

GBHS Chapter
National Honor Society
Bylaws

Article I
Name

The name of this chapter shall be the Gulf Breeze High School National Honor Society. This name appears on the charter granted by the National Council of the National Honor Society, duly signed by the members of the National Council.

Article II
Purpose

The object of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, stimulate a desire to render service, promote worthy leadership, and encourage the development of character in students of Gulf Breeze High School.

Article III
Powers

- Section 1 This chapter operates under the direction of and in full compliance with the National Constitution of NHS. See www.nhs.us/constitutions.
- Section 2 The chapter advisor is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.
- Section 3 Final authority on all activities and decisions of the chapter resides with the school principal.
- Section 4 Non-discrimination. Our chapter of NHS maintains policies and practices that are designed to prevent discrimination against any qualified candidate or member on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex (gender), and disability. This policy of nondiscrimination applies to all practices, including the chapter administration and the selection, discipline, and dismissal of members.

Article IV
Membership

- Section 1 Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students and shall be based upon Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character.

Section 2 Membership in this chapter shall be known as active, honorary, and graduate. The graduate members shall have no vote. Active members become graduate members at graduation.

Section 3 Eligibility: Candidates eligible for selection to this chapter shall be juniors (selected in the second semester of their junior year) and seniors. Candidates must have been enrolled for at least one semester at GBHS. Candidates shall have a minimum cumulative weighted grade point average of 4.0. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be for this chapter the required scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy for membership.

Article V Selection of Members

Section 1 The selection of members to this chapter of the National Honor Society shall be by a majority vote of the faculty council which consists of five faculty members appointed by the principal.

Section 2 The selection of active members shall be held once during the second semester of the junior year

Section 3 Prior to the final selection, the following shall occur: (a) Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility. (b) Students who are eligible scholastically (i.e., candidates) shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the Student Information Form and application for further consideration. (c) The Faculty Council shall review anonymous applications to determine those who fully meet the selection criteria for membership. Of the candidates who fully meet the selection criteria, the top 80 will be invited to become members.

Section 4 Removed 9/05/2014

Section 5 An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given an official letter indicating the status of his/her membership.

Section 6 An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The Faculty Council shall grant to the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter to retain his/her membership.

Article VI
Obligations of Members

- Section 1 Annual dues for this chapter shall be decided by the executive committee and shall not exceed \$15.00. Dues will be payable to the chapter within 30 days of the first scheduled chapter meeting the following school year.
- Section 2 Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.
- Section 3 Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.
- Section 4 Chapter members who are seniors in good standing and have completed the service requirement, shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor stole at graduation.
- Section 5 Any member who falls below the standards which were the basis of his/her election shall be promptly warned. If during the next regular grading period of the school, the member fails to meet the standards used as basis for his/her election to the Society, his/her case shall be passed upon by the Faculty Council. A National Honor Society member must maintain the standards for membership in order to retain his/her membership. A member will be allowed only one probationary warning period. Once a member is dismissed, he is never again eligible for membership in the National Honor Society.
- Section 6 Each Honor Society member is not allowed to be absent more than two consecutive regular meetings or three unexcused meetings per year. A written excuse shall be given to an advisor in advance, and the advisor will determine it valid or not. Participation in all projects and extra-curricular activities is required. Missing a project or extra-curricular activity will be counted the same as an absence from a meeting. Failure to meet a deadline will count as half an absence. A grace period may be allowed in which the obligation must be met in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in another half an absence, thus totaling a full absence. Attendance will be recorded by the secretary, but it is each member's responsibility to keep up with his/her attendance. If more than the maximum number of absences is accumulated, the case shall be passed on to the sponsor who shall review it and proceed with the proper measures as stated in the National Honor Society's Constitution.
- Section 7 Cheating is considered wholly unacceptable behavior and is expressly forbidden. Refer to your student handbook for all definitions of cheating/plagiarism. Members found guilty of cheating can be brought up for immediate consideration of dismissal from the chapter and also face additional consequences as outlined in the student handbook.

Section 8 When a member is dismissed, he/she must be notified in writing and his emblem and membership card returned to the advisor or principal. Notice of his dismissal must be indicated on the annual report submitted to the National Secretary at the end of the school year.

Article VII Dismissal

Section 1 Dismissal procedure shall be determined by the Faculty Council and will be in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Honor Society. A written description will be available for interested parties.

Section 2 The Faculty Council will make all decisions for discipline and dismissal using the national policies as its guide.

Section 3 In all cases of impending dismissal, a member shall have a right to a hearing before the principal.

Section 4 A member who has been dismissed may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council under the same rules for disciplinary appeals in the school district.

Article VIII Officers

Section 1 The officers of this chapter shall be a president, vice-president, two secretaries, and a treasurer.

Section 2 The executive committee of this chapter will interview and determine officers for the next chapter.

Section 3 It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of this chapter.

Section 4 The vice-president shall fill the chair of the president in his/her absence.

Section 5 The chapter secretaries shall keep the minutes of meetings, a record of all business, and all records on file. He/she shall, with the approval of the principal or advisor, certify to the National Secretary of the National Council the names of all members for the current school year on the Annual Report submitted to National Headquarters. They will record all member service hours for all projects, meetings, stadium clean-ups, etc. Officers will also update members about NHS business.

Article IX
Executive Committee

- Section 1 The executive committee shall consist of the chapter advisors and the officers of the chapter.
- Section 2 The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and business of the chapter, but any action on the part of the executive committee may be subject to the review of the chapter.

Article X
Supervision

- Section 1 The activities of this chapter shall be subject to the approval of the principal.

Article XI
Meetings

- Section 1 The regular meetings of this chapter shall be held monthly during the school year on days designated by the executive committee and approved by the sponsor.
- Section 2 The officers of the chapter shall be installed at the last regular meeting of the year.
- Section 3 Special meetings, approved by the executive committee, may be called by the president.
- Section 4 All meetings shall be open meetings and shall be held under the sponsorship of the principal or some member of the faculty selected by him/her.

Article XII
Emblem

- Section 1 Each member of this chapter shall be entitled to wear the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools.
- Section 2 Any member who withdraws or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem (see Article III. Sections 3 & 4).
- Section 3 Each member agrees that, whether the emblem comes to him/her as a gift, a personal purchase, an award, or from whatever source, the title to the emblem shall rest with the chapter of which he is a member; and, therefore,

the emblem can, on motion of the council, be commandeered. Furthermore, each member agrees that his acceptance of the emblem shall be considered affirmation of this stipulation in regard to the title of the emblem.

Article XIII Chapter Projects

- Section 1 All members shall regularly participate in these projects.
- Section 2 This chapter shall participate in food drives to benefit local food banks during the holiday seasons.
- Section 3 This chapter may participate in Relay for Life if a majority of the members vote for participation.
- Section 4 This chapter shall clean the football stadium after every home football game. Members are required to participate in at least two stadium clean ups.
- Section 5 Other service projects may be included if voted on by the majority of our members.
- Section 6 Each member shall have the responsibility for choosing and having a leadership role in a service project that reflects his/her interests and lies within the chapter's annual mission. This is in addition to the chapter projects to which all members contribute. Service hours shall be recorded on our NHS Service Log sheet and turned in to our secretary.

Article XIV Amendments

- Section 1 This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the chapter, provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the executive committee of the chapter.