two absences from meetings and/or events where attendance is required by the full Council per semester. This shall extend to all activities including but not limited to Council Workshop, General Rush events, Pledge Bash, and Derby Week events.

I. *Upon the third absence his or her social organization will be charged twenty-five (25) dollars for every following absence. This fine must be paid by the social organization prior to being allowed to participate in General Rush and the Pledging Process.*

Section 5: Excuses from events and meetings must be made twenty-four (24) hours in advance and receive approval from the Council Presidents.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Section 1: The Council will elect officers at the end of the spring semester each year following the election of officers within all Clubs and Tribes. Council members from each club or tribe must be elected no later than one month before the final day of spring exams. Council officer elections shall take place at a time determined by the outgoing Council presidents following the election of Council members from each organization.

Section 2: The outgoing Council Presidents shall preside over the election of new Council officers for the upcoming school year.

Section 3: Both the outgoing Council members and incoming Council members may participate in the voting process. Each old and new Council member will be allowed one vote. If a Council member from the previous year is returning on the next year's Council, they may cast two votes.

I. *A simple majority is required for a person to win an office seat.*

II. *If no nominee receives a majority, a runoff will occur and The Council will re-vote on the office.*

Section 4: In the event that an officer is no longer able to serve, an election will be held to fill the vacant seat at the next regular meeting of The Council.

Section 5: Voting in all other matters outside of officer elections, excluding changes to the Council Constitution and Bylaws, will be determined by a simple majority of those present and voting. Any matter being brought forth for a vote must be before the full Council.

- I. *Voting will be signified by the raising of one's hand in favor or opposed depending on the topic.*
- II. *The party being voted upon will exit the room during the vote.*

ARTICLE VII. REVENUE

Section 1: The Council shall collect a General Rush fee from all individuals going through General rush.

Section 2: General Rush fees will be determined by a vote each year based on recommendation by the Business Manager and Council Presidents.

- I. *Late General Rush fees for those individuals who wish to pledge but have not paid will also be decided by a vote based on a recommendation of the Business Manager.*

ARTICLE VIII. GENERAL RUSH, RECRUITMENT AND ORGANIZATION PLACEMENT

Section 1: The purpose of General Rush shall be to give clubs and tribes the opportunity to meet each Potential New Member, and to give the Potential New Members a chance to become acquainted with each social organization and its members.

Section 2: The General Rush Meeting and any other promotional events for a particular Club or Tribe must be preapproved by The Council at the beginning of each semester.

Section 3: The General Rush meeting, the official beginning of rush, shall be when interested students are given the guidelines for General Rush. The official decision to sign up and rush must be made by this time. Potential New Members will be required to register through an online system, pay the rush fee and fill out a profile form.

Section 4: Individual club and tribe advertising may not begin until the time established by the Council Presidents.

Section 5: The time frame for General Rush will be set by the Council presidents with approval by the Council. The schedule for General Rush will be set by the Council presidents with approval by the Council each year.

Section 6: Capacity for each organization may be determined by the internal cap set by an individual club or tribe or by the capacity needs of each potential new member rush class.

Section 7: Assignment of potential new members to a new club or tribe will be based on a system of mutual selection. At the end of the General Rush period, each potential new member will rank his or her preference for membership in a club or tribe. At the end of the General Rush period, each club or tribe will submit a list of potential new members in which they have shown interest in and wish to have as pledges during the pledge period.

Preferences and lists will be entered into the online system by potential new members and club or tribe leaders, respectively. The online system will match potential new member preferences with organization lists first, then match potential new members with an organization according to the potential new members' preference.

Section 8: Once potential new member will be offered a spot within a club or tribe if they have indicated that they are open to a spot in any organization. A potential new member who has not listed all organization on their preference list in the online system may not be offered a spot if the organizations on their list have capped at capacity.

Section 9: Once potential new members have been placed in an organization, potential new members will be notified either by the organization (males) or through the Council's reveal event (females). Potential new members will be notified of how this process works during the General Rush meeting.

Section 10: Following the placement of potential new members to their respective club or tribe, the potential new member officially begins the pledge process.

ARTICLE IX. PLEDGING

Section 1: Each men's Club and women's Tribe will submit a rush binder of events and activities to the Office of Student Development by the date set by the sponsor in order to participate in the Pledge Period.

Section 2: The Pledge Period for social organizations shall be determined by The Council in conjunction with the administration of Mississippi College before the General Rush Meeting each semester.

Section 3: Any social organization may have up to two pledging events a week outside of normal activities.

I. *Normal activities include weekly meetings, swaps, service projects, study halls, prayer breakfasts, fundraisers, follies practices, formal and informal.*

II. *Any other activity not listed but held by a social organization may be approved by The Council as a "normal activity."*

III. *Pledging activities, including, but not limited to, pledge service projects, prayer breakfasts, fundraisers, follies practices and pledging events, shall not exceed twenty (20) hours per week.*

Section 4: At no time shall "hazing" of any social organization pledge be tolerated by The Council.

Section 5: All active members of each social organization must sign and turn into The Office of Student Development the "Mississippi College Hazing Policy" before the pledging period begins.

Section 6: At all times clubs and tribes, individual club and tribe members and pledges shall adhere to the rules and regulations contained in the *Mississippi College Student Organization Handbook*, *Mississippi College Student Code of Conduct*, and the *Mississippi College Student Handbook*.

Section 7: Along with these policies, and with the guidance of the Office of Student Life, each social organization will make its own plans and requirements for pledges and membership.

Section 8: Any violations to these policies or any policies enacted by the administration of Mississippi College by a social organization as a whole or individual member or pledge may result in a complaint filed with the Office of Student Development of Mississippi College.

Section 9: Annually, additional rules may be adopted by The Council regarding the governing of rush when deemed necessary.

ARTICLE X. STUDENT ORGANIZATION CONDUCT POLICY

Section 1: Each person present at a function sponsored by the clubs and tribes, whether on or off-campus, is to adhere to the rules and standards of the University as listed in the Student Code of Conduct, in the Tomahawk, and the Student Organization Handbook for Clubs and Tribes.

Section 2: In the event that a rule or University guidelines violated by a club or tribe, the conduct policy found in the Student Organization Handbook for Clubs and Tribes will be followed in adjudicating any conduct matter.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Section 1: Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council shall be presented by the Council Presidents to the full Council.

Section 2: In order to be ratified an amendment must receive a three fourths majority by the full Council members voting and present.

Section 3: Any amendment ratified by the Council shall take place immediately.

Section 4: Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Council shall not affect any person who took office prior to the amendment.

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