



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

Greek Life
Student Affairs

Greek Life Office Policy on Social Event Responsibility

This policy establishes requirements for fraternities and sororities (“Chapters”) affiliated with the Greek Life Office when hosting social events on and off campus.

The top priority of the Greek Life Office and the University of Georgia remains the health, safety, and wellbeing of all members of our campus community, especially for those members living and dining in the chapter houses. This policy is designed to support Chapters in creating safe environments for their members and guests and serves as a resource to assist Chapters with meeting obligations of their respective inter/national organization risk management programs. Additionally, in abundance of caution and response to the ongoing pandemic and challenges of COVID-19, portions of this policy have been created with specific requirements for the Fall 2020 semester.

The Associate Vice President of Student Affairs must annually approve revisions or edits to this policy.

I. Social Event Defined

For purposes of this policy, a “social event” is any event, activity, or gathering where any of the following occur: A) a reasonable person observing its characteristics and examining the totality of the event would conclude that it was related to a specific chapter (or chapters). B) Chapter members took part in the coordination of the event for the benefit of the chapter and/or other members, new members, or potential new members of the chapter. C) The event is sponsored, publicized, financed, and/or endorsed by the chapter.

II. General Limitations

All social events hosted by a Chapter, including chapter meetings and brotherhood/sisterhood activities, must be registered using the [Greek Life Office Event Notification System](#). Additionally, all social events must adhere to Social Distancing Guidelines and Gathering Restrictions; gatherings of up to 50 people are allowed but individuals must maintain a 6-foot distance from each other, face coverings must be utilized where six feet social distancing may not always be possible; as well as guidance from the respective inter/national organization risk management programs.

III. Limitations on Social Events with Alcohol

Chapters are prohibited from hosting a social event with alcohol, or attending a social event with alcohol hosted by another Chapter, unless the event complies with the requirements outlined in this Policy. A social event with alcohol on Chapter property must adhere to the Special Event process below. Chapters may only host a social event with alcohol away from Chapter property by adhering to the Third-Party Vendor process. Third-Party Vendor social events with alcohol are not allowed outside of Athens-Clarke County and/or if they involve an overnight component of the event.

Third-Party Vendor:

A social event with alcohol may only be hosted at a properly licensed and insured venue with which the Chapter enters into a written contractual agreement to transfer the duty of care for compliance of relevant Social Distancing Guidelines and Gathering Restrictions.

To host a social event with a Third-Party Vendor, Chapters ***must***:

- i. Complete the [Greek Life Office Event Notification System](#) form no later than (3) business days prior to the event;
- ii. Place the duty of care for compliance of relevant Social Distancing Guidelines and Gathering Restrictions, through contractual agreement, onto the Third-Party Venue and provide a copy of the written agreement in the submission of the Greek Life Office Event Notification form;
- iii. Collect and retain an accurate Guest and Attendance List for the event. The list should contain the first and last name of all attendees as well as contact information (phone number). Lists should be made available to the Georgia Department of Public Health immediately upon request; and
- iv. Restrict the number of attendees to the capacity limit of the Third-Party Venue proscribed by state and local orders, ordinances, and guidelines.

Special Event:

A social event with alcohol on Chapter property, whose intended guest list may include alumni, parents, or other non-members, may only occur for a special circumstance and must be hosted by the House Corporation or Chapter Advisors. Such Special Events are subject to current Executive Orders and Gathering Guidelines along with this policy unless the Director of Greek Life makes exceptions in writing. To obtain an exception, Chapters must notify the Director of Greek Life who will determine which requirements of the policy will apply to the event.

To host a social event as a Special Event, unless otherwise granted an exception by the Director of Greek Life, Chapters **must**:

- i. Complete the [Greek Life Office Event Notification System](#) form no later than (3) business days prior to the event;
- ii. Collect and retain an accurate Guest and Attendance List for the event. The list should contain the first and last name of all attendees as well as contact information (phone number). Lists should be made available to the Georgia Department of Public Health immediately upon request; and
- iii. Restrict the number of attendees to the capacity limit of the Chapter property proscribed by state and local orders, ordinances, and guidelines.

IV. Violations

Chapters are responsible for the conduct of their members and guests for the duration of their social events. Potential violations of this policy will be reviewed and addressed by the Greek Life Office and may be referred to the respective Governing Council. Additionally, since this is a published University policy, a violation of this policy may also be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for review and adjudication under the University's conduct process.

Sanctions for violations of this policy may be educational or punitive depending upon the severity of the violation and the host Chapter social event history. Sanctions may include but are not limited to, Chapter suspension, loss of social privileges for a designated period of time, requirements for educational speakers, additional trainings, notice to inter/national organization, and loss of UGA Athletics event block seating privileges.