

Constitution of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle Fraternity

We, the Michigan Chapter of Triangle Fraternity, in order to form a more perfect Brotherhood, set forth and establish this constitution on November 28th of 2012. To promote the long term prosperity of this chapter, preserve and promote the ideals of the Fraternity, as established by the Founders and Code of Ethics, and adapt the previous constitution to our current, ever-evolving needs.

By signing this I attest my support of this constitution and it's adoption to be the governing law of this organization.

Constitution of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle

We, the Michigan Chapter of Triangle Fraternity, set forth this constitution in order to create a Fraternity that develops balanced men in engineering, architecture, and science by providing an environment that fosters personal growth and professional success. The Michigan Chapter of Triangle Fraternity will conduct itself as to compliment this goal and the Fraternity's core values, as exemplified by the Fraternity's Code of Ethics and Ritual.

Article 1: Chapter Accordance

The Michigan Chapter of Triangle Fraternity shall adhere to all rules and regulations set forth by the National Constitution and the By-Laws of Triangle Fraternity, as well as all Local, State, and Federal Laws. Any actions deemed in violation of the governing law of Triangle Fraternity shall be reviewed first by the Judicial Board, followed by the Michigan Chapter's Alumni Board or the National Organization.

Article 2: Classifications of Membership

An active member of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle shall be defined as a student of the University of Michigan who has been designated by the chapter as an associate member or brother by the Chapter and by the National Organization. An active brother is an initiated member of the chapter who is in good standing and is actively paying fraternal and national dues.

Section 1: Associate Member

An associate member is a member of Triangle that is in the process of working to attain brotherhood within the national organization.

Requirements of and to become an associate member

In order to become an associate member, each potential new member must meet and maintain the following requirements. Failure to do so will bar potential member from becoming an associate member or lead to their removal as an associate member.

Course of study

An associate member of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle Fraternity must have a course of study

that is approved by the Fraternity Regulations section 2.6 in the National Constitution of Triangle.

Age requirements

No associate member may be within two semesters of completion of their undergraduate degree and graduation.

Academic Requirements

No associate member may have under a 2.3/4.0 cumulative college gpa. If a college gpa is not available then that potential member must have above a 3.3/4.0 cumulative high school gpa. International students score shall be converted to a 4.0 scale for consideration.

Anti-Hazing Requirements

The pledging member has the right to freedom from any actions by any member that may be construed as hazing. The pledging member has the right and the responsibility to report any and all hazing to the Executive Board and Judicial Board in order to prevent its occurrence and rectify past situations.

Bidding and Pinning

To become an associate member, the potential associate member must receive a bid offered by the chapter through a vote of the active members and meet the requirements of an associate member. Once a potential new member has been selected, that individual will be pinned making him an associate member of the fraternity.

The vote of the active Chapter must return simple majority of votes in the affirmative by secret ballot for a bid to be dispensed; however, negative votes from 10% of the active Chapter closes all further discussion on that potential associate.

If a vote of the chapter neither dispenses nor dismisses a bid offer to a potential associate member, the vote may be conducted again after that potential has had adequate time to become acquainted with more brothers.

Pinning

Pinning will take place in accordance with the Ritual as set forth by the National Council and shall take place at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Requirements

Associate members are to follow the rules and requirements as set forth in the associate member manual. Associate members are to conduct themselves in the spirit of the core values of the Fraternity, the Code of Ethics, and this constitution.

Revocation of associate membership

In the case where an associate member fails to meet the requirements to become an active member, any brother of the chapter may call for the pledge educator to conduct an official review of that associate member. The pledge educator shall present his findings within two weeks of the official review being called for at chapter. After the official review has been presented, a vote is to be put to the chapter. A majority vote of the active members will terminate associate membership.

Section 2: Brothers

A brother of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle is designated by men who have been initiated in accordance with the Ritual of Triangle Fraternity, and are so recognized by both the Michigan Chapter and the National Organization.

Requirements to become a brother

A brother is an initiated member of Triangle, who has been initiated in accordance with the Ritual as set forth by the national organization.

An associate member of the Michigan Chapter may be initiated as a brother, pending a two-thirds vote of approval by the chapter by secret ballot.

Requirements of Brothers

A brother of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle has the following responsibilities and requirements expected of them. Failure to meet these requirements will cause the Judicial Board to rule that brother as derelict in their duty and to administer appropriate action.

Brother Manual Requirements

All brothers must meet the requirements set forth in the the brother manual.

Academic Requirements

Each brother is required to hold a semester and cumulative grade point average that is above a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Service Requirement

Each member is required to perform a minimum of 10 hours of community service per semester.

Live-in requirement

All members are expected to live in the chapter home, until released from doing so.

Live-in requirement is dictated by housing points, as outlined in Article 8. Members are released from requirement in descending order, starting from the member with the most housing points as

of the introduction of the lease to the general membership.

Prior to official live-in membership designation, release from live-in requirement may be obtained for extenuating circumstances such as health, finances, or other factors, by a five-sevenths vote of the active chapter Executive Board.

Anti-Hazing Requirement

Each brother has the responsibility to prevent any and all hazing from occurring within the Chapter. If a brother witness an act of hazing, he is obligated to report it to the Executive Board and the Judicial Board.

Other requirements

All members are to conduct themselves in the spirit of the Ritual, the core values of the Fraternity, the Code of Ethics, and this Constitution.

Termination of Brother Membership

If the situation arises, the judicial board will lead the chapter in a brotherhood termination proceeding in accordance with national policy and Chapter precedent.

Section 3: Alumni Brothers

An active member shall be recognized as Alumni status upon graduation from the University of Michigan as an active member of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle, and at that time will lose his active member status.

Article 3: Executive Branch

The executive branch shall consist of a seven-member executive board and the chairs under this board. The executive branch is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Fraternity and moving it towards its envisioned future.

Executive Board

The primary role of the Executive Board is to set the vision that achieves the mission statement as defined by the National Organization. In addition, the Executive Board leads chair positions to realize this vision and is the public face of the Fraternity. The President and Executive Vice President's primary focus is the general welfare of the Fraternity; the focuses of the remaining five Vice Presidents' are the core functions of the fraternity, which are: Brotherhood, Member Development, Public Relations, Internal Operations, and External Affairs.

The Executive Board has the following authority:

- To assess, collect, and disburse such dues and assessments as may be deemed necessary for conducting the activities of the organization as proved by chapter vote.

- To spend fraternity funds based on a budget that has been approved by chapter vote.
- To create a board to assist its chairs after being approved by chapter vote. That executive board member must submit a formal written proposal to the chapter stating the board's purpose before a vote is conducted.
- This board may be filled by members at the Executive Board's discretion.
- To unanimously vote for the removal of a chairholder. This vote is solely conducted by the Executive Board and cannot be overturned by the chapter.

The Executive Board must fulfill the following requirements:

- The President and Vice President of Internal Operations must live in. The Executive Vice President, Vice President of Brotherhood, Vice President of External Affairs, Vice President of Member Development, and the Vice President of Public Relations are highly encouraged to live in but are not required to.
- The Executive Board shall have weekly meetings to discuss the business of the fraternity.
- Each Vice President shall hold a weekly meeting with their reporting chairs covering each chair's progress and ensuring that their work falls within the vision of the Fraternity.
- All Executive Board members must follow the requirements as laid out in their manual.
- Each executive board member must submit their objectives and material requisitions at the first chapter meeting of the semester; this is to be voted on by the chapter. This vote should include the individual chair's objectives and material requisitions by every chair under that Executive Board member.
- An Executive Board member may appoint whom he chooses to an approved board.
- Each Vice President will submit an evaluation for each of their chairs to the Judicial Board by the end of the semester.
- Each Executive Board member will submit a self-evaluation to the judicial board by the end of the semester.
- If any Executive Board member fails to meet the aforementioned requirements, the judicial board can rule them to be derelict.

Chair Position

The primary role of a chair position is to carry out the organization and implementation of a specified area of operation in accordance with the grand vision and divisional vision, where the grand vision is the long-term goals set by the President and Executive Vice President and the divisional vision is set by the individual Vice Presidents. All chair positions are filled with one member.

The chair positions must fulfill the following requirements:

- All chairs must submit their objectives and material requisition estimate by the first week of the semester to their managing executive officer.
- All chairs must follow the requirements as laid out in their manual.
- All chairs must update their position binders at the end of their term.
- All chairs must work together with other chairholders in order to accomplish their goals,

particularly within their Executive Board group.

- Complete a self-evaluation at the end of the semester that is submitted to the Judicial Board.
- If a chair fails to meet these aforementioned requirements, the Judicial Board can rule them to be derelict.

President

The President is to set the grand vision of the fraternity, motivating and enabling his executive board, chairs, and chapter to achieve this vision. In addition, the President shall be the Fraternity's primary spokesperson which includes:

- Serving on the Alumni Housing Corp. Board as "Active President"
- Serving as a mediator for chapter discussions
- Representing our chapter to IFC

Executive Vice President

The Executive Vice President is to assist the President in setting the grand vision for the fraternity and then work with the vice presidents on making their divisional visions in line with the grand vision of the Fraternity. Beyond this primary responsibility, the EVP is also responsible for:

- Serving as a representative for UMEC and fulfilling all necessary duties.
- Managing all administrative documents provided by nationals, Triangle Housing Corp, and the chapter. These include, but are not limited to, house leases, new member forms, and chapter minutes.

Vice President of Brotherhood

The Vice President of Brotherhood shall work within the grand vision of the Fraternity to foster an environment in which lifelong friendships can be formed, based on the tenants of the Fraternity.

To achieve this end, the Vice President of Brotherhood is responsible for the following chairs:

Brotherhood

- Fosters sense of community, open-mindedness, trust, and support between brothers.
- Develops brotherhood and bonding events.
- Continues Triangle traditions and establishes new ones.

Pledge Education

- Must have at least one semester of brotherhood.
- Works to develop brother candidates, instilling in them the precepts and traditions of the Fraternity so that they may be prepared to become members of Triangle.
- Fosters an eagerness within brother candidates to be active within the fraternity and a desire to work to make the fraternity better and stronger.
- Ensures that the University and IFC Hazing Policy is upheld.

Ritual Master

- Must have at least two semesters of brotherhood.

- Responsible for the organization of the events involving the Ritual.
- Imparts the ways and meaning of the Ritual into newly-initiated brothers.
- Promotes a deeper understanding as well as a more appreciated understanding of the Ritual within the brotherhood.

Historian

- Preserves the history and traditions of the house by maintaining detailed records of Ritual events, brothers, fraternal issues and accomplishments.
- Handles historic documents, achievements, and position manuals.

Vice President of External Affairs

The Vice President of External Affairs shall work within the grand vision of the Fraternity to organize and run events that promote the ideals and vision of the Fraternity. To achieve this end, the Vice President of External Affairs is responsible for the following chairs:

Alumni Relations

- Shall work to develop relationships with Triangle's alumni base so as to develop alumni participation and connections.

Social

- Shall plan and prepare social gatherings involved with the fraternity.
- Responsible for contacting external organizations to set up events in a timely fashion.
- Represent the fraternity to the University in a social manner.

Greek Events

- Shall plan and prepare events within the greek community. This includes pregame partners, Greek Week, and assisting in the planning of mixers and parties.

Service and Philanthropy

- Shall organize community service and philanthropic events in which members have the opportunity to better the University of Michigan and surrounding communities.

Signature Events

- Shall organize signature events that are designed to be done every year and target the larger university community, beyond just that of Triangle's normal reach.

Vice President of Internal Operations

The Vice President of Internal Operations shall work within the grand vision of the Fraternity to ensure efficient operation and usage of the chapter's fiscal and material resources, enabling the fraternity to most efficiently and effectively reach it's goals. To achieve this end, the Vice President of Internal Operations is responsible for the following chairs:

Treasurer

- Creates the semester budget
 - Budget shall be based on previous budgets and historical data as well as any fund allocation requests from each Executive Board member.
 - Budget shall be approved by majority vote of the chapter
- Ensures effective use of fraternity funds throughout the semester.
- Oversees the Accounts Payable and Collections chairs.

Accounts Payable

- Shall oversee the monetary transactions of the chairs and Executive Board positions, ensuring that they remain on budget.

Collections

- Shall ensure that all fraternity dues are paid on schedule and in full.
- Shall manage all payments in addition to dues that are fraternity related, including but not limited to additional events, parking, meal plans, and cable.
- Shall plan and create events that raise funds for the Fraternity.

House Improvement & Maintenance

- Shall develop, plan, and organize improvements to the house in order to create facilities that support the vision of the fraternity.
- Shall keep the house in good, working order, organizing the repair of housing issues as they arise.

House Manager

- Shall maintain the cleanliness, organization, and supplies of the house, in order to create an environment that can support the operations of the fraternity.
- Shall organize and set procedures for weekly cleanings, dish crews, and any additional cleanings that become necessary.

Technical Consultant

- Shall manage all technology owned by the fraternity. This includes, but is not limited to the house internet, the cloud printer, and the projector in the library.
- Ensure that the house's wireless network is secure, stable, and used appropriately.
- Suggest and receive funding to upgrade technology as needed to support the vision of the Fraternity.

Risk Manager

- Shall work to create an environment in the house that minimizes risk to all members and the Fraternity's property and work to lessen the legal liability of the house in all events.
- Shall ensure that the SEMP is upheld at all times.

Vice President of Member Development

The Vice President of Member Development shall work within the grand vision of the Fraternity to create an environment that promotes the growth and development of all members within the fraternity. To achieve this end, the Vice President of Member Development is responsible for the following chairs:

Professional Development

- Works to create an environment that ensures that brothers successfully find internships and receive full-time offers upon graduation.

Academic

- Monitors and works to improve the academic standing of the Fraternity.
- Creates a supportive academic culture within the Fraternity that encourages academic excellence.
- Maintain a relationship with an academic advisor to leverage university resources and knowledge to obtain the aforementioned goals.

Leadership Development

- Works to develop leadership qualities within the members through workshops, personal meetings, and retreats.
- Assists, informs, and promotes members becoming involved with leadership opportunities within the chapter, national organization, and in the community.
- Plans and organizes trips for national events while encouraging member participation.

General Counsel

- Assists members to create quantifiable short and long term goals and provide the means to carry out said goals.
- Provides brothers with valuable information and life skills.
- Serves as a mediator during chapter discussions along with the President.
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Vice President of Public Relations

The Vice President of Public Relations shall work within the grand vision of the Fraternity to create a positive image of Triangle Fraternity on campus and in the community in order to improve recruitment and exposure of other events. To achieve this end, the Vice President of Public Relations is responsible for the following chairs:

Marketing

- Shall expand the prestige and public awareness of the Fraternity by publicizing any event involving the organization and to spread the Triangle Fraternity name and ideals to the public.

Recruitment

- Is responsible for marketing the fraternity to potential new members in order to have them attend rush events and ultimately be considered for associate membership.
- Is responsible for planning all events during rush and events during the year to support a culture of year-round recruitment.
- Is responsible for ensuring the chapter follows the IFC Recruitment policy.

Webmaster

- Shall maintain the chapter's website and create additional web tools as needed by the Fraternity to promote its vision.

University & Corporate Relations

- Shall work to develop relationships with the University and corporations in an effort to promote Triangle's professional development goals.
- Shall work to create recruiting contacts within corporations to assist brothers in obtaining internships and full-time jobs.

Order of Succession

In the event that the Presidential position becomes vacant, the Executive Vice President shall takeover as the interim President. In the event that the Executive Vice President must also step down, the Vice President of Internal Operations will fill the interim position.

A Chapter vote will take place as soon as possible to elect the new President, who will finish the remainder of the term. The Executive Vice President is automatically eligible to run for the Presidential position, whereas other candidates must follow the ballot requirements as defined in Article 5.

Article 4: Judicial Branch

The Judicial Board shall act to ensure that all active members of the Michigan Chapter of Triangle conduct themselves in a way that complies with Triangle Fraternity's Ritual, core values, Code of Ethics, and governing documents.

Membership

The Judicial Board shall be comprised of five active members from the Chapter, including three senior members with three or more semesters of brotherhood, and two junior members with less than three.

The five Judicial Board members will elect amongst themselves a Chief Justice. The Chief Justice is responsible for announcing all rulings as well as running all Judicial Board meetings.

Jurisdiction and Rulings

The Judicial Board's jurisdiction includes all fraternal issues in which the Code of Ethics, constitution, or manuals have been violated and may rule said person as derelict. Once a member has been deemed to be derelict, the Judicial Board may review the person in question and pass a ruling in accordance with the code of ethics and this constitution. This ruling must be decided upon a majority vote of the board and must follow the documentation requirements.

This process, as well as every ruling, should follow the procedures and guidelines as laid out in the Judicial Board Manual.

Documentation

Detailed meeting minutes must be taken for all Judicial Board meetings. When a ruling is made, the number of votes for and votes against must be individually reported along with an opinion for both sides. The names of the Judicial Board member shall not be associated with a vote. These minutes shall remain private for six years with only the Judicial Board, President, and Executive Vice President having access to them. After the six-year period, the records shall be made public with the names of the individual under review omitted from the minutes.

Appeals

A Judicial Board decision may be appealed in two ways. This first is for a written request must be submitted to the President and Executive Vice President. This request must state why the individual feels that the ruling was unjust. If both the President and Executive Vice President agree that an appeal is warranted, then they will join the Judicial Board as voting members on that case and the case shall be retried in accordance this the standard Judicial Board Procedures.

The final appeal option is to present the case to the chapter. This option is still available after a presidential appeal. In this case, the Chief Justice shall preside as the case is presented to the chapter in accordance with the Judicial Manual. A two-thirds vote of the chapter shall overturn the Judicial Board's decision.

Officer Discipline

In the event that disciplinary action needs to be taken against members of the Judicial Board, the remaining four Judicial Board members shall have the Executive Board join them in presiding over the case. It is during this time that each member of the Executive Board is able to vote. The procedures and jurisdiction of this Judicial Board, with the addition of Executive Board, shall remain the same.

Article 5: Elections

Elections shall be held at the end of a term or if a position is vacated.

Ballot

An active member may have himself placed on the ballot by submitting a petition to the Judicial

Board. A complete petition will require 20% of the brotherhood and will have been submitted the Friday before the election.

Upon receiving a complete petition, the Judicial board shall evaluate if the petitioner is eligible to run for the position in accordance with the constitution and manuals. If that individual is eligible to run, the Judicial board shall add that individual to the ballot.

An active member may only appear on the ballot twice for executive board positions. An active member running for President may also be placed on the Executive Vice President ballot without the need to submit an additional petition. Furthermore, a candidate who is on the Presidential ballot and elects to be on the Executive Vice President ballot may also appear on the a third Executive Board ballot.

Timing

Elections for the Executive Board shall be held during the 4th to last chapter meeting of the appropriate semester. Judicial Board elections shall take place 3rd to last chapter meeting of that semester. Elections for chair positions take place 3rd and 2nd to last chapter meeting of that semester. All elected positions shall take office at the last chapter meeting of the semester.

Privacy of the vote

The vote shall be held by secret ballot, with the President and Chief Justice tallying the votes. In the event of a conflict of interest (i.e. one of those two is running in the election), they shall be replaced by the most senior member of their respective board.

Majority

If no member receives a majority of votes during an election, the two candidates with the most votes shall have a run-off election, in which the majority winner of the two shall be named the winner of the election.

Procedures

- Each active member who is running for a position has the right to vote in the election.
- Should an active member be eliminated from the election as part of a run-off vote, the former candidate has the right to be included in additional discussions for the position.
- The speech for the candidates for the office of the President and Executive Vice President shall not exceed four minutes. The speech for all other executive board positions shall not exceed two minute and chair position speeches shall not exceed 1 minute.
- Other candidates shall not be present for speeches.
- There shall not be an additional speech between general balloting and a run-off ballot.

Filling of a Vacant Position

If a position becomes vacant for any reason a special election shall take place at the next chapter. That election shall take place via in-chapter nominations. Except in the case of executive board position which shall follow the procedures set forth in article 3 order of succession.

Recall Vote

A recall vote, if successful, will remove any position holder from office. A recall vote can be called for if a position holder has been deemed derelict. Alternatively, a petition of 20% submitted to the Judicial Board of the active brotherhood in favor of a recall vote will force a recall vote. A recall vote passes with a two-thirds favorable vote of the brotherhood. If the recall passes, than that position holder is immediately removed from office.

Article 6: Voting

All proposals or items that require chapter authorization must be emailed out and formally presented to the chapter at a chapter meeting. Following this formal presentation, no discussion is allowed. At the next chapter meeting the issue can be brought up again, discussed, and then voted on.

A proposal passes if a simple majority of the brotherhood vote in favor of the proposal. The brotherhood is defined as all active brothers in the fraternity, not only those that are in attendance.

Article 7: Chapter Meeting

A regular meeting shall be held each full week of classes that the chapter house is open.

Special Meetings

A special meeting may be called by the President of the Active Chapter at any time upon twenty-four hours notice.

Attendance

All members must attend all chapter meetings. The Executive Board may approve absences without penalty if twenty-four hour notice is given before the start of the scheduled chapter meeting, or six hours before the start of a special meeting. Failure to meet attendance requirements may be reviewed by the Judicial Board.

Procedure

The chapter meeting shall be run by the President. If the president is not in attendance the Executive Vice President shall run the meeting. Finally, if both aforementioned are not in attendance, any member of the Executive Board may run the chapter.

At chapter, chairs, Judicial Board members, and Executive Board members shall only be given the

floor if they have submitted a report to the Executive Vice President 3 hours prior to chapter and will be emailed out as part of the chapter minutes.

Article 8: Housing Points

Housing points shall be assigned and maintained by the Judicial Board. Housing points will be awarded as defined in the housing points manual. The Judicial Board will also be responsible for releasing individuals from their live-in requirement. Furthermore, it is within the power of the Judicial Board to remove housing points from a member when they have been found derelict in their duties to the fraternity.

Article 9: Manuals

The requirements and procedures set forth in manuals must be followed. Manuals are approved by the Chapter, and are not valid until they have been presented to chapter and voted on. Failure to follow the requirements and procedures set forth in the manual will result in a review conducted by the Judicial Board. The Judicial Board may find the individual to be derelict in his duty and enforce an appropriate ruling.

The requirements and procedures in the manuals may be updated following the voting procedures found in Article 5.

Article 10: Amendments

An amendment to this Constitution must be submitted in writing at any regular chapter meeting and emailed out to the Fraternity. It may then be voted upon by the Chapter at its next regular chapter meeting.

An amendment so submitted shall be adopted if it receives the favorable vote of two-thirds of the registered membership.

All amendments shall be added to this constitution. Amendments shall not change the original text of the 10 Articles of this constitution but may overrule them.