



71st Grand Chapter

Rules and Order of Business

Table of Contents

Rules	3
Credentials, Seating, and Order Rules	3
Recognition by the Chair Rules	4
Parliamentary Rules.....	4
Motions and Amendments relating to the Work of Committees	5
Election Rules	5
Definitions and Eligibility	5
Prohibition of Campaigning.....	6
Biographies	6
Forum	6
Addressing the Grand Chapter	6
Balloting and Voting.....	7
Appeals and Grievances Rules	7
Order of Business	8
Grand Chapter Day One	8
Business Session I (Wednesday PM) 2 hours (120 minutes).....	8
Grand Chapter Day Two	8
Business Session II (Thursday AM) 3 hours, 30 minutes (210 minutes) ..	8
Business Session III (Thursday PM) 2 hours, 30 minutes (150 minutes) .	9
Grand Chapter Day Three	9
Business Session IV (Friday AM) 3 hours, 30 minutes (210 minutes)	9
Grand Chapter Day Four	9
Business Session V (Saturday AM) 3 hours, 30 minutes (240 minutes) .	9
Business Session VI (Saturday PM) 3 hours (180 minutes)	10

Rules

(As prescribed by the Rules and Order of Business, Elections, and Appeals and Grievances Committees, respectively.)

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th Edition shall serve as the parliamentary authority for the 71st Grand Chapter. To the extent any rule contained herein is contradictory to Robert's Rules of Order, the rule contained herein shall prevail.

Credentials, Seating, and Order Rules

1. The Credentials Committee shall determine the registration status of all Grand Chapter registrants, including Representatives, and provide an official nametag and ribbon, if applicable, for identification.
2. Except for the first business session, Representatives of the Grand Chapter, as defined by [The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.](#), shall be seated in the Designated Voting Area during business sessions, unless otherwise directed by the chair.
3. Except for the first business session, non-voting registrants (collegiate and alumni) and guests shall be seated in the Gallery during business sessions, unless otherwise directed by the chair.
4. Auxiliary personnel and staff approved by the Executive Director who provide support functions may access the Grand Chapter as their function requires and may also be seated in the Designated Voting Area, unless otherwise directed by the chair.
5. In keeping with the principles and mission of Sigma Nu Fraternity, all attendees shall conduct themselves in an honorable manner at all times, including during Grand Chapter proceedings and related activities; Representatives of the Grand Chapter shall attend all business sessions and related activities of the Grand Chapter. Conduct not in keeping with these requirements may be reported to the Appeals and Grievances Committee of the Grand Chapter, which shall prescribe an appropriate response.
6. All Grand Chapter participants must be properly attired to attend Grand Chapter business sessions and related activities. Proper attire consists of dress pants (khakis or slacks), a collared shirt, and closed-toe shoes; shorts, hats, caps, and "flip-flops," may not be worn to business sessions, unless otherwise directed by the chair. Any participant not honoring this dress code may be asked to leave and/or referred to the Appeals and Grievances Committee, which shall prescribe an appropriate response.
7. Upon the order of the chair, the Grand Sentinel, Grand Marshal, and their assistants may remove those who do not abide by the rules of the Grand Chapter.
8. The order in which the Grand Chapter conducts business shall be as printed in the Order of Business. However, the Order of Business may be amended and special business orders may be made, upon the approval of the chair.

Recognition by the Chair Rules

1. Only the chair may recognize speakers.
2. Those who are eligible to speak and wish to do so during a business session should stand and approach a microphone. If more than one person wishes to speak, each shall wait to be recognized by the chair.
3. When recognized, the speaker should address the chair by saying, "Brother Regent." The speaker should then identify himself by giving his name, chapter designation, and school.
4. Upon the close of discussion, all unrecognized potential speakers should return to their seats.

Parliamentary Rules

1. Only accredited Representatives of the Grand Chapter, as defined by [The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.](#), may vote, and these Representatives will have the privilege of the floor (the privilege to speak during a business session) if duly recognized by the chair. Non-voting registrants who are initiates may exercise their right of protest when recognized by the chair and may, at other times, be offered the privilege of the floor at the chair's discretion. All other attendees may not vote and shall not have the privilege of the floor, unless recognized for such privilege by the chair.
2. All speakers shall direct statements to the chair, never to other representatives of the Grand Chapter or observers.
3. Debate on any matter during a business session shall be limited to five (5) minutes per speaker, unless otherwise directed by the chair. The privilege of the floor is not transferable. A speaker will not be recognized twice on the same issue, except when recognized by the chair to interpret his remarks.
4. A main motion made by a Grand Chapter committee does not require a second.
5. A main motion may be amended by a simple majority of voting representatives of the Grand Chapter. The passing of an amendment to a main motion does not sustain the main motion. Defeat of an amendment to a main motion does not defeat the main motion. Voting on an amendment to a main motion takes place before the motion itself is put to a vote.
6. A motion to table a main motion is not in order. A motion to postpone a main motion to a certain time requires a two-thirds majority of voting representatives of the Grand Chapter and is in order only when such certain time is during the Grand Chapter.
7. In keeping with the principles of Sigma Nu Fraternity, a Representative may not rise for the purpose of discussion and then subsequently Call the Previous Question.
8. Votes are generally by voice. The chair shall rule on all voice votes. Voting Representatives of the Grand Chapter maintain the privilege of requesting a division of the house and, thereafter, a roll call vote.
9. A motion for adjournment is not in order until Saturday, July 26, 2025, and then at the discretion of the chair.
10. A motion to recess must specify the time to reconvene and is in order when no other business is pending on the convention floor.

11. The High Council shall approve the Journal (transcript) within 120 days of the close of the Grand Chapter.

Motions and Amendments relating to the Work of Committees

1. The business of the Grand Chapter is facilitated through various committees. Committees shall consider submitted causes for action by the Grand Chapter and may make recommendations that the committee considers appropriate. Main motions proposed by Representatives of the Grand Chapter must be submitted in writing to the appropriate committee for consideration at its first meeting after the first business session of the Grand Chapter, or as stated elsewhere in these Rules or in the Order of Business. A proposal to amend The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc. must be submitted to the Jurisprudence Committee by Thursday, July 24, 2025, 10:00 p.m. Central.
2. Nominations for elected offices may be made from the floor by any Representative of the Grand Chapter who has been recognized by the chair for that purpose. In accordance with The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc., "an accredited Representative may make a nomination of an eligible Candidate from the floor of the Grand Chapter, if and only if, the Nominating Committee has first considered the candidate. The nominations submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be advisory."
3. The Jurisprudence Committee must consider all proposed amendments to The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc., and may make to the Grand Chapter recommendations regarding proposed amendments to The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc. that it considers appropriate. In accordance with The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc., "The Grand Chapter, by a two-thirds majority vote of the accredited votes, may amend or repeal" The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.
4. Resolutions and committee motions require a simple majority of voting representatives of the Grand Chapter to pass, except as otherwise required by The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc.
5. The deliberations of committee meetings and business sessions of the Grand Chapter are strictly confidential and may not be recorded, in any manner, except as specifically authorized by the Chair.

Election Rules

The Elections Committee shall prescribe Guidelines for the Election of Grand Officers, which shall serve to explicate the rules related to the Election of Grand Officers.

DEFINITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. The term "Candidate" refers to individuals who have been considered by the Nominating Committee of the Grand Chapter for any elective office.
2. The term "Nominee" refers to a Candidate that has been nominated by either the Nominating Committee or from the floor of the Grand Chapter who has not declined his nomination.

3. A Candidate may only serve as a Nominee for a single elective office. In cases where a Candidate is nominated to more than one office, the Candidate must select the office for which he will stand, otherwise he will default to the highest ranked position for which he was nominated.
4. In accordance with The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc., only Candidates for elective office may become Nominees (See Article 12, Section 3) and such nominations do not require a second.
5. In cases where a nominee for Grand Officer is uncontested, the Grand Chapter may dispense with the candidate forum, speeches, and balloting and elect that officer via a voice vote. In all other cases, election shall be by ballot (See Article 12, Section 4.1D).
6. Upon the request of a Nominee, the Elections Committee may issue an interpretation of these Guidelines pertaining to specific factual circumstances.

PROHIBITION OF CAMPAIGNING

1. The Elections Committee shall interpret these Guidelines in a manner so as to discourage campaigning and other political activities.
2. Nominees or others acting on their behalf shall not initiate any campaigning or other political activities, including the distribution of materials, intended to influence the decision of a representative to vote for or against a particular Nominee in an election.

BIOGRAPHIES

1. The Elections Committee shall approve and distribute a standardized biography of each Nominee prior to the election.
2. The Elections Committee shall add a notation to the biographies of those Nominees selected by the Nominating Committee prior to distribution.

FORUM

1. The Elections Committee shall provide for an informal forum where Nominees may meet with the representatives of Grand Chapter.
2. The Elections Committee shall assign each Nominee a specific location for the informal forum.

ADDRESSING THE GRAND CHAPTER

1. At a time determined by the Elections Committee, each Nominee may address the Grand Chapter for up to five (5) minutes to present a justification for his election as a Grand Officer.
2. Nominees for each office shall speak in random order in a manner approved by the Elections Committee.
3. Only the Nominee shall be permitted to address the Grand Chapter. Nominees may not have supporters address the Grand Chapter on their behalf.

BALLOTING AND VOTING

1. Each representative to the Grand Chapter shall be eligible to cast the total ballots allowed to him by Article Fourteen, Section 8, for each office.
2. Ballots shall be constructed to contain the names of all Nominees for elective office not filled by acclamation (See **Definitions and Eligibility, 5**) and appear on the ballot in random order in a manner approved by the Elections Committee.
3. Any ballot for an elective office containing fewer votes than the number of persons to be elected or in which an attempt has been made to assign more than one vote for a Nominee in a single elective office shall be disqualified.
4. In cases where a Nominee is elected to more than one office, the Nominee shall select the office that they accept, and the Grand Chapter will conduct additional rounds of balloting until the vacant position is filled. No additional nominations shall be allowed.

Appeals and Grievances Rules

The Appeals and Grievances Committee shall hear all grievances, causes of action, and appeals.

1. An appeal of a decision made by the Council must be submitted to the Appeals and Grievances Committee no later than Thursday, July 24, 2025, 10:00 p.m. Central.
2. All other matters applicable to the Appeals and Grievances Committee must be submitted to the Committee prior to the start of the last business session.

Order of Business

As prescribed by the Rules and Order of Business Committee

SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PER THE REGENT OF SIGMA NU FRATERNITY OR THE 71ST GRAND CHAPTER. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE AT THE END OF EACH BUSINESS SESSION OR OTHERWISE AS DETERMINED BY THE REGENT.

Grand Chapter Day One

BUSINESS SESSION I (WEDNESDAY PM) 2 HOURS (120 MINUTES)

Opening Ceremony and Call to Order (20 minutes)
 State of the Fraternity and Foundation Address and Report (30 minutes) 50
 Special Report: North American Interfraternity Conference (15 minutes) 65
 Awards (30 minutes) 95
 Special Report: How Grand Chapter Works (15 minutes) 110
 Committee Reports (10 minutes) 120
 Credentials Committee Report
 Rules and Order of Business Committee Report
 Appeals and Grievances Committee Report
 Elections Committee Report

*Proposed amendments to The Law of Sigma Nu Fraternity, Inc. must be submitted to the Jurisprudence Committee for its review and consideration prior to Thursday, July 24, 2025, at 10:00 p.m. Central.

Grand Chapter Day Two

BUSINESS SESSION II (THURSDAY AM) 3 HOURS, 30 MINUTES (210 MINUTES)

Call to Order and Invocation (5 minutes)
 Ritual Opening (15 minutes) 20
 Regent's Remarks (5 minutes) 25
 Historic Roll Call (30 minutes) 55
 Credentials Committee Report (5 minutes) 60
 Special Report: Public Policy and Campus Leadership (10 minutes) 70
 Nominating Committee Report (20 minutes) 90
 Elections Committee Report (10 minutes) 100
 Candidate Forum (20 minutes) 120
 Jurisprudence Committee Report (10 minutes) 130
 Election (Speeches 45 and Voting 15) 190
 Special Report: The McCully Commission (15 minutes) 205

BUSINESS SESSION III (THURSDAY PM) 2 HOURS, 30 MINUTES (150 MINUTES)

Call to Order
Credentials Committee Report (5 minutes) 5
Appeals and Grievances Committee Report (10 minutes) 15
Ritual Committee Report (10 minutes) 25
Resolutions Committee Report (10 minutes) 35
Chapter Eternal Committee Report (10 minutes) 45
Awards (20 minutes) 65
Elections Committee Report (10 minutes) 75
Finance Committee Report (40 minutes) 115
Jurisprudence Committee Report (30 minutes) 145

Grand Chapter Day Three**BUSINESS SESSION IV (FRIDAY AM) 3 HOURS, 30 MINUTES (210 MINUTES)**

Call to Order and Invocation (5 minutes) 5
Credentials Committee Report (5 minutes) 10
Appeals and Grievances Committee Report (5 minutes) 15
Awards (20 minutes) 35
Maddox Honor Lecture (20 minutes) 55
Ritual Initiation Demonstration (45 minutes) 100
Break (10 minutes) 110
Jurisprudence Committee Report (30 minutes) 140
Ritual Committee Report (15 minutes) 155
Resolutions Committee Report (30 minutes) 185
Finance Committee Report and/or Chapter Eternal Committee Report (20 minutes) 205

Grand Chapter Day Four**BUSINESS SESSION V (SATURDAY AM) 3 HOURS, 30 MINUTES (240 MINUTES)**

Call to Order and Invocation (5 minutes)
Credentials Committee Report (5 minutes) 10
Chapter Eternal Committee Report (60 minutes) 70
Jurisprudence Committee Report (30 minutes) 100
Break (10 minutes) 110
Jurisprudence Committee Report, cont. (30 minutes) 140
Awards (20 minutes) 160
Ritual Committee Report (15 minutes) 175
Appeals and Grievances Committee Report (20 minutes) 195
Resolutions Committee Report (20 minutes) 215

BUSINESS SESSION VI (SATURDAY PM) 3 HOURS (180 MINUTES)

Call to Order

Credentials Committee Report (5 minutes)

Appeals and Grievances Committee Report (20 minutes) 25

Jurisprudence Committee Report (40 minutes) 65

Resolutions Committee Report (40 minutes) 105

Ritual Committee Report (30 minutes) 135

Swearing In of High Council (10 minutes) 145

Ritual Closing



**Sigma Nu
Fraternity**

**EXCELLING
WITH HONOR**

9 North Lewis Street
P.O. Box 1869
Lexington, Virginia 24450
Phone: (540) 463-1869
Fax: (540) 463-1669
Email: headquarters@sigmanu.org