

Layer 0:

Identity

What cannot change. Who we are, everywhere.

"Centralized identity. Decentralized execution."

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Layer 0: Identity

What cannot change. Who we are, everywhere.

Doc 1 – Vision & Mission Statement

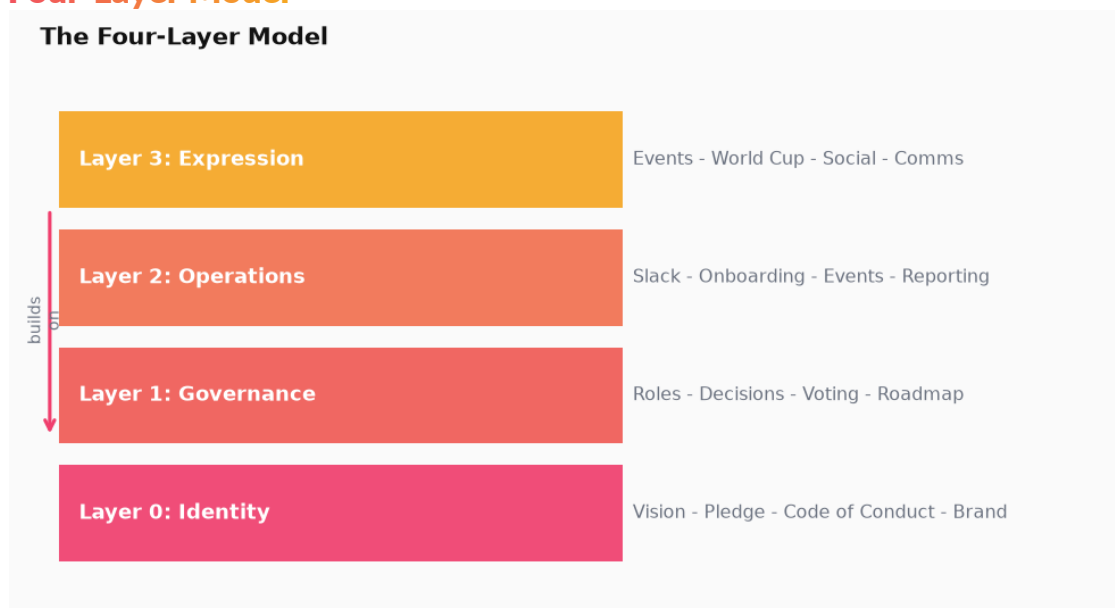
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The Four-Layer Model



Doc 1: Vision & Mission Statement

Layer 0 – Foundation Identity | Version 1.0

Vision Statement

We believe that artificial intelligence is not the story of machines becoming more powerful – it is the story of people deciding what kind of world they want to live in. The AI Fellowship exists to ensure that every person on earth, regardless of geography, language, background, or access to capital, has a genuine seat at the table where that decision is made. We are building the global infrastructure for human-centred AI: not a platform, not a product, but a living community of people who refuse to let the most transformative technology of our time be shaped by only a handful of voices.

Mission Statement

The AI Fellowship unites and empowers AI learners, practitioners, and enthusiasts across every continent to responsibly explore, build, and advocate for AI that serves all of humanity – with curiosity as our compass and belonging as our foundation.

3,000+

Members

80+

Countries

4

Layers

1

World Cup

Core Values

1. AI Literacy Is a Human Right

Understanding AI should not require a computer science degree, a venture-backed startup, or a seat at a prestigious conference. We believe every person deserves the knowledge and vocabulary to participate in conversations about technology that affects their life. We create spaces – online and in-person – where that literacy is built generously, without gatekeeping, and at every level of experience.

2. Belonging Before Credentials

In the Fellowship, you belong the moment you walk in the door. We invest in people, not profiles. Whether you shipped a production AI system this morning or opened ChatGPT for the first time last week, your curiosity is enough. We have zero tolerance for the culture of posturing, credential-flashing, or "well, actually" that drives people away from technical communities.

3. Diversity Is Our Greatest Strength

The most powerful solutions to the world's hardest problems will not come from homogeneous rooms. They will come from the collision of perspectives across disciplines, cultures, languages, and lived experiences. We actively seek out, amplify, and create space for voices that are underrepresented in AI – not as a box to check, but because we genuinely believe the field is weaker without them.

4. Build in the Open

Half-baked ideas are welcome here. Learning in public, failing gracefully, and iterating honestly are acts of courage – and we celebrate that courage. We do not wait until something is perfect before we share it. The Fellowship grows through radical intellectual generosity: sharing resources, surfacing connections, and treating each other's work as worth investing in.

5. Responsible AI Is Non-Negotiable

We are not naive about the risks of the technology we love. We advocate loudly for AI that is transparent, fair, privacy-respecting, and accountable. We hold ourselves to that standard in our own events, tools, and community practices. Enthusiasm for AI and rigour about its harms are not in tension – for us, they are the same commitment.

Who We Are

The AI Fellowship is a global community of 3,000+ people across 80+ countries united by a single belief: AI should work for every human, not just the few who already speak its language. What began in March 2024 as a WhatsApp group of Perplexity Fellows – started by Zohaib Khan with nothing more than a message and a conviction – has grown into a movement spanning local chapters from London to Lagos, Paris to Delhi, and dozens more cities across every continent. We are researchers, builders, students, career-changers, policymakers, and curious minds. We are not here to swap business cards. We are here to genuinely invest in the people behind the nametags, to build things together that none of us could build alone, and to make sure the future of AI is shaped by the full breadth of human experience.

What We Believe

We believe AI is not a technology problem. It is a people problem – and that makes it everyone's problem to solve. Right now, the conversations that matter most about artificial intelligence are happening in rooms that most of the world cannot enter. The people building these systems, setting their boundaries, and deciding their applications are a fraction of the people who will be affected by them. The AI Fellowship exists to close that gap. We believe that a student in Lagos, a nurse in Manila, a grandmother in Bogotá, and a researcher in Berlin all have something essential to contribute to how AI develops – and that our collective future depends on making space for all of them. AI literacy is not a luxury or a career advantage. It is a civic necessity. And we are building the community infrastructure to make it real, everywhere, for everyone.

Doc 2: Member Pledge

Layer 0 – Foundation Identity | Version 1.0

Format: Standalone card / onboarding screen

The AI Fellowship Member Pledge

By joining The AI Fellowship, I am making a commitment – not just to an organisation, but to a community of people who are counting on me to show up with the same generosity, curiosity, and care that I hope to receive.

I will lead with curiosity, not credentials.

I will come to this community as a learner first – open to being changed by what I encounter, willing to ask the questions I might be embarrassed to ask elsewhere, and genuinely interested in the minds and experiences of people different from me.

I will contribute before I consume.

I will share what I know, amplify what others are building, and offer help before I ask for it. I understand that this community is only as valuable as what each of us puts into it.

I will treat every voice as worth hearing.

I will actively make space for perspectives that aren't like mine – especially the quietest ones. I will not dominate, dismiss, or speak over. I will listen with the intent to understand, not just to respond.

I will use AI responsibly and honestly.

I will be transparent about when and how I use AI tools. I will not misrepresent AI-generated work as my own original creation without disclosure. I will think critically about the systems I use and their impact on others.

I will protect the culture we are building.

I will not bring gatekeeping, ego, or toxicity into this space. I understand that the Fellowship's greatest asset is its culture of safety and intellectual generosity – and I take personal responsibility for preserving it.

I will honour the Fellowship's name wherever I act in it.

Whether I am attending a chapter event, representing the Fellowship online, or participating in the AI World Cup, I will conduct myself in a way that I would be proud to have associated with this community.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chapter / Location: _____

Spirit of the Pledge

This pledge exists not as a legal contract but as a mirror. Before you sign, it asks you to pause and consider what kind of community member you intend to be – and after you sign, it gives you and your fellow members a shared language for holding each other accountable when we fall short. The Fellowship is built on trust between people who mostly haven't met yet; this pledge is the bridge that makes that trust possible from day one.

Onboarding UX Note

Immediately after signing the pledge:

1. Welcome screen – A personalised welcome message appears: "Welcome to the Fellowship, [Name]. You're now one of [X] people across [Y] countries who made this same commitment. Here's what's waiting for you."
2. Chapter matching – The member is shown their nearest active chapter (or invited to start one) with a one-click button to connect with the local Chapter Director.
3. Platform routing – A visual map of the community platforms (Discord, WhatsApp, Discourse) is shown with recommended entry points based on their stated interests during signup.
4. Founding Member recognition – If applicable, the Founding Member badge is displayed and explained.
5. First action prompt – A single, low-friction call to action: "Introduce yourself in #introductions – just your name, city, and one thing you're curious about right now."

The pledge signing should feel like a moment of arrival, not a compliance checkbox. Animation, warm copy, and a visual acknowledgment (confetti, a welcome card, a badge appearing) all reinforce that joining the Fellowship means something.

Doc 3: Code of Conduct

Layer 0 – Foundation Protection | Version 1.0

Applies to all AI Fellowship platforms, events, and activities globally

Preamble

The AI Fellowship is a community built on the conviction that AI should work for every human – and that principle starts here, in how we treat each other. This Code of Conduct exists not because we expect bad behaviour, but because creating a genuinely safe, inclusive, and intellectually rigorous community requires more than good intentions. It requires explicit commitments, shared standards, and fair, consistent mechanisms for upholding them.

This Code protects everyone: the first-time attendee who worked up the courage to come to their first meetup, the researcher sharing half-finished ideas, the student asking a question they fear is "too basic," and the veteran practitioner who needs to know that the Fellowship is a space where expertise is shared generously. It protects people from harassment, exclusion, and bad-faith behaviour – and it protects the community itself from the erosion that occurs when problematic conduct goes unnamed and unaddressed.

This document was written to be read, not archived. If you are a Chapter Director, read it before your first event. If you are a member, read it before your first interaction. If something happens that this document doesn't cover, use its spirit to guide your judgment.

Scope

This Code of Conduct applies to:

- All official AI Fellowship platforms, including Discord servers, WhatsApp groups, Discourse forums, and any future community platforms.
- All AI Fellowship events, including chapter meetups, hackathons, workshops, the AI World Cup, and associated social events before, during, and after official programming.
- All public-facing conduct where a person identifies themselves as an AI Fellowship member or representative, including social media posts, blog posts, conference presentations, and media interviews.
- All direct communications between community members facilitated through Fellowship channels or relationships.
- Chapter Directors, Global Council members, Advisory Board members, volunteers, speakers, sponsors, and judges – not just general members.

The standard does not change based on seniority, role, or level of contribution to the community.

Expected Behaviours

1. Intellectual Generosity

Share what you know freely and without gatekeeping. When you have expertise that could help someone else, offer it without making them feel small for not already having it. Ask questions openly. Acknowledge uncertainty honestly. Credit others' ideas, tools, and work when you build on them. The Fellowship's culture of "half-baked ideas welcome" only functions when people trust that sharing prematurely will be met with support, not ridicule.

2. Inclusive Participation

Actively make room for voices other than your own. In meetings and events, be mindful of how much space you occupy – not in a way that silences you, but in a way that invites others in. If you notice someone trying to contribute but being talked over, help them into the conversation. This is especially important in cross-cultural, multilingual settings where confidence and fluency are not the same thing.

3. Respectful Disagreement

Disagreement is healthy and welcome. The Fellowship is a community of people with strong, informed opinions about fast-moving and contested topics. Disagree with ideas, not with people. Critique work constructively and specifically. When someone's approach differs from yours, start from the assumption that they have reasons worth understanding before you challenge them. "I see this differently because..." is always a better opening than "you're wrong."

4. Honest Attribution and Transparency

Be transparent about your work, your tools, and your sources. This includes being explicit about when AI tools contributed substantially to something you share. Do not claim original authorship of work that was generated, heavily edited, or substantially completed by an AI system without disclosure. In competition contexts, follow the specific AI use rules set by the event organiser.

5. Privacy and Data Respect

Do not share private information about others – including photos, messages, location, employment, or personal circumstances – without their explicit consent. Be especially careful in cross-border contexts where what is considered private or public varies. When in doubt, ask before sharing.

6. Constructive Conflict Resolution

If you have a problem with a fellow member, try to resolve it directly and respectfully first. If you cannot, use the reporting procedure in this document. Do not litigate interpersonal disputes publicly in community channels – this harms everyone in the space, not just the parties involved.

7. Upholding the Community Standard

Every member is a stakeholder in the Fellowship's culture. If you see something that doesn't align with this Code of Conduct, say something – to the person involved if it is safe to do so, or to a Chapter Director or the reporting channel if it is not. Silence in the face of problematic behaviour is not neutrality; it signals to the person being harmed that no one cares.

Unacceptable Behaviours

The following behaviours will not be tolerated in any Fellowship context, regardless of who does them or how they are framed:

Harassment of any kind – including unwanted physical contact, sexual advances, comments targeting someone's gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, age, or immigration status. This includes sustained one-on-one messaging after someone has signalled they do not wish to continue the conversation.

Intimidation and threats – explicit or implicit threats of harm, career retaliation, or social exclusion intended to silence, coerce, or punish someone for participating in the community.

Discrimination in participation – denying someone access to a Fellowship event, opportunity, or resource based on their identity, background, experience level, country of origin, language fluency, or any other protected characteristic.

Doxing – publishing or threatening to publish private personal information about someone without their consent, including but not limited to home addresses, phone numbers, immigration status, medical information, financial details, or workplace details.

Deliberate misrepresentation – knowingly providing false information about yourself, your work, your organisation, or the Fellowship in ways that harm others or damage the community's reputation.

Predatory or exploitative behaviour – using the Fellowship's network and access to its members for extractive commercial purposes that benefit only the actor, including unsolicited sales pitches, pyramid scheme recruitment, and misuse of member contact information gathered through Fellowship events.

Harmful content – sharing, posting, or linking to content that is pornographic, gratuitously violent, designed to incite hatred, or intended to harm a specific individual or group.

Sponsorship and commercial boundary violations – promoting, endorsing, or entering into commercial arrangements on behalf of the Fellowship without explicit authorisation from the Foundation, as detailed in the Brand & IP Policy.

AI-Specific Conduct Standards

The AI Fellowship exists at the intersection of technology and human community. This creates obligations that most community codes of conduct don't address. The following standards apply specifically to AI-related conduct:

Misrepresentation of AI-generated work: In all Fellowship contexts – particularly competitions, presentations, and published writing – members must disclose substantive use of AI generation tools. "Substantive" means that the AI produced content that you are presenting as reflective of your own thinking, creativity, or technical capability, and where a reasonable reader would be misled about the origin of that work. Using AI for editing, research assistance, or ideation support does not require disclosure, but producing AI-generated outputs and presenting them as wholly human-created does.

AI use in competitions: Each AI Fellowship competition, including the AI World Cup, will publish explicit rules about permitted and prohibited AI tool use for that event. Members must adhere to those rules precisely. Circumventing, exploiting ambiguity in, or misrepresenting compliance with competition AI rules is treated as a serious conduct violation equivalent to academic dishonesty.

Data and privacy in AI projects: Members building AI projects within Fellowship contexts must not use data collected from Fellowship members (survey responses, forum posts, event registrations, contact information) to train or fine-tune AI models without explicit, informed consent from those members. Members must not share or publish datasets containing personally identifiable information about other Fellows without consent.

Algorithmic harm: Members presenting AI systems within the Fellowship – particularly in hackathon or showcase contexts – are expected to engage honestly with the potential harms and failure modes of those systems. Presenters who are asked about bias, fairness, or unintended consequences should engage with those questions in good faith rather than dismissing them.

AI impersonation: Do not use AI tools to impersonate other Fellowship members, create fake member profiles, generate fabricated testimonials or endorsements, or otherwise deceive the community through synthetic media.

Responsible AI advocacy: The Fellowship advocates for responsible AI broadly. Members who publicly represent the Fellowship should not endorse, advocate for, or commercially benefit from AI systems that they have reason to believe cause significant harm to people – particularly in contexts where that advocacy could be attributed to the Fellowship.

Safeguarding: Minors and Vulnerable Participants

The AI Fellowship welcomes participants of all ages, including students under 18. The following provisions apply wherever minors may be present:

- Events that explicitly include or are likely to attract minors must be flagged in advance to the Foundation so that appropriate safeguarding protocols can be confirmed.
 - Adult members should not engage in one-on-one private communications with minors through Fellowship channels without a parent or guardian's knowledge and consent.
 - Photography and video of minors at Fellowship events requires explicit written consent from a parent or legal guardian. Chapter Directors are responsible for collecting and storing this consent.
 - Any allegation of inappropriate conduct involving a minor will be escalated immediately to the Foundation and, where required by local law, to relevant authorities. This overrides all other internal procedures.
 - Chapter Directors who become aware of safeguarding concerns involving a minor have a mandatory obligation to report – not merely the option to do so.
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Reporting Procedure

We are committed to taking every report seriously and handling it with care, consistency, and confidentiality.

How to Report

Option 1 – Direct report to a Chapter Director If the concern involves a fellow member (not a Chapter Director or leader), you may speak directly with your local Chapter Director. They are trained to receive reports, document them, and escalate appropriately.

Option 2 – Email to the Foundation Send a report to: conduct@theaifellowship.com This inbox is monitored by the Global Council's designated Conduct Lead (not by the Chapter Director of the relevant chapter). Reports submitted here are confidential and will not be shared with the subject of the report unless an investigation requires it.

Option 3 – Anonymous reporting An anonymous reporting form is available at: theaifellowship.com/report Anonymous reports can be investigated but may limit the actions available to the Foundation if the reported person disputes the facts and cannot be confronted with evidence. We still encourage anonymous reporting – even reports that cannot be fully investigated give us important information about patterns of behaviour.

What to Include (if you are comfortable doing so)

- What happened
- When and where it happened (event, platform, date/time)
- Who was involved (names or descriptions)
- Whether there were witnesses
- Whether you have any evidence (screenshots, messages)
- What outcome you are hoping for

What Happens After You Report

1. **Acknowledgement** – The Conduct Lead will acknowledge receipt of your report within 48 hours.
2. **Initial assessment** – Within 5 business days, the Conduct Lead will determine whether the report falls under this Code of Conduct and what category of response is appropriate.
3. **Investigation** – Where needed, the Conduct Lead will gather additional information. They may speak with you, with the reported party, and with witnesses. Both parties will have the opportunity to share their perspective before any decision is made.
4. **Decision and communication** – A decision will be communicated to the reporting party and (where appropriate) to the reported party within 30 days of the initial report.
5. **Confidentiality** – The fact that a report was made, the content of the investigation, and the outcome will not be shared beyond those directly involved, except where disclosure is required by law or is necessary to protect the safety of others.

Enforcement Ladder

Responses are calibrated to the nature and severity of the conduct. The following steps are a guide, not a rigid formula – the Foundation reserves the right to skip steps when the severity of conduct warrants

it.

Step 1: Private Warning

When used: First instance of minor conduct violations – a comment that crossed a line, an honest misunderstanding, a lapse in judgment that caused limited harm. What it involves: A private, written communication from the Conduct Lead or Chapter Director that names the behaviour, explains why it violates the Code, and sets clear expectations for future conduct. No public record is made, but the warning is logged internally.

Step 2: Formal Warning with Conditions

When used: Repeat instances of minor violations, a single instance of moderate violation, or failure to comply with a previous warning. What it involves: A formal written warning that may include specific conditions (e.g., not attending certain events, a period of supervised participation, a required conversation with a Chapter Director). The member's continued participation depends on meeting these conditions. The warning is logged on the member's internal record.

Step 3: Temporary Suspension

When used: A serious single violation, a pattern of behaviour despite warnings, or conduct that caused real harm to a specific person or to the community. What it involves: The member is suspended from all Fellowship platforms and events for a specified period (typically 30–90 days). The suspension is communicated to relevant Chapter Directors so it can be enforced consistently. The member may be reinstated at the end of the suspension period if they acknowledge the conduct and commit to the Code. A reinstatement conversation with the Conduct Lead is required.

Step 4: Permanent Removal

When used: Severe single violations (including but not limited to: sexual harassment, assault, credible threats of violence, doxing, or safeguarding failures involving minors), persistent violations despite previous enforcement steps, or conduct so fundamentally incompatible with the Fellowship's values that no path to rehabilitation is evident. What it involves: The member is permanently removed from all Fellowship platforms, events, and activities. Their membership is revoked. Chapter Directors across the Fellowship are notified as needed to enforce the removal. The person may not re-apply for membership.

Immediate Temporary Removal

In any case where a person poses an immediate safety risk, a Chapter Director or Global Council member may remove that person from an event or platform immediately, pending investigation. This is a precautionary measure, not a finding of guilt, and the full procedure will follow.

Appeals Process

Any member who receives a formal warning, suspension, or removal may appeal the decision. The appeal process is:

1. Submit a written appeal to appeals@theaifellowship.com within 14 days of receiving the enforcement decision.
 2. The appeal must state: the grounds for appeal (e.g., procedural error, new evidence, disproportionate sanction), and any relevant supporting information.
 3. The appeal will be reviewed by a panel of two Global Council members who were not involved in the original decision. If no two eligible Council members are available, an Advisory Board member may serve.
 4. The panel will issue a decision within 21 days. Their decision is final.
 5. During the appeal period, the original enforcement decision remains in effect unless the panel determines that an immediate stay is warranted.
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Revision Process

This Code of Conduct will be reviewed annually by the Global Council. Proposed revisions may be submitted by any member via the Proposals Process (Document 7). Substantive changes require a supermajority vote of the Global Council (two-thirds of members voting). Changes that affect the core protected categories, enforcement procedure, or the scope of the Code are classified as "identity matters" and cannot be amended by chapter-level vote. An updated version will be published with a clear version number and change log.

Doc 4: Brand & IP Policy

Layer O – Foundation Protection | Version 1.0

Effective: Upon adoption by the Global Council

Preamble

The AI Fellowship's identity – its name, visual language, and flagship programmes – is the shared inheritance of every member and chapter. It has been built through the collective effort of thousands of people and represents a promise about what the Fellowship stands for. This policy protects that identity. It is not a bureaucratic restriction; it is the mechanism by which every chapter can benefit from the trust and recognition that the brand carries, while ensuring that trust is never eroded by inconsistency, commercial misuse, or misrepresentation.

This policy should be read alongside the Governance Charter. Chapter Directors are expected to understand it fully. Violations are handled under the IP Enforcement Procedure below.

1. Ownership Declaration

All intellectual property described in this policy is owned exclusively by The AI Fellowship Foundation (the "Foundation"), a nonprofit entity. This includes all elements of the brand, the AI World Cup competition, and any centrally produced materials. Ownership does not transfer to chapter directors, local entities, sponsors, or partners by virtue of their involvement with the Fellowship. No agreement, contribution, or tenure entitles a chapter, individual, or partner to ownership of or licence beyond what is expressly granted in this policy.

2. What Is Covered

The following are the exclusive property of the Foundation:

2.1 The Name "The AI Fellowship," "TAIF," and any derivative names including chapter-specific adaptations (e.g., "The AI Fellowship Lagos," "TAIF Paris") are covered. The name may not be used for any purpose not authorised by this policy.

2.2 The Logo and Visual Identity All versions of The AI Fellowship wordmark, logomark, and combined logo. The official design system, including colour palette, typography, layout standards, and templates produced by the Foundation. Any visual mark that a reasonable person could mistake for an official AI Fellowship mark.

2.3 The AI World Cup The "AI World Cup" name, format, scoring system, judging framework, and all associated materials are owned by the Foundation. No chapter may independently organise, licence, or co-brand an event as "AI World Cup" without a specific written agreement with the Foundation for that

event.

2.4 Domain Names All domain names including theaifellowship.com and any subdomains. Domain registrations associated with local chapters remain in the name of or under the direct control of the Foundation. Chapter Directors may not register domain names using the Fellowship's name without prior written approval.

2.5 Centrally Produced Materials Presentation templates, onboarding materials, member pledge cards, event collateral, the Member Pledge, this Code of Conduct, and any other document produced and published by the Foundation.

3. Licence Grant to Chapters

The Foundation grants each active, approved chapter a limited, non-exclusive, non-transferable, revocable licence to use the Brand Assets described in Section 2 solely for the following purposes:

- Promoting and organising AI Fellowship chapter events
- Recruiting members to the chapter
- Communicating with existing members on behalf of the chapter
- Applying for local sponsorship within the limits defined in Section 5
- Producing local printed and digital materials using Foundation-provided templates

This licence is active only while the chapter is in good standing. Good standing means the chapter has a currently approved Chapter Director, has complied with the Code of Conduct and this Brand Policy, and has not had its licence suspended by the Foundation.

4. Design Rules

4.1 Logo Use

- The logo must always be reproduced from official source files provided by the Foundation. Do not recreate, trace, or approximate the logo.
- The logo must never be altered, stretched, rotated, recoloured, or have elements added or removed.
- The minimum safe zone around the logo is equal to the height of the wordmark's capital letter on all four sides. Nothing may intrude into this zone.
- The logo may be used in the Foundation's approved colour variants only. On light backgrounds: primary colour version. On dark backgrounds: reversed (white/light) version. Do not place the logo on backgrounds that create insufficient contrast.
- Minimum print size: 20mm wide. Minimum digital size: 60px wide.

4.2 Colour Palette

Chapters must use only the Foundation's official colour palette for branded materials. The current palette is specified in the Brand Guide published and maintained by the Foundation. No substitutions are permitted on materials that use the Fellowship name or logo.

4.3 Typography

Chapters must use only the Foundation's official typefaces for branded materials. Font substitutions on branded materials require written approval from the Foundation's design lead.

4.4 Chapter Identification

All chapter-produced materials must clearly identify themselves as a local chapter: e.g., "The AI Fellowship Lagos Chapter" – not simply "The AI Fellowship." The chapter name must appear in a way that makes clear this is a local group, not the global Foundation.

4.5 Prohibited Modifications

- Do not place the logo on busy photographic backgrounds without the approved container treatment.
 - Do not add taglines, slogans, or descriptors to the logo that were not approved by the Foundation.
 - Do not combine the Fellowship logo with sponsor logos in a way that implies co-branding or joint ownership.
 - Do not use brand assets to endorse products, services, or positions that the Foundation has not endorsed.
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5. Sponsorship Boundaries

5.1 What Chapters May Do

Chapters may solicit and accept local event sponsorship within the guidelines of this policy. Chapters may use their own chapter name to credit sponsors (e.g., "The AI Fellowship Lagos Chapter thanks [Sponsor] for supporting this event"). Chapters retain all local sponsorship revenue they raise.

5.2 What Requires Foundation Approval

- Any sponsorship arrangement that names "The AI Fellowship" (without a chapter qualifier) in the sponsor's materials.
- Any multi-chapter or global sponsorship proposal.
- Any arrangement in which a sponsor receives a platform, speaking slot, or visibility at more than one chapter event.
- Any sponsorship deal exceeding a value threshold set annually by the Foundation (current threshold to be published in the Chapter Director Handbook).
- Any MOU or formal partnership agreement of any kind.

5.3 Prohibited Sponsor Categories

The following categories of sponsors are prohibited at all levels – chapter, regional, and global – regardless of the value of the deal:

- Tobacco, nicotine, and vaping products
- Gambling, sports betting, and online casino products
- Weapons manufacturers and defence contractors
- Predatory lending products (payday loans, high-interest consumer debt products)

- Cryptocurrency or blockchain projects engaged in unregistered securities activity or with public records of fraud
- Companies currently under active investigation by securities regulators
- Adult entertainment
- Political parties or explicitly partisan political organisations
- Any organisation that has been publicly credibly accused of significant discriminatory practices, human rights violations, or large-scale environmental harm and has not demonstrably addressed those allegations

Chapter Directors who are uncertain whether a potential sponsor falls into a prohibited category must seek Foundation guidance before accepting.

5.4 Sponsor Communication Standards

Chapters must not imply to sponsors that they represent or can bind the Foundation. All sponsor agreements should state clearly that they are with the local chapter only. Templates for chapter-level sponsor agreements are available from the Foundation.

6. IP Enforcement Procedure

If the Foundation becomes aware of an actual or potential violation of this policy:

1. Notice – The Foundation will notify the chapter director (or individual) in writing, identifying the specific violation and requesting correction or cessation within 14 days.
 2. Cure period – If the violation is capable of being remedied (e.g., incorrect logo use, unauthorised colour modification), the chapter or individual has 14 days to correct it and confirm correction to the Foundation.
 3. If not cured – If the violation is not corrected within the cure period, the Foundation may: suspend the chapter's brand licence; require the chapter to remove all materials using the brand; seek legal remedies if the violation constitutes trademark infringement or otherwise harms the Foundation.
 4. Non-curable violations – Some violations (e.g., entering into a prohibited sponsorship, using the AI World Cup name for an unauthorised event) may result in immediate suspension of brand licence without a cure period.
 5. Chapter dissolution – If a chapter's brand licence is revoked and not reinstated within 60 days, the chapter is considered dissolved. The exit provisions of Section 7 apply.
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7. Exit Provisions

7.1 When a Chapter Closes

When a chapter is dissolved (whether voluntarily or by the Foundation):

- The chapter's brand licence terminates immediately.
- All branded materials – digital and physical – must be removed or returned within 30 days.
- Any domain names registered on behalf of the chapter must be transferred back to Foundation control within 30 days.

- Member data held by the chapter must be deleted or transferred to the Foundation as directed, in compliance with applicable data protection law.
- Unused sponsorship funds raised in the name of the chapter must be returned to sponsors or transferred to the Foundation, not retained by departing Chapter Directors.

7.2 When a Chapter Director Leaves

When a Chapter Director leaves (whether voluntarily or by removal):

- Their access to all Foundation systems, platforms, and communication channels associated with the chapter is revoked.
- They have no ongoing right to use the Fellowship brand in any professional capacity.
- Any materials they created in their capacity as Chapter Director remain the property of the Foundation.
- They may retain recognition for their contributions (e.g., "Former Chapter Director, TAIF Lagos") in personal biography contexts, but may not suggest ongoing affiliation.

7.3 Alumni Recognition

The Foundation may, at its discretion, maintain an alumni record of former Chapter Directors and their contributions. Inclusion in this record is a courtesy, not a right, and does not convey ongoing brand usage rights.
