

Pride Constitution

Revised Spring 2019 (Edited Friday, March 8, 2019; Proposed: Friday, March 8, 2019)

I. Name of the Organization

The name of the student organization shall be Pride at UTD

II. Organization Purpose

Pride serves as a safe social forum for members to meet and discuss thoughts, ideas, and issues concerning sexual orientation and gender identity.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

1. Pride has the freedom to support, endorse, and/or collaborate with any other organization(s), people, policies, social issues, and/or political issues, both on and off campus, as long as these reflect the values, purpose, and guidelines of Pride as determined by the officership.

2. Pride's official method of communication is via bulk mailing list. However, the officership can communicate to members in person, via social media, or through other channels if they so choose.

III. Membership

1. Membership is open to all students of the University of Texas at Dallas, without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

IV. Officer Board

The officer board will be comprised of the following officers and chairs.

President - the individual filling the office of President shall:

1. Maintain liaison with the group's faculty and staff advisors, and acquire additional or replacement Advisor(s) as necessary.

2. Upon vacancy of an officer position, appoint replacement officers with the approval of fifty percent of officers.

3. Chair all officer board and general meetings.

4. Have final authority over all group activities including but

not limited to meeting agendas, publicity, fundraising, expenditures, activities, etc. Can be overruled by two-thirds of officers, rounded down.

5. Supervise the officers in the performance in their duties.

Vice President Fulfills President's duties in their absence.

1. Report Back to president about projects, events, and initiatives
2. Support president in planning and directing
3. Ensure risk management training is completed

Treasurer - the individual filling the office of Treasurer shall:

1. Oversee the organization's financial standing and records.
2. Propose budgets for the subsequent semester as required.
3. Responsible for keeping club in good financial standing with the University.
4. Treasurer and President must be in agreement of fund expenditures. If there is a dispute, it is determined by majority of officers.
5. The Treasurer will have control of a debit card with access to Pride funds. In addition, the President will also have control of a card. Other officers can also be given access to a card with a majority vote of the officership.

Secretary - the individual filling the office of Secretary shall:

1. Take the minutes of every officer board meeting.
2. Create, per semester, a historical record.
3. Takes and maintains records of attendance in both officer and general meetings.

Additional officers shall:

1. Be known as "Chairs" and created by majority vote of the officers.
2. Carry a vote equal to other officers.
3. Are considered officers in every sense.

V. Chair Descriptions

- The officership can vote to create or dissolve a chair position.
- Chair persons are elected by popular vote of the general members.

Responsibilities can be delegated to other Chairs and/or officers with the approval of said chair/officer

Chair Descriptions

1. Webmaster

- a) Ensures website has current event, meeting dates, and locations.
- b) Maintain an organized website.
- c) Respond to emails in a timely fashion.
- d) Maintain social media presence.

2. General Chairs

- a) Assists other officers and chairs with responsibilities to ensure a fair workload
- b) Number of General Chairs can vary for each academic years at the discretion of the sitting officers
- c) General Chairs cannot outnumber regular officer positions

VI. Officer Committees

At any given time, the officers can, at their discretion, form a temporary committee to assist in the completion of various tasks. These committees will be open to the membership, and can be dissolved after the completion of the task, or at the discretion of the officers. Each committee must include at least one general chair. Committee meetings should be overseen by either the President, Vice President, or a delegate of either.

1. Constitutional Committee

- a. This committee serves to read over, edit, and propose additions to the current constitution and its bylaws of Pride.
- b. This committee shall meet at least once per semester.
- c. Once a new revised constitution has been decided on by the committee, it will be presented to the general membership and officership for review and vote

2. Meeting Committee

- a. This committee serves to plan, execute, and if applicable, request guest speakers for a general meeting of Pride
- b. This committee shall meet as necessary to the workload of the officership
- c. In the case that a guest speaker is decided on by the committee, the officership must run a majority vote to approve said speaker
- d. By default, the general chair presiding over this committee will be responsible for contacting said speaker and informing the committee and officership if said speaker can attend the meeting. This task can be delegated if necessary.
- e. In the event that a guest speaker is unable to attend or declines to speak, a backup meeting must be planned by the committee.

VII. Officer Policy

A. Qualifications

1. Each must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours for undergrad students, or a minimum of three (3) credit hours for grad students, through the term of their office.
2. No member may run for officership if they have been removed from the officership and/or Pride for neglect of duties, detrimental club behaviour, and/or any other violation of Pride's constitution or bylaws/rules.

VIII. Emergency office vacancy fulfillment:

1. If the office of the President is vacant, the Vice President will fill the position until a general election can be held.
2. If both the office of the President and the Vice President are vacated, the remaining officers will hold a special election.
3. Officer Appointments made by the President may hold office until the next general election is held or a special election is held for the vacancy.
4. Special elections may be motioned at any time by any Officer, but a second to the motion from the remaining officers is required before election can commence, unless there is only one remaining officer.

IX. Meetings

1. The officer board will conduct no less than one meeting each month during the Fall and Spring semesters.
2. The officer board is to meet as often as necessary to sufficiently conduct the business of the organization.
3. The general membership will gather no less than once each month

throughout the Fall and Spring semesters.

4. Both the officer board and general membership may continue to meet, as appropriate, during all Winter and Summer terms.

5. The President, Vice-President, or the Advisor(s) may call special meetings.

A. A one-week notice must be given for the call of a special meeting, unless it is of urgency.

B. All officers will be informed of all special meetings and their attendance requirements.

C. A special meeting may be for officers and/or general members.

X. Amendments

1. All proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws must be presented to the officership, advisor, and membership given its importance and include:

A. Confirmation and approval by the President, the Vice President and one other officer, and a majority of the members present at the current meeting.

B. How it will affect the organization.

C. What wording of the original constitution text it will affect, if any.

XI. Membership

Members include students who have attended at least two meetings of the current academic year. Members may vote on measures, vote in elections, and run for office.

XII. Officer Nomination/Election Process

1. Officer Nominees must be in good standing with the University during their term of service.

2. Officer Nominees must be considered members

3. In the event of a tie vote, there should be a runoff vote in which the sitting president abstains.

4. Officer elections are to be held in the spring semester.

5. The term of office for newly elected officers begins at the end of the spring semester and concludes at the end of the following spring semester.

6. If an officer is elected for a position via a special election, their term begins upon election and concludes at the end of the current academic year.

XII. Officer Removal

1. An officer may propose to have a vote of no-confidence should any of the

following conditions be met by another officer:

- A. They fail to attend two or more officer meetings in a given semester.
 - B. They are removed from the Pride membership.
 - C. They fail to fulfill any of their responsibilities, as outlined in the constitution and the bylaws.
 - D. Their conduct is not in accordance with the mission statement of Pride.
 - E. Their actions are detrimental to the organization.
2. The officer in question should be given the opportunity to present and defend themselves. Afterwards, or if the officer fails to attend the meeting to defend themselves, a vote will be held to decide on the officer's removal.
 3. Should the vote pass by simple majority of the remaining officers, the officer in question, the general membership, and the group's advisor should be notified of the officer's removal.
 4. In the event of a tie, the Advisor of Pride will be notified and they will have final judgement.

XIII. Advertisements

- a) Before distribution or publication, the advertisement must be approved by the President and relevant officers.
- b) Must adhere to university policies involving advertisement.

Pride Bylaws:

Expectations and Rules for Members

1. All members should exhibit the values that the University upholds in meetings, during events, on campus, and off campus. Discussion(s) should be kept respectful, interactions appropriate, and without gatekeeping other members on any basis, including trying to exclude members from the LGBTQIA+ community on the basis of not adhering to certain identities (e.g. the exclusion of bisexual people in straight-passing relationships, ace/aro people, nonbinary people, etc.)
2. Pride is not an organization to primarily find dates or partners, but to serve as a safe space and a place of community. Respect the boundaries of other members.
3. Members should be sensitive to others' identities; this includes using the proper name/pronouns, not asking for old names, etc.

4. Treat all questions regarding sexual orientation and gender identity as sensitive issues; do not out other members in public.

5. Do not take photos and/or videos of members without the consent of everyone in frame. Respect other members' privacy.

6. Respect the pace of other members processing their own identities.

II. Exclusion from Pride Membership

- A. If a member or guest's behavior violates Pride's values, purpose, guidelines, and/or rules at a Pride meeting or event, or while representing the organization, the officership may call a vote to exclude a member or guest from Pride membership.
- B. Once a vote is called, a majority of officer votes will determine if a member should be excluded.
- C. The Advisor of Pride will be informed of potential member exclusion and will have the final say.
- D. If both the officers and Advisor have determined to exclude a member, the university and said member by the next meeting will be notified.
- E. Any person excluded from membership via this section is not permitted to attend future Pride meetings unless the exclusion is reversed by a majority of the officership.

III. Officer Meeting

- A. The officer board will consist of the officers and the chairs.
 - 1. At least half of the officer board, including president or vice president, must be present to hold a meeting.
 - 2. Measures will pass with a majority vote, unless otherwise stated in the Constitution.
- Officer meetings will be held as needed to accommodate all official business.
- The president should be notified of any anticipated absences.
- All officers should be notified of decisions made at officer meetings.

IV. Attendance

- A. An optional attendance/sign in sheet will be taken at the beginning of each general meeting. This is only required to determine who is eligible for officer positions and voting.
- B. A legal name is not required by an individual, however the individual may be asked the name(s) they used for attendance.
- C. Attendance sign in will require a first and last name, and an optional Net ID.
- D. A member may request that the backlogs of attendance be changed to reflect a new name(s)

V. Supremacy Clause

- A. Any university rules and regulations, as well as state and federal law are required to be followed as rules of Pride. In the event that these rules conflict or contradict one another, federal, state, and university rules and regulations supersede those of Pride in that order.