

RHO PHI LAMBDA

PΦΛ

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be The Rho Phi Lambda Professional 'Honorary.

Section 2. Rho Phi Lambda is a Recreation/Park/Leisure major students honorary.

Section 3. Each local unit of the honorary shall be called a Chapter.

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of The Rho Phi Lambda Professional Honorary shall be five fold:

First, to recognize superior recreation/parks/ leisure major students;

Second, to encourage the development of professional standards for the leisure field;

Third, to stimulate the personal development of individual members' professional growth in the leisure field;

Fourth, to cultivate, foster and promote a sentiment of amity among the students of the leisure profession;

Fifth, to recognize those persons who have made outstanding contributions to the field of recreation/parks/leisure.

ARTICLE III

Emblem

Section 1. The emblem of Rho Phi Lambda shall be a circle of an eighteen-link chain superimposed upon a triangle. In the triangle will be the Greek letters Pφ ^ with an olive branch half circling the letters.

Section 2. The eighteen links represent the eighteen charter chapters: Twelve chapters of former Sigma Lambda Sigma; and six chapters of Rho Phi Alpha.

Section 3. The triangle's two base corners represent scholarship and leadership. The apex represents service.

Section 4. The Greek letters Pφ ^ in the triangle represent recreation, park, and leisure. The olive branches half circling the letters represent honor and success.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

Section 1. There shall be three classes of members: active, associate, and honorary.

Section 2. The active membership shall be confined to recreation/park/leisure majors of the institution in which the Chapter is located.

Section 3. The associate membership shall consist of those persons formerly holding active membership.

Section 4. The honorary members shall consist of those who have been elected to membership 'honoris causa' under conditions exhibited in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE V

Eligibility of Active Members

The qualifications for students to be eligible for active membership in Rho Phi Lambda involve scholarship, leadership and service. The candidate will be evaluated in all three.

Section 1. Scholarship requirements:

- a. The undergraduate student's overall grade point average must rank in the upper fifteen percent of overall grade point average for all recreation/park/leisure major students in the institution in which he/she is registered or have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 based upon a four point system.
- b. The undergraduate student must be in the top fifteen percent or have a 3.2 average in recreation/park/leisure major professional courses whichever is higher.
- c. The undergraduate student must have completed 45 semester hours or 67-quarter hours of which at least 9 semester hours or 12-quarter hours are required professional courses.
- d. The graduate student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 and completed 9 semester hours or 12-quarter hours of professional courses.

Section 2. Leadership requirement: Substantial evidence or documentation of outstanding leadership.

Section 3. Service requirements: Substantial evidence or documentation of service to campus and/or community.

ARTICLE VI

Election of Members

Section 1. New members may be chosen either annually or semi-annually by each chapter, in the manner and frequency of elections be subject to the provisions of the Chapter's By Laws.

Section 2. The election of honorary members shall be left to the discretion of the individual collegiate Chapters, subject to such restrictions as may be imposed by the National Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 3. The election of active student members shall be left to the discretion of the individual Chapters subject to such restrictions as may be imposed by the National Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 4. A two-thirds majority of the active members of a Chapter shall be present in order to conduct an election of members. An affirmative vote of three-fourths of those present may elect a new member.

ARTICLE VII

National Organization

Section 1. The National Organization shall consist of all active Chapters, divided into Districts, the boundaries of which shall be designated by an act of the National Board of Directors.

Section 2. The legislative body shall be the National Board of Directors and shall consist of the National officers and delegates from the Districts. Each National officer and each District Representative shall be entitled to one official voting delegate on the National Board of Directors. Official proxies shall be accepted

Section 3. The National Officers of the Honorary shall be an as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and at least one member from each District who shall serve as District Representative. The President, Vice President, and Past-President shall have terms of office of two years; District Representatives shall have terms of office of one year; the Secretary shall serve five years, and the Treasurer shall have a term of office of four years. The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall have the duties customarily attached to such officers and such other duties as may be assigned by the National Board of Directors. The District Representative shall represent the chapters in his/her district and encourage qualified institutions to establish new chapters.

Section 4. Each District shall elect its own Representative(s). The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected by a mailed ballot to each Chapter.

Each Chapter shall have one vote in all elections and other voting. The officers shall be elected by a majority of those voting. Vacancies in the National Board of Directors, which may occur in the interim between national elections, shall be filled by the National Board of Directors when the remainder of the term shall be filled by action of the election.

Any person so elected shall serve until the next national election (or District election if District Representatives.

Section 5. The organization, time of meetings, committees, etc., of the National Organization and of the National Board of Directors shall be left to the discretion of the National Board of Directors, providing that nothing in this section shall be construed as conflicting with any other provision of this Constitution, and a national convention is held at least every three years. .

Section 6. District Representatives shall supervise the Chapters in their respective districts and shall arrange for District Conferences.

Section 7. The number of Representatives to serve on the National Board of Directors from each District shall be based upon the number of active Chapters in the District: 1-9 Chapters will have 1 District Representative; 10-19 Chapters - 2 District Representatives; 20-29 Chapters - 3 District Representatives.

Section 8. Any member of the Honorary shall be eligible to hold office in the National Organization and National Board of Directors with the exception of District Representatives who must be students.

ARTICLE VIII

Local Powers

Section 1. Each Chapter shall have complete control of all matters of local concern under such restrictions as may be imposed by the Constitution or Board of Directors from time to time. In no case shall such local power be exercised in a way contrary to the ideals and purposed of the Honorary as set forth in the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rituals of the National Organization. In case a Chapter be charged with disregarding any of the conditions of its charter, the National Board of Directors shall have power of full inquiry, and may in its discretion, report the circumstances, with its recommendations, to the National Organization.

Section 2. Each Chapter shall be required to submit to the National Board of Directors for its approval all by-laws and all such amendments thereto as may be adopted from time to time.

Section 3. All Chapter officers shall be active members of a local Chapter.

Section 4. The officers of each Chapter shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Faculty Advisor. Where desired, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined. All officers and the Faculty Advisor shall be elected by the Chapter at some convenient time as may be provided in the by-laws of the Chapter. Any officer and the faculty advisor of a Chapter shall be eligible for re-election or reappointment.

Section 5. Chapters may also elect or have appointed a Historian and/or other officers as desired.

Section 6. Every officer of a Chapter including the Faculty Advisor shall be appropriately installed as soon as may be convenient after the election at which time he/she shall be required to take the following obligation:

"I do solemnly covenant/that I will discharge the duties of the office/to which I have been chosen/to the best of my knowledge and ability/bearing in mind always/the welfare of my Alma Mater/and of the Honorary."

ARTICLE IX

Allegiance

Section 1. While Rho Phi Lambda is a non-secret organization, every member upon initiation shall be required to subscribe to the pledge of allegiance as provided in the ritual of the Honorary, such pledge being administered by the President of the Chapter or some other person properly authorized.

ARTICLE X

Suspension and Expulsion

Section 1. Any member, whether active, associate, or honorary convicted by the Chapter of conduct unbecoming a recreation/park/leisure person and a member of this Honorary shall be dishonorably dismissed, deprived of his/her membership, and required to surrender his/her emblem, notification of which fact shall be sent to the member in question and to each active Chapter by the National Secretary. Such expulsion must be approved by three-fourths of the active members of the local Chapter in which the proceedings have been initiated and shall be subject to review by the National Board of Directors before it shall be made finally effective.

Section 2. The National Organization shall have the power, by a three-fourths vote, to withdraw or suspend the charter of any Chapter for cause upon the recommendation of the National Board of Directors, provided that the National Board of Directors shall have given notice to the delinquent Chapter that such action will be recommended to the National Organization. Such notice must be accompanied further by a written statement charges pending against the Chapter and the Chapter shall be given the opportunity to reply to these charges before final action by the National Organization.

ARTICLE XI

Special Concessions

Section 1. When after careful investigation and consideration, the National Board of Directors is convinced of the reasonableness and justification of any request for special concession, it may, by unanimous consent of all National Board of Directors, grant to a Chapter exemption from specified provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, Executive Committee orders, etc., passed for the government of the Honorary as a whole for a limited time. Such a grant must be reviewed by the National Board of Directors and revoked when the conditions making it necessary have ceased to exist. The National Board of Directors shall have the power to revoke the grant on this basis.

ARTICLE XII

By-Laws

Section 1. The National Organization shall pass, repeal, or modify by-laws relating to the mode of procedure with reference to initiation, installation, extension, general policy, and all other matters of similar character not expressly provided for in this Constitution. These restrictions shall not be construed as limiting in any way the action of the National Board of Directors' emergency cases.

ARTICLE XIII

AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Any amendment of this Constitution shall require for its passage an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the combined voted of the National Officers and of the active Chapters secured by mail vote within four months after submission; or the amendment may be presented to the National Organization at a National Convention for action provided the National Secretary shall have received a copy of the proposed amendment at least forty-five days prior to the date of the National Convention to make possible the sending of a copy of the same to each National Officer and to each active Chapter at least thirty days before the date of the Convention. When the National Organization votes on an amendment at a Convention, an affirmative vote three-fourths of the combined votes of the National Officers and of the active Chapter representatives present and voting shall be required for its passage, each Chapter being entitled to one vote. Official proxies shall be accepted.