

AEPi Fraternity hosts a Beach Volleyball Tournament

As the IDC continues to grow and expand, many students are looking for ways to integrate the International students with the local Israeli students. One of the leading organizations working to help in this integration process is the recently created AEPi fraternity, which accepts members from both schools and plans social and cultural events aimed at attracting guests regardless of nationality.

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AEPi, IDC's recently created and only fraternity had its first event this past weekend, in the form of a large-scale beach volleyball tournament. The tournament was a huge success and brought together over 100 students from the Interdisciplinary Center, both from the International school as well as the Israeli school. Ofri Ben-Porat the fraternity president explained, "This is exactly what the fraternity is all about, trying to integrate both schools together. Sports are something that everyone can come together on." In fact, as part of the tournament rules, teams had to be made up of students from both schools. Integrating international students both into the country and into a school composed primarily of Israelis is one of the biggest challenges that the IDC faces.

The fraternity, which is the first of its kind in Israel, is now 15 members strong. It's pledges range from the US, Canada, Israel, Columbia, Australia, and South Africa. The small, but extremely active group has played a central role in the development of the fraternity and managed to organize the tournament in under a week. As part of the promotion for the event they set up a booth on campus to sign up teams while simultaneously encouraging healthy living by handing out flyers as well as fresh fruit to all students who

walked by. The fraternity will continue to play an active role on the campus, hosting not only social events but also helping to improve the lives of students from both schools.

Avishay Perez, 1st year Government explained, "People have this notion that fraternities are all about drinking and being stupid, but we're not like that at all. What we're trying to do is bring lots of good people together to meet and have a good time." Perez is one of the Israeli members of the fraternity.



First AEPi volleyball tournament

"We're filling a need for programming and events that isn't being satisfied by any other group on a campus," said Matthew Sutherland,



1st year Government and one of the organizers of the tournament. “No recreational sports existed on the IDC campus until now,” he went on. “When we promoted this event on campus people kept on coming up to us and saying what a great idea it was, they wanted to know why no one had done this before.”

The event also served as a form of recruitment for the expanding fraternity. Yoni Strano a 1st year communications student (International school), heard about the event after seeing a flyer on campus. “I saw the flyer and I figured why not? But this has been so much fun that I am going to find out about joining.”

that promise to continue integrating the two schools and offer a good time to everyone involved.



RRIS students participating in the tournament

The winners of the tournament were awarded a donated bottle of 10 year old Glenmorangie Whiskey. When asked if there would be future beach volleyball tournaments or other athletic events Ben-Porat replied with an immediate “Definitely! People had such a good time some even asked if it was too early to register their team for the next tournament.” The Beach volleyball tournament is only the beginning of AEPi’s plans for social events, however. As the member base continues to grow and IDC students become more aware and interested in the events, the fraternity intends to hold larger and more exciting activities