

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

INTERFRATERNITY SING 2016: SING COORDINATING COUNCIL RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Name of Event: The name of the event shall be the 105th Annual Interfraternity Sing (“Sing 2016”). The event will take place on Saturday, June 4, 2016, in Hutchinson Courtyard on the University of Chicago campus. Performances will begin at 7:00 p.m. CDT.
 2. Organizing Authority: The Organizing Authority for Sing 2016 shall be the Sing Coordinating Council (“SCC”).
 3. Eligible Organizations: Any nationally recognized Greek-letter organization currently housed on the University of Chicago campus is eligible to compete in Sing 2016, provided that they have not been disqualified by the SCC in connection with violating Sing rules from prior years. While all are welcome to attend the event, only students and alumni may compete in Sing 2016.
 4. Entry Procedures: Groups wishing to participate in Sing 2016 must submit the following documents/information no later than **April 30, 2016**:
 - a. Entry Form: A completed Sing 2016 Entry Form (“Entry Form”).
 - b. Entry Fee: An Entry Fee of \$50.00. Checks should be made out to **The University of Chicago**.
 - c. Designation of Representatives: Each group must, on its Entry Form, identify the names and email addresses of its designated Representatives to the SCC. Representatives are responsible for ensuring that their group complies with entry requirements and for communicating with the SCC.
 - d. Designation of Alumni Board President: Each group must, on its Entry Form, identify the name and email address of its Alumni Board President or similar officer.
- The Entry Form shall be sent via email to alumniweekend@uchicago.edu on or before April 30, 2016. Entry fee checks should be sent to Sing Coordinating Council, c/o Mary Kovacs, The University of Chicago, 5235 South Harper Court, Chicago, IL 60615. Checks shall be sent via first-class mail and be postmarked no later than April 30, 2016. Compliance with sections a–d is required to complete an entry. Entries received after April 30, 2016, may be accepted by the SCC, provided that they are accompanied by a \$200 late fee.
5. Order of Participants: The order of participants in Sing 2016 will be determined by lot. The order will be communicated via email and be posted on the Sing 2016 website (alumniweekend.uchicago.edu/ifsing) no later than June 2, 2016.
 6. Judging: A panel of judges will be appointed by the SCC. They shall have sole discretion to award trophies consistent with these Rules and Guidelines.
 7. Decorum: Sing 2016 is meant to be a dignified event celebrating the Greek community at the University of Chicago, and the SCC expects that all participants and spectators will treat each other with courtesy. Visible drinking and smoking, booing and heckling, and the use of mascots, costumes, and other inappropriate dress are NOT PERMITTED. Groups failing to comply with these rules will be disqualified from consideration for awards at Sing 2016 and may be barred from future Sings.

8. Entrance Procedures: When each group is announced by the SCC Chair, it should march from the northeast corner of Hutchinson Courtyard to the stage via the western walkway of the courtyard. As each group marches toward the stage, it may sing a marching song of its choosing. Once the group is assembled on stage, it should stop singing its marching song.
9. Equipment: The SCC provides professional sound equipment, and only designated sound technicians may alter the microphones or other equipment. Concerns about the equipment should be raised with an SCC member. No member of a group may move or adjust sound equipment during Sing.
10. Song Length: There are no limits to the number of songs a group may sing. However, the total length of its on-stage performance *shall not exceed five and a half minutes (330 seconds)* (entrance and exit marches do not count toward this time limitation). Groups should begin their on-stage performance on the cue of the SCC Chair. The time limit will start running on this cue. Groups failing to comply with this rule may be disqualified from consideration for awards.
11. Limitation on Song Choice: When choosing songs for Sing 2016, organizations should be mindful that the purpose of Sing is to offer traditional fraternity and sorority music so that members of active chapters, as well as alumni, can participate actively. Performance of songs employing “pop” melodies (melodies written on or after January 1, 1991) is highly discouraged and will be considered negatively by the judging panel.
12. Exit Procedures: Once the group has completed its songs, it shall immediately exit the stage. Each group is free to sing a marching song or other similar song on its way off the stage.
13. Alma Mater: At the conclusion of the last group’s performance, the Overall Winner from the previous year’s Sing will be recognized and be invited on stage to sing the Alma Mater. This performance shall not count toward any awards for Sing 2016. The Overall Winner of Sing 2015 was Sigma Chi.
14. Awards: The Quality Cups, the Quantity Cup, the Spirit Cup, and the Overall Award will be awarded at Sing 2016. The criteria for each award is discussed below:
 - a. Quality Cup: Quality Cups shall be awarded to the men’s and women’s groups giving the highest quality singing performance. Factors to consider include, inter alia, in no particular order: (1) alumni presence; (2) participation from all members of the group; (3) singing together as a group; (4) minimal “off-key” notes; (5) good melody and harmony; and (6) performance of traditional fraternity music. While soloists, quartets, etc., or musical instruments are not prohibited, groups are discouraged from allowing them to overshadow the group’s performance. Choreography and/or dancing will not be considered as a factor in evaluating groups for this award. Groups singing “pop” melodies will not be eligible to receive this award.
 - b. Quantity Cup: The Quantity Cup shall be awarded to the group with the most number of University of Chicago actives and alumni on stage.
 - c. Spirit Cup: The Spirit Cup shall be awarded to the group who best exemplifies the goals and aspirations of their organization, the ideals of the Sing (such as respectful fraternal camaraderie and chapter unity), and the values treasured by the University of Chicago. All aspects of the group’s presentation will be considered, including alumni presence, song lyrics, presentation, and entrance/exit.
 - d. Overall Award: The Overall Award shall be awarded to the group who performed the best

overall. Factors include, inter alia, in no particular order: (1) alumni presence; (2) quality of singing; (3) well-dressed participants; (4) civility and decorum; (5) spirit; (6) number of people on stage; and (7) a well-organized presentation. Choreography and/or dancing shall not be considered for this award. Groups singing “pop” melodies will not be eligible to receive this award.

15. Alumni Presence: One of the primary goals of Sing 2016 is to encourage alumni to participate in the University of Chicago’s Greek community. To that end, each group is expected to make every effort to encourage its alumni to return to Chicago for Alumni Weekend and to participate on stage at Sing 2016. For that reason, alumni presence is a major factor in *all* awards presented. *Groups making any effort to discourage their alumni from participating on stage will be disqualified from Sing 2016 and may be disqualified from future Sings.*
16. Limitation on awards: Groups may win no more than one award in any given year. Further, if a group won a particular award outright during 2015, they are ineligible to win it again at Sing 2016. However, groups that tie for awards are eligible to win them again. For Sing 2016, Sigma Chi is ineligible to win the Overall Award and Delta Gamma is ineligible to win the Quantity Cup. There were ties for both the Quality Cup and the Spirit Cup at Sing 2015, so all groups are eligible to win those awards this year.
17. Ties: If two organizations tie for a particular award, both organizations will have their names inscribed on the permanent trophy in alphabetical order. The award available at the event will be awarded to the group that wins a coin toss. The other group will receive their trophy as soon as possible after Sing 2016.
18. Awards Presentation: Awards will be presented during Sing 2016, after the judges have finished their deliberations. Award winners will be announced, and the winners may come to the stage to claim their awards. A **maximum** of four representatives from each winning group may come to accept their award. Representatives shall conduct themselves with decorum and treat the presenters with the utmost respect. Chants or victory celebrations on stage are not permitted. Groups breaking these rules risk revocation of their awards and being banned from future Sings.
19. Amendments: The SCC, at its discretion, may amend these Rules and Guidelines at any time. Amendments will be transmitted via email to all designated Representatives.