



Policies and Position Statements of Sigma Sigma Sigma

NATIONAL POLICIES.....	2
Fundamental Standards	2
Non-Discrimination in Membership Selection	2
Controlled Substances	2
Alcohol.....	2
Hazing.....	3
Visitation and Conduct in Collegiate Housing Facilities.....	3
Electronic Communication and Social Media.....	3
Sexual Harassment and Human Dignity	4
POSITION STATEMENTS	5
Women’s Auxiliary Organizations to Men’s Fraternities.....	5
Gender Identity	5

NOTE: Throughout this document, "members" include both initiated members and those who have been formally pledged but not yet initiated.



NATIONAL POLICIES

Fundamental Standards

Since the 1956 Convention, responsible chapter leaders have endorsed for the National Organization the fundamental standards policy:

“As a worthy Sigma Sigma Sigma each member is expected to set an example which reflects creditably upon her college, her chapter, and her Sorority by conducting herself in all places and at all times in a manner above reproach.”

Spiritual and moral values are essential to the integrity of the individual in modern society. Members pledge to live with honor, develop strong womanly character, and uphold the ideals and values of Tri Sigma.

A lowering of standards and careless attitudes would adversely affect the preservation and advancement of Sigma Sigma Sigma as a Greek-letter organization of high principles. Members are expected to exemplify the heritage and ideals of the National Organization, to maintain self-respect and respect of others, and to demonstrate conduct in a manner that reflects positively upon the member, the chapter, the Sorority, and host institution.

Non-Discrimination in Membership Selection

Tri Sigma does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Membership in Tri Sigma is based solely on the membership standards as listed in the Rituals of Sigma Sigma Sigma.

Controlled Substances

The term, “Controlled Substance,” refers to any drug or chemical that is illegal under the applicable state or local law to manufacture, sell, possess, or use outside the dispensation of a properly-licensed physician’s prescription.

Members, new members, and guests may not possess, use, provide, distribute, sell and/or manufacture controlled substances while in Tri Sigma facilities or at any activity or event sponsored or endorsed by the chapter. Any collegiate member or new member found to have violated this policy through the collegiate accountability processes may be terminated immediately from membership.

Alcohol

Tri Sigma prohibits the storage, use, or serving of alcohol in a sorority housing facility; purchasing alcohol with chapter funds; receiving alcohol as a sponsorship or partnership agreement; and giving alcohol as gifts as a part of any sorority-sponsored activity where collegiate members are present.

Members must abide by applicable federal, state, or local laws, and campus policies at chapter functions and registered events. Serving alcohol at events where collegiate members are present is prohibited except at closed social events which comply with the procedures for events with alcohol. This alcohol policy is the personal responsibility of every collegiate and alumnae member and guest attending a collegiate event with alcohol.



Hazing

Hazing practices, including but not limited to physically or psychologically manipulative or abusive behaviors, are against the law and shall have no part in a Tri Sigma membership program, or any other chapter activities as it is detrimental to the safety and well-being of members and the membership experience.

Hazing is defined as any action taken or situation created, knowingly, whether on or off Sorority premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, ridicule, or an uncomfortable atmosphere. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol; creation of excessive fatigue; physical or psychological shocks; engaging in public stunts or jokes; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; scavenger hunts or quests that must be completed within a specific amount of time; late work sessions which interfere with regular class attendance or study time; and any other activities which are not consistent with the rules, policies, and regulations of the educational institution or the ritual, policies, and procedures of the National Organization.

Any member found accountable for hazing will be immediately terminated from membership. Chapters and members must also adhere to relevant state and local laws and campus hazing policies.

Visitation and Conduct in Collegiate Housing Facilities

Safety, well-being, and mutual respect are of utmost importance within sorority housing. Residents and non-residents are to conduct themselves properly, politely, and civilly, and are to display appropriate decorum, while present at Tri Sigma collegiate housing facilities.

The presence of any visitor(s) and members, both collegiate and alumnae and regardless of gender or sexual orientation, whose intentions and/or actions are intimate or sexual in nature, in private areas of Sigma Sigma Sigma collegiate housing facilities is prohibited.

The presence of any visitor(s) including both collegiate and alumnae members and regardless of gender or sexual orientation in either public or private areas of Sigma Sigma Sigma collegiate housing facilities tends to disrupt and interfere with the dynamics of group living amongst members. Collegiate chapters with housing must establish, at a minimum, local visitation policies, rules regarding overnight guests, protocols for move-in and maintenance requests to address times when non-residents would be in the private areas of the house, and processes to address misconduct in the house or other violations of local housing policies.

Electronic Communication and Social Media

When acting on behalf of the National Organization, collegiate, alumnae, volunteers and employees must not use electronic communications and/or social media to post, transmit, store, retrieve, display, distribute, share or download content that is defamatory, violent or contains sexually explicit material; discriminatory language; and/or threats of violence; personal attacks based upon race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, disability status; or promotion of illegal activities. It must be verified that content being posted does not contain proprietary 3rd-party material without proper authorization or compliance with copyright, trademark, or other applicable laws.

When not acting on behalf of the national organization, the same individuals as above must never disclose confidential proprietary information learned in the course of their employment or involvement as a member or volunteer. Presenting views or personal thoughts, in written, image, graphic, video or photo form, on any electronic or social media outlet in a manner that could be construed to represent the views of Sigma Sigma Sigma, Inc. is prohibited.



Sexual Harassment and Human Dignity

WHEREAS, Sigma Sigma Sigma supports the statement on human dignity and sexual harassment endorsed by the NPC member groups that:

“College women should have a positive influence in the direction and achievements of the university community and activities should promote self-worth, human dignity, and a positive fraternity/sorority image. The dignity of the individual is a basic element of a civilized society, that individual self-worth is a necessary factor in establishing healthy relationships between the sexes, and that sexual harassment of women to any degree is a detriment to building self-worth, that all activities, including competitive games, which are destructive, demeaning, or abusive, promote a negative image of the fraternity/sorority community.”

WHEREAS, engaging in such activities which are demeaning to the individual and do not reflect a positive image of the National Organization are not in conformance with the high standards and ideals maintained by Sigma Sigma Sigma, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Sigma Sigma Sigma does not endorse or support activities that are demeaning to either sex in nature, cause disharmony among NPC or any groups, do not respect the dignity of the individual and are counter-productive in purpose; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Sigma Sigma Sigma reaffirms its long-standing position prohibiting sexual harassment by any member and any chapter; and be it further

RESOLVED, that adherence to this sexual harassment and human dignity policy shall be mandatory and is the personal responsibility of every member and chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any chapter or member of Sigma Sigma Sigma violating this policy is subject to disciplinary action.



POSITION STATEMENTS

Women's Auxiliary Organizations to Men's Fraternities

WHEREAS, The National Panhellenic Conference has adopted several Resolutions regarding Little Sister Organizations of men's fraternities which discourage such women's auxiliary groups and express concern and disfavor upon auxiliary groups because the activities of such groups are in conflict with NPC policies, and

WHEREAS, The Fraternity Executives Association has adopted a Resolution stating the women's auxiliary organizations are not desirable adjuncts to the collegiate chapters of men's fraternities, and

WHEREAS, The National Interfraternity Conference has requested all women's auxiliary organizations be discontinued; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Sigma Sigma endorses these resolutions; and

WHEREAS, Sigma Sigma Sigma intends the term, "women's auxiliary organizations" to encompass both official and unofficial Little Sister organizations and all similar types of arrangements; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Sigma Sigma Sigma does not endorse any women's auxiliary organizations to men's fraternities and encourages its members to support and be dedicated to their sorority membership.

Gender Identity

WHEREAS, Sigma Sigma Sigma has always been a leader in the fraternal community in demonstrating a commitment to diversity, inclusivity, and human dignity in making membership determinations, and

WHEREAS, prejudice and discrimination do not contribute to creating a perpetual bond of friendship, developing strong womanly character or promoting high standards of conduct; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, Sigma Sigma Sigma has adopted this position statement to provide clarification regarding gender, gender identity, and gender expression of the Sorority's members, whether collegiate or alumnae; and therefore, be it

RESOLVED, a potential new member who self-identifies as a woman shall be treated as a woman regardless of any other circumstances.