Chi Phi New Member Education Program: Fall 2017

Purpose:

The Chi Phi New Member education is based around the values of our fraternity. Friendship, respect, honesty, responsibility, commitment, and personal development are the foundation upon which this plan is built. The creed and ritual are the lifeblood of the fraternity, conveying their importance and understanding in a positive way is integral to the education of our new members. The discussion questions are a guide to start conversations about specific topics. These questions are meant to facilitate meaningful conversation about the topics at hand.

This being the Psi chapter’s first year on the Chi Phi National New Member Education Program, we are confident that having the additional support from the national office will further improve the quality of this program.
Anti-Hazing Statement:

The Chi Phi Fraternity does not tolerate hazing of any kind, at any time, under any circumstances. As taken from the Chi Phi Constitution, every New Member and Brother of Chi Phi Fraternity has the following obligations:

A. No membership of the Chapter shall permit a program during membership education (pledging), initiation, or membership of a person which tends to harm physically or spiritually or morally degrade the New Member, Brother, or Chapter of the Fraternity.

B. All forms of hazing are prohibited.

C. Hazing is defined as “any such activity of the Fraternity or its individual members which causes or is likely to cause mental or physical danger or harm.”

D. Any activity which can be termed unsanitary, dangerous, or degrading or potentially so is unacceptable.

E. Any Officer, Brother, New Member, or Alumnus has a duty to follow this provision.

The Chi Phi Fraternity also believes that there is no such thing as an innocent bystander. It is everyone’s responsibility to combat hazing whenever it is present or has the potential of being so. Brothers, New Members and Alumni all have the responsibility to report and confront hazing if they become aware of it, initiate it or are a victim of it.

Hazing Reporting Protocol

• The Chi Phi National Staff will hold in confidence the name of anyone reporting hazing activities and can be contacted directly at (404)231-1824.

• Lehigh University Office of Fraternity & Sorority Affairs: Confidential Form: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?LehighUniv&layout_id=15 Phone: (610)758-4157.

• Lehigh University Student Affairs Hazing Prevention website: http://studentaffairs.lehigh.edu/hazing-prevention

• Anti-Hazing Hotline: The national anti-hazing hotline can be reached toll free at all hours at: 1-888-NOT-HAZE (1-888-668-4293)
Weekly Syllabus

Note:

All meetings will be held at the chapter house. Brothers are expected to attend most meetings as discussions are valuable to all. Meetings will be facilitated by myself, chapter officers, and alumni. New members will not be integrated into household duties during the new member education process, this will be done post new member education.

Week One Meeting #1: Pledging Ceremony and Debrief (Led by Andrew Weiss)

6pm-8pm; Monday, September 11th

Encourage the New Members to invite loved ones since this is an open ceremony. A relatively formal dinner will be held at the house with brothers and new members to celebrate the occasion. After dinner, present and read Creed before the Pledging Ceremony. Pledging ceremony conducted per ritual guidelines. During debrief have a discussion with Brothers and New Members about the Pledging Ceremony:

- Why would Chi Phi make this ceremony open to outsiders?
- What symbolism did you notice in the ceremony?
- What did you commit to when you took the “pledge of membership”?
- What did the Alpha say that Chi Phi was founded on and now stands for?
- What phrase or passage resonated with you during the ceremony?
- Was anything discussed during the ceremony and Creed that may allude to Chi Phi’s Core Values and why?

Week One Meeting #2: New Member Expectations (Led by Andrew Weiss and Gordon Gorab, Philanthropy Chair)

4pm-6pm; Tuesday, September 12th

Discussion about expectations of new member education program and review of syllabus for the New Member Education Program. Program materials are distributed, all from the Resource Guide provided by the Chi Phi National Office.

- Use this time to discuss expectations and have the New Members come up with expectations they have for themselves as well as the active Brothers.
- Chi Phi does not tolerate hazing of any kind, at any time.

  - Refer to page 8 in the Resource Guide as well as the Hazing PowerPoint to discuss hazing, citing examples of what hazing may include.
  - Reference the Personal Safety Policy in this discussion.
- Hazing is any action taken or situation created that causes embarrassment, harassment or ridicule.
- Hazing risks emotional and/or physical harm to the members of an organization or team.
- Discuss with the Chapter why hazing may be harmful to an individual not only physically but mentally and psychologically.

o GreekLifeEdu must be completed within 14 days of the Pledging Ceremony.

o Discussion on dues
  - Share with the New Members the specific financial obligations of membership
  - This is discussed on page 9 of the Resource Guide with a chart about Chapter dues on page 10.

o Establish New Member Education meeting dates and times.
  - Throughout the process, there are two meetings per week.
  - Meetings must be held at a reasonable time and not interfere with academics and prior responsibilities.

o Begin Background Check Process for Boys and Girls Club Volunteering
  - The Boys and Girls club is a key component of our chapter’s community involvement and Chi Phi’s National Philanthropy.
  - Gordon Gorab will go over with new members the background check process and help them get started.

Secrets Ceremony (Part 1) Led By Andrew

7pm-8pm; Tuesday September 12th
  - This Psi Chapter tradition teaches the value of secrecy and trust among the brotherhood. Performed per Psi tradition.

Week One Meeting #3: Risk Management and History

4pm-6pm; Wednesday, September 13th (Led by Andrew Weiss, Xavi Lema, Risk Manager, and Dylan Diaz, Historian)

  o Use the provided National Chi Phi PowerPoint to present on the Personal Safety Policy and internet usage
    - Cover the Personal Safety Policy
    - Cover the internet usage. Why is proper internet usage important for the image of the Fraternity?
o Break the New Member class into groups and have each group discuss a case study.
  ▪ Each group should be prepared to present the case study to the class.
  ▪ You must discuss what is wrong, the Personal Safety Policy violations as well as how to fix the issues present.

o Discuss:
  ▪ Why is it important to follow the Personal Safety Policy?
  ▪ How does proper risk management benefit the Fraternity?
  ▪ How does improper risk management hurt the Fraternity locally? Nationally?
  ▪ What do you feel are your risk management challenges as a Chapter? As a campus?
  ▪ How does having proper risk management align with the Values of the Creed?

o Have Dylan Diaz, historian, go over the national and local history of Chi Phi
  ▪ Use national resources to discuss the founding of Chi Phi.
  ▪ Discuss the different orders within Chi Phi history.
  ▪ Use the local history PowerPoint created by Brother Abels to discuss local history.

Secrets Ceremony (Part 2) Led By Andrew
7pm-8pm; Wednesday September 13th
  • Secrets ceremony completed according to Psi tradition.

Big/Little Ceremony (Led by Andrew Weiss) (Values Discussion After Big/Little Ceremony)
7pm-8pm Thursday, September 14th
Have Big/Little pairs sit through meeting on values together and then have a dinner to celebrate the ceremony.

  o Creed of the Fraternity
    ▪ Have the Brothers stand up and recite the Creed of the Fraternity
    ▪ Afterwards, the Brothers and New Members should discuss:
      • How has the Creed impacted your daily life?
      • How has your understanding of the Creed evolved throughout your time as a Chi Phi?
      • Why is the Creed a vital part of what it means to be a Chi Phi?
      • What part of the Creed means the most to you and why?
o Values of the Fraternity

- Present the Values of the Fraternity to the New Members
- Brothers and New Members can answer these questions:
  - How can you live up to the Values of Chi Phi in your daily life?
  - What values stand out to you?
  - If you could add a value to Chi Phi’s Core Values, what would it be?

o True Gentleman

- Present the True Gentleman to the New Members
- Brothers and New Members can answer this question:
  - Why, in this day and age, is it important to be a True Gentleman?

o The next two items are known by Chi Phi Alumni and have great meaning and cultivate solidarity as an organization.

- Offer to have the Brothers teach the New Members “Gather Brothers” and the Prayer of the Fraternity.
  - Prayer of the Fraternity
    - Have Brothers and New Members stand and say the Prayer of the Fraternity
  - Gather Brothers
    - Have Brothers and New Members stand and sing Gather Brothers

- Why are these important to Chapter and Fraternity history?
  - Discuss:
    - Why is it important to know these documents?
    - Why are these important to Chi Phi?
    - How do these documents convey Chi Phi’s Values?
    - Is there anything else you feel that make Chi Phi unique?
    - How are these documents applicable in your everyday life?

Triple Origins Ceremony: 4pm-7pm; Friday, September 15th

Initiation/Grand Lecture (Trip to Tschoops Grave)

Saturday, September 16th 12pm-2pm