



Towson University Fraternity & Sorority Life Social Event Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to promote the management of risk associated with the use of alcohol. Additionally, this document reinforces policies set forth by the international fraternities and sororities represented at Towson University.

I. Definition of Terms

- A. **Host Chapter:** Any fraternity or sorority chapter that plans, promotes, sponsors or hosts a social event, or submits a Social Event Notification Form.
- B. **Event:** Any gathering deemed to be within the scope of a chapter function.
- C. **Planned:** Premeditated.
- D. **Sponsored:** Paid for by a chapter.
- E. **Hosted:** A gathering held at the residence of one or more chapter members.
- F. **Promoted:** To bring into being through means of advertising and/or publicity, internally or externally.
- G. **Chapter Member:** Undergraduate active member, graduate active member, or new member.
- H. **Guest:** A person who is not a member or new member of a host chapter.
- I. **Drinking Games:** Any activity where alcohol consumption is the primary purpose. Examples include, but are not limited to, beer pong, flip cup, quarters, power hour, card games, etc.

II. Types of Social Events

- A. **Formals/Date Parties** are restricted to chapter members and one personal guest per member. Those chapter members hosting a personal guest assume responsibility for: orienting the individual to all social event policies, monitoring their behavior at all times at the event, and insuring that their conduct is in full compliance with established policies. This section also applies to Semi-Formals and Crush Parties, where more than one guest per chapter member may be invited.
- B. **Mixers** (aka “Socials”) are social events sponsored by more than one Greek-letter organization. These events are restricted to the chapter members of the sponsoring chapters and their guests. Those chapter members hosting a personal guest assume responsibility for: orienting the individual to all social event policies, monitoring their behavior at all times at the event, and insuring that their conduct is in full compliance with established policies.
- C. **Alumni Social Events** are events at which chapter members, alumni members, and their guests are present. A chapter with 25% of its active membership in attendance assumes responsibility for: orienting alumni members and guests to all social event policies, monitoring their behavior at all times at the event, and insuring that their conduct is in full compliance with established policies.
- D. **Brotherhood/Sisterhood Events** are social events limited to the active membership of a chapter.
- E. **Alcohol-free Social Events** are those functions where alcohol is not present.

III. Requirements for Social Events with Alcohol at a Non-Third Party Vendor

- A. The possession, sale, use, or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a fraternity or sorority event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity/sorority, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state and county, and must comply with the BYOB guidelines outlined in this policy.
- B. Alcoholic beverages may not be purchased through or with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf, of the chapter. This includes “passing the hat,” pooling funds, etc. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source(s) of alcoholic beverages (i.e. kegs, jungle juice, etc.) is prohibited.
- C. Open Parties, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity/sorority, without specific invitation, are prohibited.
- D. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21.

- E.** No one under the age of 21 may consume or possess alcohol. If guests appear visibly intoxicated, they will not be served.
- F.** No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance or attend or participate in a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups, or organizations.
- G.** All social events where alcohol is present must have one sober monitor from the chapter for every 10 people present. Chapters with less than 10 people must consult with the Coordinator for Fraternity & Sorority Life prior to a function. Sober monitors are responsible for ensuring that all attendees have safe transportation to and from the event. New members cannot serve as monitors.
- H.** An attendance list is mandatory for all social events at a non-third party vendor. This list will be used to facilitate sign-in at the entrance of the event.
- I.** Door monitors are required for all social events at a non-third party vendor. Door monitors are liable for any alcohol entering or leaving the event, the signing in of all guests, and the checking of IDs and wristbanding/marketing of attendees.
- J.** At the entrance, IDs will be checked and all guests over 21 years of age will receive a wristband; all guests under the age of 21 will be marked or stamped.
- K.** Reasonable amounts of food and non-alcoholic beverages must be provided for guest free of charge.
- L.** No glass containers or mugs are allowed within the designated event area.
- M.** For outdoor events, fences must be in place to mark off the designated event area.
- N.** Departing guests will be monitored to assure that guests have a safe means of transportation.
- O.** All events must end no later than 2 a.m. unless a Curfew Extension request has been approved by the Coordinator for Fraternity & Sorority Life.

IV. Requirements for Social Events with Alcohol at a Third Party Vendor

- A.** The sponsoring chapter(s) should obtain proof of the establishment's liquor license.
- B.** It is required that proper proof of insurance be provided by the third party vendor to the sponsoring chapter(s). A minimum of \$1,000,000.00 General and Liquor Liability Insurance is required.
- C.** Chapters shall agree in writing with the vendor to cash sales only, collected by the vendor, during the event. Alcohol may not be purchased through the chapter treasury or on behalf of the chapter. This includes "passing the hat," pooling funds, etc.

- D. It is suggested that transportation be arranged by the chapter to transport members and their guests to and from any third party event.
- E. No chapter may sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor or establishment where 50% of the distributor's proceeds are generated from the sale of alcohol.
- F. All events must end no later than 2 a.m.

V. Social Event Notification

- A. Each named chapter sponsoring an event, regardless of the location, is held responsible for all persons attending. All sponsoring groups shall follow their inter/national policy to determine if they may sponsor an event.
- B. Social Event Notification Forms must be submitted to the Coordinator for Fraternity & Sorority Life 72 hours in advance of social events.

VI. Violations and Enforcement

Chapters that violate this policy are subject to sanctions set forth by the Office of Judicial Affairs.