

TRADITIONS COUNCIL BYLAWS 2025-2026

ARTICLE 1. PURPOSE AND MISSION

Purpose:

The purpose of Traditions Council is to educate students, the Aggie Family, and the public about Texas A&M's traditions. Additionally, Traditions Council is responsible for promoting and facilitating honored traditions. This includes, but is not limited to: Silver Taps, the Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony, and affiliated Outreach Opportunities.

Mission:

Traditions Council's mission is to preserve and promote the traditions of Texas A&M University through outreach and education.

Values:

Traditions Council's established values drive the current executive team and the organization to further our mission. The values selected by the current executive team for the 2025-2026 year are Service, Dedication, and Community.

ARTICLE 2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Qualifications for Membership

- All members must be a current undergraduate or graduate student at Texas A&M University.
- Members must be in good standing with the university and enrolled:
 - At least part-time (6 or more credit hours), if they are an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of membership.
 - Students enrolled in the Blinn TEAM program are also eligible to become a member, as long as the student is meeting all applicable Blinn TEAM requirements and is in good standing with the program.
 - At least part-time (4 or more credits), if they are a graduate-level student (unless fewer credits are required in the final stages of their degree as defined by the Continuous Registration Requirement) during the term of membership.
 - Should the student fail to maintain the requirements as prescribed above, they will be ineligible to hold membership in the organization.
 - Any extenuating circumstances may be considered at the discretion of the executive team.
- Individuals holding membership status must meet the GPR requirements below:
 - All executive team members of this organization must meet the following requirements:
 - Have a minimum cumulative and semester grade point ratio and semester (GPR) of 2.0.

- All officers must meet that minimum cumulative and semester GPR in the semester immediately prior to the appointment and the semester of appointment and semesters during the term of office.
- All undergraduate student members of this organization must meet the following requirements:
 - Maintain a minimum cumulative and semester grade point ratio and semester (GPR) of 2.0.
 - In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (part-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration.
 - In one limited circumstance, summer semester hours may be applied to this provision. In order for summer coursework to qualify toward a grade point ratio prior to election/appointment, at least six credit hours must have been taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s) unless fewer credits are required as they complete the final stages of their degree.
- All graduate student members of this organization must meet the following requirements:
 - Have a minimum cumulative and semester grade point ratio and semester (GPR) of 3.0.
 - For first-year professional students the minimum cumulative and semester GPR is 2.5. In order for this provision to be met, at least four hours (half-time credits) must have been taken for the semester under consideration.
 - In one limited circumstance, summer semester hours may be applied to this provision. In order for summer coursework to qualify toward a grade point ratio prior to election/appointment, at least four credit hours must have been taken during the course of either the full or two summer session(s) unless fewer credits are required as they complete the final stages of their degree.

2.2 Membership Selection Process

2.2a Returning Member Selection Process:

- Returning members will be expected to complete and submit an application for Traditions Council that is created by the current executive team in order to renew their membership status.
- If a returning member does not submit their application for re-admission for the upcoming year their membership status will be removed, and they will need to go through the new membership selection process in order to regain their membership status.
- Additionally, the current executive team has the jurisdiction to deny any returning member's application if necessary.
 - This could be for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to: unsatisfactory score on returning member application, conduct issues

from the previous year, inability to perform duties from the duration of their time as a member during the previous year, or any other circumstances at the discretion of the current executive team that would result in removal from membership with the intent to serve for the betterment of Traditions Council.

■ Appeal Process for Renewal Denial

If a returning member's application for renewal is denied, they may submit a written appeal to the Chair and Advisor within three (3) business days of receiving the denial notice. The appeal must include the reason(s) the member believes the decision should be reconsidered and any supporting information.

- Upon receipt, the Advisor will schedule an appeal interview with the member, the Advisor, and at least two members of the Executive Team not directly involved in the original decision. The appeal interview will provide the member an opportunity to address the reasons for denial and present any new information.
- Following the interview, the panel will deliberate privately and decide by simple majority whether to uphold or reverse the denial. The decision will be communicated to the member in writing within two (2) business days and is final.

2.2b New Member Selection Process:

- The membership selection process for individuals seeking admission into Traditions Council consists of three separate rounds: application, social round, and interview.
 - Applications will be due during the fall semester on the specific date and time dictated by the current executive team.
 - The application will then be reviewed by the current executive team and graded on a point scale.
 - The point scale will be determined by the executive team before the application process begins.
 - The applications with the minimum scores will be given the opportunity to take part in the social round.
 - What constitutes an acceptable score will be up to the discretion of the current executive team.
 - The social round will be designed and run by the current executive team.
 - Applicants can be cut from the recruitment process without a point system if the executive team deems a decrease in applicants necessary.
 - Qualifying applicants will be asked to proceed to the interview round.
 - Interviews will be conducted by the current executive team.
 - Interviews will be graded on a point scale.
 - The point scale will be determined by the current executive team before the interview process begins.
 - Based on the points awarded to each interviewee, the executive team will decide who will be accepted as a Traditions Council Member, as the

number of members for the Council of that academic year will be decided by the current executive team.

- The points accumulated from both the interview and points from the application will be considered.
- Individuals granted membership into Traditions Council and not granted membership into Traditions Council will be notified by the executive team via letter on a date determined and specified by the current executive team.

2.3 Duration of Membership

- Membership for Traditions Council will begin the day that applicants are notified of selection to Traditions Council.
- The current executive team will have from the first of May through the first of August to notify returning members of their application status.
- Membership will conclude upon notification of readmittance or denial of readmittance.
 - Members may be readmitted if a returning member form is completed and accepted by the current executive team.
 - The exception to this would be if the returning member form is not completed, not fulfilled, or if the returning membership form is denied by the current executive team.
 - The exception to this is for members who graduate prior to the end of the standard membership period. Their membership will be concluded upon graduation.
 - Should any member's returning member application be denied, their membership status will conclude at the end of the academic year.
 - If a returning member is denied re-admittance for the following year, they will no longer be eligible to assist with ceremonies, duties, roles, or responsibilities at the time that their membership status is revoked.

2.4 Member Expectations

- All members must uphold the values and responsibilities stated in (Article 1. Purpose and Mission) of Traditions Council for the entirety of their membership.

2.4.1 Membership Accountability

- For continued membership, members must have less than 3 strikes per year (see disciplinary procedures).
- Members must meet all expectations of accountability each month.
 - Meeting expectations of accountability is defined as acquiring the prescribed business and speaking points each month, set by the current executive team.
 - Members must achieve three speaking engagement points in the fall semester with an additional two points in the spring semester, for a total of five speaking points.

- Members are expected to be at the mandatory weekly meetings via the “check-in” system and other mandatory events, including but not limited to Silver Taps, Bonfire Remembrance, and Run for the Ring.
 - Excuses must be University Excused or approved by the Vice Chair.
 - Executives may change the speaking engagement point requirement based on the available speaking engagements.
 - Additional mandatory events, requiring member participation, must be communicated by the executive team no later than 1 month before the event.
 - Members will be required to sign an accountability and responsibility agreement contract regarding their work within Traditions Council.
- The executive team will be required to sign an agreement contract before the recruitment season regarding their work within Traditions Council. The contract will serve as an acknowledgment of understanding their roles, expectations, and confidentiality held within the executive team, as written in these bylaws.
- Membership/Executive Accountability contracts will assume immediate activity once signed and will be terminated at the end of each individual's yearly membership.

2.4.2 Membership Conduct Expectations

- Members are expected to represent Traditions Council, SGA, and Texas A&M University in a respectable and professional manner at all times.
- Conduct expectations for actions and social media will be expressed by the Chair or Vice Chair at the first membership meeting of the year and at the first meeting when new members are present. Any apparent violations of the standard described by the Chairs are handled on a case-by-case basis within the current executive team.
- Members are expected to uphold professional conduct measures set forth by the current executive team at the beginning of each semester. This includes, but is not limited to: dress code, tardiness measures, and communication.
 - Expectations for professional conduct will be presented at the first meeting of each semester.
 - These expectations will also be presented when new members are brought in for their first meeting.
- All members of Traditions Council shall adhere to the professional dress standards set forth by the current executive team in official Traditions Council events. The current executive team shall determine and enforce requirements for meetings outside of official Traditions Council events.
 - Failure to adhere to the dress standards outlined will be dealt with under the jurisdiction of the current executive team, and the Chair and Vice Chair will take action.
 - Should a member feel that he or she cannot adhere to the dress code set forth by the current executive team due to the inability to attain appropriate dress code clothing, that member may come before the current executive team with a petition to the dress code based on financial inability to comply. The current executive team will review the petition with the advisor to determine what the appropriate course of action will be.

- Members are expected to uphold all university traditions, especially those outlined in the annually updated speaking packet. They are expected to avoid promoting unofficial and non-university-recognized traditions while representing Traditions Council in any capacity.

2.4.3 Attendance Policy

- Members will be expected to attend all events deemed mandatory by the executive team. If they are unable to attend or expecting a substantially delayed arrival due to prior commitments, a member should submit an absence request form for consideration by Top Staff no less than one week prior to the scheduled event.
- Exceptions to the one-week notice requirement are limited to: (a) circumstances outlined in Article I, Section 7.2 of the Texas A&M University Student Rules and Guidelines; or (b) situations deemed urgent through direct communication with Top Staff.
- Failure to provide adequate notice of absence or delayed attendance, as defined above, will result in the issuance of a strike.

2.4.4 Dress Code

- Traditions Council is an organization that values service, which makes uniformity important for Silver Taps, Bonfire Remembrance, Speaking Engagements, etc.
- Violation of the assigned dress code for a ceremony or event will result in a strike.

Examples of Traditions Council Dress Code:

- Full Traditions Council Attire
 - Traditions Council Polo
 - Traditions Council Nametag
 - Black Slacks or Black Pencil Skirt
 - Closed-toe black professional shoes
 - Ex. Dress shoes, heels, flats, loafers, etc.
- Casual Traditions Council Attire
 - Traditions Council Polo
 - Traditions Council Nametag
 - Jeans (No Rips)
 - Closed-toe shoes
 - Ex. Boots, Tennis Shoes, Vans, etc.
- Athletic Traditions Council Attire
 - Traditions Council Polo
 - Traditions Council Name Tag
 - Athletic Black Bottoms (Keeping the length of shorts/skirts finger-tip length)
 - Closed-toe shoes
 - Ex. Tennis Shoes (Nike's, Vans, Converse)

- Attire for a Traditions Council event will be communicated to the members of Traditions Council by the executive team member organizing the event.
 - Corps of Cadet Uniforms (Alphas, Bravos, Charlies, and Midnights) are acceptable for Traditions Council events that mandate a dress code.
- Violation of an assigned Dress Code, without proper communication to the Executive Team, will result in a strike.
- All weekly meetings have a required Dress Code in order to maintain professionalism within the organization; failure to follow meeting dress code will result in a strike.
- If a member attends the weekly meeting not in dress code, it is the responsibility of the member to communicate their explanation with Top Staff.
 - Qualifications for meeting attendance not in dress code may include, but not limited to:
 - Coming from a class/lab prior to the meeting
 - Representing Traditions Council at an event prior to the meeting
 - In the case of an Emergency
 - Situation deemed excusable by Top Staff
- If there are personal/financial issues resulting in complications to meet Dress Code standards, members will need to communicate to the Executive Team/Advisor, and we will provide them with accommodations.
- Full Traditions Council Attire or the attire assigned by the Silver Taps Chair, Bonfire Remembrance Chair, or Chair of Traditions Council is MANDATORY for every Silver Taps Ceremony, Letter Writing Tabling Shift, and for the Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony.
 - Violation of breaking dress code for the Silver Taps Ceremony, Letter Writing Tabling Shift, or Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony will result in a strike, unless their lack of appropriate attire had been communicated with the Silver Taps/Bonfire Remembrance Chair and Top Staff.
- It is MANDATORY for all members to wear the assigned Traditions Council Attire on campus during the first Tuesday of every month that there is a Silver Taps Ceremony being hosted.
 - Any member not dressed in Full Traditions Council Attire on the first Tuesday of every month that there is a Silver Taps Ceremony being hosted will be given a strike, unless their lack of appropriate attire had been communicated with the Silver Taps Chair and Top Staff.

2.4.5 Alcohol Policy

- Traditions Council has a zero-tolerance policy on alcohol. Any member who is intoxicated at an official event will be asked to leave and will receive disciplinary action as decided by the executive team.
- There shall not be any alcohol at any official Traditions Council event.

- Traditions Council members will not be dressed in Traditions Council apparel in situations that could cast a negative light upon the organization, including, but not limited to, venues where 51% or more of revenue sales are derived from alcohol, adult venues and stores, or any such events or establishments.
- Any violation of this policy shall result in disciplinary action as decided by the current executive team.

2.5 Member Probation and Removal Process

- Any member of Traditions Council, including the executive team, can be put on probation for a duration of time or completely removed from the organization at the discretion of the executive team and their advisor.
- Any member of Traditions Council, including the executive team, that violates one or more of the qualifications below could result in removal or probation from Traditions Council.

Qualifications for Probation or Removal (not limited to the following):

- Violation of Traditions Councils Membership Qualification (Section 2.1)
- Violating the standard of Traditions Council Membership Expectations (Section 2.4)
- Violation of Traditions Councils Membership Accountability (Section 2.4.1)
- Violation of Traditions Councils Membership Conduct Expectation (Section 2.4.2)
- Violation of Traditions Councils Attendance Policy (Section 2.4.3)
- Violation of Traditions Councils Alcohol Policy (Section 2.4.5)
- Behaviors/actions or repeated behaviors/actions that are putting the member(s) of Traditions Council, the responsibility of Traditions Council, or the reputation of Traditions Council in jeopardy.
- Deemed an Emergency probationary period or removal from the organization granted from the Advisor, Chair, and/or member.
- Violation of Traditions Councils Leave of Absence/Inactive Membership Status (Section 2.5.1)
- Violation of Texas A&M University Student Conduct Rule 24
 - Dishonesty (Section 24.4.1)
 - Harassment (Section 24.4.2)
 - Physical Abuse (Section 24.4.3)
 - Theft/Damages (Section 24.4.4)
 - Organization Affiliation Misconduct (Section 24.4.5)
 - Failure to Comply (Section 24.4.6)
- In the case of a violation or qualification for a potential probation or removal from Traditions Council will result in a meeting with the Advisor and Chair to discuss the next step in the disciplinary process that will be decided by the Advisor and Chair that the member will also agree upon.

- Adhering to our university standard of respect, any member who qualifies for the probation or removal process will be treated with respect, dignity, and fairness. They will be promptly contacted and communicated with by the Chair and Advisor.
 - Each case will be reviewed by the Advisor, Top Staff, and if necessary, the member's committee chair. If the member being reviewed is on the executive team, their status will be reviewed by the Advisor, Chair, or Vice Chair, and if necessary, Student Activities Staff.
 - All probation and removal hearings will be held confidential between the member and the review board to uphold the respect, dignity, and fairness of the member and Traditions Council.
- If an executive member needs to be removed from the organization or be put on probation, the individual will not be a part of the executive team's decision-making process.
 - If the Chair has violated the bylaws, failed to perform their duties, or engaged in conduct detrimental to Traditions Council, a removal request may be submitted in writing to the Advisor. The Advisor and Vice Chair will convene a Review Panel composed of the Vice Chair, Advisor, and one neutral party not involved in the allegations.
 - The Review Panel will meet with the Chair to discuss the concerns and determine whether removal is warranted. If the panel votes by a simple majority to remove the Chair, the removal is effective immediately.
 - The Chair has the right to appeal this decision within **three (3) business days** by submitting a written appeal to the Advisor. The appeal will be heard by a Final Review Board consisting of the Advisor, one representative from Student Activities, the Student Body President, and two Executive Team members not involved in the original decision. The decision of the Final Review Board is final.
 - Removal hearings will be held confidential between the member and the review board to uphold the respect, dignity, and fairness of the member and Traditions Council.

2.5.1 Membership Strike System

- Members may receive punishment in the form of strikes. Strikes can be given in response to any disciplinary issue involving an active member of Traditions Council.
- A member may receive up to three strikes per year. Once a member has received a third strike in a year, their membership will be voted on by the executive team for potential removal from the organization.
- Members should be notified by the executive team of receiving a strike within seven days of offense.

- Strikes can be given for the following reasons, but are not limited to such reasons.
 - Unexcused absence or failure to communicate an absence with at least one week's notice from a mandatory event
 - Failure to follow through with tasks required of them
 - I.e., committee-specific tasks, (I think we can go into detail) Failure to meet accountability for any given month without proper communication
 - Language or behavior that violates Traditions Council alcohol policy (section 2.4.5), expectations (section 2.4.2), or the SGA Constitution
 - Violations of Texas A&M student rules
 - Missing an event that is made mandatory by the executive team without communication.
 - Being excessively late to an event without providing proper communication, including but not limited to general Traditions Council meetings, committee meetings, or workdays.
 - Not filling out a form, spreadsheet, document/survey, etc. on time
 - Paying dues excessively late without prior approval from the Vice Chair
 - Missing a tabling shift with no prior communication or approved absence.
 - Failure to find a member to cover a table time, speaking engagement, etc., if conflicts occur (class/meeting/etc) during the time that originally was signed up for
 - Failure to comply with the alcohol policy
 - Failure to follow dress code for events in relation, but not limited to, Silver Taps, Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony, Speaking Engagements, etc.

2.5.2 Leave of Absence/Inactive Membership Status

- Temporary leave should be reserved for members who are experiencing personal conflicts that prevent them from completing designated tasks within their committee and/or general council. After identifying and evaluating a personal conflict, Top Staff and the relevant Committee Chair will promptly meet as an executive panel to evaluate the situation and deem the best course of accommodation. While the initial decision to pursue inactive membership status shall rest with the member, opting to remain a full-time participant and continuously failing to meet participation requirements will result in the member being placed under the probation and removal process.
- A leave of absence may be granted in response to extrinsic circumstances that affect a member's ability to fulfill their organizational responsibilities. Qualifying circumstances include, but are not limited to:
 - Extended or ongoing mental health challenges
 - Extended or ongoing physical health conditions
 - Family emergencies or critical caregiving responsibilities
 - Participation in a study abroad program
 - Engagement in an internship or cooperative education program
 - Significant financial hardship or instability

- While on leave of absence, members will be temporarily suspended from attending events affiliated with Traditions Council, while retaining good faith.
 - Retainment of contact with the organization via emails, group chats, and documents will be entirely dependent on the circumstances and decided upon by the executive team and advisors.
- Members granted a leave of absence shall be excused from active involvement for a period ranging from one month to one academic semester. Upon conclusion of the leave period, the member will meet with their executive panel to evaluate their status and, if appropriate, will be reinstated into full participation without penalty.
- Should a member request a second temporary leave due to personal circumstances within the same academic year, the entire executive team shall convene to vote on the member's continued status. Based on the nature and severity of the circumstances, the team may approve an additional leave term or recommend that the member voluntarily step down.

2.5.3 University Probation

If a member is placed on University Probation, they are required to schedule a hearing with the Top Staff. Top Staff and the advisor will decide whether the member will be put on Traditions Council probation or immediately removed from Traditions Council.

2.5.4 Scholastic Probation

If a member fails to maintain a 2.0, they will be put on Membership Probation. Membership Probation procedure will be followed. Executive team members are held to the scholastic standards in the SGA Constitution.

2.6 Membership Probation

Probation is a formal period in which a member's participation in Traditions Council is subject to heightened oversight due to violations of membership qualifications, expectations, or conduct standards. While on probation, the member remains in the organization but may be required to meet specific conditions. Such as, but not limited to, attending additional meetings, completing corrective actions, or refraining from certain activities, to maintain membership. Failure to meet these conditions or to show improvement during the probation period may result in removal from Traditions Council. The duration and terms of probation are determined by the Executive Team in consultation with the Advisor.

2.7 Membership Dues

Membership dues are monetary contributions required from all active members of Traditions Council to support the operational and event-related expenses of the organization. The amount, payment schedule, and acceptable payment methods will be set by the Vice Chair each academic year in consultation with the Executive Team and Advisor. Dues must be paid in full by the communicated deadline unless an alternative payment plan is approved in advance by the Vice Chair.

2.7.1 Leave of Absence Dues

Members on approved Leave of Absence or inactive status may have their dues prorated or waived at the discretion of the Executive Team. Dues are non-refundable except in extraordinary circumstances, as determined by the Executive Team in consultation with the Advisor.

2.8 Meetings

Weekly meetings will be held every Tuesday of the semester, including Halloween, Election Day, and Valentine's Day, and according to the academic calendar, unless otherwise stated by the current executive team.

2.8.1 Committee Meetings

Committee chairs are responsible for planning and leading all committee meetings in correlation with events such as, but not limited to, the Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony, Silver Taps, Outreach Events, End-of-Year Banquet, Speaking Engagements for the Membership Body, or Managing Social Media Events and Coordinating Merchandise.

2.9 Membership Free of Discrimination

As per the SGA Constitution Article X Section II: "The Student Government Association shall not discriminate against, not give preferential treatment to, any person on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status, prohibiting discrimination based on these factors in any and all forms."

ARTICLE 3. EXECUTIVES

3.1 Number and Qualifications

- Chair- Serves as the leader of the organization and ensures all executives remain accountable to their duties as listed below.
- Vice Chair- Serves as the accountability and financial officer and is second in command when necessary.
- Committee Chairs- 6 different committee chairs are responsible for leading a group of members and executing the specific duties listed below.

3.2 Selection and Term of Office

- The selection process for Executives will take place in the spring semester each year.
- Executive members selected each spring will serve in their selected position for the following Academic year. They will assume their roles and responsibilities officially at the end of the year banquet and maintain that position and its responsibilities until the end of the year banquet the following year.
- The process for selecting Executive members will begin with selecting the Chair position.
 - The process for selecting the chair position will be up to the discretion of the Advisor, the current Chair, and a contributing representative could be selected to serve as a third party from the current executive or top staff team, advisor team, SGA, or Stu Act. The standard process will include a written application and

interview. The final decision will be made by the current Chair and Advisor. The Process should begin no later than the last week of March.

- Once the Chair position is determined, the process of selecting the Vice Chair will begin.
- Once the Vice Chair has been selected, the Chair and Vice Chair choose the Committee Chairs through an application and interview process.
 - The Chair and Vice Chair will vote on Committee Chair selections if a unanimous decision cannot be reached.

3.3 Executive Resignation

- An executive may resign at any point if he/she/they feel that they cannot successfully execute the tasks given to them because of any circumstance presented. The executive is encouraged to speak with an advisor and reflect on their decision before sending a formal letter of resignation to the Traditions Council Advisor and Chair. A formal statement may be made to the general members of Traditions Council.

3.4 Executive Removal

- An executive can be removed from Traditions Council if he/she/they violate any rule from the SGA constitution, these bylaws, code of conduct bylaws, or are not fulfilling their position duties (section 3.6.1). The executive will have a hearing with the Chair and Advisors. The removal should be conducted by the Advisors and the current Chair.
- Should the current chair be the member of the current executive team that is removed, the responsibility will fall to the Advisors and Vice Chair.
- Should the vice chair, due to extenuating circumstances, be unable to fulfill this responsibility in removal, the responsibility will fall to the Advisors and remaining members of the current executive team.
- Should any member of Traditions Council believe that any member of the current executive team is in violation of any of these rules of conduct or their responsibilities, they can refer that member of the executive team to the advisor. It will then be the responsibility of the advisor to maintain oversight of the referral process.

3.5 Executive Vacancies

- In the case of an executive vacancy the current Traditions Council Executive Team can decide to hold a selection process that would be run by the current Traditions Council Chair to find a qualified general member to fill the vacancy, or the current Traditions Council Executive Team may decide to split the duties of the vacant executive member among the entire Executive team. The selection process for vacancies will be completed via majority vote.
- Should the current chair hold the executive vacancy, the responsibility will fall to the Advisors and Vice Chair.
- Should the Vice Chair be unable to fulfill this responsibility due to extenuating circumstances, it will fall to the Advisors and remaining members of the current executive team. ,

3.6 Executive Duties

- Lead respective committees and help them strive to become better individuals, professionals, and Aggies. These duties are not limited to, but may include the following:
 - Coordinating committee meetings
 - Organize and facilitate fundraising events
 - Attend leadership or networking events across campus
 - Communicate with campus leaders or alumni organizations
 - Maintaining professionalism with internal and external channels.
 - Remain engaged with members, activities, and events associated with Traditions Council

3.6.1 Chair

- Direct Traditions Council so it can fulfill its mission of “preserving and promoting the traditions of Texas A&M.”
- Responsible for managing and preparing meetings.
- Scheduling weekly exec meetings.
- Responsible for the coordination of the new member selection process, including but not limited to:
 - Setting the timeline for informationals.
 - Determining when applications are due.
 - Setting a timeline for the application grading process.
 - Depending on the number of applicants, this could involve sending out a notification of selection for an interview or rejection from the interview.
 - Setting a timeline for the interview process.
 - This includes notification of selection to individuals granted membership and notification of rejection to individuals not granted membership.
 - This also includes working with the current executive team to set a timeline for deliberations.
 - Deliberations are when the executive team gathers to look at candidates holistically based on application and interview to determine membership status.
- Make internal and external decisions that positively affect Traditions Council.
- Serve as liaison between the Student Body President and Traditions Council.
- Attend SGA Committee Roundtable with the Executive Cabinet.
- Attend Student Leader Dialogue with Student Activities Administration.
- Manage the executive team and keep the team accountable for the expectations listed in these bylaws.
- Correspond in a timely manner and work hand in hand with:
 - Student Assistant Services
 - Texas A&M Administration
 - Student Affairs
 - Office of the President
 - Association of Former Students
 - Campus Programs

■ Former Students

3.6.2 Vice Chair

- Create an annual budget.
 - Create and present allocation requests to the Student Senate Finance Committee.
 - Maintain a log of invoices, expenses, and sub-account balances in a ledger.
 - Responsible for all transactions through the Student Organization Finance Center (SOFC).
 - Collect and set all dues for members.
 - Manage the respective committee chairs decided upon prior to the notification of committee chair selections
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- Create and manage all group communications between the executive team and the organization.
 - Create and manage shared drives for the executive team and the whole organization.
 - Manage Traditions Council Storage Unit
 - Keep accurate meeting minutes and records of each executive team and general meeting.
 - Send meeting minutes to all members after a meeting in a timely manner
 - Manage the respective committee chairs decided upon prior notification of committee chair selections.
 - Keep a record of accountability for business and social points, mandatory events, and tardiness.
 - Responsible for notifying members of strikes or extra business points.

3.6.3 Membership Development Chair

- Host all social events and retreats
 - This can include, but is not limited to, a Halloween party, a Holiday party, sporting events, movie night, lunch/dinner buddies, etc.
 - This chair is responsible for conducting and executing the end-of-year banquet, the winter semi-formal, and socials throughout the year.
- Responsible for member development
 - Membership development can include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - Myers-Briggs Assessment
 - Strengths Quest
 - Developmental Guest Speakers
 - This includes, but is not limited to, coordinating speakers, team-building activities, or programs designed to develop leadership and professional skills..
- Delegate specific roles and responsibilities for events to their committee members to develop leadership skills and promote committee participation
- Plan and execute monthly membership development events for Traditions Council as a whole:
 - Events listed in the point above are suitable fulfillments for these events.
 - Events must be publicized to the council at least two weeks in advance

- Events are not required during months outside of the Texas A&M school year
- Create a monthly newsletter for the internal use of Traditions Council to keep members up to date with events, forms, and deadlines
 - It is to be sent no later than the 5th of the month

3.6.4 Bonfire Remembrance Chair

- Responsible for Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony
- Plan and organize the events leading up to the Remembrance Ceremony
- Raise awareness for the ceremony through verbal outreach, promotional materials, and social media
- Responsible for planning the Burning Desire video showing for the public
- Maintain contact with the families of the 12 victims honored at Bonfire Remembrance to ensure they are satisfied with the work being done through Traditions Council
- Coordinate service projects for members and lead the group participating in the service project
- Responsible for all special projects associated with the History of Aggie Bonfire and the Bonfire Memorial
- Responsible for the reservation of all equipment, services, and promotional items in relation to the Bonfire Remembrance ceremony
- Maintain contact with the vice chair and advisor to plan according to the given budget
- Promote committee involvement throughout the semester following the Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony

3.6.5 Council Investment Chair

- Lead the Council Investment Committee in organizing unifying events for current Traditions Council Members and Alumni, Parent Network, and fundraising.
- Maintaining contact and communication with Traditions Councils Alumni and Parent Network
- Plan and facilitate at minimum one Alumni event per academic year
- Plan and facilitate at minimum one Parent Network event per academic year
- Develop a fundraising strategy that involves all Traditions Council members. The funds raised will go towards the enrichment of Traditions Council and/or Aggie Ring Scholarships, as the Council Investment Chair chooses.

3.6.6 Outreach and Education Chair

- Plan and organize a week dedicated to educating the general population on the many traditions of Texas A&M University. The traditions include, but are not limited to, the traditions listed in the speaking packet.
- Developing both the Committee and the general Council to feel confident in their public speaking abilities and hold the Council accountable for knowing the designated section(s) required for speaking opportunities. Research, edit, organize, and cite the speaking packet. It includes information about the traditions of Texas A&M University. These traditions include but are not limited to Howdy, Gig'em, Aggie Jargon, the 12th

Man, Midnight Yell, Silver Taps, Bonfire and Bonfire Remembrance, Muster, Reveille, and the Aggie Ring. Jargon covers terms that are used colloquially at Texas A&M, including, but not limited to, good bull, bad bull, 2%er, redass, Ol' Army, etc. The speaking packet can contain anything the Committee Chair feels would be relevant for the general Council to know to fulfill the mission to "preserve and promote the traditions of Texas A&M through outreach and education."

- Coordinate, or facilitate the coordination of, all speaking engagements with on- and off-campus organizations, including but not limited to Aggie Moms' Clubs, Texas A&M Clubs, other SGA Committees, Greek Life, and other Texas A&M-recognized student organizations. Such student organizations can be found on the Student Activities website.

3.6.7 Silver Taps Chair

- Lead the Silver Taps Committee
- Be the student Representative for Silver Taps for interactions with Student Assistant Services.
- Maintain contact with Buglers, Ross Volunteers, Student Body President, and Muster Committee regarding Silver Taps.
- Responsible for Silver Taps Endowment requests
- Assistant Services and other organizations or departments outside of Traditions Council
 - Meet with the Assistant Director of Student Life regularly
- Responsible for the Silver Taps Ceremony every month as needed and the following:
 - Hosting a family reception before the Silver Taps Ceremony
 - All setup and prep before any Taps
 - Notifying the campus of the Silver Taps Ceremony
 - Ring Remembrance Ceremony
 - Oversee letter review

3.6.8 Public Relations Chair

- Work on effective marketing strategies
- Control all social media accounts
- Develop and maintain a relationship with the Battalion
- Oversee the updating and upkeep of the Traditions Council website, tamu.edu. This Committee Chair will be tasked with keeping information up-to-date regarding events, contact information, and information about the organization, but excludes the content under the "traditions" tab linked to a different Texas A&M website.
- Work and help all committees with marketing
- Coordinate all apparel and merchandise, including organization polo shirts.

3.7 Advisor Standards

- The advisor of Traditions Council shall be a Texas A&M Student Activities staff member. The advisor will be willing to obtain an appropriate level of experience, resource information, and knowledge related to Traditions Council's mission, purpose, and activities.

- The advisor will regularly attend executive and general meetings, and they will be available for consultation outside of these meetings.
- The advisor will need to meet with each committee chair at least once a semester, if a weekly/bi-weekly or monthly meeting is not already scheduled. This meeting will serve as a way for the advisor to check in with each channel in Traditions Council to ensure there is an established relationship to improve collaboration efforts.
- The advisor will assist the organization with developing goals and objectives for the year. The advisor will also assist the organization with event planning and facilitation. When necessary, the advisor will be willing to attend events as identified through the planning process.
- The advisor will be aware of the University Student Rules and will assist the organization with adherence to these.
 - Official Traditions Council Events
- Mandatory Events: Traditions Council must plan and organize several events each year, including Silver Taps, a Bonfire Remembrance Ceremony, Fish Camp Speaking Engagements, and Council Investment Events.
- Official Events: Events that are discussed through any official Traditions Council form of communication, including, but not limited to, Flare, GroupMe, Facebook, email, meetings, etc.
- Statement of Annual Review
 - Traditions Council should be reviewed annually and subject to the approval of the Department of Student Activities.

ARTICLE 4. ALUMNI

4.1 Alumni Classifications

- Traditions Council recognizes Alumni as former members who graduated from the University or stepped down from the organization in good faith.
 - Examples not limited to: **Deciding** not to reapply for renewal of membership due to academics, time commitment, personal reasons, etc.
- Any former member who was removed or violated policy 2.4.5 and/or 2.5 during their active membership will not be granted Alumni Classification for Traditions Council.
- Any former member during their time in the organization who applied for renewal of membership and was denied will not be granted Alumni classification.

4.2 Alumni Relations

- Any official Traditions Council Alumni events are required to follow our Alcohol Policy 2.4.5

ARTICLE 5. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

5.1 Financial Procedures

“All monies belonging to this organization shall be deposited and disbursed through a bank account established for this organization at the Student Organization Finance Center and/or the Fiscal Office. All funds must be deposited within 24 hours after collection. The advisor to this organization must approve and sign each expenditure before payment.”

5.2 Accounting Year

Accounting is the responsibility of the Vice Chair, and the duties are listed under Article 3.6.3

ARTICLE 6. AMENDMENTS

The Constitution will be reviewed annually by members of the executive team. If a change is suggested, the active executive team will review the edits and vote on whether to enact the suggested changes. In order for the changes to be made official, there must be a majority vote by the executive team. The constitution will then be sent to the Department of Student Activities to be reviewed and approved.

The foregoing bylaws were adopted by the 2024-2025 Executive Team on

AGREEMENT DATE

Hailey Jade Hofstetter- Chair, 8/12/2025

Truett Marrs - Vice Chair, 8/12/2025

Jaden Adams - Council Investment Chair, 8/12/2025

Madelyn Morton - Public Relations Chair, 8/12/2025

Ella Claire Williford - Bonfire Remembrance Chair, 8/12/2025

Gia Granato - Silver Taps Chair, 8/13/2025

Eden Buchanan- Outreach and Education Chair, 8/13/2025

Paige Pesek- Membership Development Chair, 8/13/2025