

## **8.5 Animal Policy**

These rules are intended to establish administrative guidelines for the Pet Policy set forth by the Membership Committee and should be consulted in conjunction with that policy. Individual houses may implement stricter policy in their house constitutions. The Animal and Pet Policies cover all pets except fish.

Uncaged pets are not allowed in ICC houses with the exception of cats and dogs. All pets, excluding fish, require unanimous house approval and a complete Pet Addendum validated by Member Services staff. All animals entering the ICC and any subsequent violations of this policy shall be promptly reported to the Director of Member Services and/ or Membership Committee. Violations of this policy may result in fines, referral, expulsion and House Priority Status.

### **8.5.1 Standard Pet Approval Periods**

- A. All house and suite approval voting on new pets entering the ICC shall be conducted at the first house meeting, or within the first 14 days, of any standard contract period; whichever is sooner.
- B. North Campus houses may opt for simple majority house approval. Unanimous suite approval is mandatory.
- C. At the close of each approval period, In-house Presidents shall submit minutes from all house approval meetings to the Member Services office and a complete roster of all pets – approved or unapproved - living in their house. Unregistered animals are subject to immediate removal by the ICC at the expense of the house and/or owner.
- D. The term of fall/winter house approval is indefinite but may be revoked or re-voted on by a house at any time. At the beginning of each contract period a house must decide if any previously approved animals need to be called to a vote for re-approval. This should be done on a case-by-case basis. If the house is unanimous in declining such a vote, the previous pet approval remains in effect.

### **8.5.2 No pet may reside on ICC property without unanimous house approval, except service animals as required by law, or approved by Membership Committee.**

- A. In a shared room, all roommates must consent, in writing, to live with the pet(s) in their room, by providing a signature(s) of approval on the owner's Pet Addendum. This written agreement is prerequisite for a house pet approval vote.
- B. Houses shall be notified of a member's desire to introduce a pet into the house by a request for a vote of approval during a standard pet enrollment period.

- C. Voting on pets will be conducted by secret written ballot during the first 14 days – or at the first house meeting - of a standard contract period; whichever is sooner. Abstentions count as “no” or “disapproval” votes as they do not indicate support or agreement.

**8.5.3 No pet may reside on ICC property without a completed Pet Addendum on file in the Membership Office and validated by Member Services staff.** A Pet Addendum will not be validated without all written documentation of house and roommate approvals, all required supporting documentation, and the payment of all fees. Addenda must be signed for each academic calendar year (Sept 1- Sept 1) that a pet resides in the ICC for any length of time.

**8.5.4 Addenda pertaining to cats and dogs, except service animals as required by law or approved by Membership Committee, require the following documentation for validation:**

- A. Owners of cats and dogs must pay an annual \$100 non-refundable Pet Fee for each cat or dog. This fee must be paid for each academic calendar year (Sept 1- Sept 1) that a cat or dog resides in the ICC for any length of time.
- B. Owners must read and sign the Membership Pet Addendum to the ICC contract.
- C. All dog owners must provide proof of renter’s insurance covering their dog.
- D. All cats and dogs must be neutered or spayed with proof on file at the Membership Office.
- E. All cats and dogs must be current in their vaccinations with proof on file at the Membership Office.

**8.5.5 Violations of Pet Policy: Animals are considered a nuisance when they**

- A. Exhibit aggression.
- B. Are observed to be neglected or abused.
- C. Endanger the health or welfare of members or the public.
- D. Prevent a space in the house from being or remaining filled by a current or prospective member.
- E. Inhibit the use of house common space or grounds.
- F. Cause damage to house and/or property.
- G. Lack a validated Pet Addendum to owner’s membership contract.

**8.5.6 Approval of any pet may be revoked and the animal’s immediate removal requested by the following means:**

- A. In the event of a threat to human safety, the animal’s immediate removal will be requested and enforced without notice.
- B. Approval of any pet may be revoked by a roommate if the pet becomes a nuisance to their room.

- C. Approval of any pet may be revoked by a house, through a simple majority vote, if the pet becomes a nuisance.
- D. Approval of any pet may be revoked by the Membership Committee if the pet becomes a nuisance.

**8.5.7** Any member may, and should, promptly report violations of this policy to the Director of Member Services or the Membership Committee. Violations of this policy are subject to fines, referral, animal expulsion, member expulsion, and House Priority Status.

**8.5.8** All members of the house are liable for all damages caused by the pet if the damages are not collectable from the owner.

**8.5.9** Houses with unreported pets are subject to fines of \$100 per week, per unreported pet. Owners of unregistered pets are fined \$25 per day until the animal is registered or removed.

**8.5.9.11** The cost of a lost contract may be assessed to any house in which the presence of a pet in any way prevents a space in the house from being or remaining filled by a current or prospective member.

**8.5.9.12** Owners whose animals have been ordered removed from ICC property, or whose approval has been revoked, may petition the Contract Release Committee to be released from their contract within 30 days of notification of the decision. Such releases are not considered “automatic” but will be considered on a case by case basis.

**8.5.9.13** Appeals: This policy is administered by the Director of Member Services. Special situations may be appealed to the Membership Committee. Fines may be appealed to the Finance Committee.