

The Michigan State University Interfraternity & Panhellenic Councils

Risk Management Policy

This policy is the result of the changing environment of the Greek Community at Michigan State University. The purpose of this policy is to create one unified document under which all affiliated organizations must operate. This policy is in accordance with all university, federal, state, county, and local regulations governing the use, distribution, and consumption of alcohol. Members of all Panhellenic and Interfraternity Council organizations at Michigan State University are expected to follow the stipulations of this policy. Failure to do so will be regarded as a violation of this policy, to be dealt with accordingly by the Joint Interfraternity and Panhellenic Judiciary Board.

Purpose of This Policy

- A. To encourage the responsible use of alcohol and thus reduce the problems associated with alcohol abuse at social events.
- B. To provide an atmosphere at social events where it is acceptable to choose not to consume alcohol.
- C. To assure the safety of everyone in attendance at Greek sponsored events and those with whom they come in contact with following the event.
- D. To decrease legal liability for fraternity and sorority chapters and their national organizations.
- E. To support the ideals and values on which our fraternities and sororities are based.
- F. To promote self-governance as a Greek Community.

I. Risk Management Policy

A. Alcohol and Drugs

Greek Social Events

1. The possession, use and /or consumption of alcoholic beverages, while on chapter premises, or during any event which an observer would associate with a chapter, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state of Michigan, Ingham County, and Michigan State University.
2. All Greek co-sponsored events in which alcohol is present must be held in a third party vendor/licensed establishment (IFC and Panhellenic Resolution, March 1999). The hosting organization(s) is(are) required to use the establishment's alcohol providing services.

Guidelines for Single Chapter In-House Events With Alcohol include:

- 2a. All functions must be list parties only (i.e. that there is a strict list which is followed at the door.)
- 2b. There can be no more than 2 guests per registered member in the house.
- 2c. You must check ID's and mark hands disinguing between those over and under 21.
- 2d. There is to be no charging at the door where alcohol is present
- 2e. All parties must be BYOB
- 2f. There are no glass bottles allowed.
- 2h. There is to be no hard liquor.
- 2i. There are to be no common sources (i.e. no kegs, punch bowls, party balls, unmonitored sources, or open bars.
- 2j. You must have a beer check staffed by 2 sober members of the hosting chapter.
- 2k. No more than (6) cans per person.
- 2l. You must have one (1) sober monitor for every ten (10) registered members.
- 2m. You must have no less than five (5) sober monitors.
- 2n. One (1) member of the chapter executive board must be a sober monitor (it is highly recommended that this be the president)
- 2o. Must have food and alcohol alternative freely available to anybody who wants it.

- 2p. Must provide some method for safe transportation.
- 2q. Must have #'s of tax services posted throughout the chapter houses.
- 2r. Any IFC/PC officer must be allowed to inspect the house to assure rules and guidelines are being followed.
- 2s. If a problem does arise, contact the IFC/PC Emergency Pager.
- 2t. If thee criteria are not met, the chapter faces a possible \$500 fine and judicial sanctions.
- 2u. If an IFC/PC Exec member is not allowed to search the house in the event of a party, it will automatically be assumed that all rules are being broken and maximum penalties and fines will be sought during judicial proceedings.
3. Under no circumstances may a chapter purchase or receive payment for alcohol through chapter funds or by collecting from individuals, through negotiations of free alcohol from the establishment, or by one individual purchasing alcohol for a number of other individuals.
4. No bulk quantities of alcohol such as kegs, party balls, cases, or punch bowls are permitted at any social event, unless controlled and typically used by the licensed establishment in the regular course of business.
5. "Spontaneous Gatherings" at the chapter house, at a member's apartment, or other location outside of a third-party vendor/licenced establishment are a violation of this policy.
6. No chapter members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under the age of 21). The hosting chapters must require those attending the event to present proof of legal age in order to consume alcoholic beverages. Both the establishment and the chapter(s) have responsibility for ensuring minors do not consume alcohol.
7. Open parties where alcohol is present, meaning those with unrestricted access by nonmembers of the chapter, without specific invitation, shall be prohibited. Per the FIPG Resolution #1, July, 1997:
 - a. With regard to multi-group functions, it is required that these types of events should not include more than four individual organizations and should include no guests.
 - b. In the case of a function involving a single group, that function size should be limited to the number of individual members in that group with no more than two guests additional per member.

In both of these instances, the overriding limitation would be compliance with local fire code and health and safety regulations as they relate to the occupancy requirements.

8. The host chapter(s) will require a complete guest/membership list for all groups involved in an event to be used by the event monitors. All guest lists must include the name and birth date of the guest along with the name of the hosting chapter who has submitted the guest list. This excludes the use of any campus publication or mass produced lists.
9. No member shall permit, tolerate, encourage, or participate in drinking games.
10. No chapter may co-sponsor, co-finance, or attend a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups, or organizations.
11. All rush activities associated with any chapter will be dry rush functions.
12. No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/associate or new member/novice program or ritual of chapter.
13. No alcohol shall be allowed at Greek Week events.
14. Public advertising of social events where alcohol will be present is strictly prohibited. This includes the distribution of flyers but does not include formal written invitations issued to specific guests whose names are placed on a guest list.
15. It is strongly recommended that unsalted foods and nonalcoholic beverages other than water be provided in ample quantities throughout the duration of the event.
16. In accordance with state law, a server has the right and is encouraged to refuse to provide alcoholic beverages to a visibly intoxicated person.
17. Open containers of alcoholic beverages shall be in no case permitted to leave the event.
18. All events are required to have a minimum of two monitors from each sponsoring organization, but are recommended to have one monitor from each sponsoring organization for every 10 people from their organization. These monitors shall not consume any alcohol prior to or during their monitoring duty. Monitors are responsible for checking identification and birth dates of those attending the event, marking those of age accordingly, and enforcing the guest list.
19. List of transportation services and emergency services and their phone numbers shall be posted in prominent locations at any event.
20. Outdoor events shall have definite and limiting boundaries (i.e. fences) in order to restrict access to the event.

Football Game Day Tailgating

21. Chapters may host alumni/ae tailgates at their chapter house on MSU intercollegiate football home game days in which alcohol may be present.
22. All tailgate functions must adhere to the parameters of this policy, where applicable, and must be BYOB. No member, alumni/ae, or organization may purchase nor provide alcohol to another.
23. All policies and procedures of the (inter)national organizations(s) involved must be adhered to.
24. Tailgates may not begin until the morning of and must end at the conclusion of the football game.

B. Drug Use/Possession

1. The possession, sale and /or use of any illegal drugs or controlled substances at any chapter house, sponsored event, or at any event that an observer would associate with the chapter, is strictly prohibited.

C. Hazing

1. No chapter shall conduct hazing activities under any circumstance. Hazing is defined as:

“Any intentional, knowing or reckless action taken or situation created, whether on or off chapter premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: Use of alcohol; paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical and psychological shocks; quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside the confines of the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; and any other activities which are not consistent with fraternal law, ritual, or policy or the regulations and policies of Michigan State University, or the State of Michigan and National/ International policies.”

D. Sexual Abuse

1. The chapter will not tolerate or condone any form of sexually abusive behavior on the part of its members, whether physical, mental or emotional. This is to include any actions which are demeaning including, but not limited to, date rape, gang rape, sexual harassment, physical intimidation or sexual assault.

E. Education

1. Each active member and new member shall be instructed annually on the Risk Management Policy of the Michigan State University Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council by their member chapter.

II. Violations of this Policy

- A. All violations of this policy should be adjudicated through either a mediation or judicial board, according to guidelines established in the *Greek Judicial Process Guidelines* publication.

III. Good Faith

It is recognized that this policy cannot address, in specific fashion, all possible situations which may take place. When this policy is not detailed on a particular point, member chapters are expected to conduct their events in the spirit of social responsibility expressed in this policy.

If a national organization of a chapter requires their chapters to have some additional risk management requirements they are free to apply them. In the case that the IFC/Panhellenic Risk Management Policy contradicts with chapter national policies that chapter is required to inform their Council.

IV. Amendments

A. Right to Introduce Amendments

1. Any member chapter in good standing with the Interfraternity Council or Panhellenic Council may introduce an amendment to this policy.