



2024-25 BLSR Review Process

WHAT IS THE BLSR?

- The Bylaws and Standing Rules (BLSR) are the “rulebook” for each Delta Gamma chapter,
- The updated model is required to be used for all chapters as it includes Fraternity-wide policies that may change each year.
- Chapters have the ability to amend their standing rules and make changes to better meet their chapter goals or membership requirements and experience.
- Some common changes chapters can make include:
 - Adding/removing director positions or committees to better meet chapter needs
 - Changing points/fines systems or attendance requirements
 - Implementing new chapter accountability practices like social media policies, chapter meeting attire, house/facility rules or cleaning systems, etc.

REVIEW OF BLSRS

- A review of the BLSR happens every spring.
- Only items designated as grey fields in the document can be changed.
- A few fields will auto-populate through the document (for example, chapter name and school).
- The vp: communications is responsible for leading the BLSR review process with CMT, maintaining the document and making updates.
 - Input from CMT should be included.
 - If making major changes that impact the expectations of chapter members or your member experience, chapter input should be involved through surveys or discussion.
- Members of CMT should review BLSR that are pertinent to their positions.

APPROVAL AND VOTING ON BLSRS

- Create and meet deadlines for the process, working backwards from the last chapter meeting and with your RCS/CAC/NCC deadlines.
 - **Now:** Start defining changes by discussing with JCMT/CMT about ideas they have and reviewing the current model to see what’s working and what isn’t.
 - **Five days to one week before BSLR due to RCS:** Collect final input from CMT on draft.
 - **March 15 (or another date specified by RCS/CAC/NCC):** Draft sent via email or uploaded to Anchorbase to RCS/CAC/NCC.
 - Region team reviews the BLSR, with RCS/CAC/NCC communicating feedback to vp: communications and chapter president.
 - **One week prior to last chapter meeting:** vp: communications sends BSLR to chapter to review prior to voting.
 - **Last chapter meeting:** vote to be held (recommended to also vote on chapter’s calendar for fall, and next year’s budget if able)



- **Things to remember about the review process:**

- The vp: communications can either email the draft BLSR to the RCS/CAC/NC or upload them – ask your RCS/CAC/NCC for their preference.
- It may take some time for your RCS/CAC/NCC to get back to you with edits as they gather input from the rest of the region team.
- The chapter must make the suggested changes and resubmit to RCS/CAC/NCC for approval prior to the chapter vote.
 - If you don't understand feedback from your RCS/CAC/NCC, ask for clarification or rationale!
- Chapter members must be educated on the BLSR before they vote – explain what they are and how they impact them.
 - The chapter must have one week to review the BLSR before taking a chapter vote.
 - During the voting meeting, think about the bigger changes/impacts and be prepared to present those to chapter and take questions prior to voting.
 - Chapter members have the right to understand what they're voting on, especially when it directly impacts them.
- The BLSR MUST be approved and voted on before you leave for the summer
- Once the BLSR is approved by RCS/CAC/NCC, the final draft must be uploaded onto Anchorbase (see below for instructions) and greekbill (vp: communications must work with vp: finance and RFS to upload to greekbill)



UPLOADING TO ANCHORBASE

1. To upload to Anchorbase, follow this path: Chapter Management – Communications – Tasks – Submit BLSR to RCS/CAC/NCC.
2. Step: Overview – Click continue.
3. Step: Selection – Select 2024-25 and click continue.
4. Step: Enter Information.
 - a. Use the pull-down menu to select the 2024-25 Academic Year (should automatically populate).
 - b. Click the Choose File Button and upload your BLSR draft.
 - c. Click submit.
5. The vp: communications should send an email to RCS/NCC/CAC alerting them that the chapter has submitted the BLSR because Anchorbase does not send one automatically.
6. The RCS/NCC/CAC goes to Anchorbase and retrieves the file.
7. The RCS/NCC/CAC reviews the BLSR file and approves/denies the task as appropriate.
8. If they deny, the officer who initially submitted the BLSR in step two is alerted via email. The chapter officer would make the necessary changes to the BLSR document and repeat step two.
9. Once the RCS approves the BLSR, the process is complete.
10. Once the chapter votes to approve the BLSR, the chapter approval must be confirmed in Anchorbase.
 - a. Follow this path: Chapter Management – Communications – Tasks – Confirm: Vote to Approve BLSR.
 - b. Step: Overview – Click continue.
 - c. Step: Selection – Select 2024-25 and click continue.
 - d. Step: Enter Information.
 - e. Use the pull-down menu to select the 2024-25 Academic Year (should automatically populate).
 - f. Did the chapter vote to approve the Bylaws and Standing Rules pass? Yes/No.
 - g. Click the choose file Button and upload the final, approved version of the 2024-25 BLSR.
 - h. Click submit.

NOTE: When the chapter-approved 2023-24 BLSR document is submitted by the chapter, it will appear under Chapter Management – Communications – Reports – Bylaws and Standing Rules.



Delta Gamma Chapter Bylaws – Notable Updates

OFFICER REQUIREMENTS/POOR STANDING

Article VII – Elections, Term and Vacancies and throughout document when mentioning poor standing.

- Changed policy that officers must be in good standing to be elected/appointed to or hold an officer position.
 - For 2023-24, the Fraternity implemented a policy where officers who were put on poor standing did not automatically forfeit their position, However, this caused confusion in electing/appointing officers as they needed to be in good standing at the time of appointment.
 - Additionally, officers are responsible for serving as role models and holding others accountable to all policies and procedures. It is difficult for officers to hold members accountable when they are in poor standing themselves.
 - However – officers who are put in poor standing due to missing a payment, have 30 days to reconcile debt prior to automatically losing officer position. See Article V, Section 12 for more information.

CHAPTER OFFICER STRUCTURE & GOVERNING BOARDS

Article VIII of bylaws – Governing Boards

- Clarified and added language to allow for amended officer structure and governing boards (i.e., CMT, Honor Board, EVC, etc.) with RCS/CAC/NCC, specifically for smaller chapters that have a hard time filling roles.

DIRECTORS/COMMITTEES

Article IX – Directors/Committees

- Removed the diversity, equity and inclusion committee as a required committee.
 - The DEI committee was previously listed as a required committee for all collegiate chapters. The Fraternity continues to focus our belonging, equity, inclusion and diversity efforts for all chapters and members in the most efficient, effective and purposeful manner, so the DEI committee was removed as a required committee while staff and volunteers determine the best support, resources and guidance for each chapter. The staff Assistant Director for Belonging Efforts [Louis Green](#) and Fraternity Director: Belonging, Equity, Inclusion and Diversity [Wendy Adams Faust](#) are available for chapters that need guidance on how to best support their chapter's Belonging efforts.
- Better organized flow of required directors and required committees, with space directly after each section to add chapter-specific directors and committees.



Delta Gamma Chapter-Specific Standing Rules – Notable Updates

ATTENDANCE

Article 1 of standing rules

- Combined required attendance sections that made it confusing to track and understand excused vs. unexcused absences.
- Added clarification that officers' CMT/JCMT attendance are tracked separately from member excused/unexcused absences expectations.
- Added a space for chapters to identify chapter-specific anchored events.

FINES/POINTS

Article 1 – Attendance and Participation

- Added language for chapters to opt-out of a fines system altogether, or specifically indicate no fine for identified events.
- Added options for chapters to customize points system with chapter-specific events.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Article 1 – Attendance and Participation

- Added Fraternity social media policy, with space for the chapter to add any specific standing rules related to social media.

POOR STANDING GUIDELINES

Article 1 – Attendance and Participation, Section 10 and each time poor standing is outlined

- Clarified that members on poor standing are also allowed to attend sisterhood events, in addition to anchored events.
- Amended language to match the changed policy that members cannot hold an officer position while in poor standing.

ELECTION PROCEDURES

Article IV – Election Procedures

- The slating/election/transition process has been under review by the Fraternity for over the last few years.
- Changes in this section were made with the plan to implement a new elections process in fall 2024 but can also be utilized with the current election process.
- Chapters will notice that words like “nominating committee,” “slating”, and “challenges” have been changed/removed and “Changing of the Tides” is now “Elections Handbook.”
- Chapters should expect more information coming summer 2024 regarding elections, but with the BLSR process, can still outline their at-large members as have practiced in the past, and write their election procedure similar to how challenges were conducted in the past.



- Added:
 - Space for chapters to outline their at-large Elections committee member election process.
 - Election campaigning policy, based on Fraternity Council policy,
 - Space for chapters to outline the actual election procedure. Chapters can maintain (or amend) their current requirements for challenge speeches and add details such as those listed in the “note.”)

FINANCE

Article V – Finance

- Added officer budget contract section which allows vp: finance and vp: social standards to hold officers accountable to officer budgets signed on greekbill.
- Changed policy for new members to now have 10 days to sign dues and fees contracts as opposed to 14 to align with initiated member requirements.
- Early payment of dues discount was removed due to lack of use and this being confusing to actually implement.
- Late payment of dues fee was removed, due to a lack of use and to align with recent Fraternity process.

HOUSING

Article VI - Housing

- Many aspects of this section have changed to match new housing procedures across the Fraternity for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Chapters should get clarity and discuss specific implications with their RHS.
 - Room agreements and Member Housing Agreement will be signed with Fraternity Housing Corporation and managed by the Executive Offices' Office of Housing.
 - Added clarity around member charges for housing, for members on Excused Status, or who voluntarily resign, transfer out of the college/university, are expelled, or receive early alumnae status.
 - Provided further details to help chapters build live-in/live-out policy and points system for members.
 - Introduces the Housing Waiver Board, which will process members' requests to live out of the house, if required, as opposed to this going to RCS/CAC/NCC
 - Clarified timeline for issuing and signing Room Agreements that will allow chapters to compete with local housing options such as apartment complexes or campus housing.
 - Added items not allowed in Fraternity premises (smoking/vaping, illegal drugs, alcohol); this is not a change in policy and will continue to be included in Room Agreements. It has been added to Model BLSR to encourage chapters to continue to enforce this policy.