

BETA THETA PI RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY



ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

The Risk Management Policy of Beta Theta Pi includes, but is not limited to, the following provisions which shall apply to all fraternity chapters, colonies and levels of fraternity membership.

1. The possession, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages by any fraternity member or guest while on chapter premises, during an official fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city, institution or other controlling entity and must be either BYOB or adhere to a Third Party Vendor system.
2. Abuse of the consumption of alcoholic beverages by any fraternity member or guest while on chapter premises, during an official fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter shall be prohibited. **No member shall permit, tolerate, encourage or participate in "drinking games" or other activities that encourage excessive consumption of alcohol.**
3. No fraternity members, individually or collectively, shall purchase for, serve, or sell alcoholic beverages to minors (i.e., those under legal "drinking age").
4. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through the chapter treasury, nor may the purchase of alcoholic beverages for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of the chapter. Pooling of funds is not permitted.
5. No alcohol shall be present at any recruitment activity, pledge activity or induction, pre-initiation and initiation ceremonies.
6. No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.
7. No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization, or other entity licensed to sell or give away alcoholic beverages where alcoholic beverages are sold or otherwise provided to those present.
8. Common containers for serving alcohol or bulk distribution of alcohol including kegs, punch bowls, etc., are strictly prohibited unless supplied and managed by a licensed caterer (i.e., third party vendor).
9. A sufficient number of mature party monitors must be adequately trained and instructed not to consume alcoholic beverages prior to, or while fulfilling, the role of party monitor.
10. Alternative transportation for those individuals who cannot safely drive their vehicles must be provided at every chapter event. This can include public/hired transportation or designated drivers.
11. **"Open parties", meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity without specific invitation, are prohibited.** The number of persons invited to any event sponsored or co-sponsored by Beta Theta Pi where alcohol is present is limited to three times the chapter size (a 3:1 ratio or 3 guests per member) or, if less, the maximum occupancy of the facility according to fire standards. Larger events are subject to approval, when notified two weeks prior to the event, of the Administrative Secretary.
12. The possession, sale, distribution and/or use of any illegal drugs, and unlawful possession, sale, distribution and/or use of prescription drugs in a manner contrary to their instructions or by someone to whom they were not prescribed or other controlled substances, at any chapter house, sponsored event or at any event an observer would associate with the Fraternity, is strictly prohibited.

HAZING

No chapter, colony, collegiate member or alumnus shall engage in hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined as:

Any action taken or situation created intentionally or through gross negligence, whether on or off fraternity 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 state law, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution.

SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

The Fraternity will neither tolerate nor condone any form of sexual-harassment on the part of its members whether physical, mental or emotional. This includes any actions which are demeaning to women or men including, but not limited to verbal or physical harassment and sexual assault by individuals or members acting together. The employment or use of strippers, exotic dancers or similar performers, whether professional or amateur, is prohibited on chapter premises, during a fraternity event, or in any situation sponsored by the chapter.

FIRE, HEALTH, AND SAFETY

1. All chapter houses shall meet all local fire and health codes and standards prior to, during, and following occupancy.
2. All chapters must have emergency numbers for fire, police and ambulance posted by common phones and must have evacuation routes posted on the back of the door of each sleeping room.
3. A documented annual house inspection by either a local fire jurisdiction or by an insurance carrier is required.
4. All chapters shall comply with engineering recommendations as reported by the insurance company or local fire jurisdiction.
5. No chapter or colony shall own a pet, nor shall any pet live in a chapter facility. Injuries resulting from incidents involving animals owned by members are the responsibility of the individual owner/member. Any liability will be the responsibility of the pet owner. In addition, no chapter or colony shall involve a live animal in any Fraternity sponsored or associated event without the explicit written permission of the General Secretary in advance of the event. Permission must be requested in writing a minimum of 15 days prior to any such event.
6. The possession and/or use of explosive or incendiary devices of any kind within the confines of the chapter house are prohibited. If the landlord allows firearms to be stored in the chapter house, they must be kept unloaded and locked/secured in a storage area only accessible by the owner of the firearm/s.
7. Candles should not be used in chapter houses or individual rooms except under controlled circumstances.
8. Hazardous areas must be secured so that they are inaccessible. Examples include, but are not limited to roofs, window ledges, open wells, docks and balconies. No member should ever go on the roof of the chapter house.

FIGHTING

Fighting can lead to brawls and significant injury. Picking a fight is one of the fastest ways to criminal prosecution or civil action. Such activity will not be condoned and may subject the chapter to a review by the General Fraternity.

PERSONAL INJURY AND PROPERTY

Our general liability policy is not a health insurance or accident policy for members. If any fraternity member should be injured in a sporting event or any other activity, he should notify his medical carrier (e.g., Blue Cross/Blue Shield) and seek reimbursement of his medical bills. Further, our policy does not cover personal property owned by members. Members should seek coverage through their parents' homeowners' policy or obtain renter's insurance.

Notice must be given to the Administrative Office immediately regardless of the severity of the injury.

LIABILITY COVERAGE

No insurance policy in the world provides coverage for violations of the law. The Beta Theta Pi insurance program is no exception. The key points to understand are: (1) compliance with federal, state or provincial, local and institutional laws and regulations; (2) compliance with the laws and policies of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity; (3) compliance with the Beta Theta Pi Risk Management Policy.

Individuals who choose to violate these rules or act outside of the scope of their office may void their protection under the Fraternity's insurance program. Their actions may jeopardize other members, other entities, or other named insured protected by the Beta Theta Pi General Liability Policy. The individuals involved will be personally liable and must retain their own attorneys for defense.

The Board of Trustees is authorized to amend or modify these policies in order to meet the contractual needs of the fraternity's insurance policy. Any change made outside of the scope of the General Convention must be distributed to all fraternity chapters and colonies within thirty [30] day of the changes. Further any changes made by the Board of Trustees expire at the following Convention, unless approved by said Convention.