

**2021 NATIONAL BYLAWS  
KAPPA DELTA SORORITY, INCORPORATED**

**CONTENTS**

Article I:	Name.....	2
Article II:	Purpose and Object.....	2
Article III:	Membership.....	2
Article IV:	Constituent Divisions.....	4
Article V:	Finances.....	6
Article VI:	National Council .....	7
Article VII:	Biennial Convention and Meetings .....	9
Article VIII:	National Leadership Team.....	10
Article IX:	Administration .....	12
Article X:	Discipline.....	13
Article XI:	Parliamentary Authority .....	13
Article XII:	Amendment.....	13
	Revision/Amendment History.....	14

**KAPPA DELTA SORORITY, INC.  
BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of the organization shall be Kappa Delta Sorority, Incorporated. (Kappa Delta or Sorority)

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND OBJECT**

The purpose of Kappa Delta Sorority is to promote enduring friendship among the college women by inculcating into their hearts and lives those principles of truth, of honor, of duty, without which there can be no true friendship. The object of Kappa Delta Sorority is the formation and perpetuation of good fellowship, friendship, and sisterly love among its members; the encouragement of literature and education; the promotion of social interest; and the furtherance of charitable and benevolent purposes.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of Kappa Delta is open to women only. There are two classes of membership: collegiate members and alumnae members.

**A. Collegiate Members.**

1. **Eligibility.** A candidate for membership must be a matriculate of the university or college at which she is being pledged and may not be an initiated member of any other National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) sorority.
2. **Invitation.**
  - a. At any regular or special chapter meeting, any initiated member in good standing may propose the name of a potential new member.
  - b. Prospective members shall be evaluated according to procedures in the Member Handbook.
  - c. A vote of ninety percent of the collegiate chapter members in good standing who are present and voting is necessary to extend an invitation to membership.
  - d. An invitation to membership may be recalled or revoked if a prospective member fails to meet expectations of membership or comply with policies as outlined throughout the Member Handbook.
3. **Membership Procedures.** The procedures for membership are contained in the Member Handbook and shall contain requirements for initiation and may include other training.
4. **Privileges and Obligations.** Collegiate members shall have all the rights of

membership. Collegiate members shall agree to uphold and abide by the bylaws, Member Handbook, rules, manuals and policies of the Sorority.

5. **Good standing of collegiate members.** A member is in good standing when she is:
  - a. In compliance with all membership responsibilities as outlined in Sorority and Chapter bylaws and policies, and the Member Handbook; and
  - b. Not under disciplinary action.

## **B. Alumnae members.**

1. **Eligibility.** Alumnae members shall be those Kappa Delta members who are not members of a collegiate chapter. Alumnae members in good standing shall be eligible for membership in any Kappa Delta alumnae chapter and may be eligible to serve on a Chapter Advisory Board or Chapter House Corporation.
2. **Invitation.** Such members may be invited to be initiated in alumnae membership after college in one of the following categories:
  - a. **Sponsored Initiates.** Women who intend to serve as members of Chapter Advisory Boards, members of House Corporation Boards, faculty advisors or active members of alumnae chapters may be initiated by a unanimous vote of the National Council.
  - b. **Honor Initiates.** Women who have achieved distinction in a particular field or who have contributed to the objectives of the Greek world may be initiated into a chapter designated by the National Council by a unanimous vote of the National Council.
3. **Privileges and Obligations.** Alumnae members shall have all the rights of membership. Alumnae members shall agree to uphold and abide by the bylaws, Member Handbook, rules, manuals and policies of the Sorority.
4. **Good standing of alumnae members.**

A member is in good standing when she is:

  - a. In compliance with all membership responsibilities as outlined in Sorority and chapter bylaws and policies, and the Member Handbook; and
  - b. Not under disciplinary action.

## **C. Membership Privileges and Responsibilities.**

1. Membership in the sorority is a lifetime privilege which carries responsibilities as defined in the Member Handbook.
2. Failure to meet the responsibilities of membership may result in disciplinary action as described in the Member Handbook, including termination of membership.

3. Membership shall not be terminated except by disciplinary action or release by unanimous vote of the National Council upon petition of resignation.

#### ARTICLE IV. CONSTITUENT DIVISIONS

**A. National Council Authority.** The National Council shall have the sole authority to charter collegiate and alumnae chapters. Collegiate chapter charters shall authorize the collegiate chapters to initiate collegiate members into the Sorority. Kappa Delta Sorority and the chapters shall abide by the National Panhellenic Conference's Unanimous Agreements.

**B. Collegiate Chapters.**

1. **Application.** The National Council, by unanimous vote, may establish collegiate chapters and grant charters at universities and colleges.
2. **Supervision.** The National Council shall have exclusive supervision of the Sorority's extension program. The National Council or its designee shall direct and have sole authority in the work deemed necessary to investigate a local group and the qualifications of its members. In establishing a new chapter, the National Council or its designee shall be responsible for selecting the charter members.
3. **Installation.** Installation of a new chapter shall be conducted as described in the Member Handbook.
4. **Charters.**
  - a. **Granting.** A charter grants permission from the National Council to formally establish the chapter. Such permission requires a responsibility to preserve the purpose and objects of the Sorority and be dedicated to its future growth and development.
  - b. **Withdrawal.** The National Council by unanimous vote may withdraw the charter of a collegiate chapter. When a charter has been withdrawn, the National Council, by unanimous vote, may approve re-chartering.
  - c. **Voluntary Surrender.** A chapter may petition to sever connection with the Sorority according to procedures established by the National Council.
  - d. **Chapter Closing.** The National Council shall establish the procedure for closing a chapter. All assets, other than real property assets of closed chapters, shall be under the control of the Sorority.
5. **Chapter Good Standing.** To be in good standing, a collegiate chapter must:
  - a. Be an active chapter;
  - b. Have no current disciplinary sanction of National Probation; and
  - c. Be current in financial accounts owed to the Sorority.

6. **Bylaws.** Each collegiate chapter shall adopt bylaws which must be consistent with the governing documents, rules and Member Handbook of the Sorority. Chapter bylaws and subsequent amendments must be approved by the designated National Leadership Team member before they become effective.
7. **Chapter Advisory Board.** Each chapter shall have a board of alumnae members in good standing who serve the chapter in an advisory capacity. The board shall be approved and supervised by the National Council or their appointed designees. The Chapter Advisory Board shall operate according to the procedures in the Member Handbook.
8. **Chapter House Corporation.**
  - a. All Kappa Delta chapter Hhouse corporations are subject to and shall be in compliance with the National Bylaws and all policies and procedures established by the Sorority.
  - b. With the approval of the Chapter Housing Committee, a collegiate chapter desiring to acquire real property shall have a house corporation or otherwise comply with current Sorority policies for housing needs. No chapter or chapter house corporation shall occupy, acquire, transfer, dispose of, lease, break a lease, or otherwise operate a chapter house or rooms or enter into or cancel any agreement or contract to do so without the approval of the Chapter Housing Committee.
  - c. If a collegiate chapter is declared closed, all real property assets of the house corporation shall be under the control of the Sorority and any monies held by the house corporation shall be placed in the Chapter House Fund.
  - d. If a chapter is reactivated, deposited funds and accrued interest shall be returned to the chapter house corporation according to the current National Council Manual.

### C. Alumnae Chapters.

1. **Application.** The National Council may establish an alumnae chapter when application is made by at least ten alumnae members living in the same area. A unanimous vote of the National Council is required to grant a charter. Each chapter shall be known by the name of the city or geographical area and state in which it is located. The members must be Kappa Delta alumnae in good standing.
2. **Purpose.** The purpose of an alumnae chapter shall be to promote the interests of National Kappa Delta Sorority in general, to provide an opportunity for local affiliation to all Kappa Delta alumnae in the area, and to provide assistance to the collegiate membership of the Sorority.
3. **Charters.**
  - a. Granting. A charter grants permission from the National Council to formally

- establish the chapter. Such permission requires a responsibility to preserve the purpose and objects of the Sorority and to be dedicated to its future growth and development.
- b. **Withdrawal.** The National Council, by unanimous vote, may withdraw the charter of an alumnae chapter. When a charter has been withdrawn, the National Council, by unanimous vote, may approve reactivating the charter.
  - c. **Voluntary Surrender.** A chapter may petition to sever connection with the Sorority according to procedures established by the National Council.
  - d. **Chapter Closing.** The National Council shall establish the procedure for closing a chapter.
    1. If the National Council withdraws the charter of an alumnae chapter or if an alumnae chapter voluntarily surrenders its charter, such chapter shall no longer use the name of the Sorority, and
    2. All assets of closed chapters shall be under the control of the Sorority.
4. **Bylaws.** An alumnae chapter may adopt bylaws which shall be consistent with the Sorority's governing documents, rules and manuals. The chapter bylaws and any subsequent amendments shall be subject to the approval of the National Vice President-Alumnae.
5. **Officers.** Each alumnae chapter shall have at least two members serving as officers: president and secretary-treasurer. No member may hold more than one office.

#### ARTICLE V. FINANCES

- A. **Authority.** The National Council has exclusive authority to manage the funds, real property and assets of the Sorority in various instruments as determined by the National Council and shall provide financial reports to the membership annually. Procedures for administration of funds, real property and assets are contained in the National Council Manual.
- B. **National Dues, fees and assessments.**
  1. National dues, fees, special assessments and payment deadlines are set by the National Council.
  2. National dues, fees and assessments are delinquent 30 days following the due date. A chapter whose payments are delinquent is not in good standing. A notice of probation shall be sent to the chapter 90 days following the due date.
- C. **Audit.** The Sorority's financial records shall be audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountant approved by the National Council.
- D. **Reserves.** The National Council shall maintain financial reserves to ensure the future

operations of the Sorority, with a portion of the funds set aside for chapter housing needs and publication of The Angelos.

- E. Chapter House Fund.** The Sorority shall maintain a Chapter House Fund to provide for the Sorority's housing needs. Monies held in the chapter house fund shall be overseen by the Chapter Housing Committee and managed in accordance with Sorority policies and procedures.
- F. National Fundraising.** National Headquarters, under the direction of the National Council, shall oversee any fundraising activities conducted by members of the Sorority. Proceeds from such activities may be used to support member activities and programs of the Sorority, including assistance related to chapter housing, or to the foundation or other charity.

## **ARTICLE VI. NATIONAL COUNCIL**

- A. Composition.** The National Council shall be composed of six elected officers: National President, National Vice President, National Vice President-Membership, National Vice President-Collegians, National Vice President-Alumnae and National Vice President-Finance. The Executive Director shall serve as Corporate Secretary and as an ex-officio member without vote as advisor.
- B. Authority.** The National Council acts as the board of directors and has the power to manage the business and operations of the Sorority between conventions. The National Council has the exclusive duty to manage and account for all the financial and real property matters of the Sorority.
- C. Duties.** The National Council shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws, the convention, the rules, manuals, and the parliamentary authority adopted in these bylaws.
  - 1. The National President, in addition to the duties above, shall preside at the National Convention and at National Council meetings and shall, with the approval of the National Council, appoint such members of the National Leadership Team and committees as deemed necessary. She serves as an ex-officio member of all committees of the Sorority except the Nominating Committee.
  - 2. The National Vice-Presidents, in addition to the duties above, shall perform duties in the National Council Manual and any duties assigned by the National President or the National Council.
  - 3. The National Council shall assign and supervise National Leadership Team members and shall participate in planning and directing the educational conferences and National Convention of the Sorority.
- D. Meetings and Emergencies.**
  - 1. The National Council shall meet at times deemed necessary by a majority of the

National Council members. The National Council shall be authorized to meet by telephone conference or other electronic communications media so long as all of the members can simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting. The National Council shall be authorized to meet or vote by any other method in compliance with law.

2. In the event of an emergency or disaster as determined by the National Council, the quorum requirement shall be reduced to the National Council members that are able to attend a meeting. This emergency provision shall be applicable during such an event and is not effective after the emergency ends.

**E. Quorum.** A majority of the members of the National Council shall constitute a quorum.

**F. Nominations.**

1. At least one year before the National Convention, the National Council shall appoint a Nominating Committee of alumnae members.
2. Members may submit suggestions for nominations to the Nominating Committee; however, the committee is not restricted to the suggestions received.
3. The committee shall select at least one nominee for each office.
4. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.
5. All candidates, whether nominated by the Nominating Committee or nominated from the floor, shall be required to submit statements of consent to serve, eligibility documentation, and other information determined by the Nominating Committee at least 48 hours prior to the nominations being taken up at the Convention.

**G. Eligibility for office.**

1. Only alumnae members in good standing are eligible to serve as elected officers.
2. Only members of the current National Council are eligible for election as National President.

**H. Term and limits.**

1. Terms of office begin at the close of the Biennial Convention.
2. Members of the National Council shall serve terms of two years or until their successors are elected.
3. A National Council member may serve no more than three two-year terms in the same office.
4. A National Council member who serves by filling a vacancy for more than one year is considered to have served a full term.

**I. Election.**

1. Elections shall take place at the Biennial Convention.
2. Voting shall be by ballot, including electronic ballot, and a majority vote shall elect.



3. If a majority vote is not attained on the first ballot, the name of the person receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from the ballot. This procedure shall be followed on subsequent ballots until a majority is reached.
4. If only one person is nominated for an office, election may be by acclamation.

**J. Vacancy.**

1. In case of the resignation, removal, or death of the National President, the National Council shall elect, by a three-fourths (3/4) vote, one of its members to the office of National President within two weeks following the vacancy. She shall serve until the next Convention, at which time a National President shall be elected by the Convention.
2. Other vacancies on the National Council shall be filled by election by the National Council. A three-fourths (3/4) vote shall be required to elect. The elected National Council member shall serve until the next Convention, at which time the office shall be filled by election of the Convention.

**K. Removal.** A National Council member may only be removed from office consistent with the applicable law under which Kappa Delta is incorporated.

## **ARTICLE VII. BIENNIAL CONVENTION AND MEETINGS**

**A. National Convention.** The Biennial Convention shall be held at a place and time determined by the National Council.

**B. Delegates.** The voting body for all meetings shall consist of:

1. Elected members of the National Council;
2. National Leadership Team volunteers;
3. Standing Committee chairs;
4. One delegate, who is the chapter president or an alternate member in good standing from each collegiate chapter in good standing; and
5. One delegate, who is an active member in good standing or alternate from each alumnae chapter in good standing.

**C. Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting shall be held at a place and time determined by the National Council. In odd numbered years, the annual meeting shall be held during the Biennial Convention. In even-numbered years, the annual meeting may be held at any national event or as a separate meeting.

**D. Electronic Meetings.** If authorized by National Council, annual, regular and special meetings of the members may be conducted by any means of communication by which all participating members may simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, or as otherwise permitted in compliance with law, and pursuant to the guidelines and procedures adopted by National Council. A member participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in person.

- E. Special Meetings.** A special meeting may be called by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the National Council or on written request by a majority of the collegiate chapters in good standing. Notice of a special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting.
- F. Notice.** Notice for all meetings shall be sent to the members at least 30 days in advance of any meeting. Notice may be sent by electronic media. Notice shall be sent to the most recent member contact information on file with the Sorority.
- G. Quorum.** The quorum at meetings shall be a majority of the delegates registered for the meeting.
- H. Voting.** There shall be no absentee or proxy voting permitted.
- I. Postponement and Cancellation.** In the event of an emergency, the National Council, by a majority vote, may postpone or cancel a meeting. All members shall be notified in a manner determined by the National Council to be fair and reasonable in the circumstances. In the event of a cancellation, necessary business and election of officers may be conducted by mail or electronic ballot, and as otherwise permitted in compliance with law. For an election, a plurality vote shall elect.

## **ARTICLE VIII. NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM**

- A. National Leadership Team.**

  - 1. The National Leadership Team shall consist of alumnae members in good standing.
  - 2. The number of members, duties and term of service shall be determined by the National Council.
  - 3. The National Leadership Team shall be appointed by the National President with the approval of the National Council.
- B. National Panhellenic Conference Delegate.**

  - 1. The National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) Delegate shall be an alumnae member in good standing appointed by the National Council.
  - 2. **Duties.** The Delegate shall attend National Panhellenic Council of Delegates meetings of delegates. The NPC delegate, if not a member of the National Council, may attend the Sorority National Council meetings as directed by the Council but shall have no vote.
- C. Standing Committees.**

  - 1. Investment Advisory Committee.**

    - a. **Purpose.** The purpose is to advise the National Council on investing Sorority reserves. The IAC may recommend changes in investment policy as well as

- direct and approve actions of the sorority's asset manager consistent with the sorority's policy and with the approval of the National Council.
- b. The IAC is comprised of the National President, National Vice President-Finance and at least three alumnae members who are in good standing appointed by the National Council. The chair is appointed by the National Council from among those members.
  - c. The alumnae members may serve four consecutive two-year terms at the discretion of the National Council.
  - d. The Executive Director and Director of Finance shall serve as ex-officio members of the committee without a vote.
- 2. Chapter Housing Committee.**
- a. Purpose. The purpose is to administer the Chapter House Fund and oversee all aspects of chapter housing.
  - b. The CHC shall provide regular reports to the National Council.
  - c. The CHC shall consist of the National President, National Vice President-Finance and the National Vice President-Collegians.
  - d. The Executive Director, Director of Chapter Housing and the Director of Finance will serve as ex-officio members of the committee without a vote.
  - e. The National President shall serve as the chair and the National Vice President-Finance shall serve as the treasurer of the committee.
- 3. National Bylaws Committee.** A bylaws committee shall be appointed in the year of the Biennial Convention. The chair and the members shall be appointed by the National President and the duties shall be determined by the National Council.
- 4. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee.**
- a. Purpose. The purpose is to advise the National Council on fostering an inclusive sisterhood.
  - b. The committee is composed of the National President, National Vice President and at least three alumnae members and at least two collegiate members who are in good standing and appointed by the National Council. The chair shall be appointed by the National Council from among the committee members.
  - c. Alumnae members may serve two consecutive two-year terms at the discretion of the National Council. The collegiate members will be appointed for one year and may serve no more than two consecutive years at the discretion of the National Council.

*Proviso: Beginning with the committee appointed in July 2022, the members will be appointed on a cycle that aligns with the biennial National Leadership Team appointments.*

5. **Other committees.** Other committees may be established by the National Council or the convention as needed to carry out the work of the Sorority. The National President shall appoint the committee chairs and members with the approval of the National Council. Committee size, duties, and reporting shall be determined by the National Council.

## ARTICLE IX. ADMINISTRATION

- A. **Operations.** The National Headquarters and staff, as authorized by the National Council, shall be under the direction of an Executive Director, who shall be employed by the Sorority, supervised by the National President, and guided by the procedures set forth in the Kappa Delta Sorority Employee Handbook, bylaws and manuals as approved by the National Council.
- B. **Executive Director.** The Executive Director shall:
  1. Assist the National Council in carrying out the objectives and programs of the Sorority;
  2. Attend meetings of the National Council;
  3. Serve as Corporate Secretary;
  4. Be a member of such committees as the National Council designates;
  5. Be responsible for hiring a professional and administrative staff to execute the programs and corporate responsibilities delegated to the National Headquarters by the National Council;
  6. Represent the Sorority in the business community and among national fraternal executives;
  7. Participate in planning and directing the educational conferences and National Convention of the Sorority;
  8. Carry out other work assigned by the National Council.
- C. **Publications.** The Sorority publishes newsletters, journals, manuals and other publications which may be hard copy or digital publications as determined by the National Council.
  1. **The Ritual of Kappa Delta Sorority.** The written Ritual shall be a secret publication that prescribes the manner in which the Degree services leading to full membership are to be conducted. Each collegiate chapter shall be issued a copy which is to be kept securely when not in use.
  2. **The Angelos.** The official publication of Kappa Delta Sorority shall be The Angelos. A life subscription shall be payable upon initiation.
  3. **Ta Takta.** The secret publication of Kappa Delta Sorority shall be Ta Takta, published at the discretion of the National Council.
  4. **Official History.** The official history of Kappa Delta Sorority shall be published at the discretion of the National Council.
  5. **Other Publications.** The National Council shall authorize such other publications as necessary for the Sorority, National Leadership Team, collegiate

chapters, and alumnae chapters.

**D. Indemnification.** No member of the National Council or any National Leadership Team member shall be liable to Kappa Delta Sorority for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty to the fullest extent permitted by law. Any member of the National Council and any National Leadership Team member and any other member of Kappa Delta serving at the request of the National Council (and the heirs, executors or administrators of such person) who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to, or is involved in any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, by reason of the fact that such person is or was a National Council member or National Leadership Team member of Kappa Delta Sorority or is or was serving at the request of the National Council, shall be indemnified and held harmless by Kappa Delta Sorority to the fullest extent permitted by law. The right to indemnification in this article shall also include the right to be paid by Kappa Delta Sorority the expenses incurred in connection with any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition to the fullest extent authorized by law. The right to indemnification conferred in this article shall be a contract right.

## ARTICLE X. DISCIPLINE

### A. Chapter Discipline.

The National Council may take disciplinary action according to the policies and procedures for discipline of chapters as published in the Member Handbook. A chapter on National Probation shall lose the privilege of voice and vote at National Convention.

### B. Individual Member Discipline.

1. The National Council may take disciplinary action up to and including termination of membership against new members, collegiate members, and alumnae members according to the procedures for disciplinary action in the Member Handbook.
2. The criteria and procedures for reinstatement of membership shall follow the procedures in the Member Handbook.

## ARTICLE XI. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Sorority in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Sorority may adopt.

## ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENT

**A. Amendment with notice before Convention.** These bylaws may be amended at any Biennial Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote provided that:

1. The amendment has been submitted by February 1 of a convention year to the National Bylaws Committee.
2. Notice has been given by at least 60 days in advance of the Biennial Convention to every member. Notice may be given electronically as determined by the National Council.

**B. Amendment with notice at convention.** These bylaws may be amended at any Biennial Convention by a three-fourths (3/4) vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at an earlier business meeting of the same Convention and received approval for consideration by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

### REVISION AND AMENDMENT HISTORY

Believing that the organization of our Sisterhood should be so perfect as to enable us to show forth in our lives the principles of Kappa Delta, a Sorority established by Mary Sommerville, Julia Gardiner Tyler, Sarah Turner and Lenora Ashmore at the State Female Normal School of Virginia, now Longwood University, on the twenty-third day of October, Eighteen Hundred Ninety-Seven, and now organized as a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the National Convention of Kappa Delta Sorority has, from time to time, revised and amended its instrument of government.

1900. The Constitution of Kappa Delta was adopted.
1913. The Constitution and National Bylaws were separated and amended.
1919. Revision of the Constitution and National Bylaws was adopted.
- 1925, 1941, 1946, 1949, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1963, 1965. Amendments were adopted.
1969. The Constitution and National Bylaws were combined in a revision.
- 1971, 1973. Amendments were adopted.
1975. Rearranged National Bylaws with amendments was adopted.
- 1977, 1979, 1981, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999 and 2001. Amendments were adopted.
2003. A revision of the National Bylaws was adopted.
- 2005, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2015 and 2017. Amendments were adopted.
2019. A revision of the National Bylaws was adopted.
2021. Amendments were adopted.