



51st House of Delegates Election Code

- I. **Nominations:** Candidates for the offices of President-Elect or Director-at-Large shall be nominated for consideration of the delegates of the House of Delegates in one of two (2) ways:
 - A. **Nominations Committee:** By the Nominating Committee pursuant to the process prescribed in the following section and sub-sections titled the same; and
 - B. **Automatic Candidate:** A nominated President-Elect candidate is automatically nominated for the office of Director-at-Large in the case where he has been unsuccessful in his bid for President-Elect and has stated his intention to seek the Director-at-Large office in his filing declaration.

- II. **Candidate Qualifications:** A candidate is eligible to be nominated only in the case where he:
 - A. Submitted a completed declaration form prescribed by the Election Commission declaring his candidacy by the deadline prescribed in the Laws.
 - B. Is certified as a candidate by the Chairman of the Election Commission.
 - C. Completes Candidate Orientation as prescribed in the following section titled the same.
 - D. Is a member in good standing with the fraternity.
 - E. Consents to serve and fulfill his Board role as a fiduciary of Sigma Tau Gamma, provide CEO oversight, and set strategic direction through policy governance.

- III. **Nominations Committee:** The Nominating Committee shall nominate candidates as follows:
 - A. President-Elect: Shall nominate at least one (1) candidate for the office, except in the case where there are fewer certified candidates.
 - B. Director-at-Large: Shall nominate at least four (4) candidates for the offices, except in the case where there are fewer certified candidates.
 - C. The Nominating Committee shall conduct candidate interviews and vote to nominate candidates as follows:
 - i. Conduct private interviews of candidates, overseen by a member or members of the Election Commission appointed by the Election Official, to evaluate board readiness.
 - ii. Conduct a secret ballot vote at any time before the House of Delegates session where it is scheduled to deliver its report.
 1. Votes shall be counted and certified by members of the Election Commission appointed by the Election Official and destroyed thereafter.
 - iii. Any deliberations shall remain confidential among the Nominations Committee and Election Commission.
 - D. The Nominations Committee shall deliver its report to the House of Delegates and submit it to the Recording Secretary prior to candidate speeches.

51st HOUSE OF DELEGATES

GRAND CONCLAVE CHARLOTTE

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IV. Nominations Committee Composition: The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of eight (8) members as follows:

- A. Each member must be a certified delegate.
- B. Chairman: A Past President, appointed by the National President.
- C. Four (4) collegiate delegates appointed by the National President from different chapters. One of the collegiate delegates will be appointed as Vice Chair by the National President.
- D. One (1) alumni delegate appointed by the National President with demonstrated experience in interviewing/hiring practices.
- E. One (1) alumni delegate recommended for appointment to the National President by the Foundation Board of Trustees.
- F. One (1) alumni delegate recommended for appointment to the National President by the WPN Housing Company.

V. Candidate Speeches:

- A. Each nominated candidate may address the House of Delegates on the day before balloting and voting.
 - i. President-Elect candidate speeches are limited to five (5) minutes each.
 - ii. Director-at-Large candidate speeches are limited to three (3) minutes each.
 - iii. A candidate for President-Elect shall not give a separate speech for the office of Director-at-Large if nominated for both offices.

VI. Candidate Forum:

- A. The Election Commission shall conduct candidate forums during the House of Delegates meeting prior to balloting and elections.
 - i. Separate forums will be held for President-Elect and Director-at-Large.
 - ii. In each forum:
 1. All candidates for the position are seated together and take turns answering questions.
 2. Questions are prepared by the Election Commission and kept secret until the forum.
 3. Responses are limited to a time set by the Election Commission.

VII. Candidate Orientation:

- A. All candidates must attend an orientation conducted by the Election Official before House of Delegates election activities begin.
- B. Candidates who do not attend orientation will be disqualified to stand for election.
- C. Orientation will review:
 - i. Board governance model and policies.
 - ii. Election procedures included in the Call.

VIII. Use of Campaign Materials:

- A. The sole source of campaign materials permitted are the completed candidacy declaration forms, which will be made available to the delegates.



- i. Intent: campaigns should be conducted through personal, face-to-face interactions.
 - B. Distribution of other materials by candidates, delegates, and members, including mass emails, websites, social media pages, flyers, buttons, signs, etc. in ANY FORMAT, printed or electronic is prohibited.
 - i. One-on-one electronic conversations are allowed and encouraged, but unsolicited mass distribution to multiple recipients is prohibited.
 - ii. The Election Commission may take action against candidates, delegates, or members who violate these rules, up to and including disqualification of candidacy.
 - C. Candidates shall not campaign or imply candidacy while serving as:
 - i. A facilitator or attendee at any Sigma Tau Gamma educational program.
 - ii. A participant on any committee (e.g. Constitution & Laws, Dent selection committee, etc.).
 - iii. An officer of the House of Delegates.

IX. Candidate Conduct and Enforcement:

- A. Candidates must adhere to the Election Code, Constitution, Laws, Policies, Member Safety and Wellness Policy, Volunteer Officer Social Responsibility Policy Statement, Member and Chapter Behavior Policy, and Board of Directors Governance Policies.
- B. Reporting violations
 - i. Candidates, delegates or officers should refer suspected violations to any member of the Election Commission.
 - ii. The Election Commission may require a written complaint.
- C. Upon receiving a suspected violation, the Election Commission shall:
 - i. Determine if probable cause exists and if so, hold a private hearing with the candidate and determine validity of the charge.
 - ii. If substantiated, will determine an appropriate remedy, including private warning, public censure, or disqualification of candidacy.

X. Election & Electronic Balloting Procedures:

- A. Election requirements:
 - i. A quorum of certified delegates must be established prior to voting.
 - ii. Election to any office requires a majority of ballots cast.
- B. Electronic voting process:
 - i. Voting will be conducted electronically with a uniquely identified device.
 - ii. Results are verified by the Election Commission Chair and Vice Chair and reported immediately by the Election Official to the National President, who announces them to the House of Delegates and recorded by the Secretary.
- C. Any written or electronic evidence of the vote tally will be destroyed and the Election Commission must keep specific voting tallies confidential in perpetuity.



XI. Order of Elections:

- A. The delegates shall first elect the President-Elect.
 - i. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the top two candidates advance to a runoff and balloting continues until one receives a majority of votes.
- B. After electing the President-Elect, the delegates elect four (4) Directors-at-Large.
 - i. Candidates run as a group; delegates may vote for up to the number of open seats on each ballot.
 1. No ballot may be disqualified if a delegate voted for fewer than the number of open seats.
 - ii. Candidate who receive a majority of votes cast are declared elected.
 - iii. Balloting continues until all open seats are filled, except in the case where there are fewer certified candidates.
 1. Up to one (1) candidate with the lowest vote count, which is less than 20% of the total votes cast, shall be eliminated for consideration on subsequent ballots.
 - iv. If multiple candidates from the same chapter are in contention, the candidate who receives a majority of votes cast with the highest vote total will be declared elected and all others from the same chapter will be disqualified.