The Goat’s Head Rivalry

The Goat’s Head Rivalry is one of WPI’s oldest and most valued traditions. Its story is one of a competition between classes, each earning the right to call itself the keeper of the famed bronzed statue. Like many traditions at WPI, this tradition has evolved over time and this competition is now expanded to include clubs, organizations, affinity groups and classes. Below are the rules and expectations set forth by the Goat’s Head Committee regarding the rivalry.

Goat’s Head Committee

I. The Goat’s Head Committee shall be made up of the following individuals, appointed within their organization/office: a member of the Student Alumni Society, a member of Skull Senior Society, a member of the Student Government Association, a representative of the WPI Office of Alumni Relations and a representative of the WPI Office of Student Activities. A representative of the WPI faculty or staff, exclusive of the Offices of Alumni Relations & Student Activities, will be nominated by the Goat’s Head Committee members.

II. The Goat’s Head Trophy may not be won BY or FROM any member of the Goat’s Head Committee.

III. Any discrepancies of these rules will be reviewed by the Goat’s Head Committee.

Rules & Expectations

I. A competition for the Goat’s Head Trophy will take place during Homecoming, Founder’s Day, Eskimo Relay, Gompei’s Birthday, Traditions Day and the Junior-Senior Mystery Event. The current keeper must bring the Trophy to each of these events. He/she can also initiate additional events, if the planning steps are followed below.

II. The Goat’s Head Committee has established non-transferrable events: these are events where the trophy can be shown to attendees; no competition will be held. These events are Alumni & Reunion Weekend and a designated event during New Student Orientation. If a group would like to request to have the Trophy present at another event, they must submit a request using the online form at http://wpi.imodules.com/ghrequest.

III. Planning a Goat’s Head Trophy Competition:
   
a. The Goat’s Head Committee will meet with the current keeper three (3) weeks prior to each declared event to brainstorm the details of the competition. The completion must be approved by Goat’s Head Committee.

b. If the current keeper wants to compete for the trophy, he/she must come to the meeting with a suggested plan, including a list of supplies needed.

c. If the current keeper does not want to compete for the trophy, they will be given the option to suggest a plan. If not, the Goat’s Head Committee will determine the details for the competition.

d. The current keeper must bring the Trophy to each event; if this is not possible, they must coordinate returning the Trophy to the Office of Alumni Relations prior to the event. This should be established at the three (3) week planning meeting.

e. The competition must meet these expectations:
   
i. Must adhere to the WPI Student Code of Conduct.

ii. Allow all participants equal opportunity to compete.

iii. Cannot risk the health and safety of anyone participating or present. Any kind of aggressive behavior toward any member of the WPI community will not be tolerated.
IV. Any group, with a minimum of six currently enrolled WPI students, is eligible to participate in the Goat’s Head Competition.

V. At the start of each competition, the current keeper must return the Trophy to the members of the Goat’s Head Committee. Upon completion of the competition, the Trophy will then be awarded to the winner, the new keeper along with a copy of the official rules.

VI. At the end of each competition, the keeper must email the Goat’s Head Committee (ghc@wpi.edu) with one contact person for their group. The email must be sent within 24 hours of the competition and include the person’s full name, class year, email address and phone number. The GHC will conduct all communication with the group through this person.

VII. The Office of Alumni Relations must know where the Trophy is at ALL times and receive updated information EVERY TIME that the Trophy is moved, even within possession of the same keeper. This must be communicated by emailing ghc@wpi.edu. This information will be kept confidential and will only notify WPI Administration and/or Campus Police, if it becomes necessary.

VIII. The Trophy may NOT be taken beyond the set borders under any condition and must remain in a secure location. The borders are defined on the map posted at http://www.wpi.edu/~goat.

IX. Actions and publicity surrounding the Goat’s Head Trophy must be in line with the Student Code of Conduct. Failure to represent the Goat’s Head Trophy in a positive manner could result in the return of the trophy to Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the Goat’s Head Committee.

X. At no time may the keeper or those associated with the keeper violate any of WPI’s conduct policies. Any violation of these policies may lead to disciplinary action within the WPI judicial system. (Please see “policies” in your Campus Planner and Resource Guide at http://www.wpi.edu/Pubs/Policies/Judicial)

XI. If the keeper of the Goat’s Head Trophy or those associated with the keeper violates any of the official rules, the trophy must be returned to the Goat’s Head Committee. The trophy is property of WPI; if it becomes necessary WPI administration and or campus police will become involved.

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**Returning & Engraving**

I. The Goat’s Head Trophy must be returned to the Office of Alumni Relations before 9 a.m. the morning following the last official day of B and D term. It will be returned to the previous trophy keeper the following C and A terms, respectively, or at the discretion of the Goat’s Head Committee.

II. If at any point during the school year the current keeper would like to have the Office of Alumni Relations hold the trophy for them, they can email ghc@wpi.edu to coordinate a drop off time.

III. The Goat’s Head Trophy cannot be defaced in any way and all engravings must be coordinated by the WPI Office of Alumni Relations. The Trophy maybe engraved with up to 6 characters and no engraving of the goat can be larger than one half inch square (1/2 in²). The characters to be engraved must be approved by the Goat’s Head Committee. Only the WPI Office of Alumni Relations can authorize the engraving when the Trophy has a new keeper. If the group or class is already engraved on the Goat’s Head trophy, it will not be added again. It will be listed again on the plaque and online list.

IV. A plaque will be maintained by the Office of Alumni Relations detailing the Goat’s Head Trophy’s past keepers, to be displayed in a public location along with a picture of the keepers. This list will be available online as well.