Intercollegiate Knights documents

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The New
Inter-Collegiate Knight Ritual

By:
HONORABLE DUKE
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Approved By:

NATIONAL ADVISOR

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Constitution of the
Intercollegiate Knights
The New
Inter-Collegiate Knight
Ritual

By:
HONORABLE DUKE

WORTHY Scribe

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Constitution
of the
Intercollegiate
Knights

REVISED 1947
NEW INTER-COLLEGIATE KNIGHT PLEDGE RITUAL

In pledging you men into this organization, we feel you are the right kind of men and will do all in your power to uphold and promote those precepts on which this organization is founded. The Inter-Collegiate Knights is an organization whose ultimate aim is Service. It is an organization to which all of us are proud to belong. We can all say that Inter-Collegiate Knights, through the efforts of its members both past and present, has attained a position of high esteem on the campus of ....... (Name of School) ....... , and is the outstanding service fraternity here. We believe you to be the ones to help us promote and preserve our present standing.

These ribbons are the pledge tokens which you will wear whenever you are in suit. You will observe the colors, Flame Red and Royal Blue, which are symbolic of Sacrifice and Loyalty, the foundation on which our organization rests. You will be called upon to sacrifice time and effort and to be ever loyal to our order and our Alma Mater.

In the name of the ....... (Name of Chapter) ....... Chapter of Inter-Collegiate Knights, we now pledge you.

(Pledge ribbons are now pinned on the men who have been pledged and Congratulations follow).
EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THE
NEW INTER-COLLEGIATE KNIGHT RITUAL

1. Key Knock: One knock in response to the second series of three knocks given by the Attendant.

2. Service, Sacrifice, and Loyalty are represented by and explanations of their meanings given by three member Knights, preferably Junior Knights, who sit at stations at the opposite end of the room from the King.

3. Pages are to remain blindfolded throughout the ceremony until the explanation calls for the blindfolds to be removed.

4. When the Pages are led to a different place, they should be led by the longest way possible with as many turns and circles as possible.

5. It is recommended that not more than ten Pages be given the entire ceremony at one time. Two ceremonies of this type will be much more effective and impressive than one large group ceremony.

ARTICLE III — Duties of Officers

Section 1. National Officers

(a) Royal King

The Royal King shall be the executive head of the order and he shall have full charge of the national conventions. He shall be regularly registered in college at the time of his election and continuously during the term of his office, and he shall automatically forfeit the office at any time that he does not continue to be a fully registered student.

(b) Royal Duke

The Royal Duke shall be the executive head of the Expansion Council. He shall carry on correspondence and transactions relative to the expansion policy. He shall become Royal King upon the death, resignation or removal from office of the executive head of the order.

(c) Royal Chancellor

The Royal Chancellor shall combine the national financial report with the chapter reports and send them to the active chapters and national officers by the fifteenth of November, January, March and May. He shall be the keeper of National Seal, the National Constitutions, Ritual, Chapter membership certificates and other material relating to the National Order. He shall
ADMINISTRATION OF THE
INTER-COLLEGIATE KNIGHTS

(e) National Adviser
The National Adviser shall assist the National and local officers, and shall extend his services to expansion work in conjunction with the Royal Duke.

(f) National Viceroys
The National Viceroys shall supervise all activities pertaining to local chapters and expansion work in their assigned regions.

Section 2. Local Officers

(a) Honorable Duke
The Honorable Duke is the executive head of the local chapter. He shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees and carry out all duties pertaining to this office. To be eligible he must be at all times a regularly enrolled college student.

(b) Worthy Scribe
The Worthy Scribe shall keep a record of all proceedings of the meetings and take care of all correspondence of the chapter, and shall send the chapter report to the Royal Chancellor before the tenth of each month of the school year. He shall be held responsible for the performance of other duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Honorable Duke.

The Scribe is the second highest officer in his local chapter.

Page Six

INITIATION RITUAL OF THE
INTER-COLLEGIATE KNIGHTS

ATTENDANT: “Pages, you now stand before the opening into the courtyard of the King’s castle. Do you desire to seek audience with the King?” RESPONSE (Yes) (attendant knocks three times)

GUARD: “Who knocks?”
ATTENDANT: “A Knight with worthy Pages as company, seeking audience with the King.”

(The guard answers with three knocks, attendant gives key knock and the gate is opened. The Knight then leads the Pages on a lengthy journey, winding in and out passages-ways and up an incline or stairway, until at last they reach a door, before which pause is made and the same signals are again used for admittance.)

“You now await before the entrance to the King’s castle. Do you still desire audience with the King?” RESPONSE (Yes) (three knocks)

GUARD: “Who knocks?”
ATTENDANT: “A Knight with worthy Pages as company, seeking audience with the King.”

GUARD: “By what right do you seek such audience?”
ATTENDANT: “I am a Knight of the Round Table.”

GUARD: “And the Pages?”
ATTENDANT: “I will vouch.”

(The guard gives three knocks, the attendant replies with the key knock and the gate is opened. The Pages are then led by the Knight through several ways until the third and last door is reached.)

“You now await before the entrance to the King’s castle. Do you still seek audience with the King?” RESPONSE: “Yes” (Attendant knocks three times)

ATTENDANT: “Pages, you now stand before the opening into the courtyard of the King’s castle. Do you desire to seek audience with the King?” RESPONSE (Yes) (three knocks)

GUARD: “Who knocks?”
ATTENDANT: “A Knight with Pages as company, seeking audience with the King.”

GUARD: “And by what right do you seek such an audience?”
ATTENDANT: “I am a Knight of the Round Table.”

GUARD: “And the Pages?”
ATTENDANT: “By my Cloth of Knighthood I will vouch for them.”

GUARD: “Vows taken on the Cloth of Knighthood are Holy vows indeed. It must be that the Pages are worthy, tried, and true. I will admit thee.” (guard knocks three times - attendant replies with the key knock and the door is opened.)

ATTENDANT: (addressing the King) “Your Honor, I have here in my charge tried Pages seeking the Cloth of Knighthood.”

KING: “Good Pages, you are asking a great favor. A favor which can be granted only upon the fulfillment of certain obligations. The proper fulfillment of these obligations depends on yourselves. You will be taken on a journey accompanied by a Worthy Knight of the Round Table. In your path will lie several hazards. You will be called upon to overcome these hazards for they cannot be avoided. If you prove yourself of prowess and worth, I promise that you shall in good time be granted the opportunity to hold a seat at the Round Table. I must caution you to consider well the trials that are now before you. Go forth.”

ATTENDANT: “Come with me and learn the three motives of a true Knight.” (the initiates will now be conducted to the stations of Service, Sacrifice, and Loyalty; and then return to a position before the King.)

Page Seven
ARTICLE IV — Membership

Section 1. Active Representation

(a) The method of choosing active knights shall be stated in the chapter by-laws.

(b) The chapter by-laws also shall specify the quota of knights to represent each campus group (here referring to fraternities and halls).

Section 2. Honorary Knights

Honorary knights may be elected to membership at the chapter’s discretion.

ARTICLE V — Penalties

Section 1. Membership Penalties

Any knight or page having three or more unexcused absences from official meetings during any semester or quarter of his scholastic year shall have his probation, suspension or expulsion actuated upon, succeeding a trial by the officers of the local chapter.

Section 2. Chapter Penalties

A chapter’s charter may be revoked by a three-fourths vote of the national convention, or it may be suspended as to all powers and privileges, except the election of a delegate to the next convention of the Intercollegiate Knights.
Alma Mater, / doing all in my power / to serve them / as they deserve to be served. / I do furthermore promise / never to reveal / by word, act, or deed / any of the secrets / revealed to me / during the progress / of this ceremony / except upon due authorization / from the officers of this order / for the least violation of which / I invoke upon myself expulsion. / So help me, God. / Worthy Pages, you have now completed all the requirements for admission to the Round Table. In the past few months, during which you have been on trial, you have proved your loyalty to our order and our Alma Mater; you have shown your willingness to sacrifice and serve when called upon to do so. Always remember these three guiding precepts and may they help you to lead better lives.

(Attendant hands sword to King who smites each Page first on the right shoulder, then the top of the head, then the left shoulder, pronouncing the words Service, Sacrifice, and Loyalty as he does so. The Pages will stand and the blinds will be removed. Two officers will now present the new Knights with the badge of the organization.)

KING: "Sir Knights; you are now tried Knights. You have earned your seats at the Round Table through the fulfillment of the three great virtues, Service, Sacrifice, and Loyalty. It is to these three great virtues that the three knocks allude. As you have seen our ceremony is based upon the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table. Your task was symbolical of Tor’s journey to the court of King Arthur, there to ask of the King a favor, the favor that was asked was to be made a Knight. You encountered the outer guards of King Arthur’s court, but by the aid of the worthy Knight who accompanied you, you gained admittance into the court and at last stood before the King. You were sent on a hazardous mission to prove by virtue of your qualifications your right to a seat at the Round Table. This mission was symbolic of the quest for the Holy Grail. Having obtained this reward, I now welcome you as true and tried Knights into the order of Knighthood and to a seat at the Round Table.” (Pages are seated at Round Table.)

Your journey is over and your tasks have begun. You, in capacity of loyal Knights at this Table, be always watchful to love, aid, and protect the honor of your Alma Mater; to be ever guardians of the honor of your school traditions; to be first, last, and always true and loyal supporters of your Alma Mater. I bid you success in the continuance of your duties and traditions, and God speed in your mission of valor.”

A chapter’s charter may be revoked also by a three-fourths vote of the active chapters, with final action to be taken at the next convention.

ARTICLE VI — Meetings

Section 1. Time and Place
(a) Regular meetings shall be held once each week during the school year at such time and place as shall be determined by the chapter by-laws.
(b) Special meetings shall be held at the call of the Honorable Duke or his delegated authority.

Section 2. Quorum
A quorum shall consist of two-thirds of the active knights present at any regular meeting.

Section 3. Recognition
A knight or page wishing to have the floor shall stand and address the chair as Honorable Duke. The duke shall recognize the speaker as Worthy Knight or Worthy Page.

Section 4. Rules of Order
(a) Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.
(b) The chapter by-laws which have been approved by the National Convention shall govern the local chapter.

ARTICLE VII — Convention

Section 1. Powers
Supreme powers are vested in the National Convention, composed of the National Officers and Chapter Delegates.

Section 2. Time and Place
The convention shall be held annually at such time and place as shall be determined at the previous convention. By a unanimous vote of the National Officers the convention date and place may be changed.

Section 3. Delegates
There shall be only one official delegate from each chapter at the annual convention. This delegate shall be the newly elected Honorable Duke of the Chapter. Others attending the convention shall be alternates in the following order: The outgoing Honorable Duke, the newly elected Worthy Scribe, and any other outgoing Junior men to be chosen by the local chapter.

Section 4. Expenses
The National officers shall have their traveling expenses paid out of the national treasury. All local chapters shall pay expenses for the delegate and alternate. The fee to be charged every official delegate, alternate and other representatives attending the convention shall be stipulated by the host
chapter following the approval of the National Officers.

ARTICLE VIII — Fees and Dues

Section 1. Initiation Fees
The initiation fees shall be five ($5.00) dollars per initiate.

Section 2. National Dues
Each active knight shall be assessed two ($2.00) dollars per year.

Section 3. Chapter Dues
(a) The page dues shall be set by the chapter by-laws.
(b) The active knight dues shall be set by the chapter by-laws.

ARTICLE IX — Recognition

Section 1. The Colors
The colors of the Intercollegiate Knights shall be Flame Red and Royal Blue.

Section 2. Official Badge
There shall be an official badge which shall be worn only by regularly initiated knights. This badge shall be ordered through the Royal Chancellor.

Page Twelve

Section 3. Page Pin
There shall be an official page pin of flame red and royal blue to be worn by pages between the time of formal pledging and initiation.

Section 4. Recognition Pin
There shall be official recognition pins to be worn only by knights.

Section 5. Sweaters
(a) There shall be an official sweater to be worn by active knights. The sweaters of the active knights shall be of the V-neck type, plain white. The officer sweaters shall be of the V-neck coat variety and of the school color. The Duke may wear a plain white coat-type sweater. The pages shall wear a plain white V-neck sweater without the official shield.
(b) There shall be an official shield to be worn by all active knights. The colors shall be decided by the local chapter.

Section 6. Shingles and Membership Cards
There shall be an official shingle and membership card of the Intercollegiate Knights.

The names of the new initiates shall be sent with the initiation fee to the Royal Chancellor. The Royal Chancellor shall
send the shingles and membership cards to the Royal King who shall sign them and forward them to the local chapters.

ARTICLE X — National Publication

Section 1. The Round Table

The name of the publication shall be The Round Table. The funds for its publication shall be drawn from the national treasury. The Round Table shall be published twice during the school year, and copies for each active knight shall be distributed to the chapters. It shall be edited by the Royal Editor, who will receive monthly activity reports from the chapters' Worthy Recorders.

ARTICLE XI — Expansion Program

Section 1. Expansion Council

(a) The Expansion Council shall be composed of the Royal Dukes, chairman, and the National Viceroy.

(b) The duties of the expansion council shall include receiving and investigating the applications for charters. The council shall carry on communications relative to the expansion program.

(c) Applications for charters must be sent to each chapter for consideration. The peti-

Section 2. Petitions for New Chapters

(a) Petitions for an Intercollegiate Knight Charter shall be submitted to the Expansion Council.

(b) Installation expenses shall be paid out of the national treasury.

(c) There shall be a charter fee of five ($5.00) dollars per man.

ARTICLE XII — Amendments

Section 1. Amendments

No addition, alteration, amendment or revision may be made to this Constitution; neither can any part of it be suspended or waived except when such action is approved by a three-fourths majority vote of delegates and National Officers at the National Convention.