

# **INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION DELTA PHI EPSILON, INC.**

We, the Sorors of the DELTA PHI EPSILON Sorority a not-for-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, incorporated as DELTA PHI EPSILON, INC., and operating alternately as the "Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority" and "Delta Phi Epsilon" (hereinafter variously referred to as stated above and additionally as "the Sorority"), in order to foster and promote the ideals and principles of this Sorority as stated in our charter, do establish this International Constitution for the DELTA PHI EPSILON Sorority.

## **ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of DELTA PHI EPSILON Sorority shall be limited to female collegiate students, regardless of race, religion or national origin, attending accredited universities and colleges of higher education, which have four-year (4-year) courses of study awarding bachelor degrees; alumnae of the aforementioned universities and colleges who were collegiate members of this Sorority; and alumnae initiates.

Such membership shall be organized into local chapters open only to members in attendance at the university or college for which the chapter is chartered, who shall govern their own activities in accordance with, and whose membership shall be subject to, the terms of this International Constitution, the International By-Laws of the Sorority, and the Model Constitution and By-Laws for collegiate chapters, which shall be adopted by them.

## **ARTICLE II INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS**

### **SECTION 1.**

The following international officers shall be elected at each International Convention, unless otherwise noted herein or in the International By-Laws of this Sorority: An International President, one (1) or more Vice Presidents, a Finance Officer, an Administrative Officer, and any other officers as provided in the International By-Laws.

### **SECTION 2.**

The international officers of DELTA PHI EPSILON shall be elected by a majority vote of the assembled voting delegates of the chapters, alumnae associations, and seated International Governing Board officers during the International Convention and shall hold office through the next International Convention. The terms of office shall be limited to: International President, two (2) consecutive terms; all other officers shall be limited to three (3) consecutive terms. The NPC delegate shall serve as a voting member on the International Governing Board at the pleasure of the International President, with no limit on terms of service. No International Governing Board officer except the NPC Delegate, may serve more than twelve (12) consecutive years. For the purposes of definition, a partial term of service shall not be considered as part of the term of office.

## **ARTICLE III INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD**

### **SECTION 1.**

All executive, legislative, and judicial powers herein granted shall be vested in the International Governing Board which shall be composed of voting members as follows: All duly elected international officers, all officers duly appointed by the International Governing Board to fill interim vacancies, and the NPC Delegate shall be voting members of the International Governing Board. There shall be no other members of the International Governing Board.

**SECTION 2.**

The International Governing Board shall, in its sole discretion as it deems advisable, have the sole power:

- a. to pass, adopt, and enact such rules and regulations and introduce such By-Laws as it may deem necessary and beneficial for the general welfare of this Sorority;
- b. to establish uniform rules and regulations which shall apply to the installation and continuing affiliation of collegiate chapters, alumnae organizations, and other sororal organizations associated with DELTA PHI EPSILON;
- c. to grant charters to such new collegiate chapters, alumnae associations, or other sororal organizations on whom admittance to this Sorority may be bestowed, and to designate a Greek letter as the official name of the chapter;
- d. to suspend, condition, or revoke the charters of collegiate chapters and colonies, alumnae associations, and other sororal organizations, and the Sorority membership status and affiliation rights of individual members and alumnae without notice or the completion of a hearing, as it may deem necessary and beneficial for the general welfare of this Sorority;
- e. to prohibit the use of Sorority letters, crest, names, marks, and paraphernalia by disaffiliated or unaffiliated groups or individuals, and otherwise control and protect the Sorority's name, letters, and trademarks;
- f. to designate the time and place of the International Convention;
- g. to ratify or reject all collegiate chapter and alumnae association constitutions and by-laws and amendments to the same.
- h. to purchase and sell, license, or ratify the purchase and sale of all Sorority pins, insignia, emblems, designated official jewelry, or paraphernalia bearing official names, letters, or trademarks of the Sorority;
- i. to provide for a schedule of fees, taxes, and assessments for all members of collegiate and alumnae organizations which shall be due and payable to the International Headquarters designated by the International Governing Board, separate and apart from any fees, taxes, or assessments which may be imposed by the collegiate or alumnae chapters themselves. Such fees, taxes, and assessments, except for Per Capita, Activity, and those involving International Convention, must be ratified by a majority of the Grand Chapter;
- j. to collect all such fees, taxes, and assessments for the maintenance of this Sorority;
- k. to spend and disburse the various moneys of DELTA PHI EPSILON;
- l. to borrow money on the credit of DELTA PHI EPSILON;
- m. to provide disciplinary proceedings against any collegian, alumna, collegiate chapter, alumnae association, or other sororal organization; to provide for the procedure, hearing, proceedings, and appeals for such disciplinary proceedings; and to provide and impose such penalties and sanctions as it, in its sole discretion, deems advisable;
- n. to determine the rules and procedures of its proceedings;
- o. to introduce and enact all legislation which shall be necessary and proper to carry into execution the foregoing powers and all other powers vested in the International Governing Board or in any officer thereof;
- p. to remove any elected officer for failure to complete her duties;
- q. to educate our chapters about our policies and procedures to allow them to self-manage local chapter operations.

**SECTION 3.**

The International Governing Board shall assemble at least once a year or more frequently at the discretion of the International President, or at the request of any three (3) of the voting members of the International Governing Board.

**SECTION 4.**

The location of the International Headquarters shall be determined by the International Governing Board.

**SECTION 5.**

The reasonable and necessary expenses of the International Governing Board members discharged in the interest of DELTA PHI EPSILON shall be reimbursed by the Finance Officer upon receipt of an itemized expense account.

**ARTICLE IV  
ADMINISTRATION**

The International Governing Board shall have the authorization to employ an Executive Director who shall have active charge of the administration of the Sorority, subject to the direction of the International Governing Board. The Executive Director shall have the authority to hire employees as necessary for the operation and management of the International Headquarters.

**ARTICLE V  
DISSOLUTION**

**SECTION 1.**

The International Governing Board may, in its wisdom and at its discretion, declare the organization of the Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, Inc., inactive and vote to render its charter dormant, or dissolve the corporation.

**SECTION 2.**

- a. The existing assets of the international organization shall then be distributed as follows:
  1. all debts and obligations of the international organization shall be paid in full;
  2. all remaining assets shall be placed into a trust for up to ten (10 ) years
  3. The terms of such trust will be decided upon by the International Governing Board of Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, Inc.
- b. The trust should be managed by an executor appointed by the International Governing Board.
- c. If after ten (10) years, Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, Inc. is not reorganized, any remaining funds shall be dispersed to the designated philanthropies of Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority, Inc.

**ARTICLE VI  
GRAND CHAPTER**

Except as otherwise reserved to the International Governing Board by this International Constitution, all legislative powers shall be vested in the Grand Chapter

**SECTION 1.**

*At the International Convention:* Grand Chapter shall be comprised of delegates at the International Convention. "Delegates" shall include at least one (1) official delegate from each active collegiate chapter and alumnae association in good standing, and the seated International Governing Board officers in good standing, with a majority vote of those constituting an act or transaction of business, unless otherwise reserved within the International Constitution.

**SECTION 2.**

*Between International Conventions:* Grand Chapter shall be comprised of at least one (1) official vote from each active collegiate chapter and alumnae association in good standing, and the seated International Governing Board officers in good standing, with a majority vote of those constituting an act or transaction of business, unless otherwise reserved within the International Constitution.

**ARTICLE VII  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

**SECTION 1.**

The International Convention shall meet during a period of not less than twenty-two (22) months nor more than thirty-eight (38) months, at a date and place determined by the International Governing Board.

**SECTION 2.**

There shall be a uniform International Convention assessment for all collegiate chapters, plus an individual active assessment, if necessary.

**SECTION 3.**

Each active collegiate chapter and alumnae association in good standing, and seated International Governing Board officers shall be afforded an equal number of votes; the power of execution is to be designated in the delegate or delegates representing the collegiate chapter or alumnae association by officially producing such credentials that so establish her identity.

**ARTICLE VIII  
NOMINATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BOARD**

**SECTION 1.**

A Nominating Team shall meet prior to the International Convention to present the slate. Such Team shall consist of a coordinator, appointed by the International President, and at least three (3) members in good standing. Team members shall be appointed by the Nominating Team Coordinator. The coordinator and team members shall be appointed at least twelve (12) months prior to International Convention. The offices to be slated shall be determined by the International Governing Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the first Nominating Team meeting.

**SECTION 2.**

Any chapter may submit to the coordinator of the Nominating Team suggestions for nominees for the various elected offices at least nine (9) months prior to International Convention. Candidates for the International Governing Board may submit self-nomination forms or may be nominated by another member of the Sorority. The Nominating Team shall present their recommended slate to the Sorority no less than three (3) months prior to the start of the International Convention.

**SECTION 3.**

The International Governing Board may suggest candidates for the various elected offices to the coordinator of the Nominating Team. Additional nominations for any office may be made by a petition signed by no less than six (6) members of the official Grand Chapter voting body and filed with the coordinator of the Nominating Team no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hour set for the election. There shall be no nominations from the floor and no nominations shall be made without the consent of the nominee.

**SECTION 4.**

The Nominating Team shall present a slate of at least one name per office to the delegates of the International Convention.

**ARTICLE IX  
FEES, TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS**

**SECTION 1.**

The Initiation, New Member, Per Capita, Activity, International Convention Fees and the uniform International Convention assessment shall be levied by the International Governing Board.

**SECTION 2.**

All other fees, taxes, and assessments shall be set by the Grand Chapter and incorporated in the International By-Laws.

**ARTICLE X  
AMENDMENT OF INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION**

This International Constitution may be amended as follows:

**SECTION 1.**

By a proposal submitted at the International Convention by a team composed of no less than (3) voting delegates, with one (1) delegate from each Province ("Province" defined from time to time by the International Governing Board) and ratified by a 2/3 vote of the voting delegates at that International Convention; or

**SECTION 2.**

By a proposal submitted by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the International Governing Board and ratified by a majority of the active collegiate chapters in good standing, alumnae associations in good standing, and seated International Governing Board officers in good standing.

(It is understood that the International By-Laws follow the International Constitutional changes where applicable).

*Revisions approved by Grand Chapter vote May 2009*