



Events with Alcohol Best Practices

The possession, use or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a Fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the Chapter, or in any event an observer would associate with the Fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable federal, state, county and city laws and regulations of the institution of higher education and must comply with Phi Sigma Pi National Risk Management Policies, Alcohol Policies and/or Third Party Vendor Guidelines.

If an Officer or Member decides or declares that an event is not associated with the Fraternity does not mean that if something goes wrong, the Chapter and Members may not be named in a lawsuit or otherwise held accountable. It is safer to assume that any time more than a few Members, Initiates or Potential New Members are in an event, it will be considered a Chapter event, and the policy applies.

Open parties, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the Fraternity without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, shall be prohibited.

Any event at which alcohol is present must have a guest list. A guest list is prepared at least 24 hours in advance of the event and contains the names of all guests, limit 2 guests per Member. A guest list is not a sign-in list. The student directory is not a guest list. A Chapter Membership list is not a guest list. The purpose of a guest list is to limit attendance to those persons who know a Member.

No Members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor, i.e., those under the legal "drinking age."

If you don't provide, serve, or sell alcohol to others, they are going to be responsible (for the most part) for what they consume. If you give alcohol to someone else, you are responsible for the effects of the alcohol. The effects may include a tragic automobile accident, a fight or sexual assault.

The Chapter may not co-sponsor an event with a distributor of alcohol, charitable organization or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than one-half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided. This includes any event held in, at or on the property of a tavern for purposes of fundraising.

Why would we do something good for other people, by hosting a fundraiser, in conjunction with or affiliation with a bar or club? There are numerous legal liability concerns as well, but the image and perception factors are powerful and very negative.



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No Chapters may co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host Chapters, groups or organizations.

There is no such thing as, "We were just there." If your Chapter was invited or if a sufficient number of Members attended at one time or another, then the Chapter may become legally involved if something happens. There is no standard for what constitutes "co-sponsor" but if an observer would say that the Chapter was represented then the Alcohol Policy applies.

No Member, Initiate or Potential New Member shall permit, tolerate, encourage or participate in "drinking games."

The definition of drinking games includes but is not limited to the consumption of shots of alcohol, "beer pong", "dares", or any other activity involving the consumption of alcohol which involves duress or encouragement related to the consumption of alcohol.

All Recruitment activities associated with any Chapter will be non-alcoholic and/or not held at or in conjunction with a tavern or alcohol distributor.

Anyone arriving at a Chapter event already intoxicated shall not be admitted to the function.

Items containing Phi Sigma Pi letters (clothing, hats, jewelry, cups, other accessories) are not to be worn or used in the presence of alcohol or while consuming alcohol.

Chapter Members (active, inactive and Alumni) shall not use alcoholic beverages in the presence of Potential New Members or Initiates.

IDs will be checked at the door, and those over the legal drinking age will be identified in some unique manner, such as wrist bracelets or stamps.

A starting time and ending time will be established and followed for the event. The event will be limited to four hours, with alcohol service ending at least one hour before the end of the event.

Alternative beverages (non-alcoholic) and food of substantial quality shall be made available, free of charge to everyone. (High protein foods, i.e. cheese, meats, unsalted nuts are strongly encouraged.)

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One sober monitor for every 10 attendees will be appointed and will be responsible for overseeing the event to make sure all attending are well behaved, enforcing all applicable risk management policies, replenishing food and alternative beverages, handling any emergency situations that may arise, acting as sober hosts who agrees to make sure the event starts and ends on time and agrees not to consume alcohol.