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. 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.

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) If 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 with the presence of alcohol must be registered using the Greek Life Office Event Notification System and approved by the organization’s Chapter Advisor of record with the Greek Life Office. Additionally, all social events must comply with local, state, and federal laws, including but not limited to local Noise and Disturbance Ordinance (3-5-24), Governor’s Executive Orders, and University System of Georgia (USG) and University of Georgia policies and guidelines as well as policies and guidelines of the respective inter/national organization risk management programs.

Organizations must appoint and communicate through the Greek Life Office Event Notification System two sober points of contact that will be physically present for the duration of the social
event. At least one of the points of contact must be from the organization’s executive leadership (preferably the president or risk manager). If the event is co-sponsored by more than one group, representatives from all participating organizations are required. Compliance with this policy for events that are co-sponsored by more than one group is the responsibility of each group listed in the Greek Life Office Event Notification System.

Groups may not host social events beyond reading day each semester or during exams. Social functions with alcohol may only be held Tuesday through Saturday. Any exception must be reviewed in consultation with the Director of Greek Life or his/her designee at least 72 hours prior to the date of the event.

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.

Third-Party Vendor:

Defined as a social event with alcohol 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 and appropriate execution of a social event.

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 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).

iv. Collect and retain from the vendor copies of appropriate state and local licenses and applicable certificate of insurance.

BYOB Events:

Defined as a social event with alcohol hosted at a Chapter/Organization’s property or contracted venue where members and guests who are of legal drinking age are permitted to bring alcohol to the social event.

To host a BYOB (Bring Your Own Beverage) social event, Chapters must:
i. Complete the [Greek Life Office Event Notification System](#) form no later than (3) business days prior to the event.

ii. Ensure that their BYOB event practices comply with local, state, and federal laws, including but not limited to local [Noise and Disturbance Ordinance (3-5-24)](#), Governor’s Executive Orders, and University System of Georgia (USG) and University of Georgia policies and guidelines as well as policies and guidelines of the respective inter/national organization risk management programs;

iii. Ensure that alcohol present at the event or on the premises does not exceed 15% alcohol by volume (ABV), except when served by a licensed and insured third-party vendor.

iv. Ensure that attendance by non-members at any event where alcohol is present is by invitation only, and the chapter/organization must utilize a guest list system. Attendance at events with alcohol is limited to a 3:1 maximum guest-to-member ratio and must not exceed local fire or building code capacity of the chapter/organizational premises or host venue.

v. Employ accountability strategies within the operation of the social event to ensure compliance and safety of members and guests such as social event monitors or contracted, licensed, and bonded security.

vi. Employ accountability strategies within the operation of the social event to monitor the re-distribution and consumption of alcohol to members and guests who are of legal drinking age and are identified as such.

vii. Ensure that the duration of the social event does not exceed 6 hours. Chapters must also conclude the social event at the designated time as follows: Tuesday through Thursday at 1:30 AM, Friday and Saturday at 2:00 AM. All entertainment and amplified sound must end by the hours stated. Crowds must disperse no later than 30 minutes after the event ends.

viii. Clean up and remove any and all trash, debris and/or furniture from the exterior of the chapter property by 8:00 AM the following morning.

### 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.