Rush regulations are strict; high fines for violations

By William Clinton
The 1978 DormCon/IFC Mediation Committee (MedComm) guidelines that were drafted in a MedComm meeting at Father’s House for the 1978 Rush last year, have resulted in several changes from the 1977 MedComm guidelines. MedComm hoped that these changes would lead to better understanding between the fraternities and the dorms. MedComm, which consists of the presidents, R/O chairmen and Judd-Con chairmen from both the IFC and DormCon, decided to add to the guidelines that during rush week fraternity members may be prohibited from passing beyond the front doors of the dormitories. Dave Maurer, R/O chair, told The Tech that, "This change will not affect rush but will ease misunderstanding between the fraternities and the dorms.

Another change prohibits dormitories from advertising any activities before noon Saturday of Rush Week, limits the size and location of posters, and prohibits any large scale activities before 6:00pm Saturday.

Maurer said that these changes are simply "clarifications of past understandings and are to help get more freshmen out to look at fraternities."

Frank Wojtczak, IFC R/O Chairman, stated that "enforcement of the guidelines is much more strict this year with fines of up to a maximum of $500. But there have only been a couple of incidents which have upset people."

Maurer noted that most of the violations to date have resulted "mainly from people being unaware of the guidelines. For example, a fraternity member going past the front desk at a dorm to help a particular freshman with his luggage without first checking with the desk."

Tom Potter, DormCon president, said "We (MedComm) don't look for trouble. Violations are usually brought to us. Mostly the purpose of MedComm is to stamp out little fines. "Potter called the changes "in the best interest of dorms; to keep fraternities filled.""

Jim Thompson '79, IFC Jud Con chairman said that "Rush Week has been fairly quiet with only a few minor violations arising." He added that IFC/DormCon communications have been very good. When a conflict has come up, the people involved have gotten together to arrive at a solution.

Barry Newman '79, R/O Coordinator and Undergraduate Association President, added "There is a tremendous amount of cooperation with Rush Week and the MedComm guidelines this year." Potter also noted that "At yes we don't know where the money collected from violations will go."

Willing overcrowds get priority

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whether he is willing to live in a crowded room.

Over the past few years Baker, Burton, and MacGregor have been heavily oversubscribed, and therefore, have had to be the only dorms on the first round choices while East Campus, Senior House, and the dorms have been very undersubscribed. The other dorms (New House, Random Hall, and French) came in not too far behind. For freshmen the situation is somewhat different. Last year the number of assignment requests at McCormick was only two short of the number of openings. At Baker and Burton the number of freshmen was equal to the number of spaces while at East Campus and Senior House the number of women moving in was lower than expected.

The other factor affecting housing assignments is the extent to which a freshman is willing to be crowded. The dormitory system can accommodate an extra 150 students by tripling doubles or doubling singles or quadrupling triples. The actual amount of overcrowding will depend on the outcome of the fraternity rush, but even with a successful rush the Dean's Office is predicting 130 to 140 overcrowded rooms.

On the dorm preference card a freshman can indicate willingness to be crowded or crowded. Freshmen can apply together for an overcrowded room in the dorm they want. The only disadvantage to this procedure is that freshmen who crowd willingly will be uncrowded after everyone else.

This year there will be a separate lottery for voluntary crowding in each dorm. If there are more requests than rooms, the remaining cards go into the regular lottery.

Freshmen can also give more complicated instructions to the assignment committee. For example, two freshmen can request that their cards be treated together for a crowded room in the first round that has separately chosen dormitories. Dave Maurer, the IFC rush chairman, told The Tech that, "This change will not affect rush but will ease misunderstanding between the fraternities and the dorms."

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