

# CHAPTER STATEMENT OF POSITION ON HAZING

## List of Activities

*Experience has proven that new member education is one of the most important programming areas for a fraternity. In evaluating the long-term success and stability of any chapter, those chapters that exert the necessary time and energy into the development of a constructive, non-hazing, new member education program encounter the most prosperity. These groups initiate undergraduates who understand their fraternal responsibilities as active members, and have the tools to immediately contribute to the success of the chapter. Chapters should be straightforward about the purpose of the new member period, defining the kinds of acceptable behavior. The following list identifies some constructive programming ideas collected from a variety of successful Pi Kappa Alpha chapters, as well as some destructive new member activities that have been a source of problems for chapters.*

### Constructive New Member Activities

- ◆ Holding mandatory study sessions
- ◆ Scheduling new member class goal setting retreat
- ◆ Educating each new member on the responsibilities of each chapter officer, chairman and chapter operations
- ◆ Expecting high scholastic performance
- ◆ Conducting meetings exclusively for new members
- ◆ Preparing a new member class publication and directory
- ◆ Sponsoring new member class rush events for prospective members
- ◆ Appointing or electing officers and chairmen of the new member class by the new member class
- ◆ Participating in team building exercises such as a roping course, paint ball and bowling
- ◆ Expecting basic knowledge of Pi Kappa Alpha; its ideals and principles
- ◆ Educating new members on proper social and personal development
- ◆ Involving new members in campus activities and other recognized student organizations
- ◆ Participating in intramural events and leagues

### Destructive New Member Activities

- ◆ Forcing consumption of food or alcohol
- ◆ Requiring new members to line up or walk in a particular way
- ◆ Expecting new members to perform any sort of calisthenics or form of physical training
- ◆ Forcing new members to wear any type of clothing which is embarrassing
- ◆ Expecting new members to use separate entrances to a house or housing facility
- ◆ Requiring new members to carry items such as rocks, coins, paddles, books, food, etc.
- ◆ Preventing or restricting class attendance or sleep
- ◆ Mandating any sort of personal servitude
- ◆ Requiring the practice of observing periods of silence
- ◆ Forcing strenuous physical activities
- ◆ Mandating the application of any sort of substance to new members' bodies
- ◆ Marking or branding of new members' physical bodies

Some activities are easily categorized as hazing. Others may not be so easily classified. If you're not sure, consider the following questions:

- ◆ Is the activity an educational experience?
- ◆ Does the activity promote or confirm the values of the Fraternity?
- ◆ Will the activity increase respect for Pi Kappa Alpha by non-affiliated individuals?
- ◆ Do new members and initiated members participate together or equally in the activity?
- ◆ Would you be willing to allow parents to witness the activity?
- ◆ Would you be able to defend the activity in a court of law?
- ◆ Does the activity have value in and of itself?

*A good rule to follow when deciding whether or not an activity is hazing is:*

***If you have to ask if what you're doing is hazing, it probably is.***