



DELTA CHI

BROTHERHOOD

CHAIR

BRIEF

Updated July 2025

This BRIEF has been prepared to assist the Brotherhood Chairman in developing and executing a comprehensive brotherhood program. The preamble of the Delta Chi Constitution makes clear the importance of cultivating a strong brotherhood. While brotherhood is intangible, it is a strong feeling and when a chapter has a strong brotherhood, those bonds become visible. As Brotherhood Chairman, you have been given the awesome responsibility to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood within your chapter. It is an honor to serve in such an important role and you will make a strong impact on your brothers during your term in office.

BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

One of the primary responsibilities of the Brotherhood Chair is to ensure the chapter has meaningful and impactful brotherhood experiences and events - both informal and formal - that offer a variety of ways for brothers to connect.

CHAPTER BROTHERHOOD RETREAT

Perhaps the most impactful event you will help to plan and host is the Brotherhood Retreat. For full details, see the Retreat Planning BRIEF. Ideally, the chapter will have a retreat each term; however, every chapter is expected to have at least one brotherhood retreat each year. Regardless of when or how often a brotherhood retreat is held, it should occur after recruitment has ended for the term so that the Associate Member class can be included. Attendance should be mandatory for all members.

Work with the "B" to select a date that works for the chapter to have this event and make sure it gets added to the chapter calendar. You will want to book a location early and begin planning at least six weeks out to provide a quality experience for all members and Associate Members.

INFORMAL BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

Informal brotherhood events are a key part of creating an inclusive and welcoming chapter. Informal brotherhood events are never mandatory and may be planned by any chapter member. Often, these occur naturally and are based around a shared interest, favorite sports team, and living near each other.

Following is a small list of informal brotherhood events:

- Weekly gatherings at the chapter house to watch a football game
- Meeting up for meals in the campus dining center
- Inviting brothers to attend an event on campus or in the community
- Movie night at the chapter house
- Pick-up games of basketball, soccer, et cetera

Informal brotherhood events are NOT the responsibility of the Brotherhood Chairman; however, if you know about a regular event, be sure to share that information with all chapter members. It is also important for the Associate Member Counselor (AMC) to share information about informal brotherhood events with Associate Members and encourage them to attend.

FORMAL BROTHERHOOD EVENTS

Formal brotherhood events are a foundational aspect of fraternity life. These are events planned by the Brotherhood Chair designed to bring members together in a fun and meaningful way. The Chapter Retreat is one specific type of a formal brotherhood event. Brotherhood events should not be mandatory, instead the goal is to create brotherhood experiences that members are drawn to, excited about, and want to participate in. Brotherhood events are often social in nature; however, there are NOT social events and should not have alcohol present. Your goal should be to have two to three (2-3) brotherhood events per month. For any events involving physical activities or an event off of chapter property, work with the "F" to ensure all risk management policies and procedures are followed.

Below is a list of a few brotherhood events you may want to try with your chapter:

- **Food Competition:** Ask members to prepare a meal (ex. BBQ, chili, wings, dips) based on theme. Other chapter members can try the different dishes and vote to choose the winner. Have a fun and inexpensive prize for the winner.
- **Game Night:** Grab some games, have a snack bar, and invite members to the chapter house or a central location to play games, connect, and enjoy some food.
- **Video Game Tournament:** There are many online resources available to help plan the logistics behind a video game tournament. Ask some members to serve as commentators or emcees for the event and provide a small and inexpensive prize for the winner.
- **Support Members at Events:** As Brotherhood Chair, your goal is to ensure members are supporting each other in all endeavors. Do you have members who are on a competitive team for the university? Do any members participate in theater, dance, or musical performances? Is a member serving as Interfraternity Council (IFC) president, student body president, or in another influential role on campus? If so, organize opportunities for members to go support this member during games, performances, and meetings.
- **Support Local:** Divide chapter members into teams and head out to a local place to play laser tag, mini-golf, paintball, or more!
- **Chapter Olympics:** Divide members into even teams and have them compete against each other to determine the champions. You can do athletic-based competitions like races, 3-point contest, soccer shoot-out, and more. Base this on the sports and athletic activities the chapter is most interested in. You can also turn this into more of a field day event and offer competition in areas like wheelbarrow races, egg and spoon race, three-legged race, or water balloon toss.
- **Spend Time in Nature:** Organize opportunities for hiking, fishing, golfing, kayaking—anything that allows members to spend time together outdoors.
- **Trivia Night:** Divide members up into teams and make 3-5 rounds of trivia questions. You will likely want to ask another member to serve as the emcee so you can run the slides with questions and keep score. Have a small prize for the members of the winning team.
- **Visit a Local Attraction:** Plan a trip to the local zoo, aquarium, museum, or whatever is a fun attraction near your college/university - it's like being a tourist in your home!
- **Progressive Food Tasting:** Choose one type of food and plan a progressive trip to three to five (3-5) local restaurants and have everyone try the same thing at each place and then vote on their favorite at the end. You can keep track of chapter favorites and have a go-to list for food recommendations when visitors come into town. Some good foods to do this with are ice cream, wings, fries, chicken nuggets, and pizza - or a local food your area is known for!

INTEREST GROUPS

As Brotherhood Chair, you can facilitate opportunities for small groups of members to get together and bond over a shared interest. This is great to offer for any-sized chapter; however, it is really important for large chapters to have opportunities for small groups of members to connect. Once you set-up a group, you do not need to continue to manage it. Feel welcome to hand it off to one of the people participating in the group. Plan to share a list of the groups at a chapter meeting and an Associate Member meeting so everyone can be included. Be sure to remind the member who ends up taking leadership of the group that all events should be dry.

A few possible groups to consider:

- Book club
- Running club
- Morning coffee meet-ups
- Workout/fitness group
- Campus participation or engagement: intramural teams, athletic events, leadership development opportunities, student organizations, etc.

These groups will be based on member interest and will change as membership changes. It is a good idea to ask members if there are any other small groups they would like to see in the chapter and work to establish those with enough interest.

MEMBER RECOGNITION

Recognizing members makes them feel seen, valued, and appreciated. Chapters with strong member recognition programs are often supportive of each member and have a stronger brotherhood.

There are many different reasons to recognize a member. A non-exhaustive list is provided below to help you start brainstorming what would be best for your chapter and campus.

- Being elected to student body officer positions
- Being elected or appointed to Interfraternity Council executive board officer roles
- Getting accepted into a highly competitive program
- Receiving scholarships
- Being inducted into honor societies
- Being selected to serve in any number of campus leadership roles: orientation leader, campus tour guide, Greek Week committee, leader of a student organization, etc.
- Athletic accomplishments
- Having research or other work chosen for publication or showcase
- Landing an internship or new job
- Winning campus contests/competitions

Recognition of members can take many different forms and does NOT need to be expensive. A list of some ways to recognize and honor the achievements of members is listed below.

- Announcement at chapter meeting
- Include in the chapter update at an IFC meeting
- Social media post

- Hanging up a shout-out in the chapter house
- Sending a letter of congratulations to the member and their family
- Press release to the member's hometown newspaper
- Giving them a gift card to a local coffee shop or another small gift
- Purchasing a piece of Delta Chi merchandise for them
- Include the information in the next alumni newsletter and ask the "A" to share with the ABT and "BB" - Chapter Advisor
- Traveling award or plaque engraved with the names of brothers who have accomplished similar things

WEEKLY/MONTHLY RECOGNITION

Chapters may want to consider recognizing a Member of the Week or Member of the Month. Often this recognition is given to a member or Associate Member who has shown dedication to the chapter in a specific way. The person being recognized can be chosen by the Brotherhood Chair, through a vote of the executive officers, or the you can collect nominations and choose from those. These chapter members can be recognized using chapter social media and, if the chapter budget permits it, a small gift.

CHAPTER HEALTH

As Brotherhood Chair, you will be a very visible and known representative of the idea of brotherhood. During your term of office, you will likely find that members and Associate Members come to you to share concerns about other members, chapter morale, or chapter unity. It is not your responsibility to take on all of these concerns yourself and the role of Brotherhood Chair is not that of conflict mediator. Members will likely feel they can trust you and often they may just need someone to listen to them and help them figure out the best path forward. If a member is bringing larger issues to you, it is best to involve the "F" so the Judicial Board or Health and Wellness Chairman can step in. If you are hearing about morale issues frequently, then you should talk to the "A" and "B" so they can work with the Executive Board to address the concern.

KEEPING SENIORS ENGAGED

if you find that your older members are slowing fading away from chapter life, you are not alone. In order for members to sustain a lifelong commitment to Delta Chi, we need them to be engaged throughout their undergraduate years. You can provide some special programming for seniors in order to recognize their impact on the chapter and keep them invested.

Some programming ideas are listed below.

- Specifically ask seniors what type of brotherhood events they would like to see and organize at least one of their ideas
- Host a career preparation night: résumé workshop, career wardrobe advice, job searching and interviewing tips, etc.
- Host a special dinner for seniors
- Invite local alumni to have a special event with seniors to discuss the transition into alumni membership
- Create a senior-sendoff event

Often, seniors will say they fade out of the chapter because they are no longer wanted or needed. Seniors have an integral role to play in the stability and long-term success of the chapter. Consider the ideas below as ways to keep seniors involved and make sure they know the chapter wants and needs their presence.

- If your chapter is implementing the Mentor Program, they should be encouraged to apply to serve as a formal Mentor
- Assist the Associate Member Counselor (AMC) to facilitate some of the lessons and/or leading some of the activities in the In The Bond program.
- Serve as contributing members of committees and ensure committee chairs know to lean on the seniors for advice and insight
- Learn about opportunities to be engaged alumni
- Participate in a roundtable with chapter leaders to share their insights on the chapter after multiple years of membership

Seniors influence chapter morale and help set the tone of the chapter. As experienced members of the Fraternity, seniors can also be called upon to be ideal members and set the example for Associate Members. Joining a fraternity is a huge step and we provide a lot of support for Associate Members through special programming, guidance, and celebrations. As seniors graduate and enter their alumni membership, we need to provide them with special programming, guidance, and celebrations to mark their next huge step.

COLLABORATING WITH OTHER OFFICERS

While having regular brotherhood activities and events is key to chapter health and member happiness, you also want to avoid over-programming. Additionally, brotherhood is not the sole responsibility of the Brotherhood Chair—brotherhood should be woven into every aspect of chapter life. To that end, this section will give you ideas to work with other chapter officers and embed brotherhood programming into existing chapter events and activities.

WORKING WITH THE “D”

- Consider hosting a finances workshop for chapter members. This can be chapter finances or an individual financial planning workshop.

WORKING WITH THE “E”

- Invite alumni to brotherhood events.
- Include information about the upcoming brotherhood events in the alumni newsletter.
- If alumni are coming to town for an event (ex. Homecoming), plan an event with the “E” to bring brothers from different decades together.
- Coordinate with the “E” to plan chapter anniversary events (typically in increments of 5 years: 10th, 15th, 20th, etc.)
- If alumni in the area play for a sports team, have a performance, or are putting on an event for the public, plan a brotherhood event to attend and support them.

WORKING WITH THE “F”

- Ensure all risk management and safety policies are followed when planning brotherhood events.

WORKING WITH THE ASSOCIATE MEMBER COUNSELOR (AMC)

- Attend an Associate Member education meeting, introduce yourself, and share any standing informal or interest group brotherhood activities/events. Let them know you welcome ideas for brotherhood events.
- Facilitate a section of the In the Bond program such as one of the icebreakers or team builders at the start of the session.

WORKING WITH THE RECRUITMENT CHAIR

- Recruitment events should include brotherhood-focused activities, as that is what we are inviting potential members to join. Work with the recruitment chair to ensure a wide variety of activities are included in recruitment events to bring in a large and diverse group of potential members.

WORKING WITH THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

- If the Scholarship Chair is planning an awards/recognition ceremony, work together and incorporate the brotherhood recognition into that event.

WORKING WITH THE SERVICE CHAIR

- Community service opportunities are excellent opportunities for members to bond while giving back to the community. Work with the Service Chair to incorporate a meal before or after the community service to allow for even more bonding.

WORKING WITH THE PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR

- Create social media posts to recognize achievements of brothers.

WORKING WITH THE IFC DELEGATE

- Encourage the IFC Delegate to include news about different member accomplishments and upcoming brotherhood events during their meeting report.

MENTOR PROGRAM MANAGER

In the event that the chapter does not have a separate Mentor Program Manager, it is recommended that the Brotherhood Chair take on those responsibilities. The Mentor Program will play an important role in building and maintaining brotherhood in the chapter. The program also allows the chapter's outstanding members to serve as role models and mentors for other members.

If you are serving in this capacity, be sure to review the Mentor Program Manager officer resources, include the positions description and expectations, a mentor training facilitator guide and resources, and a mentor training workbook. If you have any questions about this role, reach out to the Officer Success Manager for Mentor Program Managers.