



Women's Court Selection Policy 2005

The primary goal of Court Selection is to increase the number of people joining our organizations. We strive to make Court Selection a positive experience for all individuals involved.

Patterson Court Council and its member organizations support the spirit of First Night Down and encourage freshmen to refrain from attending upperclass parties on or off-campus until First Night Down. **Hall Counselors are asked to support this statement.**

No first-year student will be invited by fraternity/eating-house members to any social events prior to First Night Down.

First year women are not allowed to be at any of the eating-houses except for an open party, a function jointly hosted by all women's eating-houses, or for the functions specified below. Membership in an organization such as a sports team is not an exception to this rule.

Five functions including:

One Semi-Formal.

One Alcoholic function.

One Non-Alcoholic function.

Meals program organized by all vice presidents (so as not to overlap), one meal per hall, with halls invited.

Two other functions.

Any alcoholic function must be registered with the Patterson Court Office in the same manner that parties are normally registered. It must be made clear on the registration form that this function is intended to be one of the organization's five first year women's functions.

For any event sponsored by all eating-houses, the president of each eating-house must approve flyers. These events will be publicized jointly through the Patterson Court Council and the sponsoring organization.

Each eating-house will uphold the spirit of Court Selection. **Discouraging any woman from joining ANY organization is strictly forbidden.** No one shall make a negative or comparative comment about any eating-house.

Genuinely getting to know first year women on an individual basis is encouraged, but ensure your motives are beyond reproach:

Spending personal or organization money on a first year woman, specifically purchasing meals or alcohol is prohibited, however, one gift may be given to a woman attending each semi-formal event.

Individually inviting a particular group of first year women to a house, apartment, and/or residence hall is permitted as long as another eating-house is sufficiently represented and as long as the spirit of court selection is upheld.

An eating-house is responsible for the actions of all its members: Members' actions can be punished corporately.

Factors to Keep in Mind

Our goal is to encourage all women to join some Patterson Court organization. There will always be siblings, sports teams, and friendships from home that we do not want to infringe upon, but we ask the women who are already members of eating-houses to make it their responsibility to respect and support the system.

Expectations of First Year Women

First year women shall be held accountable for their decisions and actions.

The eating-house presidents, vice-presidents, Patterson Court Advisor and Patterson Court Council president will meet with the first year women within the first couple weeks of the first semester (preferably right before or right after First Night Down) to explain how the system works.

Expectations of Eating House Members

“Bashing” other organizations to first year women is prohibited.

Maintain the no rush, no exclusion policy.

Lottery

Each woman may choose to match alone or with up to three other women, provided all are academically eligible. They must understand that the larger the cluster, the more likely they may not make the cut off to a filled organization.

Academic Requirement

It is the responsibility of the Dean of Students and Patterson Court Advisor to make clear to a first year woman the academic requirement for membership (minimum 2.0 GPA). If a woman does not have the required minimum, it is her responsibility to continue as a non-Patterson Court affiliated student. Organizations should not be expected to monitor her attendance at every Patterson Court function, but they are strictly prohibited from inviting her to Members Only Functions.

Court Selection

Court Selection occurs on the Friday of the first week of the spring semester. First year women become full members of the organizations into which they match as soon as official membership lists are posted.

Davidson women are either members, non-Patterson Court affiliated students, or first semester students.

A Member is defined as one who has legitimately declared membership (through Court Selection or an official switch).

Sanctions

Violations of this policy may be reported by any individual to the Patterson Court Council, Patterson Court Advisor, or Dean of Students Office. The Patterson Court Judicial Board, as stated in the Patterson Court Judicial Board Bylaws, will handle violations.