

## 52-WEEK BROTHERHOOD EXPERIENCE

As we prepare for the fall semester to begin, there are many campuses across the country approaching the semester in different ways. A few campuses have announced primarily online classes/social distance learning, there are campuses having an online/in-person hybrid, and there are campuses which will be open and having in-person classes as normal. As such, the way we approach fraternity brotherhood will have to be different. Below is a sample 52-week plan with 52 ideas for fostering brotherhood that can be done either virtually or in-person while utilizing social distancing and other precautions such as wearing a mask.

You should feel free to adjust this schedule based on your specific campus calendar and needs of your chapter, as well as your local/state guidelines regarding COVID-19.

### **Week 1** (August. 1):

- Welcome Back Brotherhood Retreat. Like many of the events listed in this resource, this can be done either virtually or in-person if possible.

### **Week 2:**

- Divide the chapter up into seven groups based on the day of the week brothers are available, and have each group get together for dinner on their day.

### **Week 3:**

- Plan a video game tournament this week.

### **Week 4:**

- Split the chapter into teams and go on a road trip this weekend! The entire chapter could go to the same location, or you could split the chapter into two smaller teams with each team visiting a different destination.
- Have all your chapter members attend the National Fraternity Awards Presentation on August 25th! This will be broadcast over Instagram TV(@alphasigs) at 8 PM EST

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### **Week 5** (Sept. 1):

- Start a Brotherhood Running Challenge. Who can run the most miles in a week? Who had the longest run that week? Who had the quickest pace this week? Come up with an incentive/prize or a creative way to recognize the winner!

### **Week 6:**

- Host/sponsor a campus health professional to discuss personal fitness and dietary facts.
- Have members who are interested in running for an officer position? They should zoom/meet with the brothers currently holding those positions to start learning about them.

### **Week 7:**

- Host a BBQ at a local park.

### **Week 8:**

- Big/Little Pairing Night.

### **Week 9** (October 1):

- New Member Class Hike (brothers can/should join too, especially anyone who is a Big Brother). Stay 6 feet apart if possible.

### **Week 10:**

- Activity/Fitness Challenge. The goal is for every brother to be active for 30-60 minutes/day or 3 hours total for the week.

### **Week 11:**

- Invite a guest speaker to come to speak with your chapter about a subject you think is important for the chapter to learn more about such as diversity and inclusion, leadership skills, how to make the most of your time in the fraternity/as an undergrad, etc.

### **Week 12:**

- Host a chapter Lawn Games Tournament- can be done outside while maintaining social distancing.

### **Week 13** (November 1):

- Hold officer elections this week. The 'Break Out Room' function on Zoom can come in handy for this if done virtually!

### **Week 14:**

Host an event with your chapter's alumni.

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### **Week 15:**

- Host a Bros-Giving dinner. If this is done virtually, everyone can make their own dinner and get together on the same Zoom call.

### **Week 16:**

- Thanksgiving Break

### **Week 17 (December 1):**

- Plan a brotherhood event for Founders Day on December 6th- possibly even the Black Lantern Ceremony if your chapter has completed all the necessary planning steps. Ask the members of the chapter to consider donating to the chapter's endowment and invite your alumni to attend this event/ donate as well!

### **Week 18:**

- Organize brothers into study groups based on their majors or similar classes.

### **Week 19:**

- Winter Break. Plan an officer transition retreat to take place either before or during the break if able! Encourage brothers to get together and plan their own events over the break.

### **Week 20:**

- Winter Break.

### **Week 21 (January 1):**

- Chapter officers attend January Leadership Programs. Officers who attended January Leadership Programs should share their experiences at the next chapter meeting!

### **Week 22:**

- Host a speaker to provide a presentation/workshop on mental health awareness and discuss available campus resources.

### **Week 23:**

- Back from the break brotherhood event. This would be a good time to go over the progress made on goals set at the beginning of the school year and what you can continue to do to accomplish those goals.

### **Week 24:**

- Organize a virtual scavenger hunt event done from each member's home. This can be done by separating the chapter into teams and utilizing 'Breakout Room's on Zoom!

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### **Week 25** (February 1):

- “Get to Know Your Bro” Activity. Each member of the chapter gets paired up with another brother that they should meet/FaceTime/Zoom with at some point that week. At the next chapter meeting, have some brothers share something they learned about their Bro!

### **Week 26:**

- Host a trivia night amongst the chapter. This can either be based around local chapter/national Fraternity history or a variety of other subjects! The ‘Breakout Room’ function on Zoom would be helpful for this if the chapter has been divided into teams.

### **Week 27:**

- Have a Netflix Party (need the Google Chrome extension for this). You could also make this into a social by inviting a sorority chapter to join you.

### **Week 28:**

- Do members of your chapter have a unique skill? Host a chapter talent show over Zoom!

### **Week 29** (March 1):

- Post a picture on Instagram every day of the week highlighting a different member of the chapter every day. Have each brother send in a paragraph or two about what Alpha Sig means to them along with some information about themselves and other areas on campus they may be involved in!

### **Week 30:**

- Find a drive-in movie theater near you. This would be a fun way to get all the brothers together in the same place while still maintaining social distancing.

### **Week 31:**

- Start a chapter book club. A great place to start would be books on leadership to educate yourself and your chapter on what it means to be a leader while providing tangible examples and methods of how to lead effectively.

### **Week 32:**

- Have your chapter’s Vice President of Ritual and Traditions lead the chapter and your newly initiated members in a ritual education session.

### **Week 33** (April 1):

- Talk to your members about getting them to purchase a ticket for Elevate, which will be taking place in Louisville, Kentucky this summer!

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### **Week 34:**

- Organize a chapter 5k (run/walk or a combination of the two) with different prizes being offered to the top finishers. This could be a new set of letters, a discount on next semester's dues, etc.

### **Week 35:**

- Organize an Award's Banquet. This is a great time to recognize brothers for their academic achievements as well as offer any other awards the chapter typically gives out.

### **Week 36:**

- Use some of your budget to have members of the chapter attend an online workout class together or find one that's free!

### **Week 37 (May 1):**

- Utilize Instagram to recognize your graduating seniors! Different ways to do this can be found in our Virtual Experience + Senior Week Resource.

### **Week 38:**

- Hold Scene 5 of Initiation.

### **Week 39:**

- Finals Week. Organize small, casual brotherhood events as needed. Make sure all brothers are staying engaged academically by splitting the chapter into study groups, much like you did in the fall.

### **Week 40:**

- Give shout-outs to brothers that may have landed that summer job or internship they've been applying for! These shout-outs can either happen over the chapter GroupMe or through the chapter Instagram.

### **Week 41 (June 1):**

- Organize a video game tournament using a different game than your chapter played in the fall.

### **Week 42:**

- Attend our Elevate Conference in Louisville, Kentucky this weekend, and help us celebrate our 175th Anniversary!

### **Week 43:**

- Organize a Brotherhood Camping Trip with brothers that live relatively close to each other.

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### **Week 44:**

- Host a raffle where the winning brother will receive a free set of letters at the first chapter meeting back from summer break.

### **Week 45 (July 1):**

- Host a virtual networking event with your chapter's alumni!
- If there is an alumnus who specializes in a certain area (finance, wellness, etc.), you could invite them to lead a webinar in those subjects during this week.

### **Week 46:**

- Organize a day trip to a local lake/river/ocean.

### **Week 47:**

- Breakfast with the Bros. Divide the chapter into teams based on the day of the week/availability. Each team finds a day that week where they all eat breakfast together over Zoom and catch up on how their team's summer is going.

### **Week 48:**

- Play the card game 'Mafia.'

### **Week 49:**

- Have a group of brothers get together and visit a nearby chapter! This can either be a chapter close to your campus, or a chapter in another city/state if you have a group of brothers that live in that area over the summer.

### **Week 50:**

- Have the entire chapter listen to a podcast episode of your choosing and talk about it at the next brotherhood event/chapter meeting.

### **Week 51:**

- Get a group of brothers together to play 'Cards Against Humanity' online.

### **Week 52:**

- Host a chapter meeting/dinner so everyone can catch up. Have the officers share what they've been working on to get the chapter excited about the upcoming semester. Provide any final reminders about the upcoming events you have! Give shoutouts to Non-Prudential Board members who have helped the chapter in some way over the summer.