

THE PRINCETON CHARTER CLUB
79 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, NJ 08540



PRINCETON PROSPECT FOUNDATION REPORT

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Caroline Kirby, Undergraduate Vice President

Club Life

Following incredible attendance at our recruitment events during Street Week, we are thrilled to announce that Charter has welcomed 119 new sophomores and several new juniors into the club. Over 950 students ranked Charter as a choice within the ICC, and 110 students selected Charter as their first-choice club. Our selective sign-in process ensured that our new members chose us, which fostered enthusiasm and spirit without competition.

Our new members are a wonderfully diverse group - drawing from not only different backgrounds, but broad academic and extracurricular interests, and will continue to allow Charter to grow as a welcoming place for all students. The officers formally introduced themselves and gave a general overview of the club to our new members last week; it was great to see the new class making friends, exploring our beautiful clubhouse, and chatting amongst one another.

The new class will be formally welcomed to Charter this Saturday for our traditional Prohibition Night dinner. Next week, to further facilitate the smooth integration of these members with our older membership, students will be paired up and encouraged to grab coffee, share a meal, or simply study together. We hope this will not only create an automatic friendly face in the club, and a resource to ask questions for new members, but also forge strong friendships. Additionally, we've made immediate efforts to ensure new members are comfortable hanging out in our clubhouse even before sophomore meals begin. Charter held a movie night, old members have reached out asking to play board games or pool to bond with the new class, and we've given additional extensive house tours to interested new members.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has not concluded, Charter held several social events within University guidelines during and following Street Week. Sophomores who attended our Street Week events were automatically invited to an outdoor Après Ski gathering, hosted in our expansive backyard under several tents. The timing was perfect - a Nor'easter brought light snow throughout the night, adding to the ambiance and theme. It was fantastic to see students reuniting after winter break. A focus of our social events - whether membership-only or open to the entire University community - is inclusion, comfort, and safety. While Charter often must limit attendance numbers to adhere to public safety protocols (and indoor capacity restrictions), we've sought out ways to ensure younger students, and those who may not know members, can attend. A block of list spots are reserved for Instagram, where students message the official Charter account to ask for a spot. Charter also always makes a point to have officers "on-duty" easily identifiable in bright orange safety vests if a student has a question or concern, and requires all attendees at events to read and understand our community safety guidelines in regards to sexual harassment and consent. The goal of our events is to allow students to mingle and have a good time, while preserving an open, safe environment for all.

Our officers are currently working with our graduate board to hold several alumni speaker events this spring. We hope to continue to strengthen the relationship between our undergraduate members and alumni, and will be inviting several former members to return to the club (in-person or virtually, dependent on COVID protocols) and share their career paths and experiences.

Finally, Charter is looking forward to working with the Athletic Department and other eating clubs to create a stronger, more spirited Tiger culture. Ideas include incentives provided by Athletics for Charter members to attend athletic events, utilization of the Club's backyard to encourage alumni to return for Princeton home games and mingle with current members, and in general increase the relationship between the Athletic department and Princeton students.

Technology

Charter's website is currently undergoing new development, both for updates to the information currently provided (officers, grad board, menu, schedule) and to expand the current pages to include more detailed summaries of our Code of Conduct, SHARE initiatives, community service, among other things, and share additional photos of the club.

Our Computer Cluster is up-to-date with several monitors and standing desks for students to use, and the club is looking to purchase shared chargers for members to borrow in the near future. Our House Manager is in the process of purchasing more video game consoles and games for member's use in our TV Room.

Service and Sustainability

Charter is proud of our member's participation in the street-wide community service initiative this past Halloween, and is currently in the planning process for a club-wide day of service this spring. Additionally, we'd like to highlight our membership's general commitment to service - several Charter members are VOTE-100 fellows, SHARE peers, and lead other initiatives on campus. Members will frequently head up smaller community service and fundraising projects; most recently, a former officer organized a "Super Bowl Square" competition during Sunday's game, with the winner's proceeds split between the member and a local Trenton charity.

In regards to sustainability, our President recently appointed a new Sustainability Chair, who will work closely with the Kitchen Managers and House Manager to oversee environmental initiatives around the Club.

We look forward to the year ahead - thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Kirby

Undergraduate Vice President