

## **MEN'S RESIDENCE CONSTITUTION**

### **PREAMBLE**

Since 1926, St. Joseph's College has been a home to male students attending the University of Alberta. Formerly known as "Joe's Boys", the residents and former residents of St. Joseph's College have been known as the "St. Joe's Rangers" since the early 70's. Though the residence has varied in population from more than a hundred to less than fifty, the Rangers have always been a close-knit group, known for their participation in intramurals and their ability to have a good time.

### **ARTICLE I: Name and Purpose of the Group**

- The name of the group is the "St. Joe's Rangers," often shortened to "Rangers."
- The purpose of the St. Joe's Rangers is to enhance the experience of living in residence.
- To this end the Rangers do the following:
  - Enable and encourage participation of all Rangers in intramural events.
  - Host regular social events. Traditional house events include the Christmas Gift Exchange, the Dean Mortensen Day Vigil Service, and the Year End Formal.
  - Maintain resident-only areas at St. Joseph's College.
- The St. Joseph's College Residence Code of Conduct governs residence life at St. Joseph's College. Following the St. Joseph's College Residence Code of Conduct is one of the conditions set by the College for residency at St. Joseph's College, and is not controlled by this group.
- Therefore, the guidelines set by the St. Joseph's College Residence Code of Conduct supersede any provision of this Constitution.

### **ARTICLE II: Membership**

- St. Joe's Rangers are all current and former male residents of St. Joseph's College. A former resident is known as an "alumni". Current residents are known collectively as the House.
- The House may propose honorary membership to any individual by means of a motion passed at a house meeting.
  - A simple majority of votes cast is sufficient to confer honorary membership.

- This is normally granted in recognition of College employees for their service to the residence.
- No duties are required for membership but privileges may be suspended, at the discretion of the House Committee, for members who are delinquent in their fees.
- A member is not in good standing when he has incurred substantial discipline from the Director of Residence or St. Joseph's College.

### **ARTICLE III: Membership Fees**

- There are two classes of membership fees:
  1. Current residents pay an annual House Fee to cover intramural costs, a resident's individual jersey, and to provide the House Committee with the necessary capital to host social events. The House Committee - with the consent of the Director of Residence - sets this fee. The current House Fee rate is \$375.
  2. Alumni who wish to participate in intramurals and other Ranger events are also required to pay an annual fee. The House Committee - with the consent of the Director of Residence - sets this fee.
- The house fees set are mandatory for all residents and must be paid promptly. If the fees are unpaid the house committee and Director of Residence will agree upon a suspension of certain privileges until the fees are paid.
- Proof of current or former residence at St. Joseph's College is sufficient to demonstrate membership.
- Most Rangers also possess a hockey jersey whose prominent St. Joe's Rangers logo can serve as an easy form of identification.
  - Jerseys are normally received in February for all the residents who have paid their house fees.
  - If for some reason, a resident does not require or want a jersey, the House Committee can reimburse them.
  - This is strongly discouraged as having a jersey is a big part of being St. Joe's Ranger and signifies that someone is part of the community.
- Group funds are spent at the discretion of the House Committee. Signing authority of all funds belongs exclusively to the President and the Treasurer of the House Committee, although most expenditure should be group decisions.
  - Funds are spent primarily on intramural fees and social events.
  - Other common expenses include improvements to the House recreational equipment, jerseys, and food and beverage for the group.

- Records of all expenses are to be retained and submitted on demand for inspection by the Director of Residence. If a member in good standing requests to inspect these records, the request must be honored in a timely fashion.

### **ARTICLE IV: House Committee Executive**

- The St. Joseph's College House Committee consists of nine (9) members: the President, Treasurer, House Managers (2), Sports Representatives (3), and Social Conveners (2)
- The members of the House Committee must be residents of the College and registered students at the University of Alberta or another recognized post-secondary institution.
- A member who fails to meet these requirements, or who is suspended and/or expelled from the College, ceases to be a member of the House Committee.
  - The procedure for filling a vacancy will be determined by the Director of Residence - in consultation with the remaining House Committee.
- House Committee members are selected according to the *Campaign Rules & Information* section in this chapter.
- The President will hold a General House Meeting prior to election week to publicly explain the *Campaign Rules & Information*.
- The duties and powers of each House Committee position are not concrete and may change from year to year. In their basic form, the responsibilities of House Committee are as follows:
  - President-The President is the chair of the House Committee, and is the contact person for the St. Joseph's Rangers. He is responsible to seeing that the purposes of the group are fulfilled, and that this Constitution is followed. The president is also responsible for the creation and promotion of volunteering opportunities for the residents of St. Joseph's College.
  - Treasurer- The Treasurer is in charge of the House Committee's finances and resources. His primary concern is accounting for all incoming and outgoing money. The Treasurer and the President are given exclusive signing authority for House funds.
  - House Manager- The two House Managers are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the living areas in the College. Duties include keeping the social areas clean, storing used bottles and cans, and providing cleaning supplies to residents who require them.
  - Sports Representative-The three Sports Representatives (or "sports reps" for short) are responsible for maintaining all relations with the University of Alberta's Recreation Services and keeping all Rangers involved in intramural

sports. Since St. Joseph's College is a traditionally athletic group, it is of paramount importance that they are diligent in their duties.

- Social Conveners: The two Social Conveners are responsible for all social events within the house. This includes organizing dances, parties, and much more. The Social Conveners have the responsibility for obtaining all necessary permissions and licenses required for the sale of alcohol, and for ensuring that University regulations regarding the sale and consumption of alcohol are followed.

A member of the House Committee who abuses his office or neglects his duties may be referred to the Director of Residence.

### **ARTICLE V: Meetings**

- There are two types of meetings that can be called while a resident is at St. Joseph's College. They are:

#### **1. General House Meetings**

- These meetings are open for all regular members of the student group to attend. The meeting is called by the House Committee to address any current issues within the House, and to inform all members of any upcoming events.
- Specifically, the purpose of these meetings is to keep the residents aware of all that is happening in the residence.
- There are several General House Meetings for all St. Joe's Rangers members during the course of the year.
- Meetings will take place approximately every month. If no General House Meeting has taken place in the previous thirty days, any current resident in good standing may request a General House Meeting. Such a meeting will take place within ten days of the time of the request.

#### **2. House Committee Meetings**

- House Committee meetings are the primary planning sessions for any upcoming events in the residence.
- These meetings are specifically for members of the House Committee and only they, the Director of Residence, and invited guests may attend.
- Since the House Committee is responsible for planning social events and providing for all residents of the College, all pertinent issues of the House are brought up at these meetings.

- Meetings must proceed in an orderly fashion, in which everyone gets to share their opinion, but in their given time.
- Any member of the House Committee may call a meeting; however, it is normally the President who does so. At meetings, the President sets the agenda and leads the discussion. He keeps the meeting running in an orderly fashion, though he may delegate this responsibility to another member of House Committee when appropriate.
- A member of the House Committee may call for a vote on any decision. Such a decision is ratified only if it receives the vote of more than half the members of the House Committee.
- Abstentions or absent members may cause a decision to be rejected even if it received an absolute majority of votes cast.

### **ARTICLE VI: Standing Committees**

- The officers of the Rangers are known collectively as the House Committee. Properly speaking, they are not a committee, but the Executive.
- The House President and other members of House Committee may sit on a Discipline Committee unless the issue is directly involving them.
  - The purpose and function of this committee is defined in the previous sections of this document.
- In the event that a special interest issue arises, an *ad hoc* committee may be formed by the House Committee to address it.
  - This committee must follow all regular rules and guidelines of St. Joseph's College in accordance with whatever task they have been formed to address.

### **ARTICLE VII: Amendments to the Constitution**

- A proposed amendment to the Constitution must first be considered by the executive, who will vote on whether to present it to the House.
- The House Committee must present an opportunity for all the current residents to consider the proposed amendment before the vote to amend the constitution takes place.
  - The proposed amendment is to be posted in each wing of the residence and the 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge.
  - If convenient, copies of the proposed amendment should be provided to each resident, either physically or by e-mail.

- Any current resident in good standing may, within a week of posting the proposed amendment, call for a special General House Meeting to discuss the issue.
  - This meeting must take place within ten days.
  - If no meeting is called, the amendment will be deemed to have been acceptable to the House, and will be accepted.
  - At the General House Meeting, an absolute majority of current residents is required to accept the amendment.
  - If an absolute majority is not achieved, the amendment is defeated.

### **ARTICLE VIII: Campaign Rules & Information**

- Nominations begin at least three Sunday's before Ranger Formal and close at midnight the following Saturday.
- Nomination forms are available from the House President, and must be returned to the House President before the nomination period ends.
- Only a current resident in good standing can be nominated for a position on House Committee.
  - The nomination form must bear the signature of the person nominated as well as two members of the current St. Joseph's House Committee who are in good standing at the College.
- A meeting involving the Residence Life Staff and all the candidates will take place before posters can go up to explain the rules of election week.
  - A staff member must approve all posters created for election week.
  - Nudity, use of family members, and harassment will not be tolerated.
  - Election week will run from the end of this meeting to the Sunday of elections, which is the Sunday before Ranger Formal.
- A current resident in good standing may be the campaign manager for a joke candidate. Joke candidates are not residents, and are often non-human.
  - For the purpose of these rules, a campaign manager for a joke candidate is also treated as a candidate unless otherwise specified.
  - Votes, which a joke candidate may receive, do not count towards determining the winner of an election.
- Members of the Residence Life Staff team cannot vote in elections.