

THE LADDER OF RISK



to BETTER the MAN.

WHAT IS FIPG

- Fraternal Information and Programming Group
- FIPG's one-page risk management policy has become the standard for nearly every Greek organization.
- 51 Greek-letter fraternities/sororities follow FIPG policy.
- It is the document that can help Alpha Sigma Phi members reduce our risks as an organization and as individuals.

THE LADDER OF RISK

At a glance the FIPG Risk Management Policy can be a very intimidating and technical document.

When boiled down, it is simply a way to stay low on the ladder of risk.

Each time we violate one of these guidelines, we climb up a rung on the ladder and increase the chance that a fall from the ladder will harm our organization.

RUNG #1

The possession, sale, use or consumption of **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**, while on chapter premises, or during a fraternity event, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or at any event an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, province, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with either the **BYOB** or third party vendor guidelines.

DON'T BREAK THE LAW

It's pretty simple: the **DRINKING AGE IS 21** in all states, and anyone (a member, associate member or a guest) who consumes alcoholic beverages underage runs the risk of trouble.

In addition, chapter functions (which can be any event an observer would associate with the Fraternity) with alcohol present must abide by either the "**Bring Your Own (Alcoholic) Beverage**" policy or must use a **3rd party vendor**. Simply put, chapters do not have liquor licenses, and therefore cannot provide alcohol.

Anything else is a step up the ladder and puts the chapter and its members at risk.

RUNG #2

Alcoholic beverages may not be purchased through or with chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common source(s) of alcoholic beverages, for example, kegs or cases, is prohibited.

NO CHAPTER PURCHASE/BULK QUANTITY

NO FUND COLLECTED by the chapter in any form, including dues or “passing the hat”, **can be used for the purchase of alcohol.**

THE FRATERNITY IS NOT A TAVERN, so we shouldn't be in the business of providing alcohol. When we do, we take on a huge risk. Also, in today's college culture, a bulk quantity of alcohol translates to most observers as an opportunity to binge drink, which creates the risk for things like alcohol poisoning, falls, death, and other injuries.

This means that kegs, cases, and other mass quantity of alcohol are a **HIUGE** risk and liability.

RUNG #3

OPEN PARTIES; meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, are prohibited.

NO OPEN PARTIES

In order to further decrease risk, events with alcohol on the premises **MUST HAVE A GUEST LIST** and non-members of the Fraternity must have specific invitations.

KNOW WHO YOUR GUESTS ARE

The campus phone director or a list of Facebook friends does not constitute a guest list.

The FIPG Policy suggests that attendance at social events with alcohol presents should not exceed **TWO GUESTS PER MEMBER**.



RUNG #4

No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under legal “drinking age”).

DON'T SERVE TO MINORS

It should go without saying that it is against the law to purchase for, or serve alcohol to, someone who is under 21 years of age.

Again, against the law = risk.



RUNG #5

The possessions, sale or use of any **ILLEGAL DRUGS** or **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event or at any event that an observer would associate with the fraternity, is strictly prohibited.

NO ILLEGAL DRUGS IN THE FRATERNITY

This one is cut-any-dry.

There is **ZERO TOLERANCE** for chapters who have illegal drugs or controlled substances on chapter premises or at Fraternity events.



RUNG #6

No chapter may co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization or tavern (tavern defined as an establishment generating more than half of annual gross sales from alcohol) where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided to those present. This includes any event held in, at or on the property of a tavern as defined above for the purposes of fundraising. A chapter may rent or use a room or area in a tavern as defined above for an event held within the provisions of this policy, including the use of a third party vendor any guest list.

NO CO-SPONSORING WITH DISTRIBUTORS

The chapter is equally liable if they co-sponsor an event with a vendor/tavern where alcohol is present, given away, or sold to those present, even if the event doesn't take place at a bar.

RUNG #7

No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance or attend or participate in a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.

ALL OR NOTHING RULE

Any chapter that CO-SPONSORS or CO-FINANCES an event with other chapters/organizations is equally liable for an incident if any of the other groups purchase alcohol.

That means the chapter SHARES THE RISK event if they are following every other FIPG guideline.



RUNG #8

All recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter will be nonalcoholic. No recruitment or rush activities associated with any chapter may be held at or in conjunction with an alcohol distributor or tavern as defined in this policy.

DRY RECRUITMENT

Any individual expected to make a life changing choice (accepting a bid) cannot be counted upon to make an educated decision when under the influence of alcohol. Additionally, if alcohol is the only selling point the chapter has to a prospective member, then it is time for the chapter to rethink why they exist. Finally, most men seeking to join a fraternity are under the legal drinking age which makes it illegal for them to drink alcohol.

ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOL can be present at any recruitment event or activity.



RUNG #9

No member or new member, shall permit, tolerate, encourage, or participate in “drinking games.”

NO “DRINKING GAMES”

Just like bulk quantity in Run #2, **“DRINKING GAMES” ENCOURAGE HIGH RISK DRINKING** which increases the risk of an accident.

Chapters that don’t permit, tolerate, encourage, or participate in such antics are taking a huge step down the risk ladder.



RUNG #10

No alcohol shall be present at any new member program, activity or ritual of the chapter. This includes, but is not limited to activities associated with "bid night," "big brother night" and initiation.

DRY NEW MEMBER PROCESS

Like dry recruitment in Rung #8, **THERE CAN NOT BE ANY ALCOHOL INVOLVED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MEMBERS**, even if a new member is of legal drinking age.

Most new members are under the legal drinking age anyway, which means it's not only illegal, but it makes the risk and liability especially high.

WHAT EVERY MEMBER SHOULD KNOW

- 1. Don't break the law.**
- 2. Fraternity does not provide alcohol.**
- 3. Know who your guests are ahead of time.**
- 4. No alcohol in the joining/education process.**



BLOOD ALCOHOL CONTENT

BAC CHART FOR MEN								
DRINKS	BODY WEIGHT IN POUNDS							
	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240
0	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
1	.04	.03	.03	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02
2	.08	.06	.05	.05	.04	.04	.03	.03
3	.11	.09	.08	.07	.06	.06	.05	.05
4	.15	.12	.11	.09	.08	.08	.07	.06
5	.19	.16	.13	.12	.11	.09	.09	.08
6	.23	.19	.16	.14	.13	.11	.10	.09
7	.26	.22	.19	.16	.15	.13	.12	.11
8	.30	.25	.21	.19	.17	.15	.14	.13
9	.34	.28	.24	.21	.19	.17	.15	.14
10	.38	.31	.27	.23	.21	.19	.17	.16

Subtract .01% for each 40 minutes of drinking.
One drink is 1.25 oz. of 80 proof liquor, 12 oz. of beer, or 5 oz. of table wine.

Source: The Virginia Tech Alcohol Abuse Prevention

Approximate blood alcohol percentage. Subtract .01% for each 40 minutes of drinking.
One drink is 1.25 of 80 proof liquor, 12 oz. of beer, or 5 oz. of table wine.



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