

Chapter Policy on Risk Management

Alpha Phi Omega – Rho Rho Chapter

Purpose:

This risk management policy seeks to protect the members of Rho Rho chapter from harm and liability. As a national fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega has a Standard Policy of Risk Management upon which this policy is based. Our chapter is obligated to adhere to the policies set forth in the Standard Policy of Risk Management, but this document elaborates upon several points from that policy, specifying them to fit Rho Rho chapter. All members of Rho Rho chapter are expected to follow the policies set forth in this document or face consequences as described in the Rho Rho Chapter By-Laws (Article VI).

Policies:

The Standard Policy of Risk Management

Rho Rho Chapter and its members must adhere to the policies explained in the national Standard Policy of Risk Management.

Alcohol

The Standard Policy of Risk Management states:

“The possession, use and/or consumption of Alcoholic Beverages, during any fraternity event, any event that an observer would associate with the fraternity, or in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws, policies and regulations of the state, county, city and institution of higher education.”

Regardless of whether an event is chapter related, it is important to recognize that we may still represent our chapter. Any illegal or irresponsible consumption of alcohol that could be linked with Alpha Phi Omega, no matter where or when, is a violation of the Policy of Risk Management. We represent the national fraternity, so it is important that we represent its values to others, even when not at chapter events. However, alcoholic consumption in your private life does not necessarily reflect upon the Fraternity. For this reason, the following rules should be followed to help protect the Fraternity and its members from harm and liability while not impeding your freedom of choice.

1. Consumption of alcohol in any form by minors (as defined by local laws) is not tolerated at chapter events.
2. Those who are of age may drink at chapter events in controlled areas, but may not wear the fraternity letters. Drinking should be restricted to events where the drinking age is enforced, such as at restaurants. Any drinking should be done responsibly and event attendees should never be intoxicated. Brothers should not behave in ways that would reflect poorly on the fraternity.
3. Any event which may involve unregulated alcohol consumption cannot be promoted

through any official chapter communication or at any chapter event. This means that if you are hosting a party that may have alcohol consumption, you can't publicize it via the chapter email list and you can't promote it during chapter events. If an event with drinking is promoted at a chapter event, it could be misunderstood by chapter members or non-members to be endorsed by the chapter.

4. Events where drinking will occur should not follow chapter sanctioned events in the same location. This creates the possibility that a chapter event will "become" an alcoholic event, which would strongly link the fraternity with drinking.

5. Letters or other Alpha Phi Omega branding or accessories should not be worn in the presence of alcohol consumption. Letters should not be worn in bars or at parties where people are drinking. In restaurants, letters shouldn't be worn by those who are drinking. If you are unsure about whether you can wear your letters, it's safest to go without.

6. At chapter events, drinking should never be done in the direct presence of pledges and pledges should never drink, even if over the age of 21. Drinking on the part of pledges could be construed as hazing. If a pledge is in an environment with alcohol, the pledge pin should still be worn, but turned backward so that the emblem faces inward.

7. Members shouldn't drink prior to chapter events. This creates the possibility that signs of intoxication could be visible at the event.

8. The chapter should never provide alcohol at events, use fraternity funding to purchase alcohol, or plan for alcohol to be served at events. Banquets should not include a bar that serves alcohol.

9. If the chapter is unsure about the appropriateness of an event, permission should be obtained in advance from section or region staff.

10. In general, use your best judgment and avoid linking Alpha Phi Omega with illegal or irresponsible drinking. There is nothing wrong with having an alcoholic beverage with other people, some of whom may be brothers of the fraternity, but make every effort to ensure that where drinking is involved, it either reflects well upon the fraternity or the fraternity is not involved in any way.

Drugs

Use of illegal drugs or any other illegal controlled substances in association with the chapter in any way, shape, or form will not be tolerated. Penalties are described in the Chapter By-Laws under Article VI.