COMMANDANT OF MIDSHIPMEN INSTRUCTION 5760.1C

From: Commandant of Midshipmen

Subj: CLASS ORGANIZATION

Ref: (a) USNAINST 1610.3H
(b) COMDTMIDNINST 7041.1H

1. Purpose. Defines class organizations and establishes procedures for selection of class officers.

2. Cancellation. COMDTMIDNINST 5760.1B.

3. Background. Each class at the Naval Academy is chartered to establish a class organization. The Class President is charged with the responsibility of administering the organization and will function within the guidelines of the established charter. The Class President and his organization will not function as a sounding board for any policies and/or programs concerning military matters and will refrain from becoming involved in matters in the province of the Brigade Striper Organization. Unless specifically directed by the Commandant of Midshipmen, the Class President will not collect, organize, or express general class attitudes on matters concerning the military organization and policies of the Naval Academy.

4. Procedures

   a. Each class will elect the following officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

   b. Class participation will be required as prescribed below:

      (1) Ring and Crest Committee and Ring Dance Committee.

      (2) Brigade Activities Committee (BAC) and Brigade Social Affairs Committee (BSAC).

   c. Class officers and representatives have a considerable responsibility to their class, to the Brigade, and to the Commandant of Midshipmen. Midshipmen elected to these positions must be chosen from among those whose attitude and performance meet the highest standards of the Brigade per reference (a).

   d. The following procedures will govern the election of class officers for all the classes:

      (1) Class Officer Elections will be held prior to Fall semester final exams.
(2) Nominations for Class President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be made to the Officer Representative of the Class by petitions containing the signatures of at least 15% of the class. Such petitions must be in the hands of the Officer Representative at least 10 days prior to the election date.

(3) The Officer Representative will submit the list of nominees to the Commandant, along with the nominees' summary sheets, for review and approval. Only those Midshipmen whose performance and attitude meet the highest standards of the Brigade will be permitted to run for class office.

(4) Upon the approval of the Commandant, the list of nominees will be published, and if practicable, the candidates will be introduced to the class at a class meeting, and election procedures explained.

(5) An election will be held between the candidates. The candidate receiving the most votes will be declared the winner.

(6) Upon completion of election of class officers, the Officer Representative of each class will forward the results to the Commandant of Midshipmen via the Midshipmen Activities Officer for approval and publication.

e. The class constitution and/or by-laws will include the degree of authority to be delegated to the class officers and representatives and the procedures to be followed in obtaining class approval for class projects (i.e., the Lucky Bag, the Class Crest, and Ring, etc.) and expenditures of class funds per reference (b).

f. The Budget and Administration of Midshipmen's Pay (issued annually) lists fixed amounts that are withdrawn from Midshipmen's pay for class funds and certain class extracurricular activities. All of these funds will be deposited into the class account held by the Midshipmen Welfare Fund. Transfer of the balance of the class's funds will be made to the Alumni Association after graduation. Class organization accounts will be audited on an annual basis.

g. Should removal of a Class President be required for any reason, the Vice President will assume the office of the Class President. A special election by the class will be conducted to elect a new Vice President. Should removal of any other class officer or representative be required for any reason, a special election by the class/company will be conducted to fill the vacancy at the earliest opportunity.

5. Duties and Responsibilities

a. The Class Officer Representative:

(1) Will be designated by the Commandant of Midshipmen.

(2) Will make sure that reports and requests are prepared and forwarded in a timely manner.

(3) Will personally explain and interpret regulations governing the class organization.

(4) Is responsible for the financial management of the class budget and financial affairs per reference (b). Will countersign all financial
reports and make sure that no approval is given for the expenditure of funds exceeding the amounts allocated in the class budget.

(5) Will assume responsibility for all property and equipment under the cognizance of the class and frequently inspect to verify materiel condition and appearance.

(6) Will ensure adherence to proper election procedures.

(7) Will maintain a file of all correspondence pertinent to the class.

(8) Will review all correspondence, speeches, and material for good taste, for the inclusion of classified matter, and for quality and content that would reflect creditably on the author, the class and the Naval Academy.

(9) Will ensure that no financial or legal obligation is incurred and that no invitation is extended or accepted by the class without the written approval of the Commandant of Midshipmen.

(10) Will be consulted on all matters regarding the assembly of the class and informed of the subject(s) of the assembly.

(11) Will, for the Fourth Class, act as liaison between the class organization and Brigade Commander in assisting the Class President to carry out those functions listed in this instruction.

b. The Class President:

(1) Is responsible for the morale and spirit of the class. Any chits, projects, requisitions, or ideas dealing in this area should be handled by the Class President. He/she should do everything possible to maintain a high esprit-de-corps and to represent his/her class and their feelings, thoughts and actions.

(2) Is responsible for all class social functions through the Class BSAC representative (i.e., Ring Dance Chairman) or other subsidiary committees which are deemed necessary (i.e., Class picnics, etc.).

(3) Appoints those special committees necessary for the proper functioning of a class organization.

(4) Coordinates committee efforts to make for a more efficient operation of Brigade activities. This coordination is the specific responsibility of the First Class President.

(5) Makes introductions for class lectures and speeches.

(6) Keeps his/her class well informed of the policies and events pertaining to his/her class.

(7) Establishes a workable and effective class organization, to be used by the class after graduation.

(8) Is responsible for the routine procedures and functions of a class organization.
(9) Upholds and establishes a class reputation of the highest possible caliber in keeping with the context of the mission of the Naval Academy.

(10) Ensures all correspondence is submitted through the Class Officer Representative.

(11) Is responsible for the selection of the class' Honorary Graduates through the process in paragraph 6.

   c. The Class Vice President:

      (1) Performs such duties as specified by the Class President.

      (2) Assumes the duties of the Class President should he/she, for any reason, be unable to carry on the duties of that office.

   d. The Class Secretary:

      (1) Attends all class officer meetings, recording all important information.

      (2) Writes all formal invitations to the Superintendent, Commandant or other officers to attend a class-sponsored event.

      (3) Assumes any additional responsibilities that are assigned by the Class President or Officer Representative.

   e. The Class Treasurer:

      (1) Maintains accurate accounts of all monies entered and spent by the respective class.

      (2) Is accountable to the Class President on all matters concerning the financial status of the respective class.

      (3) Assumes any additional responsibilities that are assigned by the Class President or Officer Representative.

6. Honorary Graduates Selection. The Class President is responsible for the selection of the class’s Honorary Graduates through the process below.

   (1) Class President sends an email to the entire class soliciting nominations for their Honorary Graduates.

   (2) From the nominations received (possibly hundreds); the class may only select a maximum of three. Reducing the nominations to three can be done in two ways:

      (a) Reduce to the top 10 nominations and send another vote out for the entire class.

      (b) Reduce to the top 10 nominations and have the class Officers vote.

   (3) The nominees for the Honorary Graduates must be approved by the Commandant before they are finalized. Do not release any final information to the class until approved by the Commandant.
(4) Nominations should be submitted to the Commandant no later than the last week of April for review and approval.

(5) Once approved, the class may buy a token type gift for the Honorary Graduates from the class fund. Examples are clocks, barometers, plates, etc. with their name and Honorary Graduate of Class of 20XX on it.

(6) The Class President may deliver short remarks at graduation that includes some points about the Honorary Graduates, with the remarks being no longer than five minutes.

7. Review Responsibility. The Commandant of Midshipmen Operations Officer is responsible for the annual review of this instruction.

W. D. BYRNE, JR.

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