

CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
THE RED KEY ATHLETE HONOR SOCIETY  
CONSTITUTION

Article I: Name

Section I: The name of the honor/service society shall be THE RED KEY ATHLETE HONOR SOCIETY.

Article II: Purpose

Section I: The purpose of the society is to honor outstanding undergraduate contributors to both Cornell Athletics and the Cornell community. The Society also stresses the propagation of fellowship and strong loyalty amongst all of the athletes for the Cornell University Athletic Department.

Section II: The duties of the Red Key include the following: to serve as the official student hosts for the Athletic Department; to assist in any campus or community events, especially those associated with Athletics; and to conduct service or charity events to benefit the Cornell and Ithaca communities.

Article III: Membership

Section I: Membership is limited to those juniors or seniors selected by the membership who have displayed tremendous leadership, integrity, and responsibility within their varsity or JV athletic programs; have shown a commitment to academics (cumulative Cornell GPA of 2.7 or higher, on a scale of 4.0); and have been actively involved in the Cornell and/or Ithaca communities. Members must remain on an intercollegiate team, unless a career-ending injury has occurred, and must maintain the minimum GPA. The students may be athletes, managers, or trainers.

Article IV: Election to Membership

Section I: A maximum of twenty (20) prospective juniors and seniors shall be selected each spring. Members in general shall be selected from the incoming junior class. However, a senior overlooked or one whose performance during the junior year has been unusually outstanding may be nominated.

Section II: A nomination committee of three (3) members shall be appointed by the President. The committee shall distribute nomination forms to the head coaches in early March with an early April deadline.

Committee members should personally discuss the nomination process and qualifications for membership with each new coach or any coach who may need information. The nomination committee shall prepare a ballot from the names submitted by the coaches including sport, class, GPA, and coaches' comments.

Section III: By closed ballot, each member shall select his or her top twenty nominees after reading, listening to or attesting to the nominees' worthiness of membership. For incoming juniors, the top twenty vote receivers shall be placed on a potential membership list. For seniors,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the voters must select the individual for membership for the person to be selected for membership. Seniors receiving a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote shall replace the lowest vote receivers on the potential junior list. At no time may more than twenty new members be selected.

Section IV: New members shall be inducted into the society at the annual Hall of Fame banquet.

#### Article V: Officers

Section I: There shall be five officers of the society: a president, a vice president, a treasurer, a secretary, and the athletic chairperson. In the event of the appointment of co-presidents with no vice-president, the duties and responsibilities of The President and of the Vice-President will be equally distributed and shared by the Co-Presidents.

Section II: The President shall preside at all meetings and perform all duties pertaining to the office of the chief executive. The President shall appoint all committees and designate the chairs thereof. It shall also be the President's duty to superintend and coordinate the several functions of the society, especially the induction ceremony and the alumni functions, and to register the society with the Student Finance Commission as a student organization. The President shall submit an annual report to the Student Finance Commission, to the Red Key advisor and the Director of Athletics.

Section III: The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and perform any duties assigned by the President. The VP shall also organize and coordinate the various charity and service activities of the society.

Section IV: The Secretary shall care for all correspondence of the society, shall maintain a log of the minutes of all meetings, shall take attendance at all meetings, shall send absence notices to members missing

meeting, shall send copies of the minutes and notices of upcoming meetings to members.

Section V: The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds of the society and shall present an itemized report of all receipts and disbursements at each meeting. The Treasurer shall be in charge of any of the financial aspects of the annual activities previously mentioned. The Treasurer shall submit an annual budget to the Student Finance Committee, the Red Key advisor and the Director of Athletics.

Section VI: The Athletic Chairman shall conduct the Red Key Male and Female Athlete Award selection, presented to one male and one female athlete each season. The AC shall contact the Sports Information Office for statistics, contest write-ups, and suggestions for nominees from the SI staff. The AC shall prepare a ballot sheet listing the nominees with a summary of each of his/her game highlights. The AC shall present the material at the next meeting, taking any additional nominations from the floor. The AC shall count the ballots, notify the appropriate athletes and coaches, notify the Sports Information Office and the Cornell Daily Sun, and order the plaques. The AC shall also assist the VP in securing volunteers for the various hosting and servicing events. In addition, the AC serves as a liaison between the society and Office of Athletic Communications, serving as webmaster of the society's website found within the Cornell Athletics website ([www.cornellbigred.com](http://www.cornellbigred.com)).

#### Article VI: Meetings

Section I: There shall be at least four (4) meetings of the Red Key each school year. The President shall be empowered to call special meetings if necessary. Attendance at all meetings is mandatory.

Section II: It is the President's responsibility to schedule the meetings well in advance and coordinate the notification of membership with the Secretary.

#### Article VII: Insignia

Section I: The insignia shall be a red key enameled on a hammered gold background.

Section II: A Red Key lapel pin and shingle of membership shall be given to each new member upon induction into the society. The pin shall be worn at all appropriate Red Key functions.

Article VIII: Expulsion or Suspension

Section I: Expulsion or suspension will result if a member does not pay the annual dues, if a member fails to remain a member in good standing of a varsity or JV athletic program, if a member fails to maintain the minimum GPA and if a member has two consecutive unexcused absences or a total of three unexcused absences. If a member's conduct is unbecoming of a Cornell athlete or a Red Key member and has caused degradation towards the athletic program, the Red Key or Cornell University, the member may be expelled or suspended from the society subject to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of the active membership.

Article IX: Amendments

Section I: Amendments to the constitution shall require a  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths favorable vote of all active members of the society.

BY-LAWS

Article I:

Section I: The order of procedure at business meetings shall be as follows: call to order, roll call, reading of minutes, officers' and committee reports, unfinished business, new minutes and adjournment.

Article II:

Section II: A two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the members present shall be sufficient to amend the by-laws, provided that thirty (30) days notice of the meeting be given each member.