



Panhellenic Association
Delta State University

BYLAWS

Revised: **November 2016** Approved: **November 2016**

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Delta State University Panhellenic Association.

Article II. Object

The object of the Panhellenic Association shall be to develop and maintain women's sorority life and interfraternity relations at a high level of accomplishment and in so doing to:

- A. Consider the goals and ideals of member organizations as applicable to campus and personal life.
- B. Promote superior scholarship and intellectual development.
- C. Cooperate with member women's sororities and the university/college administration to maintain high social and moral standards.
- D. Act in accordance with National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) Unanimous Agreements, policies, and best practices.
- E. Act in accordance with such rules established by the Panhellenic Council as to not violate the sovereignty, rights and privileges of member sororities.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Membership Classes

There shall be three classes of membership: regular, provisional and associate.

- A. **Regular membership.** The regular membership of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all chapters of NPC sororities at Delta State University. Regular chapter members of the College Panhellenic Association shall pay dues as determined by the Panhellenic Council. Each regular member (chapter) shall have a voice and one vote on all matters.
- B. **Provisional membership.** The provisional membership of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be composed of all colonies of NPC sororities at Delta State University. Provisional members (chapters) shall pay no dues and shall have voice but no

vote on all matters. A provisional member (chapter) shall automatically become a regular member (chapter) upon being installed as a chapter of an NPC sorority.

- C. **Associate membership.** Local sororities or inter/national or regional non-NPC member organizations may apply for associate membership of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association. The membership eligibility requirements and the process for submitting an application and approval of the application shall be determined by the Panhellenic Council. Associate members (chapters) shall pay dues as determined by the Panhellenic Council. An associate member (chapter) shall have voice and one vote on all matters except extension-related matters. If they are not participating in the primary recruitment process, they shall not have a vote on recruitment rules and establishment or modification of Panhellenic total. An associate member (chapter) may be expelled for cause by a majority vote of the Panhellenic Council. An associate member (chapter) shall not be entitled to vote on the question of its expulsion.

Section 2. Privileges and Responsibilities of Membership

All members, without regard to membership class, shall comply with all NPC Unanimous Agreements and be subject to these Delta State University Panhellenic Association bylaws, code of ethics and any additional rules this Panhellenic Association may adopt, unless otherwise prescribed in these bylaws. Any rules adopted by this Panhellenic Association in conflict with the NPC Unanimous Agreements shall be void.

Article IV. Officers and Duties

Section 1. Officers

The officers of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer.

Section 2. Eligibility

Eligibility to serve as an officer shall depend on the class of membership:

- A. **Regular membership.** Members from women's sororities holding regular membership in the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be eligible to serve as any officer.
- B. **Provisional membership.** Members from women's sororities holding provisional membership in the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall not be eligible to serve as an officer.
- C. **Associate membership.** Members from women's sororities holding associate membership in the Delta State University Panhellenic Associate shall not be eligible to serve as an officer if the offices are held by rotation.

Section 3. Selection of Officers

The offices of president, vice president, and secretary/ treasurer of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be held in rotation by each eligible sorority chapter in order of its installation at Delta State University. If a member from the women's sorority in order of rotation is not prepared to serve as a designated officer, the Panhellenic Council shall determine how the office shall be filled.

Section 4. Term

The officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors are selected. The term of the office will begin at the beginning of the spring academic term, or no later than February 1.

Section 5. Removal

Any officer may be removed for cause by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Panhellenic Council.

Section 6. Vacancies

Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner of selection as provided in Section 3 of this article.

Section 7. Duties of Officers

- A. The president shall:
 - Preside at all meetings of the Panhellenic Council.
 - Preside at all meetings of the Executive Board.
 - Serve as an ex-officio member of all Panhellenic Association committees, except the judicial board.
 - Communicate regularly with the Panhellenic advisor.
 - Be familiar with the NPC Manual of Information and all governing documents of this Association.
 - Ensure that the NPC College Panhellenic annual report is completed.
 - Communicate regularly with the NPC area advisor.
 - Maintain current copies of the following: Delta State University Panhellenic Association bylaws and standing rules, the Panhellenic Association budget, contracts executed on behalf of the Panhellenic Association, correspondence and materials received from the NPC area advisor, all NPC College Panhellenic reports, and other pertinent materials.
 - Perform all other duties as assigned.
- B. The vice president shall:
 - Perform the duties of the president in her absence, inability to serve, or at her call.
 - Serve as chair of the Judicial Board, and oversee its activity.
 - Select and train members of the Panhellenic Judicial Board.
 - Serve as Risk Management Officer for the Panhellenic Association.
 - Plan a risk management seminar at the beginning of every semester.
 - Keep an updated file on each Chapter's Risk Management policy.
 - Revise and edit the Panhellenic Association constitution and bylaws.
 - Serve as chair of the Membership Recruitment Committee, and oversee its activity.
 - Be familiar with the NPC Manual of Information and all governing documents of this Association.
 - Perform all other duties as assigned.
- C. The secretary shall:
 - Keep an accurate roll of the members of the Panhellenic Council.
 - Record minutes of all meetings of the Delta State University Panhellenic Council and the Executive Board.
 - Maintain a complete and up-to-date file that includes the minutes of all meetings from the date of organization and current correspondence.
 - Send meeting minutes to the NPC area advisor.
 - Be familiar with the NPC Manual of Information and all governing documents of this Association.
 - Perform all other duties as assigned.
- D. The treasurer shall:
 - Supervise the finances of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association.
 - Prepare the annual budget and, after its approval by the Panhellenic Council, provide a copy to each Delta State University Panhellenic Association member sorority.

- Receive all payments due to the Panhellenic Association, collect all dues and give receipts.
- Pay promptly the annual NPC dues and all bills of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association.
- Maintain current financial records; give a financial report at each regular meeting of the Panhellenic Council and an annual report at the close of her term of office.
- Be familiar with the NPC Manual of Information and all governing documents of this Association.
- Perform all other duties as assigned.

Article V. The Panhellenic Council

Section 1. Authority

The governing body of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be the Panhellenic Council. It shall be the duty of the Panhellenic Council to conduct all business related to the overall welfare of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association including, but not limited to: every regular academic term review the parameters as adopted in the recruitment rules for the automatic adjustment of total, annually determine dues, approve the annual budget, consider extension, set a calendar of events, determine programming and establish recruitment rules and recruitment style. The Panhellenic Council shall also have the authority to adopt rules governing the Panhellenic Association that do not violate the sovereignty, rights and privileges of member women’s sororities.

Section 2. Composition and Privileges

The Delta State University Panhellenic Council shall be composed of one delegate and one alternate delegate from each regular, provisional and associate member organization at Delta State University as identified in Article III. The delegates shall be the voting members of the Panhellenic Council except as otherwise provided in Article III of these bylaws. The alternate delegates shall have voice but no vote. The alternate delegate shall act and vote in the place of the delegate when the delegate is absent. If both delegate and alternate delegate are absent, the vote may be cast by a member of the sorority, providing her credentials have been presented and approved by the Association president.

Each sorority shall select one Junior Panhellenic representative from the fall new member class to serve as a non-voting delegate for the fall semester only. She shall have no voting privileges unless her chapter recommends her to vote in the place of all other absent delegates and she is approved by the association president.

Section 3. Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Delegates and alternates to the Panhellenic Council shall be selected by their respective women’s sorority chapters to serve for a term of one year commencing at the beginning of the spring academic term, or no later than February 1.

Section 4. Delegate Vacancies

When a delegate vacancy occurs, it shall be the responsibility of the sorority affected to select a replacement within two (2) weeks and to notify the Panhellenic Association secretary of her name, address, email, and telephone number.

Section 5. Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Panhellenic Council shall be held at a time and place established at the beginning of each academic term.

Section 6. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Panhellenic Council may be called by the Association president when necessary and shall be called by her upon the written request of no fewer than one-fourth (1/4) of the member women's sororities of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association. Notice of each special meeting of the Panhellenic Council shall be sent to each member of the Panhellenic Council at least 24 hours prior to convening the meeting; however, such notice may be waived, and attendance at such meeting shall constitute waiver of said notice.

Section 7. Quorum

Two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates from the member sororities of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 8. Vote Requirements

- A. Proposed motions on issues that impact a chapter as a whole must be announced at a previous meeting to allow opportunity for chapter input before a vote may be taken on the issue.
- B. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Panhellenic Council shall be required to approve a recolonization plan and for all extension-related votes. All other votes, unless specified in these bylaws, shall require a majority vote for adoption.

Article VI. The Executive Board

Section 1. Composition

The composition of the Executive Board shall be the president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer.

Section 2. Duties

The Executive Board shall administer routine business between meetings of the Panhellenic Council and such other business as has been approved for action by Panhellenic Council vote. At the next regular meeting of the Panhellenic Council through the secretary, the Executive Board shall also report all action it has taken and record the action in the minutes of that meeting.

Section 3. Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at a time and place established at the beginning of each academic term.

Section 4. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called by the president when necessary and shall be called by her upon the written request of three members of the Executive Board.

Section 5. Quorum

A majority of Executive Board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article VII. The Panhellenic Advisor

Section 1. Appointment

The Panhellenic advisor of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be appointed by the Delta State University administration.

Section 2. Authority

The Panhellenic advisor shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Delta State University Panhellenic Association. The Panhellenic advisor shall have voice but no vote in all meetings of the Panhellenic Council and the Executive Board.

Article VIII. Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

- A. The standing committees of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be the Judicial Board and Membership Recruitment Committee. Each Association may add additional standing committees based on the need of the association.
- B. Term. The standing committees shall serve for a term of one year, which shall coincide with the term of the officers.

Section 2. Appointment of Committee Membership

The Executive Board shall appoint members and chairmen of all standing and special committees, except as provided otherwise in these bylaws, and in making these appointments, recognize fair representation from all member women's sororities as much as possible. The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Judicial Board.

Section 3. Judicial Board

The Judicial Board shall consist of the vice president as chairman and two (2) members from the College Panhellenic member organizations. The Panhellenic advisor shall serve as a nonvoting, ex-officio member. The Judicial Board members shall participate in training to be educated about the purpose of the board, the rules and regulations the Judicial Board will monitor, the procedures to be followed, proper questioning techniques, the rights of the charged organizations, evaluating evidence, and deliberations and sanctioning. The Judicial Board shall educate member sororities about the Panhellenic judicial procedure.

In accordance with NPC Unanimous Agreement VII. College Panhellenic Association Judicial Procedure, it shall be the Judicial Board's duty to hold a hearing to adjudicate all alleged violations of the NPC Unanimous Agreements and the bylaws, code of ethics, standing rules and membership recruitment regulations of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association that are not settled informally or through mediation. The hearing shall be conducted by the entire Judicial Board unless Panhellenic Council adopts rules for the hearing to be conducted by a committee of the Judicial Board. The members of the Judicial Board shall maintain confidentiality throughout and upon completion of the judicial process.

Section 4. Membership Recruitment Committee

The Membership Recruitment Committee shall consist of a chairman and one representative from each regular, provisional and associate member (chapter). Alumnae advisors may attend meetings of the committee. The Alumnae advisors shall have voice but no vote. This committee shall review and develop membership recruitment rules and submit them for discussion and approval to the Panhellenic Council before the end of the academic term preceding the membership recruitment period. After each membership recruitment period, the chairman of this committee shall present a full report, including recommendations, to the Panhellenic Council based on an analysis of the recruitment statistics, and recruitment evaluations from new members, potential new members who withdrew, each member organization, Chapter Advisor.

If needed, a Community Service/Philanthropy Committee

The Community Service/Philanthropy Committee shall consist of a chairman and one member. The Community Service/Philanthropy Committee shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to the promotion of community service/philanthropy.

Section 5. Other Committees

Other such committees, standing or special, shall be appointed as deemed necessary by the Panhellenic Council.

Article IX. Finances

Section 1. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be from January 1st to December 31st inclusive.

Section 2. Contracts

Dual signatures of the president, or treasurer, with Panhellenic advisor shall be required to bind the Delta State University Panhellenic Association on any contract.

Section 3. Checks

All checks issued on behalf of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall bear dual signatures. The following shall be authorized to be one of the two required signatures: the president, or the treasurer, and Panhellenic advisor.

Section 4. Payments

All payments due to the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be received by the treasurer, who shall record them. Checks for payments shall be made payable to the Delta State University Panhellenic Association.

Section 5. Dues

- A. NPC College Panhellenic dues shall be paid yearly as invoiced by the NPC office.
- B. Panhellenic Association membership dues shall be an assessment per member and new member.
 - The amount of such dues for the next academic year shall be determined by the Panhellenic Council no later than February of that year.
 - The dues of each Panhellenic Association member fraternity shall be payable on or before September 15th for fall and February 15th for spring.

Section 6. Fees and Assessments

The Panhellenic Council shall have the authority to determine fees and assessments as may be considered necessary.

Article X. Extension

Section 1. Extension

Extension is the process of adding an NPC women's sorority. The Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall follow all NPC Unanimous Agreements and NPC extension guidelines found on the NPC website and in the Manual of Information.

Section 2. Voting rights

Only regular members of the Panhellenic Council shall vote on extension matters.

Article XI. Violation Resolution

Section 1. Violation

Chapters shall be held accountable for the conduct of their individual collegiate and alumnae members. Conduct contrary to the NPC Unanimous Agreements, these bylaws, the Panhellenic code of ethics, standing rules and/or membership recruitment regulations of the Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall be considered a violation.

Section 2. Informal resolution

Members are encouraged to resolve alleged violations through informal discussions with the involved parties.

Section 3. Judicial process

If informal discussions are unsuccessful, the judicial process will be set in motion by filing a report of the alleged violation. The Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall follow all judicial procedures found in NPC Unanimous Agreement VII.

- A. **Mediation.** Mediation is the first step of the judicial process. The Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall follow all NPC Unanimous Agreements concerning the judicial process.
- B. **Judicial Board hearing.** When a violation is not settled informally or through mediation, the Judicial Board shall resolve the issue in a Judicial Board hearing. The Panhellenic Council shall adopt procedures in the standing rules for this purpose that are consistent with the NPC Unanimous Agreements.
- C. **Appeal of Judicial Board decision.** A decision of the Judicial Board may be appealed by any involved party to the NPC College Panhellenic Judicial Appeals Committee. The Delta State University Panhellenic Association shall follow all NPC Unanimous Agreements concerning the appeals process.

Article XII. Hazing

Per the Unanimous Agreements, the National Panhellenic Conference supports all efforts to eliminate hazing. All forms of hazing shall be banned.

Article XIII. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Delta State University Panhellenic Association when applicable and when they are not inconsistent with the NPC Unanimous Agreements, these bylaws and any special rules of order the Delta State University Panhellenic Association may adopt.

Article XIV. Amendment of Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Delta State University Panhellenic Council by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided that the proposed amendment has been announced and submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting, allowing an opportunity for chapter input.

Article XV. Dissolution

This Association shall be dissolved when only one regular member chapter exists at Delta State University. In the event of the dissolution, none of the assets of the Association shall be distributed to any members of the Association, but after payment of the debts, its assets shall be given to the National Panhellenic Conference.

STANDING RULES

A College Panhellenic Association may wish to adopt additional rules that pertain to the administration of the Association. These types of rules belong in standing rules rather than in the bylaws. Standing rules are written as a separate document from the bylaws, but should be attached to and distributed with the bylaws.

The following topics are best suited for standing rules:

- Awards
- Code of Ethics
- Financial considerations (i.e., donations policies, etc.)
- Judicial Procedures
- Office Procedures
- Recruitment Counselor selection/requirements/expectations
- Recruitment Rules
- Social Events
- Traditions (i.e., Homecoming, Advisors, Installation, Service Projects, etc.)