Delta Sigma Phi
Theta Lambda Chapter
Fraternity Bylaws as of March 22, 2009

Purpose

I. The purpose of the Theta Lambda Chapter shall be to challenge each man to a greater good. All chapter activities and operations shall support the members’ pursuit of this purpose.

Article I: Academics

Sec. 1 Every member and every new member shall maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) each term in order to remain in good standing with the chapter.

Sec. 2 No member may be elected or appointed to any executive position or committee chairmanship in the chapter if his cumulative grade point average or average for the previous term's work is below a 2.5.

Sec. 3 All new members and members whose GPA falls below a 2.5 cumulatively or for the previous semester shall be required to meet with the Vice President to discuss academic improvement methods.

Article II: Membership

Sec. 1 The chapter shall recruit and orient new members continuously throughout the year, whenever legitimate as decreed by the Interfraternity Council (IFC) of Dickinson College. The chapter shall follow a program of building and maintaining the largest and best general Fraternity membership at Dickinson College.

Sec. 2 No man shall be asked to join in conflict with Dickinson College, Interfraternity Council, or National Fraternity regulations.

Sec. 3 It shall be the responsibility of the chapter members to meet all prospective members whenever they are brought in contact with the chapter.

Sec. 4 Authority to ask prospective members to join shall be delegated to active members in good standing, within the confines of the recruitment period as defined by Dickinson College and the Interfraternity Council.

Sec. 5 At any time that a new member is voted upon for disciplinary or other reasons, a fifty-one percent (51%) vote of the chapter is required to release the man.
Sec. 6 Once initiated, a member shall be active until he leaves school, is graduated, or is suspended or expelled from the Fraternity. There is no inactive or senior status.

Sec. 7 Members may be suspended or expelled for violating the Constitution or regulations of the Fraternity, or for conduct unbecoming a gentleman and a member of this Fraternity. Procedure prescribed in the Fraternity Manual shall be followed in such cases.

Sec. 8 Members in good standing are those who meet the academic standards set in Article I, Sec. 1, are not financially delinquent and are not under any type of disciplinary sanctions by the executive board. Member not in good standing may not hold elected or appointed office, may not vote at chapter meetings, and may not attend social functions.

Sec. 9 All Brothers are responsible for attending all community service events that are put forth by the Community Service Chair or the President of the Chapter.

Article III: Meetings

Sec. 1 Meetings shall be held every Sunday evening of the school year. Exceptions for good cause may be made by the president, who may change the meeting time of individual meetings by giving notice on the preceding Sunday or before.

1(a) All Brothers are expected to attend the weekly Chapter Meeting, as called by the President of the Chapter.

1(b) An officer (defined as a voting member of the Executive Board), is granted two Chapter meeting absences before a five dollar fine and a week of social probation are levied for each subsequent violation.

1(c) A non-officer is granted three Chapter meeting absences before a five dollar fine and a week of social probation are levied for each subsequent violation.

Sec. 2 All Officers of the Chapter are expected to attend weekly Executive Board meetings as called by the Vice President of the Chapter.

2(a) An officer (defined as a voting member of the Executive Board), is granted two Executive Board absences before a five dollar fine and a week of social probation are levied for each subsequent violation.

Sec. 3 Special meetings may be called by the president, chapter advisor, ACB president, or any national officer if necessary for the good of the Chapter.

Sec. 4 Only undergraduate members in good standing shall have the privilege of a vote at chapter meetings.

Sec. 5 Alumni of the Fraternity shall have the privilege of attending meetings, and the president may recognize them from the floor for discussion. Privileges of addressing the chapter shall never be denied the chapter advisor, ACB president or any national officer.
Sec. 6 The quorum required for the transaction of business shall be a majority of all undergraduate members in good standing.

Sec. 7 Aside from the above bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order shall determine parliamentary procedure in chapter meetings.

Sec. 8 All reports shall be written or typed and submitted to the appropriate officer. Failure to submit reports shall be subject to executive board review.

Sec. 9 Use of alcohol or tobacco is not permitted during Chapter or Executive Board meetings.

Sec. 10 Disorderly conduct while in attendance at a meeting can be punishable by fines or removal from meeting as directed by the President or Vice President of the Chapter.

**Article IV: Officers**

Sec. 1 Elected officers of the chapter shall be as follows: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and sergeant-at-arms. Appointed officers shall be: new member educator, community service chair, philanthropy chair, social chair(s), recruitment chairman, athletic chair, brotherhood activities chair, historian, house manager, in addition to those officers which the president may, from time to time, appoint.

Sec. 2 Duties and responsibilities of officers shall be those defined in the Fraternity Manual. All officers, whether elected or appointed, shall be required by the president to read and familiarize themselves with their respective duties and functions.

2(a) The chapter can request a review and reject an appointed officer nomination. A vote obtaining ninety percent (90%) of the active brothers with good standing with the fraternity is required to overcome a chapter president’s nomination.

2(b) Appointed officers can be removed from office at any point by the Chapter President.

2(c) Any elected officer who proves negligent or ineffective in office may be recalled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those voting in a regular chapter meeting.

2(d) As prescribed in the regulations of the National Fraternity, the Alumni Corporation Board (ACB) shall also have the power to obtain the resignation of any chapter officer it deems negligent of ineffective through two-thirds (2/3) vote.

**Article V: Elections**

Sec. 1 Elections shall be conducted once per academic year.

Sec. 2 Voting shall be by secret ballot and in the same order as the officers are named in Article IV, Sec. 1. Before each office is voted upon, additional nominations may be made from those candidates defeated for office previously voted upon.
Sec. 3 If no candidate obtains a majority in the first balloting, a run-off election shall be conducted between the two candidates receiving the most votes.

Sec. 4 A vacancy in any elected office shall be filled by a special election within one week after the vacancy occurs.

**Article VI: Committees**

Sec. 1 The Engineered Leadership Chair (ELC) shall make recommendations to the president for members of committees. Members of each of the committees shall be appointed by the president, who shall give consideration to the recommendations of the ELC.

Sec. 2 Committees shall meet weekly at the time specified by the chairmen, unless excused from doing so by the Engineered Leadership Chair. Each chairman shall submit a weekly written report and give a verbal report at chapter meetings.

Sec. 3 Committee functions shall be those provided in the Fraternity Manual.

Sec. 4 A committee chairman shall be appointed by the chapter president for each respective committee.

**Article VII: Executive Board**

Sec. 1 Members of the executive board shall be as follows: President, Vice President (who shall be the presiding officer), Treasurer, Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, New Member Educator, Social Chairman, Activities Chairman, Engineered Leadership Chair, Recruitment Chairman, and Community Service Chairman. The chapter advisor shall serve as an ex-officio, but non-voting member of the board.

Sec. 2 The executive board shall meet weekly. It shall consider any matter involving the good of the chapter and shall make its recommendations to the chapter for consideration.

Sec. 3 The executive board shall act as a disciplinary body, investigating infractions of chapter rules, house rules (if applicable) and other chapter or National Fraternity provisions. It may assess penalties less than suspension or expulsion; cases which are deemed to require suspension or expulsion shall be recommended to the chapter for action.

**Article VIII: Finances**

Sec. 1 Each year before the beginning of the fall semester, the treasurer shall prepare a budget with the assistance of the ACB. A copy is to be presented to and approved by the chapter.
Sec. 2 Dues and other fees of the Fraternity shall be charged to new members and members on the same basis.

Sec. 3 New members whose memberships are severed by the chapter shall be refunded the amount they have paid toward initiation. New members who sever their own membership or fail to qualify because of scholastic deficiencies shall not be refunded any amount they have paid. (see Fraternity Manual)

Sec. 4 The treasurer shall recommend to the Alumni Corporation Board that any delinquent member not in good standing by the twenty-fifth day of the month be placed on suspension and restricted from all chapter activity.

Sec. 5 Dues are held assessable to the delinquent member while on suspension.

Sec. 6 The treasurer shall recommend to the Alumni Corporation Board that any member not reinstated by the tenth day of the following month be expelled from the Fraternity.

Sec. 7 Any new member who is delinquent in his financial obligations without making proper arrangements with the treasurer shall be automatically charged with expulsion.

Sec. 8 Donations, contributions, gifts and other non-recurring appropriations shall not be made from the chapter treasury without the express approval of the chapter president, treasurer and chapter advisor.

Sec. 9 The signature of the chapter treasurer shall be required on every check written on chapter bank accounts.

Article IX: Social Functions

Sec. 1 All Brothers are expected to act with proper conduct toward all others in attendance at social functions.

1(a) Disciplinary violations include:

i. Failing to act with conduct acceptable at a social event.

ii. Acting in an improper fashion toward a social guest.

iii. Acting with disrespect to another because of their gender, race or sexual preference.

iv. Acting in a way detrimental to the Fraternity.

v. Endangering a guest, brother, or the safety of the social event in general.

Sec. 2 Disciplinary actions for violating acceptable conduct at social functions are to be decided by the Chapter President, Vice President, and Sergeant at Arms.
Article X: New Member Expectations

Sec. 1 All new members are responsible for activities that have been described by the President and are under the direct oversight of the Sergeant at Arms.

Sec. 2 New Members that fail to actively engage in their responsibilities as decided by the President, Vice President, and Sergeant at Arms, are subject to disciplinary action as decided by the three officers previously described.

Article XI: Legal Compliance

Sec. 1 All Active Brothers are subject to the rules and codes of the Borough of Carlisle, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Dickinson College and the United States of America.

Article XII: Further Disciplinary Actions

Sec. 1 Any member failing to attend the Informal Initiation Ceremony and unexcused by the executive board shall be fined five dollars.

Sec. 2 Any member failing to attend the Formal Initiation Ceremony and unexcused by the executive board shall be fined ten dollars.

Sec. 3 Members leaving chapter meetings without permission of the president shall be considered absent and subject to the fine if superseding the number of unexcused absences set in Article III, section 1.

Sec. 4 Cost for repair or replacement of furnishings, fixtures and other chapter properties shall be assessed to the member or new member responsible.

Sec. 5 Members or new members absent during recruitment activities and unexcused by the president and recruitment director shall be subject to executive board review, fines and/or disciplinary action.

Sec. 6 Members or new members directly responsible for fines levied against the chapter shall be held payable for such fines.

Sec. 7 All members and new members shall participate in all chapter "house cleanings" or projects, unless excused individually by the appropriate officer in charge. Infractions shall be punished by fines and/or disciplinary action.

Sec. 8 Not attending or not being excused from participation in a chapter community service activity, set in Article I, section 9, results in a five dollar fine and a week of social probation.

Sec. 9 Any active brother who is found in violation of Article XI is subject to discipline set forth by the President, Vice President, and Sergeant at Arms.
Sec. 10 Any officer who is found in violation of Article XI is subject to removal from their position by Chapter judgment with 80% of the required vote and quorum being needed.

Sec. 11 Repeat offenders of Article XI are required to be brought before the executive board for review and the Alumni Corporation Board for possible expulsion.

Sec. 12 All other instances not mentioned previously are subject to the general rules of the Fraternity.

Sec. 13 Actions considered improper or detrimental to the Fraternity are subject to discipline reserved in the authority of the Sergeant at Arms.

Sec. 14 The Sergeant at Arms may recommend punishment for said transgressions to the President, who will render verdict.

**Article XIII: Fines - Collection and Appeals**

Sec. 1 All fines implemented are to be collected by the Sergeant at Arms.

Sec. 2 Collected fines will be given to the Social Chair for use in the social budget unless directed by the President for another service.

Sec. 3 An appeal of a disciplinary action may be given with three days of the brother receiving the punishment.

Sec. 4 An appeal will be heard by the President, Vice President, and Sergeant at Arms.

Sec. 5 Further appeal may be filed with the Executive Board deciding.

Sec. 6 All brothers must fulfill their disciplinary obligations prior to attending social functions.

Sec. 7 Failure to fulfill disciplinary obligations after two weeks will result in further disciplinary action as decided by the Executive Board or the Alumni Corporation Board.

**Article XIV: Amendments**

Sec. 1 These bylaws may be amended or added to at any regular (not special) chapter meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present, provided that this total favorable number shall not be less than half the number of the entire chapter. Such amendments/additions shall then be submitted to the Alumni Corporation Board, together with the reason for the amendment/addition and their recommendation. The Alumni Corporation Board may submit in writing approval or disapproval of any amendment or addition.

Sec. 2 These bylaws shall be subject to the examination from time to time of a representative of the National Fraternity. Should they be in conflict with any provision
of the Constitution, Bylaws or Fraternity Manual, the chapter shall be directed to make amendment or repeal accordingly.
Amendments

Amendment to Article 3, Section 1:
First two absences from events incur a five-dollar fine and a week of social probation. Subsequent absences will incur an additional five dollars to the previous fine.

Amendment to Article I, Section 2 (Voted and approved 2/22/2009):
If a member holding an executive position or committee chairmanship possesses a grade point average is below the requirement specified and the chapter size does not permit the reassignment of the position, that member may keep his position until such time that the position can be reassigned.

Amendments to Article I (Voted and approved 2/22/2009):
Sec 4. Any member whose grade point average for the previous semester is below a 2.25 shall be required to attend at least 10 hours per week of study-hours, and any member whose grade point average for the previous semester is below 2.5 for the previous semester shall be required to attend at least 6 hours per week of study-hours. The Vice President will conduct these study hours.

Sec 5. New members shall be required to attend 10 hours of study hours per week held by the Vice President.

Sec 6. Variances for not completing all required study hours may be granted by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Vice President, or President.

Sec 7. Any member who does not meet their required weekly minimum for study hours twice in one semester shall be fined ten dollars. Subsequent insufficiencies in meeting requirements shall incur an additional five dollars added on to the previous fine and a week of social probation.

Amendments to Article II (Voted and approved (3/22/2009):
Sec 10. A new-member who possesses a risk to both the fraternity and or himself or is unable to meet the requirements of new-member education can be removed by a 2/3-majority vote of the chapter.

10(a). If an emergency chapter meeting is unable to be convened, the executive board can place the new-member on suspension only by a unanimous vote until a chapter meeting can be convened.