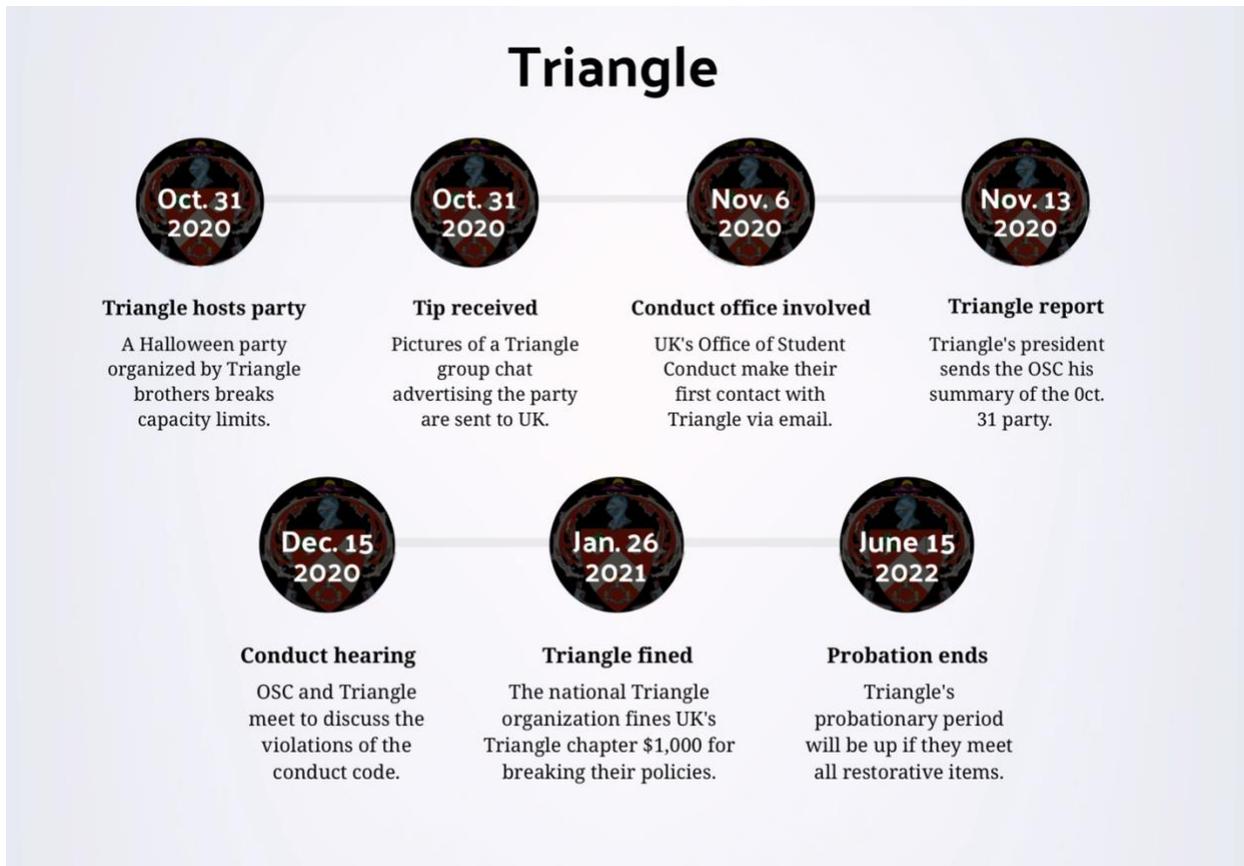


Triangle



Triangle

Triangle was reported to UK via the incident reporting form because of a Halloween party on Oct. 31, 2020. A screenshot attached to the report showed a Triangle group chat with messages advertising a costume party and providing numbers for drivers to the event.

“The intent was to keep this event among friends, but a brother misunderstood and sent the invitation in a group chat that contained people who we did not know,” said Triangle’s president in his event summary. In the conduct hearing, the president also stated that he did not know the text invitation happened.

According to investigation records, a redacted chapter member said during the conduct hearing that “no COVID safety guidelines were outlined to the chapter members regarding the event, and that it is not the first unregistered off-campus event at the residence.”

The president estimated that around 35 people attended the party, which lasted from about 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. that night, and took place in the backyard and inside of the house.

“I take full responsibility for this event. I believe the extended quarantine, as well as knowing everyone who was at the event, made me let my guard down,” the president said in his report, where he listed all of the attendees he could remember.

Three officers for the fraternity were present and the party was hosted at the residence of another four Triangle brothers.

The Office of Student Conduct concluded that the event was associated with Triangle because of those two facts, along with the pooling of money to provide alcohol for the event and prior knowledge of the fraternity that the event would occur.

According to a summary of the conduct hearing, a fraternity member whose name was redacted said “that one member was accepting money from underage members to purchase alcohol, and that the chapter members who were present were drinking.”

However, the chapter president said in his summary that the event was not funded by a group and that individuals supplied the drinks they wanted.

“Everyone Venmo’ed and asked about bought for both of and not of age guest – not everyone was of age,” say notes from the conduct hearing.

Some of the attendees were members of UK sorority Gamma Phi Beta, who Triangle had previously hosted joint events with. According to case notes from the Office of Student Conduct, party attendees were all friends, went of their own accord and were comfortable participating in the group.

“We got a little bit too relaxed. we brought friends out to spend time together and participate in this event,” the notes said. “Not a fraternity party, it was funded and planned by individuals.”

According to the case notes, the brother who sent the invitation in the fraternity chat “didn’t understand what the event was for.” He was not asked to invite more people but wanted to expand the party “a bit.”

“Lots of people didn’t approve – didn’t want to take risks – not sure who is responsible for the message,” the case notes said. Snapchat invitations were also sent out.

Despite statements by members that the party was not organized as a fraternity event, fraternity members provided rides to partygoers.

“We had people who wanted to drive - to make sure people could get to and fro - it's a faraway house - they drove friends and people who had decided to come - if they needed a ride or hang they didn't have to be intoxicated to be driven,” the case notes said.

The Office of Student Conduct made contact with Triangle on Nov. 6 and a conduct hearing was held on Dec. 15.

According to the case notes, fraternity members admitted to not having any COVID-19 guidelines for the party.

“No masks - no distancing - we didn't enforce any COVID guidelines,” the notes said. Additionally, fraternity members said during the conduct hearing that a gathering had been hosted at the same address earlier in the semester, again not registered with the university and “just friends.”

Following the conduct hearing, Triangle was found in violation of three standards: misuse of alcohol, failure to follow COVID-19 guidelines and abuse of the process. Abuse of the process can apply to several actions, including falsifying information and failing to meet restorative action plans.

“After this incident, our organization has decided to strictly ban any gatherings larger than 10 brothers, and will institute punishments based on the severity of the offense,” the summary from fall 2020 said.

UK's Triangle chapter was fined \$1,000 by the Triangle national standards committee for a violation of the fraternity's risk guidelines, according to an email shared with the Office of Student Conduct and the chapter president.

“We were still very much in the wrong and outside regulation. The responsibility for this event falls on individuals, including myself,” the chapter president said.

Triangle's probation lasts until June 15, 2022. The chapter's current president declined to comment on their probation.