



BYLAWS OF
RHO BETA BETA CHAPTER
OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY,
INCORPORATED

Revised: April, 2020

PREAMBLE

We the members of Rho Beta Beta Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. believing that men of similar ideas of fellowship should bind themselves together in order to form a more perfect union among men, to promote the principles of **MANHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, PERSERVERANCE, and UPLIFT**, to further brotherly love and fraternal spirit with the organization, to protect the sanctity of the home and the chastity of women, do enact and establish these Bylaws for the governance for the members of this chapter.

CHAPTER 1 – ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE 1 – NAME, LOCATION, and SYMBOL

Sec. 1 – The name of this Chapter shall be **Rho Beta Beta. (PBB)**

Sec. 2 – The location shall be the Houston Metropolitan area.

Sec. 3 – The symbol of this chapter shall be the Greek letters,
OMEGA PSI PHI. (ΩΨΦ)

Sec. 4 – The colors of this chapter shall be in keeping with the
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. tradition of
“ROYAL PURPLE and OLD GOLD”.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of the chapter shall be to bring about a union of men endowed in the true Omega spirit based on **MANHOOD, SCHOLARSHIP, PERSERVERANCE and UPLIFT** in order to:

- Sec. 1- Stimulate the attainment of ideals and ambitions of its members, so that they may be examples to all they meet.
- Sec. 2 - Cooperate with schools and their administrations where chapters may be located in fostering these ideals.
- Sec. 3 – Assist and encourage the undergraduate Chapters in this area in the attainment of this fraternity.
- Sec. 4 – Occupy a progressive, helpful, and constructive place in the civic and political life of the local, states, and national community.
- Sec. 5 – Prepare its members for greater usefulness in causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity.
- Sec. 6 – Aid the minority community in its effort to achieve higher social, economic and intellectual status.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1 – Rho Beta Beta shall be composed principally of members in good standing, not but, may be pursuing courses in institutions of higher learning.
- Sec. 2 – Omega men transferring from another graduate chapter will be considered for membership to the chapter after they present to the Keeper of Records and Seal the proper credentials as referenced in the National Constitution of the Fraternity.
- Sec. 3 – (a.) “Good Standing” shall mean all Omega men having fulfilled the financial obligations with the National, District Offices and with Rho Beta Beta Chapter as defined by Sec. 3 (b).
 - (b.) To maintain good standing with the Chapter, each member must have paid his dues, and all other outstanding and balances due, to include tickets, fees, etc., payable to the Chapter, as determined by the Chapter Keeper of Finance and the Executive Council, through the last regularly scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE IV – ELIGIBILITY of MEMBERSHIP and REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 1 – Eligibility and requirements for membership into Rho Beta Beta shall hence forth be in accordance with the International Office's Membership Selection process.

ARTICLE V- FRATERNITY'S POWER TO DISCIPLINE

Sec. 1 – **Scope of Rules:** All matters of membership discipline by the Chapter are subject to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Member Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy. Chapters under the following regulations are herewith given the power to suspend members for cause.

The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., shall have the power to suspend, expel, or otherwise discipline its various chapters, officers, and members in accordance with the following guidelines:

Sec. 2 – **Authority:**

- (a) No Omega man shall be suspended and/or expelled from the Fraternity except for good cause shown.
- (b) Cause is defined as any act or acts which violate the Constitution and /or Bylaws and/or mandates of the Fraternity, and institution of higher learning wherein the chapter located and /or local, municipal, parish, state, or Federal laws.
- (c) The District Representative or his official designee shall have the authority to suspend, reprimand, place on probation or institute such lesser discipline on any Chapter or brother located in his district. Further, the District Representative may expel a member where warranted.

Sec. 3 – **Appeal:**

- (a) Any individual brother suspended for a period of more than four (4) years or is expelled may request a review of the suspension by the Tribunal.
- (b) A request for review shall be made within thirty (30) days of notification from the District Representative or his designee. The requested review shall be submitted in writing by certified mail to the Executive Director. A return receipts should also be requested. The Executive Director shall forward the request to the Tribunal members and the District Representatives.
- (c) The request for review shall be in written form with sufficient copies. The written request shall be concise, factual, and contain the following:

- (1) Statement of the Facts

- (2) Statement of Reasons Why the Discipline is in Error
- (3) Affidavit(s) of Witness (es)

Sec. 4 – Tribunal:

- (a) There shall be established a Disciplinary Tribunal having jurisdiction as herein provided.
- (b) The Disciplinary Tribunal shall consist of five members, nominated by the Grand Basileus and approved by the Supreme Council. At least one of these members must be an undergraduate.
- (c) The Tribunal members shall receive and review all request for reviews. The District Representative may submits his position to the Tribunal for consideration by the Tribunal.
- (d) The chairman shall poll the members of the Tribunal to determine whether the request for reviews warrants further action. Those reviews receiving a majority vote of the Tribunal for further action shall be put on the Tribunal review schedule. Those requests not receiving a majority vote shall be returned to the Brother(s) with a notation that the request for review has been denied.
- (e) The Tribunal shall meet as determined by the Chairman, when necessary and upon approval of the Grand Basileus. The Tribunal may request parties, at their own expense to appear at the review to answer questions or to make further presentations before the Tribunal.
- (f) After review and discussion of the request for review the Tribunal shall vote on whether to uphold the discipline imposed. The majority decision of the Tribunal shall be final and not subject to further review.

Sec. 5 – Rendition:

- (a) The names of all members who have been suspended or expelled shall be published in the “Bulletin” and/or “Oracle” as soon as possible after such punishment is final.
- (b) The Supreme Council shall have the power to compel such members to return their Fraternity pins, cards, and other Fraternity property.
- (c) Written report by the Tribunal shall be made to District meetings and Grand Conclaves for informational purposes only.
- (d) During the time period pending review by the Tribunal, the Brother(s) shall be suspended.
- (e) A financial member of the Fraternity may represent the Brother(s).

ARTICLE VI – CHAPTER’S POWER TO DISCIPLINE

Sec. 1 – All matters of membership discipline by the Chapter are subject to the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Member Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policy. Chapters under the following regulations are herewith given the power to suspend members for cause.

Sec. 2 – The Chapter shall have power to suspend or otherwise discipline any member(s) for cause after a hearing based upon typewritten charges letter. The charge letter must clearly specify the allegations and charges against the accused member and must be served upon the accused member by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by acknowledged hand-delivery, at least thirty (30) days before the set date for a hearing on said charges. The accused member may request a hearing date sooner than 30 days.

(a) Waiver by Hearing – By written letter to the Executive Council, the accused member may waive a hearing on the charges against him and allow a summary decision be made by the Executive Council. If a summary decision is made, said decision can be appealed only to the Tribunal as specified below.

Sec. 3 – Hearing Procedures. If a hearing date is set, the accused member must be provided written notice of the date and time of the hearing. The notice shall notify the accused member of the specific time and place of the hearing, and charges brought against him. At least ten (ten) days prior to the hearing, the Executive Council will provide, and the accused member will be able to read, all reports about the incident and will be provided with a list of people who may be called as witnesses during the hearing. If the accused member plans to present witnesses, he must prepare a list of the witnesses and submit same to the Executive Council no later than seven (7) days prior to the hearing. The accused member is required to be present at the hearing and is entitled to present witnesses and to question witnesses.

(a) If a member of the Executive Council will be presented as a witness, that Executive Council member shall recuse himself from participating in any disciplinary decision and, for the purpose of the hearing shall, be replaced by an ex-Basileus of Rho Beta Beta.

(b) If, after a hearing, the accused member is found guilty as charged, and said member feels he has been unjustly dealt with, he may appeal to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

(c) The accused member shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Disciplinary Tribunal with in thirty (30) days after the decision of the Chapter.

(d) The decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall be final.

ARTICLE VII – TRANSLATIONS

Sec. 1 – Within ten (10) days after the decease of any member of the Fraternity, it shall be the duty of the Keeper of Records and Seal to officially inform the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal of such death and to forward to him a biography of the deceased member.

Sec. 2 – Immediately upon receipt of notice of the death a member, the Keeper of Records and Seal shall send to the family of the deceased an appropriate letter of condolence in the name of the Fraternity.

Sec. 3 – After the death of a member of the Fraternity, it shall be the duty of the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal to publish in the next issue of the official organ of the Fraternity an appropriate testimonial to said deceased member.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

Sec. 1 – Rho Beta Beta chapter shall meet regularly every first Friday of each month or at such time as the Executive Council shall designate.

Sec. 2 – The Basileus, Vice Basileus, or their designee, with the approval of the Executive Council shall have charge of all arrangements in connections with the holding of the Chapter meeting.

Sec. 3 – The Chapter shall determine the time and place(s) of the meetings be that in person or virtual.

Sec. 4 – The Chapter shall hold a formal meeting once quarterly. It shall be held in accordance with the traditional ritual of the Fraternity.

Sec. 5 – (a) To constitute a quorum for the regularly scheduled meeting there must be at least One-third (1/3) of the financial Brothers present at the time the meeting is held.

(b) To constitute a quorum for a call meeting there must be at least one fourth (1/4) of the financial Brothers present at the time the meeting is held.

Sec. 6 – A call meeting is defined as any meeting held to take up issues that must be addressed before the next regularly scheduled meeting. The Basileus, Vice Basileus, or three other members of the Executive Council shall call the meeting. The Keeper of Records and Seal will notify all financial Brothers at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the said meeting.

Sec. 7 – At the beginning of each meeting, the Keeper of Records and Seal shall have a roll call denoting all financial Brothers, shall advise all un-financial Brothers that they will be unable to actively participate in that meeting.

Sec. 8 – Any financial Brother may request a division of the financial Brothers for the purpose of conducting Fraternity business. In voting procedure, any fully financial Brother may request a financial roll call vote.

Sec. 9 – The Executive Council shall meet at least once monthly.

Sec. 10 – All standing committees shall meet at least once quarterly or as deemed necessary by the Basileus or Chairman.

Sec. 11 – No Brother will be allowed to participate in regular or formal meetings under the influence of alcohol or any drug not prescribed by a physician.

CHAPTER II – CHAPTER

ARTICLE I – ELECTED OFFICERS AND DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

Sec. 1 – **Names of Elected Officers:** The elected officers of Rho Beta Beta shall be Basileus, Vice Basileus, Keeper of Records and Seal, Keeper of Finance, Chaplain, Keeper of Peace, Parliamentarian.

Sec. 2 – **Basileus:** The Basileus shall be the executive of the chapter and shall preside at all meetings. It shall be his duty:

(a) To order disbursements of funds as the Chapter may provide.

(b) To submit quarterly, through the Keeper of Records and Seal to the District Representative, a report of the Chapter, which will include:

1. An account of the new members initiated, with a brief sketch of each member.
2. A concise statement of the constructive work being done by the Chapter in the civic life of the community.
3. A program of the future plans of the Chapter, if such is available.
4. A brief statement of the personal achievements of the individual members of the Chapter.

(c) To inform the members of the Chapter that no corporal/mental punishments is to be inflicted on potential members at any time

Sec. 3 – Vice Basileus: He shall assist the Basileus; to preside over the Chapter meeting and /or Executive Council in the absence of the Basileus or to preside over any meeting upon the request of the Basileus, to be liaison between the Basileus and standing committees. He shall oversee all committee activities with that chairman. His responsibilities shall include supervising the Audit Committee during all semi-annual audits of the Chapters financial books and records, as provided in this Chapter II, Section III; Section 2(i).

Sec. 4 - Keeper of Records and Seal: it shall be the duty of the Keeper Records and Seal:

- (a) To keep a record of the official proceedings of the Chapter.
- (b) To carry on the correspondence of the Chapter.
- (c) To receive all funds of the Chapter, keep a record of same and deliver said funds to the Keeper of Finance immediately on their collection.
- (d) To sign and record all written orders from the Basileus for the disbursement of funds of the Chapter and to forward the same to the Keeper of Finance.
- (e) To keep an individual personal history of each member of this chapter and furnish the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal with a duplicate copy of such history, with additions and changes.
- (f) To furnish the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal such data concerning the chapter as the Grand Keeper of Records and Seal might consider necessary to keep the history of the Fraternity complete.
- (g) To carry on such publicity as the chapter might direct, provided that such publicity shall be local in nature.
- (h) To render such other reports as the Grand Officers, District Officers and Chapter Officers might require.
- (i) To countersign all membership cards, except those of detached Brothers.

Sec. 5 – Keeper of Finance: The duties of the Keeper of Finance shall be:

- (a) To receive from the Keeper of Records and Seal and hold all funds payable to the Chapter.

- (b) To disburse the funds of the Chapter only upon written order of the Basileus, countersigned by the Keeper of Records and Seal and other official designee.
- (c) To keep a businesslike record of all monies received and disbursed, and to submit such record together with all original orders for and receipts for disbursements at such time as the Chapter may direct.
- (d) At the discretion of the Executive Council, he shall be bonded to the Chapter in sum sufficient to cover the probable amount of funds of the Chapter, which he may be called to handle. He shall carry out all duties as described further under Chapter III, Article III, of these bylaws.

Sec. 5 – **Chaplain:** It shall be the duty of the Chaplain to conduct religious services of the Chapter. He may serve as the Chairman of the Courtesy and Condolences Committee.

Sec. 6 – **Keeper of Peace:** It is the duty of the Keeper of Peace to maintain order in all meetings of the Chapter. He shall be charged with keeping the roll of all Brothers of Rho Beta Beta Chapter and soliciting from those Brothers not on the roll of the Chapter, their proper identification establishing their membership to the Fraternity.

Sec. 7- **Parliamentarian:** He shall be responsible for settling matters of interpretation in regard to the governing of the organization and matters of parliamentary procedure. (Roberts Rules of Order – Revised).

Sec. 8 – **Chapter Public Relations:** Appointed by the Basileus, the duties of the Public Relations chairman shall be:

- (a) Submit all articles from the Chapter to the Editor of the Oracle for publication.
- (b) To submit to editors of newspapers all chapter news for publications in local newspapers.
- (c) He is charged with editing, publishing, and distributing the news of the Chapter to its members. He shall submit articles photographs and public service announcements to appropriate local medias, the Ninth District Newsletter, and the Oracle. He shall perform such other duties as assigned by the Basileus and the Executive Council.

APPOINTED OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Sec. 1 – **Assistant Keeper of Records and Seal:** Appointed by the Basileus, he shall assist the Keeper of Records and Seal.

Sec. 2 - **Assistant Keeper of Finance:** Appointed by the Basileus, he shall assist the Keeper of Finance.

Sec. 3 – **Chapter Webmaster:** Appointed by the Basileus, he shall assist the Chapter Public Relations Chairman, maintain the chapter website and be responsible for matters in regard to computer and Internet services.

Sec. 4 – **Chapter Counselor:** Appointed by the Basileus, he shall advise and counsel the Chapter in all legal matters, and represent the Chapter in all legal proceedings of which the Chapter is a party.

ARTICLE II – ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE, NOMINATION, TERM, CHAPTER AWARDS

Sec. 1 – To be eligible to be a candidate for office for Rho Beta Beta Chapter, Brother must be in good standing with the International body, the Ninth District and Rho Beta Beta Chapter on or before start of the meeting of the year seeking office.

- (a) At the time he becomes an official candidate, the Brother's standing shall be verified by the Executive Council and the Collections Committee, to the Nominations Committee. The Brother shall not be considered an official candidate for office until his verification is received and confirmed by the Nominations Committee.
- (b) Candidates seeking office must be in good standing on or before the Ninth District Annual meeting of the year seeking office.
- (c) All existing officers of the Chapter must be in good standing by the January 31st the year following the election.
- (d) If a candidate is called from the floor at the time of the election, both the Keeper of Records and Seal and the Collections Committee shall research, confirm and announce the candidate's status prior to the election taking place.

Sec. 2 - The officers of the Chapter shall be elected at the place and time herein Provided.

- (a) All officers shall be elected for a term of one year. Said elections shall be an order of business at the last regularly scheduled meeting at the close of the fiscal year on October 31st.
 - i. Elections may be held in person or virtually.

- ii. Only financial members of the Chapter shall cast ballots, one vote per Brother, absentee ballots must be properly signed, dated and received at the chapter post office box postmarked no earlier than September 1 and no later than September 30 of the current year of election, email voting must be submitted to the Nominations Committee chair and the KRS seventy-two (72) hours prior to the regularly scheduled meeting of the election.
- iii. To be eligible for the office of Keeper of Records and Seal and Keeper of Finance, the Brother must be able to be bonded by a surety company.
- iv. To be eligible for the offices of Basileus and Vice Basileus, the member must have been in the Chapter for 2 (two) preceding years.
- v. To be eligible for the office of Basileus the member must have held a seat on the executive council or chaired a standing committee .

Sec. 3 – The election of officers of the Chapter shall be by secret ballot following the nominations committee report.

- (a) The nominees receiving the majority (>50%) number of votes shall be declared the elected officer.
- (b) In case of a tie, or in case no candidate receives more than 50% of the votes, another successive secret ballot vote will be taken involving only the top two (2) vote-getters. The candidate then receiving the most votes shall be declared the elected officer.

Sec. 4- Officers shall begin serving their term at the close of the last monthly meeting of the chapter in which they were elected.

Sec. 5 – Nominations of all elected officers shall be made either by the nominations committee or from the floor.

- (a) At the time of chapter elections, when a Brother has been nominated for more than one office, at his own discretion, said Brother must declare his intentions his name to be on ballot for only one position.

Sec. 6 – The restrictions of re-elections of any officer of the chapter is herein stated:

- (a) The Basileus shall not be elected for re-election for more than three (3) successive terms. (The Basileus shall not be elected to more than three (3) successive terms.

- (b) All other elected officers may be a candidate for re-election for no more than five (5) successive terms.

Sec. 7 – No member shall hold more than one office at a time,

Sec. 8 – All officers, with the exception of the Basileus are eligible to serve as chairman of standing committees, and to special appointments.

Sec. 9 – An officer planning to resign must submit to the Chapter, a written letter of resignation, stating the reasons for his decision.

Sec. 10 – Any officer shall be requested to resign his position for non-attendance, non performance of duties, not maintaining good standing, or misuse of office.

Thirty (30) days month notice shall be given in writing, informing the officer of the charges against him. After thirty (30) days, a hearing will be held before the Chapter; two thirds (2/3) majority vote of all fully financial Brothers is needed to remove a Brother from office.

- (a) A request to remove an officer requires the approval of at least four (4) other members of the Executive Council.

- (b) An officer that has been requested to resign may request a hearing date within (30) thirty days of notice.

- (c) Waiver of Hearing – By written letter to the remaining Executive Council members, an officer that has been requested to resign may waive a hearing on the charges against him and voluntarily resign.

Sec. 11 – In event of a vacancy occurring in the office of Basileus, the Vice Basileus will become Basileus immediately. There will be a nomination for the office of Vice Basileus at the next regular Chapter meeting. There will be a special election for the office of Vice Basileus at the second regularly scheduled meeting of the Chapter following the date of the vacancy. A vacancy in any other office shall be filled with the same procedure as the vacancy of the office of the Vice Basileus.

Sec. 12 – The selection of Chapter Awards shall be elected at a regularly schedule meeting prior to the Founders celebration.

- (a) To be eligible for Omega Man of the Year, Founders, and/or Superior Service awards, a member must be in good financial standing, as defined in Chapter 1, Article III, Section 3, (b).

(b) Only members in good standing shall cast votes for the Chapter awards.

(c) In case of a tie for any award, if any member has previously won that award, the award shall go to the member that has not previously won the award. In the event both members have previously won the award, the member who won the award earliest shall be declared the winner.

ARTICLE III – EXECUTIVE and STANDING COMMITTEES and THEIR DUTIES

Sec. 1 – **The Executive Council** shall consist of all Rho Beta Beta elected members and the immediate past Basileus. Past Rho Beta Beta Basilei may serve as members of this Council. Past Basilei may serve as executive council members, but only immediate past basileus will have voting privileges.

(a) The Basileus shall be chairman of the Council.

(b) The Executive Council shall be responsible for the overall operation of the Chapter, reviewing all Chapter activities, making recommendations to the Chapter, and will have authority to make emergency decisions.
(An emergency shall be directed by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of elected members from the Council).

Sec. 2 – **Standing Chapter Committees** shall consist of the following:

(a) **Social Events Committee:** shall be responsible for planning all Chapter social functions and presenting their suggestions to the monthly meeting or as deemed necessary for approval.

(b) **Community Affairs Committee:** shall be responsible for all educational and Community projects for the Chapter. Their suggestions will be presented to the Chapter at the monthly meeting or as deemed necessary for approval.

(c) **Budget and Finance Committee:** shall be responsible for the budget for each new fiscal year for the Chapter by the last regularly scheduled meeting of the past year, or as agreed upon by the Executive Council. This committee shall be responsible for all fund raising collection activities of the Chapter. In consultation with the Keeper of Finance, the Budget and Finance committee shall be responsible for constructing the proposed budgets for the Chapter as specified in the Bylaws, and after giving due consideration to the financial needs of each committee, said financial need being necessary to implement

the charges and duties of the several committees, shall make budgetary allocations, and collaborate with the Keeper of Finance.

- (d) **Reclamation Committee:** shall be charged with developing and implementing a program to reclaim, retain, and involve Brothers. It shall coordinate its activities with those of the other committees in the area, the Ninth District, and on the International level.
- (e) **Public Relations Committee:** shall be charged with the duty of publicizing activities of the Fraternity on a local, District, and International level, in all fields of human relations, and in the furtherance thereof, the Public Relations committee shall work closely with the Social Action and Community Affairs committees for that purpose.
- (f) **Talent Hunt Committee:** shall organize and develop the Talent Hunt demonstration of the Chapter for final execution and presentation at District meeting and the Grand Conclave.
- (g) **Achievement Week Committee:** shall prepare a National Achievement Week program in which the Chapter should participate during a specifically designated period. Suggested guidelines shall be provided by this committee for the Chapter's use in these connections.
- (h) **Artifacts and Memorabilia Committee:** members of this committee shall call upon, inquire of, offer assistance to, and encourage Brothers and their survivors to give to the Fraternity for preservation and display such artifacts and memorabilia as they, in their generosity, may wish the Chapter to have and keep. The committee shall convey, at every possible opportunity, the love, thanks, and respect of the Basileus, the Executive Council, the Brothers, to these loyal distinguished Brothers and their families whenever contacted. Where feasible, artifacts and memorabilia, when corrected, shall be carefully preserved, and if necessary restored, and they shall be displayed as the Chapter so directs.
- (j) **Audit Committee:** shall conduct all audits of the Chapter's financial books records on an annual basis at the end of the Chapter's fiscal year. It shall consist of three (3) Brothers of the Chapter, chosen at large by a majority of the Brotherhood.
- (k) **Collection Committee:** shall be responsible for the collection of funds due to the chapter for events, tickets, etc., as directed by the Executive Council.
- (l) **Undergraduate Advisor Committee:**
- (m) **Bylaws and Legal Affairs Committee:**

(n) **Membership Selection & Continuing Education Committee:**

(o) **PanHellenic Council Committee:**

Sec. 3 – The Basileus from time to time may establish ad hoc committees and an appointed chairman of said committees, as deemed necessary by himself or the chapter. These committees are subject to dissolution at the end of their designated function.

Sec. 4 – No member shall be the chairperson of more than one committee. However, a member may serve on multiple committees, and chairman of standing committees, may be chairman of ad hoc committees, with the approval of the Brotherhood.

Sec. 5 - The Basileus shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

Sec. 6 – Ex-Basilei Advisory Council (EBAC)

(a) **Purpose:** To provide unique knowledge and skills which complement the knowledge and skills of Rho Beta Beta's elected Executive Council in order to more effectively govern the Chapter. Because of their working knowledge of chapter and fraternal operations, EBAC members provide valuable advice, guidance, and assistance.

It is recommended, the EBAC be called upon to issue opinion/recommendations only where it is apparent that a major, current issue, challenge or unprecedented problems exist or the chapter membership has come to a critical impasse. It is recommended that the EBAC be called upon matters that are outside the usual, ongoing roles and responsibilities of the elected Executive Council.

(b) **Powers:** Governance of the chapter is limited to the Rho Beta Beta Executive Council only. The EBAC does not have formal authority to govern the chapter, that is, the advisory council cannot issue directives which must be followed. Rather, the EBAC serves to make formal opinions/recommendations regarding an issue or provide key information and materials to the formal Executive Council for decision making purposes.

(c) The EBAC may be called to issue a formal, written opinion with the vote of at least three (3) Executive Council members or by a majority votes of the chapter's financial members.

1. The EBAC may be called to issue a formal, written opinion to the Executive Council.
2. Even though being called upon to issue a formal opinion/recommendation at its sole discretion, the EBAC may decline to issue a formal opinion/recommendation on any matter.
3. If the EBAC chooses to issue a formal opinion/recommendation, the EBAC may present its formal opinion/recommendation to the Executive Council and the chapter membership. At its sole discretion, the EBAC may make its opinion/recommendation known only to the chapter Basileus. Neither the Basileus nor the Executive Council is under obligation to make the EBAC's formal opinion known to the chapter membership.
4. The EBAC is under no obligation to explain or provide a rationale for its decision to either the Executive Council or the chapter membership, regardless of whether a formal opinion/recommendation is issued or declined.

- (d) **Membership:** The EBAC will consist of former Rho Beta Beta Basilei who:
- (1) Are in good standing and has paid Rho Beta Beta chapter dues for current fiscal year; and ,
 - (2) Have been in good standing and have paid Rho Beta Beta Chapter dues during the previous two (2) years(not including the current fiscal year).
- (e) The EBAC shall operate under the direction of a chairman. The chair shall be the chapter immediate-Past Basileus. In the chair's absence or inability to serve a vice-chair shall assume the role.
- (f) **Ad Hoc Membership:** The EBAC, at its own discretion, may appoint ad-hoc Members to the EBAC as it so chooses. To be eligible for an ad-hoc appointment, the appointee must be either be an otherwise ineligible ex-Basileus or a Rho Beta Beta founding member.

CHAPTER III – FINANCES

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1 - The amount of annual Rho Beta Beta Chapter dues shall be determined bi-annually by the Brotherhood at the first monthly meeting of the even number fiscal year.

Section 2- Any Brother that has 50 years or more in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and has been a financial member of the National, District and Rho Beta Beta Chapter for a minimum of 10 consecutive years, will be exempt from paying **Rho Beta Beta** dues.

Section 3- Any Undergraduate Brother, who graduated from college and affiliates with Rho Beta Beta within the same fiscal year, will be exempt from chapter dues for the balance of that fiscal year (Fiscal year Nov. 1-Oct. 31).

- (A.) In the second year of affiliation with Rho Beta Beta, any Undergraduate Brother, who graduated from college and affiliates with Rho Beta Beta their Chapter dues will be ½ of the normal chapter assessment (dues).
- (B.) In the third year of affiliation with Rho Beta Beta, any Undergraduate Brother, who graduated from college and affiliates with Rho Beta Beta their Chapter dues will be for 100 % of the normal chapter assessment (dues).

Section 4- Any Brother that graduates from college and attends Graduate School, Law School, Medical School, etc within 2 semesters of graduating will pay no dues the 1st and 2nd years, ½ the dues his 3rd year, and 100% their 4th year.

Section 5- Exceptions to the article I sec 2, 3, and 4 may be made at the discretion of the body.

ARTICLE II – INCOME and DISBURSEMENTS

Sec. 1 – All chapter income shall be placed in the Chapter checking, savings, or funding accounts by the Keeper of Finance.

Sec. 2 – All monetary disbursements from the Chapter shall be by check or draft and handled by the Keeper of Finance at the approval of the Brotherhood.

Sec. 3 – The Basileus may authorize the expenditure of no more than \$200.00 (Two Hundred Dollars) between monthly meetings, this can be done at his discretion. Any expenditure of more than \$200.00 (Two Hundred Dollars) between meetings must be approved by the Executive Council after all Brothers have been duly notified of said transaction.

- i. Upon request of any financial member it may be brought before the body and voted for basileus monthly expenditure to be deducted from the basileus fund.

Sec. 4 – All checks written from any Chapter account must be endorsed by any two (2) of the followings officers:

- (a) Basileus
- (b) Keeper of Records and Seal
- (c) Keeper of Finance

IT IS DULY RECCOMENDED THAT ALL OFFICERS DESIGNATED AS ENDORSEES OF THE CHAPTER FUNDS SHALL BE OFFICIALLY BONDED BY A SURETY BOND.

Sec. 5 – The Keeper of Finance shall be eligible and able to obtain a bond for the Chapter through the Fraternity by any authorized surety, as required, at the discretion of the Executive Council. He shall keep all monetary records and present them at the monthly meeting. The financial records may be reviewed by any financial Brother upon request of the Basileus. The Basileus may call for a financial report at any time upon seven (7) days notice to the Keeper of Finance. The Keeper of Finance shall also assess charges to any member of the Chapter that remits insufficient funds checks to the Chapter as payment of dues or any monies paid/owed to the Chapter. Such charges may be set and determined periodically by the Executive Council, in accordance with the amounts that are generally assessed against such checks by the banking industry.

Sec. 6 – The Chapter does not have a policy to lend funds to any individual, any other procedures or circumstances, for such, requires special attention and consideration with proper approval by the Brotherhood.

CHAPTER IV – ANNUAL CELEBRATIONS

ARTICLE I –INTERNATIONALLY MANDATED PROGRAMS

Sec. 1 – Achievement Week:

Originally designed to promote the Study of Negro life and History
Observed in November of each year and is designed to seek out and give due recognition to those individuals at the local and international levels who have made a noteworthy contribution toward improving the quality of life for Black Americans. A high School Essay Contest is to be held in conjunction with Achievement Week. This contest is open to all college-bound high school seniors. College scholarships are awarded to the winners, each whom must submit an essay on a theme/topic chosen by the fraternity. The contest is a phase of the International Achievement Week observance.

Sec. 2 - Scholarship:

The Scholarship Program is intended to promote the academic excellence among undergraduate members. Graduate chapters are expected to provide financial assistance to student members and non-members. A portion of the fraternity's international budget is allocated to scholarships through the Charles R. Drew Scholarship Commission.

Sec. 3 – Social Action Programs:

All levels of the Fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate and coordinate activities that will uplift their communities. An International committee will coordinate the multifaceted programs of the various chapters. Some of the activities under the umbrella of social action include, but are not limited to; voter registration, education and "getting out to vote"; Assault on Illiteracy; Habitat for Humanity, volunteering time to charities and less fortunate Individuals, mentoring; and participation in fundraisers for charities such as American Diabetes Association, United Way, Sickle Cell Anemia, United Negro College Fund, etc.

Sec. 4 – Talent Hunt Program:

This program, provides exposure, encouragement and financial assistance to Talented young people participating in Performing Arts. Winners of the competition are awarded recognition for their talents. Awards may include college scholarships.

Sec. 5 - Memorial Day:

(a) March 12 of each year is hereby set apart as Memorial Day in honor of all Members of the Fraternity who have passed to the great beyond and have been transferred into Omega Chapter.

(b) The Chapter shall celebrate Memorial Day with an appropriate program and/or ceremonies.

Sec. 6 – Reclamation and Retention:

A concerted effort at the International, District and local levels to retain active Brothers and return inactive brothers to full participatory status so that they may enjoy the full benefits of Omega .

Sec. 7 – College Endowment Fund:

Each year the fraternity gives at least \$50,000.00 to Historically Black College Institutions (HBCU) in furtherance of Omega's commitment to provide philanthropic support. Chapters are assessed donations based on chapter size.

Sec. 8 - Health Initiatives:

All levels of the fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate and/or coordinate activities that will uplift their communities by promoting good health practices. An International committee will coordinate and facilitate multi-faceted programs of the various chapters, districts, etc. It is anticipated that all local chapters will execute the health directives at the local level. Some of the programs under the umbrella of Health Initiatives are the Charles R. Drew Blood Drive (normally held in June), AIDS/HIV Awareness and the American Diabetes Association Partnership. This does not prevent local chapters from Performing additional health initiatives under the umbrella of the Health Initiatives mandate.

Sec. 9- Voter Registration, Education and Mobilization

All levels of the fraternity are expected to facilitate, participate, and/or coordinate activities that will uplift their communities through the power of the vote. An International committee will coordinate and facilitate multi-faceted programs of the various chapter, districts, etc. It is anticipated that all local chapters will execute the directives at the local level. The local chapter can perform additional voter initiatives under the umbrella of the Voter Education, Registration and Mobilization mandate.

Sec. 10 – NAACP: The Chapter is required to maintain a Life Membership at Large in the NAACP. In the event the chapter is not a life member of the NAACP, it must maintain a yearly membership to be in good standing with the Fraternity.

CHAPTER V – INACTIVE BROTHERS

ARTICLE I – RULES

Sec. 1 – A Brother may declare himself as being officially inactive by giving proper written notification to the Basileus, stating the reasons for his decision.

Sec. 2 – A Brother may be declared inactive by the Chapter for reasons of non attendance, non-performance, or failure to meet the financial obligations, by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at two (2) consecutive monthly meetings

of the Chapter.

Sec. 3 - A Brother declaring himself inactive, will remain inactive until the Basileus is notified in writing of his re-activation by the Keeper of Records and Seal.

Sec. 4 – All inactivation declared by the Chapter will last only six (6) months. A Brother may be inactive for more than six (6) months, but it must be voted upon six month, and approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the voting Brothers.

Sec. 5 – A Brother declared inactive for financial reasons, will be come active when his financial obligations are met.

Sec. 6 – Inactive Brothers may not run for office, vote, participate in membership Activities, or officially represent the Chapter.

CHAPTER VI – AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE I – GUIDELINES

Sec. 1 – Any financial Brother may propose amendments to these guidelines.

Sec. 2 – Proposed amendments to these Bylaws shall be submitted in writing to the Executive council and/or Keeper of Records and Seal and include the rationale for proposed amendment(s). The Chapter must be given written notice of specific Bylaw(s) to be amended at the regular Chapter meeting along with the rationale and a vote taken on the proposed amendment(s). at the next Chapter meeting following the meeting in which notice was given.

Sec. 3 – The adoptions of a resolution in this manner is by 2/3rds majority vote of the financial Brothers at the Chapter meeting shall hereby be an amendment to these Bylaws.

Sec. 4 – Upon adoption, amendments to these Bylaws shall become law, after revised Bylaws are (1) cosigned and dated by both the Chapter Basileus Keeper of Records and Seal, and (2) notification provided to all Brothers of the amendments.

CHAPTER VII – AUTHORITY

ARTICLE I – Procedural Authority

Sec. 1 – Except where inconsistent with law or these Bylaws, the latest edition of “Robert Rules of Order” shall be the authority for this Chapter in matters of procedure not specified above.

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICERS

We the undersigned, certify that we are currently elected and acting presiding officers of Rho Beta Beta Graduate Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. in Houston, Harris County, Texas and the above Bylaws consisting of 21 pages are the Bylaws of this organization as adopted at a meeting of its members held on October 2, 2020.



Scott Harrell
Basileus



Joel McEwen
Keeper of Records and Seal