

The Philippine Students of Texas Constitution

Honor Code

As a member of the Filipino Students Association I will not lie, cheat, or steal nor tolerate those who do.

About

The Philippine Students of Texas (PST) was established on the 30th of May 1998. PST is a non-profit, student- and/or alumni- run organization. The main objective of PST is to unite and to promote camaraderie among Filipino students in Texas, foster goodwill and develop a working relationship among and between the member schools of the PST, inform organizations of various events within the Filipino community, and act as the final arbiter and facilitator for each of the member schools of the PST. The Philippine Students of Texas will consist of two Presidents (or Chief Executive Officers [CEOs]), a Chief GoodPhil Officer (CGO), and a Governing Board. Together, they will be known as the Advisory Board. It is headquartered in Austin, Texas due to its centralized location. A majority vote is required before any action is taken. It is stressed that the majority of the power lies in the Governing Board and not the Presidents.

Preamble

We, the members of the Philippine Students of Texas, join ourselves in the pursuit of academic excellence and in the enhancement of socio-cultural awareness and cultural enrichment among the Texas communities.

Name of the Organization

This organization shall be known as the Philippine Students of Texas. Its official acronym will be PST.

The official seal of the organization shall consist of the following:

1. symbols and its representations
2. colors and its representations
3. letter initials and its representations

Purpose and Goals

1. To promote unity and camaraderie among Filipino students in Texas
2. To enhance awareness of the Filipino and Filipino American culture
3. To foster goodwill and to develop a working relationship among and between the member schools of the PST
4. To inform member organizations of various events within the Filipino community
5. To act as a final arbiter and facilitator for each of the member schools of the PST

Article I.

Section 1.

Clause 1: Membership to the organization shall be contingent solely on the following:

1. Members must come from a recognized institute of higher learning within the state of Texas
2. \$50.00 dues per full cyclical year to be paid at the beginning of the cyclical year with an exemption given to the host GoodPhil school

3. Payment of any miscellaneous expenses deemed necessary by the current executive officers

Clause 2: The terms “general body of the organization,” “body,” “general assembly,” and “member schools” shall refer to the collective populations of the dues paying schools.

Clause 3: At-Large Members shall be those representatives sent from any member schools and as such must be associated with one of the member schools as a current or former student.

Section 2.

Clause 1: At the time of the first meeting of a new year, a schedule for meetings in normal time shall be established.

Clause 2: The meetings held in normal time may be attended by any persons.

Clause 3: Meetings outside of normal time may be called for events or issues pertinent to the well-being or overall government of the organization as deemed severe enough by the Advisory Board.

Clause 4: During the course of the meeting, the Advisory Board may appoint a member of the general body to the office of Sergeant at Arms whose duty it is to keep and maintain order during the course of the meeting and/or function as a proxy and officer in kind to officiate over any PST event.

Clause 5: During the course of the cyclical year, each member school must attend a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the meetings scheduled.

Section 3.

The agenda at general meetings is not limited to, but must contain the following:

1. Officer introductions and greetings
2. Overview of minutes from the previous meeting
3. Deliberations on current issues and activities
4. Updates on previous business
5. Scheduling of the date, time, and location of the proceeding meeting in lieu of Section 2. Clause 1.

Section 4.

Clause 1: The judicial powers of the organization shall be vested in the general body of the organization.

Clause 2: The judiciary is afforded the following rights:

1. Impeachment of officers

2. Disciplining/dismissing member schools
 - a. For cheating at GoodPhil, see Goodphil constitution for disciplinary course of action
3. Validate/invalidate intra-organizational affairs
4. Determine constitutionality of action

Section 5.

Clause 1: The judiciary will be afforded the right to investigate Member Schools or their representatives based on the following circumstances:

1. Violations of any outlined regulations within the PST constitution
2. Gross misconduct or negligence
3. Any substantial violation worth enough of agreement to review by three-fifths of the remaining body

Clause 2: In the event that a member is disciplined or removed from the organization, a written notification shall be issued by the Advisory Board. The member is then, afforded the right to present a case before the general body in a trial-by-peers method of review.

Article II.

The main responsibility of the Presidents is to act as mediators and a central figurehead for all FSAs. The Presidents are not to be above the Governing Board but to work with them and preside over the meetings. The Presidents, the Chief GoodPhil Officer, and Governing Board shall be the decision-making body of the association. All issues affecting the welfare of the association shall be submitted by the body for deliberations. The decisions of the Advisory Board are final.

Section 1.

Clause 1: Duties and Responsibilities of the Presidents:

1. Ensure that the rules and regulations of the GoodPhil Constitution are followed by all FSAs and its members
2. Uphold the GoodPhil Honor Code
3. Set the agenda for future meetings
4. Preside over meetings ensuring equality, responsibility, and fairness
5. Break ties if a voting majority is not achieved
6. Follow Robert's Rules of Order governing meetings

Clause 2: Terms and elections of the Presidents:

1. Voted into office by the Governing Board by simply majority vote
2. Unopposed candidates will be automatically elected via vote by acclamation.
3. Up to two viable presidential candidates may be nominated from each school
4. The two Presidents must not be from the same school
5. Elected at the Governing Board meeting during the summer
6. No more than 2 terms unless a 100% vote by the Governing body approves

7. The Presidents of the organization must have been an eligible member and part of the general body of the organization as well as eligible members and part of the general body of their member school.

Section 2.

Clause 1: Duties and Responsibilities of the Governing Board:

1. Ensure that the rules and regulations of the GoodPhil Constitution are followed by all FSAs and its members
2. Follow the GoodPhil Honor Code
3. Purpose, vote, and finalize ALL amendments to the Constitution or GoodPhil Rules
4. Members will consist of the President of each of the FSAs
5. The main responsibility of the Governing Board is to create policies, disseminate information, and make ALL major decisions regarding FSAs and the GoodPhil Games

Section 3.

Clause 1: Advisory Board

The Governing Board, the Chief GoodPhil Officer, and the Presidents of the Philippine Students of Texas will act as the Advisory Board during GoodPhil. The purpose of the Advisory Board is to resolve any conflicts among teams and schools during GoodPhil Games by majority vote.

Clause 2: Responsibilities and Powers:

The Advisory Board will meet on the second night of the GoodPhil games to discuss all issues brought forth by any school during the games. An emergency meeting may take place at any time during the games if necessary, but a quorum of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Advisory Board must be present before any matters may be discussed. Only the PST Presidents may call an emergency meeting.

All controversial issues will be presented in an orderly fashion to the Advisory Board. Yelling, cursing, or any obscenities will NOT BE TOLERATED and the Advisory Board has the power not to review any issues if such behavior is exhibited. The Advisory Board has full jurisdiction and the authority to punish, correct, or support any issues brought forth during GoodPhil; however, all referee, umpire calls, and decisions during the game is final. The Advisory Board permits no reversal of these calls. Protests will include opposing teams' infringement of the rules and regulations. Any member of the Advisory Board may reject an appeal or issue by any school; though, the issue, action taken, and reason for the course of action taken must be presented to the whole board at the meeting on the second night. The Advisory Board will seriously consider all protests and controversial issues.

Section 4.

Clause 1: The tasks of the Presidents, the Chief GoodPhil Officer, and Governing board, although outlined herein, are by no means all inclusive of the tasks required by an administration, and therefore are subject to be amended but not detracted by the Presidents, the Chief GoodPhil Officer, and/or Governing Board upon requests and subsequent acquiescence.

Section 5.

Clause 1: Any officer may be removed from their position due to non-performance of duties, misappropriation of funds, or gross misconduct or negligence through formal impeachment.

Clause 2: All impeachment proceedings are subject to the following stipulations:

1. Each defendant must be afforded the right to account for their actions before the organization's current Advisory board.
2. A defendant's case must be presented before a general assembly of the organization during a meeting which may be held in normal time or at a specifically designated time.
3. Defendants may only be removed from their elected office by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote of the Advisory Board.

Section 6.

Clause 1: Should an elected officer vacate their office during the term year. The Advisory Board shall have the right to appoint an interim replacement until such a time that the vacancy may be replaced.

Clause 2: Should the President vacate his/her position, the Advisory Board must appoint another individual to President, following the guidelines outlined herein.

Article III.

Section 1.

Clause 1: Any person may be elected advisor to the organization through a majority vote by the body but must be confirmed by $\frac{3}{5}$ vote of the Advisory Board.

Clause 2: The advisor must be available for meetings with the general body or the executive officers to discuss the daily operations of the organization as well as ensure the organization's adherence to this constitution.

Clause 3: The advisor is granted honorary membership status and has all rights associated with the title, but is not permitted to run for any elected office.

Clause 4: The advisor may attend any executive and general meetings held by the Association.

Clause 5: The advisor may participate in any organizational planning event during the term year.

Clause 7: The advisor has the right to audit the organization's financial records as well as approve or deny expenditure requests.

Section 2.

Clause 1: Although the office of advisor is not necessary to the workings of PST, if for any reason the advisor is no longer willing and/or able to fulfill their responsibilities to the organization, it is their duty to give the organization's executive officers due notice.

Clause 2: The advisor may be removed at any time by a justifiable cause and $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the general body.

Clause 3: Should the office of advisor be vacated, the organization's executive officers must then bear the responsibility of replacing the advisor should they choose.

Article IV.

All monies belonging to this organization may be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization and maintained by the Presidents. If the Advisory Board chooses to uphold a bank account, all funds must be deposited within 24 hours after collection.

Article V.

Section 1.

Clause 1: This constitution may be amended at any time by two-thirds vote of the general body.

Clause 2: The Advisory Board may form a Constitutional Review Committee to undertake proposed amendments to the constitution.

Clause 3: The Constitution may be reviewed annually and is subject to the approval of the Advisory Board

Clause 4: This Constitution and its clauses are the highest official laws of governance and take effect immediately upon the signing of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Member Schools.

Clause 5: The ratification of the convention of seven member schools shall be sufficient for the establishment of this constitution between the schools so ratifying the same.

Article VI.

Section 1.

Clause 1: GoodPhil Games Sports

It is the hosting school's responsibility to provide four to five different sports. Rules for each respective sport will be followed by the hosting school's intramural rules. Examples of such sports may include basketball, football, volleyball, soccer, and/or softball, etc.

If adverse weather prevents play of any sport, it is the hosting school's responsibility to provide backup sports to take its place. Examples of such sports may include billiards, Co-Rec bowling, singles/Co-Rec table tennis, and/or racquetball, etc.

Clause 2: Host School Responsibilities

1. Arrange for time and place for the opening ceremonies.
2. Obtain officials and facilities for each sport
3. Setup time and location for the party
4. Set up and send an information packet to participating schools
5. The setup packet will consist of:
 - a. The GoodPhil Games Rules
 - b. Sign up rosters for each sport
 - c. A city, school, and party location map
 - d. A schedule for each sport including bracket
 - e. Information for housing
 - f. GoodPhil Mission Statement
 - g. The Honor Code
 - h. Any additional changes
 - i. Waivers
6. Possible Changes
 - a. If the host school deems to add or change some rules to the GoodPhil Games it is their responsibility to give PST a proposal of the changes by the spring meeting. The Governing Board will then approve or disapprove of the changes during the meeting. If disapproved then the original games and rules stated in the GoodPhil Game Rules.

Clause 3: The order of the schools of which the GoodPhil games will be hosted:

1. Texas A&M University College Station
2. University of Texas Austin
3. University of Houston
4. University of Texas San Antonio
5. University of Texas Arlington
6. Texas A&M Corpus Christi
7. Baylor University
8. University of St. Thomas
9. Texas Tech University
10. University of Texas Dallas
11. University of Texas El Paso
12. Trinity University

If the school can not accommodate the facilities needed for GoodPhil, the succession of the GoodPhil will pass to the next school in line of order.

In order to be added to the rotation, a school must be a recognized institute of higher learning within the state of Texas and must have shadowed a school currently in the rotation for a full year. A school is allowed one year of inactivity in the general meetings and GoodPhil before removal. Once removed, the school must go through the process of shadowing once again to be added to the rotation.

Clause 4: Additional Responsibilities

1. Post or leave a copy of the GoodPhil Game Rules for the subsequent sport either with the official or at the scoring table.
2. Receive prior approval of The GoodPhil Game Rules from the hosting school's officials and if there are any changes they must immediately notify the PST President and the Governing Board.