

Alumnae Alcohol Responsibilities Guide

POSITIONAL STATEMENT ON ALUMNAE AND ALCOHOL

- Delta Gamma's position on alcohol is designed to create a safe, lawful, and values-based environment where our members, regardless of age or life-stage, value wisdom and wellness over superficial or alcohol-driven bonding.
- Our position should be focused on the expectation that all alumnae make themselves aware of both local and state/provincial laws related to hosting, alcohol service, and consumption, and hold each other accountable to *both* those laws and Delta Gamma policy.
- Alumnae are legal adults, and as such, should be held accountable to the legal and social standard for all Delta Gammas. Not knowing the law or our policies is no excuse for behavior that is contrary to the law or our policies.

DO'S AND DON'TS RELATED TO ALUMNAE AND ALCOHOL

Do

Do feel comfortable learning the laws of your local, state, province and even your homeowner's association. All your questions related to hosting an event with alcohol might be answered there.

Do promote other program/event elements besides the bar or alcohol that will be served!

Do reach out to the bar owner or bartender at your venue to ensure that he/she is aware of your service expectations.

Don't

Do not assume that everyone at your function or event is of legal age to consume alcohol.

Do not assume that because it is an alumnae event with adults that you don't need to provide food or access to a transportation service.

Do not assume that "without alcohol our women won't attend."

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN THINKING ABOUT SERVING ALCOHOL

How should I approach the service of alcohol at a Delta Gamma alumnae event?

We encourage all alumnae to consider both the potential and intended outcomes of your event. When considering the inclusion of alcohol, please explore how the event might "play out" if alcohol is served. Some questions to ask yourself as you consider including the service of alcohol at a Delta Gamma alumnae event include:

- Is alcohol necessary?
- Is it appropriate?
- Is alcohol being promoted as the "centerpiece" of the event?
- Is your programming largely using alcohol to recruit participants?



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- A wine and cheese every month recruits the same audience, typically. Mix it up!
- Would someone in recovery or potentially struggling with alcohol feel passive or active social pressure to consume alcohol at your event?
- Will this event be a comfortable environment for all ages and life-stages of Delta Gamma guests?
- Do you feel comfortable asking people to take a cab, car service, or finding safe transportation home?
- Will there be food served?
- Do you know the risks involved?
 - *NOTE: Delta Gamma will not and cannot provide legal assistance if the event results in casualties or accidents.*
 - Hosting an event in all 50 states and all Canadian provinces indicates assumption of risks associated with having an event.
- Will there be collegians present? If so:
 - Has the collegiate chapter president provided a list of those women who are of age to the host?
 - Have they submitted a social event checklist indicating they will attend said event? It is a requirement of all collegiate chapters to submit a checklist to ensure approval of all events involving alcohol, even if it is provided casually. Never assume the collegiate chapter has submitted necessary paperwork. You can always check with Executive Offices.
 - Is it within 24 hours of ritual or recruitment? NO ALCOHOL is to be consumed by collegians either 24 hours prior or post any ritual or recruitment event, including bid day. There are no exceptions to this policy.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are some events where alcohol is expressly forbidden?

- Any event where collegians are required to attend (anchored events).
- Any event where collegians who are not of legal age are present.
 - Please note, Council can waive this expectation but will only do so for unique circumstances.
- Any event where ritual (informal or formal) will be present.
 - This includes, but is not limited to: Founders Day, senior recommitment ceremony, candle lighting or candle passing, etc.
 - Please note, Council can waive this expectation but will only do so for unique circumstances.

Can I host an alumnae event with alcohol in my home?

- You may host an event with alcohol in your home. Please consider the numerous questions above, as well as your local and state/provincial laws.

Can the alumnae group host an event with alcohol present?

- You may host an event with alcohol present. You can also host an event at a location that serves alcohol, but we ask you to consider the necessity of alcohol.
- You can host a fundraising event with alcohol present, but collegians, regardless of age, cannot consume alcohol at said event. *This is due to the*



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collegiate alcohol policy that forbids collegians from drinking at fundraising events.

- Please make yourself aware of all local/state/provincial laws concerning hosting.

What is a “host”?

- The definition of “host” varies by state and municipality, but for the sake of this policy, both an individual and an entity (the Delta Gamma alumnae group) can and may serve as “the host.”
- In a casual environment, like a tailgate, “the host” is most often the person(s) providing food or drink, a location to gather, etc. Please consider how even the perception of hosting can alter behavior and expectations.

What is hosting an event? Is it the same as paying for alcohol?

- Most of the events hosted by Delta Gamma women or by Delta Gamma groups do not include alcohol. If you are hosting an event, alcohol need not be present.
- You need not be at an event that is “on the calendar” to be considered a host. One key example is a tailgate. Please know your local laws concerning hosting.

Can the alumnae group pay for alcohol for guests at the event?

- We caution against this considering the serious legal risk and liability that each host is exposed to when doing so. Please consult your local hosting laws when considering this as an option.
- Alcohol should never be the centerpiece or core focus at an event.

What should I do if collegians arrive, unexpectedly, at an event where alcohol is present?

- *We expect that you ask them to leave and immediately and publicly cease the service of alcohol.*
- Please follow up with the chapter president or advisory team chairman (ATC) to discuss why collegians were present.

If I am hosting a casual event that is not a “Delta Gamma” event – i.e., a tailgate or holiday party – am I expected to restrict the consumption of my guests?

- Again, Delta Gamma’s “Do Good.” You are always a Delta Gamma, and as such, we encourage you to err on the side of caution, make yourself aware of local laws, and practice good judgment.
- If a collegiate member approaches your tailgate, or attends your holiday event, consider the risks of her consuming alcohol near you. “Contributing to the delinquency of a minor” is not an appropriate collegian/alumna relationship.

Can collegians who are “of age” consume alcohol at an event hosted by alumnae?

- Legally a woman of age can consume alcohol, but Delta Gamma policies are often more restrictive than the law. We strongly caution against it, and expect that you will know the legal, policy, and personal risk elements when allowing consumption of alcohol, by any member, at any event.



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I am a chapter adviser. Can I consume alcohol when collegians are present? For example, when I am at a dinner with the chapter president or at an event where I am chaperoning?

- Again, we strongly caution against it and encourage the exploration of three key questions. Is it wise? Is it necessary? Is it appropriate? When in doubt, leave alcohol out.