

Indiana

Blue Book of Masonic Law

Adopted by the
GRAND LODGE FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
of the State of Indiana

Constitution of the Grand Lodge
By-Laws of the Grand Lodge
Rules of Order of the Grand Lodge
General Regulations
Standing Resolutions of the Grand Lodge

2001
(Updated 2014)

Published by authority of
Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons
of the State of Indiana

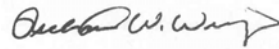
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FOREWORD

This 2001 edition of *The Indiana Blue Book of Masonic Law* is a compilation of the 1993 edition, together with all changes thereto through and including the 2001 Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

This 2001 edition contains a list of standard forms and other helpful information. Actual copies of forms have been published separately.

The Grand Master expresses his sincere gratitude to Max L. Carpenter, P.G.M., Grand Secretary; John E. Grein, P.G.M., Grand Treasurer; Roger VanGorden, Deputy Grand Master; Jerry S. Jones, P.M.; and Carol Van Horn for their combined efforts that made this new edition possible.



Richard W. Wierzba
Grand Master



Max L. Carpenter, P.G.M.
Grand Secretary

November 1, 2001

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**TABLE
of
CONTENTS**

Foreword	i
Declaration of Principles	1
Constitution of the Grand Lodge	3
By-Laws of the Grand Lodge	13
Chapter 1 - Grand Lodge Meetings	15
Chapter 2 - Duties of Grand Officers	17
Chapter 3 - Salaries and Bonds	23
Chapter 4 - Trustees, Boards and Committees	25
Chapter 5 - Representation in Grand Lodge	33
Chapter 6 - Grand Lodge Dues	35
Chapter 7 - Grand Lodge Administration	37
Rules of Order of the Grand Lodge	39
Chapter 11 - Rules of Order	41
General Regulations for the Government of Lodges	45
Chapter 12 - Requirements for a Lodge	47
Chapter 13 - Lodges Under Dispensation	51
Chapter 14 - Obtaining a Charter	57
Chapter 15 - Consolidation of Lodges	59
Chapter 16 - Dissolution of a Lodge	61
Chapter 17 - Lodge Officers - Election and Installation	65
Chapter 18 - Duties of Lodge Officers	73
Chapter 19 - Lodge Halls	75
Chapter 20 - Construction and Indebtedness Supervisory Board ...	79
Chapter 21 - Use of Lodge Halls	83
Chapter 22 - Meetings of a Lodge	89
Chapter 23 - Masonic Burial and Memorial Service	95
Chapter 24 - Lodge Records	99
Chapter 25 - Jurisdiction	101
Chapter 26 - Masonic Residence	103
Chapter 27 - Waiver of Jurisdiction	107
Chapter 28 - Eligibility for Membership	111
Chapter 29 - Petitions for the Degrees	117
Chapter 30 - Proficiency of Candidates	127
Chapter 31 - Qualification of Candidates	131
Chapter 32 - Rejected Petitioners and Objections	135
Chapter 33 - Transfer of Membership and Demission	139
Chapter 34 - Notices to Lodges and Members	145
Chapter 35 - Conferring of Degrees	147
Chapter 36 - Examination of Visitors	153

Chapter 37 -	Annual Dues	155
Chapter 38 -	Masonic Relief	165
Chapter 39 -	Lodge Administration	167
Chapter 40 -	Plural Membership	175
Penal Code of the Grand Lodge		179
Chapter 42 -	Masonic Offenses	180
Chapter 43 -	Complaints and Charges	187
Chapter 44 -	Masonic Trials: How Conducted	201
Chapter 45 -	Masonic Trials: Evidence	209
Chapter 46 -	Masonic Trials: Argument, Finding and Judgment ..	213
Chapter 47 -	New Trials	219
Chapter 48 -	Appeals	221
Chapter 49 -	Restoration	224
Standing Resolutions of the Grand Lodge		229
Chapter 50 -	How to Take a Vote	231
Chapter 51 -	Amendments	235
Chapter 52 -	Grand Lodge Library and Museum	237
Chapter 53 -	Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund	239
Chapter 54 -	Grand Lodge Finances	241
Chapter 55 -	Grand Lodge Administration	245
Chapter 56 -	Fraternal Recognition	255
Chapter 57 -	Lodge Administration	257
Chapter 58 -	Indiana Masonic Home	259
Chapter 59 -	Indiana Freemason	261
Chapter 60 -	Official Ritual	263
Chapter 61 -	Official Monitor	269
Chapter 62 -	Service Awards	271
Chapter 63 -	Miscellaneous	277
Certificate of Grand Secretary		280
Appendix		
A: The Ancient Landmarks		281
B: The Old Charges		283
C: Reception of Distinguished Guests		289
D: Model By-Laws		293
E: Ball and Cube Ballot		303
F: Message From the Grand Master: Your Sacred Right and Duty ...		307
G: Message From the Grand Master: The Sublime Degree		309
H: List of Standard Forms		311
Index		315

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES
of the
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE
OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF THE STATE OF INDIANA

Adopted May 24, 1939

Revised May 18, 1949

Revised May 18, 2005

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational and religious fraternity. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its only secrets are in its methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction.

It is charitable in that it is not organized for profit and none of its income inures to the benefit of any individual, but all is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind.

It is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty.

It is educational in that it teaches by prescribed ceremonials a system of morality and brotherhood based upon the Sacred Law.

It is religious in that it teaches monotheism, the Volume of the Sacred Law is open upon its Altars whenever a Lodge is in session, reverence for God is ever present in its ceremonial, and to its Brethren are constantly addressed lessons of morality; yet it is not sectarian or theological.

It is a social organization in that it brings good men together in numbers to teach and practice the art of Freemasonry.

Through the art of Freemasonry, the improvement and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community. Thus it impresses upon its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them as to those things which make for human welfare, and inspires them with that feeling of charity, or good will, toward all mankind which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action.

To that end, it teaches and stands for the reverence of God; truth and justice; fraternity and philanthropy; and enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious and intellectual. It charges each of its members to be true and loyal to the government of the country to which he owes allegiance and to be obedient to the law of any State in which he may be.

Masonry abhors Tyranny as being repugnant to its concept of the dignity of the individual personality, destructive of the basic human rights which are the Divine heritage of all men, and contrary to the fundamental Masonic tenets of faith in God and the free exercise of religion.

Revised June 2005

It believes that the attainment of these objectives is best accomplished by laying a broad basis of principle upon which men of every race, country, sect and opinion may unite.

Believing these things, this Grand Lodge affirms its continued adherence to that ancient and approved rule of Freemasonry which forbids the discussion in Masonic meetings of creeds, politics or other topics likely to excite personal animosities.

It further affirms its conviction that it is contrary to the fundamental principles of Freemasonry and dangerous to its unity, strength, usefulness and welfare, for Masonic bodies to take action or attempt to exercise pressure or influence for or against any legislation, or in any way to attempt to procure the election or appointment of government officials, or to influence them, whether or not members of the Fraternity, in the performance of their official duties. The true Freemason acts in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.

CONSTITUTION of the GRAND LODGE

WHEREAS, Every Grand Lodge possess the inherent power to form a Constitution, as the fundamental law of its Masonic action, and to enact such by-laws, from time-to-time, as it may deem necessary for its own government; and to make such rules and prescribe such regulations for the administration of its subordinate Lodges, as will insure the prosperity thereof, and promote the general good of Masonry; AND WHEREAS, every Grand Lodge is the true representative of all the Fraternity in communication therewith, and is in that behalf an absolute and independent body, with supreme legislative authority:

Provided, always, that the ancient landmarks of the order be held inviolate; THEREFORE, upon these principles, which have never been disputed, the Grand Lodge of Indiana does hereby ordain, establish and promulgate the following Constitution and By-Laws for its future government, and does make and prescribe the following rules and regulations for the government of the Lodges under its jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

ARTICLE I. TITLE†

This Grand Lodge shall hereafter be known by the name and style of the GRAND LODGE FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF INDIANA; *Provided*, that its complete name and style as adopted in 1863, viz.: the MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE STATE OF INDIANA, shall continue to be used for ritualistic and ceremonial purposes.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 115; 1952: 93.

Editorial Note: The Grand Lodge is not incorporated, but is organized under an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, viz., “An Act to enable trustees to receive lands and donations and convey the same, for use of schools, churches, religious societies, Masonic and Odd Fellows Lodges, Sons and Daughters of Temperance, and for the construction of cemeteries, houses of worship, or other buildings therein mentioned.” I.R.S. 1852, ch. 101.

†For statement of the aims and purposes of Freemasonry and of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, see 1918: 227-254.

**ARTICLE II.
OF WHOM IT CONSISTS**

The Grand Lodge shall consist of a Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, the Past Grand Masters, the Past Deputy Grand Masters, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lecturer, Grand Marshal, Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Steward and Tyler, Assistant Grand Lecturer, Grand Organist, together with the Worshipful Masters or their duly appointed proxies of the chartered Lodges under its jurisdiction; all of whom must be members in good standing of Indiana Masonic Lodges.

The Administrative Assistant to the Grand Secretary in the Grand Lodge Office, and all members of Grand Lodge Committees who are not included in any class or category enumerated above in this Article II shall become and be designated during their voluntary services, as Associate Members of the Grand Lodge. Such committee members shall receive mileage and per diem allowances for their attendance and services at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, but with no vote at said meeting.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1863: 115; 1960: 42; 1961: 89; 1966: 33, 96; 1967: 99.

**ARTICLE III.
HOW OFTEN TO MEET**

(a) The Grand Lodge shall hold a stated meeting at least once each year at such time and in such place as may be designated in its by-laws;

(b) *Provided*, that in the event of a State or National emergency which would render the convening of the Grand Lodge at that time impossible or unwise, the Grand Master may cancel the stated meeting or postpone it to a later date.

(c) The permanent members of the Grand Lodge, who are all of the Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters mentioned in Article II of this Constitution, shall meet at least twice each year, or more often at the call of the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1960: 42; 1961: 89.

Cross Reference: Secs. 1.010, 1.020, 1.030.

**ARTICLE IV.
NUMBER NECESSARY TO DO BUSINESS**

The Grand Lodge shall not be opened, nor any business transacted therein, unless there be present representatives from at least ten (10) of the chartered Lodges; but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from day-to-day, until a constitutional quorum shall attend.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

**ARTICLE V.
STYLE AND RANK OF GRAND OFFICERS**

The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be styled and take rank as follows:

Most Worshipful Grand Master
Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden
Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary
Worshipful Grand Chaplain
Worshipful Grand Lecturer
Worshipful Assistant Grand Lecturer
Worshipful Grand Marshal
Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon
Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon
Grand Steward and Tyler
Grand Organist

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 117; 1992: 62-63, 71; 1996: 29, 96; 1999: 140.

**ARTICLE VI.
WHO ARE ELIGIBLE AS GRAND OFFICERS**

No Brother shall be eligible to, or hold office in this Grand Lodge, who is not at the time, a member in regular standing of a chartered Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge. No Brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master or Grand Warden, who has not been duly elected, installed and presided over a subordinate Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 117.

**ARTICLE VII.
OFFICES - HOW FILLED**

At each stated meeting of the Grand Lodge there shall be elected, by ballot, from among the Brethren who are at the time constitutionally eligible, a Grand Master, a Deputy Grand Master, a Senior Grand Warden, a Junior Grand Warden, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary and a Grand Trustee.

All other Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master-elect, with the advice and consent of the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Approved Decisions

VII-1. *Vote Must Be Taken.* Motion to authorize G.M. or other Grand Officer to cast entire vote of G.L. is in clear violation of G.L. By-Laws. 1900: 60-61, 68.

VII-2. *Time Limit.* Appointment to fill vacancy holds only until next following annual meeting. 1912: 174.

**ARTICLE VIII.
OFFICERS MUST BE INSTALLED**

No Grand Officer shall officiate in the station to which he may be elected until he has been legally installed according to the formula adopted by this Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1882: 38, 72, 136.

**ARTICLE IX.
POWERS OF GRAND MASTER**

(a) The Most Worshipful Grand Master has the right to convene the Grand Lodge or any committee thereof in a special meeting or to convene the permanent members of the Grand Lodge in a special meeting on any emergency which in his judgment may require it, and the expense of such meeting shall be paid at the Grand Master's order.

(b) He has the power, at his discretion, to assemble any subordinate Lodge, and preside therein, inspect its work, and require a strict conformity to the constitutional rules and regulations of the Fraternity.

(c) For good reason he may suspend the functions of any Lodge.

(d) He has the command of every Grand Lodge Officer, touching the duties and ministrations of their several offices, and may call on any of them for advice and assistance on business relative to the Craft.

(e) He shall decide all questions of law or usage submitted to him with, or without, the advice of the Committee on Jurisprudence, subject, however, to an appeal to the Grand Lodge, and until such decisions or opinions be reversed by the Grand Lodge, they shall be and remain in full force and effect. He shall have no authority, expressed or implied, to set aside, in whole or in part, any Article of the Constitution, Law or Regulation of this Grand Lodge, the patent intent of which is clearly stated. He shall have no authority, expressed or implied, to issue an edict that violates the patent intent of any Article of the Constitution, Law, Rule or Regulation of this Grand Lodge.

(f) He may suspend any member from all rights and privileges of Freemasonry, for good cause shown, until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge and such suspension will be effective until such suspension is reversed, ratified or made permanent by the Grand Lodge.

(g) He shall have the right and duty to determine all controversies that may arise between Lodges, including but not limited to questions of Lodge jurisdiction, while the Grand Lodge is not in session, or, in his discretion he may submit the same to the Committee on Jurisprudence for recommendation.

Historical Reference: 1822: 38, 72, 136; 1849: 56; 1960: 42; 1961: 90; 1975: 74; 1988: 93, 102; 1989: 84, 95; 1990: 90; 1999: 97-98; 2000: 157.

Cross Reference: Sec. 2.010; Regs. 16.070, 32.070, 43.010, 43.050, 43.060, 43.181.

Approved Decisions

IX-1. *Effect of Removal.* G.M. may suspend or remove from office any Grand Officer. Suspension or removal of appointed officer is final. Suspension or removal of elected officer is subject to review by G.L. 1934: 240.

IX-2. *Authority of G.M.* Where G.M. had rendered decision that the fact that petitioner for Degrees of Masonry necessarily wore a truss was not good grounds for objection to his advancement in Masonry, and accused in open Lodge threatened to prevent several candidates, already elected, from going any further in Masonry if petitioner was not stopped and stated that his sole objection to further advancement of petitioner was that petitioner wore a truss, such member was properly charged, tried and punished for un-Masonic conduct. It was the duty of accused to yield to constituted authority of Masonry in the State. Obedience to constituted authority is a Masonic admonition and duty. No Mason should endeavor to bring decision of G.M. into contempt. 1884: 60-61.

IX-3. *Trial of G.M.* It shall be competent for the subordinate Lodge of which G.M. is a member, to try and expel or suspend him for any un-Masonic conduct not growing out of his official duties; and when expelled or suspended, his office of G.M. shall be vacated, and officer next in rank shall fill office. 1858: 54-55.

IX-4. *Trial of W.M.* Subordinate Lodges shall have power to try and expel or suspend their W.M. for any un-Masonic conduct not growing out of the discharge of his official duties. When Master of Lodge is expelled or suspended, officer next in rank shall succeed to station. 1858: 54-55.

IX-5. *G.M. Answerable to Grand Lodge.* G.M. and Masters of subordinate Lodges are answerable only to G.L. for acts growing out of his (their) official duties. 1858: 54-55.

IX-6. *Removal of W.M.* Worshipful Master of Lodge should not be removed from office by Special Deputy of G.M. but only by G.M. or G.L. 1952: 21, 111.

IX-7. *May Order Retrial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specification was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

IX-8. *May Reprimand Lodge.* G.M. has power to order reprimand for official misconduct, either to Lodge or W.M. while G.L. is not in session. 1954: 34, 88.

IX-9. *Write His Own Law.* Deciding questions of law and usage presumes that a law exists and needs interpretation or clarification. No authority, expressed or implied, gives the Grand Master power to write his own law where none existed before and to declare the same to be in full force and effect. 1978: 59, 84.

IX-10. *May Discipline Lodge.* G.M. properly placed Lodge upon probation which knowingly received petition from man rejected less than twelve (12) months by another Lodge and petition contained material misrepresentations known by Lodge to be false. 1984: 92.

ARTICLE X. DUTIES OF DEPUTY GRAND MASTER AND WARDENS

In the case of the death, absence or inability of the Grand Master, the powers and duties of his station, for all regular and necessary purpose shall, for the time being, devolve upon and be discharged by the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden or Junior Grand Warden, in the order here enumerated.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

**ARTICLE XI.
GRAND MASTER TO GRANT DISPENSATIONS**

During the recess of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master may grant dispensations for instituting new Lodges, attested by the Grand Secretary and Seal of the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Cross Reference: Sec. 7.020; Chapter 13; S.R. 56.020.

Editorial Note: If any set or number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a Lodge without the Grand Master's Warrant, the regular Lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair Brethren and duty formed, nor approve of their acts and deeds; but must treat them as rebels, until they humble themselves, as the Grand Master shall in his prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his warrant, which must be signified to the other Lodges, as the custom is when a new Lodge is to be registered in the List of Lodges. General Regulations, Article VIII, in Anderson's Constitutions, 1721, Grand Lodge of England.

**ARTICLE XII.
PETITION FOR DISPENSATION**

A Dispensation for Constituting a New Lodge may be granted by the Grand Master upon the petition of at least ten Master Masons.

Upon presentation of such a petition, the Grand Master shall direct the Lodge nearest in each direction to the location of the proposed new Lodge, to advise him by resolution that all of the petitioners are believed to be qualified for Masonic work, and also by resolution to make its recommendation to him as to whether such Dispensation for a New Lodge shall be granted or denied and the reasons upon which its recommendation is based.

The failure of any Lodge whose jurisdiction is affected to so advise or make its recommendation to the Grand Master by resolution shall be construed as an expression of approval.

The Grand Master will then grant or refuse to issue the dispensation as he may decide for the best interest of Masonry.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1882: 37, 72, 136; 1956: 34, 40, 85-86; 1957: 37; 1965: 96; 1966: 101; 1975: 74; 1992: 59-60, 85; 2004: 60.

Cross Reference: Sec. 7.020; Regs. 13.010, 14.020; Forms 1 and 2.

Revised June 2004

**ARTICLE XIII.
PRICE OF CHARTER**

There shall be a minimum charter fee for the instituting of a new Lodge of Forty Dollars (\$40), or more, as the Grand Lodge from time-to-time shall determine.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 118; 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1960: 42; 1961: 90.

Cross Reference: Form 3.

**ARTICLE XIV.
NO CHARTER TO BE GRANTED OUT OF
JURISDICTION OF GRAND LODGE**

No charter or dispensation for constituting a new Lodge shall be granted to any person or persons whomsoever residing out of the State of Indiana if within the jurisdiction of any other constitutional Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Approved Decisions

XIV-1. *Jurisdiction of G.L.* Jurisdiction of G.L. of Indiana extends to limits of State, and over every member and every Lodge under our constitution, and no farther. No M.M. residing without limits of State of Indiana has right to petition this Grand Body for dispensation. Lodges without jurisdiction of the G.L. have no right to confer degrees upon any citizen without our territorial limits unless a waiver has been granted (Reg. 27.010) or courtesy extended (Approved Decision 35.020-4). 1859: 22, 38; 1998: 83-86.

**ARTICLE XV.
POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE**

This Grand Lodge is the highest source of authority in Ancient Craft Masonry within its jurisdiction.

It may therefore:

First. Grant dispensations and charters for holding regular Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons, with the right to confer therein the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and, when deemed expedient and for good cause, may annul, revoke or amend such dispensation or charter, or any pre-existing dispensation or charter.

Second. It has original and exclusive jurisdiction over all subjects of Masonic legislation and appellate jurisdiction from the decision of subordinate Lodges; and its enactments and decisions upon all questions shall be the Supreme Masonic Law within its constitution.

Third. It may settle all controversies that may arise between Lodges, and has the final decision and determination of all matters, controversies or grievances which may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.

Fourth. It may make and adopt general laws and regulations for the government of the several Lodges under its jurisdiction, and at pleasure alter, amend or repeal the same.

Fifth. It may assess and collect from the several Lodges under its jurisdiction such sums of money annually as may be provided for in the by-laws of the Grand Lodge, and found necessary for the support and maintenance thereof.

Sixth. It may supervise the state and condition of its own finances and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be for the good of the Order.

Seventh. It may reprimand, suspend or expel any member from its own body for a violation of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, or for any other improper and un-Masonic conduct.

Eighth. It shall, at each annual meeting, consider and review the reports and doings of the Grand Officers for the past year, as well as those of the several Lodges under its jurisdiction.

Ninth. Finally, may do whatsoever may be regarded as necessary or appertaining to the well-being and perpetuity of Ancient Craft Masonry within the State of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 119; 1975: 75; 1998: 83-86.

Cross Reference: S.R. 55.150, 56.010.

Approved Decisions

XV-1. *G.L. is Supreme.* Repealed. 1828 Hacker: 217; 1998: 83-86.

XV-2. *Effective Date.* Amendment to General Regulations becomes effective on date of its adoption unless otherwise provided in the amendment. 1947: 22, 225; 1954: 28, 160.

ARTICLE XVI. THE FUNDAMENTAL LAW

This Book of Constitutions the Grand Lodge recognizes and adopts as the fundamental laws, rules and regulations for the government of Masons; and declares that it should be frequently read and perused by Masters and other craftsmen, as well within the subordinate Lodges as there out, to the end that none may be ignorant of the excellent principles and precepts it inculcates.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Approved Decisions

XVI-1. *Precedent of Masonic Law.* The Grand Lodge is the supreme Masonic authority within its jurisdiction. Law of the Grand Lodge of Indiana is divided into Constitution of the Grand Lodge, By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, Rules of Order of the Grand Lodge, General Regulations, Standing Resolutions of the Grand Lodge and Approved Decisions of the Grand Masters. The Constitution is the premiere point in our law. Approved Decisions are the inferior. Hence Decisions cannot overrule Regulations, which in turn cannot overrule By-Laws, which in turn cannot overrule Constitutional Articles. Decisions are an article/statement that define, interpret or set precedent of a superior point in law, be it a Regulation, By-Law or Constitutional Article. Therefore, Decisions are bound to a particular superior point in law. Decisions cannot stand by themselves. Decisions by definition are a subset of a superior point in law. Therefore, when that superior point in law is repealed, then the decisions bound to it are equally repealed. 2003: 117, 185.

ARTICLE XVII. HOW TO AMEND THIS CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be altered or amended in the following manner only: The proposed alteration or amendment must be made in writing at some stated meeting; if seconded by a majority of the votes it shall be entered upon the minutes, and be thereby submitted to the several subordinate Lodges for their approval or rejection; at the next succeeding Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall put the question upon its adoption, and, if concurred in by a vote of a majority of the members present, it shall from thenceforth be considered as a part and parcel of the Constitution.

But all such proposed alterations or amendments, before final action shall be had thereon, must be referred to, and reported upon by, the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1863: 54, 120.

Revised June 2003

BY-LAWS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE

OF INDIANA

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CHAPTER 1

GRAND LODGE MEETINGS

Sec. 1.010. *Annual Meetings.* There shall be an annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, but for good cause the same may be adjourned for a longer period; but in no event shall an adjournment extend beyond the period of two years.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1874: 123.

Cross Reference: Article III.

Sec. 1.020. *Place and Time of Meeting.* The stated meeting of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the City of Indianapolis, on the third Tuesday of May annually; and shall be opened in ample form at 10 o'clock a.m., when, as soon as it shall have been ascertained that a constitutional number of Lodges are represented, the Grand Master shall announce that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana is opened for business, and shall then continue in session from day-to-day so long as the business thereof may require it.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1947: 35, 225.

Cross Reference: S.R. 55.150.

Sec. 1.030. *Called Meetings.*

(a) Called meetings of the Grand Lodge may be held on call of the Grand Master, but no business shall be transacted except such as shall have been stated in the call.

(b) The permanent members of Grand Lodge, consisting of the Grand Lodge Officers, *ex officio*, and the Past Grand Masters and Past Deputy Grand Masters who are members of Indiana Masonic Lodges may be called to meet at such times and places as the Grand Master may deem to be in the best interests of Freemasonry.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1960: 43, 101.

Sec. 1.040. *Expenses at Called Meetings.*

(a) The expenses of Grand Lodge Officers in attendance at any meeting called for the purpose of constituting Lodges, dedicating or rededicating Masonic Temples, laying cornerstones, Grand or Past Grand Officers attending the funeral of any Grand or Past Grand Officer of this Grand Lodge, or of a Worshipful Master of a subordinate Lodge, or other ceremonies required to be done by the Grand Lodge, shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

(b) The expense of other called meetings and meetings of Committees of the Grand Lodge shall be paid as the Grand Master shall direct.

Historical Reference: 1898: 133; 1928: 92, 194; 1932: 272, 296; 1960: 43, 101.

CHAPTER 2

DUTIES OF GRAND OFFICERS

Sec. 2.010. *Duties of Grand Master:* It shall be the duty of the Grand Master:

(a) To appoint the following Standing Committees on or before the first day of April, each committee to consist of not less than three members of the Grand Lodge, to serve at the following annual meeting of the Grand Lodge beginning on the third Tuesday of May, to-wit:

Accounts
Credentials
Examining Visiting Brethren
Unfinished Business
Pay Roll

(b) To communicate in writing a statement of his official acts during the recess of the Grand Lodge. He shall report the general condition of Masonry within the jurisdiction and recommend such legislation as he may deem necessary for the welfare of the Fraternity.

He will cause his statement to be printed and distributed to each member of the Grand Lodge on or before May 1 of each year. He will also incorporate as enclosures all resolutions in his possession, in the possession of the Committee on Jurisprudence or in the possession of the Grand Secretary on the date of distribution.

(c) To install his successor.

(d) To determine when a vacancy exists in any Grand Lodge Office or committee and to fill any such vacancy that may occur during the recess of the Grand Lodge, until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, excepting only that vacancies in the Office of Trustee of the Grand Lodge, or in the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home shall be filled for the unexpired term created by the vacancy. In the case of temporary disability or absence from the State of any Grand Lodge Officer or committee member, the Grand Master may see that the functions of the office or committee are carried on by temporary appointment.

(e) To sign the minutes of the Grand Lodge meetings.

(f) For good cause shown to suspend the functions of a Lodge, and, for official or other misconduct, suspend the Master or other officer of a Lodge from his office, or any member from the rights and privileges of Masonry until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, but such suspension must be made within four years after the alleged Masonic misconduct has occurred, or, in the event of a criminal conviction for such misconduct, within two years after the date of such conviction. (See Reg. 48.050).

Not limited by the previous paragraph or the general regulations, if a member is charged with misconduct that should justify his expulsion from the Fraternity if the facts alleged are proven, the Grand Master shall have the authority to:

1. Remove the member from Lodge office;
2. Forbid the member from holding office; or
3. Limit or forbid the member from attending Lodge meetings or any function in a Lodge building.

Such restrictions are intended to prevent embarrassment to the Fraternity by one who by his reputation or behavior harms the Fraternity by his presence and may be taken only if the Grand Master finds that the restrictions are in the best interest of freemasonry. They may continue during any appeal period. The member's years of service in Masonry are not affected by the restrictions. Such restrictions must be reported to and acted upon by the Grand Lodge in a manner similar to suspension from membership.

Historical Reference: 2008: 39-40, 130; 2009: 139, 144-145; 2010: 44-46, 47, 129.

(g) To appoint within thirty days after the close of the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge at which he is elected, the following committees:

- Jurisprudence
- Ways and Means
- Grievances and Appeals
- Charters and Dispensations
- Ritual
- Masonic Education
- Foreign Fraternal Relations
- Lodge By-Laws

and also within said time to appoint:

A Supervisory Board; and

Three Master Masons as members of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home for a term of three years each and three Worshipful Masters of subordinate Lodges to serve **on the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home** during his term of office. Editorial Note: The words in bold were added for clarification per G.M.

The Grand Master shall designate the chairman of each of the several committees.

Until such time as the Grand Master shall appoint any committee above named, the existing or old committee shall continue.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1912: 174; 1913: 128; 1928: 93, 194; 1946: 121, 251; 1947: 30, 226; 1949: 121, 205-206; 1951: 92; 1960: 44, 101; 1962: 83, 88; 1988: 91-92; 1989: 83; 2007: 33, 102.

Cross Reference: Article IX; Reg. 43.070; S.R. 54.060, 55.020, 55.030, 55.040, 58.030.

Revised 2010

Approved Decisions

2.010-1. *Removal of W.M.* The W.M. of a Lodge should not be removed from office by Special Deputy of G.M., but only by G.M. or Grand Lodge. 1952: 21, 111.

Sec. 2.020. *Duties of Grand Treasurer:* The Grand Treasurer shall:

(a) Have charge and custody of all of the funds, securities, intangible property and vouchers of the Grand Lodge but not including such funds, securities, intangible property and vouchers as may be transferred to the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc., or to the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc., or such funds, securities, intangible property and vouchers as may be received by the Grand Trustees of the Grand Lodge and held by them pending liquidation or transfer to the Grand Lodge or to the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc.

(b) Pay all orders from the Grand Lodge monies on hand that may be lawfully directed by the Grand Lodge.

(c) Immediately after the close of each fiscal year of the Grand Lodge the Grand Treasurer shall prepare an annual report, showing all receipts and disbursements for the preceding fiscal year and the condition of all funds in his custody. He shall submit his annual report, together with his books of accounts, vouchers for money paid out, and all papers, records and securities in his custody for audit by auditors appointed by the Grand Master. The report of the auditors with the annual report of the Grand Treasurer shall be submitted to the Committee on Accounts of the Grand Lodge for verification and approval, and shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge at its annual meeting on the third Tuesday of May in each year.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1875: 123; 1934: 124, 224; 1936: 174, 222; 1960: 44, 101; 2009: 45, 136.

Cross Reference: Sec. 4.010; S.R. 54.070, 54.071, 54.090, 54.100, 54.130.

Sec. 2.030. *Duties of Grand Secretary.* It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary:

(a) To record the transactions of the Grand Lodge and to see that the necessary books and papers of his office are available at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge.

(b) He shall keep the Seal of the Grand Lodge and affix the same, with his attestation, to all instruments required to be so executed.

(c) he shall receive, receipt for, and immediately pay or deliver over to the Grand Treasurer all dues, fees, monies, securities and intangible property that shall come to him under these regulations, taking vouchers therefore.

Revised 2010

(d) He shall keep a journal of all the proceedings of the Grand Lodge,

distribute the same when ordered to be printed for circulation, and conduct any correspondence required of him under the orders of the Grand Lodge and the direction of the Grand Master.

(e) He shall procure all necessary books and stationery and shall have charge of all books and records, papers, parchments, certificates and documents, other than those belonging to the Grand Treasurer.

(f) He shall forward to the Grand Master or to the Committee on Foreign Fraternal Relations all matters of foreign correspondence as soon as received by him.

(g) he shall do and perform any other duties customary to his office and the established usage of the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 126; 1875: 123; 1956: 50, 104; 1960: 45, 101; 2009: 46, 136.

Cross Reference: S.R. 54.130, 55.030, 55.070, 55.110.

Sec. 2.040. *Duties of Grand Lecturer.* It shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer:

(a) To visit each Lodge as often as practicable or necessary, and he shall examine and instruct not less than three hundred of the Lodges during each year.

(b) To examine all of the Lodge records, its meeting place, arrangements, paraphernalia, furniture and general equipment.

(c) To witness the conferring by the Lodge of the official ritualistic work and ceremonies of the Lodge.

(d) To require the cipher rituals, the General Regulations, the Funeral Ceremony and the charter to be produced for his inspection.

(e) To call attention to all irregularities and give counsel and advice for the betterment of the work and improvement of conditions in general as well as give credit and encouragement for good work and satisfactory general conditions.

(f) He may require the officers of not more than three neighboring Lodges to attend a Lodge of Instruction called by him to meet in the hall of one of said Lodges and to exemplify the work specified by him and to exhibit the records and books of their respective Lodges at such a meeting, but no Lodge shall be required to attend more than two consecutive Lodges of Instruction held in neighboring Lodges until after a Lodge of Instruction has been held in its own Lodge Hall. The expenses of officers attending such meeting in a nearby town may be paid by their respective Lodges.

(g) He shall report his findings to the Grand Master after each visitation, calling particular attention to every case where a Lodge has continued a violation after having its attention called to an irregularity, so that the Grand Master may take any needed action against the offending Lodge.

Revised 2010

(h) He shall also forward to the office of the Grand Secretary for permanent

filing, a copy of the complete report of each visitation.

(i) A five-year test shall be conducted utilizing a Lodge Development Area Representative Program in place of the current Grand Lecturer Program.

Historical Reference: 1904: 123; 1928: 94, 205; 1963: 39, 48, 98-99; 1964: 107; 2000: 45-46.

Cross Reference: Article II, S.R. 55.100 (Assistant Grand Lecturer)

Approved Decisions

2.040-1. *Lodge Development Area Representative Program*. G.M. Recommendation 2-01. G.L. approved that the Area Representative Program be renewed for four more years. 2001: 11, 29, 137.

Sec. 2.050. *Attendance at Annual Meeting*. It shall be the duty of each Grand Lodge Officer to attend the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge unless excused by the Grand Master for good cause shown.

Historical Reference: 1960: 45, 101.

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CHAPTER 3

SALARIES AND BONDS

Sec. 3.010. *Salaries of Officers.*

(a) The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Lecturer and Assistant Grand Lecturer, for their services, shall be allowed an annual salary, the amount of which shall be included in the budget for the fiscal year and submitted to the Grand Lodge at the annual meeting for approval.

(b) All salaries shall be paid in monthly installments by the Grand Secretary by his warrants upon the Grand Treasurer.

Historical Reference: 1955: 44, 136.

Sec. 3.020. *Official Bonds.*

(a) It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden to see that an indemnity bond, in adequate amounts, shall be in force covering the following officers and employees: Grand Treasurer; Grand Secretary; the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees; and each member of the staff of the Grand Secretary's office.

(b) In addition, indemnity bond coverage shall at all times be in force upon the Secretary and Treasurer of each of the subordinate bodies and in an amount of at least \$5,000 upon each one.

(c) Such bonds shall be issued by some solvent surety company approved by the Grand Master, and all premiums therefore to be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1901: 45, 137; 1928: 32, 208; 1929: 122, 198; 1949: 49, 203.

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CHAPTER 4

TRUSTEES, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Sec. 4.010. Trustees.

(a) There shall be three Trustees of the Grand Lodge, one member elected annually, and each to serve for a term of three years.

(b) Said Trustees shall have the power to take and receive for the Grand Lodge any property, real or personal, by gift, conveyance, bequest or devise and to see and convey the same, and shall have the exclusive custody, control and management of all real estate and tangible personal property belonging to the Grand Lodge, except such property as previously has been or shall hereafter be placed by the Grand Lodge under the control of the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc., IMH Realty Corporation or the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc. A certain bill of transfer executed by said Trustees on November 21, 2003 provides that the assets being transferred by the Trustees to the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc. include all rights which the Trustees may have in any future gifts or bequests designated for the "Indiana Masonic Home", "Trustees of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana", or any variation of those names. Further, the Trustees have conveyed certain real estate, on which the Indiana Masonic Home is located, to IMH Realty Corporation.

(c) Said Trustees of the Grand Lodge shall make quarterly reports with remittances to the Grand Secretary, of all monies, securities and intangible personal property received by them and the net income and revenue from all property except such as may be needed for current Trustees expenses or such as may be transferred to the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc., in trust for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc. as provided in Standing Resolution 54.071.

Historical Reference: 1867: 46; 1868: 54; 1879: 113; 1939: 227-228; 1960: 45, 101; 2003: 13, 125; 2004: 43, 58.

Cross Reference: S.R. 54.130.

Sec. 4.015. Indianapolis Masonic Temple Association, Inc.

This Association shall consist of the following:

(a) Five directors from the Grand Lodge of Indiana, composed of the three (3) Grand Lodge Trustees and two annual appointments by the Grand Master;

(b) Masonic bodies owning shares of the corporation shall be represented by five directors;

If one or more of the Grand Lodge Trustees desires not to serve on this particular board, then the Grand Master shall appoint a proxy to act instead of the Trustee on this board only.

Historical Reference: 2003: 13, 125.

Revised June 2004

Sec. 4.020. *Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated.*

(a) The Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated, is established to further implement and enhance the charitable, benevolent, educational and religious interests of this Grand Lodge.

(b) The Foundation is and shall be subject to the instructions of the Grand Lodge as to the end results to be accomplished and obtained for the Masons of Indiana, and the Indiana Masonic Home. However, all of the means, modes, methods and manner of accomplishing such end results shall be and they are hereby vested in the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated.

(c) All of the property, real and personal or mixed, belonging to the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated, as well as the Endowment Fund of the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated, whether held in trust or otherwise, shall be held by said Foundation through its proper officers for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home and, subject to subsection (e), for no other purpose or purposes. Said Foundation shall also, through its proper officers or divisions, engage in the accumulation of Endowment Funds and other gifts of property, whether real, personal or mixed, for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home. The Foundation shall have the right and duty to transfer nonspecific gifts, bequests and funds to the Indiana Masonic Home and its officers upon proper request of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home accompanied by an order directing such transfer by the Grand Lodge, when in session or on order by the Grand Master, attested by the Grand Secretary, when the Grand Lodge is not in session.

(d) The Foundation may distribute funds to the Indiana Masonic Home in ways that include the following:

1. The Foundation may make periodic distributions under a policy adopted by the Board of Directors.

2. The Foundation may make lump sum distributions.

3. The Foundation may award loans or stipends to residents of the Indiana Masonic Home who qualify for fraternal assistance. The loans or stipends shall be awarded under policies established jointly by the Foundation and the Indiana Masonic Home and may be used only to defray living expenses and other services specified in the joint policies.

(e) If the Foundation Board of Directors determines that the amount of money in the Endowment Fund is sufficient to meet the needs of the Indiana Masonic Home and provide fraternal assistance to eligible persons who do not reside at the Indiana Masonic Home, the Board of Directors may award fraternal assistance loans or stipends, under policies adopted by the Board, to:

1. Members of Indiana Lodges;

2. Widows of members of Indiana Lodges; and

3. Members of Indiana Chapters of the Order of Eastern Star;

Revised May 2013

who demonstrate a need for fraternal assistance. The amount of the loans or stipends shall not exceed the amount of similar fraternal assistance provided to residents of the Indiana Masonic Home. The Foundation shall adopt policies to implement this provision. Persons who receive loans or stipends must submit applications, account for expenditures, and make reports as required by the Foundation.

(f) There shall be a Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated, consisting of no more than twelve members, each of whom shall have the following qualifications: one member shall be selected from the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home; one additional member shall be selected who is either a Trustee, an elected Grand Lodge Officer or a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge; and each of the Directors shall be knowledgeable and successful in the investment of funds, the management of funds, the management of real estate, or in related fields of law or accounting. Such Directors shall have demonstrated an interest in the Indiana Masonic Home and be willing to devote their personal time and best effort to the active management of the affairs of the Foundation.

Historical Reference: 1919: 57, 164; 1936: 174, 222; 1944: 40, 224; 1951: 92; 1960: 46, 101; 1980: 73; 2000: 150, 157; 2012: 45-46, 163; 2013: 35, 163.

Sec. 4.030. *Supervisory Board.*

(a) The Supervisory Board shall perform the duties as set forth in the General Regulations.

(b) To enable the Board intelligently to determine the wisdom and necessity of said plans, it shall have access to the records in the office of the Grand Secretary relating to said Lodge.

(c) The Board members shall serve without pay other than their actual and necessary expenses.

Historical Reference: 1928: 31, 222; 1930: 179, 238; 1951: 92; 2000: 147, 156.

Cross Reference: Regs. 20.010, 20.020, 20.030, 20.040, 20.050.

Sec. 4.040. *Board of Directors, Indiana Masonic Home.*

(a) The Indiana Masonic Home, Inc. shall have full ownership and control of all property previously transferred to it by the Grand Lodge and all property which is hereafter to be transferred to the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc., pursuant to the bill of transfer. Accordingly, the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc., shall have full ownership and control as to all such assets, and its Board of Directors shall have the power to do all things which in its judgment shall be necessary or desirable for the best interests of the Home.

(b) The by-laws of Indiana Masonic Home, Inc. shall provide that its Board of Directors shall have nineteen (19) members consisting of the following officers and appointees of the Grand Lodge and the Order of the Eastern Star: the Grand Master,

Revised May 2013

the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, the three (3) Grand Trustees, nine (9)

Master Masons appointed by the Grand Master (3 each year for a term of three (3) years), three (3) Worshipful Masters of subordinate Lodges appointed by the Grand Master (to serve during the Grand Master's term of office) and one (1) lady appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star in Indiana (to serve until replaced by the Worthy Grand Matron).

(c) If one or more of the Grand Lodge Trustees desires not to serve on this particular board, then the Grand Master shall appoint a proxy to act instead of the Trustee on this board only.

Historical Reference: 2013: 35, 163-164.

Sec. 4.045. *IMH Realty Corporation, Board of Directors*

(a) IMH Realty Corporation is organized for the exclusive purpose of holding title to real property for the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc., collecting the income therefrom and paying over the entire amount of such income, less expenses, to the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc. at least annually.

(b) The by-laws of IMH Realty Corporation shall provide that its Board of Directors shall have five (5) members consisting of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge and the three (3) Trustees of the Grand Lodge serving from time to time.

Historical Reference: 1913: 128; 1916: 79; 1928: 98, 195; 1946: 191, 251; 1948: 28, 185; 1951: 92; 1957: 31, 83; 1967: 31, 99; 2004: 43, 58; 2009, 45-46, 135; 2009 47-48, 136.

Cross Reference: S.R. 58.010, 58.020, 58.030, 58.040.

Sec. 4.050. *Duties of Committees.* The Standing Committees of the Grand Lodge shall perform and discharge the following specific duties to-wit:

(a) CREDENTIALS. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Credentials to examine the credentials of representatives, and report the name of each representative present; *Provided*, the dues of such Lodge shall have been fully paid.

(b) VISITING BRETHREN. The Committee to Examine Visiting Brethren shall perform the duties of their appointment according to Masonic usage.

(c) UNFINISHED BUSINESS. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Unfinished Business to examine the journal of the previous annual meeting and report all matters then ending and undetermined.

(d) ACCOUNTS. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Accounts to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Lodge Trustees, the Indiana Masonic Home, Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc., Scholarship Board, Inc., and the Masonic Library & Museum of Indiana, Inc., balance the same and report the actual state and condition of the funds to the Grand Lodge.

Revised May 2013

(e) CHARTERS AND DISPENSATIONS. The Committee on Charters and Dispensations shall examine the returns of the chartered Lodges, and their by-laws, when submitted to them, and shall note all improper, informal or illegal proceedings by any such Lodge and report the same to the Grand Lodge with their recommendations. They shall particularly examine the work, records, by-laws of all Lodges Under Dispensation and the proceedings of the Grand Lodge Officers granting the same. They will note all matters that are improper or unconstitutional, and report to the Grand Lodge with their recommendations.

(f) GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Grievances and Appeals to examine all matters of controversies and grievances when presented to them, to report with such recommendations for the action of the Grand Lodge as they may deem proper.

(g) JURISPRUDENCE. The Committee on Jurisprudence shall carefully examine all propositions to revise, alter or amend the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, as well as all questions of law and usage, and make report thereon in writing to the Grand Lodge.

Cross Reference: Article XVII: Sec. 7.050; Reg. 31.020.

(h) WAYS AND MEANS. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Ways and Means to take into consideration the condition of the funds and estate of the Grand Lodge, and all propositions and resolutions affecting its revenue, which may be offered; they shall specifically report thereon, and may recommend any measure which, in their opinion, will operate financially for the benefit of the Grand Lodge. See S.R. 54.020.

(i) PAYROLL. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Payroll to prepare a payroll, to ascertain and report the per diem and mileage allowed to the representatives and members of the Grand Lodge.

(j) FOREIGN FRATERNAL RELATIONS. The Committee on Foreign Fraternal Relations is an appointive body comprised of at least two members. Its purpose is:

1. To thoroughly investigate all requests of other Grand Lodges for Fraternal recognition by the Grand Lodge of Indiana.
2. To monitor the actions of Grand Lodges which are recognized by the Grand Lodge of Indiana to determine whether those actions may be cause for the withdrawal of recognition.
3. To thoroughly investigate all requests for the restoration of recognition by the Grand Lodge of Indiana to those Grand Lodges from which recognition has been withdrawn.

It is responsible for a complete and accurate report of its findings and recommendations to the Grand Lodge of Indiana at its Annual Communication. To accomplish its purpose, the committee has at its disposal the annual reports of the Commission on Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America and the individual analysis of the Secretary of that Commission. Additional information is available through the R.W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana in correspondence with other Grand Lodges. Relevant information may also be found in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Data sheets for active Grand Lodges

Revised May 2014

throughout the world are maintained by the chairman of this committee. Copies are on file in the office of the Grand Secretary. When a request for recognition is received by the chairman of the committee, copies of the letter of request, the Grand Lodge data sheet and all other relative information are forwarded to each committee member with a letter of transmittal requesting a recommendation to grant or deny recognition. The chairman of the committee, having received the recommendations of the members, will report the results and offer an appropriate resolution at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

REGULARITY AND RECOGNITION

The regularity and recognition of Grand Lodges are separate but allied subjects. Unless a Grand Lodge is regular, it cannot be recognized. Unless a Grand Lodge is recognized, its Brethren cannot meet as Freemasons with Brethren of regular and recognized Grand Lodges.

The Grand Lodge of Indiana uses a Statement of Principles containing eight (8) tests which it has applied and would apply in recognizing Grand Lodges throughout the world. To be eligible for recognition, a Grand Lodge must:

1. Have been established lawfully by a duly recognized Grand Lodge, or by three or more regularly constituted Lodges subordinate to a recognized Grand Lodge.
2. Have sovereign jurisdiction over the Lodges under its control and be a responsible, independent, self-governing organization with sole, undisputed authority over the Craft or Symbolic Degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.
3. Require a belief in a Supreme Being as an essential qualification for membership.
4. Require the Three Great Lights of Freemasonry, namely, the Volume of the Sacred Law, the Square and Compass, to be exhibited when it or its subordinate Lodges are at work.
5. Require all initiates to take their obligations on the open volume of the Sacred Law.
6. Require membership of its subordinate Lodges and, therefore, of itself to be comprised exclusively of men.
7. Strictly prohibit the discussion of religion and politics in the Grand Lodge and in its subordinate Lodges.
8. Require the strict observance of the principles of the Ancient Landmarks, customs and usages of the Craft.

Recognition is a series of bilateral relationships between Grand Lodges. If a Grand Lodge seeks the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and in due course is recognized, the mutual recognition between it and the Grand Lodge of Indiana cannot bind a third Grand Lodge. Freemasons should try to avoid accidental contact with Brethren from unrecognized Grand Lodges. This is to prevent potentially difficult and possible inharmonious situations from occurring. It is not an attempt to impose any particular view on other Grand Lodges.

Active Grand Lodges throughout the world can trace their origins to the Grand Lodge of England directly or through its forebear's, the Grand Lodge of England (Modern Constitution) and the Grand Lodge of England (Ancient Constitution). The latter two Grand Lodges merged on December 27, 1813, becoming the United Grand Lodge of

England. Recognition by the United Grand Lodge of England and by the Committee on Recognition of the Conference of Grand Masters of North America requesting recognition by the Grand Lodge of Indiana may be sufficient reasons for the latter to grant recognition.

Historical Reference: 1998: 109, 110; 1999: 140.

(k) RITUAL. The Ritual Committee shall consider all questions relating to the language, movements, music, forms, requirements and all other matters in connection with the ceremonies of a Lodge or of the Grand Lodge. They shall guard against insidious innovations and shall hold to the ancient customs that characterize Freemasonry. The recommendations of this committee shall be presented to the Grand Lodge for a majority vote approval before becoming effective, and then shall govern the Grand Lecturer and others.

Cross Reference: S.R. 60.010 to 61.020, inclusive.

(l) MASONIC EDUCATION. The Committee on Masonic Education shall devise and execute plans and methods which will encourage the establishment, maintenance and growth of Masonic libraries by the Lodges, promote interest in the attainment of Masonic knowledge among the Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction, create and execute methods whereby such knowledge or instruction may be adequately disseminated and made available to all Brethren and endeavor to bring about among the Craft a better understanding and appreciation of Masonry and the application of Masonic principles to the individual Mason.

(m) DEPOSITORIES. The Committee on Depositories, composed of the Trustees of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, shall recommend from year-to-year, to the Grand Master for his approval, the depositories for Grand Lodge funds.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1894: 15, 95; 1903: 67; 1921: 16, 217; 1928: 97, 194; 1932: 295; 1935: 231; 1942: 216; 1945: 18, 156; 1949: 40, 203; 1991: 20-21, 90.

Cross Reference: Article II; Sec. 7.030; S.R. 54.040, 55.150.

Editorial Note: Associate Members of Grand Lodge are not entitled to vote. This affects many committee members. See Article II.

(n) MASONIC YOUTH COMMITTEE. It shall be the duty of the Masonic Youth Committee to coordinate opportunities for cooperation and awareness between the Masons of Indiana, Grand Lodge and the Order of DeMolay, the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and the International Order of Job's Daughters.

Historical Reference: 2003: 13, 39, 124.

Revised May 2014

(o) HISTORICAL COMMISSION. It shall be the duty of the Historical Commission to verify claims relating to the Masonic historical accuracy with relation to permanent markers and public historical ceremonies. The Commission shall keep a record of Grand Lodge historical markers and other historical matters. A copy of said record shall be on file with the office of the Grand Secretary. The Commission will make reports to the Grand Lodge regarding permanent markers in need of repair with recommendations regarding the cost of such repairs. Lodges under this Masonic jurisdiction must consult with the Historical Commission on any plans to erect historical markers and plaques.

Historical Reference: 2014: 35, 154

Approved Decisions

4.050-1. *Committee Recommendations.* A recommendation of committee of G.L. upon subject regularly referred to it, when concurred in by vote of G.L., is an order of G.L. and must be obeyed. 1892: 15, 59.

Sec. 4.060. Committee Meetings.

(a) On the day next preceding the annual meeting of Grand Lodge the following committees shall meet to consider all matters referred to them and prepare to report specifically to the Grand Lodge thereon:

- Committee on Accounts
- Committee on Charters and Dispensations
- Committee on Grievances and Appeals
- Committee on Jurisprudence
- Committee on Ways and Means;

(b) *Provided*, that should circumstances arise which in the opinion of the Grand Master would require an earlier assembling of any committee, he is authorized to call such committee to meet at such time prior to the meeting of the Grand Lodge as will give it ample time to consider and prepare reports upon all such matters as may be laid before it.

Historical Reference: 1890: 131; 1958: 33, 91.

Cross Reference: Article II.

Editorial Note: Associate members of Grand Lodge are not entitled to vote. This affects many committee members. See Article II.

Revised May 2014

CHAPTER 5

REPRESENTATION IN GRAND LODGE

Sec. 5.010. *Pay of Members of Grand Lodge.*

(a) Each member of the Grand Lodge shall be paid a per diem allowance for every mile traveled in going to and returning from the meeting of the Grand Lodge, which distance shall be estimated by the most direct route.

(b) The amount of per diem and mileage shall be fixed from time-to-time upon recommendation of the Ways and Means Committee.

(c) An Officer *Pro Tem* shall not receive pay as such, nor shall the representative of any Lodge, the dues of which are not fully paid, be paid a mileage and per diem allowance

(d) *Provided*, that no mileage and per diem shall be paid to any Brother who attends the annual meeting as a guest of the Grand Lodge.

(e) Any member of Grand Lodge moving his residence outside the boundaries of the State of Indiana shall be paid an allowance for every mile, going to and returning from the meeting of the Grand Lodge, from the location of the Lodge where he held membership at the time he moved from the State of Indiana, computed by the most direct route.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1949: 50, 213; 1958: 34, 91; 1973: 70, 107.

Cross Reference: Article II; S.R. 54.120

Editorial Note: Associate members of Grand Lodge are entitled to mileage and per diem but may not vote. See Article II.

Sec. 5.020. *Lodge Representatives.*

(a) All Lodges working under charters shall be represented at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge by the Master, or a member of the Lodge as his proxy, appointed by the Master, certified under his official signature, but if the Master shall decline to attend the meeting or to appoint a proxy, the Lodge may, by resolution, designate and make choice of any member as the proxy, certified by the Secretary and attested with the seal of said Lodge.

(b) When the Worshipful Master or his proxy attends a meeting of the Grand Lodge, he attends not only as a delegate or Representative from his Lodge, but he also attends as a Member of Grand Lodge. The Worshipful Master or his proxy does more than represent his Lodge in Grand Lodge; he also represents Grand Lodge in his Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1963: 45, 48, 104.

Sec. 5.030. *Who Shall Vote: Majority to Decide.* In all elections and in the decisions of all questions arising before the Grand Lodge, each member shall have one vote except the Grand Steward and Tyler, and Grand Organist, and a majority of all votes cast shall govern.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1999: 140.

Cross Reference: Article II.

Editorial Note: Associate Members of Grand Lodge are not entitled to vote. This affects many committee members. See Article II.

Approved Decisions

5.030-1. *Vote Must Be Taken.* Motion to authorize G.M. or other Grand Officer to cast entire vote of G.L. is in clear violation of G.L. By-Laws. 1900: 60-61, 67-68.

CHAPTER 6

GRAND LODGE DUES

Sec. 6.010. *Annual Dues.* Each subordinate Lodge shall pay to the Grand Secretary on or before the fifteenth day of March, annually, for each initiation and for each member, such sums as the Grand Lodge shall from time-to-time direct, but no dues shall be required for a member for whom an initiation fee is paid during the same year.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1954: 53, 98.

Cross Reference: Sec. 6.030; Regs. 18.010; 39.020; S.R. 54.010.

Approved Decisions

6.010-1. *When Paid.* G.L. dues are not paid until received by Grand Secretary. 1928: 29, 203.

Sec. 6.020. *Dues and Assessments of Lodge Under Dispensation.* A Lodge Under Dispensation shall not be required to pay any Grand Lodge dues or assessments except the assessments collected for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home.

Historical Reference: 1948: 187; 1951: 92; 1982: 59.

Sec. 6.030. *Penalty for Non-Payment of Dues.* It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to notify the Grand Master of the delinquency of any Lodge which has not paid its dues in the prescribed time. The Grand Master, on receipt of such notification, shall notify the delinquent Lodge to promptly pay its dues and that if they are not so paid by March 25 the Lodge shall stand suspended from all its Masonic functions and shall appear at the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge to show cause why its charter should not be revoked.

Historical Reference: 1928: 99, 194; 1954: 54, 98.

Cross Reference: Reg. 39.020.

Approved Decisions

6.030-1. *When Paid.* G.L. dues are not paid until received by Grand Secretary. 1928: 29, 203.

6.030-2. *Authority to waive dues or assessments of Lodges.* Grand Master does not have the authority to waive or remit dues or assessments of Lodges. Only Grand Lodge has the authority to remit such dues and assessments. 2003: 117, 185.

Revised June 2003

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CHAPTER 7

GRAND LODGE ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 7.010. *Property of Defunct Lodge.* When a charter of a subordinate Lodge shall be surrendered or for any reason terminated, the Worshipful Master shall immediately take possession thereof, together with all money and other property of the Lodge, and forward to the Grand Master an inventory of the same with his certificate of such surrender. *Provided*, that the Grand Lodge shall have the right to disclaim or reject all or any part of the property which the Grand Lodge does not wish to receive, upon giving prompt and due notice of such disclaimer, not to exceed thirty (30) days of the receipt of the inventory as herein above provided. Such disclaimed or rejected property shall remain the property of the Lodge in dissolution pending its final disposition. It shall be the duty of the Supervisory Board to assist in a proper and appropriate disposition of any property disclaimed. The proceeds of the property of a Lodge whose charter has been surrendered or become forfeited may be, by order of the Grand Lodge, applied to the indebtedness of the same.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1995: 130; 2000: 147, 156.

Cross Reference: Reg. 16.030.

Sec. 7.020. *Fee for Dispensation.* The fee for dispensation shall be sixty dollars (\$60.00), which shall be paid to the Grand Secretary before the dispensation is issued.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Sec. 7.030. *Appropriations and Claims.* Every resolution or motion contemplating an appropriation from the funds, together with all claims against the Grand Lodge, shall be referred to and reported upon by the Committee on Ways and Means before it can be acted upon by the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Sec. 7.040. *Repealed.*

Sec 7.050. *Amendments.*

(a) No by-law shall be repealed or amended until the proposed amendments or repeal shall have been submitted in writing and seconded by a majority of all the members present at a previous annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, and not then until it has been referred to and reported upon by the Committee on Jurisprudence;

(b) *Provided*, that upon recommendation of the Committee on Jurisprudence and by a unanimous vote, any proposition, as aforesaid, may be adopted at the same meeting.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

RULES OF ORDER

OF THE

GRAND LODGE

OF INDIANA

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CHAPTER 11

RULES OF ORDER

Rule 11.010. *Time for Opening.* The Grand Master shall take the chair every day precisely at the hour prescribed in the by-laws, or to which the Grand Lodge shall have been called off.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Rule. 11.020. *Order of Business.* The order of business of each session of the Grand Lodge shall be as follows, except for the first session, when reports from the Grand Officers shall be first presented and referred:

- (a) Reading the minutes of the session for the previous day
- (b) Reports of Standing Committees in the order prescribed in the by-laws.
- (c) Reports of select committees.
- (d) Miscellaneous business.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Cross Reference: S.R. 55.150

Rule 11.030. *Order and Decorum.* During the hours of business the members are required to keep their seats and observe strict order and decorum, and no member shall leave the hall or absent himself from the session of the Grand Lodge without express permission.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Rule 11.040. *Motions.* No motion shall be entertained until it is seconded, and there shall be no debate thereon until it is stated by the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Rule 11.050. *Motions in Writing.* Every motion shall be reduced to writing, with the name of the mover endorsed thereon, if the Grand Master or Grand Secretary desires it.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Cross Reference: S.R. 55.150.

Rule 11.060. *Debate.* Every member shall stand when he speaks and shall address himself with respect and decorum to the presiding officer for the time being. He shall not be permitted to say anything which will have a tendency wantonly to inflame or irritate, as the sole objects of debate are to enlighten and expand the subject under discussion, to elicit truth, and to conscientiously endeavor to have everything done decently and in order.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Rule 11.070. *Debate Shall Cease.* When the Grand Master rises, all debate shall cease, and there shall be silence.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Rule 11.080. *Judge of Order and Debate.* The Most Worshipful Grand Master shall be the judge of order and debate. When his decision is fairly questioned, an appeal may be made to the Grand Lodge, but such appeal must be neither captious, contemptuous nor contumacious. Truth, justice and candor must be the *desiderata* in such appeal.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1875: 123.

Rule 11.090. *How Often Members May Speak.* No member shall be permitted to speak more than twice upon any subject, unless it be to explain, without permission from the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Rule 11.100. *Voting: Duty of Members to Vote.* When a question is put it shall be the duty of every member to vote, unless excused by the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1928: 100, 194.

Editorial Note: Associate Members of Grand Lodge are not entitled to vote. See Article II.

Rule 11.110. *Priority of Motions on Questions Under Debate.* When a question is under debate no motion shall be entertained but to commit, to amend, to postpone to a definite time, or to postpone indefinitely, which several motions shall have precedence in the order here arranged.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Rule 11.120. *Division of Questions.* Any member may call for the division of a question, which shall be divided, if it comprehend questions so distinct that, one taken away the rest may stand entire, for the decision of the Grand Lodge. A motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed divisible.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Rule 11.130. *Reconsideration of Motion.* When a motion has been once made and decided, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move for a reconsideration thereof.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56; 1875: 123.

Rule 11.140. *Questions Shall be Offered in Order.* All questions shall be propounded in the order in which they were moved, but in filling blanks the largest sum or the longest time shall be put first.

Historical Reference: 1849: 56.

Rule 11.150. *Transgression of Rules.* Any member transgressing these rules shall be subject to charges, and upon conviction thereof, suspended from the Grand Lodge.

Rule 11.160. *Amendments.* These rules of order may be amended at any meeting of the Grand Lodge, two thirds of the members present concurring therein.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

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GENERAL REGULATIONS

FOR THE

GOVERNMENT

OF LODGES

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CHAPTER 12

REQUIREMENTS FOR A LODGE

Reg. 12.010. *Dispensation or Charter.*

(a) Every Lodge organized by authority of and subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Indiana shall be required to possess and display in the Lodge Room a dispensation or charter, or a facsimile copy thereof, issued by said Grand Lodge.

(b) The charter shall not be moved from the Lodge Hall for any purpose except by official permission of the Grand Master.

(c) Should the charter of a Lodge become worn or illegible, a duplicate copy thereof may be issued by the Grand Secretary upon approval of the Grand Master, the Lodge paying the cost of lettering and preparation.

(d) The Grand Master may, upon request, issue a Certificate of Dispensation to be used by Lodges of this jurisdiction in lieu of actually transporting their Lodge Charters from the premises of their own Lodge Room. This "Certificate of Dispensation" signed by the Grand Master, must be framed, and on display, as if it were the original, or duplicate charter, of the Lodge. In those cases where permission is requested to move the charter within the Lodge building, the actual charter must be moved according to Approved Decision 12.010-1.

Historical Reference: 1844 Hacker: 400; 1875: 123; 1904: 21,113; 1951: 93; 1961: 45, 92; 1988: 81.

Cross Reference: S.R. 56.020.

Editorial Note: If any set or number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a Lodge without the Grand Master's Warrant, the regular Lodges are not to countenance them, nor own them as fair Brethren and duly formed, nor approve of their Acts and Deeds; but must treat them as Rebels, until they humble themselves, as the Grand Master shall in his Prudence direct, and until he approve of them by his Warrant, which must be signified to the other Lodges as the custom is when a new Lodge is to be registered in the list of Lodges - General Regulations, Article VIII, in Anderson's Constitutions, 1721, Grand Lodge of England.

Approved Decisions

12.010-1. *Two or More Rooms.* If Lodge meets in Temple where two or more rooms are used interchangeably, charter must be in all cases be hung in room in which Lodge is meeting. 1946:54, 250; Reg. 19.020.

12.010-2. *Moving of Charter.* G.M. Recommendation 4-01. G.L. approved that Lodges be permitted to move their charters within the Lodge Hall for the purpose of conducting a Table Lodge without obtaining permission from the Grand Master. 2001: 11, 29, 122.

12.010-3. *Outdoor Degrees*. G.M. Recommendation 9-01. G.L. approved that Lodges may move their charter for the purpose of an outdoor degree, under established guidelines, without securing permission from the Grand Master. However, permission must be secured for a certificate in lieu of moving the actual charter. 2001: 12, 30, 123.

Reg. 12.020. *Minimum Membership*. Each and every Lodge must consist of at least:

- * Worshipful Master,
- * Senior Warden,
- * Junior Warden,
- * Treasurer,
- * Secretary,
- * Senior Deacon,
- * Junior Deacon,
- * Senior Steward,
- * Junior Steward and
- * Tyler

With these may be associated a Chaplain, an Assistant Secretary and as many other members as may be found convenient for work and good government.

Historical Reference: 1928: 100, 194; 2002: 54-55, 157.

Cross Reference: Article XII; Regs. 13.010, 14.020.

Approved Decisions

12.020-1. *Separate Offices*. Offices of Secretary and Treasurer are separate and should not be held by same individual. 1982: 29, 203.

12.020-2. *Holding Two Offices*. Unless Lodge by-laws forbid, member may hold offices of Treasurer and Trustee, or offices of Secretary and Trustee at same time. 1912: 39, 173; 1936: 60, 258. Lodge consists of 10 officers enumerated in General Regulations, and each of those offices must necessarily be held by only one individual, but there is no regulation which prohibits one of these officers from also holding office of Trustee. 1943: 31, 255. But offices of W.M. and Trustee should not be held by same individual. 1951: 18, 62.

12.020-3. *Trustees Not Mandatory*. Lodges that rent meeting space or are part of a Temple Association are not required to have trustees. 1904: 117; 1985: 35, 113; 2003: 117, 185

12.020-4. *Limitations on Trustees*. Trustees are creatures of Lodge and must obey mandates of Lodge when such mandates conform to General Regulations and by-laws of Lodge. 1920: 15; 1985: 35, 113. *In the case of a Temple Association or other entity*. If a Lodge is entitled to choose one or more representatives or board members to that entity, such persons are in the nature of trustees and are required to represent and support the lawful decisions of the Lodge. Failure to do so is cause for removal by the Worshipful Master. 2003: 117, 184.

12.020-5. *Other Organizations*. Proposed amendment to Lodge by-laws providing that five of its nine Trustees should be members of a certain realty company was invalid because no other organization can be recognized within a Masonic Lodge. 1916: 30, 163.

Revised June 2003

Reg. 12.030. Lodge By-Laws.

(a) Every Lodge shall adopt by-laws for its own government, a full set of which shall be filed by the Lodge in the office of the Grand Secretary .

(b) Such by-laws and amendments thereto shall not conflict with the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge and shall not be in force until approved by the Grand Lodge or by the Committee on By-Laws appointed by the Grand Master.

(c) They shall not be retroactive in effect, but shall become effective and in force from the time they are so approved.

(d) After a motion is made and seconded to change the by-laws, it shall lay over until the next month's stated meeting during which time the membership of the Lodge shall be notified of the content of the impending change to the Lodge by-laws. Notification shall be made in writing.

Historical Reference: 1917: 23, 206; 1928: 101, 194; 1931: 35, 162; 1944: 41, 224; 1951: 93; 2001: 51, 147.

Cross Reference: Forms 4 and 44.

Approved Decisions

12.030-1. *Must State Hour.* Lodge by-laws must state hour as well as day for stated meetings. 1923: 63, 157.

12.030-2. *Need Not Sign.* Candidate becomes M.M. when he has received degrees, whether he signs by-laws or not. He may be invited to sign by-laws, or his name may be recorded by Secretary. 1908: 49, 129.

12.030-3. *When Dues Are Increased.* Members whose dues for current year have been paid cannot be required to pay more than amount specified in by-laws at time payment was made, even though amount may have been increased by subsequent amendment. However, if Brother has paid dues for several years in advance, amendment to by-laws increasing amount of dues becomes operative at next dues-paying time, and Lodge may then charge him difference between old and new rates. 1929: 37, 198.

Reg. 12.040. Must Be in Duplicate. All by-laws and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval in duplicate.

Historical Reference: 1931: 35, 162.

Cross Reference: Forms 4 and 44.

Reg. 12.042. *Common Interest Lodges.* Lodges composed of Brethren with similar interests are encouraged by this Grand Lodge. Such Lodges shall adopt by-laws and be governed by regulations that apply to all chartered Lodges. They shall not be identified by name as common interest Lodges nor shall the charter of such Lodges be so designated.

Historical Reference: 1985: 79.

CHAPTER 13

LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION

Reg. 13.010. *Petitioners.* Every application for a dispensation to organize a new Lodge must be made to the Grand Master, signed by at least 10 Master Masons, all of whom must be residents within the jurisdiction of such proposed new Lodge, and the Lodge to which they belong, or formerly belonged, must be specified. The petition shall be accompanied with petitions for plural membership of all petitioners, or with the demits of all unaffiliated petitioners and Lodge certificates that all dues have been paid by all affiliated petitioners.

Historical Reference: 1913: 145, 156; 1956: 37, 40, 86; 1958: 34, 92; 1973: 86; 1982: 73; 1992: 60, 85; 2004: 60.

Cross Reference: Article XII; Sec. 7.020; Regs. 12.020, 14.020; Form 1.

Editorial Note: The provisions of this regulation do not apply to a Special Purpose Lodge. In such case Reg. 13.040 governs.

Approved Decisions

13.010-1. *Must Deposit Demit.* Signing Petition for Dispensation does not demit petitioner nor constitute him a member under charter. He must deposit his demit or he remains member of his former Lodge if it has not voted to grant him demit. 1878: 21.

13.010-2. *When To Obtain Demit.* Members of Lodge U.D. should not obtain demits from former Lodges until after charter has been granted. 1953: 23, 114.

Reg. 13.020. *Requirements.* Every petition for a new Lodge shall set forth:

- (a) The proposed name thereof, which shall not be in honor of a living person;
- (b) The names of the Brethren nominated for the first Master and Wardens;
- (c) The name of the county and place of the proposed location;
- (d) The name, number and location of the nearest Lodge in each direction from the location of the proposed new Lodge, and,
- (e) The distance of each such Lodge from the location of the proposed new Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1864: 28, 96; 1875: 123; 1973: 86.

Cross Reference: Article XII.

Revised Jun 2004

Approved Decisions

13.020-1. *Lodges in City Must Recommend.* In city where Lodges have concurrent jurisdiction a Petition for Dispensation for New Lodge must bear the recommendation of Lodges within that city, they being Lodges “whose jurisdiction will be affected by the location of the new Lodge.” 1956: 34, 85.

Reg. 13.030. *Action on Petition.* When a Petition for Dispensation to Organize a New Lodge is received, the Grand Master, or a Special Deputy appointed by him, shall visit the location of the proposed new Lodge, and if, upon a thorough examination, it shall be found that the petitioners are all Master Masons; that the proposed Master and Wardens are competent to work and give the lectures of each degree in such a manner as will impart the necessary instruction; that the city, town or community in which the proposed Lodge is to be located will embrace a sufficient number of persons to organize and maintain a Lodge; and that they can procure a safe and suitable room in which to meet, the Grand Master may, at his option, grant the dispensation if the provisions of Article XII of the Grand Lodge Constitution have been fully met.

Historical Reference: 1854: 54; 1928: 173, 194; 1973: 86..

Editorial Note: The provisions of this regulation do not apply to a Special Purpose Lodge U.D. In such case Reg. 13.040 governs.

Editorial Note: Application blanks for securing a dispensation to organize a new Lodge should be procured from the Grand Secretary. See Sec. 7.020 for fee for dispensation.

Reg. 13.040. *Special Purpose Lodges U.D.*

(a) The Grand Master, upon application of 10 or more Master Masons, or at his will and pleasure, may grant a dispensation to organize a Special Purpose Lodge for the following purposes: (1) conferring degrees upon physically handicapped candidates, (2) conducting funerals of sojourners, (3) hospital visitation, (4) promotion and management of a blood bank, (5) Masonic Study and/or research, and such other worthy programs as may be deemed appropriate for a Lodge of Master Masons.

(b) The dispensation for such Special Purpose Lodge shall define its duties and limit its functions. Such dispensation shall continue at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master and may be renewed by each succeeding Grand Master. Special Purpose Lodges shall adopt by-laws. They shall not be identified by name as a Special Purpose Lodge, nor shall such designation appear in its dispensation.

Revised June 2004

(c) While operating Under Dispensation, Special Purpose Lodges shall be governed by the same regulations as apply to other Lodges Under Dispensation except that: (1) no fee for a dispensation shall be required, (2) petitioners for affiliation need not be residents within the territorial jurisdiction of said Special Purpose Lodge, (3) members of the Lodge shall not transfer their membership thereto, nor shall they obtain demits from their respective Lodges, (4) to maintain membership in a Special Purpose Lodge, members shall pay dues and remain in good standing in their respective Lodges, (5) Special Purpose Lodges U.D. shall not receive petitions for the degrees, nor shall they confer degrees unless directed to do so in specific cases by the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1961: 42, 92; 1985: 79; 1992: 61-62, 85; 2004: 60

Cross Reference: Regs. 31.021, 35.020.

Reg. 13.041. *Dwight L. Smith Lodge of Research U.D.*
Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1985: 80; 1991:20, 90; 1996: 95; 1999: 112, 135.

Approved Decisions

13.041-1. Repealed. 1991: 20, 90; 1996: 95; 1999: 112, 135.

Editorial Note: In 1999 Grand Lodge repealed the specifics of this regulation. Rational is that Dwight L. Smith Lodge of Research is a functioning Special Purpose Lodge under current Masonic Law. See Regulation 13.040. Furthermore, the domicile of Dwight L. Smith Lodge of Research is changed from Madison, Indiana to Franklin, Indiana.

Reg. 13.050. *Rights of Lodge Under Dispensation.* A Lodge Under Dispensation shall possess all the rights and privileges of a chartered Lodge, shall be subject to and governed by the same rules, except,

- (a) The right to be represented in the Grand Lodge,
- (b) To elect and install its officers, or,
- (c) To hold a public celebration,

unless the consent of the Most Worshipful Grand Master be first obtained.

Historical Reference: 1866: 53; 1875: 123; 1895: 118.

Editorial Note: P.M. degree must not be conferred upon W.M. of Lodge U.D. (Reg. 17.020.)

Revised June 2004

Approved Decisions

13.050-1. *Must not Install.* Officers of the Lodge U.D. are merely acting as proxies for G.M. until next sitting of the Grand Lodge, and are not to be installed. 1823 Hacker: 123; 1844 Hacker: 405, 410. In such Lodge, officers are not to be installed until they are regularly elected by ballot at meeting of Lodge after the dispensation has been surrendered to G.L. and charter received by subordinate Lodge. 1859: 39. Exception is made in case of Special Purpose Lodge, inasmuch as it is a Lodge which never will be chartered. 1963: 97, 140.

Reg. 13.060. *Report of Lodge Under Dispensation.* No dispensation shall authorize a Lodge to work beyond the first of May, annually, at which time it shall forward to the Grand Secretary:

(a) A full and exact record of everything done by authority of the dispensation, together with the dispensation,

(b) A copy of their by-laws, and,

(c) A petition or resolution setting forth the names of the three principal officers to be inserted in the charter, when the dispensation may be continued, a charter granted or their labors suspended, as the Grand Lodge may determine.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1949: 121, 206.

Cross Reference: Form 3.

Reg. 13.070. *Petitioners Under Dispensation.* The petitioners of the Lodge Under Dispensation, who are members of other Lodges, for the time being become members of the new Lodge, and shall not pay dues to or claim any privilege in their respective Lodges during the continuance of such dispensation, but if a charter shall not be granted them such petitioners shall resume their privileges and duties in their former Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1848: 30; 1875: 123.

Editorial Note: The provisions of this regulation do not apply to a Special Purpose Lodge U.D. In such case Reg. 13.040 governs.

Approved Decisions

13.070-1. *When to Obtain Demit.* Members of Lodge U.D. should not obtain demits from former Lodges until after charter has been granted. 1953: 23, 114.

Reg. 13.080. *Charter Members.*

(a) The petitioners for the dispensation for a new Lodge who are desirous of maintaining their membership in the Lodge when it is constituted under a charter must have deposited their demits before or at the time the Lodge is constituted.

(b) Failure to obtain a demit, as above provided will automatically sever a petitioner's connection with the new Lodge and restore his membership in his former Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1928: 174, 194.

Approved Decisions

13.080-1. *When to Obtain Demit.* Members of Lodge U.D. should not obtain demits from former Lodges until after charter has been granted. 1953: 23, 114.

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CHAPTER 14

OBTAINING A CHARTER

Reg. 14.010. *How to Obtain Charter.* Every new Lodge must work for a reasonable time Under Dispensation, and its work be approved by the Grand Lodge, before it can be chartered and constituted. It shall meet or work under its charter before being officially constituted, as the Grand Master shall order.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1973: 69.

Editorial Note: See Article XIII for fee for charter.

Approved Decisions

14.010-1. *Place for Constituting.* Ceremonies for constituting new Lodge must be held in hall of Lodge being constituted. 1956: 34, 84.

Reg. 14.020. *Number Necessary.* No Lodge shall be constituted under a charter until the officers named therein shall have deposited their demits with the constituting officer, and not then until the number of petitioners for the dispensation who have deposited their demits, together with those who have otherwise become members of the Lodge, while working Under Dispensation, shall make a total membership of at least ten.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1928: 102, 174, 194; 1956: 40, 86; 1957: 37; 1958: 34, 92; 1992: 62, 85; 2004:60.

Cross Reference: Article XII; Sec. 7.020; Regs. 12.020, 13.010.

Approved Decisions

14.020-1. *When to Obtain Demit.* Members of Lodge U.D. should not obtain demits from their former Lodges until after charter has been granted. 1953: 23, 114.

Reg. 14.030. *Duty of Constituting Officer.* The officer constituting a Lodge under charter shall make out and immediately forward to the Grand Secretary a certified copy of all the officers and members of such Lodge. He shall also furnish the Secretary of said Lodge with a copy of such report, and deposit with him all demits.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Approved Decisions

14.030-1. *When to Obtain Demit.* Members of Lodge U.D. should not obtain demits from their former Lodges until after charter has been granted. 1953: 23, 114.

Revised June 2004

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CHAPTER 15

CONSOLIDATION OF LODGES

Reg. 15.010. *How to Consolidate.*

(a) Any two or more adjacent or neighboring Lodges may consolidate their membership into one Lodge. The proposition for such consolidation shall be presented at a stated meeting of each Lodge interested but shall not be acted upon until a subsequent stated meeting. Prior to any proposition being presented, permission shall be obtained from the Grand Master, who may direct a Special Deputy to the Lodge for the purpose of evaluation. After approval by the Grand Master, the Lodges may proceed as provided in regulations.

(b) All members shall be given notice thirty (30) days in advance that the proposition to consolidate will come up for action at the stated meeting (giving date of same). This notice shall contain full disclosure of financial condition, responsibilities, and un-asserted claims of both Lodges. A majority vote shall prevail unless ten (10) or more members of either Lodge vote against the proposition. The legal date of the consolidation shall be the date the second of the two Lodges approves the consolidation, unless a subsequent date is specified by both Lodges to effect transfers of title.

Historical Reference: 1879: 84; 1928: 103, 174, 194; 1973: 86; 1988: 79-81; 2003:13, 39, 124

Approved Decisions

15.010-1. *Completion of Work.* Where two Lodges are consolidated, the Lodge so created takes up and finishes the work begun in either or both of said Lodges before act of consolidation. 1880: 22.

15.010-2. *No Additional Fee.* No further petition is necessary for completion of such work and no further fee is required beyond that already paid. 1890: 103, 132.

15.010-3. *Authority of Lodge.* Consolidated Lodge has authority to discipline former members of the original Lodges. 1892: 12, 59.

Reg. 15.020. *When Consolidated.* When two or more Lodges having decided, in accordance with regulation 15.010, to consolidate, they shall unite in the following manner. The Lodge or Lodges initiating the consolidation into another Lodge shall become members of the destination Lodge and the name and number of the destination Lodge shall be used. Hyphenated names, names of Lodges desiring to consolidate or a new Lodge name shall not be used. After consolidation, the officers of the destination Lodge may be retained, or new officers may be elected under a dispensation from the Grand Master. All charters surrendered shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

Revised June 2003

If Lodges desire that a new name and number be established, then all Lodges concerned should form a new Lodge in accordance with this book of regulations, and then when the new Lodge is chartered, the old Lodges shall be dissolved and their charters surrendered to the Grand Secretary.

After receipt of the charter(s) by the Grand Secretary, the surviving Lodge may request the charter(s) of the Lodge that was closed. That charter(s) will be held by the surviving Lodge, with a notation on the charter(s), signed by the Grand Master, that the charter(s) is rescinded. The charter(s) would then be properly framed with the notation exposed and displayed with any other artifacts from the closed Lodge in the surviving Lodge's building.

Historical Reference: 1982: 38, 72, 136; 2002: 53, 156; 2004: 46-47, 59.

Approved Decisions

15.020-1. *Consolidation of Lodges.* G.M. Recommendation 8-01.Repealed. 2001: 12, 30, 123; 2002: 53, 156.

Reg. 15.030. Property. The title to all property and effects of the Lodges so united shall be vested in the consolidated Lodge, and said consolidated Lodge shall be liable for all indebtedness of the old Lodges consolidated, and the members in said consolidated Lodge shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges they possessed in their respective Lodges before such consolidation.

Historical Reference: 1879: 73; 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Revised June 2004

CHAPTER 16

DISSOLUTION OF A LODGE

Reg. 16.010. *How Dissolved.* A Lodge may be dissolved by the Grand Lodge, or by voluntary surrender of its charter, or by consolidation with some other Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Reg. 16.020. *To Surrender Charter.* A proposition to surrender the charter of a Lodge must be made in writing at a stated meeting and, if seconded by a majority of the members present shall lie over until the next stated meeting. All members shall be given notice thirty (30) days in advance that the proposition to surrender the charter will be voted upon at a subsequent stated meeting (giving date of same). This notice shall contain the full disclosure of the financial condition, responsibilities, and un-asserted claims of the Lodge. Notice will be given to the Grand Master immediately following presentation of the proposition to surrender the charter. Said notice to the Grand Master shall certify that adequate funds are available for the prorated refund, by Lodge, of dues and assessments to members of record.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1928: 103, 175, 194; 1988: 79-81; 1989: 22, 82, 95.

Reg. 16.030. *Vote on Surrender of Charter.*

(a) At the stated meeting designated by the notice, and not thereafter, at which the proposition is presented, a vote may be taken thereon and a majority vote shall prevail, unless ten (10) or more members vote against the proposition to surrender the charter.

(b) *Provided*, however, that no Lodge with a view of surrendering its charter shall have the right to dispose of any of its property or assets whatever.

Historical Reference: 1829 Hacker: 237; 1880: 9, 68, 79-80; 1910: 126; 1988: 79-81.

Approved Decisions

16.030-1. *Disposal of Property.* When Lodge loses its charter, its property becomes the property of G.L. Members of Lodge at time of giving up charter would not be permitted to divide money in treasury between themselves. 1907: 37, 71, 136.

Reg. 16.040. Property. When a charter of a subordinate Lodge shall be surrendered or for any reason terminated, the Worshipful Master shall immediately take possession thereof, together with all money and other property of the Lodge, and forward to the Grand Master an inventory of the same with his certificate of such surrender. *Provided*, however, that the Grand Lodge shall have the right to disclaim or reject all or any part of the property which the Grand Lodge does not wish to receive, upon giving prompt and due notice of such disclaimer, not to exceed thirty (30) days of the receipt of the inventory as herein above provided. Such disclaimed or rejected property shall remain the property of the Lodge in dissolution pending its final disposition. It shall be the duty of the Supervisory Board to assist in a proper and appropriate disposition of any property disclaimed. The proceeds of the property of a Lodge whose charter has been surrendered or become forfeited, may be by order of the Grand Lodge, applied to the indebtedness of the same.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1995: 126-127, 130; 2000: 148, 156.

Approved Decisions

16.040-1. *Disposal of Property.* When Lodge loses its charter, its property becomes the property of G.L. Members of Lodge at time of giving up charter would not be permitted to divide money in treasury between themselves. 1907: 37, 71, 136.

Reg. 16.050. Records. Should a Lodge cease to exist from any cause whatever, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to forward to the Grand Secretary the names of all its members, together with the account current of each one; and any such member, by the payment to the Grand Secretary of all dues then owing to his Lodge, shall receive from the Grand Secretary a certificate of membership, which certificate shall be equivalent to a demit

Historical Reference: 1860: 99; 1875: 123.

Reg. 16.060. Status of Members of Suspended Lodge. When a Lodge has been suspended by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, its members are, during the period of such suspension, Masons in good standing.

Historical Reference: 1897: 113; 1951: 93.

Reg. 16.070. *Arrest or Revocation of Charter.* No charter shall be arrested or revoked except for cause, of which the Lodge shall have due notice and an opportunity to be heard.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Cross Reference: Article IX.

Approved Decisions

16.070-1. *May Reprimand Lodge.* G.M. has power to order reprimand for official misconduct, either to Lodge or W.M. while G.L. is not in session. 1954: 34, 88.

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CHAPTER 17

LODGE OFFICERS -- ELECTION AND INSTALLATION

Reg. 17.010. *Election of Officers.*

(a) Election of officers must be held annually at the stated meeting next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist (December 27), and no Lodge shall hold its annual election on a day or at an hour earlier than that specified in its by-laws for stated meetings.

(b) Officers shall be elected by secret paper ballots and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In determining such majority blank ballots shall not be counted.

(c) Nominations shall not be made nor shall any officer be elected by acclamation or by having one Brother cast the unanimous vote.

Historical Reference: 1876: 129-130; 1909: 77, 229; 1930: 44, 213; 1931: 33, 163; 1932: 254; 1937: 162, 261; 1946: 53, 250; 1951: 26, 91, 93.

Approved Decisions

17.010-1. *Must Not Be Previous.* G.M. cannot grant dispensation to hold annual election previous to time specified in Reg. 17.010. 1909: 77, 229; 1937: 162, 262; 1938: 32, 256. When election night fell on December 24 and members voted to dispense with meeting on December 24 and to hold election on December 10, G.M. declared election illegal. 1899: 20, 83.

17.010-2. *May Not Set Aside Election.* G.M. has no authority to set aside election held as prescribed by law. The only remedy is through charges for un-Masonic conduct regularly preferred. 1904: 21, 113.

17.010-3. *Separate Offices.* Offices of Secretary and Treasurer are separate and should not be held by same individual. 1928: 29, 203.

17.010-4. *Holding Two Offices.* Unless Lodge by-laws forbid, member may hold offices of Treasurer and Trustee, or offices of Secretary and Trustee at the same time. 1912: 39, 173; 1936: 60, 258. Lodge consists of 10 offices enumerated in General Regulations, and each of those offices must necessarily be held by only one individual, but there is no regulation which prohibits one of these officers from also holding office of Trustee. 1943: 31, 255. But offices of W.M. and Trustee should not be held by same individual. 1951: 18, 62.

17.010-5. *Limitations on Trustees.* Trustees are creatures of Lodge and must obey mandates of Lodge when such mandates conform to General Regulations and by-laws of Lodge. 1920: 15; 1985: 35, 113. *In the case of a Temple Association or other entity.* If a Lodge is entitled to choose one or more representatives or board members to that entity, such persons are in the nature of trustees and are required to represent and support the lawful decisions of the Lodge. Failure to do so is cause for removal by the Worshipful Master. 2003:117, 184

17.010-6. *Auditing Committee.* W.M. and Wardens are not competent to serve on Auditing Committee. 1895: 93.

Revised June 2003

17.010-7. *Blind Brother May Not Serve as Line Officer.* A blind Brother could be quite valuable with lectures, committee responsibilities, mentor duties and as a Lodge Trustee if otherwise qualified. However, in the appointed or elected line of officers, a blind member would have extreme difficulty in performing his responsibilities. It is therefore ruled that the Brother should be assigned only to such tasks in which acceptable performance may be anticipated, all within our ritualistic framework. 1980: 65, 94. **Repealed. 2005: 47, 135.**

17.010-8. *Irregular Election.* Lodge held election in which pre-printed ballots were cast, G.M. declared irregular election, and ordered new election. 1982: 91.

17.010-9. *Election of Officers.* Lodges may not, in their by-laws, limit the tenure of any elected or appointed officer. Lodges may not, in their by-laws, impose any regulations that would amend procedures specified in the Indiana Blue Book of Masonic Law. 1985: 35, 114.

17.010-10. *Trustees act as officials of the Lodge.* Lodge usually elects trustees. Trustees may not be nominated for office. 2003:117, 184.

Reg. 17.020. Eligibility of Worshipful Master.

(a) Before being eligible to the office of Worshipful Master, a Brother must have been elected, installed and served as Warden of a chartered Lodge or have been appointed and served as Worshipful Master in a Lodge Under Dispensation, nor shall a Brother elected to the office of Worshipful Master be installed until he shall have received the Official Degree of Past Master;

(b) *Provided*, that the Past Master degree shall not be conferred upon the Worshipful Master of a Lodge Under Dispensation.

(c) The Past Master degree shall be conferred strictly in accordance with the official ritual for the Past Master degree and with the orders of the Grand Master. The convening Past Master, the presiding Past Master and the Worshipful Master of the Lodge in which the Official Degree of Past Master is conferred shall be responsible to the Grand Master for the proper conduct of the Convocation conferring this important Masonic degree.

Historical Reference: 1859: 39; 1866: 53; 1867: 17-18, 41-42; 1869: 63, 74; 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1895: 23, 118; 1929: 40, 198; 1951: 93; 1954: 28, 88; 1970: 89, 97.

Cross Reference: Regs. 43.010, 43.050; Form 45.

Approved Decisions

17.020-1. *Rules of Eligibility.* To render one eligible to office of W.M. he need not have been Warden of that particular Lodge. 1895: 25, 118. Brother who has been elected and installed as Warden, has been elected to station of W.M. and has received P.M. degree is eligible to be installed as W.M. even though he has never performed any ritualistic work as Warden. The word "served" as Warden should be construed to mean "filled" or "occupied" the station of Warden. 1860: 100; 1899: 20-21.

Revised 2005

Editorial Note: Neither the decision in 1895 nor that of 1899 was intended to eliminate the requirement that a Brother has to be elected, installed physically, occupy his station after such election and installation. Merely, filling the station temporarily, without being elected and installed, does not qualify a Brother for election to Worshipful Master.

17.020-2. *Rights of P.M.* Actual P.M. does not lose his rights and privileges as such if he transfers to another Lodge. 1936: 59, 257.

17.020-3. *P.M. Recognized.* Actual P.M. of Lodge in jurisdiction which does not require conferring of P.M. degree as prerequisite to holding office of W.M. may attend meeting of Actual P.M. in State of Indiana. 1938: 21, 256; 1950: 21, 150.

17.020-4. *May Receive Degree.* Actual P.M. of Lodge in jurisdiction that does not confer P.M. degree may receive degree in Convocation of Actual P.M. in State of Indiana. 1945: 33, 160.

17.020-5. *May Confer Degree.* P.M. of Indiana Lodge may confer official P.M. degree, upon invitation, in Convocation of Actual P.M. in another jurisdiction with which G.L. of Indiana is in fraternal relations. 1938: 29, 256.

17.020-6. *When Not Proficient.* If P.M. Association in conferring P.M. degree upon W.M.-elect finds that he cannot open or close Lodge and does not know fair portion of ritual, he should then be required to memorize opening and closing ceremonies immediately and should be reported to his Lodge for his shortcomings. 1945: 32, 159.

17.020-7. *Charges Against Officer.* Fact that charges of un-Masonic conduct are filed against Brother does not prevent his holding office or (affect) his standing in his Lodge, before conviction. 1894: 8.

17.020-8. *Objection.* If, at a Convocation of Actual Past Masters, an objection is made to the conferring of the degree upon an elected Worshipful Master, the Lodge is obliged to declare the office of Worshipful Master vacant and proceed with a special election, as per Reg. 17.110 and Approved Decision 17.010-8; *Provided*, that the objection must be sustained by at least a majority of the Past Masters from the Lodge of the elected Worshipful Master in question who are present at the Convocation. Further, if the Past Masters of a Lodge delegate (to a county or area association of Past Masters) their duty to confer the degree of Actual Past Master, the Lodge Past Masters *ipso facto* forfeit their right of objection, and the county or area association of Past Masters is not competent to refuse to confer the degree upon a candidate thus properly referred to it. However, the right to objection can only be exercised once. If the majority of the Lodge members present at a called special election again choose to elect the same Brother to the position of Worshipful Master, then the Past Master's degree must be conferred upon that Worshipful Master-Elect, and he be subsequently installed. If eight Past Masters of that Lodge will not convene to confer the degree, then the Grand Master may order the degree conferred by a Convocation of Actual Past Masters of his choosing. 1969: 81, 117; 1984: 90; 1995: 82, 158-159.

Reg. 17.030. *Virtual Past Masters.*

(a) Lodges are prohibited from recognizing as a Past Master one who has not been elected, installed and served as Master of a constituted Lodge.

Revised 2010

(b) A virtual Past Master has no right as such in a convocation of Actual Past Masters.

Historical Reference: 1866: 53; 1875: 123; 1914: 168; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

17.030-1. *Virtual Past Master.* (1) Reg. 17.030 does not restrict one who is properly vouched for as having received the degree of Actual Past Master from attending (as non-participating spectator) another such convocation before his installation as Worshipful Master, (2) the convening (presiding) officer should wear the Master's jewel and head covering, surrendering them to the candidate at the proper point in the ceremony, (3) the minimum number of Actual Past Masters that may convene a Convocation of Actual Past Masters is eight (8). 1985: 35, 112.

Reg. 17.040. *Appointment of Officers.* The Worshipful Master shall appoint all officers of his Lodge below the rank of Secretary whose election is not provided for in the by-laws of such Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1928: 103, 175, 194.

Approved Decisions

17.040-1. *Blind Brother May Not Serve as Line Officer.* A blind Brother could be quite valuable with lectures, committee responsibilities, mentor duties and as a Lodge Trustee if otherwise qualified. However, in the appointed or elected line of officers, a blind member would have extreme difficulty in performing his responsibilities. It is therefore ruled that the Brother should be assigned only to such tasks in which acceptable performance may be anticipated, all within our ritualistic framework. **Repealed.** 1980: 65, 94; 2005: 47, 135.

Reg. 17.050. *Failure to Elect Officers.*

(a) Should any Lodge fail to elect its officers at the time specified in Reg. 17.010, the Grand Master may grant the Lodge a dispensation to hold a special election.

(b) No dispensation may be granted to hold the annual election before the time prescribed by the General Regulations and the by-laws of the Lodge which are in accordance therewith.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1909: 77, 229; 1930: 44, 213; 1937: 162, 262; 1938: 32, 256; 1944: 28, 230; 1946: 48-49, 250; 1947: 22, 225; 1951: 93.

Reg. 17.060. *Worshipful Master Declining to Be Installed.* Should the Worshipful Master-elect decline to be installed, the Wardens or either of them being installed, shall succeed respectively to that station. But should they both decline to serve as Master, the vacancy shall be filled as provided in Reg. 17.110.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1904: 20, 113.

Revised 2010

Reg. 17.070. *Right to Resign.* It is the right of any officer of a Lodge in this

jurisdiction to resign his office by presenting such resignation in writing to the Lodge at a stated meeting, and when thus presented, such resignation, if accepted by the Lodge, is complete.

Historical Reference: 1876: 129.

Approved Decisions

17.070-1. *W.M. May Resign.* W.M. of subordinate Lodge has right to resign or demit. 1828 Hacker: 219; 1856: 50.

Reg. 17.080. *Vacancy in Office.* When a vacancy occurs in the office of Warden, Treasurer, Secretary or Trustee, the Lodge may fill the same by special election without dispensation from the Grand Master. Vacancies in all minor offices may be filled by appointment of the Worshipful Master.

Historical Reference: 1879: 72; 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Approved Decisions

17.080-1. *Acting Officer.* When Lodge by-laws provide for election of an officer, W.M. may appoint an acting officer, but has no authority to fill vacancy in such office by appointment. 1927: 37, 168. Vacancies that may be so filled include office of Warden, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustee. 1962: 84, 131.

17.080-2. *Term of Appointment.* Acting officer appointed by W.M. may serve until next annual election of Lodge. 1962: 84, 131.

Reg. 17.081. *Appointment of Acting Officer.* In case of the death or disability of the Secretary or Treasurer of a Lodge, the Worshipful Master shall forthwith appoint a worthy competent Brother to temporarily fill the vacant office until the office is filled under the provisions of these regulations.

Historical Reference: 1959: 37, 87.

Approved Decisions

17.081-1. *Applies to Non-Performance.* Provisions of Reg. 17.081 apply if Secretary is not performing his duties. 1969: 81, 117.

Reg. 17.090. *May Remove Appointed Officer.* The Worshipful Master may remove from office any appointed officer, for cause satisfactory to himself, and appoint a successor, without action by the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1921: 37, 215; 1928: 176, 194.

Reg. 17.100. *May Declare Elective Office Vacant.* A Lodge may by majority vote at a stated meeting at least four weeks after a resolution to that effect is presented, declare an elective office vacant and elect a successor, subject, however, to the provisions of Reg. 17.110 if the office of Worshipful Master is declared vacant. All members shall be given notice by sealed mail within ten days after the stated meeting at which the resolution is presented, quoting the resolution and giving the date of the stated meeting at which the vote will be taken.

Historical Reference: 1928: 176, 194.

Reg. 17.110. *Vacancy in Office of Worshipful Master.* Should the office of Worshipful Master become vacant, the Warden next in rank shall succeed to his rights, powers and duties, or he may, with the consent of the Lodge, request a dispensation of the Grand Master to elect a Worshipful Master; but if for any cause the first three offices of a Lodge become vacant, no Lodge can be opened or business transacted until the Grand Master shall fill the same by appointment, or authorize the Lodge to hold a special election to fill such vacancies.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1910: 126.

Approved Decisions

17.110-1. *Objection.* If, at a Convocation of Actual Past Masters, an objection is made to the conferring of the degree upon an elected Worshipful Master, the Lodge is obliged to declare the office of Worshipful Master vacant and proceed with a special election, as per Reg. 17.110 and Approved Decision 17.020-8; *Provided*, that the objection must be sustained by at least a majority of the Past Masters from the Lodge of the elected Worshipful Master in question who are present at the Convocation. Further, if the Past Masters of a Lodge delegate (to a county or area association of Past Masters) their duty to confer the degree of Actual Past Master, the Lodge Past Masters *ipso facto* forfeit their right of objection, and the county or area association of Past Masters is not competent to refuse to confer the degree upon a candidate thus properly referred to it. However, the right to objection can only be exercised once. If the majority of the Lodge members present at a called special election again choose to elect the same Brother to the position of Worshipful Master, then the Past Master's degree must be conferred upon that Worshipful Master-Elect, and he be subsequently installed. If eight Past Masters of that Lodge will not convene to confer the degree, then the Grand Master may order the degree conferred by a Convocation of Actual Past Masters of his choosing. 1969: 81, 117; 1984: 90; 1995: 82, 158-159.

Reg. 17.120. *Succession of Senior Warden.* When there is a vacancy in the office of Worshipful Master, the Senior Warden succeeds to the Worshipful Master's rights, powers and duties, but a special election is necessary for the Senior Warden (or any qualified Brother) to become Worshipful Master.

Historical Reference: 1943: 31, 256; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

17.120-1. *No Vacancy in Office of Warden.* In case of death of W.M., the Warden next in rank succeeds to his rights, duties and powers, but there is thereby no vacancy in office of Warden. 1892: 15, 56, 59.

Reg. 17.130. *How Vacated.*

(a) The office of Worshipful Master is not vacated by his removal from the immediate jurisdiction of his Lodge, nor by his inability to attend Lodge meetings and attend to his duties.

(b) Under such conditions the Worshipful Master should resign, or the Lodge may declare the office of Worshipful Master vacant as provided in Reg. 17.100 and proceed to elect a new Worshipful Master as provided in Reg. 17.110, or the Grand Master may declare the office vacant and order the Lodge to elect a new Worshipful Master.

Historical Reference: 1908: 50, 129; 1909: 79, 229; 1951: 93.

Reg. 17.140. *Installation of Officers.*

(a) All officers elected or appointed must be installed on or before the next stated meeting of the Lodge, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and the officers so installed shall continue in the discharge of their respective duties until the end of the term for which they were elected or appointed unless the office be sooner vacated.

(b) Officers must be installed as often as elected or appointed.

Historical Reference: 1880: 15, 75; 1892: 13, 59; 1907: 34, 71; 1928: 105, 177, 194; 1930: 45, 213.

Cross Reference: Reg. 13.050; Form 5.

Approved Decisions

17.140-1. *When Not to Install.* Officers of Lodge U.D. should not be installed, either publicly or privately. 1844 Hacker: 405, 410. Officers of Lodge U.D. are merely acting as proxies for G.M. until next sitting of Grand Lodge and are not to be installed. 1823 Hacker: 123. In such Lodge, officers are not to be installed until they are regularly elected by ballot at meeting of Lodge after dispensation has been returned to G.L. and a charter received by said subordinate Lodge. 1859: 39.

17.140-2. *No Installations by Proxy.* It is improper for subordinate Lodges to install officers by proxy. 1843 Hacker: 389; 1878: 22, 88.

17.140-3. *Virtual P.M. May Not Install.* Installation by virtual (Chapter) P.M. who is not also an Actual P.M. is not legal. 1892: 13, 59.

17.140-4. *Failure to Install W.M.* When, because of unavoidable circumstances, the newly elected W.M. is not installed at regular installation, S.W. should call a meeting at which W.M. should be properly installed. 1932: 17, 256. If W.M.-elect is not installed with other officers, S.W. should assume charge of Lodge until such time as W.M.-elect can present himself for installation. 1964: 98, 128.

Reg. 17.150. *Who Shall Install.* The installation ceremonies must be performed by an Actual Past Master who is a member of a Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1859: 38; 1875: 123..

Approved Decisions

17.150-1. *Actual P.M. Must Install.* Installation by virtual (Chapter) P.M. who is not also an Actual P.M. is not legal. 1892: 13, 59.

17.150-2. *Actual P.M. of Other Jurisdiction.* P.M. of Lodge in another jurisdiction may act as Installing Officer for an Indiana Lodge. 1954: 33, 88.

17.150-3. *Must Be P.M.* Officers installed by Brother who is not P.M. must be reinstalled. 1922: 34, 103.

Reg. 17.160. *Public Installation.* Lodges may have public installation of their officers, according to the form adopted by the Grand Lodge; *Provided*, however, that a Lodge of Master Masons must be opened in due form before the public is admitted.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1925: 18, 211; 1951: 93.

Cross Reference: Form 5.

Editorial Note: A Lodge of Master Masons having been regularly opened in due form, the Lodge therefore is at labor on the M. M. degree while installing its officers. Hence, only Master Masons may participate in the ceremony or appear on the program in any manner prior to the closing of the Lodge; *Provided*, that the wife, son, daughter, or other family member of the newly installed Worshipful Master be allowed to present a gift at public installation of officers (such as a gavel or pin) after receiving permission from the Worshipful Master and being conducted to and from the East by the Senior Deacon.

Approved Decisions

17.160-1. *Ceremonies in Public.* Public installations may be held outside Lodge Room. 1895: 25, 118. Lodge of M.M. should be opened and Lodge may then move to another room for that portion of installation ceremony open to public, returning afterwards to Lodge Room for closing. 1951: 19, 62.

CHAPTER 18

DUTIES OF LODGE OFFICERS

Reg. 18.010. *Duties of Worshipful Master.* It is the duty of the Worshipful Master to see:

(a) That the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, as well as the by-laws of his own Lodge, are strictly observed.

(b) That accurate records of the proceedings of his Lodge are regularly kept.

(c) That just accounts of all financial matters are properly rendered. That all Lodges, except those that participate in approved electronic financial transactions under Regulation 39.030(c), have two signatures on all financial withdrawals. These two signatures shall be taken from a minimum of three Brothers authorized on all financial accounts. In addition, it is deemed a Masonic offense for any Brother to sign blank checks.

(d) That reports to the Grand Lodge are made according to the forms furnished, and forwarded to the Grand Secretary at the beginning of each year.

(e) That the dues of the Grand Lodge are paid on or before the fifteenth day of March annually.

(f) That each officer and member of the Lodge performs the duties of his station faithfully.

(g) That his Lodge is represented in all meetings of the Grand Lodge either in person or by proxy appointed by him from among the members of his own Lodge.

(h) That all ceremonies of his Lodge are performed with solemnity and decorum, avoiding all trifling and levity.

(i) That the records of his Lodge are signed by him and attested by the Secretary.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1955: 45, 135; 1999: 30, 155; 2009: 48-49, 136.

Cross Reference: Secs. 6.010, 6.030; Regs. 39.010, 39.020, 39.030(b); S.R. 63.

Approved Decisions

18.010-1. *W.M. Has One Vote.* While W.M. has unusual powers as presiding officer, his voting capacity is no greater than that of any other member. 1880: 22.

18.010-2. *No Deciding Vote.* W.M. is not allowed to cast a deciding vote in case of tie in addition to his vote as member. 1891: 57; 1895: 29, 118; 1897: 61.

18.010-3. *Cannot Bind Lodge.* W.M. has no power to bind Lodge by any contract or agreement unless Lodge authorizes or directs him to do so, or approves his action after it is reported. 1891: 103.

Revised May 2009

18.010-4. *May Not Audit.* W.M. and Wardens are not competent to serve on Auditing Committee. 1895: 93.

Reg. 18.020. *Who May Open Lodge, Who May Preside.* Only the Worshipful Master or Warden may open his Lodge, but after opening he may waive his right to preside in favor of any competent Brother present, when, should the governing officer retire, the work and business of the Lodge may legally proceed.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1906: 30, 121; 1953: 120, 166; 1962: 84, 131.

Cross Reference: Regs. 22.060, 44.020.

Approved Decisions

18.020-1. *P.M. May Not Preside.* A P.M. cannot preside in absence of W.M. and Wardens, and a by-law attempting to confer such authority is in conflict with the laws and usages of Masonry. There is no authority for anyone to assemble Craft but W.M. or S.W. or J.W., excepting always the G.M. or his Special Deputy. 1895: 91; 1936: 59, 257; 1950: 113, 202; 1953: 120, 166; 1963: 97, 140; 1985: 35, 111.

18.020-2. *May Close Lodge.* Qualified Brother other than W.M. or Warden may close Lodge which has been opened in due form. 1954: 35, 88.

18.020-3. *Preside Over Own Resignation.* When Worshipful Master, with no Wardens present, opens stated meeting and tenders his resignation as Worshipful Master, and resignation is accepted, no further business may be transacted at that meeting, and Lodge must be closed by a competent Brother. 1985: 35, 111.

Reg. 18.030. *Work of Warden Legal.* Any work performed, ceremony administered, or decision made by a Warden, when presiding, will be as legal as though done by the Worshipful Master.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

CHAPTER 19

LODGE MEETING PLACE

Reg. 19.010. *Place of Holding Meetings.*

(a) Lodges must hold their meetings in some safe and suitable room at the place named in the charter or dispensation under which they work, and in no case can a change of location be made except by the assent of a majority of all the members of such Lodge, and by permission from the Grand Lodge;

(b) *Provided*, such safe and suitable room may be in a building erected for use by Masonic organizations, public meeting house, convention center, hotel, church, synagogue, community property, municipal property, commercial property, or property operated by other fraternal, veterans, civic, or service organizations which can be made safe and secure from cowans and eavesdroppers;

(c) *And Provided, further*, that Lodges may, for funeral or other public processions, be opened and closed at any safe place within their respective jurisdiction, having present everything necessary to constitute a Lodge;

(d) *And Provided, further*, that the Grand Master may, by special dispensation, grant permission to a Lodge to hold a called meeting out-of-doors, providing the meeting is fully and properly tiled.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1938: 35, 256; 1963: 46, 104; 2013: 77, 160

Cross Reference: S.R. 63.030.

Editorial Note: No flag ceremony shall be given in any Lodge after Lodge is opened. Pledge of allegiance to American Flag is not part of ritual. Should Lodge desire to use Pledge of Allegiance, it shall be given before opening of Lodge, taking care not to require it from member or visitor not a citizen of the U.S.A. 1976: 70, 98; 1977: 50.

Approved Decisions

19.010-1. *Must Display Flag.* The Flag of the U.S. must be displayed in East of Lodge Room in view of all present. 1938: 290. But see Editorial Note above.

19.010-2. *May Not Visit O.E.S.* It is improper for Lodge to visit Chapter of O.E.S. or any other outside organization. 1936: 57, 257.

19.010-3. *Study Meetings.* Lodge of Instruction can be held only by subordinate Lodge, but members in good standing may hold study meetings in suitable place that is safe from cowans and eavesdroppers. 1921: 40, 227.

19.010-4. *No Outdoor Meetings.* Superseded by paragraph (c) of Reg. 19.010. 1963: 46, 104.

19.010-5. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1991: 20, 71.

19.010-6. *Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1986: 74, 110; 1998: 90-95.

Revised 2013

19.010-7. *Masonic Flag.* The Masonic Flag selected in 1998 is approved as the Official Flag of

the Jurisdiction of Indiana. The Masonic Flag may be displayed either outdoors or indoors on a pole, or indoors as a banner. 2000: 34, 160.

Reg. 19.020. *Use of Two Lodge Rooms.* No subordinate Lodge can occupy or use more than one Lodge Room simultaneously; *Provided*, that in an emergency, a Lodge for ritualistic work and a Funeral Lodge may be held in two rooms simultaneously; and that the Grand Master may, in an emergency, grant a dispensation permitting ritualistic work in two Lodge Rooms at the same time.

Historical Reference: 1921: 38, 231; 1926: 181, 216; 1938: 22-23; 1946: 47, 250; 1947: 23, 225; 1948: 185; 1951: 26, 91, 93, 100-101.

Cross Reference: Reg. 23.050.

Approved Decisions

19.020-1. *Only One Altar.* Lodge may not use more than one Altar at one time for purpose of obligating candidates. 1947: 23, 225.

19.020-2. *Moving of Charter.* G.M. Recommendation 4-01. G.L. approved that Lodges be permitted to move their charters within the Lodge Hall for the purpose of conducting a Table Lodge without obtaining permission from the Grand Master. 2001: 11, 29, 122.

Reg. 19.030. *Meeting Place With Other Bodies.* Lodges may hold their meetings in the same room used by other organizations, orders or societies.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1876: 132-133; 1880: 55; 1895: 25, 118; 1899: 17, 83; 1921: 40, 261; 1927: 36, 127; 1928: 105, 177, 194; 1948: 37, 188; 1951: 100-101; 1952: 93, 131; 1968: 75, 127; 1989: 70-71, 82-83; 1990: 76, 96; 1991: 56, 59-60, 91; 1998: 139-140, 159.

Approved Decisions

19.030-1. *Joint Sponsorship.* Repealed. 1949: 31, 202.

19.030-2. *Must Confine Work to Hall.* It is neither proper nor in good taste for representatives of Lodge, as such, robed as they are in Lodge meeting, to appear in O.E.S. meeting. By tradition and usage we have established that our Masonic work be confined to Lodge Hall, except those ceremonies in which the regulations provide for appearance in public. 1949: 31, 202.

19.030-3. *No Limit on Number.* There is no limit as to number of recognized bodies that may share the same Lodge Room. 1953: 119, 162.

19.030-4. *Use of Other Rooms.* Youth organizations not sponsored by either Lodge or O.E.S. Chapter may meet in room other than Lodge Room in Masonic Temple. 1953: 106, 120.

19.030-5. *No Community Meeting House.* Lodge may not participate in forming corporation, with all community organizations represented, whereby a Community Meeting House would be acquired and used jointly. 1971: 32, 111.

Revised May 2013

19.030-6. *White Shrine.* Repealed. 1979: 88; 1991: 56, 60-62.

Reg. 19.040. *Masonic Organization Defined.* The term Masonic organizations, as used in the above section, is meant those bodies which the Grand Lodge of Indiana recognizes as Masonic, namely:

(a) Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, subordinate to or recognized by the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Indiana.

(b) Councils of Cryptic Masons, subordinate to or recognized by the Grand Council, Cryptic Masons of Indiana.

(c) Commanderies of Knights Templar, subordinate to or recognized by the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Indiana, and,

(d) The various bodies of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite under the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Councils for the Northern and Southern Masonic Jurisdictions of the United States of America or recognized by the Council of Deliberation of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1951: 93; 1952: 93, 131; 1998: 127, 155.

Approved Decisions

19.040-1. *Shrine and Grotto.* The Mystic Shrine not considered Masonic organization. 1910: 24, 80. The Grotto not considered Masonic organization. 1917: 21, 206.

19.040-2. *Solicitation for Appendant Bodies.* Repealed. 1979: 88; 2001: 12, 30, 139.

Reg. 19.050. *Emblems and Paraphernalia of Other Bodies.* No emblems or paraphernalia of any other body or order may be displayed or stored in a Lodge Room, excepting when that body or order is holding a meeting therein.

Historical Reference: 1926: 34; 1928: 39, 203; 1941: 93; 1946: 54, 250.

Cross Reference: Reg. 21.020 (d).

Editorial Note: Above regulation applies to Christian Flag. See Approved Decision 19.050-2.

Approved Decisions

19.050-1. *Charters Excepted.* Charter of O.E.S. Chapter may properly hang on wall in Lodge Room at all times. 1948: 30, 187.

Revised May 2013

19.050-2. *Applies to Christian Flag.* This regulation prohibiting display of emblems of other organizations in Lodge Room except when meeting of that organization is being held applies to the

Christian Flag, which is an article of paraphernalia of O.E.S. Said Christian Flag must be removed and not be left in Lodge Room excepting when O.E.S. is holding meeting therein. 1974: 25, 81.

Reg. 19.060. *Use of Lodge Room by Other Bodies.* Every organization having the right to meet in the Lodge Room shall relinquish its right to use the Lodge Room at any time or any date when its use of the Lodge Room would conflict with any stated meeting or regular meeting of the Lodge or any meeting of the Lodge called by the Grand Lecturer for the purpose of holding a Lodge of Instruction, or any meeting of the Lodge called by the Grand Master or by any Special Deputy of the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1954: 44, 84; 1968: 75, 127.

Revised May 2013

CHAPTER 20

CONSTRUCTION AND INDEBTEDNESS SUPERVISORY BOARD

Reg. 20.010. *Supervisory Board.*

(a) The following matters shall be within the jurisdiction of the Supervisory Board:

- (1) Acquisition of real estate or any financial interest in real estate
- (2) Construction and demolition of real estate
- (3) Substantial modification of real estate
- (4) Sale or other transfer of whole or partial interest in real estate
- (5) Leases of real estate for terms in excess of 30 days either as lessee or lessor
- (6) Any loans or other financing involving real estate
- (7) Any other substantial issues or occurrences affecting the value or use of real estate
- (8) Disposition of any property disclaimed or rejected by the Grand Lodge under Section 7.010 or Regulation 16.040.
- (9) Any loan arrangements as lender or debtor except for investment of funds in banks, treasury securities, or publicly traded securities
- (10) Suitability and appropriateness of physical facilities and arrangements used by Lodges for ritualistic purposes

Such matters shall be within the jurisdiction of the Board whether conducted by or involving the Grand Lodge, a Lodge or Lodges, its agent(s), a Temple Association, or any other entity in which a Lodge or Grand Lodge has any financial interest or in which a Lodge has associated itself in any other manner. Matters relating to the Indiana Masonic Home and the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, however, shall not be under the jurisdiction of the Board.

(b) Lodges are required to submit any proposed business transactions or occurrences within the jurisdiction of the Supervisory Board to the Board previous to any legal commitment(s) being made. The Board will review such actions or transactions, consult with any affected Lodges, and approve or disapprove of such transaction. No transaction subject to this regulation shall be executed or be valid unless approved by the Supervisory Board.

(c) At the request of any Lodge, the Supervisory Board may, or when directed by the Grand Master shall, intervene, consult, assist, advise or participate in the negotiation, planning or any other matter involving matters within the jurisdiction of the Board.

(d) The Supervisory Board may, as it judges appropriate, consult with appropriate professionals. It may participate in negotiations, and deal directly with governmental entities if in its judgment such participation is appropriate.

Historical Reference: 1928: 31, 222; 1938: 209, 263-264; 1951; 93, 101; 1962: 60, 85; 1977: 56, 77; 1978: 55, 57; 2000: 145-149.

Cross Reference: Sec. 4.030.

Approved Decisions

20.010-1. *No Proxy Vote*. Repealed. 1940: 25, 218; 2000: 146.

20.010-2. *Applies in All Cases*. Repealed. 1976: 70, 98; 2000: 146.

20.010-3. *Applies on Lease*. Repealed. 1942: 212; 2000: 146.

20.010-4. *Applies to Temple Associations*. Repealed. 1956: 35, 84; 2000: 146-147.

20.010-5. *Fund-Raising Activities*. Repealed. 1964: 97, 126; 1988: 77-79; 1999: 99-101, 130.

20.010-6. *Annual Reports to Lodge of Stock Companies*. Superseded by paragraph (c) of Reg. 20.010. 1978: 9, 55, 57.

20.010-7. *Lodge Assessing Other Organizations Meeting in Lodge Hall*. **REPEALED** A Lodge does not have the authority to levy an "assessment" on another organization meeting in the Lodge Hall. However, a Lodge does have the responsibility and authority to discuss with the other organizations meeting in the Lodge Hall the needs of the Lodge Hall and the necessity of additional maintenance funds. 1978: 55, 86; 2011: 42-43, 135.

Cross Reference: Regs. 39.080 (a, b, c), 39.080-1, 39.080-4, 39.080-5, 39.080-8, 39.100-3.

Reg. 20.020. Annual Reports. Masonic Temple Associations or Building Corporations shall provide annual reports to Lodges which hold stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or certificates of ownership in said corporation or associations together with a proper audit of the same. This report shall be spread on the minutes of the Lodge holding stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, or certificates of ownership annually on or before March 1st of each year. 2000: 145-149.

Approved Decision

20.020-1. *Temple Board Association By-Laws*. Temple Board Association By-Laws cannot conflict with the regulations of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge is the supreme Masonic authority within its jurisdiction. Temple Associations are creatures of the Lodges that are shareholders/members of the association. Therefore, by-laws created by such associations cannot conflict with laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge. 2003: 117, 185.

Revised 2011

Reg. 20.030. Lodge Indebtedness. Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1930: 179, 238; 2000: 145-149.

Reg. 20.040. *Must Not Decrease Income.* A Lodge having incurred a debt with the approval of the Supervisory Board shall not, while such debt or debts remain unpaid, in any manner voluntarily decrease its income by lowering its dues, excessive remission of dues, or otherwise, without the consent of the Supervisory Board.

Historical Reference: 1941: 246; 1951: 93.

Reg. 20.050. *Must Make Report.* Lodges that have been granted permission by the Supervisory Board to incur a debt, must make report in April of each year to the Chairman of said Board, giving the status of the debt and how rapidly it has been reduced.

Historical Reference: 1946: 288; 1951: 93.

Reg. 20.060. *Changes in Plans.* Lodges that have submitted plans for the construction and for the financing of Lodge Halls or for the remodeling thereof, which have been approved by the Supervisory Board, shall not make any changes in such plans unless the changes are first approved in writing by the Supervisory Board.

Historical Reference: 1962: 60, 86.

Reg. 20.070. *Temple Membership Change.*

(a) This regulation applies to the following Temple Associations:

(1) Temple Associations created after May 21, 2013.

(2) Temple Associations created before May 22, 2014, if the agreement or other documents created and governing the Temple Association have no provision governing disposition assets if a member of the Temple Association leaves the Association.

(b) If a member of the Temple Association to which this regulation applies leaves the Association, the stock, shares, or other membership assets belongs to the departing member shall be distributed equally to the remaining members.

Historical Reference: 2014: 52, 151

Reg. 20.080. *Temple Association Property.* Section 7.010 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and Regulation 16.040 apply, to the extent possible, to Temple Associations.

Historical Reference: 2014: 52, 151

Revised May 2014

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CHAPTER 21

USE OF LODGE HALLS

Reg. 21.010. *Use of Lodge Rooms.* Lodges may use their rooms for public or private purposes. The purpose must be in keeping with the principles of the Fraternity. Lodges may allow not-for-profit groups to utilize any portion of the building the Lodge chooses. Lodges may accept donations and maintenance fees for such use.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1876: 132-133; 1880: 55; 1899: 17, 83; 1906: 29, 121; 1921: 47, 220; 1925: 194, 213; 1926: 35, 53, 175, 208; 1927: 36, 167; 1948: 37, 188; 1951: 93, 131; 1956: 41, 89; 1957: 79, 83; 1961: 47, 92; 1963: 39, 47, 99, 105; 1989: 70, 82; 1990: 76, 96; 1991: 56, 60-62, 91; 1998: 132, 157-158.

Cross Reference: Regs. 39.080, 39.100. Approved Decisions 39.080-3, 39.100-3.

Approved Decisions

21.010-1. *No Paid Entertainers.* Repealed. 1908: 49, 129; 1965: 81, 127; 1998: 134, 158.

21.010-2. *May Meet Elsewhere.* Repealed. 1953: 120, 166; 1998: 134, 158.

21.010-3. *Clubs Not Included.* Repealed. 1949: 29, 202; 1998: 134, 158.

21.010-4. *Joint Sponsorship.* Repealed. 1949: 31, 202; 1998: 134, 158.

21.010-5. *Limitations on Display of Work.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1998: 134, 158.

21.010-6. *White Shrine.* Repealed. 1979: 88; 1991: 56, 60-62; 1998: 134, 158.

Reg. 21.020. *Limitations on Use of Lodge Room.* Lodges may permit rooms for social or entertainment functions and legitimate Masonic events and also by other organizations for their lawful and legitimate purposes, subject however, to the following specific limitations:

(a) Lodges may not permit gambling, either by the Lodge itself or any other organizations, in any of the rooms of the Lodge owned or controlled by the Lodge. Prizes and awards for pool tournaments or card tournaments, or other contests of skill, attendance prizes and door prizes are permissible if nothing of value, including entry fees, admission charges or donations is received by the sponsoring organization, or required from any of the participants. Lodges are prohibited from using or permitting, or suffering any organization lawfully using a Lodge Hall to permit its Lodge Hall, Rooms, Temple or Lodge name to be used in connection with any form of lotteries, gambling, drawings, games of chance or any other violation of the laws of the community, State or Nation.

(b) Lodges may not permit any conduct in the Lodge Room which is not in keeping with the teachings of Freemasonry, either as entertainment or otherwise. Lodges may not permit any use of the other rooms owned or controlled by the Lodge which is not consistent with the teachings of Freemasonry.

(c) Lodges may not use the Lodge Room on Sunday or permit the same to be used on Sunday, or open Lodge on Sunday, except for the purpose of conducting a Funeral Service for a deceased worthy Brother, or for the purpose of holding proper Memorial Services for members who have died within the last year. The Lodge Room shall otherwise remain closed on Sunday to the membership and to recognized bodies using the rooms under this section. No Lodge of this jurisdiction may allow games of any kind to be played on Sunday in any room or rooms over which it has direct or indirect control. Lodges may not use any part of a Masonic Temple on Sunday, except as stated in this section, or permit the same to be used on Sunday except for Funeral or Memorial Services as stated in this section, otherwise the Lodge Hall and Rooms and all parts of the Temple used solely for Masonic Lodge purposes, shall be and remain closed to the membership and to the public on Sunday. The Grand Master may, upon request from a Lodge, give dispensation for a Lodge to grant permission to a church of established standing in community which has temporarily lost the use of its own quarters by a catastrophe or during remodeling or rebuilding to use parts of Masonic Temples on Sunday for religious purposes, but this permission shall not include the Lodge Room, Preparation Room, Tyler's Room or Property Room.

Lodges may use the social rooms on Sunday for the same purposes it would normally be used during the rest of the week. The social rooms must be separate from the Lodge Room and the Lodge Room must remain closed during the use of the social rooms on Sunday, except for the uses stated in the previous paragraph.

(d) Lodges may not permit any other body using the Lodge Hall under this section to display or store its emblems or paraphernalia in the Lodge Room, excepting when that body or order is holding a meeting therein, and may not permit emblems or paraphernalia of any other body or order to be painted on or to be otherwise permanently affixed to the walls, floor or ceiling of the Lodge Room.

(e) Lodges may not permit dancing in a Lodge Room, except in the case of a presentation of a play.

(f) Lodges may not permit any part of a Masonic Hall to be used for political purposes.

(g) Lodges may not rent, lease or sub-lease any part of the building in which the Lodge Rooms are located, to any person or persons or to any business entity that sells or dispenses alcoholic beverages, and may not grant permission to any person, persons, business entity to use such Lodge property for such purpose. However, the Grand Master with the approval of the Supervisory Board may grant permission to a Lodge to rent, lease, or renew a lease on parts of its building not used for Lodge purposes to a drug store, grocery store or similar business carrying package liquors as a merely incidental or minor part of its regular merchandise; *Provided*, that such goods are not to be consumed on the premises.

(h) With respect to any Lodge or Lodges whose charter or dispensation provides for such Lodge to meet in rooms or portions of buildings which are not owned or controlled by the Lodge, its trustees, or an association of Lodges and/or Masonic organizations, the restrictions of this Regulation shall apply (1) at all times to those rooms or portions of the building as are used exclusively by the Lodge or Lodges, but (2) if the rooms or portions of the building are not used exclusively by the Lodge or Lodges, then only at times as the rooms or portions of the building are being used by the Lodge or Lodges.

(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Regulation 21.020(g), the governing body of a Masonic Temple Association may rent, lease or sub-lease the public areas of its building, excluding the Fraternal areas in which the Lodge Rooms are located, to any person or persons or to any business entity for rental events at which alcoholic beverages are served. Licensed caterers only approved by the Trustees of the Masonic Temple Association shall have full responsibility for obtaining all liquor licenses, necessary insurance coverage and for serving and dispensing all alcoholic beverages. Prior to undertaking the provisions to which this regulation applies, the approval of the Grand Master must be obtained by the Masonic Temple Association.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1879: 83; 1904: 113; 1923: 61, 157; 1926: 34-35, 175; 1928: 29, 203; 1929: 38, 198; 1931: 30, 163; 1934: 16, 228; 1936: 58, 60, 257-258; 1938: 32, 256; 1941: 40, 252; 1943: 42, 264; 1946: 54, 250; 1947: 24, 225; 1948: 14, 184; 1949: 31, 202; 1950: 20-21, 150, 152; 1951: 93; 1952: 93, 132; 1953: 120, 166; 1956: 36, 84; 1957: 79, 83; 1998: 132, 157-158; 2000: 35, 110; 2006: 41-43, 110; 2009: 54-55, 137.

Approved Decisions

21.020-1. *No Public Dances*. Repealed. 1923: 61, 157; 1965: 81, 127; 1998: 137, 158.

21.020-2. *No Advertising*. No advertising material should be displayed in Lodge Room unless it is displayed for legitimate Masonic purpose. 1954: 31, 88.

21.020-3. *No Public Plays*. Repealed. 1954: 31, 88; 1998: 137, 159.

21.020-4. *No Sunday Meetings*. Permission may not be granted O.E.S. or any other organization to hold district meeting on Sunday in Lodge Room nor in any room or rooms over which it has control. 1931: 30, 163.

21.020-5. *Photographs in Lodge Room*. The taking of pictures in Lodge Room during time Lodge is open and in session is improper. Photographs or other pictorial representations may be made of the Lodge Room, or of officers or members of Lodge or participants in public ceremonies in Lodge Room, dressed in appropriate robes, aprons and jewels of their respective offices. As a matter of good taste and propriety, photographs or other pictorial representations of costumes or other

Revised May 2009

paraphernalia of Lodge used during ritualistic work only may not be made or published. 1954: 26,

88. On every occasion when photographs are taken in Lodge Room, propriety and good taste must be exercised. Would not be proper nor in good taste for motion picture cameras to be in continual use while any ceremony is taking place in Lodge Room. 1959: 87, 123.

21.020-6. *Benefit Dances*. Repealed. 1956: 35, 85; 1998: 137, 159.

21.020-7. "*Side Organizations*" *Barred*. Repealed. 1959: 87, 123; 1998: 140, 160.

Revised June 2006

21.020-8. *No Wedding Ceremonies*. Lodge Hall may not be used for wedding ceremony. 1962: 84, 131. **Repealed**. 2008: 126, 163.

21.020-9. *Non-Masonic Functions*. Masons may be invited to Sunday meeting sponsored by O.E.S. (and held outside Temple) if it is not official function of O.E.S. and is not advertised as Masonic function. 1964: 98, 128.

21.020-10. *Applies to Christian Flag*. This section prohibiting display of emblems of other organizations in Lodge Room except when meeting of that organization is being held applies to the Christian Flag, which is article of paraphernalia of O.E.S. Said Christian Flag must be removed and may not be left in Lodge Room excepting when O.E.S. is holding meeting therein. 1974: 25, 81.

21.020-11. *White Shrine*. Repealed. 1979: 88; 1991: 56, 60-62.

21.020-12. *State and National Historical Rosters*. Lodge building listed on both State and National Historical Rosters may be open on Sunday for public tours, the Lodge Room to be roped off so that those on tour can see inside but not enter. 1979: 87.

Reg. 21.030. *Use of Other Rooms Owned or Controlled by the Lodge*.
Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1926: 35, 175; 1936: 58, 257; 1951: 93; 1957: 79, 83; 1998: 137-138, 159.

Reg. 21.040. *Limitations on Use of Other Rooms Owned or Controlled by the Lodge*. Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1879: 83; 1904: 113; 1921: 44, 228; 1929: 38, 198; 1931: 30, 163; 1934: 16, 228; 1936: 60, 258; 1938: 32, 256; 1941: 40, 252; 1943: 42, 264; 1946: 54, 250; 1947: 24, 225; 1948: 14, 183; 1949: 31, 202; 1950: 20-21, 50, 152; 1951: 93; 1952: 93, 132; 1953: 120, 166; 1955: 45, 136; 1956: 37, 84-85; 1957: 79, 83; 1958: 93; 1963: 97, 140; 1965: 81, 127; 1998: 138-139, 159.

Approved Decisions

21.040-1. *No Sunday Breakfasts*. Repealed. 1953: 120, 166; 1955: 45, 136; 1956: 37, 84; 2003: 38, 185.

21.040-2. *May Rent Theater*. Repealed. 1945: 157; 2003: 38, 185.

Revised May 2009

21.040-3. *Use as Voting Place*. Repealed. 1949: 32, 202; 1959: 78, 122; 2003: 38, 185.

- 21.040-4. *No Sunday Meetings. Repealed.* 1931: 30, 163; 2003: 38, 185.
- 21.040-5. *“Play” Gambling Prohibited. Repealed.* 1956: 36, 84; 1973: 70, 107; 2003: 38, 185.
- 21.040-6. *May Serve Meals. Repealed.* 1955: 29, 119; 2003: 38, 185.
- 21.040-7. *Lodge Has Final Word. Repealed.* 1956: 36, 84; 2003: 38, 185.
- 21.040-8. *No Sunday Reception. Repealed.* 1968: 75, 126; 1998: 132, 157, 158; 2000: 35, 110; 2003: 38, 185.
- 21.040-9. *White Shrine. Repealed.* 1979: 88; 1991: 56, 60-62.
- 21.040-10. *State and National Historical Rosters. Repealed.* 1979: 87; 2003: 38, 185.
- 21.040-11. *Prohibition on Gambling in Organizations That Predicate Their Membership on Freemasonry. Repealed.* 1985: 80, 126; 2003: 38, 185.
- Editorial Note: *Repealed.* 1976: 71, 102; 2003: 38, 185.

Revised May 2009

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CHAPTER 22

MEETINGS OF A LODGE

Reg. 22.010. *Stated Meetings.*

(a) The stated meetings of a Lodge are those provided for at fixed periods in the by-laws and cannot be called off to meet at any subsequent time; neither can they be called at an hour earlier than that specified in the by-laws.

(b) The hour for stated meetings must be designated in the by-laws.

(c) Each and every stated meeting of a subordinate Lodge is a separate and distinct session. No motion to reconsider can be made at subsequent meeting.

Historical Reference: 1858: 75; 1863: 39; 1875: 123; 1923: 63, 157; 1951: 93; 1968: 75, 127.

Cross Reference: Regs. 17.050, 29.130.

Approved Decisions

22.010-1. *Subsequent Ballot Prohibited.* Where by oversight, ballot was not spread a second time, but candidate was declared rejected, although only one black cube appeared, ballot cannot be retaken at subsequent meeting. 1895: 24, 118.

Reg. 22.020. *Failure to Hold Stated Meetings.* Should any Lodge fail to hold a stated meeting for six (6) consecutive months, it will thereby forfeit its charter, unless such suspension of labor be by permission of or on order of the Grand Master or Grand Lodge. The provisions of this regulation shall not apply to Special Purpose Lodges.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1985: 80.

Reg. 22.030. *Called Meetings.* Called meetings are those convened by the presiding officer, of which, as far as practicable, each member should have due notice; *Provided*, that no business except trials, receiving petitions, appointing Investigation Committees, conferring degrees, or ceremonial observances, shall be transacted at such called meetings.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1899: 17, 83; 2001: 42-43, 143.

Approved Decisions

22.030-1. *Petitions May Not be Received.* G.M. has no power or authority to issue dispensations in violation of the regulations, such as to ballot same evening petition is presented or to confer all degrees same evening. 1904: 22, 113.

22.030-2. *May Not Elect Officer.* Called meeting may not be held for purpose of filling vacancy in elective office. 1953: 119, 161.

22.030-3. *No Sunday Trials.* Where trial is begun on Saturday, Lodge should be closed at midnight. To proceed after that hour would be to hold court on Sunday which, by common law of land, is day upon which no judicial proceedings can be held. W.M. can continue further hearing of case to any subsequent day of which accused and Lodge should have proper notice. 1879: 22-23, 72.

Reg. 22.040. *Sunday Meetings.*

- (a) A Lodge may be convened on Sunday for the following purposes only:
1. Conducting the Funeral of a deceased worthy Brother,
 2. Conducting the Memorial Services for deceased members.

(b) The members of a Lodge may attend divine services in a body, without regalia, upon invitation of proper church or synagogue authorities.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1904: 113; 1947: 24, 225; 1962: 39, 87.

Cross Reference: Regs. 21.020, 21.040, 42.080.

Editorial Note: No flag ceremony shall be given in any Lodge after Lodge is opened. Pledge of Allegiance to American Flag is not part of ritual. Should Lodge desire to use Pledge of Allegiance, it shall be given before opening of Lodge, taking care not to require it from member or visitor not a citizen of the U.S.A. 1976: 70, 98; 1977: 50.

Approved Decisions

22.040-1. *May Not Attend Church Service.* Superseded by paragraph (b) of Reg. 22.040. 1962: 39, 87.

22.040-2. *Memorial Service.* Lodges may hold proper Memorial Services for members who have died within last year in Lodge Hall on Sunday; *Provided*, that such Memorial Services be held without opening Lodge. 1925: 42, 212. Memorial Services for deceased members may be held outside Lodge Hall, may be open to public and may be held on Sunday, but Masons attending such services should not be clothed as Masons and should not attend as a body. 1945: 157. Same applies to public Bible presentation. 1945: 35, 158.

22.040-3. *St. John's Day.* When anniversary of St. John the Baptist or St. John the Evangelist falls on Sunday, such anniversary cannot be celebrated on that day, nor can public installation be held on anniversary of St. John the Evangelist when it falls on Sunday. 1897: 27, 82.

22.040-4. *Awards.* The Grand Lodge awards for fifty or seventy-five years shall be the only awards allowed on Sunday; *Provided*, it is held outside of Lodge Room. Lodge may not present other awards on Sunday even though meeting is held outside Lodge Room and Lodge is not opened. 1965: 81, 127; 1997: 100, 136.

22.040-5. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 22.050. *Number Necessary to Open Lodge.* The presence of seven of its members who are Master Masons is necessary for any Lodge to be opened on any degree, to confer a degree, or to transact business.

Historical Reference: 1872: 46-47; 1875: 123; 1893: 66; 1961: 44, 93.

Cross Reference: Regs. 18.020, 22.060, 23.030.

Reg. 22.060. *Work or Business.*

(a) All business of a Lodge must be done at a Stated Meeting as prescribed in the Lodge By-Laws. The Stated Meeting may be opened on any degree (EA, FC or MM) to allow participation of those members who are EA or FC. However, if the Stated Meeting is opened on the EA or FC degree, only Master Masons who are members of the Lodge may vote. The conferral of degrees will be opened on the appropriate degree (EA, FC or MM). A trial for an EA or FC will be opened on the appropriate degree.

(b) Before proceeding to the transaction of business or work in any degree, the Lodge shall be opened with the prescribed ceremony, and when the work for which the Lodge was opened has been performed, it shall be closed with the prescribed ceremony.

(c) At a Masonic Burial Service or Memorial Service in a Lodge of Sorrow, should necessity require it, the Lodge may be opened and closed by the Worshipful Master or by a Warden in any convenient room which can be properly tiled.

(d) A Lodge may be opened or closed by declaration only by the Grand Master or by a Past Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1961: 44, 78, 93; 2012: 43-44, 165-166.

Cross Reference: Regs. 18.020, 22.050, 23.010, 23.030.

Editorial Note: No flag ceremony shall be given in any Lodge after Lodge is opened. Pledge of Allegiance to American Flag is not part of ritual. Should Lodge desire to use Pledge of Allegiance, it shall be given before opening of Lodge, taking care not to require it from member or visitor not a citizen of the U.S.A. 1976: 70, 98; 1977: 50.

Approved Decisions

22.060-1. *No Degrees at Refreshment.* All work of Lodge must be performed when at labor. Second section M.M. degree cannot be conferred while at refreshment. 1874: 17, 90.

22.060-2. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Revised May 2012

Reg. 22.070. Appearance in Public. Any chartered Lodge may celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist (June 24) and St. John the Evangelist (December 27) by procession or festival. Lodges may proceed from Lodge Hall or other designated meeting place clothed in white gloves and white aprons to a church when celebrating the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. By long-standing Masonic tradition, all public processions are limited to Masonic events, and when other orders or societies join in the celebration, the procession and ceremony must be separate and distinct.

However, Lodges may appear in civic and patriotic observances in compliance with the following conditions and restrictions:

The event unquestionably must be consistent with the dignity and high standards of Ancient Craft Freemasonry, with proper Masonic decorum prevailing at all times so that the appearance will be to the credit of the Fraternity.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1981: 74; 1994: 91-92, 100; 1998: 143-144, 161-162.

Cross Reference: S.R. 63.040.

Approved Decisions

22.070-1. *Stunt Night Participation.* Lodge may not participate in public “Stunt Night” program to raise money for any organization. 1938: 24, 256.

22.070-2. *Must Confine Work to Hall.* It is neither proper nor in good taste for representatives of Lodge as such, robed as they are in Lodge meeting, to appear in O.E.S. meeting. By tradition and usage we have established that our Masonic work be confined to Lodge Hall, except those ceremonies in which the regulations provide for appearance in public. 1949: 31, 202.

22.070-3. *St. John’s Day.* When anniversary of St. John the Baptist or St. John the Evangelist falls on Sunday, such anniversary cannot be celebrated on that day, nor can public installation be held on anniversary of St. John the Evangelist when it falls on Sunday. 1897: 27, 82.

Reg. 22.080. Public Ceremonies: Grand Lodge.

(a) Masonic ceremonies which may be performed in public by the Grand Lodge are limited to:

1. Constituting and consecrating a Lodge.
2. Dedication or rededication of a Masonic Temple.
3. Laying the cornerstone of a Masonic Temple or public edifice.
4. Installation of the officers of the Grand Lodge or of a subordinate

Lodge.

5. Dedication of historical or commemorative marker.

(b) All of the above named ceremonies are performed in a Lodge of Master Masons which has been opened in due form before the public is admitted, and the Grand Master or a Special Deputy appointed by him shall preside.

Revised May 2012

(c) A cornerstone shall be laid with Masonic ceremonies only when the building is in its initial stage of construction, and never in a completed building. The foundations must have been laid, but the wall must not have been raised above the level of a stone when set in its place. The stone must be a true cornerstone (not a slab). In the stone there must be a cavity of sufficient length, width and depth to admit a sealed copper casket containing the deposit. The ceremony shall in all cases include the actual laying and proving of the cornerstone and the sealing of the cavity.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1938: 20, 256; 1951: 93; 1963: 44, 104; 1988: 75-76.

Approved Decisions

22.080-1. *Public Edifice*. Laying of cornerstone to a public edifice refers to a non-profit institution, not a building used by commerce or industry. 1983: 47, 81.

Reg. 22.090. Public Ceremonies: Subordinate Lodges.

(a) Masonic ceremonies which may be performed in public by a subordinate Lodge are limited to:

1. Installation of Lodge officers,
2. Presentation of Service Award for 25, 50 or 75 years a Mason,
3. The Masonic Funeral or Memorial Service.

(b) All of the above named ceremonies are performed in a Lodge of Master Masons which has been opened in due form on the Master Mason degree before the public is admitted; *Provided*, that the presentation of the 25, 50 or 75 year award may be made without opening the Lodge, at the option of the Worshipful Master.

Historical Reference: 1963: 44, 104; 1995: 87; 1996: 123; 2002: 42-43, 149

Cross Reference: Reg. 17.160.

Editorial Note: A Lodge of Master Masons having been regularly opened in due form, the Lodge therefore is at labor on the M.M. degree while installing its officers. Only Master Masons may participate in the ceremony or appear on the program in any manner prior to the closing of the Lodge. The wife, son, daughter, or other family member of the newly installed W.M. may be allowed to present a gift at public installation of officers (such as a gavel or pin) after receiving permission from the W.M. and being conducted to and from the East by the Senior Deacon. The wife, son, daughter or other family member may be allowed to pin the Service Award on the lapel of a Master Mason during a public awards ceremony after receiving permission from the W.M. and being conducted to and from the East by the Senior Deacon. 2002:

Editorial Note: No flag ceremony shall be given in any Lodge after Lodge is opened. Pledge of Allegiance to American Flag is not part of ritual. Should Lodge desire to use Pledge of Allegiance, it shall be given before opening of Lodge, taking care not to require it from member or visitor not a citizen of the U.S.A. 1976: 70, 98; 1977: 50.

Revised June 2002

Approved Decisions

22.090-1. *No Speaker Systems*. Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

22.090-2. *Presentation Ceremonies*. Non-members may not make presentations or observe presentation ceremonies, except those ceremonies specifically outlined in this regulation, while the Lodge is open or at ease. 1980: 65, 94.

CHAPTER 23

MASONIC BURIAL AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

Reg. 23.010. *Traditional Masonic Burial.*

(a) It is the privilege of every Lodge to perform the ceremony of traditional Masonic burial at the Funeral of any Master Mason in good standing in any Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Indiana; *Provided*, that requests for such ceremony have been made by the Brother himself, by his immediate relatives or by his friends, and that the surviving family consents thereto.

(b) Masonic burial is a privilege granted only to an affiliated Mason or to a demitted Mason whose demit has been issued no longer than six months. Those who have received the E.A. or F.C. degree may be afforded Burial and Memorial Services; *Provided*, that all other requirements contained in 23.010 and 23.020 have been met. An E.A. or F.C. may participate in Burial and Memorial Services with the Craft but may not participate as an officer.

(c) When the traditional Masonic burial service is conducted, the Lodge shall be opened on the Master Mason degree, except as provided in Reg. 23.030. When the traditional Masonic burial service is conducted on other than a Master Mason, the Lodge of Sorrow shall be opened on the appropriate Masonic degree for an E.A. or F.C. The family of the deceased should always be granted the courtesy of designating pallbearers, but unless all pallbearers are Master Masons, none shall be clothed as such.

(d) The Masonic burial service may be held at the grave side, or, if desired by the family, may be begun at the residence or mortuary or other appropriate place, and completed at the grave. Masonic Funeral Rites may be performed in a church only if the proper local church officials consent thereto.

(e) In a traditional Masonic burial there shall be no committal of the body, and only the approved ritual for such service may be used.

(f) Other organizations may act as an escort to a Lodge which conducts the Masonic burial service, but a Lodge shall not act as an escort to any organization, Masonic or otherwise.

Historical Reference: 1876: 131; 1877: 144; 1928: 184, 194; 1961: 44, 93; 1969: 36, 70; 1999: 93-95, 128; 2001: 46, 144.

Cross Reference: Form 6.

Approved Decisions

23.010-1. *Must Be in good Standing.* G.M. may suspend function of Lodge for having buried with Masonic honors a suspended or expelled Mason. 1873: 14, 59.

23.010-2. *Who May Conduct Service.* Any M.M. in good standing may be invited by the W.M. to conduct Funeral Services. 1926: 35, 175.

23.010-3. *When Death Occurs Overseas.* Masonic grave side services may be held for one who died overseas while serving in armed forces with appropriate changes or omissions suitable to circumstances. There may be no procession and no Lodge regalia may be displayed. 1951: 17, 62.

23.010-4. *When Death Occurs Prior to Receiving the M.M. Degree.* Masonic grave side services may be held for one who dies prior to receiving the M.M. degree with appropriate changes or omissions suitable to circumstances. 2001: 46, 144.

23.010-5. *Who May Participate.* G.M. Recommendation 2-00. G.L. approved that E.A. and F.C. may participate in Masonic Memorial Services and Funerals. 2001: 46, 62, 131, 144.

Reg. 23.020. Memorial Service: Lodge of Sorrow.

(a) Unless traditional Masonic burial has been specifically requested by the deceased Brother or his family, a Lodge may open a Lodge of Sorrow and conduct a Memorial Service at the residence, mortuary or other appropriate place on the day or evening preceding the Funeral Service. A Masonic Memorial Service may be conducted in a church only if the proper local church officials consent thereto.

(b) In a Masonic Memorial Service there shall be no committal of the body, and only the approved ritual for such service may be used.

(c) The same rules governing eligibility for traditional Masonic burial and for participation in such service apply in all respects to the Memorial Service.

Historical Reference: 1961: 45, 93; 1992: 57-58, 69.

Cross Reference: Form 6.

Approved Decisions

23.020-1. *Death by Suicide.* One who dies by suicide is entitled to Masonic Funeral unless his death is shown to have been dishonorable. 1943: 40, 256.

23.020-2. *Pallbearers.* Active pallbearers at Masonic Funeral may wear the uniform of a branch of the Armed Forces if performing funeral for a active or retired member of the Armed Forces who is also a Mason. Uniforms of other organizations or societies shall not be worn by pall bearers. 1900: 29, 103; 1925: 44, 244; 2002: 47, 151.

23.020-3. *May Display Apron.* Masonic apron may be displayed upon casket of deceased E.A. or F.C. 1949: 31, 202; 1985: 35, 112; 1999: 94-95.

23.020-4. *Participants Must Be M.M.* Repealed. 1849: 55; 2001: 46, 144.

23.020-5. *Other Societies.* Societies other than those that are Masonic may be permitted, or invited by the family of the deceased, to join in procession at the burial of a M.M. by his Lodge, such societies being assigned a place in advance of the Lodge; they may appoint honorary pallbearers; they may perform their services over the body, but they cannot be permitted to lower it; and after Lodge takes charge of burial, it must be completed without interference or interposition on part of any other organized society. 1897: 27-28, 82; 1917: 20, 206.

Revised June 2002

Reg. 23.030. *Opening and Closing Lodge.*

(a) When a Lodge performs either the service of traditional Masonic burial or conducts a Memorial Service in a Lodge of Sorrow, should necessity require it, the Worshipful Master or a Warden may open and close the Lodge in any convenient room which can be properly tiled

(b) The Worshipful Master also is authorized to open a Lodge of Sorrow in due form at the beginning of the term for which he has been installed, said Lodge of Sorrow to remain open until the conclusion of the term for which he has been installed, at which time it shall be closed in due form. During the time the Lodge of Sorrow is open, all traditional Burial Services and/or Memorial Services may be conducted without separate opening and closing ceremonies; *Provided*, that the minutes of each Funeral or Memorial Service conducted in such Lodge of Sorrow shall be prepared and read the same as if the Lodge had been formally opened and closed on each separate occasion.

Historical Reference: 1961: 45, 93; 1969: 36, 70.

Cross Reference: Regs. 18.020, 22.050; Form 6.

Approved Decisions

23.030-1. *No Lack of Courtesy.* Law which prohibits Lodges from acting as escorts to other orders on funeral occasions is not born of lack of courtesy to those orders, but grows out of fact that there is no provision for meeting on such occasions except for purpose of performing Funeral Service. 1909: 79, 229.

23.030-2. *Opening and Closing Lodge.* No one opens or closes a Lodge by declaration, except the Grand Master or a Past Grand Master. That ruling includes, but is not limited to a Lodge of Sorrow. Lodges of Sorrow must be opened and closed in due form by a Worshipful Master or Warden. 1985: 35, 114.

Reg. 23.040. *Official Funeral Rituals.* In performing either traditional Masonic burial or conducting a Memorial Service, a Lodge shall use only the official Funeral Rituals authorized by the Grand Lodge of Indiana, as revised from time-to-time.

Historical Reference: 1907: 38, 71; 1924: 25, 134; 1951: 93; 1961: 45, 93.

Cross Reference: Form 6.

Reg. 23.050. *Simultaneous Ceremonies.* Should it become necessary for a Lodge to conduct Funeral or Memorial Services at the same hour set for conferring a degree, the Master may open a Lodge of Master Masons and direct certain of the officers and Brethren to retire and conduct the Funeral or Memorial Service while the degree is being conferred. When the Funeral or Memorial Service has been completed, the officer in charge shall return and report in a Lodge of Master Masons that the duty has been performed.

Historical Reference: 1961: 48, 93.

Cross Reference: Reg. 19.020.

CHAPTER 24

LODGE RECORDS

Reg. 24.010. *Minutes of Meetings.* The records of the proceedings of a Lodge, after having been approved by the Lodge, shall not be altered or any part thereof expunged.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1938: 19, 256; 1943: 41, 255.

Cross Reference: Reg. 20.010(c).

Approved Decisions

24.010-1. *No Motion Needed.* It is the Secretary's duty to record transactions of Lodge as they happen without being instructed to do so by motion. 1909: 78, 229.

24.010-2. *Erroneous Suspension.* Where member in good standing has been erroneously suspended for non-payment of dues, his record should not be cleared by purging minutes of erroneous record, but by resolution stating facts and showing Brother has been continuously in good standing. 1945: 31, 158.

Reg. 24.020. *Approval of Minutes.*

(a) Minutes must be recorded in permanent form before being read to the Lodge for approval. After correction (if any) and approval, the presiding officer and Secretary should sign the record.

(b) When the Lodge has voted to approve its minutes, they are legally approved.

Historical Reference: 1924: 26, 134; 1926: 38, 175; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

24.020-1. *Must Be Separate.* Records of Lodge must be separate and distinct, and should not be combined in any manner with records of any other organization. 1928: 30, 203.

24.020-2. *May Be Kept in Home.* Secretary is custodian of records of Lodge and, when no safe or vault is provided for their protection, he may take them to his home. 1907: 35, 71.

24.020-3. *When Minutes Are Not Signed.* It is the duty of W.M. to sign minutes, but if he neglects this duty, legality of minutes cannot on that account be called in question. 1924: 25, 134.

24.020-4. *Microfilming and Electronic Storage of Records.* Lodge records may be microfilmed and/or stored electronically (computer disk) for historic purposes or for safe keeping. Either must be kept in a secure location free from profane view except by express permission of G.M. 1984: 90; 2002: 47, 151.

Revised June 2002

Reg. 24.030. *Report of Officers and Committees.*

(a) A financial report shall be made by the Secretary of each Lodge at the first stated meeting held in each month in form prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

(b) Annual reports shall be made by the Treasurer, Secretary, Charity Committee, Ambassador to the Masonic Home/Foundation and Trustees at the first stated meeting in January of each year.

(c) Copies of the reports submitted by the Treasurer, Secretary and the Trustee (if any) shall be filed in the office of the Grand Secretary with the annual report.

Historical Reference: 1925: 80, 224; 1941: 45, 252; 1951: 93; 1953: 131; 1959: 37, 88; 1989: 81.

Reg. 24.040. *Annual Audit of Financial Reports.*

(a) Upon the receipt of the financial reports at the first stated meeting in January, every Worshipful Master shall see to it that these reports are promptly audited either by a committee of competent Lodge members or by a certified public accountant.

(b) The Finance Committee shall verify that the Secretary has properly reported all receipts from dues, fees and other sources of revenue, credited them to the members' accounts and in the membership ledger and in the cash book that the Treasurer received the proper amounts and that disbursements by the Treasurer have been properly accounted for and authorized..

(c) When such audit report is presented at the first stated meeting in February, it shall be entered upon the minutes of the Lodge and a certification that it has been properly made and so entered shall be reported to the Grand Secretary.

Historical Reference: 1956: 40, 87; 2001: 52, 147; 2012: 65-68, 169; 2013: 40, 156.

Approved Decisions

24.040-1. *Who May Not Serve.* W.M. and Wardens are not competent to serve on Auditing Committee. 1895: 93.

CHAPTER 25

JURISDICTION

Reg. 25.010. *How Determined.* The jurisdiction of each Lodge subordinated to the Grand Lodge of Indiana shall extend over all of the territory of the State of Indiana and all said Lodges shall have concurrent jurisdiction therein.

Historical Reference: 1905: 32, 113; 1909: 78, 229; 1945: 162; 1951: 93; 1961: 35, 94; 1973: 87.

Cross Reference: Chapter 29.

Reg. 25.020. *State Boundary Line.* The jurisdiction of all Lodges in any direction shall end and terminate at the Indiana State Line.

Historical Reference: 1928: 106, 178, 194; 1973: 87.

Cross Reference: Chapter 29.

Reg. 25.030. *Change of Location.*

(a) Should a Lodge desire to change its location, the Lodge shall petition the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge for such change. The written advice and recommendation from the nearest Lodge in each direction to the proposed location must accompany the petition for the change. The Grand Master or the Grand Lodge shall then act upon said petition in the best interests of the Fraternity.

(b) Should a Lodge lose its location by eminent domain proceedings or by reason of other circumstances beyond its control, the Lodge shall petition the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge for a change of location. The Grand Master or the Grand Lodge shall then act upon said petition in the best interests of the Fraternity.

Historical Reference: 1890: 25, 92-93; 1928: 106, 178, 194; 1971: 33; 1973: 87.

Cross Reference: Chapter 29.

Approved Decisions

25.030-1. *Majority Should Favor Change.* Question of change of location of Lodge is a matter of vital importance and should require assent of majority of all members of Lodge who are in good standing. 1891: 110, 112; 1892: 48; 1894: 8; 1896: 63; 1897: 63.

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CHAPTER 26

MASONIC RESIDENCE

Reg. 26.010. *Residence Required.*

(a) A petition for the degrees may not be received from any person unless, on that date the petition is received by the Lodge, he shall have been an actual and bona fide resident within the State of Indiana for a period of six months or more immediately preceding the date of the reception of his petition by the Lodge, unless he is a petitioner from another jurisdiction under Reg. 27.010.

(b) There is not a minimum residency requirement for a petition of transfer or plural membership by a sojourning Mason in good standing of a sister jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 1859: 39; 1875: 123; 1907: 35, 71; 1930: 43, 213; 1936: 58, 258; 1942: 39; 1946: 188, 300; 1947: 22, 24, 225; 1950: 21, 151; 1951: 93; 1956: 41, 80, 104; 1968: 81, 116; 1973: 87; 1999: 104, 131.

Cross Reference: Reg. 26.040.

Approved Decisions

26.010-1. *P.O. Address Not Sufficient.* Petitioner cannot establish Masonic residence by maintaining post office address in one city while actually residing in another. 1947: 23, 225.

26.010-2. *Actual Residence Governs.* Petition may not be received from one who works, eats most of his meals and spends most of his nights at town where one Lodge is, but who maintains home for his family elsewhere. 1952: 93, 131.

26.010-3. *Must Show Good Faith.* Resident of Kokomo, Howard County, and owner of business there also owned summer home at Bass Lake, Starke County. In 1924 he voted in Knox, Stark County, for first time. Shortly he petitioned Knox Lodge No. 639 for degrees and was elected. From record it appeared that petitioner pretended to establish voting residence in community where he was practically unknown for purpose of being able to petition Knox Lodge for Degrees of Masonry. His real home and established business were in Kokomo. A man cannot establish his Masonic residence or legal domicile in such a manner. Residence is frequently determined upon intent, but this intent must be coupled with good faith. 1926: 212.

26.010-4. *Residence at Time of Petitioning.* Repealed. 1954: 33, 88; 1999: 104, 131.

26.010-5. *Mailing Address Not Residence.* One who gives as his address a trailer camp in Illinois and who tries to maintain a mailing address at home of his parents may not petition Lodge nearest the residence of his father. 1955: 30, 121.

26.010-6. *Actual Home is Residence.* One who maintains family residence and mailing address in adjoining State and who spends weekends with his family may not petition Lodge in Indiana town where he is employed. Notwithstanding fact that he maintains mailing address at said Indiana town, pays gross income tax in Indiana and intends to move to town of his employment in near future. 1954: 29, 88.

26.010-7. *How Received and When.* Petition for membership or for degrees is “received” by Lodge when it is presented and read by Secretary at stated meeting, and is received (1) by ballot, or (2) by consent of Lodge, or (3) by direction of W.M., or (4) by its reference by W.M. to an Investigating Committee. 1953: 119, 162.

Reg. 26.020. *What Constitutes Masonic Residence.* By the term “residence” is meant the place at which a petitioner has actually resided, a place where he maintains a home for himself, or for himself and his family for a time sufficient to establish the petitioner as a bona fide resident of the State of Indiana; subject, however, to the following exception:

(a) *Petitioner in Armed Forces.* The Masonic residence of one who is serving in any branch of the armed forces of the United States shall be determined by applying the following rules:

RULE 1: If the petitioner is one whose civilian pursuits have been interrupted temporarily by his service, and if he had resided the required period of time in the State of Indiana, at the place where he was residing when he entered the armed forces, he shall be considered to be a bona fide resident of the State for the purpose of this section unless he has maintained a bona fide home for himself and his family in another State while in the service, in which event his Masonic residence in Indiana would terminate.

RULE 2: If the petitioner is one whose service is pursued as a career or profession, he is considered to be within the jurisdiction of the Lodge or Lodges at the place where he actually resides and has established a bona fide residence for the required period of time. But if he maintains a bona fide permanent home which is unquestioned in another jurisdiction, he may petition for the degrees in either jurisdiction, but not in both jurisdictions.

(b) *Students.* A student enrolled in a school, college or university in Indiana may claim the school community or his home community as his Masonic residence, if his home community is in Indiana, but in either case the required period of residence must have been established. A student paying non-resident tuition to an Indiana school cannot establish a Masonic residence in this State during the time he is required to pay non-resident tuition to the school.

(c) *Absence Because of Employment.* A civilian petitioner who maintains a permanent and fixed residence, in the State of Indiana, but who is absent therefrom because of his employment, if he is one who returns to his Indiana residence periodically and has not established Masonic residence elsewhere, may present his petition to any Indiana Lodge.

(d) *Petitioner Who Has No Fixed Home.* A civilian petitioner who has employment which takes him from place to place so that he is unable to establish Masonic residence within the jurisdiction of the State of Indiana, but who can establish a logical claim as to the place which he considers in good faith to make his permanent home at some future time, shall make an affidavit as provided in Reg. 26.030 below, setting forth his claim and submit same to the nearest Lodge. That Lodge shall then determine whether the facts set forth in said declaration support his claim as to residence. If the Lodge deems his claim reasonable and just, the declared residence may be accepted as the petitioner's Masonic residence.

Historical Reference: 1943: 34, 256; 1945: 30, 32, 138, 159; 1948: 31, 187; 1949: 31, 202; 1951: 93; 1953: 41, 124; 1956: 41, 80, 104; 1973: 87-88.

Approved Decisions

26.020-1. *May Not Use Former Residence.* One who lived with his parents in one city at time of his entry into armed forces, and whose parents have since moved to a location nearer another Lodge, and who now has established residence for himself and wife at Fort Benjamin Harrison, may not petition Lodge in whose jurisdiction his parents resided at time of his entry into armed forces. 1955: 30, 119.

Reg. 26.030. *When Affidavit is Required.* In all cases where the Masonic residence of the petitioner is in doubt, the petitioner shall submit to the Lodge, at its request, a properly prepared affidavit, in duplicate, giving:

(a) All pertinent facts concerning his residence for the preceding ten years, and,

(b) A declaration of intention as to his future plans of residence.

(c) *Provided*, that any declaration as to residence must be supported by positive facts, such as becoming eligible to register for the purpose of voting, registration for social security purposes or for automobile license, selection for jury service, filing of income tax returns, assessment for the payment of personal property taxes, storage of personal belongings or the maintenance of a home or household in the State of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1955: 121; 1956: 41, 80, 104; 1973: 88.

Reg. 26.040. *Effect of Change of Residence.* After a petition for the degrees is presented to the Lodge, a subsequent change of the petitioner's residence, if in the State of Indiana, does not divest the petitioned Lodge of jurisdiction over the petitioner.

Historical Reference: 1943: 33; 1945: 29, 163; 1951: 93; 1973: 88.

Cross Reference: Reg. 26.010.

Approved Decisions

26.040-1. *How Received and When.* Petition for membership or for degrees is “received” by Lodge when it is presented and read by Secretary at stated meeting, and is received (1) by ballot, or (2) by consent of Lodge, or (3) by direction of W.M., or (4) by its reference by W.M. to an Investigating Committee. 1953: 119, 162.

Reg. 26.050. *Petitions From Rejected Petitioners.* No Lodge shall receive a petition for the degrees from one who has been rejected by another Lodge within ninety (90) days without first receiving the unanimous consent of such Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1824 Hacker: 150; 1857: 63-64; 1875: 123; 1973: 88; 2010: 37, 41, 131.

Approved Decision

26.050-1. *May Petition Again.* When Request for Waiver of Jurisdiction is refused, new petition may be presented at any time, since petitioner has not been rejected by a Lodge. 1949: 29, 202.

Reg. 26.060. *Restoration After Ninety Days.* After ninety (90) days from the date of his rejection, the rejected applicant shall be restored to the same relation or standing that he had before he petitioned the Lodge. A Lodge having rejected an applicant will cease to have jurisdiction over such applicant at the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date of his rejection, but will continue to have concurrent jurisdiction the same as it did before he petitioned the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1908: 50, 129; 1951: 93; 1973: 88; 2010: 37, 41, 131.

Cross Reference: Reg. 32.010.

CHAPTER 27

WAIVER OF JURISDICTION

Reg. 27.010. *Petitioner From Another Jurisdiction.*

(a) No Lodge shall take any action on either a petition for the degrees of Masonry, a petition for Plural membership or transfer of membership from one who resides within the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge without first having obtained permission from the other Grand Lodge involved, and from the Lodge subordinate to it, through the office of the Grand Secretary of Indiana. Should any Indiana Lodge violate this provision, the Grand Master of Indiana may arrest the charter of the offending Lodge. Correspondence between individual Indiana Lodges and other jurisdictions is not permitted.

(b) A Lodge cannot waive jurisdiction over one who may have resided in its jurisdiction when the request was received, but does not so reside at the time of balloting.

Historical Reference: 1852: 68; 1856: 54; 1875: 123; 1914: 62, 133; 1926: 39, 175; 1928: 107, 179, 194; 1951: 93; 1973: 88; 2004: 45, 59.

Cross Reference: Reg. 26.010; Form 8.

Approved Decisions

27.010-1. *Primary Jurisdiction of Lodges.* Lodge that receives petition of one seeking to be made a Mason and elects him to receive degrees, holds jurisdiction over him, and no other Lodge can receive his petition without consent of Lodge that has acquired such jurisdiction. 1896: 28, 92.

27.010-2. *Request for Release.* If waiver of jurisdiction is granted and, after election to receive degrees, petitioner asks to be released that he may petition Lodge at place of his residence, and such request is granted and fees refunded, the first Lodge then has jurisdiction to receive and accept petition. 1926: 38, 175.

Reg. 27.020. *Must Take Action Within Six Months.* When permission to receive a petition for the degrees has been granted to an Indiana Lodge by a Lodge outside Indiana, the Indiana Lodge in whose favor such permission is given shall proceed to take final action upon the petition by the election or rejection of the petitioner within six months from the date same is given, and shall give due notice thereof in writing to the Lodge granting such permission. Upon failure to take such action and give such notice within the time so limited, such permission is thereby withdrawn and the petitioner thereby becomes subject to the regulations of the Grand Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides.

Historical Reference: 1929: 26, 209; 1973: 88-89.

Revised 2010

Reg. 27.030. *When Petition Under Waiver is Rejected.*

(a) An Indiana Lodge that grants permission to a Lodge outside Indiana, delivers over to such Lodge all control of the reception of the petition and the action thereon, but if the Lodge outside Indiana rejects the petition, it disclaims the grant of waiver.

(b) Such rejected person cannot petition any Lodge in Indiana in less than ninety (90) days, nor can he again petition the Lodge that rejected him without another waiver.

Historical Reference: 1875: 82; 1878: 21; 1910: 27, 80; 1951: 93; 1954: 43, 86; 1973: 89; 2010: 37, 41, 131.

Approved Decisions

27.030-1. *When Action is Void.* If Lodge receives petition for degrees without first obtaining waiver of jurisdiction, and rejects said petitioner, such action is void and ineffective both as to Lodge and as to petitioner. Such action has no effect on right of petitioner to petition Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, and he may do so without regard to ninety (90) days waiting period provided in Reg. 27.030. 1954: 30, 88.; 2010: 37, 41, 131.

Reg. 27.040. *Refusal to Grant Waiver.* Refusal to grant a waiver prevents any further action on that particular petition. A new petition or petitions may be made by the same person and new request for waiver may be made on each new petition.

Historical Reference: 1934: 16, 227; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

27.040-1. *Refusal of Request.* When Request for Waiver of Jurisdiction is refused, new petition can be presented at any time, since petitioner has not been rejected by Lodge. 1949: 29, 202.

Reg. 27.050. *Action Must Be Unconditional.* A waiver must be granted or denied by an Indiana Lodge unconditionally and without reservation or limitation, and objection to the granting of a waiver cannot be considered after the Lodge has voted to grant same.

Historical Reference: 1926: 35, 175; 1939: 74, 212; 1951: 93; 1973: 89.

Revised 2010

Reg. 27.060. Action on Request for Waiver.

(a) When an Indiana Lodge receives a request for a waiver of jurisdiction from the Grand Secretary's office over the person of a resident of the community in which the Lodge is located who desires to petition a Lodge outside the State of Indiana, the request can be received and immediately referred to a Committee for Investigation. The committee shall consist of at least two and not more than three members of the Lodge. After at least one week has elapsed, the committee shall report at a stated meeting, the ball and cube ballot shall be spread, and by unanimous consent the Lodge may grant the waiver.

(b) In balloting on a Request for Waiver of Jurisdiction, should but one negative vote appear, the Worshipful Master shall cause another ballot to be taken immediately, which second ballot shall be conclusive.

(c) Should the Lodge fail to act on the request for a Waiver of Jurisdiction within sixty days, the Grand Master may take action and grant, deny or order the Lodge to act on the request for the Waiver of Jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 1910: 24, 80; 1924: 26, 134; 1951: 93; 1973: 89; 2013: 41, 156.

Approved Decisions

27.060-1. *Questionnaire Not Needed.* Investigating Committee on request for waiver need not use questionnaire provided for petitions for degrees. 1927: 38, 152.

27.060-2. *Unworthy Petitioner.* If in opinion of Lodge from which waiver is requested, the petitioner is not worthy to receive Degrees of Masonry, it has perfect right, and is its Masonic duty, to refuse waiver. 1945: 33, 164.

27.060-3. *May Proceed to Investigate.* Lodge is not prohibited from referring petition for degrees to Investigation Committee during time it is waiting for action on its request for waiver. The better and more regular practice is to defer appointing Committee for Investigation of character of petitioner who resides in another jurisdiction until after waiver has been requested and granted. However, if good and sufficient reason exists for eliminating additional delay caused by this procedure, there is no lawful objection to appointing committee and having it make its investigation during time request for waiver is being acted upon. 1943: 36, 255.

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CHAPTER 28

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Reg. 28.010. *Membership: How Acquired.* Membership in a Lodge can be acquired in the following manner:

(a) By having been a petitioner for a Lodge Under Dispensation and having deposited demit therein previous to its being constituted under charter.

(b) By having been elected by the Lodge to receive the degree of Master Mason and having received that degree in or by permission of said Lodge.

(c) By affiliation, either upon petition accompanied by demit or by transfer as provided in Reg. 33.010.

(d) By having been elected by the Lodge to be enrolled as a plural member.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1928: 29, 108, 181, 194, 203; 1982: 74.

Cross Reference: Regs. 29.050, 29.060, 29.110, 33.010.

Editorial Note: If a petitioner for Affiliation by Demit has demitted from the Lodge petitioned not more than three years previously a majority ballot only is required; otherwise election must be by unanimous ballot. Reg. 29.110. However, election to membership on a Certificate of Restoration to the Condition of a Non-Affiliate must be by unanimous ballot. Reg. 49.080.

Reg. 28.020. *Life Membership.*

THE LIFE ENDOWMENT PLAN AND THE MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT PLAN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF INDIANA

The purpose of the Life Endowment Plan of the Grand Lodge of Indiana is to provide a method for members of subordinate Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Indiana to prepay their Lodge dues for the rest of their life and through the Memorial Endowment Plan to continue to support their Lodge after their death.

1. The Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana shall establish a Life Endowment Plan. All funds received by the Grand Lodge that relate directly or indirectly to the endowing of members of Masonic Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Indiana for the purpose of defraying the lifetime costs of membership in such Lodges or as otherwise described in the Plan, shall be deposited in segregated accounts maintained by the Grand Lodge for this purpose.

2. The Life Endowment Committee shall consist of the Deputy Grand Master and six members appointed by the Grand Master to oversee the administration of the Plan. The committee members shall be selected for their commitment to Masonry and their knowledge or expertise in areas of finance or administration. Two committee members shall be appointed for one year terms, two for two year terms and two for three year terms. Upon expiration of the first term, all succeeding terms shall be for three years. A committee member may be appointed to successive terms. Upon the withdrawal of a member for any reason, the Grand Master shall appoint a replacement whose term of office shall run concurrently with that of the member so replaced. The committee shall obtain a qualified person, persons, firm or firms to oversee the investments of the Life Endowment Plan. The committee further may obtain a qualified person or firm to oversee the accounting and/or the administration of the Life Endowment Plan. The cost of such services, as the committee may deem appropriate, shall be deducted from the investment income of the Plan.

3. Repealed. 1998: 73, 142, 161.

4. Any member in good standing and possessing a current membership card in a subordinate Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction may purchase a Life Endowment for the benefit of such Lodge hereinafter referred to as the Endowed Lodge, pursuant to the provisions in this section, and thereby be relieved from the further payment of dues in the Endowed Lodge effective as of the calendar year following the calendar year such fee is deposited in full with the Grand Secretary.

5. The member desiring a Life Endowment shall apply to the Secretary of his Lodge for such Endowment on forms prescribed by the Grand Lodge for that purpose and shall tender therewith the minimum payment required. The member may purchase the Life Endowment by one payment using cash, check, money order or credit card.

6. Any individual, group or organization may purchase a Life Endowment for any Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge under this Grand Jurisdiction.

7. The total amount due to purchase a Life Endowment shall be computed by taking the smaller factor from Option One, Current Age Table and from Option Two, Years a Master Mason. That factor shall be multiplied times the total current Symbolic Lodge dues including Grand Lodge per capita and the Masonic Home assessment plus a \$2.00 service charge to obtain the calculated amount due. The total amount due will be that calculated amount or \$250, whichever is greater.

8. The application shall be signed by the applicant and have the certification of the Lodge Secretary. The application shall not become effective until the applicant's record has been certified by the Grand Secretary. The application shall contain thereon the computations upon which the Life Endowment fee is predicated.

If the Grand Secretary determines that the minimum fee tendered by the applicant is in excess of that required, he shall have the power to correct the application and the Lodge Secretary's computations of the fee, accept the application as corrected and refund any excess fee to the applicant through the constituent Lodge Secretary. If the fee tendered is insufficient, the Grand Secretary shall return the application and fee to the constituent Lodge Secretary for correction and re-submission. A copy of the completed and accepted Life Endowment application and a certificate of Life Endowment shall be furnished to the applicant and his Lodge by the Grand Secretary. These provisions shall be construed so as to permit the Grand Secretary to use computerized records.

9. After the Life Endowment application and fee have been received and accepted by the Grand Secretary, the Life Endowment membership fee shall not be refundable except under circumstances determined by the Grand Secretary to be mistakes of fact rendering the applicant ineligible for a Life Endowment as of the date of the application.

10. The Grand Secretary shall place all monies so received in the Life Endowment Plan. Such funds shall be placed collectively in restricted accounts designated for the Life Endowment Plan. Such funds shall be under the supervision of the Life Endowment Committee which is responsible for the investment program. These funds shall be accounted for on an individual Lodge basis, listing the amount each person paid into the fund for Lodge dues, Grand Lodge per capita and the Masonic Home assessment. The funds shall be accounted for separately by the Grand Treasurer from all other Grand Lodge funds. The funds shall be audited annually as required in Section 2.020(c) of the Indiana Blue Book of Masonic Law.

11. The Grand Secretary annually shall provide to each Endowed Lodge a list of its Endowed Members.

12. The amount paid to the Lodge, the Grand Lodge per capita and the Masonic Home shall be based upon the amount going to each at the time of application, and shall be increased by 2% each year, compounded annually, during the dues paying life of the member. This 2% increase will be paid regardless of the amount of the Lodge Dues, the Grand Lodge per capita or the Masonic Home assessment. Such payment by the plan will be recorded as payment in full by the receiving entity, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary.

13. A Life Endowed Member shall have his annual dues paid from the Plan on his behalf. However, the Brother shall be responsible for any Lodge assessments that are made to all members of that Lodge.

14. An Endowed Member shall become a Perpetual Benefactor in the Memorial Endowment Plan upon his death or upon attaining the Grand Lodge Award of Gold. As a Perpetual Benefactor, such Member's Symbolic Lodge and the Indiana Masonic Home shall continue to receive revenue as defined below:

(a) The Memorial Endowment Plan will distribute such interest and dividends that exceed the minimum yield determined for actuarial solvency of the Plan.

(b) The Perpetual Benefactor's Symbolic Lodge will receive 75% and the Indiana Masonic Home will receive 25% of such a member's proportional share of distributable interest and dividends.

(c) After a member has attained the status of Perpetual Benefactor, the Memorial Endowment Plan will make no further distributions to the Indiana Grand Lodge.

(d) Perpetual Benefactor status further shall be available to or on behalf of any Brother with a contribution of \$250 or more in his name to this Plan.

15. The payments to the Endowed Lodges and to the Indiana Masonic Home shall be made by January 31, of the year for which the payment is being made. An administrative fee of \$2.00 per Endowed membership holder shall be deducted annually from the corpus of the account.

16. The Grand Secretary shall, at the time of the annual distribution, submit a statement to the Lodge listing the Life Endowed Brothers for whom Lodge dues are being paid and the amount of the payment. The Grand Secretary also shall submit a statement of the proportional interest and dividends being paid for each Brother in the Memorial Endowment Plan.

17. The obtaining of a Life Endowment in one Lodge by a plural member shall have no effect on his membership in any other Lodge to which he belongs. Plural Life Endowments are permitted. However, in the plural membership Lodges, only the Option One, Current Age Table, may be used since dues and assessments for Award of Gold recipients are not remitted in the plural membership Lodges, as per Reg. 40.070(c).

18. If a Brother who owns a Life Endowment transfers his membership to a different Lodge in this jurisdiction, the Life Endowment will transfer with him and the Plan will continue to pay his Grand Lodge per capita and Masonic Home assessment in full and will continue to pay the new Lodge the amount that would have been paid to the Lodge from which the Brother originally purchased the Plan. It is hoped that the new Lodge will accept such amount. If the Life Endowed payment is less than the current dues of the Lodge, and the new Lodge will not accept such reduced amount, the member should make arrangement with the new Lodge before he demits from his previous Lodge. Such arrangements could include the following:

(a) The new Lodge may require the member to add to his Endowment or purchase an additional Endowment to pay the full cost of dues, or

(b) The new Lodge may require the member annually to supplement the annual Endowment payment.

If a Life Endowed Member affiliates with a Lodge that is outside this Grand Jurisdiction, his name shall be transferred to the rolls of the Memorial Endowment Plan, with annual payments continuing to be made to his Endowed Lodge as in accordance with Article 14 above.

Revised May 2014

19. If a Lodge consolidates, surrenders its charter or has its charter arrested, the

funds in the Life Endowment and Memorial Endowment credited to that Lodge shall follow the members according to the relevant sections of the by-laws dealing with consolidations, the surrender or arrest of charters. Payments on funds of deceased or Award of Gold Life Endowment Members whose Lodge subsequently surrenders its charter for whatever reason, or has its charter arrested, and does not consolidate with another Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, shall be made in accordance with Article 14 except that the Masonic Home shall receive the full amount of the annual distribution.

20. If a Life Endowed Member later requests a demit, or is suspended or expelled, his name shall be transferred to the rolls of the Memorial Endowment Plan, with annual payments continuing to be made to his Endowed Lodge as in accordance with Article 14 above. If subsequently he is restored to good standing, or re-affiliates, his Life Endowment shall also be restored. If the Endowment payment is less than the current dues of the Lodge with which he now is affiliated, payments shall be made as in accordance with Article 18 above.

21. When Life Endowed Members have not been heard from for more than seven (7) years, the Worshipful Master shall direct the Secretary to report the names of such missing Brethren to the Grand Lodge on the monthly report form as being deceased. Their names shall then be transferred to the rolls of the Memorial Endowment Plan.

22. Nothing in this Plan shall be construed as restricting the making of other gifts or bequests to a Symbolic Lodge, the Indiana Grand Lodge or the Indiana Masonic Home.

Historical Reference: 1895: 117; 1897: 17, 69-70; 1907: 127, 136; 1951: 93; 1956: 51, 91; 1995: 96; 1996: 109, 113; 1998: 142-143, 161; 2012: 65-68, 169; 2014: 59-66, 152-153

Approved Decisions

28.020-1. *Where Payment Has Been Made.* Repealed. 1895: 116-117; 1896: 17, 69-70; 1995: 96; 1996: 109, 113; 1998: 142-143, 161.

28.020-2. *Wholesale Purchase of Life Endowment.* Although paragraph 6 indicates that an organization may purchase a life endowment for a member, it does not permit wholesale, widespread or indiscriminate purchases by a Lodge for its own membership. Each candidate for Freemasonry indicates a willingness to pay dues. It is a violation of fiduciary duty for members to use Lodge funds for bulk payment of the private expenses of its members. 2008: 126, 163.

28-020-3: *Transfer of Life Endowment.* The question has been raised about the ability to reassign a life endowment from a Lodge of plural membership in connection with the discontinuance (withdrawal) of membership from the first plural membership. This situation is not precisely addressed in the current regulations but could be considered similar to the case of transfer between Lodges discussed in paragraph 18 of the regulation. This seems more reasonable than a parallel to the case of a demit which terminates membership. Therefore it is my decision that if a Brother wishes to withdraw his membership in a Lodge of plural membership and have it transfer to a different Lodge of plural membership, the same procedure should be followed as in the case of a transfer as described in paragraph 18 of regulation 28.020. 2008: 126, 164.

Revised May 2014

Reg. 28.030. Non-Affiliates.

(a) A non-affiliate Master Mason may be admitted to membership in the Lodge from which

his demit was issued without regard to place of residence, or, if he has been a bona fide resident of the State of Indiana for a period of one year, in any other Indiana Lodge. In either event, a character investigation shall be obtained from an Investigating Committee appointed by the Lodge petitioned or by courtesy from a Lodge in the community where the petitioner resides.

(b) A non-affiliate Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, being a bona fide resident of the State of Indiana, as defined in Chapter 26, may be admitted in the Lodge in which he received his last degree, or in any other Indiana Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1935: 32, 217; 1952: 26, 95; 1954: 45, 88; 1973: 89; 1978: 58.

Cross Reference: Regs. 29.060, 33.030; Forms 11 and 12.

Reg. 28.040. *Dual and Plural Membership.* Repealed.

Reg. 28.050. *Honorary Membership.*

(a) A Lodge desiring to accord recognition to a member of another Lodge who may have merited such distinction by long or eminent service to the Craft, may elect such Brother to an honorary membership.

(b) Honorary membership does not confer any of the rights and privileges of regular membership.

(c) The election of a member to honorary membership may be either by ballot or by voice vote, and a majority of votes cast shall elect.

Approved Decisions

28.050-1. *Election by Resolution.* Election to honorary membership should be by resolution offered by some member. Only one name should be balloted upon at any one time. 1922: 32, 103.

28.050-2. *Not by Own Lodge.* An honorary membership may not be bestowed upon any member of his own Lodge. Life memberships may be allowed under the Grand Lodge Life Endowment Program. 1938: 37, 256; 1963: 97, 141; 1995: 96; 1996: 109, 113; 1998: 142-143, 161.

Revised May 2014

CHAPTER 29

PETITIONS FOR THE DEGREES

Reg. 29.010. Fees for the Degrees.

(a) The fee for degrees shall be not less than forty-five (\$45.00), which fee must accompany the petition and be deposited with the Secretary at time said petition is presented.

(b) **REPEALED.** In addition to the fee for the degrees as specified in the Lodge by-laws, the Secretary of the Lodge shall collect from each petitioner a contribution of ten (\$10.00) dollars to be sent to the Grand Secretary, as indicated on the annual recapitulation and be by him forwarded to the George Washington Masonic Memorial for its maintenance.

(c) Should a Lodge fail or refuse to confer the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, two-thirds of the amount charged shall be returned on demand and should it fail to confer the Master Mason degree, one-third shall be returned on demand.

(d) The fee must be in the amount provided for when the petition is received at a stated meeting, even though the amount of the fee may be changed before the petition is balloted upon.

Historical Reference: 1828 Hacker: 219; 1875: 123; 1878: 18, 88; 1922: 37, 101; 1934: 26, 35, 238; 1944: 54, 246; 1951: 93; 1965: 92; 1980: 57, 80; 1995: 86; 2013: 53, 157-158.

Approved Decisions

29.010-1. *Soliciting Petitions.* Repealed. 1954: 28, 88; 1981: 54, 74; 1982: 64-65; 2001: 53, 148.

29.010-2. *Applies to All.* Clergymen must pay full amount of fee as prescribed for all others. 1892: 12, 59.

29.010-3. *When Objection is Raised.* The plain implication of Regs. 29.010 and 30.020 indicate that in all cases where objection is raised and no degrees are conferred, full amount of fee should be returned to petitioner. 1943: 37, 256.

29.010-4. *Should Pay to Treasurer.* Secretary should not retain amount of fee until petitioner is elected, but should turn it over to Treasurer as soon as possible. 1953: 119, 162.

29.010-5. *How Received and When.* Petition for membership or for degrees is "received" by Lodge when it is presented and read by Secretary at stated or called meeting, and is received (1) by ballot, or (2) by consent of Lodge, or (3) by direction of W.M., or (4) by its reference by W.M. to an Investigating Committee. 1953: 119, 162; 2001: 42-43, 143.

Revised May 2013

Reg. 29.020. Full Amount Must Be Paid.

(a) The full amount of the fee for the degrees must accompany each and every petition, and neither all nor any part of same may be returned either directly or indirectly, if the degrees are conferred on the petitioner.

(b) A Lodge may not maintain a fund from which to advance money for fees to petitioners for the degrees, nor can a note be accepted for the fee or any portion of it.

Historical Reference: 1828 Hacker: 219; 1843 Hacker: 376; 1886: 73; 1892: 12, 59; 1897: 22-23, 108; 1898: 12, 78; 1936: 56, 256; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

29.020-1. *“Donations” Not Permitted.* It would be violation of meaning and intent of regulations for Lodge to receive fee of minister of gospel, and after initiation, to vote him a donation of full amount of fee. 1899: 20, 83.

Reg. 29.030. Petitions.

(a) All petitions for membership or for degrees must be made in writing, signed in person, by the petitioner with his name written in full, and signed by at least two members of the Lodge petitioned as his recommenders.

(b) A petitioner for the degrees must also fill out the petitioner’s questionnaire and submit same with his petition, which questionnaire must be read to the Lodge by the Secretary at the time the petition is read.

(c) Such petitions must be presented at a called or stated meeting, be referred to a Committee for Investigation, and then lie over until a stated meeting. If presented at a called meeting, the petition must lie over until a stated meeting at least three weeks later.

(d) A majority of the members present at a called or stated meeting may refuse to entertain a petition.

Historical Reference: 1872: 18, 81; 1899: 17, 19, 83; 1906: 31, 121; 1907: 36, 71; 1909: 80, 229; 1920: 129, 154; 1921: 38, 257; 1922: 38, 169; 1928: 106, 178, 194; 1943: 260; 1951: 93; 1973: 89-90; 2000: 132, 153; 2001: 42-43, 143.

Cross Reference: Regs. 26.050, 26.060, 32.010, 33.030; Forms 13 and 14.

Approved Decisions

29.030-1. *Soliciting Petitions.* Repealed. 1954: 28, 88; 1981: 54, 74; 1982: 64-65; 2001: 53, 148.

29.030-2. *When a Petitioner.* Petitioner for degrees is considered to be petitioner when petition is presented to and received by Lodge. 1905: 30, 97; 1917: 23, 206.

29.030-3. *How Received and When.* Petition for membership or for degrees is “received” by Lodge when it is presented and read by Secretary at stated or called meeting, and is received (1) by ballot or (2) by consent of Lodge, or (3) by direction of W.M. or (4) by its reference by W.M. to an Investigating Committee. 1953: 119, 162; 2001: 42-43, 143.

29.030-4. **Repealed.** *No Deviations Permitted.* Regulation which requires that petition must be received and balloted upon at stated meeting, and that it must lie over until stated meeting, cannot be legally evaded. No Lodge has the right to deviate from, or power to change, this rule under any circumstances whatever. 1895: 91-92; 1897: 28, 82; 1943: 36, 255; 2000: 132, 153; 2013: 68, 159.

29.030-5. *No Dispensation.* G.M. has no power or authority to issue dispensations in violation of rules and regulations, such as to ballot at called meetings, to ballot same evening petition is presented or to confer all degrees same evening. 1904: 22, 113. G.M. cannot issue dispensation to set aside Masonic Law. Petition must lie over until next stated meeting. 1907: 36, 71; 2001: 38, 141.

29.030-6. *May Sign By Mark.* Petitioner for affiliation, having almost entirely lost sight, may sign petition by his mark, properly witnessed by a Brother. 1906: 30, 121.

29.030-7. *Use of Two Names.* Orphan who was reared by and took name of family who was not legally adopted required to sign his petition with both names - first his legal (parents’) name in full, then “commonly known as,” giving name by which he is now known. 1929: 38, 198.

29.030-8. *Blacks.* A black man otherwise qualified may petition for and receive the degrees. 1899: 18.

Reg. 29.040. Who May Not Petition. A petition may not be received from:

- (a) One who has already received the degrees, nor from
- (b) One who claims to have received the degrees in an organization not recognized as a Masonic Lodge by the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Indiana, unless healed by the Grand Master. Then the Brother becomes entitled to a certificate from the Grand Secretary that shall serve in lieu of a demit.

Historical Reference: 1938: 252; 1943: 32, 256; 1945: 29, 31, 158-159; 1951: 93; 1970: 72, 98; 1973: 90; 1998: 141, 161.

Cross Reference: Regs. 31.010, 31.020, 31.060.

Reg. 29.050. Procedure for Receiving Petitions-Concurrent Jurisdiction.

When a petition for the degrees is received by a Lodge other than that nearest the petitioner’s place of residence, the Lodge receiving said petition shall proceed in the following manner:

- (a) Secure from the petitioner an explanatory letter written and personally signed by him, giving his reasons in full for petitioning a Lodge other than that nearest his place of residence.
- (b) Cause a character investigation to be made in the usual manner under Reg. 29.050(c).

Revised May 2013

(c) When matters of distance and expediency in making due investigation into the character of a petitioner require further investigation, the receiving Lodge may forward to the Secretary of the Lodge nearest the petitioner's place of residence three copies of form 14-A (Report of Committee for Character Investigation), each containing all pertinent information regarding the petitioner, such as his name, age, residence, address, occupation, place of employment, character of business and the names of those Brethren who recommended the petitioner by signing the petition.

Historical Reference: 1973: 90; 1974: 29, 70.

Cross Reference: Chapter 25, Reg. 29.080.

Reg. 29.060. *Withdrawal of Petition.* A petition may be withdrawn by consent of the Lodge at any time before the report of the committee is made thereon, the request having been made in writing by the petitioner or by one of the Brethren recommending him.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1935: 32, 205; 1943: 37, 255; 1973: 90.

Cross Reference: S.R. 50.020(d).

Reg. 29.070. *Reports of Investigating Committee.*

(a) At least a majority of the members of the committee appointed to investigate a petitioner shall make reports at a stated meeting in open Lodge, the nature of which reports shall not be recorded nor divulged by the Lodge nor any members thereof; nor any Mason therein, where only one Lodge is involved. For investigations under concurrent jurisdiction see Reg. 29.110(f).

(b) Each committee questionnaire shall be read and shall be followed by a report made orally in person; *Provided*, however, if any member of the committee is unable to attend the meeting by reason of illness or other unavoidable cause he shall, in a letter to the Secretary, explain his absence and make his report in writing, which written report shall be read to the Lodge and then immediately destroyed in open Lodge by the Secretary.

(c) Any proper question may be asked or information given by any member of the Lodge, after all of which the ballot, which alone decides the question of admission or rejection, shall be taken before the committee on any other petition reports.

Historical Reference: 1895: 29, 118; 1906: 31, 121; 1928: 108, 180, 194; 1943: 31, 255; 1944: 34, 230; 1954: 45, 87; 1955: 35, 122; 1973: 90.

Approved Decisions

29.070-1. *Report at One Meeting.* At least two members of Investigating Committee must report at stated meeting at which ballot is spread. Report must not be given at different stated meetings. 1946: 54, 250.

29.070-2. *Should Ascertain if Ready.* W.M., before calling for report of Investigating Committee, should ascertain if all of such majority are ready to report. If ready, report should be made and ballot taken. Unless all members of such majority are ready to report, no report should be received from any member of committee, and matter should lie over until next stated meeting. 1953: 117, 160.

29.070-3. *No Report by Telephone.* Report of Investigating Committee member unable to attend may not be made by telephone or conveyed to W.M. by another Brother. 1955: 31, 119.

29.070-4. *When to Defer Report.* Although it is possible for report of Investigating Committee to be made without any member of committee being personally present in Lodge, the regulations provide that "any proper question may be asked or information given by any member of the Lodge." If no member of committee is present to answer questions and W.M. believes it would be for best interest of Lodge to defer receiving report until next stated meeting when member of committee might be present, he should do so. 1956: 37, 84.

29.070-5. *No Motion Needed.* No motion should be made to receive report and discharge Investigating Committee. 1930: 46, 213.

29.070-6. *May Not Require Reasons.* Members of Investigating Committee cannot be required to assign reasons for an unfavorable report. 1906: 31, 121.

29.070-7. *May Deny Request.* When Lodge is requested to confer degree or degrees upon candidate as courtesy to another Lodge, and feels that candidate is unworthy, Lodge is within its right to deny such request. 1949: 29, 202.

Reg. 29.080. *Character Investigation.* When a Lodge receives from another Lodge a request that a character investigation be made, the Lodge receiving such request shall proceed immediately to conduct said investigation, without waiting for a stated meeting, and likewise shall make its report to the requesting Lodge without waiting for a stated meeting. The Secretary of the Lodge receiving such request shall forthwith refer said request to the W.M., who shall, within five days thereafter, appoint a character committee of three members, and direct said committee to proceed with its investigation. Each member of the character committee so appointed is expected to make the same thorough and diligent inquiry as would be done if the petition had been received by his own Lodge. The investigation shall be completed by the committee within 30 days from date of its appointment, unless, for good and sufficient reason, it is granted additional time by the W.M. Each member of the committee shall indicate on the form provided him, a favorable or unfavorable report, signing his name thereto.

No report shall be made by the committee to the Lodge which received the request to conduct the investigation, and no record of the findings of the committee shall be revealed to the members of said Lodge, nor to any other person, whomsoever, except as hereinafter directed. The completed reports shall then be returned immediately by the Investigating Committee to the Secretary of the Lodge making the courtesy investigation, and by him without delay to the Secretary of the Lodge requesting the investigation.

Historical Reference: 1973: 90-91.

Cross Reference: Chapter 25, Reg. 29.050.

Reg. 29.090. *When Committee Fails to Report.* Should an Investigating Committee fail to report at the proper time the W.M. may order a new committee, but the W.M. exceeds his authority when he orders a new committee to report without giving time for investigation, and a committee reporting without satisfactory knowledge is derelict in its Masonic duty.

Historical Reference: 1892: 13, 59; 1949: 30, 202; 1951: 93.

Cross Reference: Chapter 25.

Reg. 29.100. *Secrecy of Ballot.* The ballot must be free and secret, and no Mason shall be required or permitted, under any circumstances whatever, to make any statement or inquiry as to how he or others voted.

Historical Reference: 1928: 108, 181, 194.

Approved Decisions

29.100-1. *May Not Disclose Ballot.* It is Masonic offense for Brother to disclose his ballot, whether it be black or white. He is presumed to be actuated by pure motives in casting his ballot, and acting for best interests of Masonry. His motive cannot be questioned. 1893: 23-24, 65.

29.100-2. *No Questioning Permitted.* Brethren of Lodge have no right to question vote of Brother, or inquire reason for said vote. Each Brother votes for himself, and no one is at liberty to question that vote, nor the motive which induced it. 1854: 66. Nor can any question of such vote be raised in G.L. by a memorial of a rejected petitioner for membership, claiming that such vote was cast by improper motives. 1856: 47.

29.100-3. *May Admonish Brother.* W.M. and Wardens of Lodge are justified in pointing out to Brother the fact that mere personal grievance should not induce him to cause rejection of worthy petitioner, but in doing so, care should be taken that provisions of Reg. 29.100 not be violated. 1943: 37, 256.

29.100-4. *Secrecy of Ballot.* Quadriplegic Master Mason can cast a “ball and cube” ballot through the assistance of a Brother Master Mason of the same Lodge by whispering his vote preference privately to this selected Brother at the time the vote is cast. The Brother selected to cast the vote will then be duty bound, under Approved Decision 29.100-1, not to disclose the ballot cast. The quadriplegic Brother will have the sole right to select the Brother or Brothers who will cast his ballots. 1984: 90.

Reg. 29.110. *Balloting for Degrees or Membership.*

(a) All balloting for degrees or membership must be done at stated meetings.

(b) There shall be but one ballot for the three degrees. The official ballot, consisting of white balls and black cubes, must be used.

(c) A ballot must be taken on each petition following the report of the Investigating Committee, whether such report is favorable or unfavorable.

(d) Every member present must vote, and should but one negative vote appear, the W.M. shall cause another ballot to be immediately taken, when, should one or more negative votes appear, he shall declare the applicant rejected;

(e) *Provided*, that a Lodge may, by majority vote, by ball and cube ballot, elect to membership by affiliation one who demitted from said Lodge not more than three years previously; if said petition for affiliation shall have been presented and read at a stated meeting within said three-year period. Said petition shall be referred to an Investigating Committee and reported upon by such committee at a stated meeting held at least four weeks after its appointment.

(f) When a character investigation is requested from the Lodge nearest the petitioner’s residence under Reg. 29.050(c), the latter character investigation as well as the Lodge’s own character investigation shall be received and read in open Lodge before the Lodge can vote on the petition.

Historical Reference: 1826 Hacker: 184; 1875: 123; 1880: 14, 73; 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1896: 28, 92; 1912: 39, 103; 1945: 35, 158; 1946: 247-249; 1947: 97; 1951: 93, 120, 167; 1953: 35, 117; 1973: 91; 1974: 29, 71.

Cross Reference: Chapter 25; S.R. 50.010.

Editorial Note: If a petitioner for Affiliation by Demit has demitted from the Lodge petitioned not more than three years previously, a majority ballot only is required; otherwise election must be by unanimous ballot (Reg. 29.110). However, election to membership on a Certificate of Restoration to the Condition of a Non-Affiliate must be by unanimous ballot (Reg. 49.080).

Approved Decisions

29.110-1. *Right of Lodge.* In rejecting applicant Lodge exercises one of its undoubted rights. 1822 Hacker: 97.

29.110-2. *G.L. May Not Overrule.* G.L. does not possess power to revise decisions of subordinate Lodges in rejection of applicants for initiation or to membership in Lodge. 1857: 56.

29.110-3. *May Not Reconsider.* Ballot in which petitioner is rejected must stand and cannot be reconsidered even though one member present did not vote. 1937: 163, 261.

29.110-4. *May Not Demand Reasons.* If non-affiliated Mason applying for membership is rejected, he cannot demand reasons therefore. 1882: 34, 81.

29.110-5. *No Dispensation.* G.M. has no power or authority to issue dispensations in violation of rules and regulations, such as to ballot at called meetings, to ballot same evening petition is presented or to confer all degrees same evening. 1904: 22, 113; 2001: 63, 181.

29.110-6. *Unquestioned Right of Ballot.* Right of Brother to determine who shall be entitled to benefits of his Lodge, and who shall be associated with him in membership, is sacred, and cannot be inquired into or questioned. A single black cube determines fate of candidate for initiation, and no man has right to inquire by whom it has been cast, or reasons for such action. Unanimous ballot in his favor is necessary to entitle any person to admission to membership in any Lodge. 1859: 43-44.

29.110-7. *No Later Ballot.* Where, by oversight, ballot is not spread second time, but petitioner is declared rejected, although only one black cube appeared, ballot cannot be retaken at subsequent meeting. 1895: 24, 118.

29.110-8. *Member May Vote Only in His Own Lodge.* Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

Reg. 29.120. *Separate Ballot Must Be Taken.* Where several petitions for the degrees or for membership are pending before a Lodge, each must be voted upon separately. No joint ballot upon all can be taken.

Historical Reference: 1895: 27, 118; 1951: 93.

Reg. 29.130. *No Reconsideration.* A vote by ballot can in no case be reconsidered, but the Grand Master may declare the results thereof to be ineffective and order a new ballot where one is taken in violation of the General Regulations.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54, 147; 1895: 92; 1899: 21, 83; 1925: 37, 224; 1930: 49, 213; 1937: 164, 261; 1943: 36, 256; 1950: 22, 150; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

29.130-1. *Ballot Must Stand.* Ballot in which petitioner is rejected must stand and cannot be reconsidered even though one member did not vote. 1937: 163, 261.

29.130-2. *No Later Ballot.* Where by oversight ballot was not spread second time, but candidate was declared rejected, although only one black cube appeared, ballot cannot be retaken at subsequent meeting. 1895: 24, 118.

29.130-3. *Applies to Voice Vote.* Likewise, it is improper to move for reconsideration of voice vote taken at previous stated meeting. 1954: 27, 88.

29.130-4. *Applies to Demit.* Vote granting demit cannot be reconsidered at subsequent meeting of Lodge. 1892: 14, 59; 1922: 32, 103.

Reg. 29.140. Invitation to Petition. In lieu of the traditional petitioning procedures as described in the *Indiana Blue of Masonic Law* and local Lodge by-laws, the following procedure may be used.

(a) Qualifications: As stated in Chapter 31, General Regulations.

(b) Recommenders: The recommenders of a proposal for invitation shall act as the *Investigating Committee*. They shall be three Master Masons in good standing in the Lodge to be petitioned. They shall have known the prospective candidate for a minimum of two years. No other investigating committee is to be assigned.

(c) Procedure:

1. **The Three Degrees.** A proposal for invitation for the degrees of Masonry shall be for the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. A favorable ballot shall elect to the three degrees.

2. **Proposal.** The top line signer shall present the proposal for invitation at a Stated Communication without the prospective candidate's knowledge, signed by the three (3) recommenders and together with written statements from each, attached and signed by the same.

3. **Ballot.** A proposal for invitation shall be held over until the next Stated Communication at which time a secret ballot shall be spread. No ballot shall be taken on such proposal for invitation unless there shall be present at least seven members of the Lodge who are entitled to vote therein. A unanimous ballot is required for election. The balloting procedure shall be the same as for a regular petitioner.

4. **Re-ballot.** Should only one negative ballot appear, the Master shall not declare the result but order a re-ballot, and the vote on the re-ballot shall be declared and be final (as outlined in Appendix E of the "Blue Book").

5. **Rejection or Objection.** A negative ballot or an Objection stops the proposal for invitation. It does not prohibit the proposed candidate from petitioning a Lodge in the regular manner.

6. **Election.** After election, the first line signer or another recommender shall visit with the potential candidate individually about joining Freemasonry.

7. **Petition.** The invited candidate must fill out and sign the official petition for membership as prescribed in the General Regulations of Indiana Masonic Law.

8. **Fees.** All fees must accompany the petition as prescribed in the General Regulations of Indiana Masonic Law and the by-laws of the Lodge being petitioned and recorded by the Lodge Secretary before the degrees can be conferred.

9. **Form.** The proposal for invitation shall be the official forms as herein attached (available separately from the office of the Grand Secretary, the Grand Lodge Website or the Resource CD) and signed by the three (3) recommenders together with written statements attached and signed by the same. The potential candidate will *not* sign the form. After election the invited candidate must fill out, in its entirety, and sign an official petition as prescribed by the Grand Secretary's office. The petition, accompanied by the Lodge's fee as prescribed by Indiana Masonic law and stipulated in the Lodge's by-laws, must be received and recorded by the Lodge Secretary before the degrees can be conferred.

10. **Exceptions.**

(a) If the invitee does not profess faith in a Supreme Being by not signing the petition or other indications, the petition is rejected.

(b) If the invitee gives a positive answer to either of the questions "Have you ever been denied membership in, or withdrawn your petition to, or been suspended or expelled from any Fraternal organization?" or "Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense?" the Invitation to Petition shall become void. The petitioner shall be notified of the situation and at the petitioner's request, be eligible to take the course of a regular petition.

11. **Time Limit.** If the Candidate declines to accept the petition or fails to present himself for initiation within six (6) months after the petition is received and recorded by the Lodge, the petition is considered to have been withdrawn. Either action shall be made part of the Lodge records. This does not prohibit the proposed candidate from petitioning a Lodge in the regular manner at a future date.

12. **Reporting.** The Lodge Secretary shall include in the monthly reports when Invitation to Petition was used and the outcome of the use.

13. **Confidential.** All discussions on the Invitation to Petition are to be considered confidential outside the Lodge Hall.

Historical Reference: 2004: 40-41, 58; 2010: 37, 40, 129.

Revised 2010

CHAPTER 30

PROFICIENCY OF CANDIDATES

Reg. 30.010. *Must Attain Proficiency.*

(a) Every candidate for advancement and newly raised Master Masons must have a perfect knowledge of all steps, due guards, signs, tokens and words.

(b) Lodges may require memorization of the Lecture-First Section (catechism, Q & A) of each degree. Lodges may rehearse the Lecture-First Section of each degree for the benefit of the candidate.

(c) The Lodge shall be empowered to make judgment as to what proficiency is required. This proficiency may range from the minimum of perfect knowledge as in (a) up to and including the full catechism as in (b).

(d) Lodges that do not require memorization of the full catechism as in (b) must provide the approved Mentoring Program for each degree or the approved Rusty Nail Mentoring Program for the education of the candidate.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1895: 23, 118; 1899: 19-20, 83; 1924: 25, 134; 1943: 26, 255; 1971: 87; 1976: 62, 80; 1977: 22, 51, 57; 1998: 129, 155-156; 2000: 213-217.

Cross Reference: Reg. 30.040; Form 43; S.R. 60.080.

Approved Decisions

30.010-1. *Must Have Understanding.* Masonry is a progressive science, and it is necessary to perfect a complete understanding of its principles that no degree shall be conferred until candidate understands what he has already received. 1819 Hacker: 37; 1895: 23, 118.

30.010-2. *Questions and Answers.* Repealed. 1956: 37, 84; 2000: 213-217.

Reg. 30.020. *Election Void After One Year.*

(a) Should an elected candidate fail to present himself for initiation within one year after his election to receive the degrees, he shall forfeit his right to receive the degrees, and the fee for the degrees shall be returned to him and thereafter he can only receive the degrees by filing a new and original petition in the usual manner.

(b) After a candidate has received the Entered Apprentice degree, there is no time limit for conferring the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees upon him.

(c) Should a Fellow Craft or an Entered Apprentice fail to become proficient in the preceding degree, or for any reason fail to present himself for the next degree within one year after having taken a degree, the Lodge may by a majority vote at a stated meeting declare his election for the remaining degree or degrees void, in which case a Fellow Craft or Entered Apprentice demit (as the case may be) shall be issued and sent to him with one-third of the total fee for each degree not conferred.

Historical Reference: 1906: 29, 121; 1912: 39, 173; 1922: 37, 166; 1925: 38, 226; 1926: 39-40, 175; 1934: 229; 1938: 36, 256; 1951: 93; 1954: 26, 88.

Approved Decisions

30.020-1. *Applies to All.* One-year time limit for receiving E.A. degree after election applies to all candidates, including those in armed forces. 1944: 34, 230. However, where failure of candidates to present themselves for initiation within one year was caused solely by their absence in service of their country, G.M. may properly grant dispensations permitting degrees to be conferred. 1943: 26, 257; 1945: 38, 167. But above does not apply in case of service member who returned to civilian life more than seven months previously and has not presented himself for initiation. 1947: 24, 225; 1950: 21, 150.

30.020-2. *Cannot Rescind Action.* After Lodge has declared void election of E.A. so far as F.C. and M.M. degrees are concerned, issued E.A. demit and returned two-thirds of fee, it cannot rescind its action at subsequent meeting. The demitted E.A. to receive remaining degrees, must petition therefore. 1938: 32, 256.

30.020-3. *When Objection is Raised.* The plain implication of Regs. 29.010 and 30.020 indicates that in all cases where objection is raised and no degrees are conferred, full amount of fee should be returned to petitioner. 1943: 37, 256.

30.020-4. *When Candidate's Whereabouts Unknown.* If whereabouts of candidate whose election is declared void is unknown, balance of fee should be held in escrow until such time as Lodge is legally able to dispose of it. 1960: 100, 133.

Reg. 30.030. *Minimum Time Between Election and Initiation.* A candidate may not be initiated on the day of his election.

Historical Reference: 1919: 73, 113; 1925: 38, 224; 1931: 30, 163; 1934: 16, 235; 1951: 17-18, 62; 1953: 120, 166; 1999: 108, 133.

Approved Decisions

30.030-1. *No Dispensation.* G.M. has no power or authority to issue dispensation in violation of rules and regulations, such as to ballot same evening petition is presented or to confer all degrees same evening. 1904: 22, 113; 2001: 63, 181.

Reg. 30.040. Proficiency. Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1945: 132, 174; 1951: 93; 1974: 26, 80; 1999: 114.

Cross Reference: S.R. 63.050; Form 47.

Approved Decisions

30.040-1. *Questions and Answers.* Repealed. 1956: 37, 84; 1999: 114.

30.040-2. *Examination: How Conducted.* Repealed. 1912: 38, 173; 1945: 34, 165; 1999: 114.

30.040-3. *When Lodge Fails to Act.* Repealed. 1973: 70, 107; 1999: 114

30.040-4. *Penalty for Failure to Comply.* Repealed. 1959: 89, 123; 1999: 114.

Reg. 30.050. Petitioning Other Masonic Bodies. Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1925: 45, 224; 1949: 50, 201; 1953: 124, 135; 1954: 29, 88; 2001: 12, 30, 139.

Cross Reference: Reg. 30.040.

Approved Decisions

30.050-1. *Applies to O.E.S.* Repealed. 1950: 21, 150; 1951: 17, 62; 2001: 12, 30, 139.

30.050-2. *Penalty for Failure to Comply.* Repealed. 1959: 89, 123; 2001: 12, 30, 139.

30.050-3. *When Lodge Fails to Act.* Repealed. 1973: 70, 107; 2001: 12, 30, 139.

30.050-4. *Solicitation for Appendant Bodies.* Repealed. 1979: 88; 2001: 12, 30, 139.

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CHAPTER 31

QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

Reg. 31.010. *Minimum Qualifications.* Lodges are prohibited from initiating any candidate:

(a) Who has not made a declaration of his belief in the existence of the Deity, or

(b) Who is under 18 years of age. But a male person, otherwise qualified can present his petition and be balloted on before he is 18 years of age. He can be initiated on the date of his eighteenth birthday.

Historical Reference: 1864: 68; 1884: 59-61; 1943: 27, 255; 1945: 31, 159; 1949: 30, 202; 1970: 72, 98; 1973: 34, 93; 1998: 129-130, 156-157.

Cross Reference: Regs. 26.070, 29.040, 31.060.

Approved Decisions

31.010-1. *Must Be of Full Age.* Repealed. 1897: 26, 82; 1917: 21, 206; 1951: 17, 62; 1985: 35, 112; 1998: 129-130, 156-157.

31.010-2. *When To Receive.* Lodge may receive petition in sufficient time to allow it to be investigated in customary manner and be balloted upon at stated meeting next preceding the date marking seven days prior to petitioner's eighteenth birthday. 1895: 23, 118; 1951: 17, 62; 2001: 39, 142.

31.010-3. *Illegitimacy.* Illegitimate birth does not disqualify petitioner. 1943: 35, 256.

31.010-4. *Affirmation.* Member of any church, eligible to Petition for Degrees of Masonry, who, because of conscientious scruples, cannot take an oath, may affirm in name of Deity. 1936: 57, 257.

31.010-5. *Must Be Literate.* Man who can neither read nor write is not eligible for Degrees of Masonry. In these days of free schools, one who cannot read his own petition and legibly sign his own name thereto is an unfit subject out of which to make a Mason. 1875: 34, 91.

31.010-6. *Misrepresentation.* Member of Lodge who falsely represents petitioner to be of lawful age, knowing him not to be so, thereby inducing Committee of Investigation to take favorable action, and who appears in Lodge and remains present while Degrees of Masonry are in consequence conferred on such petitioner and candidate, cannot be excused for such conduct, and penalty of expulsion against one so accused is proper and not too severe. No Mason can lawfully be present at and give his consent to the making of any person a Mason who is of non-age, even though it be his own son. 1864: 68; 1884: 59-61; 1895: 23, 118; 1897: 26, 82.

31.010-7. *Blacks.* A black man otherwise qualified may petition for and receive the degrees. 1899: 18.

Reg. 31.020. *Physical Qualifications.* The petition of one who has a physical disability or handicap which may prevent his full compliance with the ceremonies of Ancient Craft Freemasonry shall be received and acted upon by a Lodge in the following manner:

(a) When the petition of one who has a physical disability or handicap is submitted to a Lodge, the W.M. shall announce to the Lodge that any favorable ballot upon such a petition is conditional upon the permission of the Grand Master. The Lodge is free to receive the petition, refer it to an Investigating Committee, and ballot upon the petition, all in the normal manner as provided by the General Regulations. The Lodge shall also submit a formal request to accept the petitioner to the Grand Master on forms provided by the Grand Secretary. A copy of the petition for the degrees shall be submitted with the request.

(b) The petitioner shall be interviewed by a committee of the Lodge accompanied by at least one Master Mason appointed as a Special Deputy of the Grand Master for such purpose. The committee of the Lodge may be the same as the Investigating Committee assigned to that petition.

(c) The Special Deputy shall ascertain:

1. To what extent is the petitioner able to understand the teachings of the ceremonies,
2. To what extent is the petitioner able to physically participate in the ceremonies,
3. To what extent is the Lodge equipped to confer the degrees upon the petitioner,
4. Should any portion of all of the degrees be conferred by a Special Purpose Lodge U.D. authorized for such a purpose,

(d) If the Grand Master, after consultation with his Special Deputy, grants the request of the Lodge, it may proceed to investigate and ballot upon the petition in a normal manner if it has not already done so. If such petitioner is elected, the Lodge is then authorized to confer the degrees as provided in these regulations. (See Reg. 31.021)

(e) No part of the degrees may be conferred upon the candidate more than six months after the date of the Grand Master's permission, unless additional time is granted by the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1849: 51; 1928: 108, 180, 194; 1930: 240-241; 1947: 99; 1951: 18, 62; 1954: 30, 88; 1961: 42, 92; 1999: 108-110, 134.

Cross Reference: Reg. 31.021.

Editorial Note: Petition blanks for requesting permission of the Grand Master may be procured from the Grand Secretary.

Approved Decisions

31.020-1. *Lodge Should Not Determine.* Neither W.M., Secretary, nor Lodge itself should decide question of physical eligibility, but should file application under regulations. 1956: 34, 84.

31.020-2. *No Proxies Permitted.* Repealed. 1954: 30, 88; 1999: 110.

31.020-3. *Not Retroactive.* This section does not apply to one who has been entered or passed before disability occurs. 1896: 27, 92. In our law, the term initiation seems to apply only to investiture of E.A. degree; therefore, there seems to be no law now prevailing that would prevent Lodge from completing its work upon one who had lost his left arm after initiation, or after he had been passed to degree of F.C. 1882: 33, 81.

31.020-4. *Physical Handicaps.* Provisions of Reg. 31.020 apply to petitioner afflicted with epilepsy, but not to one who stutters unless there is reasonable doubt as to whether petitioner could comply with ritualistic requirements. Petitioner missing the last three fingers on his right hand is not considered to have physical impairment and is not required to appear before Grand Lodge Committee on Jurisprudence. 1964: 97, 127; 1985: 35, 112.

Reg. 31.021. *Conferring Degrees Upon Candidates With Physical Handicaps.*

(a) A candidate whose physical handicap is determined by the Grand Master to be of a minor nature may receive the degrees in the Lodge which has elected him. Degrees shall be conferred upon such a candidate without deviation from the official ritual, unless it be to comply with conditions imposed by the Grand Master.

(b) If in the opinion of the Grand Master the physical handicap of the candidate is such as to render him unable to comply to a reasonable degree with the ceremonies of Ancient Craft Freemasonry, the Grand Master may direct that the degrees be conferred in a Special Purpose Lodge Under Dispensation at such place and time as the Special Purpose Lodge U.D. may determine. Under such circumstances, the candidate may witness the conferring of the degrees upon another candidate.

Historical Reference: 1961: 42, 92.

Cross Reference: Regs. 13.040, 35.020.

Reg. 31.030. *Applies to Elected Candidate.* The foregoing regulation applies fully to one who may already have been elected but not initiated at the time the disability occurs or is discovered, also to one who has not been Passed or Raised, but not to one applying for restoration from suspension for non-payment of dues.

Historical Reference: 1913: 41, 178; 1945: 160; 1951: 93; 2004: 47, 59.

Revised June 2004

Reg. 31.040. *Applies to One Lodge Only.* Permission to receive the petition of one not physically perfect under Reg. 31.020 is given to a particular Lodge only, and does not have the effect of removing the disability so that another Lodge may receive the petition.

Historical Reference: 1944: 31, 230; 1951: 93.

Reg. 31.050. *Rejected Petitioner Under Reg. 31.020.* Should a petitioner under Reg. 31.020 be rejected by the Lodge petitioned, he may petition again, but such petition must be submitted to and receive permission of the Grand Master as in the first instance.

Historical Reference: 1950: 22, 150; 1951: 93.

Reg. 31.060. *Certain Moral Disqualifications.* Every Lodge is prohibited from conferring any of the Degrees of Masonry upon anyone who is in the habit of becoming intoxicated, or who is voluntarily addicted to the excessive use of harmful narcotic drugs, or who is engaged in any business or occupation which is unlawful, or in which he participates in an unlawful manner, or which by its nature would reflect discredit upon the Fraternity in the community in which he resides, if he were to become a member.

Historical Reference: 1844: 46; 1853: 37, 57; 1859: 50; 1870: 60; 1936: 62, 274; 1952: 42, 107; 1998: 124, 153-154.

Cross Reference: Reg. 42.030

Revised June 2003

CHAPTER 32

REJECTED PETITIONERS AND OBJECTIONS

Reg. 32.010. *Rejected Applicant May Again Petition.*

(a) After an applicant for degrees or membership shall have been rejected, his case can come before the Lodge again only by a new petition as in the first instance.

(b) The by-laws of a Lodge may require a specified time to elapse before it will again receive the petition of a rejected candidate, but if not, the rejected candidate may petition the same Lodge again at his pleasure. He must, however, wait at least ninety (90) days before petitioning another Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1892: 11, 59; 1893: 23, 65; 1951: 93; 1973: 91; 2010: 37, 41, 131.

Cross Reference: Reg. 26.060.

Editorial Note: Petition from a rejected petitioner for degrees may be received by no other Lodge than the one which rejected him less than ninety (90) days after date of last rejection unless unanimous consent is given by Lodge which rejected him (Reg. 26.050).

Approved Decisions

32.010-1. *May Require Waiting Period.* Each Lodge has the right to adopt by-law for its own regulation requiring anyone who may have been rejected to wait six months, one year, or any other length of time before presenting petition again. So also may a majority of members present refuse to entertain a petition at anytime. 1872: 81; 1892: 11, 59; 1893: 23, 65; 1895: 25, 118; 1906: 28, 121.

32.010-2. *Perpetual Jurisdiction.* Indiana Freemasonry is not bound by doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected petitioners. 1915: 34, 135; 1945: 35, 159; 1947: 23, 225. The broad doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected petitioners is erroneous, because it assumes to deprive Grand Lodge of power to legislate for itself and prescribe qualifications of applicants for its benefits and privileges who may have been rejected at some time, possibly years before, in another sovereignty, by ballot of probably but one person - thus holding this one man power over them for life, and also taking away from them in effect the opportunity and means that pure religion concedes to all mankind of repentance and amendment, if perchance, the rejection they suffered was founded upon justice at the time instead of being result of individual malice, as unfortunately is not infrequently the case. G.L. should never surrender sovereign power to legislate for itself upon its own affairs, in its own exclusive territorial jurisdiction; nor should it permit alien legislation to deprive us of power to recognize the repentance of our fellow man. 1894: 63-64; 1895: 12-13, 139-140; 1896: 96-97.

Revised 2010

32.010-3. *Rejection No Disability.* M.M. is not placed under any additional disability by having been rejected on application for membership in Lodge, nor is his right to apply for membership in another Lodge at any time restricted in the least. 1875: 34, 91.

32.010-4. *When Action Is Void.* If Lodge receives petition for degrees from one not resident within its territorial jurisdiction without first obtaining waiver of jurisdiction, and rejects said petitioner, such action void and ineffective both as to Lodge and as to petitioner to petition Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides, and he may do so without regard to 12 months waiting period provided in Reg. 27.030. 1954: 30, 88.

Reg. 32.020. Worshipful Master May Arrest Conferring of Degrees - Objections. Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1864: 75; 1875: 123; 1876: 33, 127; 1903: 38, 98; 1904: 21, 113; 1922: 167; 1925: 38, 212; 1938: 29, 273; 1951: 19, 64; 1963: 97, 139; 1966: 33, 97; 1973: 91; 2001: 55, 149.

Approved Decisions

32.020-1. *Who May Object.* Repealed. 1907: 37, 136; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-2. *Who May Not Object.* Repealed. 1951: 19, 62; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-3. *From Member of Another Lodge.* Repealed. 1875: 92-93; 1895: 113; 1896: 27, 92; 1897: 28, 82; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-4. *How To Lodge Objection.* Repealed. 1943: 37, 255; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-5. *Offense Before Petitioning.* Repealed. 1923: 62, 157; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-6. *Time Limit for Objection.* Repealed. 1912: 36, 98; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-7. *Objection is Final.* Repealed. 1948: 29, 187; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-8. *No Withdrawal After Recording.* Repealed. 1895: 113; 1896: 27, 92; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-9. *Effective Date.* Repealed. 1917: 23, 206; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-10. *Withdrawal and Renewal.* Repealed. 1912: 36, 98; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-11. *When Objection is Withdrawn.* Repealed. 1917: 22, 206; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-12. *Return of Fee.* Repealed. 1943: 37, 256; 2001: 55, 149.

32.020-13. *Not Effective After Election.* Repealed. 1927: 38, 162; 2001: 55, 149.

Revised 2010

Reg. 32.030. *Objection Is Confidential.* Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1903: 38, 98; 1945: 32, 159; 1946: 54, 250; 1951: 93; 2001: 55, 149.

Approved Decisions

32.030-1. *No Questioning Permitted.* Repealed. 1945: 31, 159; 2001: 55, 149.

32.030-2. *Letter Is Confidential.* Repealed. 1922: 33, 103; 2001: 55, 149.

Reg. 32.040. *When Objection Is Effective.* Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1901: 31, 82; 1904: 21, 113; 1909: 80, 229; 1951: 93; 2001: 55, 149.

Reg. 32.050. *Worshipful Master May and Should Arrest Conferring of Entered Apprentice Degree.* A Worshipful Master may and should arrest the conferring of the E.A. degree at any time during the work should he become satisfied that the candidate is unworthy.

Historical Reference: 1912: 36, 98; 1951: 93.

Reg. 32.060. *Objection to Advancement.*

(a) Objection to the advancement of a candidate, after he has received the E.A. degree, will prevent the conferring of the following degree until a stated meeting of the Lodge at least two weeks later, when, should no charges be preferred, the degree may be conferred when the candidate has made suitable proficiency.

(b) To effectively stop an E.A. or a F.C. from advancement more than temporarily, charges must be regularly preferred, trial held and judgment of the Lodge be pronounced against him.

(c) No subsequent objection can be interposed, but this section shall not prevent any member of the Lodge from filing charges at any time.

Historical Reference: 1903: 39, 98; 1906: 30, 121; 1928: 109, 181, 194; 1935: 32, 217; 1943: 37, 255; 1948: 29, 186; 1955: 36, 124.

Approved Decisions

32.060-1. *Objection Is Final.* No authority or discretion exists in W.M. or in G.M. to determine validity or invalidity of objection made. 1948: 29, 187.

32.060-2. *Request for Relief.* If Lodge which has been requested to confer courtesy degrees upon candidate of Lodge in another jurisdiction believes candidate is unworthy to be made Mason, Lodge is within its rights to ask to be relieved of request. 1949: 29, 202.

32.060-3. *Should Order Charges.* If W.M. believes, in justice to all concerned, that charges should be made and tried, he should direct an officer of Lodge to file charges. 1943: 37, 256.

32.060-4. *Offense Before Petitioning.* Fact that an offense was committed by elected candidate long prior to filing petition for degrees does not prevent any Brother from making objection to advancement of candidate or filing charges against him in Lodge. 1923: 62, 157.

32.060-5. *Who May Not Object.* E.A. in Lodge of E.A., or F.C. in Lodge of E.A. or F.C. may not object to conferring of degree on candidate. 1951: 19, 62.

Reg. 32.070. *Forfeiture of Membership:* A Mason can forfeit his Masonic membership or right to vote in a Lodge:

(a) By vote of the Lodge, or by order of a Trial Commission appointed by the Grand Master to try his case after due notice and trial under the Penal Code, or by failure to pay his dues under the procedure outlined in Chapter 37 of these General Regulations.

(b) For committing Masonic offense under the Penal Code, a Mason may be suspended from all rights and privileges of Masonry by the Grand Master, upon proper and sufficient evidence, and by proper order, notice of which shall be given to the Lodge in which the Brother holds membership and to the suspended Brother by registered mail to his last known address, until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge when the Grand Master shall report the matter to the Grand Lodge. The person so suspended at the said next Grand Lodge may appear and present his cause before the Committee on Grievances and Appeals for report to the Grand Lodge before the matter is determined, or upon failure of the suspended Mason to appear and contest his suspension the act of the Grand Master shall become final and the suspended Mason shall stand expelled from all rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

Historical Reference: 1861: 69; 1875: 123; 1897: 85, 107; 1958: 86, 89; 1960: 46, 102.

Cross Reference: Article IX (f); Sec. 2.010; Chapter 37.

CHAPTER 33

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP AND DEMISSION

Reg. 33.010. *How to Transfer.*

(a) Any Master Mason, free from charges, desiring to demit for the purpose of joining another Lodge in this jurisdiction, may petition such other Lodge for affiliation after giving notice of such intention to the Lodge of which he is a member. His petition shall be accompanied by a receipt or certificate from his Lodge showing him to be not delinquent in the payment of his dues.

(b) Should the Lodge so receiving his petition elect him to membership, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to officially notify his former Lodge of such election and the petitioner shall promptly pay to his former Lodge his dues and other indebtedness (if any) up to the date of his said election.

(c) Upon receipt of said notice and payment, his former Lodge shall grant him a demit as of the same date as his election in his new Lodge.

(d) The demit shall be sent by his former Lodge to the Secretary of the Lodge so electing him to membership, and the receipt of such demit is necessary to complete the transfer.

(e) If the transfer is not completed within one year from the date of election, the proceeding shall be void and his membership remains in his former Lodge.

(f) Should he be rejected by the Lodge to which he has so applied, his membership shall remain in his former Lodge.

(g) This section shall in no way be construed to impair the long established right of voluntary and absolute demission.

Historical Reference: 1899: 88; 1907: 68, 137; 1925: 173, 229; 1928: 111, 183, 194; 1932: 115, 253; 1950: 21, 150; 1951: 93.

Cross Reference: Forms 15-19.

Approved Decisions

33.010-1. *When Transfer Is Completed.* Brother belonging to another Indiana Lodge is not member of second Lodge, subject to payment of dues until second Lodge receives demit. Until such demit is received, petitioner owes dues to former Lodge. 1909: 79, 229. Brother may vote in his original Lodge until his demit is granted. 1950: 21, 150.

33.010-2. *Judgment of Lodge Final.* G.L. does not possess power to revise decisions of subordinate Lodges in rejection of applicants for initiation into or membership in Lodge. 1857: 56. In rejecting applicant, Lodge exercises one of its undoubted rights. 1822 Hacker: 97.

33.010-3. *When Objection Not Effective.* Objection to petitioner for affiliation by transfer after petitioner is elected is not effective. 1927: 38, 162.

33.010-4. *May Sign by Mark.* Petitioner for affiliation, having almost entirely lost his sight, may sign his petition by his mark properly witnessed by a Brother. 1906: 30, 121.

33.010-5. *Affiliation, One Under the Age of 21.* Repealed. 1978: 55, 85; 1998: 130, 156-157.

33.010-6. *Certificate of Non-Indebtedness.* Certificate of Non-Indebtedness issued by another Grand Lodge is not sufficient to permit a suspended Mason from that jurisdiction to apply for affiliating with an Indiana Lodge. Such a certificate has no legitimacy in Indiana. See Approved Decision 49.060-7; 1985: 35, 111.

Reg. 33.020. Demits.

(a) A Master Mason, free from charges and all indebtedness to the Lodge may upon written application, and a majority vote of the Lodge, demit therefrom.

(b) Upon receipt of the application at a stated meeting, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a qualified Brother to investigate the reasons, circumstances and desirability surrounding the application. At the next following stated meeting, the Brother shall report to the Lodge the results of his investigation, at which time action on the application will be taken as provided in section (c) and (d) below.

(c) The Lodge shall grant the demit if no charges are pending; *Provided*, however, that should the Lodge for any reason, by a majority vote, refuse to grant a demit the Lodge, shall thereupon prefer charges against the applicant and bring him to trial, and if the applicant shall not be found guilty, the demit shall thereupon be granted

(d) An Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft may, under the same conditions be granted a demit excepting that a unanimous favorable vote of the Lodge is required. When an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft is granted a demit one-third of the total fee paid shall be returned for each degree which he has not received

(e) Any demit granted under the provisions of this section shall become and be effective as of the date of the stated meeting at which it is granted.

(f) Notice of Intention to Transfer Membership, as provided in the Grand Lodge Regulations, shall be considered a request for a demit if elected in the other Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1868: 56; 1901: 32, 82; 1904: 21, 113; 1914: 177-178; 1928: 109, 182, 194; 1951: 93; 1958: 28, 89, 123; 1980: 57, 74.

Cross Reference: Forms 20-21.

Approved Decisions

33.020-1. *No Blanket Demits.* Blanket demits may not be issued. Each request for demit must receive individual treatment. 1953: 119, 161.

33.020-2. *Telegram Not Sufficient.* Telegram is not written application for demit. 1953: 25, 114.

33.020-3. *Action of Lodge Final.* Demit granted by Lodge stands, even though on day following stated meeting at which it was granted, a Lodge receives letter from Brother withdrawing request. 1937: 164, 261.

33.020-4. *No Reconsideration.* Vote granting demit severs connection with Lodge. Demit is only certificate of fact. Vote granting demit cannot be reconsidered at subsequent meeting of Lodge. 1892: 14, 59; 1922: 32, 103. Vote of Lodge granting demit, demits Brother, and can at no subsequent communication be reconsidered. Nor can Brother applying for demit set at naught for action of Lodge by refusing to pay his dues, where granting of demit was on that condition, but he will not be entitled to certificate of demit until his dues are paid. 1874: 17, 90.

33.020-5. *Membership Voluntary.* Lodge cannot, under Masonic usage and tradition, force Brother to remain in Lodge when he desires to demit. Vote of Lodge is proper, so that records of Lodge may show such demission. 1892: 105. Where Brother accompanied his petition for demit with receipt of Secretary of Lodge showing that his dues were paid to date, and upon vote of Lodge, demit was refused, G.L. held, on appeal from action of Lodge, that membership in Masonic Lodge is voluntary, and member free from charges, and whose dues are fully paid, is entitled to demit and that Lodge erred in not granting it; and ordered Lodge to issue demit to Brother at its earliest convenience. 1892: 98-99.

33.020-6. *Must Make Application.* It is not competent for Lodge to demit one of its members except upon his application, either in person or by some Brother duly authorized to make same; and action of Lodge granting demit without knowledge or consent of Brother named is irregular and void. 1856: 21-22 (See Reg. 30.020)

33.020-7. *When to Refuse Demit.* Lodge should not grant demit to Brother who has been convicted of crime. In such event, charges of un-Masonic conduct should be filed immediately and he should be tried in accordance with laws of G.L. 1925: 46, 224. Neither should member of Lodge who is admittedly guilty of offense for which charges should be preferred be granted demit. 1945: 35, 165. Member whose books as Secretary are under investigation to determine whether or not shortage exists, and against whom no charges have been filed, should not be granted demit. 1956: 38, 84.

33.020-8. *May Not Nullify Action.* Lodge which has granted Brother demit, all dues being paid, cannot afterwards withhold certificate, declare him member, and then prefer charges against and suspend him from all rights and privileges of Masonry. 1866: 65. But when charges are pending against member, his application for demit should be refused. 1868: 56.

33.020-9. *Penal Jurisdiction.* Lodge retains jurisdiction over member of Lodge until his demit has been regularly granted, and it is not only right but duty of Lodge to prefer charges if he has been guilty of un-Masonic conduct, and bring him to trial, notwithstanding fact that application for demit may be pending. 1931: 29, 163.

33.020-10. *Member Under Charges.* Brother who has been tried, appeals to G.L. and appeal is sustained and cause remanded for new trial is "under charges", and cannot obtain demit. 1899: 21, 83.

33.020-11. *Demitted Mason Subject to Charges.* Fact that Mason demits from Lodge does not prevent charges from being preferred against him for un-Masonic conduct so long as he remains in community in which Lodge from which he has demitted is located. 1906: 31, 121. Lodge which has granted Brother demit has no power to prefer charges against him after he has moved from community in which Lodge is located. 1893: 25, 65. Lodge has jurisdiction to try Brother living in the community in which Lodge is located who has demitted from another Lodge. 1907: 37, 71.

33.020-12. *No Time Limit.* There is no limit as to how long certificate of demit shall run before it expires. It remains good until canceled by due process of law, or until deposited with Lodge on admission to membership. 1880: 23.

33.020-13. *Duplicate Demit.* Lodge may issue duplicate demit where original has been lost. 1895: 29, 118.

33.020-14. *Demit Not Proof of Identity.* Fact that one holds demit purporting to be issued by Masonic Lodge is not sufficient evidence that holder thereof is Mason, nor is it sufficient proof of identity. One holding such demit must make proof of his character and standing as Mason, or be vouched for by Brother in good standing, before Lodge can admit him to membership. 1896: 27, 92.

33.020-15. *Fee Not Permitted.* Lodge cannot in its by-laws require demitting Brother to pay fee to Secretary for his demit. 1894: 9. But Lodge may charge reasonable fee for certificate of demit, to be fixed in by-laws. 1895: 24, 118.

33.020-16. *Must Be Clear on Books.* When Brother made subscription direct to Lodge to be used toward establishing building fund, and, when subscription became due, refused to pay same and requested demit, Lodge was justified in refusing to grant demit until payment had been made. 1913: 41, 178.

33.020-17. *May Not Demit While Assessment Due.* Demit may not be granted member who refuses to pay assessment levied by Lodge for purpose of erecting new Temple. 1958: 90, 118.

Reg. 33.030. *Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft May Not Affiliate.*

Demits or certificates of character or certificates of dismissal issued by our own or other jurisdictions to Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts shall be given the same recognition as to Masonic standing as demits to Master Masons, but an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft cannot affiliate as such with a Lodge, but he may petition for the degrees which he has not received, accompanying his petition with such demit or certificate and one-third of the total fee if for the Master Mason degree only and two-thirds if for the Fellow Craft and Master Mason. The same general conditions and course of procedure shall apply as though they were petitioning for the three degrees.

Historical Reference: 1914: 177-178; 1916: 42; 1921: 36, 259; 1928: 109, 182, 194.

Cross Reference: Reg. 28.030.

Approved Decisions

33.030-1. *Demitted E.A.* An E.A. who obtains demit and to whom is refunded the unearned portion of his fee becomes a non-affiliated E.A. and ceases to be elected candidate in Lodge. Upon his re-affiliation with the Lodge by demit as an E.A., he could receive F.C. and M.M. degrees by filing new petition for those degrees and depositing with such petition two-thirds of amount of fee of Lodge for three degrees. Petition must be received by Lodge and acted upon in same manner as followed in reception of original petition for three degrees. 1921: 37, 260. This means that a unanimous ballot is required. 1949: 31, 202.

33.030-2. *May Not Demand Reasons.* If non-affiliated Mason applying for membership is rejected, he cannot demand reasons therefore. 1882: 34, 81.

33.030-3. *Apron.* Demitted E.A. or F.C. may request his white leather apron from his Lodge and Lodge is bound to grant his request. 1985: 35, 112.

Reg. 33.040. *Demits From Other Jurisdictions.* When petitions for membership from sister jurisdictions are presented to any Lodge, the Certificate of the Grand Secretary of such jurisdiction, certifying to the regularity of the Lodge issuing same, must appear upon the demit.

Historical Reference: 1899: 22, 95; 1951: 93.

Reg. 33.050. *Non-Affiliate Loses Rights.*

(a) Any non-affiliate Master Mason, who, for a period of six months, shall fail to affiliate with some regular Lodge, thereby deprives himself of the right to demand relief, to visit a Lodge, to participate in any public procession or ceremony of the Order, to have a Masonic burial, and of all other rights and privileges of an affiliate Brother,

(b) He may petition for affiliation at his pleasure and may be admitted to membership as provided in Reg. 28.030.

Historical Reference: 1853: 40-41; 1854: 25-26; 1925: 35, 224; 1928: 112, 185, 194; 1935: 32, 217; 1943: 40, 255; 1949: 31, 202; 1950: 23, 150; 1951: 93; 1952: 26, 95.

Cross Reference: Reg. 29.110.

Approved Decisions

33.050-1. *May Not Demand Reasons.* If non-affiliated Mason applying for membership is rejected, he cannot demand reasons therefore. 1882: 34, 81.

33.050-2. *Rights of M.M.* M.M. in good standing is justly entitled to all rights and benefits of Masonry, not only of Lodge which made him Mason, or with which he may have subsequently affiliated, but he may claim them of any Lodge in the world where he may happen to be. 1869: 65; 1873: 70; 1880: 23, 119; 1890: 14-15, 95; 1891: 12, 109.

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CHAPTER 34

NOTICES TO LODGES AND MEMBERS

Reg. 34.010. *Publication of Names.*

(a) Every Lodge is prohibited from publishing in a newspaper or periodical, the suspension or expulsion of any of its members

(b) Notices giving the names of petitioners to be voted upon or receive the E.A. degree shall not be sent in any manner whatever to the Lodge membership.

(c) The name of an E.A. or F.C. may be used in a publication that has a circulation that is intended for members of the Masonic organization.

Historical Reference: 1818 Hacker: 122; 1875: 123; 1910: 75, 79; 1951: 19, 63, 93; 2007: 38-39, 103.

Reg. 34.020. *Mailing Lists.* Every Lodge is prohibited from furnishing a mailing list of its membership or a list of the officers of other Indiana Lodges to any person for commercial purposes or for other than purely Masonic purposes sanctioned by the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1928: 34, 197; 1942: 37; 1943: 41, 255; 1951: 93; 1953: 120, 166; 1955: 120, 166.

Cross Reference: Reg. 42.050.

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CHAPTER 35

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Reg. 35.010. *Degrees Conferred.* Only the three Symbolic Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, namely, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, together with the official degree of Past Master, may be conferred by or in a Lodge subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1951; 93.

Reg. 35.020. *Manner of Conferring Degrees.* All the ceremonies of the three degrees of Ancient Craft Freemasonry contemplate the introduction of only one candidate at a time, that each degree be conferred upon each candidate in its entirety, including all ceremonies and lectures provided in the official authorized ritual of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and that all the same be given and conferred in the same meeting of the Lodge, subject, however, to the following exceptions:

1. When, in the unanimous opinion of the Worshipful Master and Wardens, a condition exists which makes it desirable and advisable to confer any part or parts of any degree upon more than one candidate and not more than five at a time; and ample facilities exist so that this can be done without marring the impressiveness of the ceremonies, that may be done;

2. *Provided*, that the degrees be conferred upon no more than five candidates at one time; and a minimum of 24 hours exists between the conferring of the degrees; and,

3. *Provided*, further, that the first section of the E.A. degree to the circumambulation (See Indiana Monitor and Freemason's Guide, page 57, 1997 edition) be conferred upon only one candidate at a time. Further, that the second section of the M.M. degree up to and including the rubrics, beginning on line 1 of page 140 of the Official Ritual, Grand Lodge F. & A.M., State of Indiana, 2010 edition, be conferred upon only one candidate at a time;

4. *Provided*, further, that the Master may, after conferring a degree up to and including the charge, delay the other lectures for an educational discussion of the meaning and significance of the ritual;

5. *Provided*, further, that the Fellow Craft lectures must be completed in their entirety on the same day as the degree.

Revised May 2012

Historical Reference: 1904: 115; 1905: 31, 113; 1915: 71-72, 180; 1921: 36, 231; 1945: 30, 160; 1947: 22, 24, 225; 1948: 120, 196; 1950: 22, 150; 1951: 19, 64; 1961: 43, 92; 1971: 87; 1990: 22, 84; 2000: 213-217; 2012: 53-62, 168.

Cross Reference: Regs. 13.040, 28.040, 31.021; S.R. 57.050

Approved Decisions

35.020-1. *No Short Form.* These ceremonies do not permit any “short form” whatever and any innovation tending to abridge or shorten our ceremonies should be absolutely and positively prohibited. 1914: 134; 1943: 38, 255.

35.020-2. *Only One Altar.* Lodge may not use more than one Altar at one time for purpose of obligating candidates. 1947: 23, 225.

35.020-3. *Calling “At Ease.”* W.M. may call recess and allow visitors to enter Lodge Room with Great Lights and Lesser Lights on display on following occasions: (1) Public installation of officers, (2) public presentation of Award of Gold, (3) public dedication of Temple, (4) public rededication ceremony. 1930: 35, 96. But there is no provision which makes it possible for Lodge to be called “at ease” in sense that members would be permitted to leave and return at will and whereby officers and members might go home for night and return next night to finish work and lectures, nor can two meetings be considered as one session. 1942: 39.

35.020-4. *Inter-jurisdictional Visitations.* There is no prohibition in our law against visiting Lodges from other States conferring degrees according to their rituals upon Indiana candidates, or against visiting Indiana Lodges conferring degrees according to Indiana ritual at request of host Lodge on its candidates, but the granting of permissions for such visitations and conditions of the grant are discretionary with G.M. 1949: 119, 211.

35.020-5. *Who May Confer Degree.* M.M. who has never been elected or installed as Warden may confer degrees when requested to do so by W.M. who is present. 1909: 80, 229.

35.020-6. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

35.020-7. *Removal of Pillars.* The two pillars, symbols of our Fraternity, should remain in the Lodge Room at all times. 1979: 87.

35.020-8. *Manner of Conferring Degrees.* Repealed. 1985: 35, 113; 1998: 129-130, 156-157.

Revised May 2012

35.020-9. *Permissions by Grand Master.* When G.M. grants permission for any Indiana Lodge to hold an outdoor degree, or to be host at a fraternal visit from a Lodge outside Indiana where a degree is to be conferred, either out-of-doors or in a Lodge Hall, G.M.'s permission is granted subject to the following: (1) dignity and decorum will prevail at all times and smoking will not be permitted while Lodge is open. The degree together with all lectures thereof will be conferred in full and in an exemplary manner. In the event the G.M. has given permission to the Lodge to confer degrees as provided for in Approved Decision 35.020-4, it must give the lectures in conformity to that regulation; (2) in Indiana, and in all Lodges visiting within the State of Indiana, the outer garment of clothing worn by a candidate in the second section of the M.M. degree will be his normal clothing, such as business suit and apron, with the apron being the outermost piece of clothing being worn by the candidate. Indiana does not permit working jackets or outer garments or devices of any nature or description to be used in the M.M. degree or to be worn or placed over or on top of said normal clothing; (3) any and all forms of hazing are forbidden in Indiana by its own Lodges and Lodges visiting within our State; (4) the physical and mental welfare of the candidate will be the absolute concern at all times of the W.M. of the host Indiana Lodge, the visiting Lodge and any Special Deputy the G.M. of Indiana might appoint to represent the G.M. on that occasion. 1985: 35, 114; 1987: 70.

35.020-10. **REPEALED.** *Renewal of Five-Candidate Program.* G. M. Recommendation 1-01. G.L. approved the renewal of the testing of alternative methods of conferring degrees (Five-Candidate Degree Program) for four more years. 2001: 11, 29, 137; 2012:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the G.M. and his successors have the latitude in executing the purpose of one day classes or "Grand Master's Classes". The G.M. shall set all guidelines and procedures for the conferral of the degrees and report such annually to the Grand Lodge.

Reg. 35.030. Presentations. No presentation to a candidate of any nature except a presentation on behalf of the Lodge, of an apron or of a Bible, may be made until all ritualistic work of a degree, including the lectures thereof, has been completed.

Historical Reference: 1941: 48, 247; 1942: 38; 1948: 119; 1949: 120, 212.

Reg. 35.040. Unauthorized Ciphers. The making, sale, purchase or use of any cipher work in this jurisdiction, except the official ritual issued by this Grand Lodge, is in violation of Masonic usage.

Historical Reference: 1903 Written: 226; 1951: 93.

Revised May 2012

Reg. 35.050. Degree Teams. Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1921: 43, 227; 1945: 28, 30, 158; 1947: 22, 225; 1950: 20, 150; 1951: 93; 1999: 101,130.

Approved Decisions

35.050-1. *Applies to Other Organizations.* Repealed. 1963: 97, 139; 1999: 101, 130.

35.050-2. *Applies to Teams From Other Jurisdictions.* Repealed. 1965: 81, 127; 1999: 101, 130.

Reg. 35.060. Instructions to Members. Repealed. 1985: 35, 113.

Reg. 35.070. Conferring Degrees by Courtesy.

(a) Should circumstances arise which make it desirable that a candidate receive the degrees in a Lodge other than that which elected him, request for courtesy work shall be made by the candidate's Lodge, using the proper standard form and be directed to the Lodge of which the favor is sought. Lodge conferring the courtesy degree will report said courtesy work in the remarks section of monthly activity report.

(b) If a courtesy request is made of another Indiana Lodge, it may be made through direct correspondence between Lodges, but if a Lodge outside Indiana is involved, request on the same standard form shall be sent through the office of the Grand Secretary,

(c) A Lodge should always honor a request for courtesy work, whether from an Indiana Lodge or from a Lodge in another jurisdiction, and no charge for the conferring of a degree by courtesy shall be made; *Provided*, however, that if, in the opinion of the Lodge which receives a courtesy request, the candidate is not worthy to receive the degrees of Freemasonry, the Lodge has not only the right, but the duty to ask to be excused from such assignment.

Historical Reference: 1961: 40, 92; 2012:

Cross Reference: Form 43.

Reg. 35.080. Inter-jurisdictional Visitations. Should an Indiana Lodge desire to visit a Lodge in another jurisdiction, or to invite a Lodge in another jurisdiction to be its guest on a fraternal visitation, the following procedure shall be used:

(a) Permission of the Grand Master, either to invite or to visit, shall be obtained. Likewise, it becomes the duty of the Lodge to make certain that all details of the proposed visit bear the approval of the Grand Master of the other jurisdiction.

Revised May 2012

(b) If degrees are to be conferred by either Lodge, the fact shall be made known to the Grand Master when permission is requested. Approval or disapproval of the request shall be discretionary with the Grand Master, who also may specify conditions under which permission is granted.

Historical Reference: 1901: 47, 92; 1949; 119, 211.

Reg. 35.090. Detailed Procedures. The candidates are to be properly clothed as befitting the degree that is rendered.

ENTERED APPRENTICE

When a candidate is to be initiated as an E.A., guided by the Senior Deacon, he enters the Lodge blindfolded. The W.M. will ask the question “I W D Y P Y T?” If the candidate’s response is acceptable, the W.M. will direct him to “A, F Y G, A F N D.” (If there are additional candidates to be initiated, the Senior Deacon will seat the candidate on the sidelines until each additional candidate has individually gone through the same ceremony.) The rest of the degree may then proceed with all candidates taking part. After the Apron Lecture, each E.A. is to have an apron placed in his hands.

Before being passed to the F.C. degree, each candidate **MUST** be able to give the Step, Due-Guard, Sign, Grip and Word of an E.A, at a minimum or meet the minimum requirements of the Worshipful Master of the candidate’s Lodge, if requirements exceed the minimum requirements of giving the Step, Due-guard, Grip and Word.

FELLOW CRAFT

The F.C. degree may be done without any alterations.

Before being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, each candidate **MUST** be able to give the Step, Due-Guard, Sign, Pass, Token of the Pass, Grip and Word of a F.C., at a minimum or meet the minimum requirements of the Worshipful Master of the candidate’s Lodge, if requirements exceed the minimum requirements of giving the Step, Due-guard, Sign, Pass, Token of the Pass, Grip and Word.

MASTER MASON

The first section of the Master Mason degree may be done without any alterations. The second section, up to and including burying the body in the rubble of the Temple, **MUST** be done **SEPARATELY**. (If there are additional candidates, the Senior Deacon will seat the candidate blindfolded on the sidelines until each additional candidate has individually gone though the same ceremony). The last candidate is brought up to this point. All are then carried to the “GRAVE” (one by one) and the rest of the degree proceeds as normal.

Revised May 2012

The Bible presentation is to be recited to all at the same time. Within fourteen (14) days, the newly raised M.M. MUST be able to give the Step, Due-Guard, Sign, Pass, Grip, True Grip, Substitute Word, recite the Five Points of Fellowship and give the G H S of D, complete with words, or meet the minimum requirements of the Worshipful Master of the candidate's Lodge, if requirements exceed the minimum requirements of giving the Step, Due-guard, Sign, Pass, Grip, True Grip, Substitute Word, Recite the Five Points of Fellowship and give the GHS of D, complete with the words.

PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

A Lodge may choose to have the minimum proficiency, or up to and including the minimum requirements of the Worshipful Master of his Lodge..

Minimum requirements are: the Signs, Due-Guards, Steps, Passes, Token of the Pass, Grips, Words, Five Points of Fellowship, Substituted Word and G H S of D, complete with words.

Reg. 35.100. Accelerated Initiation Program.

(a) The Grand Master may approve an accelerated initiation program if he finds it to be in the best interest of Freemasonry.

(b) An accelerated initiation program may include, but is not limited to:

1. Waiving the minimum time between conferring degrees.
2. Use of exemplar candidates.
3. Postponing lectures.

Historical Reference: 2009: 42-43, 135

Revised May 2012

CHAPTER 36

EXAMINATION OF VISITORS

Reg. 36.010. *Visitor Must Be Examined.* No visitor can be admitted to a Lodge except he present a membership card and be vouched for, or except he produce a membership card and satisfies a committee appointed by the Worshipful Master for that purpose, and each time he visits he shall present a membership card to verify his good standing in the Lodge in which he holds membership.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1907: 37, 77; 1910: 126; 1921: 40, 236; 1941: 45, 280; 1951: 93; 1979: 53, 64; 2012: 65-68, 169.

Cross Reference: Forms 23 and 24.

Approved Decisions

36.010-1. *Member May Vote Only in His Own Lodge.* Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

36.010-2. *Examination of Visitor.* G.M. Recommendation 3-01. G.L. approved that sufficient examination of a visiting M.M., unless vouched for, consist of the presentation of a valid dues card and taking the Test Oath found in the *Indiana Monitor and Freemasons Guide*. 2001: 11, 29, 137.

Reg. 36.020. *Lawful Information.* No documentary evidence of any description whatever is of itself sufficient lawful information to admit a visitor as a Mason in good standing, nor is a photograph presented for identification, even though certified by the Secretary, a sufficient voucher,

Historical Reference: 1876: 33, 127; 1951: 93.

Reg. 36.030. *Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft May Visit.* An Entered Apprentice of one Lodge is entitled to visit another Lodge open and at work on the Entered Apprentice degree, and a Fellow Craft may visit another Lodge open and at work on either the Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft degree.

Historical Reference: 1909: 80, 226; 1951: 93.

Reg. 36.040. *Objection to Visitor.*

(a) No visitor can be admitted into a Lodge while a single member present objects, nor can an objecting member be required to assign his reasons therefore, but may do so if he choose.

(b) The Worshipful Master can neither require reason for objection nor overrule same.

Revised May 2012

(c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to or permit objection to be made to a visitation by the Grand Master, his Special Deputy, the Deputy Grand Master or to any visiting Master Mason in good standing, who is present to prefer charges against a member, or to testify as a witness in a Masonic trial of charges, or to act as counsel, while acting in any of such capacities, or to any officer or member of a visiting Lodge when called in by the Grand Lecturer for a Lodge of Instruction.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1888: 42; 1903: 38, 98; 1904: 21, 113; 1913: 40, 178; 1951: 93; 1955: 36, 125; 1957: 27, 38.

Cross Reference: Approved Decisions 44.080-2, 44.090-7.

Approved Decisions

36.040-1. *Prerogative of Lodge.* Right to determine upon propriety or impropriety of admitting or not admitting visiting Brother is prerogative of every regularly organized Lodge and, if in opinion of Lodge, there exists sufficient cause to reject visit of Brother, Lodge has right to do so. 1829 Hacker: 48-50.

36.040-2. *Member May Vote Only in His Own Lodge.* Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

CHAPTER 37

ANNUAL DUES

Reg. 37.010. Dues.

(a) Lodges shall include in their by-laws the first stated meeting in June as the designated meeting at which dues of the Lodge shall be discussed and the amount set. Every Lodge shall designate in its by-laws the amount of dues to be paid by each member annually. The amount of these dues shall include the amount determined by each Lodge for their operation plus the amount set by the Grand Lodge for the Grand Lodge General Fund and the Grand Lodge Trustees' Temple Maintenance Fund. To this total figure shall be added the assessment fixed by Grand Lodge for the operation of the Indiana Masonic Home. All dues and assessments are payable in advance and must be collected when due or considered in arrears.

(b) Dues are chargeable to Master Masons only, and begin on the date a member becomes a Master Mason in good standing and end on the date that his membership is terminated, or when he receives the Indiana Grand Lodge Award of Gold as a fifty-year member.

(c) Should the membership of a Master Mason terminate in any other manner than by his death before the end of the term for which his dues and assessments are paid, the Lodge shall refund to him the pro rata of his dues and assessments for the period during which he was not a member of the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1926: 34, 174; 1928: 112, 185, 194; 1935: 33, 210; 1938: 34, 256; 1943: 199, 263; 1951: 93; 1956: 51, 91; 1958: 85, 89; 1969: 78; 1992: 20, 67; 2001: 39-40, 142.

Cross Reference: Regs. 28.020, 37.030, 37.050, 37.070.

Approved Decisions

37.010-1. *Must Accept Payment.* If member offers to pay his dues, Lodge must accept payment and issue receipt, even though Brother may owe Lodge a debt, but this does not prevent Lodge from taking any action it deems proper to collect amount due. 1953: 119, 161.

37.010-2. *Same to All Members.* Resolution providing that each member of Lodge who has been member five years or more shall be credited with five dollars on his dues is null and void and must be disregarded. 1898: 13-14, 77. Lodge cannot in its by-laws fix dues so that members living outside a certain radius from Lodge shall pay less than those who live within such radius. 1900: 30, 103; 1923: 63, 157.

37.010-3. *When Member Dies.* There is no provision for return of part of dues of deceased Brother to his widow or heirs. If, however, affairs of widow are such that she needs amount of dues, Lodge should vote her the same, or more, as assistance. 1937: 61, 261. But if Brother dies before beginning of year for which his dues are paid, amount of his dues should be refunded to family. 1954: 31, 88.

37.010-4. *When Amount Is Increased.* Members whose dues for current year have been paid cannot be required to pay more than amount specified in by-laws at time payment was made, even though amount may have been increased by subsequent amendment. However, if Brother has paid dues for several years in advance, an amendment to by-laws increasing amount becomes operative at next dues-paying time, and Lodge may then charge him difference between old and new rates. 1929: 37, 198.

37.010-5. *No Life Membership.* An honorary membership may not be bestowed upon any member of his own Lodge. Life memberships may be allowed under the Grand Lodge Life Endowment Program. 1938: 37, 256; 1963: 97, 141; 1995: 96; 1996: 109, 113; 1998: 142-143, 161.

37.010-6. *May Not Accept Note.* It is highly improper for subordinate Lodge to take notes from members for Lodge dues. 1843 Hacker: 376.

37.010-7. *Refund Is Mandatory.* Words "should refund" as used in this regulation are to be interpreted as directive to Lodge to refund to M.M. at time his membership is terminated the unearned portion of his dues. 1959: 87, 122.

37.010-8. *No Absentee Vote.* Absentee members may not vote on resolution to increase dues. Majority vote of members present at stated meeting is sufficient. 1968: 75, 127.

Reg. 37.020. Minimum Rate.

(a) The annual rate shall be not less than five dollars (\$5.00) per member and shall be the same to all members.

(b) Officers, as such, cannot be exempted from payment of dues and assessments. Every member of a Lodge who is financially able to pay dues and assessments must be required to do so.

Historical Reference: 1921: 39, 43, 216, 226; 1949: 50, 203; 1951: 93; 1971: 89.

Approved Decisions

37.020-1. *No Refunds.* Lodge increased its dues for purpose of establishing building fund. Project was later abandoned and some members asked for refund of amount of increase. G.M. ruled that no refund could be made and that each member must pay amount of annual dues prescribed in by-laws, if financially able to do so. 1928: 30, 203.

Reg. 37.030. Remission of Dues.

(a) After the time for payment has elapsed, the Lodge may, by majority vote, remit the dues of any member who because of distress either financially, physically or health-wise is unable to pay the same. In the case of prolonged illness of a Brother, the Lodge, by unanimous vote, may remit the dues of the Brother prior to the time for payment.

(b) The Lodge shall not be required to pay Grand Lodge dues on any member whose dues shall have been remitted, or on one who has received the Indiana Grand Lodge Award of Gold.

Historical Reference: 1853: 40; 1892: 14, 59; 1946: 191, 296; 1956: 51, 91; 1999: 98, 129.

Cross Reference: Regs. 28.020, 37.010.

Approved Decisions

37.030-1. *Reason for Remission.* Repealed. 1922: 36; 1999: 98, 129.

37.030-2. *No Wholesale Remission.* Each case of remission must be considered on its own merits and wholesale remission of dues is not within intent of regulation, if indeed within its letter. 1943: 39, 256; 1945: 28, 158.

37.030-3. *When Warranted.* Remission of dues of blind Brother who is recipient of relief is warranted if his payment of dues would deprive him of further relief under welfare act. 1943: 38, 255.

37.030-4. *Entire Amount Must Be Remitted.* Lodge may not remit that portion of member's dues which represents Masonic Home assessment while collecting and keeping portion used for Lodge operation, or vice versa. Remission of dues does not mean remission of a part of, but rather all of, the dues owed by a Brother. 1973: 70, 107.

37.030-5. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 37.040. *Dues of Brethren in Armed Forces.* The Lodge may remit the dues of a member who is serving in the armed forces of the United States; *Provided*, such member is financially unable to pay his dues, or is unable to transmit his dues to the Secretary, or is serving outside of the fifty States of the United States of America, and; *Provided*, further, that the President of the United States has declared a state of national emergency which declaration is in full force and effect on January 1st of the year applicable.

Historical Reference: 1918: 38-39, 135-136; 1944: 188, 222; 1949: 122, 206; 1951: 18, 62; 1954: 45, 87; 1980: 57, 74.

Approved Decisions

37.040-1. *For Professional Soldier.* Veteran whose period of service for duration of war has terminated by his discharge, and who then re-enlists, is then serving not for duration of war, but for definite period of enlistment. His dues, therefore, should be remitted only if he is unable to pay. 1946: 55, 250. (See Reg. 37.030)

Reg. 37.050. *When Dues Are Paid.* The annual dues of a member shall not be considered paid until received by the Secretary of the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1928: 29, 203; 1951: 93.

Reg. 37.060. *Receipt of Dues.* The Grand Lodge shall provide a Membership Card to be issued to each member upon payment of his dues and assessments. The card shall be distributed through the local Lodge Secretary or the office of the Grand Secretary. The Membership Card for a new member shall be provided to the local Lodge Secretary, from the office of the Grand Secretary, for distribution.

Historical Reference: 1925: 80, 224; 1941: 284; 1951: 93; 1973: 33, 84; 2012: 65-68, 169.

Reg. 37.070. *Collection of Dues.* Every Lodge shall include in its by-laws a by-law reading substantially as follows:

(a) The dues of this Lodge shall be \$_____ per year for each member, to which shall be added the per capita assessment as established by Grand Lodge each year for operation of the Indiana Masonic Home. Dues and Masonic Home assessments shall be paid in advance on or before the first day of January of each year. Such dues and assessments not paid on January first in advance are in arrears. Lodges may assess and collect a late fee not to exceed \$5.00 to the total amount of the dues in arrears. Original dues statements will include the preceding sentence. Subsequent notices for payment of dues in arrears will itemize the late fee assessed. Delinquent members may be required to reimburse the Lodge for the actual cost of sending notices by either registered or certified mail or by using the United States Postal Service's proof of delivery service.

(b) Not later than three weeks after the date of the first stated meeting in January, the Secretary shall give notice by mail to all Brethren who are in arrears for dues and assessments stating that they must, at or before the first stated meeting in February, pay or satisfactorily explain to the Lodge in writing, all arrearage in dues and assessments, and inform them of the late fee which has been assessed.

(c) At the first stated meeting in February, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a Dues Committee of three or more members including the Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Secretary, to investigate all arrearage in dues and assessments, with the instruction to the said committee to ascertain the cause of such arrearage by contacting each delinquent member, whenever possible by personal contact, and to report their findings at the first stated meeting in March.

Revised May 2012

(d) At the first stated meeting in March, the Worshipful Master shall call for a report of the Dues Committee and shall first take up the matter of remission in worthy cases. The Lodge may vote to remit either upon the recommendation of the committee or upon other motion properly made and seconded. The Worshipful Master shall next order that charges for non-payment of dues and assessments shall then be filed by the committee against all Brethren whose dues and assessments are not paid or remitted.

(e) At the first stated meeting in April of each year the Worshipful Master shall call for a report from the Secretary indicating all Brethren whose dues are not paid. The Worshipful Master shall then conduct a trial for said Brethren in accordance with Reg. 37.080.

Historical Reference: 1930: 47, 213; 1950: 155; 1955: 131; 1958: 85, 89; 1970: 101; 1980: 58, 74; 1991: 59, 91; 1999: 106, 132; 2001: 44-45, 144; 2003: 40, 125.

Cross Reference: Regs. 37.010, 37.050, 37.080, 44.070.

Approved Decisions

37.070-1. *Lodge May Not Nullify.* Lodge may not by vote direct W.M. not to do his duty in taking action on cases of NPD. 1956: 37, 84.

37.070-2. *No Automatic Penalty.* Repealed. 1967: 98, 128; 2001: 44-45, 144.

37.070-3. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 37.080. Procedure: Non-Payment of Dues.

(a) When charges are preferred for non-payment of dues and assessments the Secretary of the Lodge shall give not less than ten days notice to the delinquent member by:

(1) registered or certified mail or by using the United States Postal Service's proof of delivery service to his last known address; or

(2) service in person or by telephone, verified in writing by the member of the Lodge making service;

informing him of the charges in full and notifying him that unless he appears at the Lodge at the next stated meeting of the Lodge, the date of which shall be specified in the notice, and defend himself, judgment by default will be rendered against him according to charges preferred, and that he will then be suspended from the rights and privileges of Masonry.

(b) If the member appears in response to said notice and pays his dues and assessments, no trial shall be had. The disposition of the charges preferred shall then be entered in the Lodge minutes. (Payment is always a defense to charges for non-payment of dues.)

Revised May 2014

(c) If the delinquent member appears at the meeting specified in the notice but fails to pay his dues and assessments, and his dues and assessments are not then remitted, a trial for non-payment of dues and assessments shall be conducted in the usual manner and judgment shall be by vote of the Lodge.

(d) If the member fails to appear in response to the notice and his dues, and assessments are not paid or remitted, the Secretary shall read the notice to the accused in open Lodge at the meeting specified in the notice, shall state how and when the notice was given, and the Worshipful Master, if he is satisfied that the notice was lawfully given, shall then pronounce the judgment of the Lodge without a vote, by default, and shall declare that the Brother thus defaulted is suspended for non-payment of dues and assessments after which the Secretary shall give notice of suspension to the delinquent Brother in the same manner in which the notice of the preferring of the charges was given.

(e) When charges for non-payment of dues and assessments are preferred against a delinquent member, the account current against the delinquent member shall be deemed sufficient charge and specification upon which to place him on trial after he has been furnished with a copy of the same and given notice prescribed in Reg. 37.070.

(f) Non-payment of dues and assessment unaccompanied by a violation of the Masonic oath, is not a Masonic offense under the Penal Code. One who is suspended or dropped for non-payment of dues and assessments has the status of an unaffiliated Mason without a demit, and is not entitled to any of the rights and privileges of Masonry excepting that of petition for restoration to membership.

Historical Reference: 1953: 14, 35, 120; 1954: 127; 1955: 116; 1956: 41, 114, 117; 1957: 82, 126; 1958: 85, 89; 1970: 102; 1999: 107, 133; 2003: 40, 125

Cross Reference: Regs. 37.010, 37.070, 32.070, 49.020.

Approved Decisions

37.080-1. *Sufficient Notice.* When charges for NPD are sent by registered mail to last known address of accused, it is sufficient notice. 1925: 40, 216. If regular notices are sent to last known place of residence, responsibility of Lodge for receipt of such notice to Brother charged with NPD ceases. 1938: 30, 256.

37.080-2. *In Good Standing Until Suspended.* Though Brother may have failed to pay his dues, or may have committed any Masonic offense, he is nevertheless entitled to all rights and privileges belonging to any member of his Lodge in good standing until suspended or expelled. 1876: 33, 127; 1896: 27, 76, 92.

37.080-3. *Must Accept Payment.* If member offers to pay his dues, Lodge must accept payment and issue receipt, even though Brother may owe Lodge debt, but this does not prevent Lodge from taking any action it deems proper to collect amount due. 1953: 119, 161.

37.080-4. *No Ballot on Penalty.* At trial for NPD, after Lodge has balloted and found defendant guilty, no ballot shall be taken on penalty. When result of ballot, finding him guilty, is announced, defendant shall be declared suspended. 1895: 96; 1930: 47, 213.

Revised May 2014

37.080-5. *No Wholesale Suspensions.* In given case where 19 Masons were included in same complaint for NPD, and whole party were included in one ballot and thereby indefinitely suspended, G.L. held that Masonic membership is of too sacred a nature to be so lightly dealt with and that each and every case should be disposed of separately and upon its own merits. 1878: 70; 1882: 96-98.

37.080-6. *In Case of Acquittal.* At trial for NPD, if charge is substantiated by evidence, should result of ballot show “not guilty”, motion for a new trial should be made, and if not granted, or if granted and result of second trial is “not guilty”, Secretary should immediately report evidence to G.M. 1931: 33, 163; 1935: 31, 209; 1938: 25, 28, 256.

37.080-7. *Erroneous Suspension.* Where member in good standing has been erroneously suspended for NPD, his record should not be cleared by purging minutes of erroneous record, but by resolution stating facts and showing that Brother has been continuously in good standing. 1945: 31, 158.

37.080-8. *Failure to Pay Assessment.* Failure to pay assessment is equivalent to regular dues, and Brother may be tried for non-payment and indefinitely suspended same as if he were charged with NPD. 1930: 43, 213; 1949: 30, 202.

37.080-9. *No Automatic Penalty.* Repealed. 1967: 98, 128; 2001: 44-45, 144.

37.080-10. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 37.090. Assessments.

(a) A Lodge may levy and collect an assessment from its members only in accordance with the provisions of its regularly adopted by-laws and in such amount as may be necessary to:

1. Pay the Grand Lodge dues of the Lodge;
2. Defray the operating expenses of the Lodge; and,
3. Maintain the Masonic Relief Fund and the Charity Fund of the

Lodge.

(b) Assessments for the purpose of erecting a new Masonic Temple, or for extensive remodeling of an existing Temple are permitted only when levied in accordance with Reg. 37.100 hereinafter set forth.

(c) Failure to pay an assessment is equivalent to failure to pay regular dues, and a member failing or refusing to pay may be tried for non-payment and suspended from all rights and privileges of Freemasonry,

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1928: 112, 185, 194; 1930: 43, 213; 1963: 95.

Cross Reference: Regs. 37.080, 37.100, 38.040.

Approved Decisions

37.090-1. *Failure to Pay Assessment.* Failure to pay assessment is equivalent to failure to pay regular dues, and Brother may be tried for non-payment and suspended same as if he were charged with NPD. 1930: 43, 213; 1949: 30, 202.

37.090-2. *May Not Demit While Assessment Due.* Demit may not be granted member who refuses to pay assessment levied by Lodge for purpose of erecting new Temple. 1958: 90, 118.

Reg. 37.100. Assessments: How Levied:

(a) A motion to levy an assessment must lie over for action until the next stated meeting following its introduction, and all members must be notified by mail of such proposed assessment at least ten days before final action on the motion.

(b) If the proposed assessment is for the purpose of erecting a new Masonic Temple, or for extensive remodeling operations on an existing Temple, all procedures outlined in paragraph (a) above must be complied with in every detail, and, in addition thereto, the following procedures must be observed:

1. A written ballot shall be mailed to every member of the Lodge, returnable on or before a date specified on such ballot. The proposed assessment, to be adopted, must be approved in writing by at least two-thirds of those who vote on the question of levying the proposed assessment; *Provided*, that the total votes received shall not be less than 51 percent of the entire membership, and; *Provided, further*, that sub-paragraph (1) hereof shall be printed on all ballots mailed to the membership,

2. If the Lodge votes to levy an assessment, it must then be approved by the Grand Master. If the requested assessment is for the purpose of construction of a new building, or remodeling of a present structure, it must be sent to the Grand Master accompanied by a recommendation from the Grand Lodge Supervisory Board.

3. Every proposal to levy an assessment for building purposes must contain provisions whereby Brethren who are unable to pay may be excused therefrom by vote of the Lodge, following careful and sympathetic inquiry by members of the Lodge appointed for that purpose.

4. Every request for a demit must be honored by the Lodge up to the time that the assessment receives the favorable vote provided for in sub-paragraph 2 above and thereby becomes effective. The provisions of Reg, 33.020 and Approved Decisions 33.020-1 to 33.020-17 inclusive shall be applicable.

5. No Lodge which has solicited voluntary contributions for the purposes set out in this paragraph (b) shall, for the same purposes, either levy an assessment or raise its dues without giving proper consideration to the voluntary contributions which have been made.

Historical Reference: 1951: 18, 62; 1955: 39, 120; 1963: 95; 1964: 46, 100; 1989: 22, 82; 1990: 22, 85.

Cross Reference: Regs. 37.080, 37.090, 38.040.

Reg. 37.110. *Notices of Dues.*

(a) The office of the Grand Secretary, along with the Lodge Secretary, shall see to it that each member of the Lodge is sent a statement of Annual Dues and Assessments due the Lodge for the year beginning January 1. Each statement shall include a breakdown of the total dues and assessments as well as a statement that the Lodge may assess and collect a late fee not to exceed \$5.00 to the total amount of the dues in arrears.

(b) Such notices shall be mailed not later than two months preceding the date upon which such dues and assessments become payable, earlier when deemed effective. Only the standard form provided by the Grand Secretary shall be used.

Historical Reference: 1969: 78; 1980: 59, 74; 2012: 64-65,, 169.

Cross Reference: Reg. 37.010, 37.070

Revised May 2012

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CHAPTER 38

MASONIC RELIEF

Reg. 38.010. *Masonic Relief.*

(a) It is the duty of a Lodge to help its destitute widows and orphans of deceased members wherever they may reside, but no Lodge is required to pay a debt of any character which it has not authorized.

(b) Whenever a Brother Mason or the widow or the orphan of a Mason is found to be in needy circumstances, the Lodge should immediately afford them temporary relief and then notify the Lodge to which they belong and be governed by its instructions.

(c) The Worshipful Master of each Lodge shall appoint one or more Brothers to a committee to be known as the Committee of the Family whose duty it shall be:

1. To maintain a location file on each member's widow and orphans.
2. To maintain contact with each member's widow and orphans and to inform the Lodge as occasion should require, but no less than once annually, concerning the well-being of a deceased Brother's family.
3. To encourage, whenever possible, a Brother's widow and orphans being included in Lodge social activities.

For purposes of interpretation of this regulation, a widow shall be defined as the un-remarried widow of a deceased Mason and an orphan shall be defined as a child, under twenty-one years of age, of a deceased Mason.

Historical Reference: 1868: 47; 1880: 119; 1890: 15, 95; 1891: 12, 109; 1892: 54; 1910: 25, 80; 1928: 111, 184, 194; 1951: 93; 1980: 56, 74.

Approved Decisions

38.010-1. *Entitled to Rights.* M.M. in good standing is justly entitled to all rights and benefits of Masonry, not only of Lodge which made him Mason or with which he may have subsequently affiliated, but he may claim them of any Lodge in the world where he may happen to be. 1869: 65; 1873: 70; 1880: 23, 119; 1890: 14-15, 95; 1891: 12, 109.

38.010-2. *Debt Must Be Authorized.* Lodge is under no obligation to pay funeral expenses of Brother whose family is without funds nor any debt of any character which it has not authorized. 1936: 58, 257. Where relief has been extended by Lodge where they reside to members of another Lodge, their widows and orphans, latter Lodge is under no obligation cognizable by G.L. to refund amount unless expenditure was authorized by it. Duty to extend Masonic relief pertains primarily to Mason individually and personally, rather than to members of Lodge collectively. Lodge undertakes dispensation of Masonic charity it does so, doubtless, as a matter of convenience to members. There is no limitation upon obligation to render assistance which limits duty to give it or right to ask it of members of one's own Lodge. 1868: 47; 1880: 119; 1890: 15, 95; 1891: 12, 109; 1892: 53-54; 1895: 24, 118, 138; 1909: 78, 229.

Reg. 38.020. Orphans. Adult children of Master Masons are not considered orphans in the Masonic sense.

Historical Reference: 1925: 41, 217; 1928: 111, 184, 194.

Reg. 38.030. Relief Associations. In any town or city where there are two or more Lodges, such Lodges may associate themselves and join in the administration, and expense incident thereto, of relief to sojourners or their dependents.

Historical Reference: 1928: 33, 171; 1951: 93.

Reg. 38.040. Relief Fund. Each Lodge may maintain, within its general fund, an amount of money equal to or greater than \$1.00 per member to be identified as the Lodge Relief Fund. If Lodges do not maintain the Relief Fund within the General Fund, they shall maintain the Relief Fund either in the General Savings Fund or a separate relief account. This fund shall be drawn upon for no other purpose than for extending relief to Freemasons or their dependents, and all such relief extended shall be drawn from this fund. Should the balance in this fund become less than an average of one dollar per member, it shall be replenished by voting money to it from the Lodge General Treasury or voting an assessment against the members for that purpose. Failure to pay such an assessment shall be equivalent to non-payment of dues and shall be dealt with in the same manner and carry the same penalty.

Historical Reference: 1928: 33, 171; 1930: 43, 179, 213, 232; 1931: 34, 163; 1963: 47, 105; 1998: 117-118, 150; 2001: 41, 142.

Cross Reference: Regs. 37.080, 37.090.

Approved Decisions

38.040-1. *Use of Funds.* Lodge may not donate a portion of its Relief Fund to a charitable organization. 1945: 28, 35, 160.

CHAPTER 39

LODGE ADMINISTRATION

Reg. 39.010. *Annual Reports.* On or before the fifteenth (15) day of March each year, each Lodge shall forward to the Grand Secretary its reports for the preceding calendar year ending at midnight on December 31. Such annual reports shall be made on forms to be furnished by the Grand Secretary. The annual report shall show:

Part 1: (Jan 1 through Dec 31) -- The name, number and complete address of the Lodge; the date and time of stated meetings; the names of officers, elected and installed for the ensuing year; miscellaneous information; Masonic Home/Foundation Ambassador; and Certificate of Audit.

Part 2: (Dec 1 through Nov 30) -- Financial report of Secretary; financial report of Treasurer; Certificate of Audit by Audit Committee; dates tax reports filed by Lodge.

Part 3: (Twelve months ending July 1) -- Report of payroll for Workmen's Compensation Insurance.

Historical Reference: 1928: 113, 186, 194; 1949: 122, 205; 1951: 93; 1982: 74; 1989: 73, 81; 1990: 74-75, 96, 102; 1996: 110, 113.

Cross Reference: Regs. 18.010, 39.020.

Reg. 39.020. *Penalties for Delinquency.*

(a) A failure to make report to the Grand Secretary, as required by the preceding section, or to pay the Grand Lodge dues, as required by the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, Section 6.010, shall subject the Lodge to suspension by the Grand Master.

(b) Penalties for delinquency in filing the annual reports and in making payment of the Grand Lodge dues shall be assessed as follows:

1. Annual Reports -- Parts 1, 2, 3 -- For each day after March 15, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, five dollars.

2. Grand Lodge dues -- For each day after March 15, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, five dollars.

(c) The Grand Master or the Grand Secretary is authorized to excuse any Lodge from the payment of a penalty upon its showing that the delay in filing its report or in paying its Grand Lodge dues has been unavoidable.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1961: 48, 92; 1989: 73, 81; 1996: 110, 113; 2002: 44-45, 150.

Cross Reference: Sec. 6.010; Regs. 18.010, 39.010.

Reg. 39.030. Depository.

(a) It shall be the duty of every Lodge from time-to-time to designate a depository or depositories for the funds of such Lodge; and it shall be the duty of every person charged with the control of any of the funds of such Lodge to deposit the same in such depository or depositories in the name of such Lodge, subject to checks to be issued by the proper officer or agent of such Lodge.

(b) That all Lodges, except those that participate in approved electronic financial transactions under subsection (c), have two signatures on all financial withdrawals. These two signatures shall be taken from a minimum of three Brothers authorized on all financial accounts. In addition, it is deemed a Masonic offense for any Brother to sign blank checks.

(c) A Lodge may engage in electronic financial transactions under guidelines published by the Grand Lodge Committee on Accounts. Refer to Appendix I for specific procedures.

Historical Reference: 1919: 72, 115; 1999: 30, 155; 2009: 49-50, 136; 2011: 112-114.

Cross Reference: Reg. 18.010(c); Appendix I.

Reg. 39.040. Masonic Home/Foundation Ambassador.

(a) The Worshipful Master of each Lodge shall appoint an Ambassador to the Masonic Home and the Masonic Foundation, whose duty it shall be to cooperate with the Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home and the Executive Director of the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc., in all affairs pertaining to the Home/Foundation in which the Lodge is or may become interested.

(b) This Ambassador shall keep a regular account and make a written report of the same at the first stated meeting of the Lodge in January.

Historical Reference: 1920: 130, 159; 1996: 30, 96.

Cross Reference: S.R. 58.010.

Editorial Note: This will change the previous three person Masonic Home Committee to the appointment of a single Ambassador who shall act as a liaison with the Indiana Masonic Home and the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc.

Reg. 39.050. Grand Lodge Proceedings. Lodges are required to preserve at least one copy of the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge for each year.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Cross Reference: S.R. 55.080, 55.090.

Revised 2011

Reg. 39.060. Reimbursement of Grand Master. Hereafter when it shall become necessary for the Grand Master in the discharge of his duties to visit any Lodge in this jurisdiction, the expense incurred by the Grand Master or his Special Deputy must be borne by the Lodge to which is rendered the services if the Lodge be at fault. Otherwise such expense may be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1877: 145; 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Reg. 39.070. Sale or Purchase of Real Estate by Lodge. No sale or purchase of Lodge real estate may be presented to the Lodge membership for consideration without the proposed transaction being presented to the Grand Lodge Supervisory Board for their approval. Every Lodge shall include in its by-laws a by-law reading substantially as follows: "No sale of real estate belonging to this Lodge and no purchase of real estate by this Lodge shall be made by the Trustees without express authorization and approval of the Lodge, after consideration of the matter during at least two consecutive monthly stated meetings of the Lodge, and after all the members shall have been notified by mail of such proposed sale or purchase at least ten days before final action is taken thereon."

Historical Reference: 1950: 50, 154; 2007: 33, 102.

Approved Decisions

39.070-1. *Two Meetings Defined.* Two consecutive monthly stated meetings of Lodge means stated meetings in two consecutive months approximately 30 days apart. 1956: 38, 84.

39.070-2. *No Vote By Proxy.* Absent members may not vote by proxy on purchase of hall. 1940: 25, 218.

39.070-3. *Limitations on Trustees.* Trustees are creatures of Lodge and must obey mandates of Lodge when such mandates conform to General Regulations and by-laws of Lodge. 1920: 15; 1985: 35, 113. *In the case of a Temple Association or other entity.* If a Lodge is entitled to choose one or more representatives or board members to that entity, such persons are in the nature of trustees and are required to represent and support the lawful decisions of the Lodge. Failure to do so is cause for removal by the Worshipful Master. 2003: 117, 184.

Reg. 39.071. Real Estate and Personal Property Defined. Real Estate and real property are synonymous terms, meaning physical land and structures affixed thereto. Masonic personal or chattel property is tangible object such as fixtures, furnishings, fine art works, antiques, gems, jewelry, etc. Masonic person/chattel properties often have great monetary value and as such must have equal protection. Such Masonic Lodge property to be sold or purchased should be appraised by the most qualified, non-interested person possible, when the monetary value is reasonably believed to be in excess of \$5,000. Lodge By-Laws, together with Chapter No. 20 of General Regulations, govern the procedure necessary to sell or purchase valuable real or personal lodge property. 2012:

Revised May 2012

Reg. 39.080. Use of Lodge Funds. A Lodge may use its funds for worthy and public interest purposes:

(a) The use and amount of such funds must be approved at a stated meeting.

(b) Lodges may sponsor events for legitimate fund-raising activities subject to the following conditions:

1. Liability coverage must be assured.

2. All health, tax and other laws must be complied with, and

3. The amount raised must be reported and any expenditure approved at a stated meeting.

(c) Lodge may use funds for the benefit of a Lodge, Masonic sponsored charity, or any other charitable purpose. Events or donations to support religious or political organizations are prohibited.

(d) Members of the Lodge may also make contributions, either as individuals, or as a group representing the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1934: 16; 1937: 163, 261; 1948: 187; 1950: 20, 151; 1951: 19, 61, 93; 1952: 132; 1959: 37, 95; 1994: 97-98, 101; 1999: 99-101, 130.

Approved Decisions

39.080-1. *Hospital Donations Prohibited.* Repealed. 1917: 21, 206; 1942: 38; 1954: 27, 88; 1999: 99-101, 130.

39.080-2. *Church Donations Prohibited.* Donation out of Lodge treasury to building fund of new church being erected in community would be violation of General Regulations even though such action would meet unanimous approval of members of Lodge. 1942: 37. It is highly improper to display name and number of Lodge, together with Masonic emblems, on window of church, or any other edifice erected and used for other than Masonic purposes. 1905: 32, 98.

39.080-3. *Fund Raising Activities.* A Lodge may sponsor suitable events for legitimate fund-raising purposes subject to the following conditions: Liability insurance coverage must be assured and Board of Health rules and local ordinances must be observed. Advertising should be notice of event, not inducement with promises. Alcoholic beverages may not be sold or consumed. Event must end at a reasonable hour, before midnight. Tax laws affecting the income must be observed. Event must conform to established rules, customs and usages of the Fraternity. Any activity not held on Temple property must be approved by the Grand Master. It is not the intention that these projects become the primary purpose of the Lodge. 1964: 97, 126; 1988: 77- 79. **Repealed.** 2008: 126, 163.

Editorial Note: The above Approved Decision (39.080-3) was approved at the 1988 Annual Communication to replace the 1964: 97, 126 Approved Decision on Fund-Raising Activities.

39.080-4. *Public Charities.* Repealed. 1938: 23-24, 256; 1945: 28, 35, 160; 1999: 99-101, 130.

39.080-5. *May Not Underwrite Deficit.* Repealed. 1956: 35, 85; 1999: 99-101, 130.

39.080-6. *Loans Prohibited.* It is improper for Lodges to lend their funds to individuals. 1843 Hacker: 376.

Revised May 2012

39.080-7. *No Liability for Donations.* Lodge is not liable for reimbursement of funds to certain

members who contributed voluntarily to shortage of defaulting Secretary. 1929: 39, 198.

39.080-8. *Policy on Contributions*. Repealed. 1949: 30, 202; 1999: 99-101, 130.

39.080-9. *Support of Neighboring DeMolay Chapter*. Repealed. Subject to limitations in Reg. 39.080(c). 1961: 89, 123; 1999: 99-101, 130.

Reg. 39.090. *Dropping Lost Member From Membership Rolls*.

(a) If for a continuous period of five years the whereabouts of a member (whose dues have been remitted or who, because of an unexplained absence has not been suspended for non-payment of dues) is unknown, and mail addressed by the Secretary to his last known address has not been delivered because he is not at that address and cannot be located, the member shall be presumed to be deceased; and upon the passage of a resolution by the Lodge at a stated meeting, after ten days notice given in a Lodge bulletin or a letter to the membership, the name of such member may be dropped from the roster of the Lodge, and the member shall be so reported in the next activity report to the Grand Lodge.

(b) If, after such action, the member is located, and upon proper petition shows to the Lodge the facts with reference to his whereabouts during his unexplained absence, he may be reinstated as a member upon a majority vote of the Lodge after meeting such conditions as the Lodge may impose, and the member shall be so reported in the next activity report to the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1957: 35, 84.

Reg. 39.100. *Sponsorship*.

(a) A Lodge may sponsor a chapter of the Order of DeMolay, a Bethel of Jobs Daughters, or an assembly of Rainbow for Girls, which sponsorship shall be certified by the Lodge to the Grand Secretary and have approval of the Grand Master before the same can become effective.

(b) No Lodge shall sponsor any other organization or movement.

Historical Reference: 1929: 36, 198; 1945: 31, 164; 1948: 37, 188; 1951: 93; 1954: 29, 88; 1957: 81, 83; 2013: 82, 161-162.

Cross Reference: Regs. 19.030, 21.010, 39.080; Approved Decision 39.080-3.

Approved Decisions

39.100-1. *No Bowling Teams*. Bowling team made up of members of Lodge should not be any part of Lodge affairs, neither should it bear name of Lodge. 1923: 60, 157.

39.100-2. *Ownership of Cemetery*. Repealed. 1953: 119, 162; 1954: 26, 88; 200: 145-139, 156.

39.100-3. *Support of Neighboring DeMolay Chapter*. Repealed. 1961: 89, 123; 1999: 99-101, 130.

Revised May 2013

39.100-4. *Taking Stand on Community Issue*. Lodge as such may not take action in support of Ministerial Association in crusade against gambling. 1961: 89, 123.

Reg. 39.110. *Lodge Committee on Masonic Education.*

(a) The Worshipful Master of each Lodge shall appoint five members thereof as a Committee on Masonic Education whose duty it shall be:

1. To promote interest among members and candidates in the knowledge of Masonic history, literature and symbolism by the regular presentation of appropriate programs;

2. To keep the Lodge informed concerning the activities of Freemasonry in general and the Indiana Grand Lodge and its program in particular, and,

3. To promote the establishment, maintenance and use of such a library of Masonic literature as the Worshipful Master and the Lodge shall direct.

Historical Reference: 1966: 32, 47, 96.

Reg. 39.120. *Craft Clubs.* Craft Clubs may be organized for the social, educational and ritualistic benefit of the Lodge under the following restrictions:

(a) Craft Clubs may not raise or distribute money or sponsor events or organizations where such an action by a Lodge is prohibited.

(b) Craft Clubs are required to abide by the same high standards that are required of the Lodges upon which they depend for their existence. Lodges will not be treated more harshly than the Craft Clubs whose existence they make possible.

(c) Craft Club financial records must be audited annually by a competent Auditing Committee appointed by the Master of the Lodge. A copy of the audit report must be spread on the minutes of the Lodge at the first stated meeting in January.

Historical Reference: 1999: 105; 2001: 135.

Reg. 39.130. *Executive Committee Program.*

(a) The purpose of the Executive Committee Program is to allow a Lodge to devote more time to fellowship and Masonic education and handle routine business functions more efficiently. The Grand Master may appoint a special committee or assign a standing committee to assist Lodges in initiating or operating the program.

(b) A Lodge may, in its by-laws, provide for an Executive Committee.

(c) Any other rule, regulation, or by-law notwithstanding, the vote to amend the by-laws to provide for an Executive Committee requires a two-thirds vote of the members present.

(d) The use of an Executive Committee shall be reviewed annually at the meeting of the Lodge at which dues are discussed and the amount set for the next year. A majority of members may decide to discontinue the use of the Executive Committee, in which case the by-laws shall be amended, without further vote, to remove any reference to the Executive Committee. Provided, however, that the

Revised May 2012

Grand Master, for good cause shown, may terminate use of the Executive Committee at any time.

(e) The Executive committee shall consist of the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Trustees and any additional members identified in the by-laws.

(f) The Worshipful Master shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee, with the Senior Warden chairing a meeting in the absence of the Worshipful Master and the Junior Warden chairing a meeting in the absence of the Worshipful Master and Senior Warden.

(g) The Secretary shall be Secretary of the Executive Committee.

(h) The Executive Committee shall meet at the Lodge, on the day(s) and at the time provided in the by-laws, and at least monthly preceding the Lodge's first stated meeting, but not on the same date. Provided, however, that the Grand Master may, for good cause shown, permit the Executive Committee to meet at a location other than the Lodge or on the same date as the Stated Meeting. Any member of the Lodge is entitled to attend the Executive Committee meeting. Proper Masonic dignity and decorum must prevail.

(i) The Executive Committee shall:

1. Adopt a budget that must be approved by vote of the Lodge.
2. Handle routine business, including bills, finances, correspondence, building and grounds, and developing the activity calendar of the Lodge.
3. Make a report of its actions at each stated meeting of the Lodge.

(j) The Executive Committee shall not:

1. Receive and ballot on petitions.
2. Change Lodge by-laws.
3. Set dues, fees, or assessments.
4. Deviate from the approved budget without permission from the Lodge.
5. Nominate or elect the officers of the Lodge.
6. Accept resignations from office.
7. Accept or act on Masonic charges or reinstatement of membership.

(k) the Executive Committee agenda shall be prescribed in the by-laws and follow the model by-laws prescribed by the Grand Lodge, but generally shall include:

1. Call to order and prayer.
2. Reading and approval of minutes.
3. Considering and paying bills.
4. Financial report.
5. Receiving correspondence.
6. Reports from Master and Secretary.
7. Building and grounds.
8. Lodge activity calendar.
9. Old business.

Revised May 2009

10. New business.
11. Good of the Lodge.

12. Prayer and adjournment.

(l) The Stated Meeting agenda shall be prescribed in the by-laws and follow the model by-laws prescribed by the Grand Lodge, but generally shall include:

1. Opening.
2. Welcoming of members and visitors.
3. Report of the Executive Committee.
4. Report of sick or distressed Brothers and requests for prayer.
5. Report on Lodge activities and activity calendar.
6. Membership development and retention.
7. Business
8. Masonic education.
9. Good of the Lodge.
10. Closing
11. Dinner (highly recommended).

(m) Any other rule, regulation, or by-law notwithstanding, a Lodge participating in the program may distribute minutes of its meetings to the members rather than reading them at the Stated Meeting. Any written copies of minutes so distributed at a meeting shall be collected prior to the closing of the meeting.

(n) to the extent that activities conducted under the program constitute doing business, Regulation 22.030, or any other regulation stating that all business shall be done in a Lodge of Master Masons, is set aside for those Lodges participating in said program.

(o) Lodges that use an Executive Committee shall provide whatever reports are required by the Grand Master.

Historical reference: 2009: 40-42, 134.

Revised May 2009

CHAPTER 40

PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

Reg. 40.010. Plural Membership. A Master Mason may hold membership in one or more Lodges in this jurisdiction, or in other jurisdictions, as hereafter provided. The Lodge under the laws of the jurisdiction of his residence holds jurisdiction over him.

Cross Reference: Reg. 26.010

Approved Decisions

40.010-1. *Non-resident Ineligible to Petition for Membership.* Repealed. 1985: 35, 111; 2004: 46,59.

Reg. 40.020. Indiana Mason Residing Outside Indiana. Any Master Mason in good standing in a regular Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, free from charges, who resides in another jurisdiction which permits dual or plural membership, may petition for dual or plural membership in that jurisdiction and retain membership in his Indiana Lodge; *Provided*, that he attaches to such petition for dual or plural membership a certificate of good standing issued by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and provided further that he be elected by the petitioned Lodge pursuant to the laws of that jurisdiction as regards petitions, investigation report and ballot, and complies with the laws of that jurisdiction relating to dual or plural membership.

Reg. 40.030. Sojourner Residing in Indiana. Any Master Mason who is in good standing in a regular Lodge of another jurisdiction which permits dual or plural membership, may be a member of this jurisdiction; provided:

- (a) He petitions the Indiana Lodge;
- (b) His petition be accompanied by proof of good standing in his Lodge of original membership under the seal of the Grand Lodge; and,
- (c) He be elected to membership by the petitioned Lodge.

Cross Reference: Reg. 40.050.

Reg. 40.040. Plural and Original Defined. The Lodge in which a plural member has held membership for the longest period of time shall be designated the Lodge of “original membership” and membership in the other Lodges(s) shall be designated the Lodge(s) of “plural membership.”

Approved Decisions

40.040-1. *Original Membership.* While the wording of Regulation 40.040 is clear, I believe that the intent was that, in the case of another jurisdiction, the loss of the member to the jurisdiction of Indiana would only occur if there were a break in time between Indiana Lodges. A member of Indiana should not be penalized because of either a consolidation or a simple transfer between two Indiana Lodges. In this case, since there has been no broken time in

Revised 2010

Indiana between Lincoln Lodge No. 523 and Peru-Miami Lodge No. 67 for Brother Bobby Lee Walker, his Lodge of original membership will remain with Peru-Miami Lodge No. 67. Zephyr Lodge No. 198 in the jurisdiction of Florida will remain his plural Lodge. Additionally, my decision is that when a member under the jurisdiction of Indiana changes Indiana Lodges, either through consolidation or a simple transfer, and that there is no loss in time, his Lodge of original membership shall remain in the jurisdiction of Indiana. His status as a plural member

in a Lodge of another jurisdiction shall remain as a plural member in that Lodge. 2010: 118, 177.

Reg. 40.050. *Application.* Application for plural membership in a Lodge in this jurisdiction shall take the same course as an application for membership without severing membership in the applicant's original Lodge. The applicant shall not be required to present or file a demit but must present a certificate from all the Lodge(s) of which he is a member, showing him to be in good standing, which certificate(s) must be signed by the Worshipful Master and attested by the Secretary under the Seal of those Lodges.

Cross Reference: Regs. 29.030, 29.050, 29.060, 29.080, 29.090, 29.100, 29.110, 29.120, 29.130.

Revised May 2009

Reg. 40.060. *Loss of Membership.*

(a) If any plural member of an Indiana Lodge be suspended or expelled from the other Lodge(s) in which he holds such original or plural membership, such suspension or expulsion shall, without the necessity of preferring charges or trial in such Indiana Lodge, constitute suspension or expulsion, respectively, of such member from the Indiana Lodge(s) of which he was a member. A certificate by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge under which such action was taken, under its Seal, shall be conclusive evidence in this jurisdiction of the facts set forth in such certificate. Upon the suspension or expulsion of any Master Mason who holds original or plural membership in an Indiana Lodge and who holds membership in a Lodge outside Indiana, a certificate of such fact shall be forwarded by the Grand Secretary of Indiana, a certificate of such fact shall be forwarded by the Grand Secretary of Indiana to the other Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction such member holds plural membership.

(b) In case of suspension or involuntary loss of membership (by a plural member) where such Lodges are in this jurisdiction, the suspending or expelling Lodge shall notify the Grand Secretary who shall forthwith notify the other Indiana Lodge(s).

(c) Any plural member free of charges and whose indebtedness to such Lodges is paid, may request discontinuance of plural membership in either his Lodge of "original membership" or his Lodge of "plural membership," by presenting a written request at a stated meeting of the Lodge. At the next stated meeting, unless his letter of request be withdrawn, the Lodge shall grant his request and terminate his status as plural member. His membership in the remaining Lodge of longest membership shall retain all the rights and privileges of "original membership." Notification of his withdrawal from plural member status shall be immediately sent by the Lodge Secretary to the Brother requesting it, and to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, who shall notify the Lodge in which the Brother retains "original membership."

(d) Where plural membership is held with any one Lodge(s) outside the jurisdiction of Indiana, all correspondence pertaining to such plural membership shall be held through the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

Revised 2010

Reg. 40.070. *Privileges and Obligations.*

(a) Except as noted herein, a plural member shall have all the privileges and be bound by all the obligations of membership in both his "original membership" and "plural membership" Lodges.

(b) He shall be privileged to hold office in each of said Lodge but shall not be Worshipful Master or a warden of more than one Lodge at the same time.

(c) The Indiana Grand Lodge Award of Gold may be granted in only one Lodge, that being the Lodge of "original membership." Dues and assessments for Award of Gold recipients will be remitted only in and by the Lodge of "original membership."

(d) A plural member may file application to The Indiana Masonic Home provided he meets the requisites for admission for members of Indiana Lodges.

Approved Decisions

40.070-1. *Privileges and Obligations.* Under the provision of Reg. 40.070(d), if a Master Mason becomes a dual member in an Indiana Lodge and his primary Lodge is outside Indiana and in a jurisdiction with whom we are in fraternal amity, he may apply for admission to the Indiana Masonic Home under Rule 1(f) of the Indiana Masonic Home Admission rules as they are now written. Loss of membership in his primary Lodge, see Reg. 40.060(a), would render him ineligible to remain in the Indiana Masonic Home. 1985: 111.

40.070-2. *Holding Office.* A Plural member cannot be the Worshipful Master of one Lodge and the Worshipful Master of another Lodge at the same time. It is also my decision that a Plural Member cannot be a Worshipful Master or a Warden in one Lodge and also a Warden of another Lodge at the same time. The intent of the Regulation is that no member can be the Worshipful Master of two Lodges at a time. Because the Warden is required to assume the duties in the absence of the Worshipful Master, he could therefore perform the duties of the Worshipful Master in two Lodges at the same time, and this is prohibited. 2010: 118, 176-177.

Reg. 40.080. *Effective Date of Membership.*

(a) Membership of an applicant for plural membership is complete when he has passed a clear ballot and presented proper certificate(s) showing his good standing in the other Lodge(s).

(b) After involuntary loss of membership, restoration to membership of a former plural member shall be effective only in the Lodge which takes such action.

Reg. 40.090. *Forms.* Lodges in this jurisdiction are required to secure, from the Grand Secretary all blank petitions, certificates and forms pertaining to plural membership

Reg. 40.100. *Fees.*

(a) Lodge by-laws must establish a petition fee to be paid by all applicants for plural membership, but such fee shall not be less than \$25.00, \$5.00 of which will be transmitted to the Grand Secretary with the annual recapitulation statement.

(b) Plural members will pay the same amount of annual dues and assessments as are levied against all other dues-paying members.

Revised 2010

Reg. 40.110. *Suspension.* Suspension of a plural member for non-payment of dues shall follow the same procedure as suspension of an original member for non-payment of dues.

Reg. 40.120. *Discipline.* Disciplinary action against a plural member shall follow the same procedure as disciplinary action against an original member.

Reg. 40.130. *Death.*

(a) In such case of death of a plural member, the nearest losing Lodge shall notify the Grand Secretary who shall forthwith notify the other Lodge(s). Where the other Lodge(s) is outside this jurisdiction, the Grand Secretary shall forthwith notify the Grand Secretary of the other jurisdiction.

(b) Masonic Burial and Memorial Services may be conducted by the Lodge of "original membership" or by the Lodge of "plural membership," both subject to the provisions of Chapter 23 of the General Regulations.

Reg. 40.140. *Rejected Petitions.* Rejected petitioners for plural membership are subject to the provisions of Sections 32.010, 32.020, 32.040, and 32.070 in the General Regulations.

Reg. 40.150. *Special Purpose.* Membership in a Special Purpose Lodge, organized for the purpose of performing a specific function or service, shall not be considered plural membership.

Historical Reference: 1982: 71-74; 1993: 21, 64; 1995: 111-117, 127.

Cross Reference: Reg. 13.040.

Editorial Note: Chapter 40, Plural Membership, was changed from DUAL MEMBERSHIP to PLURAL MEMBERSHIP at the Annual Communication, May 16, 17, 1995.

PENAL CODE

OF THE

GRAND LODGE

F. & A. M.

OF INDIANA

CHAPTER 42

MASONIC OFFENSES

Reg. 42.010. *The Moral Law.* The Moral Law of Masonry, founded upon the First Great Light, is the highest law known to man, and it is not in the power of any legislative body to legalize that which is morally wrong so as to make it proper and right for any Mason to practice.

Historical Reference: 1859: 51; 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1898: 7-8, 114.

Reg. 42.020. *Masonic Offenses Defined.* Whatever is a breach of good morals, contrary to the precepts of the Holy Scriptures, or a violation of the laws of the State or of the United States, is an offense against the principles of Masonry and must be promptly dealt with.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Cross Reference: Reg. 37.080(f); S.R. 60.050, 63.030, 63.040.

Approved Decisions

42.020-1. *Atheism.* Brother who denies existence of God is guilty of un-Masonic conduct. 1882: 101, 110.

42.020-2. *Soliciting Petitions.* Repealed. 1954: 28, 88; 1981: 54, 74; 1982: 64-65; 2001: 53, 148.

42.020-3. *Gambling.* Any kind of gambling or betting is un-Masonic, and such as are guilty of it shall be subject to admonition, suspension, and, if no marks of reformation (appear), expulsion. 1818 Hacker: 31; 1892: 70, 106. After such admonition as provided for above, if erring Brother who is engaged in business of gambling and accepting wagers does not promptly cease that business, charges should be preferred against him under this section. 1953: 27, 115. It is reasonable to assume that person who pays an annual fee to United States as occupation tax to engage in business of accepting wagers is violating criminal laws of State of Indiana. However, more than a *prima facie* case should exist before charges should be preferred against a Mason for violation of law, or if positive evidence is obtained that he is violating criminal laws of State against gambling, then there can be no doubt that he has violated the provisions of Reg. 42.020, and charges should be preferred against him thereunder. 1953: 27, 115.

42.020-4. *Lotteries.* All lottery schemes and gift enterprises are unlawful and un-Masonic, and participation in all such schemes for purpose of raising funds for Masonic purposes should be discountenanced and prohibited. 1879: 83. Neither Lodge nor O.E.S. Chapter can conduct drawing for prize or any other kind of lottery in Lodge Hall or Room owned or controlled by Lodge, nor can Lodge aid or participate in drawing or lottery conducted by O.E.S. or any other organization. 1936: 60, 258; 1950: 20, 150.

Revised 2010

42.020-5. *Advertising Membership.* Advertising Masonic affiliations for purpose of securing votes for election to political office is offense against Masonry. 1925: 61, 67.

42.020-6. *Ignoring Correspondence.* Ignoring and neglecting to answer official correspondence is Masonic offense for which guilty party should be disciplined. 1925: 62, 166. Official Correspondence is defined as such correspondence from Grand Master, Grand Secretary or Worshipful Master acting from their official capacities. Further, such correspondence shall be noted either on envelope or in the body of the letter as "official correspondence". In no way should official correspondence be implied to mean letters from disgruntled members to the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge in general or Worshipful Master. 2003: 117, 184.

42.020-7. *Threat of Blackball.* Brother who declares that he intends to blackball every petitioner shall be admonished and if he is not willing to listen to fraternal reproof, charges should be preferred against him. 1907: 35, 71.

42.020-8. *Question Objector.* Objection lodged to initiation of candidate is clothed with the same secrecy as provided by the ballot, and any attempt on part of Brother to interrogate other members upon subject of (by) whom or why an objection was placed with W.M. is Masonic offense, and should be dealt with accordingly. 1945: 31, 159.

42.020-9. *Failure to Obey Summons.* A Mason, wherever he may be, who is summoned to appear before Lodge as witness and refuses to obey such summons, should be charged, tried and punished for such offense. 1884: 67-68. See Approved Decision 44.060-2.

42.020-10. *Non Support.* It is Masonic offense, worthy of expulsion, for Mason to abandon for long time his wife and children, and not provide for their support. 1856: 52.

42.020-11. *No Liability.* Lodge is not liable for reimbursement of funds to certain members who contributed voluntarily to shortage of defaulting Secretary. 1929: 39, 198.

42.020-12. *Slander.* Mason may be charged and tried for slandering Brother Mason, and, on conviction, should be suspended from all rights and privileges of Masonry. 1852: 54. Mason speaking evil of and making false assertions concerning Master Masons, may properly be found guilty and be indefinitely suspended. 1874: 82. To make slanderous statement is un-Masonic conduct, and may justly be punished by expulsion. 1876: 79. Slandering and traducing character of Master Mason's wife is Masonic offense. 1893: 81-82; 1894: 78-79.

42.020-13. *Profanity.* Use of profane language is grossly un-Masonic and highly injurious to the character of Freemasonry. 1853: 57.

42.020-14. *Abusive Language.* Use of improper and un-Masonic language in open Lodge is offense properly punished by suspension. 1892: 68-69; 1894: 80. It is Masonic offense to use unkind and abusive language to Brother Mason. 1889: 78-79.

42.020-15. *No Collecting Agency.* Lodge cannot be collecting agency. 1884: 49; 1886: 37; 1888: 34; 1889: 46-47; 1893: 24, 65; 1898: 66. Masonry is not collecting agency. Masonry does not require one Mason to lend his name as surety on note for another. It is duty of Mason to pay his debts, but is not just to expel Mason because misfortune overtakes him at some period of his life. 1884: 49; 1886: 29; 1888: 34; 1889: 46-47; 1893: 24, 65; 1898: 66.

42.020-16. *Indebtedness*. Failure to pay or secure debt is not Masonic offense unless debtor Brother is amply able to do so or transaction is tainted with fraud and then those facts must be set out in charges. 1884: 52-53; 1886: 39; 1888: 33. Man may very well make promise to pay in good faith, even though he may be in debt ever so much, but when deliberate falsehood is told in order to deceive and from whom money is borrowed, it is proper conclusion from such falsehood that deception and fraud were intended. 1888: 39. But such matter of fraud must be set out in the charges, and be proved. 1888: 34. Mason has right to make any promise that he believes, and has reason to believe he can fulfill, and his promise is not fraud, in such case, if misfortune overtakes him and he cannot carry out his promises made in good faith. 1884: 52-53; 1886: 39.

42.020-17. *Fraud*. If failure to pay is in some way tainted with fraud, this must be set out in charges, and be proven. 1888: 34; 1889: 46-47; 1898: 66. Fact that at one time an accused was fully responsible for his contracts, and while thus responsible certain parties became his sureties, and after his failure were required to pay his debts, does not prove or indicate fraud on his part. 1874: 71. Indebtedness to Lodge (other than the non-payment of dues) which cannot be collected by legal procedure, cannot be made ground of Masonic discipline unless fraud upon Lodge is charged. 1892: 14, 59.

42.020-18. *Mason May Sue Mason*. Mason can sue Brother Mason, without first bringing the subject before the Lodge. He has perfect right to collect his debts, same as any other man. 1876: 32, 127.

42.020-19. *Withholding Information*. E.A. who made material misrepresentations on petition and withheld other pertinent information was properly suspended by G.M. and expelled by G.L. Appeal to G.L. denied. 1984: 92.

42.020-20. *Lottery: Grotto*. G.M. properly ordered Grotto to cease holding raffle to raise money for humanitarian fund. Drawing canceled and ticket money refunded. 1980: 95.

42.020-21. *Booth at Fair*. Repealed. 1985: 35, 113; 2001: 53, 148.

Reg. 42.021. *Soliciting Petitions*. Solicitation of Petitions for the Degrees of Masonry by means of begging, coercing, “hard sell” tactics or promising of material or financial benefit to a non-Mason or the indiscriminate (i.e. on a large scale) solicitation of petitions is a Masonic offense. Discussing membership and offering Petitions for the Degrees of Masonry, when tactfully done on an individual basis, to a non-Mason who is known to be of good reputation and would adhere to the usages and customs of the Fraternity is acceptable and permitted. *Provided*, that as required by regulation each petition must be investigated and balloted upon. The Grand Master is permitted to offer programs that encourage Masons to better inform non-Masons about the Fraternity and the benefits and obligations of membership. Non-Masons may be invited to attend Lodge social functions.

Historical Reference: 1954: 28, 88; 1981: 54, 74; 1982: 64-65; 1988: 73-74; 1995: 26, 85; 1999: 113, 135.

Revised 2010

Reg. 42.030. *Certain Immoral Conduct*. It shall be a Masonic offense for

any Brother habitually to become intoxicated by the excessive use of intoxicating liquor, or to become voluntarily addicted to the excessive use of harmful narcotic drugs, or to engage in any business or occupation which is unlawful , or by its nature reflects discredit upon the Fraternity in the community in which he resides. Any member who violates the provisions of this section shall be punished by suspension or expulsion.

Historical Reference: 1853: 37, 57; 1870: 60; 1884: 46; 1936: 62, 274; 1952: 42, 107; 1998: 124, 153-154; 2003: 48, 127.

Approved Decisions

42.030-1. *Professional Gambler*. Repealed. 1953: 27, 115; 2003:48, 127.

42.030-2. *Admonition of Brother*. Admonishing of Brother for use of intoxicating liquors as beverage may be done by W.M. and Wardens or by some Brother appointed by Lodge. 1873: 17, 64. Previous admonition is not necessary before trial for use of intoxicating beverages. 1889: 39; 1912: 113.

42.030-3. *No Automatic Expulsion*. Fact that member of Lodge was found guilty of illegal sale of liquor does not automatically expel Brother from membership. It does, however, constitute an offense against principles of Masonry. 1938: 20, 256.

42.030-4. *Raffle: Grotto*. G.M. properly ordered Grotto to cease holding raffle to raise money for humanitarian fund. Drawing canceled and ticket money refunded. 1980: 95.

Reg. 42.040. *To Disobey Orders of Worshipful Master*. Any Mason who in open Lodge disobeys the orders of the Worshipful Master, or in any manner disturbs the harmony of the Lodge, must be held to a strict account therefore, and upon repetition of the offense, suspended or expelled from the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1892: 65-66.

Reg. 42.050. *Circularizing or Soliciting Masons*

(a) Every Lodge, under penalty of suspension of its charter, is prohibited from communicating in any manner with any other Lodge or any members other than its own, anything of a commercial nature without prior approval by the Grand Master. Fund-raising events for benefit of the Lodge are exempted from the necessary approval.

(b) Individual members or groups of members are subject to the same prohibition under penalty of being tried and suspended from their Lodge.

Revised 2010

(c) No Lodge or member shall communicate or imply Masonic sponsorship,

endorsement or association with any commercial activity. Such endorsement shall include Masonic sections in a commercial cemetery. It shall not, however, prohibit Masonic cornerstones and related cornerstone ceremonies.

(d) No Lodge or member may furnish or use any Masonic membership roster for commercial purposes except for activities allowed in section (a) above.

(e) The prohibitions contained in this regulation shall also apply to charitable appeals (begging circulars).

(f) Literature or petitions for any appendant or concordant body cannot be given to any person the day he is raised a Master Mason.

Historical Reference: 1921: 48, 222; 1943: 41, 255; 1945: 33, 159; 1951: 18, 20, 62, 64; 1959: 90; 1960: 100, 133; 1999: 102-103, 130.

Cross Reference: Regs. 34.020, 34.030; S.R. 59.010.

Approved Decisions

42.050-1. *No Sponsorship*. Repealed. 1924: 15, 157; 1999: 102-103, 130.

42.050-2. *Membership Rosters*. Repealed. 1954: 32, 88; 1965: 81, 127; 1999: 102-103, 130.

42.050-3. *Begging Circulars Forbidden*. Practice of issuing begging circulars under guise of charity by Lodges or individual Masons is wrong and contrary to principles of G.L. and Lodges are forbidden to issue any such circulars, and in so doing subject themselves to discipline from G.M. or G.L. 1888: 128-129; 1889: 16, 32; 1890: 35-36, 96; 1891: 21-22, 111; 1894: 68; 1897: 15-16; 1898: 15, 121.

42.050-4. *Circularizing Prohibited*. Repealed. 1861: 74-75; 1889: 32-33; 1892: 16-18, 59-60; 1894: 67; 1999: 102-103, 130.

42.050-5. *Solicitation for Appendant Bodies*. Repealed. 1979: 88; 2001: 12, 30, 139..

Reg. 42.060. *Use of Masonic Emblems*. Masons are prohibited from using Masonic emblems as a means of advertising, except for legitimate Masonic purposes, and non-Masonic organizations shall not be permitted to use Masonic emblems, even though all members of such organizations may be Master Masons.

Lodges are permitted to erect, or cause to be erected, road signs bearing the Masonic emblem, the name of the Lodge, its meeting place and information relative to when meetings are held. The design of such signs shall be as specified in drawing GL-1 on file in the Grand Secretary's office.

Signs may be displayed on individual standards (posts) or combined with those of other organizations. Erection of road signs must be in compliance with all applicable laws governing the same. The Lodge erecting such signs shall be responsible for their maintenance in order to maintain the high standards of Freemasonry.

Revised 2010

Master Masons may wear garments with Masonic emblems on them so long

as the uses of the emblems are tasteful and present a positive image of the Fraternity. Wife, daughter or sister of Master Mason may wear garments with Masonic emblems.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1929: 40; 1951: 93; 1953: 120, 167; 1988: 74-75; 1993: 101, 104; 2003:

Editorial note: The legislative statute making unauthorized wearing of a Masonic emblem a criminal offense was repealed by the Legislature in 1977. No statutory protection is now afforded the Fraternity except that the crime of deception may be applied if an intent to defraud can be proved.

Approved Decisions

42.060-1. *Masonic Jewelry.* Wife, daughter or sister of M.M. in good standing may wear Masonic jewelry without offense. 1926: 40, 175. Son, grandson or other male relative of Master Mason, who is not a Mason, should not wear jewelry of the Fraternity. 2003:

42.060-2. *Parodies Forbidden.* Any member who issues or causes to be issued a parody upon solemn rites and ceremonies of our Order should be reprimanded for offense and ordered to discontinue same. 1929: 195. Applies also to other organizations enjoying privileges of use of a Masonic Temple. W.M. is justified in assuming jurisdiction and forbidding presentation of parody by any group meeting in Temple. 1963: 97, 139.

42.060-3. *Grave Markers.* Square and Compass emblem may not be used on marker at grave of F.C. 1955: 28, 119.

42.060-4. *Masonic Section of Cemetery.* Establishment in commercial cemetery of "Masonic Garden," use of "Masonic" in stations, Altars, including open Bible, Square and Compass, cannot be permitted. Circularizing or soliciting for this purpose is prohibited. 1955: 32, 119; 1968: 75, 126.

42.060-5. *Bumper Strips.* No permission shall be granted to any individual, any Lodge or any organization to use any emblem of Symbolic Masonry or any slogan relating to or concerning Freemasonry on any printed adhesive label intended for use on the bumpers of automobiles. 1976: 70, 99.

42.060-6. *Historical Markers.* No Lodge shall erect or permit to be erected any historical marker, permanent or temporary in a public place, commemorating or referring to any Mason, any building or any Masonic event without prior approval of the Grand Lodge Historical Commission. If approval is granted by the Grand Lodge Historical Commission, the content, design, material, location and program attending its erection and dedication must conform to approval as granted. 1976: 70, 99.

Reg. 42.070. Use of Word "Masonic."

(a) The use of the words "Mason" or "Masonic" to further a business is a Masonic offense.

Revised 2010

(b) Publications not specifically authorized by the Grand Lodge may not use the word "Masonic" in their title nor in any way indicate that they are representing Freemasonry.

Historical Reference: 1897: 86; 1936: 56, 248; 1951: 93; 1959: 90.

Cross Reference: S.R. 59.010.

Approved Decisions

42.070-1. *Grave Markers.* Square and Compass emblem may not be used on marker at grave of F.C. 1955: 28, 119.

42.070-2. *“Masonic” Section of Cemetery.* Establishment in commercial cemetery of “Masonic Garden,” use of word “Masonic” in connection therewith, marble representation of Lodge Room with chairs, stations, Altars, including open Bible, Square and Compass, cannot be permitted. Circularizing or soliciting for this purpose is prohibited. 1955: 32, 119; 1968: 75, 126.

42.070-3. *No Sponsorship.* Masonry does not assume responsibility for any commercial organization that may appeal to Masons on ground that it is owned and operated by Masons, and that it does business only with Masons, nor does Masonry stand sponsor for any paper or publication not specifically authorized by G.L. 1924: 15, 157.

42.070-4. *Bumper Strips.* No permission shall be granted to any individual, any Lodge or any organization to use any emblem of Symbolic Masonry or any slogan relating to or concerning Freemasonry on any printed adhesive label intended for use on the bumpers of automobiles. 1976: 70, 99.

42.070-5. *Historical Markers.* No Lodge shall erect or permit to be erected any historical marker, permanent or temporary in a public place, commemorating or referring to any Mason, any building or any Masonic event without prior approval of the Grand Lodge Historical Commission. If approval is granted by the Grand Lodge Historical Commission, the content, design, material, location and program attending its erection and dedication must conform to the approval as granted. 1976: 70, 99.

Reg. 42.080. *Sunday Observance.* It is a Masonic offense for any Mason to play any kind of games in any room controlled directly or indirectly by a Masonic Lodge of Indiana on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday. Any Lodge of this jurisdiction allowing games of any kind played on Sunday in any room over which it has control, is violating the laws of this jurisdiction and shall be subject to discipline by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master. **Repealed. 2005: 52, 137.**

Historical Reference: 1921: 44, 228.

Cross Reference: Regs. 21.020, 21.040, 22.040.

Approved Decisions

42.080-1. *No Sunday Picnics.* Repealed. 1923: 63, 209; 1930: 48, 213; 1937: 162, 261; 1949: 121, 200; 1986: 31, 77, 122.

Revised 2010

CHAPTER 43

COMPLAINTS AND CHARGES

Reg. 43.005. *Counsel in Masonic Trials.*

(a) Whenever it becomes apparent that charges of Masonic misconduct have been or are going to be filed in a Lodge, it shall be the duty of each Worshipful Master to secure the services of a competent attorney, admitted to the practice of law in the State of Indiana and a regular member of a regularly constituted Lodge of this State. It shall be the duty of counsel to supervise the preparation of all pleadings and the record of the proceedings. It shall also be his duty to give advice and counsel to the Worshipful Master or presiding officer of proper conduct of all proceedings in accordance with Masonic Law as promulgated in the Indiana Blue Book of Masonic Law and the customs and usages of Masonic Law.

Counsel so secured is a representative to the Lodge and shall not be permitted to preside.

(b) At any time before trial commences, the Worshipful Master may appoint any Master Mason to prosecute the charges; *provided*, that in the absence of such appointment the duty to prosecute the charges shall devolve on the office of the Junior Warden.

(c) Any member of a Lodge in this jurisdiction may act as counsel for the Lodge or the accused, but the right to select counsel for the accused rests first with the accused in the absence of waiver or failure to appear.

Historical Reference: 1985: 74.

Editorial Note: All approved decisions formerly annotated under Reg. 44.080 should remain in effect and be annotated under this new Reg. 43.005 as Decisions under previous law. This new regulation does not alter applicability of any of these Decisions.

Reg. 43.010. *Complaints Against Worshipful Master Officially.*

Complaints against the Worshipful Master for official misconduct must be made to the Grand Master on vacation, or the Grand Lodge when in session.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Cross Reference: Reg. 43.050.

Approved Decisions

43.010-1. *Answerable to G.L.* The G.M. and Masters of subordinate Lodges are answerable only to G.L. for acts growing out of his (their) official duties. 1858: 54-55.

43.010-2. *Removal of W.M.* W.M of Lodge should not be removed from office by Special Deputy of G.M. but only by G.M. or G.L. 1952: 21, 111.

43.010-3. *May Be Reprimanded.* G.M. has power to order reprimand for official misconduct, either to Lodge or to W.M. while G.L. is not in session. 1954: 34, 88.

Reg. 43.020. *Charges Against Worshipful Master Morally.* Charges and specifications against a Worshipful Master for un-Masonic conduct not growing out of his official action must be made to the Grand Master, and if approved by him, he will fix the time and place of trial and give notice thereof to the Lodge together with a copy of charges and specifications, and instruct the Secretary to serve notice upon and furnish a copy of the charges and specifications to the accused, with a list of the names of the witnesses endorsed thereon. The same proceedings must be had as in the trial of other members, the Grand Master or his deputy presiding.

Historical Reference: 1890: 21-22; 1903: 67.

Approved Decisions

43.020-1. *Lodge May Try W.M.* Lodges shall have power to try and expel or suspend their W.M. for any un-Masonic conduct not growing out of discharge of his official duties. When W.M. of Lodge is under trial, officer next in rank, or some P.M., to be designated by him, shall preside. When Master of Lodge is expelled or suspended, officer next in rank shall succeed to the station. 1858: 54-55.

Reg. 43.030. *Penal Jurisdiction.*

(a) The penal jurisdiction of a Lodge shall extend over all members of the Fraternity within its jurisdiction and over all of its own members wherever they may reside.

(b) Should an offense be committed within the concurrent jurisdiction of two or more Lodges, by a member of one of such Lodges, the charges must be preferred in the Lodge of which he is a member.

Historical Reference: 1871: 47; 1884: 61-65; 1894: 77; 1909: 182; 1925: 46, 224; 1928: 113, 186, 194; 1931: 31, 163.

Approved Decisions

43.030-1. *For Previous Offense.* Fact that offense was committed by elected candidate long prior to filing of petition for degrees does not prevent any Brother from making objection to advancement of candidate or filing charges against him in Lodge. 1923: 62, 157.

43.030-2. *Should Order Charges.* If W.M. believes, in justice to all concerned, that charges should be made and tried, he should direct an officer of Lodge to file charges. 1943: 37, 256.

43.030-3. *Previous to Lodge.* Any subordinate Lodge is empowered to receive and decide upon charges against any sojourning Brethren (or otherwise within its jurisdiction) for un-Masonic conduct committed previously to existence of such subordinate Lodge in like manner as though such conduct had occurred afterwards. 1847: 20.

43.030-4. *Demitted Member Subject to Charges.* Lodge has jurisdiction to try Brother living within its jurisdiction who has demitted from another Lodge. 1970: 37, 71. Lodge which has granted Brother demit has no power to prefer charges against him after he has moved from its jurisdiction. 1893: 25, 65; 1930: 49, 213. Fact that Mason demits from Lodge does not prevent charges being preferred against him for un-Masonic conduct so long as he remains in jurisdiction of Lodge from which he demitted. 1906: 31, 121. If warranted, charges can be preferred against unaffiliated Mason be he an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason. 1979: 88.

43.030-5. *Conduct in Other Organizations.* W.M. of Lodge is justified in admonishing member of his Lodge as to conduct in connection with non-Masonic organization. Every Mason is subject to General Regulations. 1937: 163, 261.

Reg. 43.040. *Where Charges May be Preferred.*

(a) Charges may be preferred either in the Lodge of which the defendant is a member, or in the foreign Lodge within whose jurisdiction he is sojourning. The Lodge which, under such conditions, first takes cognizance of the case, acquires jurisdiction which cannot be ousted by subsequent action by another Lodge.

(b) If neither Lodge takes action the charges may be filed with the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1921: 39, 233; 1951: 93; 1960: 46, 102.

Cross Reference: Regs. 43.180, 43.181, 48.050.

Approved Decisions

43.040-1. *Previous to Lodge.* Any subordinate Lodge is empowered to receive and decide upon charges against any sojourning Brethren (or otherwise within its jurisdiction) for un-Masonic conduct committed previously to existence of such subordinate Lodge in like manner as though such conduct had occurred afterwards. 1847: 20.

43.040-2. *Demitted Members Subject to Charges.* Lodge has jurisdiction to try Brother living within its jurisdiction who has demitted from another Lodge. 1970: 37, 71. Lodge which has granted Brother demit has no power to prefer charges against him after he has moved from its jurisdiction. 1893: 25, 65; 1930: 49, 213. Fact that Mason demits from Lodge does not prevent charges being preferred against him for un-Masonic conduct so long as he remains in jurisdiction of Lodge from which he demitted. 1906: 31, 121. If warranted, charges can be preferred against unaffiliated Mason be he an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason. 1979: 88.

43.040-3. *For Previous Offense.* Fact that offense was committed by elected candidate long prior to filing of petition for degrees does not prevent any Brother from making objection to advancement of candidate or filing charges against him in Lodge. 1923: 62, 157.

Reg. 43.050. Lodges to Note Conduct of All Masons. It is the duty of each Lodge to take cognizance of the conduct of any member of the Fraternity within its jurisdiction, and for any violation of moral or Masonic duty, to vindicate the law and administer justice; *Provided*, that the Grand Master and Masters of Lodges are answerable only to the Grand Lodge for acts growing out of their official duties.

Historical Reference: 1859: 54; 1875: 123.

Cross Reference: Reg. 43.010.

Approved Decisions

43.050-1. *May Be Reprimanded.* G.M. has power to order reprimand for official misconduct, either to Lodge or to W.M. while G.L. is not in session. 1954: 34, 88.

43.050-2. *Removal of W.M.* W.M. of Lodge should not be removed from office by Special Deputy of G.M., but only by G.M. or G.L. 1952: 21, 111.

43.050-3. *Should Order Charges.* If W.M. believes in justice to all concerned, that charges should be made and tried, he should direct an officer of the Lodge to file charges. 1943: 37, 256.

43.050-4. *Previous to Lodge.* Any subordinate Lodge is empowered to receive and decide upon charges against any sojourning Brethren (or otherwise within its jurisdiction) for un-Masonic conduct committed previously to existence of such subordinate Lodge in like manner as though such conduct had occurred afterwards. 1847: 20.

43.050-5. *For Previous Offense.* Fact that offense was committed by elected candidate long prior to filing of petition for degrees does not prevent any Brother from making objection to advancement of candidate or filing charges against him in Lodge. 1923: 62, 157.

43.050-6. *Demitted Members Subject to Charges.* Lodge has jurisdiction to try Brother living within its jurisdiction who has demitted from another Lodge. 1970: 37, 71. Lodge which has granted Brother demit has no power to prefer charges against him after he has moved from its jurisdiction. 1893: 25, 65; 1930: 49, 213. Fact that Mason demits from Lodge does not prevent charges being preferred against him for un-Masonic conduct so long as he remains in jurisdiction of Lodge from which he demitted. 1906: 31, 121. If warranted, charges can be preferred against unaffiliated Mason be he an Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason. 1979: 88.

43.050-7. *Conduct in Other Organizations.* W.M. of Lodge is justified in admonishing member of his Lodge as to conduct in connection with non-Masonic organization. Every Mason is subject to General Regulations. 1937: 163, 261.

43.050-8. *Trial of G.M. and W.M.* It shall be competent for subordinate Lodge of which G.M. is member to try and expel him for any un-Masonic conduct not growing out of his official duties; and when expelled or suspended, his office of G.M. shall be vacated, and officer next in rank shall fill office. Subordinate Lodges shall have power to try and expel or suspend their Master for any un-Masonic conduct not growing out of discharge of his official duties. When W.M. of Lodge is under trial, officer next in rank, or some P.M., to be designated by him, shall preside. When W.M. of Lodge is expelled or suspended, officer next in rank shall succeed to station. G.M. and Master of subordinate Lodges are answerable only to G.L. for acts growing out of his (their) official duties. 1858: 54-55.

Reg. 43.060. *Conviction for Criminal Offense.*

(a) It shall be the duty of every Worshipful Master of a subordinate Lodge in the event a member of such Lodge shall be convicted of a criminal offense (minor traffic violations excepted); to immediately obtain and file with the Grand Master a certified copy of the pleading and judgment showing such conviction.

(b) In the event such conviction is not reversed on appeal, or is not by pardon or otherwise set aside, and the same becomes final, it shall be the duty of the Grand Master, if in his opinion the conviction is either for a crime which demonstrates that the convicted person is not morally fit to be a member of the Masonic Fraternity (see Reg. 42.020) or is one for which he should be Masonically tried, to direct that proper charges against such convicted person be preferred and fairly tried in the Lodge of which he is a member or in any other Lodge of competent jurisdiction, by a Trial Commission.

(c) A Mason who has been or shall hereafter be convicted of a criminal charge of homicide, a Class A, B, C or D felony constituting a crime of moral turpitude, or who shall plead guilty thereto, or who pleads guilty to a misdemeanor as a part of a plea bargain agreement to reduce a felony charge that contains a factual situation which clearly indicates that the Mason committed the felony charged in a court of competent jurisdiction, may also, by direction of the Grand Master, be expelled from the order without the preferring of charges and usual Masonic trial. A Mason who has been or shall hereafter be convicted of a felony that does not constitute a crime of moral turpitude, or who shall plead guilty thereto, or who pleads guilty to a misdemeanor as a part of a plea bargain agreement to reduce a felony charge that contains a factual situation which clearly indicates that the Mason committed the felony charged in a court of competent jurisdiction, may also, by direction of the Grand Master, be expelled or suspended without the preferring of charges and usual Masonic trial. No proceedings for such expulsion or suspension shall be taken while proceedings for reversal of the judgment of said court shall be pending and undecided. A certified copy of the judgment shall be sufficient evidence to justify such expulsion. Any Mason thus expelled shall retain his right of appeal.

(d) In the case of a Mason who has been or shall hereafter be convicted of a criminal offense greater than a misdemeanor that constitutes a crime of moral turpitude or who shall plead guilty thereto in a court of competent jurisdiction, of a criminal offense in connection therewith, shall be eligible for only one of the penalties prescribed in Reg. 46.050, namely, expulsion.

Historical Reference: 1955: 36, 123-124; 1956: 41, 103; 1962: 32, 87; 1964: 30, 99; 1969: 91; 1972: 87-88; 1979: 63 ; 1984: 45; 2009: 51, 138.

Cross Reference: Article IX, Reg. 42.020, 43.040, 43.080, 43.170, 43.180, 43.181, 45.050, 49.060.

Revised May 2009

Approved Decisions

43.060-1. *Sojourning Mason.* Sojourning Mason, member of Lodge in another jurisdiction, may be expelled by the Grand Master of Indiana under provisions of Reg. 43.060(c), and Grand Master of appropriate jurisdiction will be so notified. 1985: 75, 117.

Reg. 43.070. *Must Have Written Charges and Notice.* No Mason can be reprimanded, suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, except on written charges and specification, and at least ten days notice given of the time and place of trial, except as provided in Reg. 43.060(c).

Historical Reference: 1823 Hacker: 126; 1848: 52; 1849: 37; 1875: 123; 1892: 67-68; 1930: 47, 213; 1969: 91.

Approved Decisions

43.070-1. *Charges Must be Filed.* Lodge cannot suspend member without charges being preferred, trial had, etc., except the accused can waive trial and plead guilty. 1899: 17, 83. Lodge may not expel member by resolution. 1864: 77.

43.070-2. *In Good Standing Until Suspended.* Though Brother may have failed to pay his dues, or may have committed a Masonic offense, he is nevertheless entitled to all rights and privileges belonging to any member of his Lodge in good standing, until suspended or expelled. 1896: 27, 76, 92.

43.070-3. *May Be Reprimanded.* G.M. has power to order reprimand for official misconduct, either to Lodge or to W.M. while G.L. is not in session. 1954: 34, 88.

43.070-4. *Ritual as Part of Charges.* Under no circumstances may any part of the ritual or its obligations be quoted or paraphrased in charges or specifications in Masonic trials. 1985: 35, 114.

Reg. 43.080. *Who May Prefer Charges.*

(a) All charges shall be entitled "In the matter of charges preferred against A. B." (Insert the name of the accused Brother.)

(b) It is made a special duty of the Junior Warden by virtue of his office, on competent evidence furnished to him, or by order of the Worshipful Master or Most Worshipful Grand Master to prepare and file charges for un-Masonic conduct in all cases where the Lodge upon complaint, has jurisdiction, but this provision shall not prevent any Mason, either upon his personal knowledge or on competent evidence obtained from others from preferring, preparing or filing charges in any Lodge.

Revised May 2009

(c) In no case can the right to prefer charges be exercised by one who is not affiliated, or by one who is not a Mason.

Historical Reference: 1859: 38; 1871: 47; 1875: 123; 1928: 114, 186, 194; 1958: 86, 89; 1960: 47, 102.

Cross Reference: Regs. 43.040, 43.140, 43.170, 43.180, 43.181, 48.050

Approved Decisions

43.080-1. *Should Order Charges.* If W.M. believes, in justice to all concerned, that charges should be made and tried, he should direct an officer of Lodge to file charges. 1943: 37, 256.

43.080-2. *Duty of Member.* If Brother knows of any reason why another Brother should not remain a Mason, it then becomes duty of Brother who knows of evil practices to himself prefer charges. 1899: 19, 83; 1903: 38, 98.

Reg. 43.081. *Appointment of Prosecutor.* Repealed. 1960: 47, 102; 1985: 74.

Reg. 43.090. *Requirements for Charges.* All charges must be made in writing, signed by the affiliated Master Mason or Masons making them, specifying with reasonable certainty the character of the accusation and the time and place of its commission, to which shall be attached the names of the witnesses.

Historical Reference: 1928: 114, 186, 194; 1958: 86, 89.

Cross Reference: Reg. 45.050; Form 28.

Approved Decisions

43.090-1. *Presumption of Innocence.* Brother under charges is presumed to be innocent until he is proven guilty. He has all rights of any other member until his case is heard and determined. 1876: 32, 127.

43.090-2. *No Statute of Limitations.* There is no Masonic Law adopting the civil statute of limitations. 1897: 27, 82. But practice of raking up from ashes of oblivion ancient charges is not to be recommended. 1892: 68; 1925: 40, 229.

43.090-3. *Must Have Specifications.* Charges for un-Masonic conduct should be accompanied with specifications before charge is entertained by Lodge. 1859: 38.

43.090-4. *When to Object.* Where charges were preferred against Brother and names of witness were omitted, and Brother went on trial without raising objection to this omission, on appeal it was ruled that trial was legal. It was then too late to object to such omission. 1899: 21, 83.

43.090-5. *Must Be Explicit.* Specifications must be sufficiently explicit for accused to know what particular offense is intended, so that he may prepare his defense. One for “Violating his Obligation,” without even hinting at when, where, or wherein he had violated it, and another for “Defrauding a Brother Mason,” without alluding to who the Brother Mason was, or when, where or how he defrauded him, are so vague and indefinite that trial upon them would make it possible for Lodge to commit greatest injustice by springing upon an accused matter that he is not and cannot be prepared to meet. 1872: 59-60.

43.090-6. *Suspicion Not Enough.* Proof enough to raise suspicion only should not cause Mason to be expelled. Mason no doubt should avoid appearance of evil, but should never be held guilty of evil by mere ground of suspicion. Presumption in favor of Mason’s innocence is not to be overcome, except by actual proof either direct or circumstantial, sufficient to convince judgment of an unbiased mind. 1890: 85; 1896: 27, 76, 92.

43.090-7. *No Wholesale Suspension.* In given case where 19 Masons were included in same complaint for NPD, and whole party was included in one ballot and thereby indefinitely suspended, G.L. held that Masonic membership is of too sacred a nature to be so lightly dealt with, and that each and every case should be disposed of separately and upon its own merits. 1878: 70; 1882: 96-98.

Reg. 43.100. Notice to Accused

(a) Charges for Masonic offenses under the Penal Code shall be presented at a stated meeting, read in open Lodge and spread upon the minutes.

(b) The Worshipful Master shall set a time for trial and order the Secretary to furnish the accused with a true copy of the charges and specifications, together with the names of the witnesses, and notify him of the time set for trial.

(c) If the time of trial is not announced at a stated meeting, all members shall be notified thereof.

Editorial Note: This section does not apply to procedure for suspension for non-payment of dues.

Historical Reference: 1848: 52; 1928: 114, 187, 194; 1958: 86, 89.

Cross Reference: Regs. 37.070, 37.080; Form 29.

Approved Decisions

43.100-1. *What Minutes Must Show.* Minutes of Lodge where Brother is to be charged and tried must show that charge and specifications were duly presented at stated meeting and time fixed for trial, and minutes must go further when trial occurs, and show that accused received summons to appear at trial, and he must also receive copy of charges as stated, with names of witnesses to be used against him. It is duty of Lodge to see that its minutes contain all that was done, and if it fails to do so, presumption is against it. 1890: 78.

43.100-2. *Accused Must Have Copy.* Where charges were read in open Lodge and accused, being present, acknowledged service, and subsequently moved dismissal of charges for reason that he had not been provided with written copy thereof, and said motion was overruled by W.M., the G.L. sustained appellant, holding that it is incumbent on Lodge to furnish accused with true copy of charges. 1886: 34-36. Proceedings in trial and expulsion of M.M. who has not been previously furnished with copy of charges preferred against him, or notified of time and place of trial, are irregular and should be set aside. Where nothing to contrary appears on record, inference is that accused could have been found, and necessary service could have been had. 1884: 52.

43.100-3. *Time Limit for Objection.* Where charges were preferred against Brother and names of witnesses were omitted, and Brother went on trial without raising objection to this omission, on appeal it was ruled that trial was legal. It was then too late to object to such omission. 1899: 21, 83.

43.100-4. *Fundamental Requirements.* On appeal, transcript failed to show that charges were read in open Lodge and spread on record, and transcript showed that all evidence in case was taken before charges were presented and filed, which irregularities were not assigned as errors on appeal. It was held that it was of little moment, on such question, that accused failed to make these illegal proceedings a ground of complaint in his appeal, because these requirements are so fundamental as to render their waiver doubtful even if made in express terms, and which could not be effective otherwise. 1897: 78.

43.100-5. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 43.110. *If No Quorum Is Present.* If no quorum is present at meeting set for the trial, the Worshipful Master shall at the meeting, or later, set another time and new notices must be sent to all parties concerned as in the first instance.

Historical Reference: 1889: 86; 1926: 36, 175; 1951: 93.

Reg. 43.120. *Waiver of Notice.* If the accused appears for trial without having received proper notice, he thereby waives such service.

Historical Reference: 1872: 44; 1894: 76-78; 1951: 93.

Reg. 43.130. *Notice: How Served.* The Secretary must have the accused and complainant served with notice at least ten days before the time of the trial. Such notice may be served personally or by registered mail sent to the last known place of residence. The Secretary shall file his written return with the papers in the case.

Historical Reference: 1917: 211-212; 1928: 114, 187, 194; 1938: 28, 256; 1947: 22, 225; 1948: 30, 187.

Cross Reference: Form 30.

Approved Decisions

43.130-1. *Ample Notice Required.* When Brother is charged he should have ample notice so as to enable him to meet witnesses face to face and to procure counsel to attend taking of depositions, if necessary. 1858: 74; 1873: 17, 64-65, 88; 1874: 81; 1889: 44-45. Ten days previous notice is such a plain provision of law, prepared expressly for benefit of accused Brother, that any consent of accused to waive this right must appear upon record, and absence of evidence of such consent is not proof that it was, but rather that it was not, given. 1872: 47, 51; 1874: 75-76; 1877: 80; 1888: 38; 1890: 78; 1891: 53; 1894: 77-78; 1897: 73-75.

43.130-2. *When Notice Is Sufficient.* Trial may proceed even though copy of charges, sent by registered letter to last known address, is returned. 1907: 35, 71.

43.130-3. *No Ex Parte Evidence.* *Ex parte* affidavits cannot be introduced as evidence against an accused in Masonic trial. 1907: 35, 71. W.M. in progress of trial correctly sustained objection of accused to proposed reading of certain *ex parte* evidence against him. Experience of ages has demonstrated propriety of that rule, that every accused shall have opportunity of meeting his accuser face to face, and right to subject witnesses to cross examination. 1858: 74.

Reg. 43.140. *Charges Decided by Lodge.* All charges for un-Masonic conduct or other offenses under the Penal Code must be heard and determined by the Lodge if brought in the Lodge, or heard by a Trial Commission if a Trial Commission is requested or ordered by the Grand Master, or heard by the Grand Lodge in the event the Lodge fails to act or the Grand Master exercises his power to suspend a Mason until the next annual meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Editorial Note: This section is not applicable to proceedings for suspension for non-payment of dues. In such cases Reg. 37.080 governs.

Historical Reference: 1859: 38; 1875: 123; 1958: 87, 89; 1960: 47, 102; 1982: 50.

Cross Reference: Sec. 2.010 (f); Regs. 43.040, 43.080, 43.170, 43.180, 43.181.

Reg. 43.150. *Withdrawal or Dismissal of Charge.*

(a) The accuser cannot withdraw charges under the Penal Code after they have been preferred in the Lodge, but the Lodge may, by majority vote, at any time withdraw or dismiss charges prior to a plea of guilty or conviction.

(b) If the charges are withdrawn or dismissed by majority vote of the Lodge, the same charges cannot be preferred or made again at any subsequent meeting of the Lodge, but may be ordered reinstated by the Grand Master if in his opinion the charges are such that they should not have been withdrawn or dismissed by the Lodge. It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master of each Lodge to report all withdrawals or dismissals of charges under this section, within 10 days thereafter, to the Grand Master.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, if the Grand Master or Grand Lodge orders charges to be filed, the charges shall be tried or proceedings held as the Grand Master shall direct, by a Trial Commission, and the Lodge may not, by vote or otherwise, withdraw or dismiss the charges unless ordered to do so by the Grand Lodge or by the Grand Master.

Editorial Note: This section is not applicable to proceedings for suspension for non-payment of dues. In such cases Reg. 37.080 governs.

Historical Reference: 1873: 17, 64-65, 88; 1874: 81; 1878: 20, 22, 88; 1952: 93, 132; 1958: 87, 89; 1964: 45, 100; 1976: 71.

Approved Decisions

43.150-1. *Must Consent to Withdrawal.* Charges against Brother cannot be withdrawn over his objection, even though one preferring charges consents thereto, and motion to dismiss is passed by majority vote of Lodge at stated meeting. 1909: 79, 229-230.

43.150-2. *When Specification Is Withdrawn.* Where specification has been withdrawn at first trial, in new trial no evidence can be introduced on it, and no vote taken as to guilt or innocence of accused on that specification. 1873: 58.

43.150-3. *When Charges are Stricken Out.* Where charges were on motion stricken out for insufficiency at time set for trial, and at following stated meeting accuser stated he was unable to attend meeting fixed for trial and now asked that he be granted privilege of amending his charges, which request W.M. refused to grant, G.L. on appeal from this decision held that ruling made by W.M. was correct; that action of Lodge was equivalent to dismissal of charges, and therefore, when accuser asked leave to amend, there were no charges pending. 1892: 72-73.

Reg. 43.160. Change of Venue-Continuance. A change of venue cannot be granted in Masonic trials, but for good and sufficient reasons a continuance may be granted.

Historical Reference: 1900: 29, 103; 1908: 49, 129.

Approved Decisions

43.160-1. *Continuance Permitted.* W.M. can postpone or continue trial when asked for by prosecution if good cause is shown. 1899: 21, 83.

43.160-2. *When Notice Not Required.* If all parties interested, including accused, were present on date fixed for trial, and cause was then continued to future date, of which action all parties had notice, second notice to accused to appear on date to which hearing was continued is not contemplated nor required, although not improper. 1931: 32, 163.

43.160-3. *When Notice Is Required.* After an indefinite postponement accused is entitled to another notice of time and place of trial. 1856: 22-23.

43.160-4. *Must Show Reasons.* Request for continuance on account of absence of witness must show that such witness is in possession of facts material to interest of party asking continuance. 1879: 52.

43.160-5. *Time Limit for Continuance.* In new trial on amended charges, continuance with permission to prosecution to amend charges and specifications cannot be granted after prosecution has rested its case. 1897: 23, 80.

43.160-6. *No Sunday Trials.* Where trial is begun on Saturday, Lodge should be closed at midnight. To proceed after that hour would be to hold court on Sunday, which by common law of land, is day upon which no judicial proceedings can be had. W.M. can continue further hearing of case to any subsequent day, of which accused and Lodge should have proper notice. 1879: 22-23, 72.

43.160-7. *Unable to Be Present.* If accused is unable to be present at his trial it shall be proper for W.M., as courtesy to accused and upon written request by accused or when requested by accused's counsel, to grant postponement of trial for short period of time, but not to exceed 90 days. 1962: 84, 131.

Reg. 43.170. Trial Commission.

(a) If, and when, the Master of a Lodge, a majority of a Lodge, or the accused, within sixty (60) days from the service of the summons and charges shall request that a trial be conducted by a Trial Commission, the Worshipful Master shall immediately give notice to the Grand Master of the request. Also, when charges are preferred or pending, the Grand Master at his discretion may order trial by a Trial Commission without a request therefore from a Lodge or from an accused, that the peace and harmony of the Fraternity may be preserved.

(b) Thereupon it shall be the duty of the Grand Master to appoint five (5) Actual Past Masters of other Indiana Lodges to serve as the Trial Commission in the case, one of whom the Grand Master shall designate as chairman, who shall perform the duties generally incumbent upon the Worshipful Master as in cases of trial in open Lodge.

(c) The Grand Master shall instruct the Trial Commission so appointed concerning its duties and the manner of conducting the trial, in writing. He shall also admonish the Trial Commission in writing to conduct the trial in such manner that Masonic justice shall prevail and the good name of the Fraternity shall be preserved.

(d) The trial shall then be conducted by the Commission in the Lodge where the charges are preferred in the same manner and under the same regulations in all other respects as if the trial were being conducted under the law pertaining to trials in open Lodge, except as hereinafter set forth.

(e) The Commission shall select its own Secretary, may summon witnesses, fix the time and place and make all other necessary arrangements for the proper conduct of the trial. It shall determine the guilt or innocence of the accused, voting by secret ballot. Four members shall concur to convict.

(f) If the accused be found guilty of a Masonic offense, the Trial Commission shall proceed to fix the penalty for the offense stated, in accordance with the Penal Code of the General Regulations. Whether the judgment of the Commission be guilty or be not guilty, the Commission shall promptly, and within ten (10) days, forward or deliver a full and complete report of its action in the case, together with a transcript of all testimony, evidence and proceedings had and concluded, to the Grand Master, who shall promptly and within ten (10) days notify the Master and Secretary of the Lodge, in writing, of the decision of the Trial Commission, and the penalties, if any there be, for the offense. Upon receipt of the official notice of the result of the trial, and within ten (10) days thereafter, the Secretary of the Lodge shall send written notice of findings and judgment of the Trial Commission to the accused at his last known address, which shall constitute adequate notice for Masonic purposes.

(g) In all cases, the members of the Lodge, the accused or the accuser may exercise the right of appeal to the Grand Lodge. The expenses incident to trial by a Trial Commission shall be paid upon the order of the Grand Master by the subordinate Lodge or Lodges involved, or by the Grand Lodge, as the situation in the Grand Master's opinion may warrant. Each member of any such Trial Commission appointed by the Grand Master shall receive the prevailing Grand Lodge per diem for each day or any portion thereof served.

Historical Reference: 1960: 47, 102; 1964: 30, 32, 97; 1981: 73; 1982: 50.

Cross Reference: Regs. 43.140, 43.180, 43.181, 47.010, 48.010, 48.020.

Reg. 43.171. *Chancellors and Their Duties.* Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1983: 23, 55-56; 1985: 73.

Reg. 43.180. *When Lodge Fails to Act.* If the Grand Master shall be of the opinion that there has been a neglect or failure to act on the part of a subordinate Lodge with reference to charges of un-Masonic conduct or other offenses under the Penal Code, and that the charges are of such importance as to merit the action of the Grand Lodge, he shall notify the accused of such conclusion by registered mail at his last known address and furnish him a copy of the charges. He shall then appoint a Trial Commission and the same proceedings shall be had and with like effect as provided in Reg. 43.170.

Historical Reference: 1960: 48, 102.

Cross Reference: Reg. 43.040, 43.181, 48.050.

Reg. 43.181. *Grand Master May Determine Jurisdiction.*

(a) The fact of whether or not a subordinate Lodge has failed or neglected to enforce Masonic discipline so as to give the Grand Master jurisdiction, is a question for the Grand Master and his decision thereon is conclusive. In this respect he may adopt his own method of inquiry, first giving notice of the charges to the accused and to the alleged delinquent Lodge, that they may be heard and herein the Grand Master may exercise a broad discretion that the general interest of the Craft may be served.

(b) If the Grand Master shall decide that there has not been such neglect or failure, or if he shall be of the opinion that the charges, even though technically an offense, are not of sufficient importance to merit the action of the Grand Lodge, he may dismiss the same.

(c) The Grand Master may order a trial to be held in the subordinate Lodge or, if in his opinion the circumstances warrant, in the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1960: 48, 102.

Cross Reference: Regs. 43.040, 43.180, 48.050.

CHAPTER 44

MASONIC TRIALS: HOW CONDUCTED

Reg. 44.010. *Trial: On What Degree.*

(a) When the Lodge is convened for the purpose of trial, it shall be opened on the highest degree to which the accused has attained. If he be an Entered Apprentice, or a Fellow Craft such hearing and consideration shall be in a Lodge to which accused belongs, but the final vote on charges must be held in a Master Mason's Lodge.

(b) After all evidence is heard, the Lodge of Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft must be closed and a Master Mason's Lodge opened to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Approved Decisions

44.010-1. *Recording Equipment.* Recording equipment may be used in a Masonic trial in lieu of shorthand reporter; *Provided*, that no recording be made of (1) opening or closing of Lodge, (2) any discussion relating to ritual, (3) any data or information that could not be put in writing or print under conditions of obligations of the Fraternity. 1953: 119, 161.

44.010-2. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 44.020. *Who Presides at Trial.*

(a) It is the duty of the Worshipful Master to preside over the trial unless he is materially interested or of close relation to the accused or the accuser, but if for good and sufficient reason he deems it advisable, he may call some competent Actual Past Master to preside, who shall see that the proper pleas of not guilty are entered for the accused and the trial is properly conducted.

(b) The Past Master called to preside may be affiliated with any Indiana Lodge. If no such Past Master is available, the Grand Master may appoint some other qualified Brother to preside.

Historical Reference: 1874: 95-96; 1878: 17; 1888: 37; 1893: 22, 65; 1894: 8; 1903: 67; 1925: 69, 221; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

44.020-1. *W.M. Not Disqualified.* W.M. is not disqualified from voting on findings in case. But should case so arise where W.M. is party in interest, his good sense should not only induce him to retire from chair during trial, but also to refrain from voting. 1874: 95-96; 1878: 17; 1888: 37.

Reg. 44.030. *Worshipful Master Decides Questions Raised.* The Worshipful Master shall decide as to the admissibility of all testimony offered, and all points of law and order which may be raised.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123.

Approved Decisions

44.030-1. *Can Be Postponed.* W.M. can postpone or continue trial when asked for by prosecution if good cause is shown. 1899: 21, 83.

44.030-2. *Time Limit For Testimony.* When prosecution has rested its case, and defense has introduced his testimony, and examination is closed, prosecution cannot, on discovering it has omitted part of its testimony in chief, ask to put it in. It is clearly too late. 1872: 55.

Reg. 44.040. *Plea of Guilty*

(a) Should the accused appear and plead guilty to the charges and specifications, no further evidence is necessary unless the accused wishes to offer evidence in mitigation of the offense. This shall be permitted by the Worshipful Master, after which he shall permit the introduction of evidence in rebuttal and shall then cause the accused to retire, and the Lodge shall then proceed to fix the penalty.

(b) A Brother cannot be convicted on a plea of guilty entered by another without his knowledge or consent.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1893: 80-81; 1899: 17, 83; 1903: 67; 1909: 79, 229; 1928: 115, 188, 194; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

44.040-1. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

44.040-2. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

44.040-3. *Only Accused Should Enter Plea.* Whether or not accused is present at trial, plea of guilty should not be entered by anyone other than accused, but if accused so desires, Lodge, when convened for trial, should permit him to submit in writing a signed statement admitting facts upon which charges and specifications are based. 1952: 92.

Reg. 44.050. *Plea in Absence of Accused.* Before proceeding to trial in the absence of the accused and after reading the charges, a plea of not guilty must be entered upon the records.

Editorial Note: This section does not apply to and must not be confused with the procedures set forth in Reg. 37.080. *Procedure, Non-Payment of Dues.*

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Approved Decisions

44.050-1. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

44.050-2. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specification was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

44.050-3. *Only Accused Should Enter Plea.* Whether or not accused is present at trial, plea of guilty should not be entered by anyone other than accused, but if accused so desires, Lodge, when convened for trial, should permit him to submit in writing a signed statement admitting facts upon which charges and specifications are based. 1952: 92.

44.050-4. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 44.060. *When Accused Fails to Appear.*

(a) At the time set for trial, if the accused fails to appear in person or by counsel, the Worshipful Master must make due inquiry and be satisfied that the accused had been lawfully served in time with notice of the charges, specifications and time of trial.

(b) Should the Worshipful Master find that the accused has not been so served, then the case must be continued to some future time, or should the accused have absconded before notice was served, the case may be continued.

(c) Under either circumstance, the Worshipful Master must appoint some competent Brother to appear for the accused, whose duty shall be to preserve to the accused every Masonic right under the law, and the Worshipful Master must hear and decide upon the case as though the accused were present.

Editorial Note: This section does not apply to and must not be confused with the procedures set forth in Reg. 37.080. *Procedure, Non-Payment of Dues.*

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Approved Decisions

44.060-1. *Can Be Postponed.* W.M. can postpone or continue trial when asked for by prosecution if good cause is shown. 1899: 21, 83. After indefinite postponement, accused is entitled to another notice of time and place of trial. 1856: 22-23.

44.060-2. *Refusal To Attend.* Lodge has no authority to charge, try or expel Brother for refusing to be present at his own trial, nor is he guilty of un-Masonic conduct for thus refusing to attend. 1854: 51-52.

44.060-3. *Right To Be Present.* Right to be present at trial of charges against one, and to answer same in person, has always been deemed so well founded as to demand respect of all tribunals. If illness of accused will prevent his presence at hearing and thereby bar him from testifying in his own behalf and of facing his accuser, proper showing of fact has ever been deemed ground for continuance, both in courts of law and in Masonic usage. Having done otherwise, W.M., deprived accused of one of his most substantial rights. 1927: 170-171.

44.060-4. *When Objection Is Waived.* Where accused appears and enters upon trial without objecting to filing of charges and specifications at other than stated meeting or that notice of time of trial was not served, nor names of witnesses set forth or that no notice was given of time, place and person before whom written evidence would be taken, he is held, on appeal, to have waived such objections. 1871: 37-38, 40; 1872: 43-44.

44.060-5. *In Good Standing Until Sentenced.* Mere fact that charges have been preferred against Brother does not deprive him of his standing or rights and privileges as Mason. 1890: 85; 1896: 76-77.

44.060-6. *Presumption of Innocence.* Brother under charges is always presumed to be innocent until he is proven guilty, and duty and responsibility of seeing that he is not convicted until such proof is made rests wholly upon his counsel, who should not forget his Brother's welfare and should make effort to see that he has fair trial. 1876: 32, 127; 1901: 93.

44.060-7. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

44.060-8. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

44.060-9. *Unable To Be Present.* If accused is unable to be present at his trial it shall be proper for W.M., as courtesy to accused and upon written request by accused or when requested by accused's counsel, to grant postponement of trial for short period of time, but not to exceed 90 days. 1962: 84, 131.

44.060-10. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 44.070. *When Notice Is Sufficient.* When a notice of the time and place of trial, accompanied by copy of charges with the names of the witnesses attached, is delivered to the accused in person or by registered letter addressed to his last known place of residence, it is sufficient notification of the time of trial and the trial may proceed in the absence of the accused.

Historical Reference: 1907: 35, 136; 1925: 40, 216; 1951: 93.

Reg. 44.080. *Who May Act as Counsel.* Repealed. 1875: 123; 1985: 74.

Editorial Note: All approved decisions formerly annotated under Reg. 44.080 remain in effect and will be annotated under Reg. 43.005 as decisions under previous law. Reg. 43.005 does not alter applicability of any of these decisions.

Approved Decisions

44.080-1. *May Waive Right of Counsel.* To be represented by counsel is right guaranteed to every Mason when put upon trial. But Brother may waive this right and he does waive it if he proceeds to trial without raising any objection to proceeding with trial in absence of counsel. 1886: 42.

44.080-2. *When Objection Not Valid.* Any M.M. who is member in good standing of any Lodge in this jurisdiction can act as counsel for M.M. at trial in any Lodge in this State. Objection by member of Lodge holding trial to sitting in Lodge with said counsel should not be entertained by W.M. in so far as actual business of trial is concerned, but objections should be held valid at all other business transactions at said meeting, except that of actual trial. No M.M. can act as counsel who holds his membership in some Lodge outside jurisdiction of G.L. of Indiana. 1913: 40, 178. See Reg. 36.040.

Reg. 44.090. *Attendance of Witnesses.* The attendance of witnesses on either side, if Masons, may be enforced by a summons which shall be issued by the Secretary when ordered by the Worshipful Master or asked for by the accused or complainant.

Historical Reference: 1928: 115, 188, 194.

Cross Reference: Approved Decision 44.060-2; Form 31.

Approved Decisions

44.090-1. *Can Be Postponed.* W.M. can postpone or continue trial when asked for by prosecution if good cause is shown. 1899: 21, 83. After indefinite postponement, accused is entitled to another notice of time and place of trial. 1856: 22-23.

44.090-2. *When Notice Is Sufficient.* If all interested parties, including accused, were present on date fixed for trial, and cause was then continued to future date, of which action all parties had notice, second notice to accused to appear on date to which hearing was continued is not contemplated nor required, although not improper. 1931: 32, 163.

44.090-3. *What Request Should Show.* Request for continuance on account of absence of witness must show that such witness is in possession of facts material to interest of party asking continuance. 1879: 52.

44.090-4. *Additional Witnesses.* Other witnesses than those named in charges may be called and examined by prosecution. 1895: 24, 118.

44.090-5. *Witnesses Not Named.* Witnesses not named in charge are competent to testify at trial, but accused may ask for postponement to enable him to meet their testimony. 1891: 69, 71-72.

44.090-6. *Absence of Quorum.* When summons has been issued and no quorum is present at time designated for meeting and consequently no meeting is held, trial must be set for another time and new summons must be issued and served. 1889: 86.

44.090-7. *Objection to Attendance.* Where accused objected to Brother remaining in Lodge during trial, such Brother being there as witness, G.L. sustained W.M. in ruling that Brother had right to remain. 1888: 42. See Reg. 36.040.

44.090-8. *Must Obey Summons.* Mason, wherever he may be, who is summoned to appear before Lodge as witness and refuses to obey such summons, should be charged, tried and punished for such offense. 1884: 67-68. See Approved Decision 44.060-2.

44.090-9. *Recording Equipment.* Recording equipment may be used in a Masonic trial in lieu of shorthand reporter; *Provided*, that no recording be made of (1) opening or closing of Lodge, (2) any discussion relating to ritual, (3) any data or information that could not be put in writing or print under conditions of obligations of Fraternity. 1953: 119, 161.

Reg. 44.100. *Accused May Testify.* The accused shall be a competent witness, but shall not be required to testify unless he shall first offer himself.

Historical Reference: 1928: 115, 189, 194.

Approved Decisions

44.100-1. *Recording Equipment.* Recording equipment may be used in Masonic trial in lieu of shorthand reporter; *Provided*, that no recording be made of (1) opening or closing of Lodge, (2) any discussion relating to ritual, (3) any data or information that could not be put in writing or print under conditions of obligations of Fraternity. 1953: 119, 161.

Reg. 44.110. *Non-Resident Witnesses.* When a witness is a non-resident and cannot attend in person before the Lodge or committee, his evidence may be taken before a Master, Warden or Secretary of any Lodge within whose jurisdiction the witness may reside, upon written interrogatories prepared by the Lodge, the accused or committee, which shall be submitted to the opposing party to enable him to prepare cross interrogatories if desired. No further notice shall be necessary, and all other proceedings shall conform to existing provisions.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Approved Decisions

44.110-1. *No Ex Parte Evidence.* *Ex parte* affidavits cannot be introduced as evidence against accused in Masonic trial. 1907: 35, 71.

44.110-2. *Recording Equipment.* Recording equipment may be used in Masonic trial in lieu of shorthand reporter; *Provided*, that no recording be made of (1) opening or closing of Lodge, (2) any discussion relating to ritual, (3) any data or information that could not be put in writing or print under conditions of obligations of Fraternity. 1953: 119, 161.

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CHAPTER 45

MASONIC TRIALS: EVIDENCE

Reg. 45.010. *Evidence of Witnesses Unable to Attend.* The evidence of Masons who may be unable to attend the trial and of persons who are not members of the Fraternity, shall be taken in writing by the committee appointed by the Worshipful Master. If possible, due notice of the time and place of taking such testimony must be given to the opposite party in person or by counsel.

Historical Reference: 1928: 116, 189, 194.

Cross Reference: Form 32.

Approved Decisions

45.010-1. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

45.010-2. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

45.010-3. *Use of Depositions.* Should new trial be granted, original depositions may again be used if applicable to pending charges. 1925: 44, 215.

45.010-4. *No Ex Parte Evidence.* *Ex parte* affidavits cannot be introduced as evidence against accused in Masonic trial. 1907: 35, 71.

Reg. 45.020. *Report of Committee to Take Testimony.* The committee appointed to take testimony of Masons who are unable to attend, and of profanes, shall meet according to notice given and take the testimony of the witnesses, reduce the same in writing and report their doings to the Lodge before the trial of the cause.

Historical Reference: 1928: 116, 189, 194.

Cross Reference: Form 33.

Reg. 45.030. *Rules of Evidence.* The rules of evidence shall be, as far as applicable, the same as in courts of law, except that no oath or affirmation shall be required of a Mason.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1903: 67.

Approved Decisions

45.030-1. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

45.030-2. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

45.030-3. *No Hearsay Evidence.* Hearsay evidence, being statements of third parties, made out of presence of defendant, ought not to be received by Lodge. 1889: 43-44.

45.030-4. *Evidence in Mitigation.* When evidence in mitigation of an offense is admitted with plea of guilty, evidence in rebuttal can be introduced. 1909: 79-80, 229-230.

45.030-5. *Amended Charges.* Instead of moving to strike out specification, motion should be made to make it more definite. If no charge and specification is on file, accused would be entitled to dismissal, but even when defective charge and specification is on file, he can lawfully ask for and is entitled to amended and perfect charge and specification; but if he refuses to make motion that he ought to make before his Lodge, and goes to trial and is expelled, even on defective specification, it is too late to ask G.L. favors he did not ask in his Lodge. 1890: 80-81; 1891: 68, 70; 1892: 66; 1893: 85.

45.030-6. *Recording Equipment.* Recording equipment may be used in Masonic trial in lieu of shorthand reporter; *Provided*, that no recording be made of (1) opening or closing of Lodge, (2) any discussion relating to ritual, (3) any data or information that could not be put in writing or print under conditions of obligations of Fraternity. 1953: 119, 161.

45.030-7. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 45.040. *Privileged Communication.* No Mason can be permitted to testify as to any matter communicated to him under the privilege of a Mason or through professional confidence.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Reg. 45.050. *Court Record as Evidence.* When one has been charged with criminal offense and has been convicted of the same in a court of law, a certified copy of the court records in said cause shall be competent evidence and the Lodge shall consider it together with all the other evidence in the case.

Historical Reference: 1884: 47; 1889: 43; 1928: 115, 189, 194; 1931: 33, 163.

Cross Reference: Reg. 43.060, 43.090.

Approved Decisions

45.050-1. *Other Affidavits.* Affidavits used in trial against another Brother cannot be used again in Masonic trial against different person. 1894: 80.

45.050-2. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

45.050-3. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

45.050-4. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 45.060. Order of Evidence at Trial.

(a) The accuser shall first introduce all the evidence to sustain the material allegations of the charges; then the accused shall introduce the evidence to disprove the charges or in mitigation of the offense; then the accuser may offer evidence in rebuttal, and here the evidence must close.

(b) The object of the trial is to get facts, and the greatest latitude should be allowed in receiving evidence, ever keeping in mind that the rights of each side must be respected.

Historical Reference: 1928: 116, 189, 194.

Approved Decisions

45.060-1. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

45.060-2. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

45.060-3. *Recording Equipment.* Recording equipment may be used in Masonic trial in lieu of shorthand reporter; *Provided*, that no recording be made of (1) opening or closing of Lodge, (2) any discussion relating to ritual, (3) any data or information that could not be put in writing or print under conditions of obligations of Fraternity. 1953: 119, 161.

45.060-4. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 45.070. Evidence Must Be Preserved. All the evidence given at the trial must be reduced to writing and be preserved by the Secretary.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67; 1957: 32, 85.

Cross Reference: Form 7.

Approved Decisions

45.070-1. *Record Is Important.* Committee on Grievances and Appeals, in examining cases that come before them, find very grave inaccuracies in records sent up by Secretaries of Lodges. Frequently very important matters that come before Lodges in trial of Masonic offenses are omitted from records, which if supplied committee, would enable them to arrive at correct conclusions, and frequently different results. Every Mason who feels aggrieved at decision of his Lodge is entitled to be heard, and when he gives proper notice of appeal in good faith, it is duty of W.M. to afford him every facility for such appeal by copy of records and papers. Secretaries should record rulings of W.M. in all cases on trial, and these records on appeal should be as full as possible. 1889: 48.

CHAPTER 46

MASONIC TRIALS: ARGUMENT, FINDING AND JUDGMENT

Reg. 46.010. *Argument and Finding.* Immediately after the evidence is presented and the accuser and the accused by themselves or counsel, have had the opportunity of being heard, the prosecution having the right to open and close the argument, the accused shall retire from the Lodge Room, when the Lodge, if not already so, must be opened on the Master Mason degree, and the ballot held on the guilt or innocence of the accused.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Cross Reference: Regs. 46.040; S.R. 50.010.

Approved Decisions

46.010-1. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 46.020. *Vote on Charge or Penalties.* A vote on the investigation of charges or to inflict or remove a penalty must be by ball and cube ballot, and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to find guilty or to affix or remove the penalty.

Historical Reference: 1876: 130; 1882: 39, 72, 136; 1912: 39, 103.

Cross Reference: Reg. 46.030(c); S.R. 50.010.

Approved Decisions

46.020-1. *Tie Vote.* Tie Vote is not majority vote. 1840 Hacker: 338; 1907: 34; 1942: 37.

Reg. 46.030. *Accused Cannot Vote.* The accused cannot be allowed to vote on any question growing out of the case, and when the vote is to be taken as to guilt or innocence, or on fixing the penalty, he shall be required to retire from the Lodge Room.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Revised May 2009

Reg. 46.040. Voting.

(a) The Worshipful Master should submit to the Lodge as to each specification: "Is the accused guilty as charged in specification first?" and the ball and cube ballot shall then and there be taken, and every member should be required to vote, unless excused by unanimous vote of the Lodge; and if a majority be black, the Worshipful Master shall declare the accused guilty as charged in specification first; then, if there is a second specification, the Worshipful Master shall submit this: "Is the accused guilty as charged in specification second?" The ballot is spread the same as in first specification, and so on until each specification is separately disposed of.

(b) The Worshipful Master should then announce the result as the ballots indicate on each specification and make finding and judgment accordingly.

(c) Should the vote result in a tie, it is an acquittal.

Historical Reference: 1872: 64-65, 85; 1873: 60-61; 1874: 67-68, 78, 82; 1876: 28, 90, 130; 1879: 50; 1891: 53; 1898: 72; 1903: 67; 1912: 39, 103; 1951: 93.

Approved Decisions

46.040-1. *Separate Ballot.* Separate ballot must be taken upon each specific charge. 1872: 48, 70-71; 1898: 67-68, 75-76.

46.040-2. *Should Hear Evidence.* While it may be right of every member present at conclusion of trial to vote, no member should vote who has not heard all evidence. It is matter of conscience which should be suggested to members by W.M., and any member requesting it for this reason should be excused from voting. 1879: 22-23, 72.

46.040-3. *May Not Withdraw or Dismiss Finding.* Lodge, after trial conviction and suspension of member for un-Masonic conduct, may not, at subsequent stated meeting, by majority vote withdraw or dismiss such finding of guilty. 1964: 98, 129.

46.040-4. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 46.050. Penalty.

(a) If the accused is found guilty as charged in one or more of the specifications excepting conviction for a criminal offense under Reg. 43.060, the Lodge shall fix one of the penalties which are:

1. Expulsion;
2. Suspension indefinitely; (See Reg. 43.060(c))
3. Suspension for a definite time;
4. Reprimand.

In cases arising under Reg. 43.060(d), a Mason who has been or shall hereafter be convicted of a criminal offense greater than a misdemeanor that constitutes a crime of moral turpitude or who shall plead guilty thereto in a court of competent jurisdiction, of a criminal offense in connection therewith, shall be eligible for only one of the penalties, namely, expulsion.

Historical Reference: 1872: 64-65, 85; 1873: 60-61; 1874: 68, 78, 82; 1876: 90, 130; 1879: 50; 1891: 53; 1895: 96-97; 1898: 72; 1928: 116, 190, 194; 1951: 93; 1972: 87; 2009: 110-112, 138.

Approved Decisions

46.050-1. *Must Vote at Once.* Lodge having found Brother guilty of charges must vote immediately on penalty. Vote on penalty at meeting subsequent to time of trial renders trial illegal and void. 1930: 46, 213.

46.050-2. *No Vote on NPD Penalty.* At trial for NPD, after Lodge has balloted and found defendant guilty, no ballot shall be taken on penalty. Law prescribes penalty for this particular offense and when results of ballot finding him guilty is announced, defendant should be declared indefinitely suspended. 1895: 96.

46.050-3. *Must Convict on Specific Charge.* It is not within province of Lodge to try Brother upon one specific charge, and then find him guilty and inflict penalty for another different offense. 1886: 43.

46.050-4. *Cannot Be Tried Again.* Brother once acquitted cannot be tried again for same offense unless new trial has been regularly ordered according to law. 1895: 25, 118; 1931: 33, 163.

46.050-5. *Reprimand.* Sentence of reprimand does not destroy rights of membership, but refusal to submit may be followed by charges and trial for disobedience. Where appeal is taken from sentence, before reprimand is delivered, further proceedings are thereby stayed until G.L. passes upon such appeal. 1876: 31-32, 127.

46.050-6. *Minor Offense.* Severest penalty known to Masonry should not be inflicted on Brother for mere misdemeanor. 1898: 73.

46.050-7. *May Not Withdraw or Dismiss Finding.* Lodge, after trial conviction and suspension of member for un-Masonic conduct, may not, at subsequent meeting, by majority vote withdraw or dismiss such finding of guilty. 1964: 98, 129.

46.050-8. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1997: 50, 58.; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 46.060. *Suspension - Time.* Should definite suspension be decided upon, the time may be fixed, upon motion, but the longest time proposed must be voted upon first.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Reg. 46.070. *Finding and Judgment.* If it be the sense of the Lodge that the accused be expelled or suspended, as the case may be, the Worshipful Master shall so make the declaration upon the result of the ballot, which declaration may be as follows: "I hereby declare that Brother _____ be and is hereby expelled (or suspended) from all the rights and benefits of Masonry."

Historical Reference: 1903: 67.

Reg. 46.080. *Result of Ballot - Vote Declared.* The result of the ballot upon each specification, and upon the penalty, shall be recorded by the Secretary in regular order, giving the number of votes cast for "guilty" and for "not guilty" and also for the different grades of punishment.

Historical Reference: 1901: 94; 1928: 117, 191, 194.

Reg. 46.090. *Notice of Judgment Within Ten Days.* After the trial, finding and judgment, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Lodge to notify the accused, and if he is a member of some other Lodge to also notify the Lodge of which he is a member, of the charge, trial, finding and judgment within ten days after the trial.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67; 1980: 72.

Cross Reference: Forms 27, 34-35.

Reg. 46.100. *Effect of Suspension or Expulsion.*

(a) The suspension or expulsion of a Mason precludes, for the time the sentence is in effect, all Masonic intercourse, privileges and benefits whatsoever.

(b) The sentence becomes effective immediately when judgment of the Lodge is pronounced and is in force until it is set aside by the Grand Lodge, or until a new trial is granted or he is reinstated or restored to the condition of a non-affiliate by the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1842 Hacker: 357; 1928: 117, 191, 194.

Revised 2010

Approved Decisions

46.100-1. *Should Not Return to Lodge.* If vote of Lodge suspends or expels Brother, he should not be permitted to return to Lodge Room after vote has been announced. 1892: 14, 59.

46.100-2. *Privileges Withdrawn.* Suspended Mason can claim no protection from a Lodge. 1869: 74.

46.100-3. *May Not Withdraw or Dismiss Finding.* Lodge, after trial, conviction and suspension of member for un-Masonic conduct, may not, at subsequent stated meeting, by majority vote withdraw or dismiss such finding of guilty. 1964: 98, 129.

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CHAPTER 47

NEW TRIALS

Reg. 47.010. *New Trial.* A new trial may be granted by the Lodge or Trial Commission that tried the case, when a member has been suspended or expelled in the following cases, and upon the following conditions:

(a) Having been suspended or expelled for disobeying a summons, at the investigation of which the accused was not present.

(b) Upon newly discovered evidence, which would indicate, with reasonable certainty, a change in the finding of the Lodge.

(c) Where the finding of a Lodge is contrary to the evidence and Masonic Law and usage, or the penalty inadequate or excessive.

Historical Reference: 1875: 123; 1886: 41; 1960: 48, 102.

Approved Decisions

47.010-1. *Prosecuting Witness May Request.* Prosecuting witness in Masonic trial is entitled to ask for new trial, and to appeal to G.L. from decision by Lodge refusing to grant such new trial. 1893: 81-82.

47.010-2. *Lodge Has Jurisdiction.* Until appeal is taken to G.L., subordinate Lodge has exclusive control of case, and for good cause may grant new trial. 1874: 90.

47.010-3. *Time Limit for Continuance.* In new trial on amended charges, continuance with permission to prosecution to amend its charges and specifications cannot be granted after prosecution has rested its case. 1897: 23, 80.

47.010-4. *May Not Be Tried Twice.* Brother once acquitted cannot be tried for same offense unless new trial has been regularly ordered according to law. 1895: 25, 118; 1931: 33, 163.

47.010-5. *When Specification is Withdrawn.* Where specification has been withdrawn at first trial, in new trial no evidence can be introduced on it, and no vote taken as to guilt or innocence of accused on that specification. 1873: 58.

47.010-6. *May Not Read Former Evidence.* It was improper, over objection of accused, to introduce and read evidence taken orally in Lodge at former trial, and reduced to writing by Secretary, when all witnesses (except one dead) might have again introduced in person and examined before Lodge, or their testimony taken by committee, after due notice to accused and accuser. New trial should be re-examination of such facts as parties desire to introduce pertinent to issues. No new charges and specifications are necessary, but new trial, if granted, should begin after entry of plea of not guilty and proceed as if no former trial had taken place. 1873: 57-58; 1876: 32, 127.

47.010-7. *Must Enter Plea.* Unless plea of guilty or not guilty is entered and evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications is presented to Lodge, trial is not valid. 1953: 25, 114.

47.010-8. *May Order Valid Trial.* G.M. is justified in ordering valid and actual trial where, in so-called previous trial, no plea was made by accused and no evidence of facts alleged in charges and specifications was presented to Lodge. 1953: 26, 114.

47.010-9. *No Speaker Systems.* Repealed. 1962: 84, 131; 1976: 60, 72, 82; 1977: 50, 58; 1978: 16, 85; 1998: 90-95.

Reg. 47.020. *Motion for New Trial.* Motion for a new trial must be in writing and contain the causes upon which the motion is founded, and be presented within ninety days after the accused is informed of the action in the case.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67; 1927: 36, 169.

Cross Reference: Form 36.

Reg. 47.030. *Request for New Trial Made to Lodge.* All motions for new trial must be addressed to the Lodge having taken jurisdiction over the trial. If a Lodge trial was had, the motion shall be presented at a stated meeting and ordered to lie over until the next stated meeting when it may be taken up and disposed of. If the trial be by Trial Commission, the Lodge shall refer the motion for a new trial to the Trial Commission for a ruling on the motion. It then becomes the duty of the Trial Commission to notify the Lodge promptly of its ruling whereupon it is the duty of the Lodge to notify its members of the Commission's ruling as provided for in Reg. 46.090.

Historical Reference: 1903: 67; 1973: 71-72.

Approved Decisions

47.030-1. *Status of Accused.* When new trial is granted, judgment of guilt is set aside, and defendant is just where he was before trial was had. 1876: 32, 127; 1893: 81-82; 1925: 44, 215.

47.030-2. *Depositions May Be Used.* Where, upon appeal, case is remanded for new trial, accused stands, with reference to Lodge, as he did after charges were preferred before first trial. Depositions taken to be used at first trial can be used in second trial. Record of evidence of witnesses at first trial who are now deceased may be introduced. 1873: 18-19, 65.

Reg. 47.040. *Disposition of Trial Records.* After the completion of the trial and the ruling on a motion for a new trial, if there be any, the Secretary of the Lodge shall promptly transmit all transcripts, recordings, and items of evidence of the trial proceedings to the Grand Secretary for preservation.

Historical Reference: 1980: 72.

CHAPTER 48

APPEALS

Reg. 48.010. *Appeal to Grand Master or Grand Lodge.* An appeal may be made in the following manner:

(a) A motion for a new trial must be made to the Lodge or Trial Commission which tried the case. When trial by Trial Commission was had, the motion for a new trial shall be made to the Lodge and referred by the Lodge to the Trial Commission for ruling. It shall then be the duty of the Trial Commission to notify the Lodge promptly of its ruling, whereupon, upon receipt of the Commission's ruling, the Lodge shall notify its members of the Commission's ruling as provided for in Reg. 46.090.

(b) Should a new trial be refused, an appeal may be taken to the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge when, for good cause shown, a new trial may be granted by the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge;

(c) *Provided*, that to vindicate Masonic justice or to preserve the good name of the Fraternity, the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master may order a direct appeal to the Grand Lodge and a new trial in Grand Lodge, which has complete and final authority in all Masonic matters;

(d) and *Provided, further*, that any appeal to the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge must be made within one year from the date of the last decision.

Historical Reference: 1928: 118, 191, 194; 1931: 29, 163; 1960: 48, 102; 1973: 71-72.

Cross Reference: Chapter 47.

Reg. 48.020. *Who May Appeal.*

(a) The decision of a Lodge or of a Trial Commission resulting from a Masonic trial may be appealed to the Grand Lodge by the accused, the accuser, or by the Lodge or Lodges concerned. Also, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in his sole discretion, may order the decision to be forthwith referred to the Grand Lodge for review and such further action as the Grand Lodge may order.

(b) Any appeal must be made to the Grand Master or to the Grand Lodge or to the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction to which the Lodge or Trial Commission which tried the case is subordinate.

Historical Reference: 1879: 71; 1903: 67; 1927: 35, 151; 1931: 31, 163; 1951: 93; 1960: 49, 102; 1972: 86.

Cross Reference: Reg. 47.010, 48.010.

Approved Decisions

48.020-1. *Prosecuting Witness May Request.* Prosecuting witness in Masonic trial is entitled to ask for new trial, and to appeal to G.L. for decision by Lodge refusing to grant such new trial. 1893: 81-82.

48.020-2. *Right of Appeal.* Right of appeal to higher tribunal, upon merits of case, is a most sacred right indeed. It is principle of right that goes to very foundation of all governments, civil or Masonic and should never be restricted. 1872: 82.

48.020-3. *G.L. Judgment Final.* Finding and judgment by G.L. on appeal is final. No rehearing may be had at subsequent meeting. 1923: 212. Over penalty adjudged by subordinate Lodge, G.L. has jurisdiction, and can set aside and change or modify such penalty. 1892: 72, 93, 106; 1893: 78.

48.020-4. *When Judgment Is Reversed.* When judgment of subordinate Lodge is reversed by G.L. on merits of case, the case is not thereby remanded for new trial unless so ordered by G.L., but defendant is restored to all rights and privileges he possessed before proceedings were originally instituted against him in Lodge. 1874: 90.

48.020-5. *What Transcript Must Show.* G.L. can summarily dismiss appeal where transcript fails to show that notice was given to Lodge of intention of appeal, or that appellant at any time made application for new trial. 1898: 65.

48.020-6. *Death of Appellant.* Notice of death of appellant (the accused) during pendency of appeal of G.L., must operate as dismissal of said appeal. 1872: 86.

48.020-7. *Limitation of Appeal.* No appeal can be taken from action of Lodge in concurring in report of committee appointed to investigate supposed un-Masonic conduct of Brother. 1853: 37.

Reg. 48.030. *Appeal in Writing.* The appeal shall be made in writing and contain a statement of the case, the exception taken to the decision or judgment appealed from, and the ground upon which the same is based.

Historical Reference: 1882: 38, 72, 136.

Cross Reference: Form 37.

Reg. 48.040. *Duty of Secretary on Appeal.* Notice of appeal having been given to the Lodge in writing, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to make out an attested copy of all the charges and specifications, papers, proceedings and evidence in the case and forward them immediately to the Grand Secretary; *Provided*, that if the records of such appeal are not filed in the office of the Grand Secretary at least ten days before the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, the appeal may be continued to the following annual meeting.

Historical Reference: 1872: 43; 1882: 38, 72, 136; 1903: 67.

Cross Reference: Form 7.

Approved Decisions

48.040-1. *Importance of Transcript.* Only justification Lodge can have on appeal for infliction of penalty is evidence copied and preserved, because in absence of evidence copied into record of Lodge and transcribed into appeal, G.L. must necessarily conclude that no such evidence was given. 1890: 85; 1892: 68.

Reg. 48.050. *Original Jurisdiction of Grand Lodge.* The Grand Lodge has original jurisdiction of all Masonic offenses of which subordinate Lodges have no jurisdiction and of all offenses of which subordinate Lodges have jurisdiction but fail, through neglect or otherwise, to administer Masonic Laws and Masonic Justice. (See Constitution, Article XV, Sections 2, 3, 7 and 9.) The Grand Lodge, acting on its own authority, or the Grand Master when Grand Lodge is not in session, may order trials to be held in Lodges, either by the Lodge involved or by a Trial Commission and may, when necessary, generally supervise the conduct of all Masonic trials.

Historical Reference: 1960: 46, 102; 1992: 50.

Cross Reference: Sec. 2.010 (f); Reg. 43.040, 43.080, 43.140, 43.170, 43.180, 43.181.

CHAPTER 49

RESTORATION

Reg. 49.010. *Restoration by Expiration of Time.* The expiration of the time for which a Brother stands suspended will restore him to all the rights and privileges which he possessed before trial.

Historical Reference: 1822 Hacker: 99; 1875: 123.

Approved Decisions

49.010-1. *Restoration of E.A. or F.C.* Restoring an E.A. or F.C. who has been suspended restores him to original standing, and Lodge can confer remaining degrees. 1899: 17, 83.

49.010-2. *Verdict Must Be Unconditional.* Lodge cannot make finding and affix penalty of suspension for 25 years against accused, with proviso that if at any time during that period, accused shall make restitution to person he is charged with having wronged, he shall stand reinstated. 1893: 83.

Reg. 49.020. *Restoration of One Suspended for Non-Payment of Dues.* To restore to membership one who has been suspended for non-payment of dues it is required:

- (a) The payment of all his indebtedness to the Lodge.
- (b) The filing of his written petition for such restoration, which petition shall be presented at a stated meeting and be referred to an Investigating Committee.
- (c) A unanimous favorable vote by ball and cube ballot to be taken following the report of the Investigating Committee at a stated meeting at least four weeks after the petition is presented; *Provided*, that a majority vote by ball and cube ballot will be sufficient if such petition for restoration is presented within six months from date of suspension.
- (d) If the vote is not unanimously favorable, or majority favorable if appropriate, the Lodge shall grant the petitioner a demit if no charges are pending.
- (e) A restoration program (G.M. recommendation 3-03) was given a trial period and officially made a part of these regulations at the 2010 Annual Communication (G.M. recommendation 1-10). The following procedures are optional and may be followed by vote of the Lodge.

1. The Master, Wardens and Secretary shall review the list of members suspended for non-payment of dues who have not restored their membership together with those members that have demitted and have not re-affiliated.

2. The Master, Wardens and Secretary shall discuss which former members should be given an opportunity to restore their membership by use of this program.

3. They shall then compose a "restoration list" to present at the next stated meeting.

Revised May 2013

4. At the stated meeting, the Master or Secretary shall read the names

from the restoration list.

5. The Master shall then open the floor for the purpose of discussing the character of those former members named on the restoration list.

6. If there is an objection to any name on the restoration list, the Secretary shall withdraw the name.

7. If a Brother privately discloses his objection to a name(s) on the restoration list to the Master, then the Master shall see that the name is withdrawn.

8. At a subsequent stated meeting, the Lodge will then ballot on those former members remaining on the restoration list to invite for restoration or re-affiliation.

9. The Lodge shall then contact the former members receiving a unanimous clear ballot notifying them that by paying the current dues, the former member will be restored or re-affiliated to good standing.

10. Preferably a Brother that is acquainted with the former member may make this contact in person. However, if that is not possible, then contact may be made by mail.

Historical Reference: 1899: 19, 83; 1907: 34, 71; 1927: 38, 162; 1928: 118, 191, 194; 1951: 35, 108; 1952: 97, 108; 2003: 38-39, 122; 2010: 37, 40, 129; 2012: 50-53, 166 -167; 2013: 48, 157.

Cross Reference: Reg. 37.080, 49.030, 49.040, 50.010; Form 38.

Approved Decisions

49.020-1. *Right of Lodge.* In rejecting applicant Lodge exercises one of its undoubted rights. 1882 Hacker: 97.

49.020-2. *G.L. May Not Overrule.* G.L. does not possess power to revise decisions of subordinate Lodges in rejection of applicants for initiation or to membership in Lodge. 1857: 56.

49.020-3. *May Not Demand Reasons.* If non-affiliated Mason applying for membership is rejected, he cannot demand reasons therefore. 1882: 34, 81.

49.020-4. *Only One Method.* One suspended for NPD cannot petition for Restoration to Condition of Non-Affiliated Mason under Reg. 49.060. His only remedy is to petition for restoration under Reg. 49.020. 1943: 40, 256.

Reg. 49.030. *Fee for Restoration.* The Lodge may, in its by-laws, provide a fee for restoration.

Historical Reference: 1928: 29, 203; 1951: 93.

Revised May 2012

Reg. 49.040. *Must Retain Amount of Dues.* The Lodge must in all cases

retain the amount of dues owed by the suspended applicant, even though it does not restore said applicant.

Historical Reference: 1903: 39, 98; 1908: 49, 129; 1931: 32, 163; 1945: 29,158; 1946: 54 , 250; 1951: 93.

Reg. 49.050. *Restoration by Remission of Dues.* A Lodge may, by a majority favorable vote by ball and cube ballot, remit the dues for the non-payment of which a member was suspended, and thereby restore him to his former condition or standing in the Lodge, but a petition for such remission must have been received at a stated meeting at least four weeks before, and referred to and reported upon by an Investigating Committee.

Historical Reference: 1928: 119, 192, 194.

Cross Reference: Form 39.

Reg. 49.060. *Restoration to Condition of a Non-Affiliated Mason.*

(a) One who has been expelled or suspended by a Lodge for any other cause than the non-payment of dues, desiring to remove the stigma, shall first petition the Lodge which inflicted the penalty for Restoration to the Condition of a Non-Affiliated Mason.

(b) One who has been expelled or suspended by action of the Grand Master, as provided in Article IX, paragraph (f) of the Grand Lodge Constitution and in Regulation 43.060, may petition the Grand Lodge of Indiana for Restoration to the Condition of a Non-Affiliated Mason, such petition to be considered and determined at its next Annual Communication.

(c) If expelled or suspended by a Lodge, and all his indebtedness to said Lodge to the date of his expulsion or suspension is paid, the Lodge may receive the petition at a stated meeting and refer it to an Investigating Committee for a report at a stated meeting at least four weeks later, after which report the ballot shall be spread and a majority favorable vote by ball and cube shall be required to grant the prayer of the petitioner.

(d) If expelled or suspended by the Grand Master, his petition to Grand Lodge shall be accompanied by a character report made by an Investigating Committee of the Lodge of which he was a member at the time the penalty was inflicted. If the petitioner no longer resides in the community where the Lodge which inflicted the penalty is located, a character report by an Investigating Committee also shall be required from a Lodge at the place of his residence. Grand Lodge may then consider the petition, and a majority favorable vote shall be required to grant the prayer of the petitioner.

Revised 2010

(e) After the initial appeal to Grand Lodge, no petitioner expelled by the

Grand Master can be considered for reinstatement through the Grievance and Appeals Committee of Grand Lodge without first re-petitioning his original Lodge, being investigated, receiving a unanimous favorable ballot from the members of that Lodge and have permission of the Grand Master. The appropriate form for reinstatement must then be submitted to the Grand Lodge Grievance and Appeals Committee and the petitioner must be represented by an elected officer of his Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1869: 62; 1909: 80, 229; 1928: 118, 192, 194; 1949: 30, 202; 1951: 93; 1978: 57; 2001: 50, 146.

Cross Reference: Forms 40 and 40A.

Approved Decisions

49.060-1. *Prerogative of Lodge.* Subject of reinstating expelled Mason belongs exclusively to Lodge which inflicted penalty. 1840 Hacker: 336-337; 1854: 64.

49.060-2. *Right of Lodge.* In rejecting applicant Lodge exercises one of its undoubted rights. 1822 Hacker: 97.

49.060-3. *G.L. May Not Overrule.* G.L. does not possess power to revise decisions of subordinate Lodges in rejection of applicants for initiation or to membership in Lodge. 1857: 56.

49.060-4. *May Not Demand Reasons.* If non-affiliated Mason applying for membership is rejected, he cannot demand reasons therefore. 1882: 34, 81.

49.060-5. *Only One Method.* One suspended for NPD cannot petition for Restoration to Condition of Non-Affiliated Mason under Reg. 49.060. His only remedy is to petition for restoration under Reg. 49.020. 1943: 40, 256.

49.060-6. *Applies to E.A.* Same course of procedure in Restoration to Condition of Non-Affiliated Mason applies to an E.A as to a M.M. He must be restored by unanimous vote, receive Certificate of Restoration to Condition of Non-Affiliate. He then is free to petition Lodge in whose jurisdiction he may reside for remaining degrees. 1938: 35, 256.

49.060-7. *Only One Lodge Can Restore.* Mason expelled or suspended by Lodge in another jurisdiction and (who) during continuance of sentence moves into this jurisdiction, must apply to Lodge that has passed sentence to reinstate him. It is not proper for Lodges in one jurisdiction to restore to Masonic standing and fellowship a Mason who has been expelled or suspended in another jurisdiction. 1859: 39.

Revised 2010

Reg. 49.070. Restoration by Grand Lodge. Anyone who may have been

expelled or indefinitely suspended by a Lodge which has ceased to exist, may be restored to the condition of a non-affiliated Mason by the Grand Lodge; *Provided*, that all petitions to the Grand Lodge for such restoration shall come properly recommended by the Lodge in whose jurisdiction said petitioner may reside, vouching for his moral character and good standing in the community.

Historical Reference: 1928: 118, 192, 194.

Cross Reference: Form 41.

Reg. 49.080. *Certificate of Restoration to Condition of Non-Affiliate.*

When one who has been suspended or expelled is restored to the condition of a non-affiliated Mason, the Secretary of the Lodge or of the Grand Lodge shall immediately furnish him, under seal, with a certificate of the fact, which certificate shall be equivalent to a demit, and as such will require a unanimous ballot for affiliation.

Historical Reference: 1869: 62; 1909: 80, 229; 1928: 119, 192, 194; 1949: 30, 202; 1951: 17, 62, 93.

Cross Reference: Form 42.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE

F. & A. M.

OF INDIANA

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CHAPTER 50

HOW TO TAKE VOTE

S.R. 50.010. *Ball and Cube Ballot.* The official ballot, consisting of white balls and black cubes, must be taken in the following instances:

- (a) Petitions for Degrees (Reg. 29.110). Unanimous vote required.
- (b) Petitions for Affiliation by Demit (Reg. 29.110). Majority vote permitted if petitioner has not demitted more than three years previously and demit is returned to the Lodge which issued it; otherwise, unanimous vote required.
- (c) Petitions for Affiliation by Transfer (Reg. 29.110). Unanimous vote required.
- (d) Petitions for Affiliation on Certificate of Restoration to Condition of Non-Affiliate (Reg. 49.080). Unanimous vote required.
- (e) Waiver of Jurisdiction (Reg. 27.060). Unanimous vote required.
- (f) Guilt or Innocence (Reg. 46.020, 46.040). Majority vote.
- (g) Penalty (Reg. 46.020, 46.050). Majority vote.
- (h) Petitions for Restoration from Suspension for Non-payment of Dues (Reg. 49.020) . Majority vote if petition is presented within six months of date of suspension; otherwise, unanimous vote required.
- (I) To remit the dues of one who has been suspended for non-payment of dues and who is unable to pay same, and thereby restore him to good standing (Reg. 49.050). Majority Vote.
- (j) Petitions for Restoration to Condition of Non-affiliated Mason (Reg. 49.060). Majority vote.

Historical Reference: 1951: 93; 1953: 42, 124; 1954: 52, 99.

Cross Reference: Appendix E.

Approved Decisions

50.010-1. *Tie Vote.* Tie vote is not majority vote. 1840 Hacker: 338; 1907: 34; 1942: 37.

50.010-2. *Member May Vote in His Own Lodge.* Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

Revised 2010

S.R. 50.020. *Voice Vote or Show of Hands.* The vote may be taken by voice or by show of hands in the following instances:

- (a) To grant demit to a Master Mason (Reg. 33.020). Majority vote.
- (b) To grant demit to an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft on his own request (Reg. 33.020). Unanimous vote required.
- (c) To remit dues of a Brother unable to pay (Reg. 37.030). Majority vote.
- (d) To withdraw a petition for the degrees or membership (Reg. 29.070). Majority vote.
- (e) To refuse to receive a petition for the degrees or membership (Reg. 29.030, 32.010). Majority vote.
- (f) To nullify election for Fellow Craft or Master Mason degrees (Reg. 30.020). Majority vote.
- (g) To elect to honorary membership (Reg. 28.040). Majority vote.
- (h) To declare an elective office vacant (Reg. 17. 100). Majority vote.
- (I) To withdraw charges (Reg. 43.150) or grant or refuse a new trial (Reg. 47.030). Majority vote.
- (j) To excuse member from voting (Reg. 6.040, S.R.50.040). Unanimous vote required.
- (k) To grant request of another Lodge to receive a petition for the degrees from one who has been rejected by the Lodge within a period of ninety days (Reg. 26.070). Unanimous vote required.
- (l) To consolidate two Lodges (Reg. 15.010). Ten or more negative votes will prohibit consolidation.
- (m) To surrender charter (Reg. 16.030). Ten or more negative votes will prevent surrender.

Historical Reference: 1951: 93, 100; 1953: 42, 124; 1954: 53, 98. 2010: 37, 41, 131.

Approved Decisions

50.020-1. *Tie Vote.* Tie vote is not majority vote. 1840 Hacker: 338; 1907: 34; 1942: 37.

50.020-2. *Member May Vote in His Own Lodge.* Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

S.R. 50.030. *Paper Ballot.* The ballot shall be used in the election of officers, as provided in Reg. 17.010 and 17.080, and a majority shall be necessary to elect.

Historical Reference: 1951: 93.

Revised 2010

Approved Decisions

50.030-1. *Tie Vote*. Tie vote is not majority vote. 1840 Hacker: 338; 1907: 34; 1942: 37.

50.030-2. *Member May Vote in His Own Lodge*. Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

S.R. 50.040. *All Present Must Vote. Exceptions.* It is the duty of every member to vote upon all questions presented, with the following exceptions:

(a) The Worshipful Master or a Warden presiding as Worshipful Master may, at his discretion, excuse himself on any vote taken by voice or by show of hands.

(b) At the request of a member present, made on his own behalf, he may be excused from voting by unanimous consent of the Lodge in the following two instances.

(1) To vote on guilt or innocence at trial (Reg. 46.040).

(2) To fix a penalty upon finding of guilt at trial (Reg. 46.050).

(c) The Tyler never votes unless he has heard all that has transpired in relation to the matter being voted upon.

Historical Reference: 1892: 100; 1985: 70.

Approved Decisions

50.040-1. *No Proxy Vote*. Absent members may not vote by proxy on purchase of Lodge Hall. 1940: 25, 218.

50.040-2. *M.M. Only May Vote*. No subordinate Lodge shall permit anyone of lower degree than M.M. to vote on any subject coming before Lodge. 1840 Hacker: 338.

50.040-3. *Member May Vote in His Own Lodge*. Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

S.R. 50.050. *Cases Not Enumerated.* In all cases not herein otherwise provided, the vote shall be taken by ayes and nays or by the show of hands, and a majority vote shall decide.

Historical Reference: 1863: 54; 1957: 32, 84.

Approved Decisions

50.050-1. *Tie Vote*. Tie vote is not majority vote. 1840 Hacker: 338; 1907: 34; 1942: 37.

50.050-2. *Member May Vote in His Own Lodge*. Visitor not permitted to vote in Lodge in which he is visiting. 1977: 56, 77.

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CHAPTER 51

AMENDMENTS

S.R. 51.010. *How to Amend.* These rules and regulations may be amended or repealed at any annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, but the motion to amend or repeal must be presented in writing, referred to and reported upon by the Committee on Jurisprudence and then concurred in by a majority of the members present.

Historical Reference: 1928: 119, 193-194.

S.R. 51.020. *Notices to Lodges of Amendments.* The Grand Secretary shall cause to be published annually all amendments, changes, edicts or orders adopted by the Grand Lodge, and shall furnish copies of the same to each subordinate Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1928: 119, 193-194; 1958: 35, 92.

Approved Decisions

51.020-1. *Effective Date.* Amendment to General Regulations becomes effective on date of its adoption unless otherwise provided in amendment. 1945: 28, 160.

S.R. 51.030. *Repealing Clause.* All General Regulations, heretofore adopted, which are in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

Historical Reference: 1951: 93; 1928: 120, 194.

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CHAPTER 52

GRAND LODGE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

S.R. 52.010. *Establishment.* There is hereby established a Grand Lodge Library and Museum for the purpose of the receipt, collection, custody, preservation, display, and exhibit of the books, documents, records, papers, archives, memorabilia, artifacts, paraphernalia, and all other matters of Masonic interest.

S.R. 52.020. *Present Records Included.* All books, records, papers, paraphernalia, and artifacts of any kind and character now in possession of the Grand Lodge are placed in the custody of the Library and Museum, except that all books, records and documents in use by the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer in the discharge of their duties shall remain in their respective custody.

S.R. 52.030. *Administration.* The Library and Museum shall be governed by a Board of Directors, ten in number, composed as follows: The Grand Secretary, by virtue of his office, shall be a permanent member of the Board. Nine members of Indiana Symbolic Lodges shall serve terms of three years each and shall be appointed by the Grand Master, except that the first Board of Directors shall be appointed to staggered terms that one term expires each year.

Indiana Law, IC 23-7-11-1. 1-10 (e), requires that Boards of Directors must have nine (9) or more members before Directors may have terms of office which expire at different times.

Historical Reference: 1992: 20-21.

S.R. 52.040. *Location.* The Masonic Library and Museum of Indiana, Inc. shall be located on the grounds of the Indiana Masonic Home in Franklin, Indiana, subject to change of location as the Grand Lodge may determine.

Historical Reference: 1992: 20, 65-66.

Approved Decisions

52.040-1. *Location.* Repealed. 1992: 20, 65-66.

S.R. 52.050. *Powers and Duties.* The Board of Directors shall have full control of all property placed under its management by the Grand Lodge and shall have the power to do all things which in their judgment shall be necessary or desirable for the best interests of the Library and Museum. *Provided,* they shall incur no indebtedness for the Grand Lodge to pay in excess of monies on hand, and they shall be subject to the instructions of the Grand Lodge as to the result to be accomplished; but the discretion and judgment to determine the mode, manner, means and methods of accomplishing such results shall be vested in the said Board of Directors.

S.R. 52.060. *Incorporation.* The Board of Directors is hereby authorized and directed to cause the creation of a corporation or other legal entity which shall be organized under the laws of the State of Indiana exclusively for the aforesaid purposes and in such manner to qualify as a tax-exempt entity under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code as the same may be amended from time-to-time, that gifts and bequests to such corporation shall qualify for deduction purposes under the Federal Income, Gift and Estate Tax Laws.

S.R. 52.070. *Accounting.* The Board shall annually account to the Grand Lodge with a full report of its actions and at any and all other times as may be deemed necessary.

Historical Reference: 1986: 32, 76; 1988: 71.

CHAPTER 53

GRAND LODGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

S.R. 53.010. *Establishment.* There is hereby established a Grand Lodge Scholarship Board for the purpose of receiving funds, establishing rules and standards, and granting scholarships to deserving Master Masons belonging to Indiana Lodges who live within the State of Indiana and deserving children, step-children and grandchildren of Master Masons of this jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 2014: 56-58, 152

S.R. 53.020. *Assets.* The amount received from the estate of Buck Hendrickson, deceased, the Scholarship Fund now in the assets of the Indiana Masonic Home, and any and all gifts, donations and bequests directed for scholarship purposes shall be immediately transferred to the account of the Grand Lodge Scholarship Board of Directors hereinafter established.

S.R. 53.030. *Administration.* The Scholarship Fund shall be governed and administered by a Board of Directors, nine in number, composed as follows: One member from the Grand Lodge Trustees and two members appointed by the incoming Grand Master for a term of one year each. Six Master Masons who are members of Indiana Symbolic Lodges and who reside in the State of Indiana shall serve terms of three years each and two shall be appointed by each Grand Master, except that the first Board of Directors shall be appointed to staggered terms so that two terms expire each year. The Scholarship Board of Directors shall be required to write into their by-laws a section limiting the terms of the Area Directors for the Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund, to not more than three years.

Historical Reference: 1988: 71; 1992: 21, 66; 2003: 39, 123; 2014: 56-58, 152

Indiana Law, IC 23-7-11-1. 1-10(e), requires that a Board of Directors must have nine (9) members before Directors may have terms of office which expire at different times.

S.R. 53.040. *Powers and Duties.* The Board shall have full control of all property placed under its management by the Grand Lodge and shall have the power to do all things which in their judgment shall be necessary or desirable for the best interest of the scholarship program, *provided:*

(a) They shall incur no indebtedness;

Revised May 2014

(b) They shall not grant scholarships in any calendar year equal to more

than five percent (5.0%) of the average of the preceding three years' total fund balances, calculated as of December 31 of each year, in accordance with Indiana law governing total return unitrusts;

(c) They shall not grant any scholarship to any relative of a member of the Board and the Area Directors with the first degree of consanguinity;

(d) They shall be subject to the instructions of the Grand Lodge as to the result to be accomplished; but the discretion and judgment to determine the mode, manner, means and methods of accomplishing such results shall be vested in the said Board.

Historical Reference: 1992: 20, 66; 2014: 56-58, 152

S.R. 53.050. *Incorporation.* The Board is hereby authorized and directed to cause the creation of a corporation or other legal entity which shall be organized under the laws of the State of Indiana exclusively for the aforesaid purposes and in such manner to qualify as a tax-exempt entity under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code as the same may be amended from time-to-time, that gifts and bequests to such corporation shall qualify for deduction purposes under the Federal Income, Gift and Estate Tax Laws.

S.R. 53.060. *Accounting.* The Board shall annually account to the Grand Lodge with a full report of its actions and at any and all other times as may be deemed necessary.

Historical Reference: 1986: 32, 77.

Revised May 2014

CHAPTER 54

GRAND LODGE FINANCES

S.R. 54.010. *Grand Lodge Dues and Assessments.*

(a) The Grand Lodge dues and assessments to be paid annually by each Lodge upon receipt of a statement from the Grand Secretary shall consist of the following:

1. A per capita tax to provide income for operation of the budget of the Grand Lodge General Fund,
2. A per capita assessment for the operation of the budget of the Indiana Masonic Home,
3. A tax on each candidate initiated during the preceding calendar year, which shall be paid over to the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation to become a part of the Masonic Home Endowment.

(b) The amount of the per capita tax and assessments shall be fixed annually at the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, as provided in Standing Resolution 54.020.

Historical Reference: 1971: 91.

S.R. 54.020. *Annual Budgets.*

(a) It shall be the duty of the Ways and Means Committee to prepare annual budgets reflecting income and expenditures of the Grand Lodge General Fund and the Indiana Masonic Home Operating Fund for the past year and giving the anticipated income and expenditures from each fund for the ensuing year. Such budgets shall be submitted at the annual meeting of Grand Lodge for approval.

(b) At the same time the budgets are presented, and in connection therewith, the Ways and Means Committee shall submit for ratification the amount of per capita tax and assessments necessary to provide the income requirement by said budgets.

Historical Reference: 1921: 263; 1937: 217-218; 1948: 41, 208, 233; 1969: 83-84.

S.R. 54.030. *Tax on Initiations.* Repealed. 1921: 263; 1937: 217-218; 1971: 91.

S.R. 54.040. *Annual Budget.* Repealed. 1948: 41, 208, 233; 1971: 91.

S.R. 54.050. *Reserve for Maintenance and Repair.* There shall be a Reserve Fund for major maintenance and repair of the Grand Lodge Temple, into which shall be transferred from the Grand Lodge General Fund such sums as the Grand Lodge may appropriate in the annual budget.

Historical Reference: 1948: 212; 1949: 216; 1957: 33, 87.

S.R. 54.060. *Grand Master's Allowance.* To cover expenses incurred in visiting Lodges and for expenses not otherwise provided for, the Grand Master shall receive an annual allowance, the amount of which shall be included in the budget for the fiscal year and be submitted to the Grand Lodge at the annual meeting for approval.

Historical Reference: 1934: 34, 237; 1947: 35, 219; 1957: 33, 87.

S.R. 54.070. *Interest on Grand Lodge Funds.*

(a) All interest and income which shall accrue on the various funds of this Grand Lodge shall accrue to the fund by which the same is earned and become a part of that fund.

(b) The Grand Treasurer with the advice and written consent of the Grand Trustees may invest surplus money in any or all funds for maximum income and security of principal, excepting such amounts as are needed for current expenses, which latter amounts shall be deposited in depositories approved by the Grand Master and the Committee on Depositories.

Historical Reference: 1907: 143-144, 155; 1960: 104, 108.

Cross Reference: Sec. 2.020; S.R. 54.071, 54.090.

S.R. 54.071. *Transfer of Funds.* The Trustees of the Grand Lodge, with the approval of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home, may transfer surplus funds or property, including non-specific gifts and bequests, which are received for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home and which are not required for current operation and maintenance of the Indiana Masonic Home, to the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Incorporated, in trust for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home.

Historical Reference: 1960: 104, 108.

Cross Reference: Sec. 2.020; S.R. 54.070, 54.090.

S.R. 54.080. *War Service and Relief Fund.* Repealed.

S.R. 54.090. *Withdrawal of Funds.*

(a) All funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer shall be subject to withdrawal from depository upon his signature and the counter signature of either the Grand Secretary or the Grand Master, or any two of such officials; *Provided*, however, that withdrawals from the Masonic Home Operating Fund and the Masonic Home Building Reserve Fund or any other funds belonging to the Indiana Masonic Home shall be made only upon the order of the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home.

(b) All funds, securities, intangibles, personal property or vouchers held for the use and benefit of the Indiana Masonic Home shall be kept in accounts entirely separate from accounts of the Grand Lodge and such funds and property of the Indiana Masonic Home shall not be mingled with the funds or property of the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1953: 97; 1960: 105, 108.

Cross Reference: Sec. 2.020; S.R. 54.070, 54.071.

S.R. 54.100. *Safety Deposit Boxes.* Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1992: 58, 69.

S.R. 54.110. *Grand Lodge Fiscal Year.* The fiscal year of the Grand Lodge shall end on March 31 and this shall govern all officers, committees and boards, including the Indiana Masonic Home.

Historical Reference: 1954: 53, 98; 1986: 32, 77.

S.R. 54.120. *Mileage and Per Diem Allowance.* Each member of the Grand Lodge shall be paid twenty-six cents (.26) for every mile traveled in going to and returning from the meetings of the Grand Lodge, which distance shall be estimated by the most direct route, in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 5 of the Grand Lodge By-Laws, and twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each day's attendance at the sessions of the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1979: 21, 65; 1996: 30, 102.

Cross Reference: Sec. 5.010.

S.R. 54.130. *Indemnification.*

(a) Resolved: That the Grand Lodge shall indemnify any person made a part to any action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that he is or was an officer, committeeman or employee of the Grand Lodge, a Trustee of the Grand Lodge or an officer, director or employee of the Indiana Masonic Home, against the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, actually and necessarily incurred by him in connection with the defense of such action, suit or proceeding or in connection with any appeal therein, except in relation to matters as to which it shall be adjudged in legal action, suit or proceeding that he has been derelict in the performance of his duties or has been guilty of negligence or misconduct. If he be deceased, the Grand Lodge shall indemnify his estate.

(b) The Grand Lodge may also reimburse to him or his estate the reasonable costs of settlement of any such action, suit or proceeding if it shall be found by a majority of a committee composed of the officers of the Grand Lodge, not involved in the matter in controversy, that it is to the best interests of the Grand Lodge that such settlement be made and that he was not guilty of negligence or misconduct.

(c) Such rights of indemnification and reimbursement shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such officer, committeeman, employee, trustee or director may be entitled as a matter of law apart from the provisions of this resolution.

Historical Reference: 1960: 105, 108.

Cross Reference: Sec. 4.010.

S.R. 54.140. *State-Wide Group Insurance.* Provisions for workers compensation, fidelity bonding, money and securities, paraphernalia, premises medical payments and excess comprehensive public liability for each Lodge shall be made in the Grand Lodge insurance program. An explanation of the scope of the protection provided will be supplied to the Secretary of each Lodge and will be revised and distributed as necessary. Each Lodge will be billed annually for its share of the premium cost, based on Lodge membership at the close of the calendar year immediately preceding, which shall be due on or before the fifteenth day of March.

Historical Reference: 1970; 28, 73, 83; 1986: 81-82.

CHAPTER 55

GRAND LODGE ADMINISTRATION

S.R. 55.010. *Grand Lodge Seal.* That a seal of two inches in diameter, and on the periphery of the plane to be inscribed "THE GRAND LODGE OF INDIANA" the plane to be ornamented with two engraved Masonic pillars, of the Ionic order, elevated on a platform ascended by three steps with Corinthian capitals, and surmounted by an arch, in the curve of which "*Sit lux et lux fuit*" to be inscribed; suspended from the center of this arch, the square, level and plumb; in the background, a rising sun; and between the pedestals, an anchor a-foul.

Historical Reference: 1818: 22.

S.R. 55.020. *Grand Master's Seal.* We believe it proper and right that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Indiana may dignify his official communications with an appropriate seal. We therefore recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to secure such a seal for use by Grand Masters.

Historical Reference: 1917: 27, 208; 1957: 33, 87.

S.R. 55.021. *Grand Lodge Coat of Arms.*

Historical Reference: 1977:

S.R. 55.030. *Past Grand Master's Jewel.* That this Grand Lodge hereby decrees and orders that the retiring Grand Master be presented with a Past Grand Master's jewel and that the Grand Secretary be and is hereby instructed to each year cause such jewel to be prepared.

Historical Reference: 1903: 109.

S.R. 55.040. *Conference of Grand Masters.*

(a) The Grand Master is authorized to accept invitations to attend Conferences of Grand Masters and to appoint such additional representatives as he deems expedient.

(b) The Deputy Grand Master is delegated to accompany the Grand Master annually to the Conference of Grand Masters.

Historical Reference: 1913: 45, 155; 1942: 23, 266; 1954: 104-105.

S.R. 55.050. *Central Bureau and Clearing House.* Resolved, by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of Indiana: That it concur in the recommendations. . .hereby constituting the Masonic Relief Board of Indiana, Inc., as the Central Bureau and Clearing House, with the understanding that the expense distribution shall not exceed an annual donation equal to twenty cents (.20) per capita on its membership of each subordinate Lodge of this jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 1922: 179-180; 1980: 56, 80; 1996: 110-111, 114; 2007: 39, 108.

S.R. 55.060. *Masonic Service Association.* That the Grand Lodge of Indiana become a member of the Masonic Service Association of the United States.

Historical Reference: 1947: 36, 217.

S.R. 55.070. *Master Files.* The Grand Secretary shall cause to be prepared and shall maintain currently up to date:

(a) A master record arranged to be used in alphabetical order of all Masons of this jurisdiction;

(b) A record of all deceased and former members so far as it is possible to compile the same; and

(c) A file of all members of all Lodges in each Lodge of this jurisdiction. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to compile and print annually on or before March 15th of each year a list of all Master Masons who have been:

- (1) expelled;
- (2) suspended indefinitely, or for a term of more than one year,
- (3) demitted; or,
- (4) suspended for non-payment of dues.

The Grand Secretary is further authorized and directed to deliver this list on March 15th to each and every organization in the State of Indiana which predicates its membership upon membership in a regularly constituted Lodge of Master Masons, with instructions to the governing authorities of such organizations to purge their memberships of the formerly affiliated Master Masons contained therein. Said instructions shall further direct written confirmation of the completion of the purge of their membership rolls be delivered to the Grand Master on or before June 1st of each year. A copy of this resolution shall be appended to the cover letter of delivery of these lists.

The Grand Secretary is further directed to determine the cost of this service to the appendant bodies, and to invoice each for their proportional share of the cost determined by their total membership.

Revised May 2007

The first of such lists of expelled, suspended and demitted members shall embrace each year from 1982 through 1984 inclusive.

Historical Reference: 1930: 185, 230; 1935: 208, 228; 1947: 35, 218; 1955: 45, 135; 1985: 77-78; 1991: 21, 90.

S.R. 55.080. *Annual Proceedings to Lodges.* A copy of the Annual Proceedings of the Grand Lodge shall be furnished each Lodge in this jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 1941: 47, 252; 1970: 71, 84.

S.R. 55.090. *Annual Proceedings: How Distributed.* Be it Resolved by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana, in order to promote cooperation and unanimity among the several Grand Bodies of Masons in Indiana that this Grand Lodge furnish a copy of its Proceedings to the following Grand Officers of these bodies:

Grand High Priest and Past Grand High Priests of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Council of Indiana, the Grand Commander and Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1947: 194, 223.

S.R. 55.100. *Assistant Grand Lecturer.*

(a) The Grand Lecturer is empowered to employ, subject to the approval of the Grand Master, an Assistant Grand Lecturer at an annual salary and an allowance for traveling expense, the amount of which shall be included in the budget for the fiscal year and submitted to the Grand Lodge at the annual meeting for approval.

(b) The duties of the Assistant Grand Lecturer shall be to assist the Grand Lecturer, and, under his direction and supervision, to cooperate in performing and carrying out all the duties provided for by Section 2.040, Chapter 2 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge; *Provided*, that the Grand Lecturer shall be directly responsible to the Grand Master for all actions of both himself as Grand Lecturer and of the Assistant Grand Lecturer.

Historical Reference: 1953: 20, 97, 113; 1957: 34, 88.

Cross Reference: Article II; Sec. 2.040.

S.R. 55.110. *Information From Grand Lodge Office.*

(a) Information From the Active File:

1. Information from the active file will not be given by telephone to any person under any circumstances.

2. Verbal information will be given in the office only to one known personally whose inquiry is known to be for a legitimate purpose.

3. Information in response to a written inquiry will be given only when the purpose of the inquiry is stated or is known to be legitimate.

(b) Complaints Regarding Lodge Controversies

1. Complaints involving Lodge controversies will not be discussed by telephone with any person under any circumstances.

2. Complaints involving Lodge controversies will not be discussed with a non-member under any circumstances.

3. Complaints involving Lodge controversies will not be received verbally from any person in or out of the office unless such complaint is accompanied by a written and signed statement setting forth all matters covered by said complaint.

4. The Grand Secretary will offer advice or comment upon a Lodge controversy only in writing and in response to a written and signed statement.

(c) Complaints or Charges Against a Master Mason.

1. Complaints or charges against a Master Mason will not be received by telephone from any person under any circumstances.

2. Complaints or charges against a Master Mason from a non-member must be in writing and signed.

3. Complaints or charges will not be received verbally from any Mason in or out of the office unless such complaints or charges are accompanied by a written and signed statement setting forth all matters covered by said complaint or charge.

4. The Grand Secretary will offer advice or comment upon complaints or charges only to a Master Mason, and then only in writing and in response to a written and signed statement.

5. Written complaints or charges from non-members will be acknowledged without comment by the Grand Secretary and referred to the Grand Master or to the Worshipful Master of the Lodge of which the Brother charged is a member.

Historical Reference: 1954: 22, 88.

S.R. 55.120. *Minimum Standards for Publications.* It shall be the duty of all organizations under the authority of the Grand Lodge to meet or exceed the adopted Minimum Standards for Publications. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action against the body or the members involved in the infraction.

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PUBLICATIONS PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC

Publications, including web sites, of all organizations under the authority of the Grand Lodge must meet or exceed these adopted standards (S.R. 55.120). Internet list servers are permitted. It is recommended that Internet list servers are moderated.

Publications should strive to be a credit to Masonry, continually working toward improving our communications with our members and increasing interest, thus strengthening our Fraternity.

Publications should contain:

- (a) Articles pertaining to Lodge activities. (This should be given first priority).
- (b) Articles concerning Grand Lodge activities and projects.
- (c) Good and wholesome instruction. (Inspirational and informational messages, such as a message from the Worshipful Master, Secretary's corner, text of a Masonic speech, etc.)
- (d) News about individual members which brings credit to themselves and honor to the Fraternity.
- (e) Pictures as much as possible.
- (f) Authentic information about Masonry. (Help eliminate the spreading of stories which cannot be verified.)
- (g) Copyrights are recommended but not mandatory. Web sites that are copyrighted should contain copyright notice on each page.
- (h) Web sites must have a link to the Grand Lodge web site on the home page.

Publications should not contain:

- (a) Anything pertaining to the suspension or expulsion of members.
- (b) Notices giving the names of petitioners to be voted on or candidates to receive degrees.
- (c) Begging circulars.
- (d) The words "Mason", "Masonic", or other words associated with Freemasonry must not be used in advertising, nor can Masonic emblems be used.
- (e) Advertisements must not contain direct or indirect appeal to Masons to do business with other Masons.
- (f) Liquor advertising, political advertising, indecent advertising, advertising pertaining to any lottery or game of chance are forbidden. Advertising that is beneath the dignity of the Fraternity is prohibited.
- (g) Anything containing veiled reference to ritualistic ceremonies, nor any kind of parody on the ceremonies.

(h) Solicitation of petitions for Symbolic Lodge membership as prohibited in Reg. 42.021.

(I) Any partisan opinions on political or religious questions.

(j) Web rings that link to liquor advertising, political advertising, indecent advertising, advertising pertaining to any lottery or game of chance, or any advertising that is beneath the dignity of the Fraternity.

(k) Web sites that directly link to liquor advertising, political advertising, indecent advertising, advertising pertaining to any lottery or game of chance, or any advertising that is beneath the dignity of the Fraternity.

Historical Reference: 1936: 248; 1962: 40, 87; 1963: 87, 102; 1984: 46; 2000: 139-143.

Cross Reference: Regs. 34.020, 34.030. 42.050. 42.060, 42.070; Approved Decision 42.050-1; S.R. 59.010.

S.R. 55.130. *Administrative Assistant.*

(a) There may be appointed annually by the newly installed Grand Master, upon nomination of the Grand Secretary, a Master Mason to serve as an Administrative Assistant in the Grand Lodge office.

(b) The duties of the Administrative Assistant shall be to assist the Grand Secretary, and under his direction and supervision, assume such responsibilities as may properly be delegated to an assistant.

Historical Reference: 1965: 32, 84.

Cross Reference: Article II.

S.R. 55.140. *Questionnaires From Non-Masonic Sources.* Should any Lodge in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Indiana, or any Worshipful Master, or other officer, or member thereof, receive any request or questionnaire concerning Freemasonry, its organization, structure, membership or any related phase of our Fraternity from any organization, any individual or any agency not recognized as Masonic, it shall be forwarded immediately to the Grand Master of Masons in Indiana for his consideration and action.

Historical Reference: 1965: 9, 84.

S.R. 55.150. *Requirements for Resolutions and for Approval of Actions of Grand Master.*

(a) No resolution involving the Amendments of the Constitution, By-Laws or General Regulations should be introduced at an annual meeting of Grand Lodge until said resolution is in proper form. By proper form it is meant that a resolution should:

(1) Quote in full all existing Articles, By-Laws and General Regulations affected by the resolutions as they read without amendment, including the numbers and titles of the said Articles, By-Laws and General Regulations, and

(2) Quote in full the same Articles, By-Laws and General Regulations as they would read if the resolution were to be adopted.

(b) The responsibility for preparing a resolution in proper form as outlined above rests with the sponsor or sponsors of said resolution.

(c) No action of a Grand Master taken during his term or incorporated in his message to the Grand Lodge can be and become Masonic Law unless and until the action or statements involved have been referred to a committee of the Grand Lodge and reported to the floor of the Grand Lodge in annual session for its approval, amendment or rejection. All legal actions taken by a Grand Master not so referred shall expire upon the investment of his successor. This section does not ratify or approve any illegal or ultra vires actions or conduct of a Grand Master.

(d) Proposed resolutions must be filed with the office of the Grand Secretary no later than April 1st for proper consideration at the Annual Communication. The Grand Master may waive filing date.

Historical Reference: 1967: 101; 1986: 78, 101; 1987: 9; 2002: 50-51, 154.

S.R. 55.160. *Library and Museum.* Repealed. 1979: 22, 64; 1985: 70, 128. (See S.R. 52.010)

S.R. 55.170. *Electronic Data Processing File.* The Grand Secretary shall cause to be prepared and shall maintain currently up to date an Electronic Data Processing file, arranged in alphabetical order and by Lodges, of all Masons in this jurisdiction, to contain the following information:

- (a) Member's name or number and current address
- (b) Lodge number
- (c) Dates initiated, passed, raised, reinstated, affiliated
- (d) Dates deceased, demitted, suspended, expelled
- (e) Dates dues remitted.

The data file shall be used by the Grand Secretary in the regular discharge of his duties. It shall be totally confidential in nature and may be released only upon written order of the Grand Master to the Administrator of the Indiana Masonic Home, the Executive Secretary of the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc., or the Editor of The Indiana Freemason only, for their use only in the furtherance of their official functions. Disclosure of all or any part of the data file by anyone to anyone other than specified herein is a Masonic Offense under Reg. 42.050.

Revised 2002

Reg. 34.020, which prohibits the furnishing of a mailing list of the membership of an individual Lodge for commercial purposes or for other than purely Masonic purposes specifically sanctioned by Grand Lodge shall likewise apply to the Grand Lodge mailing list thus authorized.

Historical Reference: 1979: 55, 65; 1980: 60, 80.

S.R. 55.180. *Monthly Reports.*

(a) On or before the 10th day of each month (except for months in which a Lodge is dark), the Lodge Secretary shall furnish to the Grand Secretary all membership activity occurring in the previous month or a form showing there was no activity. Notification of no activity may be done via email. The first report submitted after the Lodge returns to work from being dark should indicate the months during which the Lodge was dark.

(b) Forms to be utilized may be either the preprinted form provided by the office of the Grand Secretary, the same preprinted form located on the Grand Lodge Website, or forms that are generated by the Lodge Database (LDB) system.

(c) Scanned copies of the preprinted form are acceptable; however, any other type of form used shall have prior approval of the Grand Secretary before being accepted.

(d) Monthly reports may be submitted via USPS, fax or by email.

Historical Reference: 1979: 55, 65; 2011: 48-49, 136.

S.R. 55.190. *Penalty for Delinquency.* Failure to make report to the Grand Secretary as required by S.R. 55.180 shall be referred to the Grand Master for action to effect compliance with the reporting regulation.

Historical Reference: 1979: 55, 65.

S.R. 55.200. *Insurance Committee.* An Insurance Committee composed of not less than three Master Masons shall be appointed by the Grand Master. The duties of the committee shall be:

(a) To familiarize itself with all insurance concerns and contracts of the Grand Lodge, the Indiana Masonic Home, the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc., the Grand Lodge Trustees and *THE INDIANA FREEMASON*.

(b) To meet annually, or as often as necessary to generally review all such insurance and recommend to the Grand Master any necessary or prudent changes.

(c) To make recommendations for changes in agent or agencies, companies, coverage, and the nature and extent of such coverage as the committee may deem proper and in the best interests of the Fraternity to the Grand Master, the Grand Lodge and Boards responsible for property or persons covered.

(d) To ensure that all insurance policies are written through persons and/or companies duly licensed to sell insurance in the State of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1984: 49; 1992: 20, 65; 2012:77-78, 170.

Revised May 2012

S.R. 55.210. *Indiana Masonic Supplies.* All sales of Masonic supplies to Lodges and individuals, etc., shall fall under the jurisdiction of the Indiana Masonic Supplies. The Indiana Masonic Supplies shall incur no indebtedness. The books, records and inventory of the Indiana Masonic Supplies shall be audited annually by the auditing firm engaged to audit the records of the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Indiana. A full and complete record of said audit shall be submitted to the Grand Lodge by the firm conducting said audit. The supervision of all personnel and activities of the Indiana Masonic Supplies shall be under the jurisdiction of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer. The Grand Secretary shall act as Chief Administrative Officer and the Grand Treasurer shall act as Assistant Chief Administrative Officer. ***Repealed.***

Historical Reference: 1996: 108-109, 113; 2006: 45, 109.

S.R. 55.220. *Intellectual Property of Grand Lodge.* Books, Monitors, *Indiana Blue Book of Masonic Law*, directories, rituals, ceremonies, websites, pamphlets, brochures, magazines, CD's and papers produced by the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Indiana, any of its committees, special corporations, *The Indiana Freemason* magazine are the intellectual property of the Grand Lodge. As such, these properties shall not be copied or reproduced mechanically or electronically for general distribution without permission from the Grand Master. The Grand Master should not decline reasonable requests for republication.

Historical Reference: 2003: 40-41, 126; 2006: 46, 109.

Revised June 2006

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CHAPTER 56

FRATERNAL RECOGNITION

S.R. 56.010. *Principles of Recognition.* The "Basic Principles for Grand Lodge Recognition" as set out by the United Grand Lodge of England (and adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana) are as follows:

(a) Regularity of origin; i.e., each Grand Lodge shall have been established lawfully by a duly recognized Grand Lodge or by three or more regularly constituted Lodges.

(b) That a belief in the G.A.O.T.U. and His revealed will shall be an essential qualification for membership.

(c) That all initiates shall take their obligation on/or in full view of the open Volume of the Sacred Law, by which is meant the revelation from above which is binding on the conscience of the particular individual who is being initiated.

(d) That the membership of the Grand Lodge and individual Lodges shall be composed exclusively of men; and that each Grand Lodge shall have no Masonic intercourse of any kind with mixed Lodges or bodies which admit women to membership.

(e) That the Grand Lodge shall have sovereign jurisdiction over the Lodges under its control, i.e., that it shall be a responsible, independent self-governing, with sole and undisputed authority over the Craft or Symbolic Degrees (Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason) within its jurisdiction; and shall not in any way be subject to or divide such authority with a Supreme Council or other power claiming any control or supervision over those degrees.

(f) That the three Great Lights of Freemasonry (namely, the Volume of the Sacred Law, the Square and the Compass) shall always be exhibited when the Grand Lodge or its subordinate Lodges are at work, the chief of these being the Volume of the Sacred Law.

(g) That the discussion of religion and politics within the Lodge be strictly prohibited.

(h) That the principles of the Ancient Landmarks, customs and usages of the Craft shall be strictly observed.

Historical Reference: 1930: 188.

S.R. 56.020. *Masonic Legitimacy and Regularity.* The Grand Lodge of Indiana hereby reaffirms the historic position of all regular Freemasonry throughout the world as first promulgated by the Grand Lodge of England in its General Regulations (Regulation VIII) compiled in 1720 and approved by Grand Lodge on June 24, 1721, to-wit:

"If any set or number of Masons shall take upon themselves to form a Lodge without the Grand Master's Warrant, the regular Lodges are not to countenance them, nor approve of their Acts and Deeds; but must treat them as Rebels, until they humble themselves, as the Grand Master shall in his prudence direct, and until he approves of them by his Warrant~ which must be signified to the other Lodges, as the custom is when a new Lodge is to be registered in the List of Lodges."

And further in common with every regular Grand Lodge of Freemasons in the United States, the Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of Indiana does not recognize as legitimate any organization calling itself a Grand Lodge of Masons established within the territorial jurisdiction of any Grand Lodge in the United States formally recognized by this Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1972: 74, 88.

S.R. 56.030. *Commission on Information for Recognition. Repealed.* The Grand Lodge of Indiana hereby subscribes to the Commission on Information for Recognition created by the Conference of Grand Masters in North America.

Historical Reference: 1952: 26, 103; 2013: 78, 160.

S.R. 56.040. *Grand Representatives.* Grand Representatives appointed by the Grand Master to be Grand Representatives to other recognized jurisdictions may be replaced. The Grand Secretary shall be directed to keep an attendance record of the Grand Representatives of other jurisdictions near the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Such record may be compiled from the registration documents of the Committee on Registration of permanent members, Grand Representatives and guests, or by calling the roll during Grand Lodge. Any Grand Representative who fails to attend the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge for three (3) consecutive years, may be replaced by the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1995: 86.

CHAPTER 57

LODGE ADMINISTRATION

S.R. 57.010. *Questionnaire for Investigating Committee.* The fundamental obligation of every Masonic Lodge is to determine by every reasonable method, whether or not the petitioner is fit to be made a Freemason. Any number of questions cannot relieve a Lodge of this fundamental obligation. The object of the Grand Lodge in adopting a questionnaire was not to release Lodges from this obligation but rather to impress upon them the very great importance of it. The questionnaire does not represent the maximum of the Lodge's duty in determining the fitness of the petitioner, but rather the minimum of the duty. When a committee on character makes its report to the Lodge, it should be fully prepared, not only to present the answers to the questionnaire, but also to furnish answers to any questions that might be raised on the floor of the Lodge about the character of the petitioner.

Historical Reference: 1924: 22, 134.

S.R. 57.020. *Status of Member of Unsound Mind*

(a) Loss of mental capacity ought not to deprive a Brother Mason of the benefits of Masonry and is no ground for suspension or expulsion, but it does render him incapable of voluntary action or decision in any of the prudential affairs of the Lodge, or in transacting any business in connection with his own affairs or the right of others.

(b) If such unfortunate Brother who is physically able to attend Lodge ... presents himself for admission. . . a certified copy of the court adjudging the Brother to be a person of unsound mind (should be) spread on record in the minutes of the Lodge. Upon this record the Master of the Lodge would in his discretion be justified in ordering the Tyler not to admit the Brother to regular meetings of the Lodge. Once admitted to the Lodge Room, it would be difficult, if not impossible in many cases, to control the actions of such insane member and prevent him from participating in the deliberations of the Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1935: 218.

S.R. 57.030. *Father and Son Night.* Be it Resolved: That this Grand Lodge does approve a Father and Son Night and recommends that:

(a) The Most Worshipful Grand Master address an annual letter to all Lodges on the subject and fixing the period for such observance, together with other pertinent comments and recommendations;

(b) That such Father and Son Night be held late each fall prior to the Lodge's winter activities, thus giving everyone the opportunity for the longest unbroken period of interest;

(c) That such Father and Son Night include any sons or fathers as may be invited by Lodge members.

Historical Reference: 1940: 95, 219.

S.R. 57.040. *Lodge Seal.* All communications between the subordinate Lodges of this State should be attested by the seals of the Lodges respectively sending such communications.

Historical Reference: 1850: 64.

S.R. 57.050. *Preliminary Instructions.* Each Lodge is required to cause the Preliminary Instructions and Information to Candidates to be read to each elected candidate before the Entered Apprentice degree is conferred.

Historical Reference: 1940: 153, 243; 1938: 281, 289.

S.R. 57.060. *Membership Card.*

(a) There shall be three types of membership cards defined as Permanent Membership Card, Standard Membership Card and Temporary Membership Card. Each of these cards shall include the Lodge name and number and the member's name and membership number.

(b) A Permanent Membership Card for Indiana Lodges, in the form to be approved by the Grand Secretary, shall be printed and made available by the office of the Grand Secretary. The card shall be of uniform size; it shall include a date of issue and shall bear, on the reverse side, the Grand Secretary's certificate of regularity. It will be issued to Past Grand Masters, Award of Gold Recipients and Life Endowed Members.

(c) A Standard Membership Card for Indiana Lodges, in the form to be approved by the Grand Secretary, shall be printed and made available by the office of the Grand Secretary. The card shall be of uniform size; it shall include a date of expiration and shall bear, on the reverse side, the Grand Secretary's certificate of regularity.

(d) A Temporary Membership Card for Indiana Lodges, in the form to be approved by the Grand Secretary, shall be printed and made available by the office of the Grand Secretary. The card shall be of uniform size; it shall include a date of expiration as applied by the Lodge Secretary, not to exceed 90 days. It shall bear, on the reverse side, the Grand Secretary's certificate of regularity. This card may be issued by the Lodge Secretary for new members, sojourning Indiana Masons, or a lost membership card.

(e) Use of the Membership Card as provided by the Grand Secretary is mandatory and no other Membership card shall be either printed or used except those provided by the office of the Grand Secretary.

Historical Reference: 1957: 36, 82; 1958: 33, 93; 2006: 44-45, 109; 2006: 44-45, 109; 2012: 65-68, 169.

Revised May 2012

CHAPTER 58

INDIANA MASONIC HOME

S.R. 58.010. *Masonic Home Pilgrimage.* The Indiana Masonic Home Pilgrimage shall be observed annually on a day to be fixed by the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home with the advice and consent of the Grand Master.

Historical Reference: 1916: 27, 170; 1969: 83.

S.R. 58.020. *Holloway Hall.* Repealed.

Historical Reference: 1921: 184; 1988: 72-73.

S.R. 58.030. *Funerals at Masonic Home.* The Grand Master has full authority at any time to deputize the Administrator of the Indiana Masonic Home. . . to convene a special session of the Grand Lodge with members of the Home acting as subordinate officers, for the purpose of conferring the Funeral Rites upon a deceased member of the Home, who is our ward and entitled to that courtesy, and the Grand Master should report all such special sessions in his annual report to the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1923: 64, 209; 1973: 84.

S.R. 58.040. *Mileage Allowance for Home Board.* Repealed.

S.R. 58.050. *Eligibility for Membership in the Indiana Masonic Home.* The Grand Lodge of Indiana designates the Board of Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home to be responsible for determining Residency Eligibility Requirements for the Indiana Masonic Home and to make such changes from time to time as shall be in the best strategic and long range planning interests of the Home and in accordance with local, State and federal facility regulatory and licensing requirements and in accordance with operating authority set forth in Section 4.040 of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1972: 75, 88; 1976: 64, 81; 1995: 121-122, 129.

Editorial Note: S.R. 58.050. *Eligibility for Membership in the Indiana Masonic Home*, as printed in the 1993 edition of the Blue Book, was repealed, along with all other eligibility requirements approved previously.

S.R. 58.060. *Indiana Masonic Home, Inc.* Any references made to the Indiana Masonic Home, Masonic Home or Home be as if speaking of the Indiana Masonic Home, Inc.

Historical Reference: 2003: 39, 123.

Revised June 2003

CHAPTER 59

INDIANA FREEMASON

S.R. 59.010. *Official Organ of Grand Lodge.* *THE INDIANA FREEMASON* is the official organ of this jurisdiction.

Historical Reference: 1928: 267; 1946: 60.

Cross Reference: Reg. 42.070; Approved Decision 42.050-1.

S.R. 59.020. *Publication and Distribution.* Publication of *THE INDIANA FREEMASON* shall be under the supervision of a special committee of Grand Lodge whose duties shall include, to arrange for financing and to engage an Editor, for the publication at regular intervals, of *THE INDIANA FREEMASON*. Distribution shall be to each Master Mason member of each subordinate Lodge at addresses contained in the Grand Lodge membership files; and to the widows of Past Grand Lodge Officers, without charge. Indiana affiliated Masonic organizations and Grand Lodges of sister jurisdictions that so request may also be added to *THE INDIANA FREEMASON* distribution list.

Historical Reference: 1934: 245, 270; 1992: 58-59, 69.

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CHAPTER 60

OFFICIAL RITUAL

S.R. 60.010. *Adoption of Ritual.*

(a) We recommend the adoption as the authorized work of this jurisdiction the one presented by the Committee on Ritual at the 1902 meeting, and that a copy of the same be preserved in the archives of this Grand Lodge.

(b) We further recommend that the edict of the Grand Lodge prohibiting cipher codes be amended so as not to include the cipher of the official work.

Historical Reference: 1903 Written: 226; 2014: 66-70, 153

Approved Decisions

60.010-1. *Numbering of Rituals.* G.M. Recommendation 5-01. G.L. approved that the numbering and keeping records of numbers of Preliminary Instruction Manuals and all rituals cease and, further, that at the next printing of the craft ritual, all parts of the ritual be included. 2001: 11, 29, 138.

S.R. 60.020. *Publication and Distribution of Ritual.*

(a) That the Grand Master appoint a committee of three or more to review and print the ritual cipher format adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana in 1903.

(b) That the Grand Lodge of Indiana distribute seven copies of the official ritual cipher to each Lodge for use of the officers designated by the Worshipful Master. Said distribution costs shall be borne by each Lodge and predicated on the cost per copy plus the expense of mailing.

(c) That the Grand Lodge of Indiana make available, for a nominal charge, copies of the official ritual cipher to be ordered by the Lodges and distributed to Past Masters. See Reg. 60.060.

(d) Each Lodge shall be responsible in maintaining their own records of distribution of each copy of the official ritual cipher.

(e) The Grand Secretary shall distribute a copy of the official ritual to the following:

(1) Each Lodge in this jurisdiction.

(2) Each Grand Lodge Officer.

(3) Master Masons who are appointed as Special Deputies of the Grand Master for the purpose of conducting Lodges of Instruction.

(f) The Grand Secretary is authorized to print or copy, or to have printed or copied, the official ritual and the official ritual cipher. No other person or entity shall print or copy the official ritual or the official ritual cipher. No one shall distribute or publish the official ritual or the official ritual cipher except as specifically permitted by Indiana Masonic Law.

Historical Reference: 1904 Written: 272; 1921: 49, 217; 1929: 136, 218; 1945: 132, 180; 2002: 48, 152; 2006: 47, 111-112; 2014: 66-70, 153

Revised May 2014

S.R. 60.030. *Uniform Work.* All Lodges must conform to the regular

(official) work adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

Historical Reference: 1898: 13, 77.

Editorial Note: No flag ceremony shall be given in any Lodge after Lodge is opened. Pledge of Allegiance to American Flag is not part of ritual. Should Lodge desire to use Pledge of Allegiance, it shall be given before opening of Lodge, taking care not to require it from member or visitor not a citizen of the U.S.A. 1976: 70, 98; 1977: 50.

Revised June 2006

S.R. 60.040. *Ritual for Past Master Degree.* The ritual for the conferring of the Past Master degree is declared as the official ritual for the Past Master degree, as recognized by this Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1923: 172.

S.R. 60.050. *Unauthorized Ciphers.*

(a) The making, sale, purchase or use of any cipher work in this jurisdiction is in violation of Masonic usage. Any Worshipful Master who may permit the use or exhibition of, or any reference to, any cipher, key or guide, or any sheet or part of the same, in the Lodge Room, or allow the same to be used in the instruction of any candidate, and any officer, acting officer or participant in the work who shall use, exhibit or consult such cipher, key or guide, or any part of the same, in the Lodge Room, shall be deemed guilty of a Masonic offense, and upon conviction thereof shall be suspended or expelled.

(b) The Grand Master is hereby authorized and required, in the exercise of his discretion, after investigation, to suspend the Master of any Lodge violating the provisions of this resolution, and further, to suspend the functions of any offending Lodge if necessary, to secure the enforcement of this edict, pending due trial or the further orders of this Grand Lodge.

(c) This standing resolution does not apply to the official ritual and official ritual cipher.

Historical Reference: 1899: 92; 1903 Written: 226; 2014: 66-70, 153

Approved Decisions

60.050-1. *Owning of unauthorized ciphers and rituals.* Reg. 60.050 limits itself to prohibiting ownership of unauthorized cipher rituals for use in conferring of degrees and instruction of candidates. It does not preclude a member from owning such materials for study and research. 2003: 117, 185.

S.R. 60.060. *Additional Rituals.*

(a) A sufficient number of ritual ciphers shall be printed and distributed to the subordinate Lodges in numbers not to exceed the total number of Past Masters in any given Lodge, said rituals to be distributed only upon payment by the Lodge of a rental fee for each ritual with the Grand Secretary, and Lodges are forbidden from distributing the same until said rental fee is received by said Lodge from the member receiving said ritual.

Revised May 2014

(b) The amount of said rental fee shall be determined by the Grand Secretary, with consent of the Grand Master, after each printing of the ritual cipher, and shall be based on cost per copy, plus expense of mailing.

(c) No ritual ciphers are to be distributed by any Lodge except to Past Masters until the Past Masters residing in the jurisdiction of the Lodge waive their right to receive such official ritual cipher.

(d) Additional ritual ciphers so issued shall remain the property of the Grand Lodge.

(e) Should a Past Master holding an additional ritual cipher demit from his Lodge or transfer his membership to another Lodge he shall return the ritual cipher to the Secretary of the Lodge to which it is issued. The ritual cipher may then be issued to another Past Master upon the same terms as outlined in this Section.

(f) Should a Past Master holding an additional ritual cipher desire to replace same with a new copy, an additional rental fee shall be charged and the old copy shall be sent to the Grand Secretary.

(g) Should a Past Master holding an additional ritual cipher desire to surrender same, he shall return it to the Lodge and the Secretary may issue the ritual cipher to another Past Master, or he may send same to the Grand Secretary who shall refund the amount of the rental fee paid for said ritual cipher to the Lodge; *Provided*, that the Grand Secretary is authorized to deduct from the refund an amount equivalent to 20 percent of the rental fee originally paid for each year the ritual cipher has been used.

Historical Reference: 1944: 39, 229; 1947: 214; 1948: 210; 1953: 116; 1979: 53, 64; 2014: 66-70, 153

S.R. 60.070. *Lost and Worn Officers' Rituals.*

(a) When ritual ciphers issued to the officers of a Lodge become worn, the Lodge may send them to the Grand Secretary who shall issue replacements at no cost to the Lodge.

(b) Should officers' ritual ciphers be lost, the Lodge shall be required to pay a replacement charge for each ritual cipher lost; *Provided*, that payment may be remitted when ritual ciphers are lost by fire or act of God.

(c) The amount of the replacement charge shall be determined in the same manner as the rental fee for additional ritual ciphers as set forth in S.R. 60.060.

Historical Reference: 1950: 35, 170; 1953: 116; 1979: 55, 64; 2014: 66-70, 153

S.R. 60.080. *Instruction Rituals.*

(a) Instruction ritual ciphers shall be printed and distributed to the various Lodges, the ritual ciphers to be printed in three separate cardboard cover booklets, comprising only that part of the Indiana Grand Lodge ritual lectures the candidates are required to commit to memory; Book A to contain the lectures of the Entered Apprentice degree, Book B, the lectures of the Fellow Craft degree and Book C, the lectures of the Master Mason degree.

Revised 2014

(b) Each Lodge shall be furnished with a sufficient number of copies of

each booklet to equal 2% or major fraction of their membership on last returns to the Grand Secretary. Books shall be forwarded to the Secretaries of the subordinate Lodges for distribution to the members of the Instruction Committees.

(c) Each book shall be presented after degree work, and the candidates shall be required to return the Entered Apprentice ritual cipher before receiving the Fellow Craft degree, and to return the Fellow Craft ritual cipher before receiving the Master Mason degree. Each Master Mason candidate will receipt for the Master Mason ritual cipher and shall return the same to the Secretary within 60 days from and after the time he receives the Master Mason degree.

Historical Reference: 1942: 40, 204; 1943: 67, 296, 299; 1944: 38-39, 233; 1954: 52, 99; 2014: 66-70, 153

S.R. 60.090. *Rules for Instruction Rituals.* The following rules shall govern instruction ritual ciphers:

(a) Instruction ritual ciphers may be printed and issued only by the Grand Lodge. When issued to the Secretary of a Lodge they shall thereafter remain the property of the Lodge and shall never be permitted to be out of the possession of the Secretary for more than 60 days at any one time.

(b) Willful failure to return the instruction ritual ciphers to a Lodge upon its demand, shall constitute un-Masonic conduct.

(c) Lodges shall defer the conferring of further degrees upon any Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft Brother until he returns the instruction ritual cipher A or B with which he is chargeable or until he pays for the same, if lost by him.

(d) Lodges shall require the return of instruction ritual ciphers C within 60 days after a Brother has received the Master Mason degree.

(e) Instruction ritual ciphers shall be accounted for by Lodges, and worn out rituals shall be replaced, in the same manner that official ritual ciphers issued to Lodges, are accounted for and replaced.

(f) Lost instruction ritual ciphers shall be replaced only upon receipt by the Grand Secretary of a certificate from the Worshipful Master and Secretary of a Lodge showing the facts surrounding the loss of the ritual cipher and upon the payment of the Lodge of \$1.00 for every lost A, B, and/or C ritual cipher. Lodges are authorized to collect the price of lost ritual ciphers from the Brethren who lose them.

(g) Upon receipt by the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary of a certificate from the Worshipful Master and Secretary setting forth that additional ritual ciphers are needed by the Lodge for the instruction of candidates, there shall be issued to such Lodge such number of additional instruction ritual ciphers as in the opinion of the Grand Master or the Grand Secretary as are necessary, upon payment by the Lodge of a reasonable charge to be determined by the Grand Secretary and approved

Revised 2014

by the Grand Master for every such additional A, B, or C ritual cipher; *Provided,*

however, that when, by an increase of the Lodge membership, the number of additional ritual ciphers issued do not bring the total number of ritual ciphers to a number exceeding one (each of A, B, and C) for each 50 members of the Lodge, no charge shall be made for same; and *provided also*, that all additional instruction ritual ciphers shall be accounted for and replaced when worn out as provided for above in Rule (a).

Historical Reference: 1945: 176-177; 1987: 91; 2014: 66-70, 153

S.R. 60.100. *Sale of Instruction Rituals.* Instruction ritual ciphers cannot be sold to the membership.

Historical Reference: 1947: 22, 225; 2014: 66-70, 153

S.R. 60.110. *Craft Ritual.* The craft ritual cipher is to be included as an official cipher of the Grand Lodge.

Historical Reference: 1992: 21, 67, 73; 2014: 66-70, 153

Revised 2014

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CHAPTER 61

OFFICIAL MONITOR

S.R. 61.010. *Official Monitor.* The Ritual Committee is instructed to prepare and to have printed a monitor, which shall be in accordance with the ritual to the end that the monitorial work in this jurisdiction shall be uniform.

Historical Reference: 1919: 161, 167.

S.R. 61.020. *Copy to Each New Master Mason.* *THE INDIANA MONITOR AND FREEMASON'S GUIDE* is adopted by the Grand Lodge of Indiana as the official monitor. Each Lodge is required to present a copy to each of its newly raised Master Masons at the conclusion of the Master Mason degree work.

Historical Reference: 1946: 23, 243, 245.

CHAPTER 62

SERVICE AWARDS

S.R. 62.010. *Gold Awards (50-Year) - Seventy-Five Year (75-Year).*

(a) A fifty-year emblem, in the form and design adopted by the Grand Lodge, is awarded, and shall be presented, to every Master Mason who has been a Master Mason for a period of fifty years or more; and a seventy-five year emblem, in the form and design adopted by the Grand Lodge, is awarded, and shall be presented, to every Master Mason who has been a Master Mason for a period of seventy-five years or more; *Provided,*

1. That he is at the time a member in good and regular standing of an Indiana Lodge,

2. That he was made a Master Mason in some regular Lodge of this jurisdiction or in some regular Lodge of some other jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge, and,

3. That he has been a member in good and regular standing of some such regular Lodge or Lodges for a total period of fifty years or for a total period of seventy-five years, not including any time he shall be have been demitted, non-affiliated or under suspension.

(b) Applications for the fifty-year or seventy-five year emblem shall be made in the following manner.

A resolution* shall be passed by the applicant's Lodge, at a stated meeting, or a certificate shall be issued, signed by the Worshipful Master and the Secretary of the applicant's Lodge; and such resolution or certificate shall be attested by the seal of the Lodge, and shall set forth the following facts:

1. Full name and residence of applicant.

2. Date of applicant's birth.

3. Date applicant was raised a Master Mason, together with name, number, location and jurisdiction of Lodge where raised.

4. Name, number, location and jurisdiction of all other Lodges of which applicant has been a member, together with the dates of his membership in each Lodge.

5. If ever suspended or unaffiliated, give dates when separated and when restored.

6. Date when presentation is desired; *Provided,* that such date shall be not less than 30 days after the application for the award is received in the Grand Secretary's office.

7. Miscellaneous information regarding the applicant.

Two copies of the resolution or certificate shall be prepared, the original copy to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary and the duplicate copy to be retained by the Lodge and made a part of its records.

(c) Such of the above facts as appear from the records of Lodge shall be certified as such, and the source of all other information shall be stated. In all cases where the records of a Lodge have been lost or destroyed, the subordinate Lodge shall require such proof as will convince a reasonable and careful Brother that the applicant is eligible, and upon presentation of such proof and its acceptance by the Lodge or by the Worshipful Master and Secretary thereof, such officers may make application and proper certificate upon such proof.

(d) The resolution or certificate* shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary. Upon verification of the facts from the records of the Grand Lodge or otherwise, the Grand Secretary shall determine whether the applicant is entitled to the award, and if said applicant is eligible, the application shall be approved and a 50-year or 75-year emblem shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the applicant's Lodge for presentation to said applicant, as hereinafter provided. The Grand Secretary shall file the original copy of the application in the records of his office.

(e) The Lodge making application shall arrange for the presentation of the 50-year or 75-year emblem to the applicant, either by the Grand Master or by some other Master Mason who may be constituted as the personal representative of the Grand Master.

(f) The presentation of the 50-year or 75-year emblem may be made at a public meeting or at a stated or called meeting of the Lodge. All members of the Lodge should be notified by the Worshipful Master or Secretary and their attendance requested in honor of the recipient. If, because of infirmities of age or otherwise, an aged recipient cannot attend the Lodge, the presentation may be made at his home or elsewhere in the presence of his family and friends.

** Essentials of this resolution are contained in the application form for a fifty-year emblem, which may be obtained from the Grand Secretary's office*

Historical Reference: 1940: 89-91, 222; 1956: 40, 88-89; 1957: 34, 88; 1970: 100-101; 1995: 87; 1996: 122.

Approved Decisions

62.010-1. *Sunday Presentations.* The Grand Lodge awards for fifty or seventy-five years shall be the only awards allowed on Sunday; *Provided*, it is held outside of Lodge Room. Lodge may not present other awards on Sunday, even though meeting is held outside Lodge Room and Lodge is not opened. 1965: 81, 126; 1997: 100, 136.

S.R. 62.020. Posthumous Awards. Fifty-year awards, seventy-five year awards and 50 Years a Past Master cannot be applied for after death, but awards in process at death may be made posthumously to the family of the deceased Brother if the Brother was eligible at the time of death.

Historical Reference: 1942: 38; 1943: 43, 257; 1949: 31, 202; 1995: 87, 1996: 122; 2002: 59, 159

Revised June 2002

S.R. 62.030. *Wearing Gold Award, Seventy-Five Year Award and 50 Years A Past Master Award.* The widow or daughter of a deceased Mason, who had received the Indiana Grand Lodge 50-Year Award, 75-Year Award or 50 Years a Past Master Award previous to his death, or posthumously awarded as per S.R. 62.020, may wear the 50-year, 75-year or 50 Years a Past Master emblem.

Historical Reference: 1942: 38; 1995: 87; 1996: 122; 2002: 58, 159.

S.R. 62.040. *Eligibility for Gold Award or 75-Year Award.* A member's eligibility to receive the Award of Gold or the 75-Year Award is not impaired by dues delinquency prior to suspension.

Historical Reference: 1943: 43, 256; 1995: 87.

S.R. 62.050. *Silver Awards.*

(a) Each subordinate Lodge may prepare and present to any member who has been in good standing for a period of 25 years a suitable silver emblem, the form and shape of which is approved by the Grand Master.

(b) The presentation of this award shall be made, using the official ceremony approved by the Ritual Committee, by the Worshipful Master or Brother he may designate.

Editorial Note: The presentation of the twenty-five year award can be found on pages 124 and 125 of the 1996 Proceedings.

Historical Reference: 1949: 200; 1995: 87; 1996: 122.

Approved Decisions

62.050-1. *Sunday Presentations.* The Grand Lodge awards for fifty or seventy-five years shall be the only awards allowed on Sunday; *Provided*, it is held outside of Lodge Room. Lodge may not present other awards on Sunday, even though meeting is held outside Lodge Room and Lodge is not opened. 1965: 81, 126; 1997: 100, 136.

62.050-2. *Certificate for 25 Year Award.* G.M. Recommendation 4-00. G.L. approved the preparation of a certificate to be presented to 25-year recipients.

S.R. 62.060. *Date for Presentation.* A Lodge may not present a Fifty-Year Award of Gold or a Seventy-Five Year Award prior to the actual date when the recipient is eligible.

Historical Reference: 1953: 120, 166; 1960: 100, 133; 1996: 122-123.

Approved Decisions

62.060-1. *Sunday Presentations.* The Grand Lodge awards for fifty or seventy-five years shall be

Revised 2010

the only awards allowed on Sunday; *Provided*, it is held outside of Lodge Room. Lodge may not

present other awards on Sunday, even though meeting is held outside Lodge Room and Lodge is not opened. 1965: 81, 126; 1997: 100, 136.

S.R. 62.070. 50 Years A Past Master Award.

(a) An emblem and certificate in the form and design adopted and provided by the Grand Lodge is awarded and shall be presented to every Past Master who has been a Past Master for a period of fifty years or more as of the date of his installation as Master; *Provided,*

1. that he is at the time a member in good and regular standing of an Indiana Lodge,
2. that he was made a Past Master in some regular Lodge of this jurisdiction or in some regular Lodge of some other jurisdiction recognized by this Grand Lodge and,
3. that he has been a Past Master in good and regular standing of some such regular Lodge or Lodges from the date of his installation as Master for a total of fifty years, not including any time he shall have been demitted, non-affiliated or under suspension.

(b) The presentation of this award shall be made by the subordinate Lodge and shall be accompanied by such ceremony as the Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Lodge deem appropriate.

(c) The Lodge may not present the 50 Years A Past Master Award prior to the actual date when the recipient is eligible.

(d) This award cannot be applied for after death, but awards in process at death may be made posthumously to the family of the deceased Brother if the Brother was eligible at the time of death.

(e) The presentation of this award may be made at a public meeting, stated meeting or called meeting of the Lodge. All members of the Lodge should be notified and their attendance requested in honor of the recipient. If the recipient is unable to attend such a meeting, the presentation may be made at his home or elsewhere in the presence of his family or friends.

Historical Reference: 2000: 144.

S.R. 62.080. Grand Lodge Awards

There is created herewith the following Grand Lodge Awards (Awards): the Caleb B. Smith Medal of Honor, the Order of Service to Masonry, and the Raymond L. White Distinguished Military Service to Freemasonry Award. These Awards shall be subject to the following:

1. Rationale: It is recognized that many of our Brethren serve Freemasonry, our country, and our fellow man tirelessly and well-often without any recognition. It is the intent of a Grand Lodge Award to point out these Brethren for honors so justly due. The spirit behind Grand Lodge Awards is to make certain that Awards are, in fact, an honor, and not presented merely as tokens of personal friendship or admiration or on a more or less reciprocal basis.

2. Committee on Awards: There is created herewith a committee on Awards (Committee), consisting of five members to be appointed by the Grand Master, each member for a term of five years. The Committee shall submit annually to the Grand Master, no later than May 1 of each year, nominations, if any, for Awards.

3. Unanimous Vote Required: Nominations shall be made only by unanimous vote of the Committee. The manner of voting shall be determined by the Chairman of the Committee.

Revised 2010

4. Recommendation for Awards: Any member of the Grand Lodge of Indiana may make recommendations for Awards. Grand Lodge of Indiana members cannot recommend

themselves for any awards.

5. Form of and Timely Filing of Recommendations: All recommendations for Awards shall be in writing, signed by a member of Grand Lodge, and on the form(s) prescribed by the Committee. Recommendations may be submitted annually between February 1 and March 31 but must be received (not post marked) in the Grand Secretary's Office by April 1 (or the next business day if April 1 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday). Recommendations may be submitted in person, by mail, facsimile or e-mail provided, however, that those submitted by facsimile or e-mail shall be followed with the original submitted by mail.

6. Medals and Citations: All Awards shall be comprised of a framed citation and medal. The medals may be worn to any Masonic event by the recipient.

(a) The Caleb B. Smith Medal of Honor shall be bronze, suspended on a red ribbon, with the face depicting the Seal of the Grand Lodge. The reverse shall have an inscription around the perimeter reading: "*For Distinguished Service*", with a small Masonic emblem at the bottom and in the center "Awarded to (name), (year)." The Bar will be inscribed to read "Caleb B. Smith Medal of Honor."

(b) The Order of Service to Masonry medal shall be suspended from a neck cord.

(c) The Raymond L. White Distinguished Military Service to Freemasonry Award medal shall be suspended from a neck cord.

7. Failure to Accept an Award: Awards must be presented within two years after the nomination or the nomination becomes void and not eligible for further consideration.

8. Posthumous Awards: Awards cannot be applied for after death, but Awards in process may be made posthumously to the family of the deceased Brother if the Brother was eligible at the time of death. This provision does not apply to the Raymond L. White Distinguished Military Service to Freemasonry Award.

9. Announcement and Presentation of Award: The announcement of an Award shall not be made to any person whomsoever until it is made by the Grand Master at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. Presentation of an Award, in all instances, shall be made only by the Grand Master or his designee, at a time and place, during or after the Annual Communication, as determined by the Grand Master.

10. Qualifications and Limitations for the Caleb B. Smith Medal of Honor:

(a) There are three (3) categories for the Caleb B. Smith Medal of Honor: The Committee may only make one (1) nomination annually from each category or may refrain from making any nominations.

(b) Category One: For distinguished service in some field of endeavor beneficial to mankind, or in the public service, to a member of an Indiana Lodge who by preeminent achievement in a field other than Freemasonry, has brought honor and distinction to Freemasonry. Elective officers of the Grand Lodge of Indiana and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Indiana shall be considered eligible for awards in this category.

Revised 2010

(c) Category Two: For eminent leadership and outstanding achievement in and service to Freemasonry at large, to a member of a Lodge in any jurisdiction recognized by

the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Elective officers of the Grand Lodge of Indiana and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Indiana shall be considered eligible for awards in this category.

(d) Category Three: For outstanding service to Freemasonry in Indiana, to any member of an Indiana Lodge without regard to the number of years of membership or Lodge offices held: PROVIDED, that elective officers of the Grand Lodge of Indiana and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Indiana shall be considered ineligible for awards in this category.

(e) The Recommendation Form for this Award is shown in the Annual Proceedings for 2010 as Exhibit One and is available from the office of the Grand Secretary and on the Grand Lodge of Indiana Website.

11. Qualifications and Limitations for the Order of Service to Masonry Award:

(a) The qualification for this Award shall be for continual and distinguished service to Freemasonry in Indiana. The Brother, including Plural Members, must have been a member of a Lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Indiana for at least ten (10) years.

(b) The elective officers of the Grand Lodge of Indiana and Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Indiana shall be considered ineligible for this Award.

(c) The Committee may nominate no more than six (6) Brethren each year for this Award.

(d) The recipient of this Award may affix, the initials "O.S.M." when signing his name on Masonic correspondence, documents, and registers.

(e) The Recommendation Form for this Award is shown in the Annual Proceedings for 2010 as Exhibit Two and is available from the office of the Grand Secretary and on the Grand Lodge of Indiana Website.

12. Qualifications and Limitations for the Raymond L. White Distinguished Military Service to Freemasonry Award:

(a) The qualifications for this Award shall be for a Master Mason, including a Plural Member, who has served or is currently serving in the United States Military, who is a member of any Lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Indiana, and has demonstrated distinguished service to Freemasonry and the United States of America.

(b) The Committee may nominate no more than five (5) Brethren each year for this Award.

(c) The recipient may affix, the initials "D.M.S.F." after his name when signing Masonic correspondence, documents and registers.

(d) The Recommendation Form for this Award is shown in the Annual Proceedings for 2010 as Exhibit Three and is available from the office of the Grand Secretary and on the Grand Lodge of Indiana Website.

Historical Reference: 1922: 21, 66; 1963: 39, 90; 1966: 46, 97; 1985: 71, 128; 1995: 86; 2002: 52, 155; 2005: 54-55, 108; 2006: 35, 107; 2010: 49-55, 121.

Revised 2010

CHAPTER 63

MISCELLANEOUS

S.R. 63.010. *The Masonic Apron.*

(a) The white apron, which is the badge of a Mason, shall be at all times kept clean and spotless, neatly pressed and in good repair so that it may be worn with pride by every member of the Craft. Except as hereinafter provided, the apron for all occasions and purposes shall be plain white.

(b) The only borders, emblems, or designs that are authorized to appear on the Masonic apron are those which may be used appropriately to designate officers or past officers of the Lodge or Grand Lodge. Also permitted shall be lettering to designate that a Brother has reached a significant milestone in his Masonic career such as 50, 60 or 75 Years a Member.

(c) On every occasion the apron must be worn outside of all clothing, the strings tied in a neat bow. However, when worn with a tail coat or a morning suit coat the apron may be worn under the coat.

Historical Reference: 1936: 258; 1943: 32, 256; 1945: 172; 1954: 44, 100; 1961: 36, 90; 2013: 67, 159

S.R. 63.020. *Reading the Old Charges.* Every Worshipful Master shall see to it that the Old Charges are read and discussed in his Lodge at least once a year, and as much oftener as may seem necessary in order that the Craft generally may become familiar with the foundation of our Fraternity.

Historical Reference: 1932: 257.

Cross Reference: Appendix B.

S.R. 63.030. *Smoking in Lodge Room.* Tobacco smoking is prohibited in the Lodge Room while the Lodge is in session.

Historical Reference: 1948: 197.

S.R. 63.040. *Intoxicants at Masonic Banquets.* It is improper and contrary to Masonic Law in Indiana for a Lodge to serve wines and other liquors at a banquet.

Historical Reference: 1902: 19, 88.

S.R. 63.050. *Certificate of Proficiency.* The Grand Secretary is authorized to prepare a standard form to be known as a Certificate of Proficiency, which certificate may be issued by the Secretaries of Lodges to Master Masons who have successfully passed their proficiency examination.

Historical Reference: 1951: 35, 64; 1954: 52, 101
Revised 2013

S.R. 63.062. *George Washington Commission.* There is created the

George Washington Commission, the purpose of which shall be to erect in the State of Indiana a larger-than-life-size statue of George Washington, eminent Freemason and first President of the United States of America, said statue to be a gift to the citizens of the State of Indiana from all Freemasons who are members of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana.

The George Washington Commission shall have full responsibility for, and direct control of the entire project together with, but not limited to, site location, selection of a sculptor, all arrangements for necessary contracts including delivery, erection of the statue on an appropriate pedestal and inscriptions thereon, arrangements for the timely dedication of the statue by the Grand Master of Masons in Indiana, all funding for the project and creation of a permanent fund to provide for future maintenance of the statue and pedestal, and such other duties required of the Commission in the discharge of its duties herein enumerated.

The George Washington Commission shall consist of the following Brethren: Robert B. Bailey, Portage; Edmund F. Ball, Muncie; David W. Brock, New Albany; James S. DeMond, Fort Wayne; Robert E. DuBois, Highland; C. C. Faulkner, Jr., Zionsville; Robert D. Green, Vincennes; Robert J. Hepler, Goshen; John W. McNaughton, Fort Wayne; Ira J. Martz, South Bend; Paul H. Mendenhall, Richmond; John T. Myers, Covington; Robert E. Price, Connersville; Denis E. Ribordy, Portage; Gene E. Sease, Indianapolis; Edwin J. Simcox, Indianapolis; John J. Thomas, Brazil; William G. Walther, Elkhart; and Richard L. Williamson, Indianapolis.

Vacancies on the Commission herein named and additional appointments to the Commission shall be made by appointment of the Grand Master upon nomination by the Commission.

The Commission is empowered to undertake any and all actions, studies and plans, and make decisions it may deem wise and prudent consistent with Indiana Masonic Law, and it shall be in control of any and all funds placed at its disposal by the Grand Lodge or any other source. The Commission shall not incur debt beyond its ability to pay.

Historical Reference: 1963: 39, 90; 1966: 46, 97; 1985: 71, 128.

S.R. 63.070. Road Signs. Lodges are permitted to erect, or cause to be erected, road signs bearing the Masonic emblem, the name of the Lodge, its meeting place and information relative to when meetings are held. The design of such signs shall be as specified in drawing GL-1 on file in the Grand Secretary's office. Signs may be displayed on individual standards (posts) or combined with those of other organizations. Erection of road signs must be in compliance with all

applicable laws governing the same. The Lodge erecting such signs shall be

responsible for their maintenance in order to maintain the high standards of Freemasonry.

Historical Reference: 1978: 60; 1988: 74-75; 1993: 101, 104.

S.R. 63.080. *Displaying the Volume of Sacred Law.* The Volume of Sacred Law may be opened upon the Lodge's altar while the Lodge is not in session. It shall be the special duty of the Master to choose an appropriate passage.

Historical Reference: 1999: 124, 138.

Cross Reference: Reg. 18.010.

S.R. 63.090. *Table Lodge.* A room design and suggestions for use of a Table Lodge or Festive Board on the Master Mason degree is adopted. (See Masonic Festivals and the Table Lodge.)

Historical Reference: 2000: 34, 136-137, 154.

CHAPTER 64

MASONIC HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

S.R. 64.010 *Establishment.* On January 13, 1818, fourteen Masons throughout Indiana met at the upstairs meeting room of the house of Alexander Lanier. They agreed to meet there to establish a Grand Lodge for Indiana the previous month in Corydon, Indiana. The Schofield House was purchased from Charlotte Schofield and her daughter in 1972 for \$25,000 by the Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis. The Heritage Foundation was established and Articles of Incorporation were filed January 24, 1974 and amended January 11, 2013. The building was opened to the public as a Masonic Museum on April 19, 1975 and dedicated as Living Museum to the State of Indiana in 1976.

S.R. 64.020. *Administration.* The Heritage Foundation shall be governed and administered by a Board of Directors, five in number, composed as follows: Three Master Masons appointed by the Grand Master and two members appointed by the Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis. Officers shall be elected by the Board and shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. The Resident Agent shall be the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge. The Board may appoint, as is necessary, personnel to maintain and manage the Schofield House.

S.R. 64.030. *Powers and Duties.* The Board shall have full control of all property placed under its management by the Grand Lodge and shall have the power to do all things which in their judgment shall be necessary or desirable for the best interest of the Schofield House.

S.R. 64.040. *Incorporation.* The Board is hereby authorized and directed to cause the creation of a corporation or other legal entity which shall be organized under the laws of the State of Indiana exclusively for the aforesaid purposes and in such manner to qualify as a tax-exempt entity under the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code as the same may be amended from time-to-time, that gifts and bequests to such corporation shall qualify for deduction purposes under the Federal Income, Gift and Estate Tax Laws.

S.R. 64.050. *Accounting.* The Board shall annually account to the Grand Lodge with a full report of its actions and at any and all other times as may be deemed necessary.

Historical Reference: 2013: 80, 161.

Revised 2013

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules of Order, General Regulations and Standing Resolutions adopted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana for its government and for the government of all Lodges under its jurisdiction.

Witness my signature and the seal of the Grand Lodge at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 1st day of November A.D. 2001, A.L. 6001.



Max L. Carpenter, P.G.M.
Grand Secretary



Appendix A

THE ANCIENT LANDMARKS

“The ancient landmarks of the order, entrusted to your care, you are carefully to preserve. . .”

“Landmarks in Freemasonry are certain, universal, unalterable, and un-repealable fundamentals which have existed from time immemorial and are so thoroughly a part of Masonry that no Masonic authority may derogate from them or do aught but maintain them.”

The Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Indiana, in common with several other jurisdictions, has never officially adopted a specific list of Ancient Landmarks, although it recognizes their existence by direct references to them in ritual and ceremonies.

Throughout the Masonic world, there is a marked divergence of opinion as to what actually constitutes all of the true Landmarks of Freemasonry; and a rather wide variety are recognized by various Grand Lodges. *The seven which follow, however, are common to all.* Thus they may be considered as universally acceptable wherever Landmarks have been officially adopted.

It is not the intention of this very brief review to imply that the following list is exhaustive or exclusive. It merely presents those Landmarks upon which all authorities apparently agree, thus indicating to the thoughtful Craftsman the fundamental nature of Landmarks, as well as a sound basis upon which to approach a more thorough study of this interesting and important subject.

The following Landmarks are common to all officially adopted lists:

(1) *Monotheism* is the sole dogma of Freemasonry. Belief in one God is required of every initiate, but his conception of the Supreme Being is left to his own interpretation. Freemasonry is not concerned with theological distinctions. This is the basis of our universality.

(2) *Belief in Immortality* is the ultimate lesson of Masonic philosophy. “The soul of man is the highest product of God’s creative handiwork. Now, after God has spent untold time in creating and endowing him with a soul, which is the reflection of His image, is it reasonable to suppose that man lives here on earth for a brief span and then is extinguished by death.”

(3) *The Volume of the Sacred Law* is an indispensable part of the furniture of a Lodge. In our jurisdiction, it is usually the Bible, but any candidate not a Christian may have substituted for it any other volume he considers sacred: e.g., the Old Testament, Koran, Vedas or Laws of Confucius. In one Lodge in China, there are three Sacred Books open on the Altar at the same time, and the candidate elects one of the three on which to be obligated.

(4) *The Legend of the Third Degree* is the most important and significant of the legendary symbols of Freemasonry. It has descended from age-to-age by oral tradition, and has been preserved in every Masonic rite, practiced in any country or language, with no essential alteration.

(5) *Masonic Secrecy* includes only methods of recognition and of symbolic instruction. It does not extend to everything relating to the institution. A secret society is one whose members are not publicly known, and whose existence is concealed from the world. Masonic bodies, however, meet openly; there is no secrecy concerning membership or officers; and Masonic symbols and philosophy are discussed in thousands of books accessible to anyone. Masonry has no part in subversive activities, yet its secrets belong to the Fraternity just as the private affairs of a family are its own concern.

(6) *Symbolism of the Operative Art* means that Masonic symbols are taken from architecture. Almost without exception they relate to the building art: Square, Level, Plumb, Ashlars, Pillars, Trestle-Board, etc. The Grand Idea of Masonry is that the development of character is like the building of a Temple, the same rules apply to both. There must first be a plan, then a foundation and framework, and, finally, proportion and harmony of line. There must be “wisdom to contrive, strength to support, and beauty to adorn all great and important undertakings.” This is a practical truth of universal application to all forms of achievement. The symbols of Freemasonry are drawn from the experience of the ages.

(7) *A Mason must be a freeborn male adult* primarily because he must be Master of his time, his resources, and himself. In Operative Masonry, women and young men could not work at the Mason’s trade; so traditionally membership in the Craft has been confined to male adults, and from long usage this practice has become imbedded in the Fraternity as a Landmark.

Adapted from Manual for Lodges of Instruction, by courtesy of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Massachusetts.

Appendix B

THE OLD CHARGES

THE CHARGES
OF A
FREEMASON
EXTRACTED FROM THE
ANCIENT RECORDS OF LODGE
BEYOND SEA

TO BE READ AT THE MAKING OF NEW BRETHREN, OR
WHEN THE MASTER SHALL ORDER IT

GENERAL HEADS

- I. OF GOD AND RELIGION.
- II. OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATES, SUPREME AND SUBORDINATE.
- III. OF LODGES.
- IV. OF MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS AND APPRENTICES.
- V. OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CRAFT IN WORKING.
- VI. OF BEHAVIOR, viz:
 1. In the Lodge while constituted.
 2. After the Lodge is over and the Brethren not gone.
 3. When Brethren meet without strangers, but not in a Lodge formed.
 4. In the presence of strangers not Masons.
 5. At home and in your neighborhood.
 6. Towards a strange Brother.

I. CONCERNING GOD AND RELIGION

A Mason is obliged, by his Tenure, to obey the Moral Law, and if he rightly understands the Art he will never be a stupid ATHEIST nor an irreligious LIBERTINE.

But though in Ancient Times Masons were charged in every Country to be of the Religion of that Country or Nation, whatever it was, yet is now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that Religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular Opinions to themselves; that is to be GOOD MEN and TRUE, or Men of Honor and Honesty, by whatever denominations or persuasions they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the Center of Union, and the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance.

Editorial Note: Every Worshipful Master shall “see to it that the Ancient Charges are read and discussed in his Lodge at least once a year, and as much oftener as may seem necessary in order that the Craft generally become familiar with the foundation of our Ancient Fraternity.” 1932: 257.

II. OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATES, SUPREME AND SUBORDINATE

A Mason is a peaceable subject to the civil powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by war, bloodshed and confusion, so Ancient Kings and Princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen, because of their peaceableness and loyalty; whereby they practically answered the cavils of the adversaries, and promoted the Honor of the Fraternity, whoever flourished in times of peace. So that if a Brother should be a rebel against the State, he is not to be countenanced in his rebellion; however, he may be pitied as an unhappy man and, if convicted of no other crime, though the loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his rebellion, and give no umbrage or ground of political jealousy to the Government for the time being; they cannot expel him from the Lodge and his relation to it remains indefeasible.

III. OF LODGES

A Lodge is a place where Masons assemble and work; hence that assembly, or duly organized Society of Masons, is called a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its By-laws and General Regulations.

It is either particular or general, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annexed. In ancient times, no Master or Fellow could be absent from it, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appeared to the Master and Wardens, that pure necessity hindered him.

The persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true men, freeborn, and of a mature and discreet age, no bondman, no women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.

IV. OF MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS AND APPRENTICES

All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only; that so the Lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised; therefore, no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing and therefore every Brother must attend in his place and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity: Candidates may nevertheless know, that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he is a perfect Youth, having no maim or defect in his body, that may render him incapable of learning the art of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a Brother, and then a Fellow Craft in due time, after he has served a term of years as the custom of the country directs; otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the honor of being a Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length, the Grand Master of the Lodges, according to his merit.

No Brother can be a Warden unless he has passed the part of a Fellow Craft; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden, nor a Grand Warden until he has been Master of a Lodge, nor Grand Master until he has been a Fellow Craft before his election, who is also to be nobly born, or a Gentleman of his best fashion, or some eminent Scholar or some curious Architect, or other Artist, descended of honest parents, and who is singularly great merit in the opinion of the Lodge.

These Rulers and Governors, Supreme and Subordinate, of the Ancient Lodge, are to be obeyed in their respective stations by all the Brethren, according to the Old Charges and regulations, with all humility, reverence, love and alacrity.

V. OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CRAFT IN WORKING

All Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on Holy days; and the time appointed by the Law of the Land, or confirmed by custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the Fellow-Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master, or Overseer of the Lord's work; who is to be called Master by those who work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill language, and call each other by no disobliging name, but Brother or Fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of cunning, shall undertake the Lord's Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispense his goods as if they were his own; nor give more wages to any Brother or Apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons receiving their wages justly, shall be faithful to the Lord and honestly finish their work, whether task or journey; not put the work to take that hath been accustomed to journey.

None shall discover envy at the prosperity of a Brother, not supplant him, or put him out of his work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's work so much to the Lord's profit, unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the designs and draughts of him that began it.

When a Fellow-Craftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Master's absence to the Lords' profit; and his Brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their wages without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master till the work be finished.

A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the materials for want of judgment, and for increasing an continuing of Brotherly Love.

All the tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

No laborer shall be employed in the proper work of Masonry; nor shall Freemasons work with those that are not free without an urgent necessity; nor shall they teach laborers or unaccepted Masons, as they should teach a Brother or a Fellow.

VI. OF BEHAVIOR

1. IN THE LODGE WHILE CONSTITUTED

You are not to hold private committees or separate conversations, without leave from the Master, nor talk of anything impertinently nor unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Warden's, or any Brother speaking to the Master; nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming language upon any pretense whatsoever; but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens and Fellows, and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the Brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the Lodge, who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies (unless you carry them by appeal to the Grand Lodge), and to whom they ought to be referred, unless Lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made; but you must never go to law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the Lodge.

2. BEHAVIOR AFTER THE LODGE IS OVER AND THE BRETHREN NOT GONE

You may enjoy yourself with innocent mirth, treating one another according to ability, but avoiding excess, or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his inclination, or hindering him from going when his occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an easy and free conversation; for that would blast our harmony, and defeat our laudable purposes. Therefore, no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the doors of the Lodges, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations or State, we being only, as Masons, of the Universal Religion above mentioned; we are also of all Nations', Tongues, Kindred, and Languages and are resolved against all Politicks, as what never yet conducted to the welfare of the Lodge, nor ever will.

3. BEHAVIOR WHEN BRETHREN MEET WITHOUT STRANGERS BUT NOT IN A LODGE FORMED

You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other Brother, were he not a Mason: for though all Masons are as Brethren upon the same level, yet Masonry takes no honor from a man that he had before; nay, rather it adds to his honor, especially if he has deserved well of the Brotherhood, who must give honor to whom it is due, and avoid ill manners.

4. BEHAVIOR IN PRESENCE OF STRANGERS NOT MASONS

You should be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger should not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you may divert a discourse, and manage it prudently for the honor of the Worshipful Fraternity.

5. BEHAVIOR AT HOME AND IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

You are to act as becomes a moral and wise man; particularly not to let your family, friends and neighbors know the concerns of the Lodge, but wisely to consult your own honor, and that of the Ancient Brotherhood, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home, after Lodge hours are past; and by avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your family be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

6. BEHAVIOR TOWARDS A STRANGE BROTHER

You are cautioned to examine him, in such a manner as prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant false pretender, whom you are to reject with contempt and derision, and beware of giving him any hints of knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine Brother, you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or direct him how he may be relieved: You must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employed. But you are not charged to do beyond your ability, only to prefer a poor Brother, and a Good Man and True, before any other people in the same circumstances.

Finally, all these charges you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated unto you in another way; cultivating Brotherly Love, Foundation and Cap-stone, the Cement and Glory of this ancient Fraternity, avoiding all wrangling and quarreling, all slander and backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother, but defending his character, and doing him all good offices, so far as is consistent with your honor and safety, and no further. And if any of them do you injury, you must apply to your own or his Lodge, and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communications, and from thence to the annual Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable conduct of our forefathers in every Nation; never taking a legal course but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of Master and Fellows, when they would prevent your going to law with strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all law-suits, that so you may find the affair of Masonry with more alacrity and success; but with respect to Brothers or Fellows at Law, the Master and Brethren should kindly offer their mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to be the contending Brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must, however, carry on their process of Law-suit, without wrath or rancor (not in the common way), saying or doing nothing which may hinder Brotherly Love, and good offices to be renewed and continued that all may see the benign influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the beginning of the world, and will do to the end of time.

AMEN, SO MOTE IT BE

Appendix C

RECEPTION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Distinguished guests are received in the following manner:

Reception of Grand Master

When the Most Worshipful Grand Master visits a Lodge, he must be received with the greatest respect and with suitable ceremony.

The Worshipful Master of the Lodge should always offer him the chair and gavel, which the Grand Master may or may not accept, at his pleasure. When the Grand Master surrenders the gavel to the Worshipful Master, the Grand Master should be seated at the right hand of the Worshipful Master.

He should be received in the following manner. The Lodge should be opened in form. The Grand Master should be in the Tyler's Room, or a reception room nearby.

The Worshipful Master should inform the Lodge that a distinguished guest is in waiting, appoint a Reception Committee, and direct such committee and the Senior Deacon to retire and escort the distinguished guest into the Lodge. The Tyler should make the usual alarm and announce that the committee and Senior Deacon with a distinguished guest desire admission.

The Junior Deacon repeats the announcement, and, when given permission by the Worshipful Master, the Senior Deacon and the committee escort the Grand Master into the Lodge. Immediately on their admittance into the Lodge, the Worshipful Master should call up the Lodge, himself rising last. On arriving at the Altar the usual salutation should be given by those entering which salutation should be returned by the Worshipful Master.

The Senior Deacon then introduces the Grand Master to the Worshipful Master, who, in turn, introduces him to the Lodge, welcomes him and calls on the Lodge to unite with him in giving the Grand Honors to the Grand Master.

After the Grand Honors are given, the Worshipful Master should direct the Senior Deacon to escort the Grand Master to the East. The committee should retire to their seats. On arrival in the East, the Grand Master should be presented with the gavel and invited to preside. The Grand Master should immediately seat the Lodge. It would be appropriate at this time for the Grand Master to give an address or at least to make some brief remarks suitable to the occasion. He then may proceed to preside over the Lodge for the ceremonies or business on hand, or he may return the gavel to the Worshipful Master. During the time the Grand Master is presiding, the Worshipful Master should be seated at his left hand.

Reception of Deputy Grand Master or Special Deputy of the Grand Master

The regularly elected Deputy Grand Master, or a Special Deputy of the Grand Master when acting as Grand Master, is received in the same manner as the Grand Master, and is entitled to receive the Grand Honors and enjoy the same rights and prerogatives as the Grand Master.

Reception of Past Grand Masters

Past Grand Masters are entitled to receive the Grand Honors, but none of the other rights and privileges of the Grand Master.

Reception of Other Grand Officers

Officers of the Grand Lodge, other than the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, should be received in the same manner as the Grand Master, with the exception that they are not entitled (as such) to receive the Grand Honors and do not have the right to preside.

Reception of Officers of Other Grand Jurisdictions

Officers of other Grand Jurisdictions should be received in the same manner as our own of the same rank and accorded the same courtesies, with the exception that they are not entitled to preside.

Order of Precedence

On entering the Lodge, the Senior Deacon enters first, followed in single file by the distinguished guest (or guests), then the committee.

If there be more than one distinguished guest, the Senior Deacon enters first, followed in single file by the several distinguished guests in order of their rank, the committee being last.

The following is the order of precedence:

1. Grand Master
2. Special Deputy of Grand Master
3. Deputy Grand Master
4. Past Grand Masters in order of year of service; the one who has been Past Grand Master longest preceding other Past Grand Masters.
5. Past Deputy Grand Masters, in same order of Past Grand Masters.

Editorial Note: The above named five classes are entitled to Grand Honors.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6. Senior Grand Warden | 13. Senior Grand Deacon |
| 7. Junior Grand Warden | 14. Junior Grand Deacon |
| 8. Grand Treasurer | 15. Grand Steward and Tyler |
| 9. Grand Secretary | 16. Assistant Grand Lecturer |
| 10. Grand Chaplain | 17. Worshipful Masters |
| 11. Grand Lecturer | 18. Past Worshipful Masters |
| 12. Grand Marshal | |

Editorial Note: In the event several distinguished guests are presented to the Lodge at one time, some of whom are entitled to receive Grand Honors, and some of whom are not, all such distinguished guests may be received into the Lodge at one time, and the Worshipful Master will introduce to the Lodge those who are entitled to Grand Honors, and at once accord them such Grand Honors; and then immediately proceed to introduce to the Lodge all other such distinguished guests.

Historical Reference: 1936: 242-245.

Grand Honors are given as follows:

1. Strike the palm of the left hand three times with the palm of the right hand. (Pause a moment)
2. Strike the palm of the right hand three times with the palm of the left hand. (Pause a moment)
3. Strike the palm of the left hand three times with the palm of the right hand.

Historical Reference: 1936: 24.

Who are Entitled to Grand Honors

Whether of our own Grand Jurisdiction or of another Grand Jurisdiction recognized as regular by us, the only persons entitled to Grand Honors are:

- (a) Grand Master
- (b) Special Deputy of Grand Master while so acting
- (c) Deputy Grand Master
- (d) Past Grand Masters
- (e) Past Deputy Grand Masters (not Past Special Deputies)

Historical Reference: 1936: 244.

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Appendix D

MODEL BY-LAWS

BY-LAWS

OF

_____ **LODGE NO. _____, F. & A.M., of**
_____, **Indiana**

ARTICLE I

MEETINGS

(Reg. 22)

The stated meetings of this Lodge shall be held on the _____ of each month, opening at _____ o'clock p.m. Called meetings for trials, conferral of degrees receiving of petitions or ceremonial observances may be held upon call of the presiding officer, and at such other times as the interests of the Lodge may require.

ARTICLE 2

OFFICERS

Sec. 1. (Reg. 12.020). The officers of this Lodge shall be a Worshipful Master, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior Deacon, a Junior Deacon, a Chaplain, a Senior Steward, a Junior Steward, a Tyler and three Trustees.

Sec. 2. (Reg. 17.010). The annual election of officers shall be held at the stated meeting next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist (December 27). The first five officers for a term of one year, and one trustee for a term of three years, must be elected by ballot, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect. Blank ballots shall not be counted. The remaining officers shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master-elect. All officers shall be installed on or before the next stated meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable.

ARTICLE 3

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Sec. 1. (Regs. 18.010 and 39.030). It shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master to see the by-laws and regulations of this Lodge, and those of the Grand Lodge, are enforced and obeyed, and that the several officers perform their respective duties. He shall appoint all committees, and see that the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity are not removed. He shall ensure that two signatures are required on all financial withdrawals.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Wardens to assist the Worshipful Master in the performance of his duties, and, in his absence, to preside in order of seniority.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer shall receive all monies from the Secretary, and pay them out when directed by the Lodge and certified to him by the Secretary, and keep a correct account of the receipts and disbursements. His compensation shall be _____.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all proceedings of the Lodge, proper to be written, and make a monthly report to the Grand Lodge, as required; to receive all monies due the Lodge, and immediately pay the same to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefore. He shall make a financial statement at the first stated meeting in each month, in form required by the Grand Lodge. He shall open an account with each member, showing all of his names (and in full), and shall keep up the historical as well as the financial record in each case. His compensation shall be _____.

Sec. 5. (Reg. 24.030). Both the Treasurer and the Secretary shall, at the first stated meeting in January, report the receipts and expenditures of the Lodge for the preceding year, specifying the different kinds of receipts and the items of expenditure, with the amount of each, which shall be referred to the Finance Committee for audit.

Sec. 6. The Deacons shall perform their prescribed duties and shall welcome and introduce visitors.

Sec. 7. The Chaplain shall perform his prescribed duties, assist in the Funeral Ceremony, and give spiritual advice and consolation where it is needed and desired.

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the Stewards to attend to the introduction of candidates and to assist the other officers in the performance of their Lodge duties, when called upon.

Sec. 9. It shall be the duty of the Tyler to guard the Lodge, keep the rooms and furniture clean and in order and perform other customary services, and he shall receive for such faithful services _____ per meeting.

Sec. 10. (Regs. 12, 17 and 24). The duties of the Trustees shall be to manage any and all real estate of the Lodge, with full power to rent and keep it in repair in such manner and to such extent as in their judgment will be for the best interests of the Lodge, subject at all times to the instructions, orders and authority of the Lodge. They shall make their annual report at the first stated meeting in January.

Sec. 11. (Reg. 39.070). No sale of real estate belonging to this Lodge and no purchase of real estate by this Lodge shall be made by the Trustees without express authorization and approval of the Lodge, after consideration of the matter during at least two consecutive monthly stated meetings of the Lodge, and after all the members shall have been notified by mail of such proposed sale or purchase at least ten days before final action is taken thereon.

Sec. 12. It shall be the duty of every officer, committee or person having control of Lodge funds, to deposit such funds in the depository designated by the Lodge and in the name of this Lodge.

ARTICLE 4

COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. FINANCE. (Reg. 24.040). Upon the receipt of the financial reports at the first stated meeting in January, the Worshipful Master shall appoint three (3) members of the Lodge as a standing Committee on Finance, whose duty it shall be to audit the books and accounts of the Secretary and the Treasurer and of all other persons entrusted with the handling of Lodge funds, as well as all bills and claims against the Lodge, and no allowance shall be made until such examination, except by unanimous consent of the Lodge. The audit report shall be presented at the first stated meeting in February, shall be entered upon the minutes of the Lodge and a certification that it has been properly made and so entered shall be reported to the Grand Secretary on the Grand Lodge annual reports.

Sec. 2. MASONIC HOME/FOUNDATION AMBASSADOR (Reg. 39.040). Immediately after his installation, the Worshipful Master shall appoint an Ambassador to the Masonic Home and the Masonic Home Foundation whose duty it shall be to cooperate with the Directors of the Indiana Masonic Home and the Executive Director of the Indiana Masonic Home Foundation in all affairs pertaining to the Home/Foundation, in which the Lodge is or may become interested. He shall keep a regular account and make a written report of the same at the first stated meeting in January.

Sec. 3. CHARITY. (Reg. 38). The Worshipful Master and Wardens shall constitute a Committee on Charity, and shall have authority to draw on the Relief Fund for any sum not exceeding_____dollars, for the relief of any member, his widow or orphans, who may need assistance. They shall report their action in all such cases at the next stated meeting of the Lodge and report the balance remaining in the Relief Fund. The annual report of the Charity Committee shall be made at the first stated meeting in January.

Sec. 4. FAMILY. (Reg. 38.010). The Worshipful Master shall appoint one or more Brothers to a committee to be known as the Committee of the Family whose duty it shall be:

- (1) To maintain a location file on each member's widow and orphans.
- (2) To maintain contact with each members's widow and orphans and to inform the Lodge as occasion should require, but no less than once annually, concerning the well-being of a deceased Brother's family.
- (3) To encourage, whenever possible, a Brother's widow and orphans being included in Lodge social activities. For purposes of interpretation of this regulation, a widow shall be defined as the un-remarried widow of a deceased Mason and an orphan shall be defined as a child, under twenty-one years of age, of a deceased Mason.

Sec. 5. MASONIC EDUCATION. (Reg. 39.101). (a) The Worshipful Master shall appoint five (5) members as a Committee on Masonic Education whose duty it shall be: (1) To promote interest among members and candidates in the knowledge of Masonic history, literature, and symbolism by the regular presentation of appropriate programs. (2) To keep the Lodge informed concerning the activities of Freemasonry in general and the Grand Lodge of Indiana and its programs in particular; and, (3) To promote the establishment, maintenance and use of such a library of Masonic literature as the Worshipful Master and the Lodge shall direct.

ARTICLE 5

MASONIC RELIEF FUND

(Reg. 38.040)

Each Lodge may maintain, within its General Fund, an amount of money equal to or greater than \$1.00 per member to be identified as the Lodge Relief Fund. If Lodges do not maintain the Relief Fund within the General Fund, they shall maintain the Relief Fund either in the General Savings Fund or a separate relief account. This fund shall be drawn upon for no other purpose than for extending relief to Freemasons or their dependents, and all such relief extended shall be drawn from this fund. Should the balance in this fund become less than an average of one dollar per member, it shall be replenished by voting money to it from the Lodge General Treasury or voting an assessment against the members for that purpose. Failure to pay such an assessment shall be equivalent to non-payment of dues and shall be dealt with in the same manner and carry the same penalty.

ARTICLE 6

DUES

Sec. 1. (Reg. 37.070). The dues of this Lodge shall be \$_____ (not less than \$5.00) per year for each member, to which shall be added the per capita assessment as established by Grand Lodge each year for operation of the Indiana Masonic Home. Dues and Masonic Home assessments shall be paid in advance on or before the first day of January of each year. Such dues and assessments not paid on January first in advance are in arrears. Lodges may assess and collect a late fee not to exceed \$5.00 to the total amount of the dues in arrears. Original dues statements will include the preceding sentence. Subsequent notices for payment of dues in arrears will itemize any late fee assessed. Delinquent members may be required to reimburse the Lodge for the actual cost of sending notices by certified mail. At the first stated meeting in June, dues will be discussed and the amount set for the next year.

Sec. 2. (Reg. 37.070). (a) Not later than three weeks after the date of the first stated meeting in January, the Secretary shall give notice by mail to all Brethren who are in arrears for dues and assessments stating that they must, at or before the first stated meeting in February, pay or satisfactorily explain to the Lodge in writing, all arrearage in dues and assessments, and inform them of the late fee which has been assessed.

(b) At the first stated meeting in February, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a dues committee of three or more members including the Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Secretary, to investigate all arrearage in dues and assessments, with the instruction to the said committee to ascertain the cause of such arrearage by contacting each delinquent member, whenever possible by personal contact, and to report their findings at the first stated meeting in March.

(c) At the first stated meeting in March, the Worshipful Master shall call for a report of the Dues Committee and shall first take up the matter of remission in worthy cases. The Lodge may vote to remit either upon the recommendation of the committee or upon other motion properly made and seconded. The Worshipful Master shall next order that charges for non-payment of dues and assessments shall then be filed by the committee against all Brethren whose dues and assessments are not paid or remitted.

(d) At the first stated meeting in April of each year the Worshipful Master shall call for a report from the Secretary indicating all Brethren whose dues are not paid. The Worshipful Master shall then conduct a trial for said Brethren in accordance with Reg. 37.080. *Procedure. Non-Payment of Dues.*

ARTICLE 7

PETITIONS

Sec. 1. (Reg. 29.030). (a) All petitions for membership or for degrees must be made in writing, signed in person, by the petitioner with his name written in full, and signed by at least two members of the Lodge petitioned as his recommenders.

(b) A petitioner for the degrees must also fill out the petitioner's questionnaire and submit same with his petition, which questionnaire must be read to the Lodge by the Secretary at the time the petition is read.

(c) Such petitions may be presented at a called or stated meeting, be referred to a Committee for Investigation, and then lie over until a stated meeting. If presented at a called meeting, the petition must lie over until a stated meeting at least three weeks later.

(d) A majority of the members present at a called or stated meeting may refuse to entertain a petition.

ARTICLE 8

FEES

(Reg. 29.010)

Sec. 1. Every petition for initiation must be accompanied with a fee of \$ _____dollars (not less than \$45.00), which shall be in full for the three degrees.

Sec. 2. No part of the fee may be refunded to one who is elected and receives the three degrees. If the petition is rejected, the entire fee shall be returned to the proper person. Should only one degree be conferred, two-thirds of the fee shall be returned. Should only two degrees be conferred, one-third of the fee shall be returned.

Sec. 3. (Reg. 40.100). Every Petition for Plural Membership must be accompanied with a fee (not less than \$25) of \$_____, \$5.00 of which will be transmitted to the Grand Secretary with the annual recapitulation statement.

ARTICLE 9

DEMITTS

(Reg. 33.020)

Sec. 1. (a) A Master Mason, free from charges and all indebtedness to the Lodge may, upon written application and a majority vote of the Lodge, demit therefrom.

(b) Upon receipt of the application at a stated meeting, the Worshipful Master shall appoint a qualified Brother to investigate the reasons, circumstances and desirability surrounding the application. At the next following stated meeting, the Brother shall report to the Lodge the results of his investigation, at which time action on the application will be taken as provided in section (c) and (d) below.

(c) The Lodge shall grant the demit if no charges are pending; *Provided*, however, that should the Lodge for any reason, by a majority vote, refuse to grant a demit, the Lodge shall thereupon prefer charges against the applicant and bring him to trial, and if the applicant shall not be found guilty, the demit shall thereupon be granted.

(d) An Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft may, under the same conditions, be granted a demit excepting that a unanimous favorable vote of the Lodge is required. When an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft is granted a demit one-third of the total fee paid shall be returned for each degree which he has not received.

(e) Any demit granted under the provisions of this section shall become and be effective as of the date of the stated meeting at which it is granted.

Sec. 2. Notice of Intention to Transfer Membership, as provided in the Grand Lodge Regulations, shall be considered a request for a demit if elected in the other Lodge.

ARTICLE 10

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Sec. 1. The order of business for stated meetings shall be: (a) Reading and approval of minutes; (b) Presenting and referring petitions; (c) Reports of Standing Committees; (d) Communications and bills; (e) Reports of Investigating Committees and balloting on petitions; (f) Unfinished business; (g) At the first stated meeting in January, reports for the previous year should be made by the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Trustees, the Charity Committee, and the Ambassador of the Masonic Home/Foundation. At the first stated meeting in February, the Finance Committee shall make the report of the annual audit; (h) miscellaneous business; (I) conferral of degrees; financial report.

Sec. 2. The Worshipful Master shall be the judge of all questions of order that may arise, and there shall be no appeal to the Lodge from his decision.

Sec. 3. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall, before debate, be stated by the Worshipful Master. Motions shall be made in writing when requested by any Brother. A motion may be withdrawn by the Brother making it if the motion is not amended.

Sec. 4. The Worshipful Master shall put all questions distinctly; if a division is called for, he shall request those who vote in the affirmative to rise and count them; then those who vote in the negative shall rise and be counted and he shall declare the result. In case of a tie the motion is lost.

Sec. 5. While a question is under debate, no motion shall be received which does not pertain to the question under consideration.

Sec. 6. Every member having a right to vote, who is present when a question is put, shall vote, unless for special reasons given he be excused by unanimous vote of the Lodge.

Sec. 7. When a motion has been acted upon, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move the reconsideration thereof; *Provided*, that no motion for reconsideration shall be in order, unless made at the same meeting at which the question shall have been voted upon.

Sec. 8. Every member on a committee shall attend the call of the chairman, who shall be the first person named on said committee, and in case of his neglect to call the committee together, or in his absence or other cause, the committee shall attend the call of the next person named.

Sec. 9. The reports of committees to investigate petitioners shall be made in open Lodge but no record shall be made of the nature of the report.

ARTICLE 11

AMENDMENTS, ETC..

(Reg. 12.030)

Sec. 1. A motion to amend or alter any of these by-laws shall be submitted in writing at a stated meeting and read. If seconded, it may be debated, but a final vote cannot be taken thereon before the next succeeding stated meeting. Lodge members shall be notified in writing of any proposed changes to by-laws.

Sec. 2. Every member of this Lodge shall be entitled to a copy of these by-laws, and the same shall be binding on him so long as he continues a member of this Lodge.

ADOPTION

The foregoing full set of by-laws was presented at a stated meeting of

_____ Lodge No. _____ on

_____, 20_____, and adopted at the

stated meeting on _____, 20_____.

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Appendix E

BALL AND CUBE BALLOT

BALLOT BOX

The end in which the ballots voted are placed, must be padded inside on the bottom and all sides. The partition dividing the unvoted and the voted ballots must be solid and permanent and extend from the top to the bottom of the ballot box, with a round hole near the top large enough for the ball or the cube to pass through easily even though the cube is inserted diagonally or cornerwise. The ballot box should not be small and the end containing the unvoted ballots should be so arranged that the hand of the member is concealed when he votes.

BALLOTS

The ballot box must contain an equal number of white balls and black cubes in sufficient quantity so that all present may vote white balls or black cubes. The balls and cubes must be thoroughly mixed so that the voter may readily find either by the sense of touch. The cubes should be the same size from diagonal corners as the diameters of the balls so that either can be voted with equal facility. The balls and the cubes should be made of the same material and weight so that there will be no difference in sound when either is voted.

BEFORE VOTING

When a ballot is about to be taken, the Worshipful Master will instruct the Senior Deacon to present the ballot box. The Senior Deacon procures the ballot box and delivers it to the Worshipful Master who examines it and if it complies with the above requirements and the padded end is entirely empty, he instructs the Senior Deacon to display the ballot box to the Junior Warden and to the Senior Warden and return it to the East. Each Warden examines it and if not correct in every respect, he should call the attention of the Worshipful Master to the discrepancy which should be immediately corrected. When the ballot box is in approved readiness, the Worshipful Master will say, "Brethren, you are about to cast your ballot for the election or rejection of _____ to become a member of this Lodge by (initiation or affiliation, as the case may be). Those in favor will cast a white ball and those opposed, a black cube. Be careful and make no mistake." (As the granting of a waiver of jurisdiction requires unanimous consent, the wording here and later should be changed accordingly.)

VOTING

The Senior Deacon receives the ballot box from the Worshipful Master (after the Worshipful Master has voted), carries it at a convenient height near to his left shoulder and beginning on the left of the Worshipful Master, he passes about the Lodge, stopping before each member of the Lodge who is present to receive his vote. As he approaches a Brother, that Brother will rise and vote, but the next Brother will remain seated until the Senior Deacon presents the ballot box to him for his vote. The Senior Deacon continues about the room until all members have voted and stops on the right and in front of the Worshipful Master. The Senior Deacon then casts his ballot.

EXAMINATION AND REPORT ON BALLOT

The Worshipful Master then asks, "Brother Senior Deacon, have all voted who are entitled to vote." The Senior Deacon responds, "They have, Worshipful Master." The Worshipful Master then says, "Brother Senior Deacon, carry the ballot box to the Junior Warden and to the Senior Warden for examination and then back to the East." After this order has been executed, the Worshipful Master will say, "Brother Junior Warden, how stands the ballot in the South?" If there were no cubes the Junior Warden will respond, "Clear in the South, Worshipful Master;" if there was one cube, the Junior Warden will say, "Cloudy in the South, Worshipful Master;" if there were two or more cubes, the Junior Warden will say "Dark in the South, Worshipful Master." These same questions will then be propounded to the Senior Warden in the West and similar answers returned after which the Worshipful Master will examine the ballot. If there is one cube only, he will say, "There being but one cube, Brother Senior Deacon, you will again spread the ballot." The same formality as before must be observed to know that the ballot box is in proper form with no ballots in the padded side, etc., and the second ballot taken.

After the second ballot is taken and the Wardens have reported, if the Worshipful Master finds the ballot clear he will say, "The ballot being clear you have elected _____ to become a member of this Lodge by (initiation or affiliation, as the case may be)." If one or more cubes have been voted, the Worshipful Master will say, "Brethren, by your ballots you have rejected _____, etc." Of course, if no second ballot is taken, the Worshipful Master will announce the result according to the facts.

If the vote is for restoration, or for guilt or innocence, or on fixing a penalty at time of trial, where only a majority vote is required the method of preparing and taking the ballot is the same as the foregoing, but the Wardens will count and report the number of balls and cubes instead of reporting the ballot clear, cloudy or dark, and the Worshipful Master will change his announcement just before the ballot is taken, to fit the case and there will be no second ballot.

WHO VOTES

All members present must vote on petitions for degrees or membership. At a trial the accused cannot vote and when the vote is to be taken on guilt or innocence, or on fixing a penalty, the accused must retire from the Lodge Room. At a trial, if a Brother asks to be excused from voting, the Lodge must vote on his request and a unanimous favorable vote is necessary to excuse him from voting.

The Tyler never votes unless he has heard all that has transpired in relation to the matter to be voted upon.

A member who leaves the Lodge Room during discussion and prior to the vote being taken, may not reenter the Lodge Room until after the vote has been taken.

MORE THAN ONE BALLOT BOX

If necessary to save time, the Worshipful Master may designate some Brother or Brothers to carry additional ballot boxes to certain designated sections of the room, but each of such boxes is subject to the same rules and procedure as the one carried by the Senior Deacon. After all have voted, the Wardens examine the ballot boxes that have been used, and make report on all of them together, not on each one separately.

IF MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE

After the report of the Investigating Committee on one petition, the foregoing procedure must be followed. After the announcement of the result of the ballot, the Investigating Committee on another petition may report, which will be immediately followed by the ballot, and so on until all Investigating Committee reports have been received and the ballot taken in each case. More than one candidate cannot be balloted upon at the same time and the ballot must follow immediately the report of the Investigating Committee on each petitioner.

Where the exact wording appears in the above, it is to show the sense of the statements, rather than that these words must be used.

Historical Reference: 1941: 45, 269.

Cross Reference: Reg. 29.080.

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Appendix F

MESSAGE From the GRAND MASTER

YOUR SACRED RIGHT AND DUTY

To be read by the W.M. immediately after the ballot box is presented to the South, West and East before the actual balloting.

Brethren, you are about to exercise one of your most sacred rights as a Master Mason by voting for the election or rejection of a petitioner who seeks Masonic light.

It is one of the historic traditions of our Order that no one may be elected to membership so long as there is a single vote against him. You yourself were elected to receive the degrees of Freemasonry by the unanimous consent of the members of the Lodge.

Before you cast your ballot, I would remind you that, while no one will ever ask you how or why you voted, it is important that you act in the best interests of Masonry.

It is your sacred right to vote for or against a petitioner in the light of your own best judgment. No one will know whether you selected a white ball or a black cube, and it is a Masonic offense for you to reveal your ballot to others.

But your vote must be actuated by the purest of motives. You must not allow personal prejudices or private piques and grudges to influence your ballot. You are to consider only the moral qualifications of the petitioner. Let your conscience be your guide.

There must be none among us who would cast a blemish upon the Lodge and the whole Fraternity by balloting for an unworthy petitioner or by rejecting a worthy applicant.

Brethren, you are about to cast your ballot for the election or rejection of _____ to become a member of this Lodge by initiation. Those in favor will cast a white ball and those opposed a black cube. Be careful and make no mistake.

Editorial Note: If two or more petitions are to be acted upon at the same meeting, the entire statement will be delivered only for the first petition. Only the closing paragraph will be used on the additional petitions.

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Appendix G

MESSAGE from the GRAND MASTER

THE SUBLIME DEGREE

To be read by the W.M., presiding in the East, immediately before the candidate is conducted into the Lodge Room at the beginning of the second section of the M.M. degree. If more than one candidate is raised, it shall be read in the same manner and at the same point in the ceremonies for each candidate.

My Brethren, you are about to witness the raising of a Brother to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

The drama of the second section of this degree is rich in beautiful symbolism. It is indeed the impressive climax of the Brother's progress in Freemasonry.

As the important lesson of the immortality of the soul is unfolded in ritual of the degree, there must be no levity in the Lodge Room. This is a solemn, serious ceremony, and it is imperative that the highest level of dignity and decorum prevail while the work is being conferred.

You must remember that, for this section of the Master Mason degree, the Temple is supposed to be silent and unoccupied. There must be no whispering, no laughing, no scuffling or stomping of feet.

Only the participants in the drama are to speak, and they have been instructed not to use any gestures or facial expressions that might induce levity.

At the conclusion of the drama let there be no applause. Bear in mind that the candidate, and only the candidate is the audience. For him, and for us all, the moment should be too sublime to admit expressions of approval.

What you are about to witness may well be one of the richest experiences in a man's life. We ask your full cooperation in helping to impress upon the Brother's mind the beautiful symbolism and the dignified solemnity of this occasion.

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Appendix H

LIST OF STANDARD FORMS

Revised 2010

Form 1:	Petition for Dispensation to Organize a New Lodge**
Form 2:	Recommendation for Dispensation**
Form 3:	Petition for Charter**
Form 4:	Model By-Laws**
Form 5:	Installation of Lodge Officers**
Form 6:	Funeral and Memorial Ceremonies**
Form 6A:	Fifty Year Ceremony**
Form 7:	Sample Minutes
Form 8:	Request for Waiver of Jurisdiction
Form 9:	Notice to Lodge of Action on Waiver of Jurisdiction
Form 10:	Notice to Grand Secretary of Granting of Waiver of Jurisdiction
Form 11:	Petition for Affiliation by Demit
Form 11A:	Petition for Affiliation from a Non-Affiliated Mason
Form 12:	Notice to Former Lodge of Affiliation by Demit
Form 13:	Petition for the Degrees of Masonry*
Form 14:	Questionnaire for Each Member of Investigating Committee
Form 15:	Notice of Intention to Transfer Membership
Form 15P:	Notice of Intention to Petition for Plural Membership
Form 16:	Petition to Affiliate by Transfer
Form 16P:	Petition for Plural Membership
Form 17:	Certificate to Accompany Petition for Transfer of Membership
Form 17P:	Certificate to Accompany Petition for Plural Membership
Form 18:	Notice to Former Lodge of Election by Transfer
Form 18-1:	Notice of Election to Membership by Transfer (sent to Brother)
Form 18P:	Notice to Lodge of Election to Plural Membership
Form 18-1P:	Notice of Election to Plural Membership (sent to Brother)
Form 19:	Notice to Former Lodge of Rejection of Petition to Transfer
Form 19P:	Notice to Lodge Regarding Plural Membership
Form 20:	Demit for a Master Mason**
Form 20P:	Certificate of Withdrawal From Plural Membership
Form 21:	Demit for an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft
Form 23:	Visitor's Statement to a Lodge
Form 24:	Notice to Lodge of Which a Visitor is a Member
Form 25:	Notice to Delinquents
Form 26:	Charge for Non-Payment of Dues and Assessments
Form 27:	Notice of Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues
Form 28:	Charges for Un-Masonic Conduct Other Than Non-Payment of Dues
Form 29:	Notice to Accused if Charges are Other Than Non-Payment of Dues
Form 30:	Secretary's Certificate of Service of Notices
Form 31:	Summons
Form 32:	Notice of the Taking of Testimony by Lodge Committee
Form 33:	Report of Lodge Committee to Take Testimony
Form 34:	Notice of Result of Trial - to Accused
Form 35:	Notice of Result of Trial - to Another Lodge
Form 36:	Motion for New Trial
Form 37:	Notice of Appeal
Form 38:	Petition for Restoration of One Suspended for Non-Payment of Dues

Form 39:	Petition for Restoration of One Unable to Pay Dues
Form 40:	Petition to Lodge for Restoration to Condition of a Non-Affiliate
Form 40A:	Petition for Restoration as a Non-Affiliated Mason by One Suspended or Expelled by Grand Lodge
Form 41:	Petition to Grand Lodge for Restoration to Condition of Non- Affiliate From One Suspended or Expelled by Defunct Lodge
Form 42:	Certificate of Restoration to the Condition of a Non-Affiliated Mason
Form 42A:	Certificate of Restoration to the Condition of a Non-Affiliated Mason**
Form 43:	Request to Have Degrees Conferred by Another Lodge
Form 43EZ:	Request to Have Degrees Conferred in a One Day Class
Form 44:	To Submit Amendments to By-Laws
Form 45:	Certificate of Conferring Official Degree of Past Master**
Form 46:	Form of Bequest for Indiana Masonic Home
Form 47:	Certificate of Proficiency*
Form 48:	Transmittal of Funds**
Form 102:	Past Master's Certificate Card**
Form 103:	F. & A. M. Certificate of Appreciation**
Form 104:	Funeral Music Card*
Form 105:	Notice of Rejection to Applicant for Degrees
Form 106:	Notice to Candidate of Election for Degrees
Form 106A:	Notice of Election to Membership by Demit
Form 107:	Notice of Meeting
Form 108:	Financial Statement
Form 109:	Resolutions of Respect*
Form 109A:	Resolutions of Respect*
Form 110:	Certificate of Membership*
Form 111:	Membership Record
Form 113A:	Receipt Card Holder*
Form 115:	Cast List
Form 115A:	Special Cast List for all Degrees*
Form 116:	Attendance Record Cards
Form 117:	Dinner or Banquet Tickets
Form 118:	Notice to Petitioner of Election on Petition for Reinstatement
Form 119:	Notice to Petitioner of Rejection on Petition for Reinstatement
Form 121:	Notice of Annual Election of Officers and Payment of Dues
Form 126:	Receipts for Masonic Home Donations
Form 127:	Warrant on Treasurer**
Form 128:	Standard Dues Cards or Receipt for Dues**
Form 129:	Treasurer's Receipts for Funds**
Form 130:	Receipt for Fees**
Form 130A:	Receipt for Miscellaneous Fees
Form 131:	Honorary Member Certificates**
Form 135:	Honorary Member Certificates**
Form 136:	Twenty-Five Years of Faithful Service*
Form 137:	Instructions to Investigating Committee
Form 138:	Meritorious Certificate*
Form 151:	Temporary Minute Sheets
Form 500:	Lodge Activity Sheets**

SECRETARY'S SUPPLIES*

1001:	H & M Minutes Record Book, Loose Leaf
1002:	Minute Record Book, Full Bound
1002-F:	Filler for 1002
1003:	Bound Minute Record Book
1004:	Secretary's Cash Book, Loose Leaf
1005:	Secretary's Cash Book
1006:	Treasurer's Cash Book
1007:	Attendance Register
1008-L:	Membership Ledger Binder - large type, large paper
1008-S:	Membership Ledger Binder - small type, small paper
1013-L:	Indexes for Membership Ledgers
1014-L:	Membership Ledger Sheets - large type, large paper
1014-S:	Membership Ledger Sheets - small type, small paper
1015:	Ritual Receipt Book
1016:	Candidate's Ritual Receipt Sheets

* Available at Masonic Jewels or other Supply Houses

** Available at Office of Grand Secretary

Many forms and supplies are now located on the Indiana Freemason Website located at indianafreemasons.com - check this site before ordering from the office of the Grand Secretary or Masonic Jewels or other supply houses.

APPENDIX I

ELECTRONIC BANKING TRANSACTIONS

Standards for electronic financial transactions allowed under General Regulation 39.030(c).

These standards apply only to the ability to direct withdrawals or transfers out of a financial account under the control or ownership of the Lodge. Lodges may arrange at will for receiving electronic payments.

1. Participation in an electronic financial transaction program must be authorized by a vote of the Lodge. The motion shall specify names of any financial institutions involved, the account numbers, the maximum balance that may be held in the account and the name of the members selected for involvement as identified below. Such motions shall appear in full in the minutes with full details of the motion.
2. The authorization shall be effective from the date it is passed and shall expire on the following March 1 unless re-approved at the first stated meeting of the following year, or approved by special permission of the Grand Master. Upon expiration, electronic transactions must cease unless new authorization has been approved.
3. The maximum balance of any account subject to transmission of electronic transactions shall be no more than the amount of the Lodge's annual expenditures for the most recent full preceding year.
4. Only one person may be authorized to submit electronic transactions. That person may be the Treasurer, some other elected officer or elected Trustee, but may not be the Secretary. The authorized person shall submit such transactions only with the written signed warrant of the Secretary and shall personally review documentation such as invoices for any transactions within 30 days of having submitted them for payment.
5. Any account subject to electronic transactions shall be reconciled by an elected officer other than the Secretary or the person authorized to transmit or order payment. Monthly statements from that financial institution shall be mailed directly from the financial institution to the person responsible for reconciling the account. The audit committee of the Lodge shall review compliance with these standards and report on the same as part of its annual report.
6. Transmission of electronic transactions shall only be allowed where the transaction requires a password and the use of an electronic security device such as an electronic "fob".
7. The Secretary or Treasurer must report at each stated meeting what transactions have been made since the preceding stated meeting.
8. The Grand Master may, for good cause, require any Lodge to terminate participation in electronic banking.

Historical Reference: 2011: 112-114.

INDEX

Revised June 2010

A

Absent Members	39.070-2; 50.040-1
Abusive Language	42.020-14
Accounting	52.070; 53.060
Acting Officer	17.081; 17.080-1; 60.050
Active File	55.110
Actual Past Master	17.020-3; 17.020-4; 17.020-5; 17.020-8; 17.030-1; 17.110-1; 17.150; 17.150-1 thru 17.150-3; 44.020
Additional Rituals	60.060
Administration	Chapters 7, 39, 55, 57; 52.030; 53.030
Administrative Assistant	Article II; 55.130
Admonition of Brother	42.030-2
Adoption of Ritual	60.010; 60.010-1
Advertising	
fund-raising	39.080-3
in Lodge Room	21.020-2
Masonic emblems	42.060; Edit. Note, page 183
membership	42.020-5
publications	55.120
Affidavits	
court records	45.050-1
ex parte	43.130-3; 44.110-1; 45.010-4
Affiliation	Edit. Note, page 123; 33.010; 33.010-1 thru 33.010-6; 33.030; 33.030-1 thru 33.030-3; Forms 15-19
certificate of Grand Secretary	33.040; Form 20
certificate - petition to transfer	Form 17
demit	33.020; Forms 20-21; 33.020-1 thru 33.020-17
notice to former Lodge	Form 12
petition - by demit	Form 11
place of residence	28.030
rejected petitioner	29.100-2; 32.010; 32.010-1 thru 32.010-4
withdrawal of petition	29.060
Age of Petitioner	31.010; 31.010-2; 31.010-6
Altar	19.020-1; 35.020-2; 63.080
Amendments	Article XVII; Chapter 51
effective date	51.020-1; Article XV-2
Grand Lodge administration	7.050; 51.010
Grand Lodge rules of order	11.160
Lodge by-laws	12.030; 12.040; Appendix D; Form 44
notices to Lodge	51.020
repealing clause	51.030
Ample Form	1.020
Ancient Landmarks	Appendix A
Annual Audit	24.040
Annual Budget	54.020

Annual Dues	Chapter 37
armed forces	37.040; 37.040-1
assessments	37.090; 37.080; 37.100; 38.040; 37.090-1; 37.090-2
collection	37.070; 37.010; 37.050; 37.080
dues	37.010; 28.020; 37.030; 37.050; 37.070; 37.010-1 thru 37.010-8
minimum	37.020; 37.020-1
non-payment	37.080; 37.010; 37.070; 32.070; 49.020; 37.080-1 thru 37.080-10
notices	37.110
receipt	37.060; Form 128
remission	37.030; 37.010; 37.070; 49.050; Appendix D, Article 6; 37.040
when paid	37.050
Annual Meeting	Article III; 1.010; 2.050; 4.060; 51.010; 55.150
Annual Proceedings	55.080; 55.090
Annual Reports	4.050; 20.020; 24.040; 39.010; Appendix D, Article 4; 24.030; 18.010; 39.020
Annual Reports of Lodges	
duties of W.M.	18.010
failure to make	39.020; 55.190
report shall show	39.010
reports	20.020; 24.030; 24.040; 34.010; 39.020
when due	39.010
Appeals	Chapter 48
duty of Secretary	48.040; Form 7; 48.040-1
in writing	48.030; Form 37
original jurisdiction	48.050; 2.010; 43.040; 43.080; 43.140; 43.170; 43.180; 43.181
time limit	43.100-3; 43.160-5; 44.030-2; 47.010-3
to G.M. or Grand Lodge	48.010; Chapter 47
who may	48.020; 47.010; 48.010; 48.020-1 thru 48.020-7
Appearance in Public	19.030-2; 22.070; 22.080
Appendant Bodies	19.040; 42.050; 55.070
Appointment of Officers	17.040; 17.081; 17.081-1
Appropriations and Claims	7.030
Apron	63.010
design	63.010
display	23.020-3
E.A. or F.C. request	33.030-3
presentation	35.030
wearing of	63.010
Area Representative Program	2.040; 2.040-1
Armed Forces	
death	23.010-3
dues	37.040
residence	26.020; 26.020-1; 30.020-1
Assessments	
ballot mailed	37.100
failure to pay	32.070; 37.080-8; 37.090-1; 38.040
Grand Lodge	54.010
how levied	37.100
Lodge may levy	37.090
Lodge U.D.	6.020
may not demit	33.020-17; 37.090-2

other organizations	20.010-7
relief fund	37.090; 38.040; Appendix D, Article 5
subordinate Lodge	37.010; 37.020; 37.070; 37.080; 37.090; 37.100; 37.110; Appendix D, Articles 5, 6
Assets	16.030; 53.020
Assistant Grand Lecturer	Articles II, V; 2.040; 3.010; 55.100; Appendix C
Associate Members	Article II; Edit. Notes, pages 32-34, 42
At Ease	22.090-2; 35.020-3
Atheism	42.020-1
Attendance	2.050; 44.090; 44.090-7; 44.110; 54.120; 56.040
Audit	
committee	17.010-6; 18.010-4; 24.040-1
financial reports	20.020; 24.040; 39.010; 39.120; Appendix D, Articles 3, 4
Grand Treasurer/Secretary	2.020; 2.030
Indiana Masonic Supplies	55.210
Automatic Expulsion	42.030-3
Awards (<i>refer to Service Awards</i>)	

B

Ball and Cube Ballot	50.010; 50.010-1; 50.010-2; Appendix E
(<i>refer to How to Take Vote</i>)	
at stated meetings	29.110
ballot/balloting	Article VII; 22.010-1; 26.040-1; 27.010; 27.060; 28.050-1; 29.010; 29.030-3; 29.100; 29.100-1; 29.100-4; 29.110; 29.110-6; 29.110-7; 29.130; 29.130-1; 29.130-2; 30.030-1; 37.080-4; 37.100; 46.020; 46.040; 46.050-2; 46.080; 49.020; 49.050; 49.060; 50.010; 50.030
Grand Lodge may not overrule	29.110-2; 49.020-2; 49.060-3
one ballot for three degrees	29.110
petitions	29.100; 29.100-1 thru 29.100-4; 29.110; 29.110-1 thru 29.110-8; 29.120; 29.130; 50.010
quadriplegic	29.100-4
questioning	29.100-2
reconsideration	29.130; 29.130-1 thru 29.130-4; 33.020-4
second ballot	27.060(b); Appendix E; 29.110
secrecy	29.100; 29.100-4
separate ballot	29.120; 46.040-1
to be read before	Appendix F
unquestioned right	29.110-6
Bible Presentation	22.040-2; 35.090
Blacks	29.030-8; 31.010-7
Booth at Fair	42.020-21
By-Laws (<i>refer to Lodge By-Laws and Grand Lodge By-Laws</i>)	

C

Caleb B. Smith Medal	62.080
Called Meetings	1.030; 1.040; 22.030; 22.030-2; 29.030-5; 30.030-1; Appendix D
Candidates	30.010; 30.020; 30.010-1; 30.020-4; 30.030; 31.010; 31.021; 31.030; 34.010; 35.020; 35.090; 39.110; 57.050

Cemetery	42.060-4; 42.070-2; 39.100-2
Certificate of Dispensation	12.010
Certificate of Proficiency	63.050; Form 47
Certificate of Restoration	Edit. Note, pages 111, 123; 49.080; 50.010; Form 42
Certificates	33.020-12; 12.010; 40.080
Change of Venue	43.160
Charity	24.030; 37.090; 38.010; 38.030; 38.040; 38.040-1; 39.080; 39.080-1 thru 39.080-8; 42.050-3; Appendix D, Articles 4, 10
Charter	Article XIV; 6.030; 7.010; 12.010; 12.042; 19.010; 19.050-1; 22.020; 27.010; 42.050
consolidation	Chapter 15
dissolution	Chapter 16
duplicate copy	12.010
members	13.080; 13.080-1
moving of	12.010-2; 12.010-3; 19.020-2
obtaining	Chapter 14
Church Service	22.040; 22.040-1
Circularizing	42.050; 42.050-4; 42.060-4; 42.070-2
Committee on Accounts	
appointment	2.010
duties	4.050
when to meet	4.060
Committee on Charters and Dispensations	
appointment	2.010
duties	4.050
when to meet	4.060
Committee on Grievances and Appeals	
appointment	2.010
duties	4.050
when to meet	4.060
Committee on Jurisprudence	
appointment	2.010
duties	4.050
when to meet	4.060
Committee on Payroll	
appointment	2.010
duties	4.050
Committee on Unfinished Business	
appointment	2.010
duties	4.050
Committees	
accounts	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
by-laws	2.010
charity	24.030; 37.090; 38.010; 39.080; 42.050-3; Appendix D, Articles 4, 10
charters and dispensations	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
credentials	2.010; 4.050
depositories	4.050; Article II; 7.050; 54.040; 55.150
family	38.010; Appendix D, Article 4
finance	24.030; 24.040; Appendix D, Articles 3, 4
foreign fraternal relations	2.010; 2.030; 4.050
grievances and appeals	2.010; 4.050; 4.060

home /foundation ambassador	39.010; 39.040; Appendix D, Article 4
jurisprudence	2.010; 4.050; 4.060; Article XVII; 7.050; 31.020
Masonic education	2.010; 4.050; 39.110; Appendix D, Article 4
payroll	2.010; 4.050
ritual	2.010; 4.050
supervisory board	2.010; 4.030
unfinished business	2.010; 4.050
ways and means	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
Common Interest Lodges	12.042
Community Affairs	39.080; 39.080-1 thru 39.080-3
Complaints and Charges	Chapter 43
change of venue	43.160; 43.160-1 thru 43.160-7
charges	43.140; 2.010; 43.040; 43.080; 43.170; 43.180; 43.181
charges against W.M.	43.020; 43.020-1
complaint against W.M.	43.010; 43.050; 43.010-1 thru 43.010-3
conduct of all Masons	43.050; 43.010; 43.020
conviction for criminal offense	43.060; Article IX; 42.020; 43.040; 43.080; 43.170; 43.180; 43.181; 45.050; 49.060; 43.060-1; 46.050
expel by resolution	43.070
G.M. determines jurisdiction	43.181; 43.040; 43.180; 48.050
innocence	43.090-1; 43.150-2; 44.060-6
Junior Warden	43.005; 43.080
Lodge fails to act	43.180; 43.040; 43.181; 48.050
notice to accused	43.100; 43.100-1 thru 43.100-5; 37.070; 37.080; Form 29; 43.160-2; 43.160-3; 44.090-2; 43.120; 43.130; 43.130-1 thru 43.130-3
penal jurisdiction	43.030; 43.030-1 thru 43.030-5
quorum	43.110; 44.090-6
requirements for	43.090; 43.090-1 thru 43.090-7; 45.050; Form 28
sojourning Mason	43.060-1
trial commission	43.170; 32.070; 43.140; 43.180; 43.181; 47.010; 48.010; 48.020
trial counsel	Chapter 43
trial of G.M. or W.M.	43.050-8
where charges preferred	43.040; 43.180; 47.181; 48.050; 43.040-1 thru 43.040-3
who may prefer	43.080; 43.080-1; 43.080-2; 43.040; 43.140 43.170; 43.180; 43.181; 48.050
wholesale suspension	43.090-7
written charges	43.070; 43.070-1 thru 43.070-4
Condition of Non-Affiliate	49.060; 49.070; 49.080
Conference of Grand Masters	55.040; 56.030; 4.050
Conferring of Degrees	Chapter 35
altar	19.020-1; 35.020-2
at ease	22.090-2; 35.020-3
at refreshment	22.060-1
degrees conferred	35.010
courtesy work	35.070; Form 43
five-candidate program	35.090; 35.020; 35.020-10
lectures	35.020; 35.020-3; 35.030
manner of	35.020; 35.020-1 thru 35.020-10; 35.090; 13.040; 28.040; 31.021; 54.050; 22.060-1
minimum time	30.030; 30.030-1
multiple candidates	35.020; 35.020-10; Appendices E & G

objection	29.010-3; 30.020-3; 32.050; 32.060; 32.060-1 thru 32.060-5; 42.020-8
outdoors	35.020-9
preliminary instructions	57.050
presentations	35.030; 22.090-2
short form	35.020-1
time limit	30.020; 30.030
to be read at M.M. degree	Appendix G
unauthorized ciphers	35.040; 60.050
visitations	35.080; 35.020-4
whereabouts unknown	30.020-4
who may confer	35.020-5
Consolidation of Lodge	Chapter 15
how to	15.010; 15.010-1 thru 15.010-3
property	15.030
when consolidated	15.020; 15.020-1
Constitution of Grand Lodge	
amendments	Article XVII
charter out of jurisdiction	Articles XIV, XIV-1
duties of G.M. and Wardens	Article X
eligibility	Article VI
fundamental law	Article XVI
G.M. grant dispensations	Article XI; 7.020; Chapter 13; 56.020
how often to meet	Article III; 1.010; 1.020; 1.030
installation	Article VIII
number to do business	Article IV
of whom it consists	Article II
offices - how filled	Articles VII, VII-1, VII-2
petition for dispensation	Article XII; 7.020; 13.010; 14.020; Forms 1, 2
powers of Grand Lodge	Article XV; 55.150; 56.010; Articles XV-1, XV-2
powers of G.M.	Articles IX, IX-1 thru IX-10
price of charter	Article XIII; Form 3
style and rank of officers	Article V
title	Article I
Construction and Indebtedness	Chapter 20
changes in plans	20.060
Lodge debt/income	20.040
reports to	20.020; 20.050
supervisory board	20.010; 20.010-7
Construction of Masonic Temples	Chapter 20
<i>(refer to Construction and Indebtedness)</i>	
Contributions	39.080
Convictions for Criminal Offense	43.060; 43.070
Correspondence	42.020-6
Courtesy Work	35.070; Form 43
Craft Clubs	39.120
Craft Ritual	60.010-1; 60.110

D

Dancing	21.020
Death	Article X; 17.081; 17.120-1; 23.010-3; 23.010-4; 23.020-1; 37.010; 37.010-3; 40.130; 48.020-6; 62.020; 62.030
Debts	20.040
ability to sue	42.020-18
collecting agency	42.020-15
failure to pay	37.080-8; 37.090-1; 38.040; 42.020-16
fraud	42.020-16; 42.020-17
Declaration of Principles	page 1
Defunct Lodge (<i>refer to Dissolution of Lodge</i>)	
Degrees (<i>refer to Conferring of Degrees</i>)	
Degree Teams	35.050; 35.050-1; 35.050-2
Delinquents	
notice to	37.070; 37.080; 37.080-1
penalty	6.030; 37.080-4; 38.040; 39.020
Demits (<i>refer to Transfer Membership and Demission</i>)	
Deputy Grand Master	Articles II, V, VII, X; 3.020; 4.040; 36.040; 55.040
Dispensation for New Lodge (<i>refer to Lodges Under Dispensation</i>)	
Dispensation or Charter	12.010; Article XIV; Form 3
moving charter	12.010-2; 19.020-2
outdoor degrees	12.010-3
two or more rooms	12.010-1; 19.020
Displaying the Volume of Sacred Law	63.080
Dissolution of Lodge	Chapter 16
arrest or revocation of charter	16.070
certificate of good standing	16.050
dues	16.050
duty of W.M.	16.050
how to	16.010
non-affiliate certificate	49.080; Form 42
property	7.010; 16.040; 16.040-1; 16.030; 15.030
records	16.050
restoration of former members	49.070; Form 42
status of members	16.060
surrender charter	16.020; 16.030; 16.030-1
Distinguished Guests	Appendix C
Donations	21.010; 29.020-1; 39.080; 39.080-1 thru 39.080-9
Dues and Assessments (<i>refer to Annual Dues</i>)	
Duties of Grand Officers	Chapter 2
Assistant Grand Lecturer	55.100; Article II; 2.040
attendance	2.050
G.M.	2.010; Article IX; 43.070; 54.060; 55.020; 55.030; 55.040; 58.030; 2.010-1
Grand Lecturer	2.040; Article II; 55.100; 2.040-1
Grand Secretary	2.030; 54.130; 55.030; 55.070; 55.110
Grand Treasurer	2.020; 4.010; 54.070; 54.071; 54.090; 54.100
Duties of Lodge Officers	Chapter 18
open/preside	18.020; 18.020-1 thru 18.020-3
W.M.	18.010; 18.010-1 thru 18.010-4
work of Warden	18.030

Duties of W.M.

accurate records	18.010
administer reprimand	46.050
admonish Brother	29.100-3; 42.030-2; 43.030-5
annual reports	18.010
appoint acting officer	17.080-1
appoint counsel	44.060
appoint examining committee	36.010
appoint officers	17.040
arrest conferring degrees	32.050; 32.060; 32.060-1 thru 32.060-5
attend Grand Lodge	18.010
audit financial reports	24.040
auditing committee	17.010-6
bind Lodge to contract	18.010-3
cast deciding vote	18.010-2
conduct funeral service	23.010-2
continue trial	22.030-3; 44.060
declare result/judgment	46.040; 46.070
declare suspension for N.P.D.	37.080
deny admission to Lodge	57.020
direct changes for N.P.D.	37.070
eligibility	17.020
enforce laws	18.010
fill vacancies	17.080; 17.081
forward charter/property	16.040; 16.050
funeral of	1.040
installation	17.140
invite M.M. to confer degrees	35.020-5
invite officer to preside	18.020
limitations on power	17.081
Masonic Home Ambassador	39.040
may be ousted	17.100; 17.130
open Lodge	18.020
order charges	32.060-3
order investigating committee	29.090
order second ballot	27.060; 29.110
order trial ballot	46.040; 46.050
P.M. degree	17.020
P.M. preside at trial	44.020
payment of Grand Lodge dues	18.010
preside at trial	44.020
read old charges	Appendix B
remove officers	17.090
set trial time	43.100; 43.110
sign 50-year request	62.010
sign records	18.010; 24.020-3
summon witnesses	44.090
transcript of trial	45.070
use of unauthorized ciphers	60.050
vote at trial	44.020-1

E

Eastern Star	4.040; 19.010-2; 19.030-2; 19.030-4; 19.050-1; 19.050-2; 21.020-4; 21.020-9; 21.020-10; 21.040-4; 21.040-6; 22.070-2; 42.020-4
Election of Officers	17.010; 17.010-1 thru 17.010-9
Electronic Banking	39.0303(c); Appendix I
Emblems	
advertising	21.020-2; 42.060; 42.070; 55.120; 63.070
apron	63.010
cemetery	42.060; 42.060-4; 42.070-1
other organizations	19.050; 19.050-1; 19.050-2; 21.020-10
wearing of	Edit. Note, page 183; 42.060-1; 62.030
Entertainment	21.020; 21.040-2; 21.040-5
Examination of Visitors	Chapter 36
E.A. or F.C.	36.030
objection	36.040; 36.040-1; 36.040-2; 44.080-2; 44.090-7
visitors	36.010; 36.010-1; 36.010-2; 36.020; Forms 23, 24
Expenses	1.040; 2.040; 4.010; 4.030; 37.090 38.010-2; 43.170; 54.060; 54.070; 54.130

F

Father and Son Night	57.030
Fees 21.010; 24.040; 40.100; Appendix D, Article 8	
charter	Article XIII
clergyman	29.010-2; 29.020-1
degrees	29.010; 29.010-4; 29.010-5; 29.020; 29.020-1
dispensation	7.020
full amount	29.010; 29.010-2; 29.020
fund	29.020
minimum	Appendix D, Article 8
Five-Candidate Program	35.020; 35.020-10; 35.090
Forfeiture of Membership	32.070; Article IX; 2.010; Chapter 37
Forms (<i>refer to Secretaries Manual</i>)	Appendix H
Fraternal Recognition	
commission for recognition	56.030
Grand Representative	56.040
legitimacy and regularity	56.020
principles	56.010
Fraternal Visits	35.020-9
Fund-Raising	20.010-5; 39.080; 39.080-3; Edit. Note, page 170; 42.020-4; 42.050
Funeral Rituals	23.040
Funerals (<i>refer to Masonic Burial/Memorial Service</i>)	

G

Gambling	21.020; 21.040-5; 21.040-11; 39.100-4; 42.020-3; 42.020-4; 42.020-21; 42.030
George Washington Commission	63.062
Gifts to Candidates	35.030

Gold Awards	
after death	62.020
authorization	62.010
dues	37.030
eligibility	62.010; 62.040; 62.060
presentation of	62.060
Sunday presentations	62.010-1; 62.050-1; 62.060-1
wearing of	62.030
Grand Honors	Appendix C
Grand Lecturer	Articles II, V; 2.040; 3.010; 19.060; 36.040; Appendix C
Grand Lodge Administration	Chapters 7, 55
administrative assistant	55.130; Article II
amendments	7.050
annual proceedings	55.080; 55.090
appropriations and claims	7.030
approval of G.M. actions	55.150
Assistant Grand Lecturer	55.100; Article II; 2.040
central bureau and clearing house	55.050
conference of Grand Masters	55.040
data processing file	55.170
fee for dispensation	7.020
Grand Lodge seal	55.010
G.M. seal	55.020
Indiana Masonic Supplies	55.210
information from Grand Lodge office	55.110
insurance committee	55.200
Masonic Service Association	55.060
master files	55.070
minimum standards for publications	55.120; 34.020; 42.050; 42.060; 42.070; 42.050-1; 59.010
monthly reports	55.180
P.G.M. jewel	55.030
penalty for delinquency	55.190
property of defunct Lodge	7.010; 16.030
questionnaires from non-Masonic sources	55.140
requirements for resolutions	55.150
Grand Lodge Awards	
Caleb B. Smith	62.080
Order of Service to Masonry	62.080
Raymond L. White	62.080
Grand Lodge By-Laws	page 13
duties of officers	Chapter 2
Grand Lodge administration	Chapter 7
Grand Lodge dues	Chapter 6
Grand Lodge meetings	Chapter 1
representation in Grand Lodge	Chapter 5
salaries and bonds	Chapter 3
trustees, boards and committees	Chapter 4
Grand Lodge Committees	4.050; 4.050-1
accounts	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
charters and dispensations	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
credentials	2.010; 4.050
depositories	4.050; Article II; 7.030; 54.040; 55.150
foreign fraternal relations	2.010; 2.030; 4.050

grievances and appeals	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
jurisprudence	2.010; 4.050; 4.060; Article XVII; 7.050; 31.020
Masonic education	2.010; 4.050
payroll	2.010; 4.050
ritual	2.010; 4.050
supervisory boards	2.010; 4.050
unfinished business	2.010; 4.050
visiting Brethren	2.010; 4.050
ways and means	2.010; 4.050; 4.060
Grand Lodge Dues	Chapter 6
annual	6.010; 6.030; 18.010; 39.020; 54.010; 6.010-1
collect an assessment	37.090; 37.080; 37.100; 38.040; 37.090-1; 37.092-2
dues and assessments of Lodge U.D.	6.020
duty of W.M.	18.010
Lodge U.D.	6.020
must be paid	5.010
penalty for non-payment	6.030; 39.020; 6.030-1
when paid	6.030
when payable	6.010
Grand Lodge Finances	Chapter 54
annual budget	54.020
dues and assessments	54.010
fiscal year	54.110
funds	54.070; 2.020; 54.071; 54.090
G.M. allowance	54.060
group insurance	54.140
indemnification	54.130; 4.010
interest	54.070
mileage and per diem	54.120; 5.010
pay of members	5.010; 54.120; Article II
per capita tax	54.010
reserve for maintenance	54.050
transfer of funds	54.071
withdrawal of funds	54.090
Grand Lodge Funds	
depositories	4.050
interest	54.070
transfer	54.071
withdrawal	54.090
Grand Lodge Library and Museum	Chapter 52
accounting	52.070
administration	52.030
establishment	52.010
incorporation	52.060
location	52.040
powers and duties	52.050
records	52.020
Grand Lodge Meetings	Chapter 1
annual	1.010; Article III
called	1.030
expenses	1.040
national emergency	Article III

place and time	1.020; 55.150
quorum	Article IV
who shall vote	5.030; Article II; 5.030-1; Edit Note, page 34
Grand Lodge Officers	
bonds	3.020
duties	2.020; 2.030; 2.040
election of	Articles V, VII-1; 5.030-1
eligibility	Article VI
indemnification	54.130
installation	Article VIII
pay	5.010
rank	Article V
removal	Article IX-1
titles	Article V
vacancy	Article VII-2
Grand Lodge Proceedings	39.050; 55.080; 55.090
Grand Lodge Scholarship	Chapter 53
accounting	53.060
administration	53.030
assets	53.020
establishment	53.010
incorporation	53.050
powers and duties	53.040
Grand Master	
allowance for expenses	54.060
annual meeting before fixed date	17.010-1
appoint committees	2.010; 4.040; 12.030
appoint I.M.H. directors	4.040
appoint officers	Article VII
appoint presiding officer at trial	44.020
appoint reviewer	4.050
approve administrative assistant	55.130
approve Assistant Grand Lecturer	55.100
approve depositories	4.050
arrest charter	27.010
assemble Lodge	Article IX
bond on officers	3.020
call committees	4.060
cease debate	11.070
charges against	43.050; Article IX-3
conference of Grand Masters	55.040
constitute Lodges	22.080; 14.010
convene Grand Lodge	Article IX
declare ballot void	29.130
declare election void	17.010-8
declare office of W.M. vacant	17.130
dedicate Lodge halls	22.080
deputize to conduct funerals	58.030
discipline W.M.	46.050
dispensation for special elections	15.020
expel member	43.060
fill vacancies	2.010

grant rights to Lodge U.D.	13.050
inspect Lodge work	Article IX
install successor	2.010
inter-jurisdictional visitation	35.080
judge of order and debate	11.080
lay cornerstones	22.080
limitations on power	32.060-1; 22.030-1; 29.030-5; 29.110-5; 30.030-1
Lodge change location	25.030
Lodges pay Grand Lodge dues	6.030
meet in two rooms	19.020
meet other place than Lodge hall	19.030
messages from	Appendices F, G
new trials	47.010; 48.010
order appeal	48.010
order charges/trial	43.180; 43.181
order reprimand	Article IX-8; 16.070-1; 43.010-3; 43.050-1
organize new Lodge	Article XI
petitions for physically impaired	31.020
P.G.M. jewel	55.030
preside at trial of W.M.	43.020
preside in Lodge	Article IX
reimbursement of	39.060; 54.060
remove W.M.	2.010; Article IX-6; 2.010-1; 43.010-2; 43.050-2
report actions	2.010
reprimand Lodge/W.M.	Article IX-8; 16.070-1; 43.010-3; 43.050-1
rule on question of law	Article IX
seal	55.020
set aside elections	17.010-2
set aside Masonic law	29.030-5
set aside time limit	30.020-1
sign minutes	2.010
state motions	11.040
suspend Lodge functions	2.010
suspend member	Article IX; 2.010; 37.070
suspend W.M.	2.010; 2.010-1
Grand Master's Jewel	55.030
Grand Representatives	56.040
Grand Secretary	
administrative assistant	55.130
bond	3.020
duties of	2.030
master files	55.070; 55.110
salary	3.010
withdrawal of funds	54.090
Grand Treasurer	
bond	3.020
duties of	2.020
salary	3.010
withdrawal of funds	54.090

Grand Trustees	
bond	3.020
powers and duties	4.010
vacancy	2.010
Grotto	19.040-1; 42.020-20; 42.030-4

H

Historical Commission	4.050 (o)
Honorary Membership	28.050; 28.050-1; 28.050-2; 37.010-5; 50.020
How to Take Vote	Chapter 50; Appendix E
all present vote	50.040; 50.040-1 thru 50.040-3
ball and cube ballot	50.010; 50.010-1; 50.010-2; Appendix E
cases not enumerated	50.050; 50.050-1; 50.050-2
paper ballot	50.030; 50.030-1; 50.030-2
voice or show of hands	50.020; 50.020-1; 50.020-2

I

Illegitimate Birth	31.010-3
Indebtedness of Lodge	
applies to lease	20.010-3
consolidation	15.030
construction	20.010; 20.030; 20.040; 20.050
report of	20.050
Indemnification	54.130
Indiana Freemason	59.010; 59.020; 42.070; 42.050-1
Indiana Masonic Home	Chapter 58
annual budget	54.020
appointment	39.040; 4.040
assessment for	37.010
board of directors	4.040
funerals	58.030
membership	58.050
pilgrimage	58.010
Indiana Masonic Home Foundation, Inc.	2.020; 4.010; 4.020; 20.010; 39.040; 54.010; 54.071; 55.170; 55.200
Installation of Officers	
by proxy	17.140-2
date for	17.140
how often	17.140
Lodge opened	17.160
Lodges U.D.	13.050; 13.050-1; 17.140-1
public	17.160
W.M. not appear	17.140-4
who installs	17.150; 17.150-1; 17.150-2
Insurance Committee	55.200
Inter-Jurisdictional Visitations	35.080; 35.020-4
Intoxicants	63.040; 42.030
Investigating Committee	
absent member	29.070
ascertain if ready	29.070-2
duty of	57.010

fails to report	29.090
majority report	29.070; 29.070-1; 29.070-2
questionnaire	29.080; 57.010; Form 14
report by telephone	29.070-3
unable to attend	29.070; 29.070-3
when to defer	29.070-4
written report	29.080
Invitation to Petition	29.140

J

Jurisdiction	Chapter 25
armed forces	26.020
concurrent	29.050
how determined	25.010; Chapter 29
invasion	27.010
limits	25.010
location change	25.030; Chapter 29; 25.030-1
no permanent home	26.020
state boundary	25.020; Chapter 29

K

Knights Templar	19.040
------------------------------	---------------

L

Laying of Cornerstone	22.080
Lectures	
five-candidate program	35.020; 35.020-10; 35.090
required of candidates	30.010
understanding	30.010-1
Life Endowment Plan	28.020
List of Forms	Appendix H
Lodge Administration	Chapter 39
annual reports	39.010; 18.010; 39.020
by-laws	Appendix D
committee on education	39.110
craft clubs	39.120
depository	39.030; 18.010
dues cards	57.060
electronic banking	39.030(c); Appendix I
father and son night	57.030
funds (<i>refer to Lodge Funds</i>)	
Grand Lodge Proceedings	39.050; 55.080; 55.090
home/foundation ambassador	39.040; 58.010; Appendix D, Article 4; 24.030
investigating committee	57.010
lost member	39.090
penalties for delinquency	39.020; 6.010; 18.010; 39.010
preliminary instructions	57.050
proceedings (<i>refer to Grand Lodge Proceedings</i>)	
real estate	20.010; 39.070; 39.070-1 thru 39.070-3;
.....	Appendix D, Article 3

records (<i>refer to Lodge Records</i>)	
reimbursement of G.M.	39.060
reports of officers and committees	24.030
seal	54.040
sponsorship	39.100; 19.030; 21.010; 39.080; 39.080-3; 39.100-1 thru 39.100-4
unsound mind	57.020
use of funds (<i>refer to Lodge Funds</i>)	39.080; 39.080-1 thru 39.080-9
Lodge By-Laws	12.030
advance payment	37.010; 37.070
amendments	12.030
common interest Lodge	12.042
day and hour of stated meeting	12.030-1; 22.010
dues	12.030-3; 37.010; 37.020; 37.070
duplicate	12.040
effective	12.030
fees	40.100; 49.030
may not be retroactive	12.030
model by-laws	Appendix D
real estate	39.070
required	12.030
signing	12.030-2
Lodge Dues	
arrears	37.070
assessments	37.090; 37.110
by-laws	37.010; 37.070
charges for N.P.D.	37.070; 37.080; Form 26
collection of	37.070
credit	37.010-2
defunct Lodge	16.050
erroneous suspension	24.010-2; 37.080-7
exempted from payment	37.020
failure to pay	37.080
in advance	37.010
in good standing	37.080-2
last known address	37.080-1
must accept payment	37.010-1; 37.080-3
non-payment of	37.070
notes	37.010-6
notice of suspension	Form 27
notice to delinquents	Form 25
payable in advance	37.010
procedure for suspension	37.080
receipts for	36.010; 37.060; 37.010-1; 37.080-3
refund	37.010; 37.010-3; 37.010-7
remission	37.030; 37.040; 37.040-1; 37.030-1; 37.030-2
restoration	49.020; 49.030; 49.040; 49.050; Forms 38, 39, 40
same to all members	37.020; 37.010-2
standard dues card	57.060
trial	37.080
when dues are paid	37.050
wholesale suspension	37.080-5; 43.090-7

Lodge for Instruction	2.040; 19.010-3
Lodge Funds	
advance fees	29.020; 29.020-1
charitable organizations	38.040-1; 39.080-4
churches	39.080-2
depository	39.030; 18.010
fund-raising	39.080-3
loans to individuals	39.080-6
political	39.080
relief	38.040; 37.080; 37.090; 38.040-1
youth organizations	39.080-9
Lodge Halls	Chapter 19
display flags	Edit. Note, page 75; 19.010-1; 19.010-7; 19.050-2
emblems	19.050; 19.050-1; 19.050-2
limitations on use	21.020; 21.020-1 thru 21.020-12; 21.040; 21.040-1 thru 21.040-11
organizations defined	19.040; 19.040-1; 19.040-2
other bodies	19.010-2; 19.030; 19.030-1 thru 19.030-6; 19.050
place of meetings	19.010; 63.030; 19.010-3
two rooms	19.020; 23.050; 19.020-1; 19.020-2; 12.010-1
Lodge Minutes	
accused receiving charges	43.100-1
alterations	24.010
approval	24.020
corrections	24.020
erroneous suspension	24.010-2
expunged	24.010
financial statement	24.030
other organizations	24.020-1
permanent form	24.020
sample minutes (<i>refer to Secretaries Handbook</i>)	
signed	24.020; 24.020-3
Lodge of Research	13.041; Edit. Note, page 53
Lodge of Sorrow	22.060; 23.020; 23.020-1 thru 23.020-5; 23.030; 18.020; 22.050; 23.030-1; 23.030-2
Lodge Officers	Chapter 17
acting officer	17.081; 17.081-1
appointment of	17.040; 17.081; 17.081-1
blind officer	17.040-1; 17.010-7
decline installation	17.060
election of	17.010; 17.010-1 thru 17.010-9
eligibility of W.M.	17.020; 17.020-1 thru 17.020-8
failure to elect	17.050
how vacated	17.130
installation	17.140; 17.140-1 thru 17.140-4; 17.150; 17.150-1 thru 17.150-3; 17.160; 17.160-1
presiding	17.020
removal	17.090
resignation	17.070; 17.070-1
separate offices	17.010-3
succession	17.120; 17.120-1

two offices	17.010-4
vacancy	17.080; 17.080-1; 17.080-2; 17.100; 17.020-8
virtual P.M.	17.030; 17.030-1
Lodge Property	
charter surrendered	16.030; 16.040
consolidation	15.030
defunct Lodge	7.010
real estate	39.070
Lodge Records	Chapter 24
annual audit	24.040; 24.040-1
minutes	24.010; 20.020; 24.010-1; 24.010-2; 24.020; 24.020-1 thru 24.020-4
reports of officers/committees	24.030
Lodge Room	
advertising material	21.020-2
churches	21.020(c)
conferring dates	19.060
dances	21.020(e)
dedication of	22.080
display flag	19.010-1
entertainment	21.020; 21.020-1 thru 21.020-12
gambling	21.020; 21.040; 21.040-5; 21.040-11
general election	21.040-3
limitations	21.020; 21.020-1 thru 21.020-12; 21.040-1 thru 21.040-11
location	19.010; 19.030; 25.030
loss of	19.030
paraphernalia	21.020-10
photographs	21.020-5
political meetings	21.020(f)
serving meals	21.040-6
smoking	63.030
two rooms	19.020
weddings	21.020-8
youth organizations	19.030-4
Lodge Secretary (<i>refer to Secretaries Manual</i>)	
acting secretary	17.081
annual report	24.030; 39.010; 18.010; 39.020; Appendix D, Article 4
delinquency	39.020; 6.010; 18.010; 39.010
duty on appeal	48.040
financial statement	24.030; Appendix D, Article 3
issues certificates	49.080
issues summons	44.090
may be trustee	12.020-2
may not be Treasurer	12.020-1
non-performance	17.081-1
official bond	3.020
receives dues	37.050
records at home	24.020-2
records minutes	24.010-1
reports	24.030
serves notices/charges	43.020; 43.100; 43.130

take testimony	44.110
two offices	12.020-1; 12.020-2; 17.010-3; 17.010-4
vacancy in office	17.080; 17.080-1; 17.080-2; 17.081; 17.081-1
Lodge Trustees	
annual report of	Appendix D, Article 10; 24.030
election	12.020; 17.010-4; Appendix D, Article 2
subject to Lodge	17.010-5
real estate	39.070; 39.070-1 thru 39.070-3; Appendix D, Article 3
required	12.020-4; 12.020-5
Lodges Under Dispensation	Chapter 13
action on petition	13.030
charter members	13.080; 13.080-1
demit	13.010-1; 13.010-2
location	13.020
petitioners	13.010; 13.070; 13.070-1
reports	13.060
requirements	13.020; 13.020-1
rights of Lodge	13.050; Edit. Note, page 53
special purpose Lodges U.D.	13.040
work approved	13.030
Lost Member	39.090
Lotteries	21.020; 21.040-11; 42.020-3; 42.020-4

M

Mailing Lists	34.020; 42.050
Masonic Apron	23.020-3; 63.010
Masonic Burial/Memorial Service	Chapter 23
funeral rituals	23.040
Lodge of Sorrow	23.020; 23.020-1 thru 23.020-5
opening/closing	23.030; 18.020; 22.050; 23.030-1; 23.030-2
other societies	23.020-5
overseas death	23.010-3
pallbearers	23.010(c); 23.020-2
simultaneous ceremonies	23.050; 19.020
suicide	23.020-1
Sunday service	22.040-2
traditional burial	23.010; 23.010-1 thru 23.010-5
who may conduct	23.010-2
Masonic Education	2.010; 4.050; 39.110; Appendix D, Article 4
Masonic Emblems	39.080-2; 42.060; 55.120; Edit. Note, page 183
Masonic Heritage Foundation	Chapter 64
Masonic Home Pilgrimage	58.010
Masonic Jewelry	42.060-1
Masonic Offenses	Chapter 42
circularizing or soliciting	42.050; 34.020; 34.030; 59.010; 42.050-1 thru 42.050-5
criminal offense	43.060; 42.020
defined	42.020; 37.080; 60.050; 63.030; 63.040; 42.020-1 thru 42.020-21
disobey orders of W.M.	42.040
effect of charge	26.040; 26.010
emblems	42.060; Edit. Note, page 183; 55.120
fraud	42.020-17

gambling	42.020-3; 42.020-4; 42.030
immoral conduct	42.030; 42.030-1 thru 42.030-4
lotteries	42.020-4
mailing lists	34.020; 42.050
moral law	42.010
parodies	42.060-2
political advertising	42.020-5
refuse summons	42.020-9
slander	42.020-12
soliciting petitions	42.021
statute of limitations	43.090-2
Sunday observance	42.080; 21.020; 21.040; 22.040; 42.080-1
unauthorized ciphers	35.040; 60.050
use of Masonic emblems	42.060; 42.060-1 thru 42.060-4
use of word "Masonic"	42.070; 59.010; 42.070-1 thru 42.070-5
Masonic Relief	Chapter 38
assessments	37.090
associations	38.030
fund	38.040; 37.080; 37.090; 38.040-1
funeral expenses	38.010-2
orphans	38.020; 38.010
relief	38.010; 38.010-1; 38.010-2; Appendix D, Article 5
relief board of Indianapolis	55.050
sojourners	38.030
Masonic Relief Board	55.050
Masonic Residence	Chapter 26
actual	26.010-2
affidavit	26.030
affiliation	28.030; 33.050
armed forces	26.020
change of	26.040; 26.010; 26.050
former	26.020-1
Lodge officer	17.130
loss of	26.040
mailing address	26.010-5
post office box	26.010-1
rejected petitioners	26.050; 26.050-1
residence required	26.010; 26.040; 26.020
restoration	26.060; 32.010
students	26.020
what constitutes	26.020
Masonic Section of Cemetery	42.060-4
Masonic Service Association	55.060
Masonic Trials	Chapters 44, 45, 46
accused cannot vote	46.030
accused fails to appear	44.060; 44.060-1 thru 44.060-10
accused may testify	44.100
act as counsel	43.005; 44.080; 44.080-1; 44.080-2
argument and finding	46.010; 46.040; 50.010; 46.010-1
attendance	44.090; 44.060-2; Form 31; 44.090-1 thru 44.090-9
counsel	44.080; 44.080-1; 44.080-2; Edit. Note, page 205
court record	45.050; 43.060; 43.090; 45.050-1 thru 42.050-4

decides questions raised	44.030; 44.030-1; 44.030-2
effect of suspension or expulsion	46.100; 46.100-1 thru 46.100-3
evidence of witnesses	45.010; 47.030-2
evidence preserved	45.070; Form 7; 45.070-1
finding and judgment	46.070
non-resident witness	44.110; 44.110-1; 44.110-2
notice	44.070; 46.090; Forms 27, 34, 35
on what degree	44.010; 44.010-1; 44.010-2
order of evidence	45.060; 45.060-1 thru 45.060-4
penalty	46.050; 46.050-1 thru 46.050-8
plea in absence	44.050; 44.050-1 thru 44.050-4
plea of guilty	44.040; 44.040-1 thru 44.040-3
privileged communication	45.040
report of committee to take testimony	45.020
result of ballot	46.080
rules of evidence	45.030; 45.030-1 thru 45.030-7
suspension	46.060
testimony by committee	45.020; Form 33
vote on charge or penalties	46.020; 46.030; 50.010; 46.020-1
voting	46.040; 46.040-1 thru 46.040-4
W.M. decides question	44.030; 44.030-1; 44.030-2
who presides	44.020; 44.020-1
witness unable to attend	45.010; Form 32; 45.010-1 thru 45.010-4
Meetings of Lodge	Chapter 22
at ease	35.020-3
called meetings	22.030; 22.030-1 thru 22.030-3
declaration (ample form)	22.060
failure to hold	22.020
funerals	19.010; 22.040; 23.020
Lodge of Instruction	2.040; 19.060; 19.010-3
memorial service	21.020; 22.040-2
notice of candidates	34.010
number to open	22.050; 18.020; 22.060; 23.030
outdoor	19.010; 35.020-9
place of	19.010; 19.020; 19.030
presiding officer	17.150; 18.020; 18.030
public appearance	22.070; 63.040; 22.070-1 thru 22.070-3; 22.080; 22.080-1; 22.090; 17.160; 22.090-1; 22.040-2; Edit. Note, page 93
public ceremonies	22.090; 17.160
reconsideration of motion	22.010
stated meetings	22.010; 17.050; 29.130; 22.020
Sunday meetings	22.040; 21.020; 21.040; 42.080; 22.040-1 thru 22.040-4
who may close	18.020-2
who may open	18.020; 18.020-1; 22.060; 23.030-2
work/business	22.060; 18.020; 22.050; 23.010; 23.030; 22.060-1
Membership	
E.A. or F.C.	33.030
fees	29.010; 29.010-2 thru 29.010-5; 29.020; 29.020-1; 40.100; Appendix D, Article 8
honorary	28.050; 28.050-1; 28.050-2; 37.010-5; 50.020(g)
how acquired	28.010; 29.050; 29.060; 29.110; 33.010; Edit. Note, page 111
how forfeited	32.070; Article IX; 2.010; Chapter 37

life endowment	28.020; 37.010-5
lost members	39.090
minimum	12.020; 13.010; 14.020
non-affiliates	28.030; Edit. Note, pages 111, 123; 29.110-4; 33.030-1; 33.030-2; 33.050-1; 46.100; 49.020-3; 49.020-4; 49.060; 49.060-4; 49.060-5; 49.060-6; 49.070; 49.080; 29.060; 33.050; 33.030; Forms 11, 12
rosters	34.020; 34.010
transfer of membership	33.010
Messages From G.M.	
before balloting	Appendix F
before M.M. degree	Appendix G
Mileage and Per Diem	Article II; 5.010; 54.120
Minimum Membership	12.020
separate offices	12.020-1
trustees	12.020-3; 12.020-4; 12.020-5
two offices	12.020-2
Minimum Standards for Publications	55.120
Model By-Laws	Appendix D
Monthly Reports to Grand Lodge	55.180
Moral Law	42.010; Appendix B
Motions	
new trial	47.020; 47.030
priority	11.110
reconsideration	11.130; 22.010
second required	11.040
stated before debate	11.040
written	11.050
Must Display Flag	19.010-1

N

National Emergency	Article III; 37.040
New Lodge	
by-laws required	12.030
ceremony for constituting	22.080
charter	Article XV; 13.060; 14.010
duties of constituting officer	14.030
location	13.020
Lodge U.D.	13.040
members	13.080
name	13.020
petition for	Form 3
recommendation	13.020-1
when constituted	14.010; 14.020; 14.010-1
New Trials	Chapter 47
depositions	47.030-2; 45.010-3; 43.130-1
motion for	47.020; Form 36; 48.010
new trial	47.010; 47.010-1 thru 47.010-9
prosecuting witness	47.010-1
refused	48.010

request made to Lodge	47.030; 47.030-1; 47.030-2
second trial	47.010-4; 46.050-4
time limit	47.020
trial records	47.040
Non-Affiliate	
certificate of restoration	Edit. Note, pages 111, 123; 49.080; 50.010; Form 42
E.A. or F.C.	28.030; 33.030; 33.030-1; 49.010-1
funeral	23.010
loses rights	23.010; 33.050
petition for restoration	Chapter 49
where affiliate	28.030; 33.050
Non-Masonic Organizations	19.040-1; 43.030-5
Non-Masonic Questionnaires	55.140
Notices	
action on waiver request	Form 9
affiliation by demit	Form 12
amendments to regulations	51.020
appeal	Form 37
concurrent jurisdiction	Form 22
delinquents	Form 25
election by transfer	33.010; Form 18
intention to transfer	33.010; Form 15
levy assessments	37.100
mailing lists	34.020; 42.050; 42.050-2
proposal to consolidate	15.010
publishing names	34.010
rejection by transfer	Form 19
required	37.080; 43.070; 43.090
result to accused	Form 34
results to other Lodge	Form 35
served to accused	43.130
surrender charter	16.020
suspension N.P.D.	Form 27
taking testimony	Form 32
time and place of trial	Forms 26, 29
to Lodge of visiting member	Form 24
waiver of	43.120
waiver of jurisdiction	Form 10
Notice to Lodges/Members	Chapter 34
mailing lists	34.020; 42.050
publication of names	34.010

O

Oath	31.010-4; 36.010-2; 37.080(f); 45.030
Objection to Visitor	36.040; 44.080-2; 44.090-7; 36.040-1
Objections	
advancement	32.060; 32.060-1 thru 32.060-5
after waiver granted	27.050
charges filed	32.060; 32.060-3
counsel	36.040; 44.080-2
E.A. or F.C. may not	32.060-5

final	32.060-1
not effective	33.010-3
offense before petitioning	32.060-4; 43.030-1
P.M. degree	17.020-8; 17.110-1
subsequent	32.060
visitor	36.040
witness in trial	36.040
Obtaining a Charter	Chapter 14
constituting officer	14.030
how to	14.010
number necessary	14.020; Article XII; 7.020; 12.020; 13.010
obtaining demit	14.020-1; 14.030-1
place for constituting	14.010-1
Occupation Which is Unlawful	31.060
Official Bonds	3.020
Official Monitor	61.010; 61.020
Official Ritual	Chapter 60
additional	60.060
adoption	60.010; 60.010-1
craft	60.110
instruction	60.080; 60.090; 60.100
lost and worn	60.070
P.M. degree	60.040
publication	60.020
sale	60.060; 60.100
unauthorized	60.050
uniform work	60.030
Old Charges	Appendix B
Order of DeMolay	39.100; 19.030; 21.010; 39.080; 39.080-3
Order of Service to Masonry	62.080
Outdoor Meetings	19.010

P

Pallbearers	23.010; 23.020-2
Parodies	42.060-2
Past Master	
actual	17.030
certificate conferring degree	Form 45
convocation	17.030-1; 17.020-8
installs officers	17.150; 17.150-1
may close Lodge	18.020-2
may not open	18.020; 18.020-1
may not preside	18.020-1
objection	17.020-8; 17.110-1
other jurisdictions	17.020-3
preside at trial	44.020
transfer Lodges	17.020-2
virtual	17.030; 17.030-1
Past Master Award	62.070
Penal Code	page 177
Penalty for Delinquency	39.020; 37.080-9

Per Capita Tax	
clearing house	55.050
Grand Lodge	6.010; 6.020; 6.030; 54.010
initiations	6.010
Masonic Home	54.020
reserve for maintenance/repair	54.050
Perpetual Jurisdiction	32.010-2
Petition for Affiliation (<i>refer to Affiliation</i>)	
Petition for Degrees	Chapter 29
balloting	29.110; 50.010; Chapter 25; Edit. Note, page 123; 29.110-1 thru 29.110-8; 29.120; 29.130; 29.130-1 thru 29.130-4; 29.010; 29.010-1 thru 29.010-5
character investigation	29.080; 29.050; Chapter 25
committee fails to report	29.090; Chapter 25
concurrent jurisdiction	29.050; 29.080; Chapter 25
fees	29.010; 29.010-1 thru 29.010-5
full amount	29.020; 29.020-1
investigating committee	29.070; 29.070-1 thru 29.070-7
petitions	29.030; 26.050; 26.060; 32.010; 33.030; 29.030-1 thru 29.030-8; Forms 13, 14
reconsideration	29.130
secrecy of ballot	29.100; 29.100-1 thru 29.100-4
separate ballot	29.120
who may not	29.040; 31.010; 31.020; 31.060
withdrawal	29.060; 50.020
Petitioners Questionnaire	Appendix D, Article 7; Form 14
Petitions	
E.A. or F.C.	33.030
fee	29.010; 29.020; 29.010-1 thru 29.010-5
form for degrees	Form 13
how/when received	26.010-7; 29.030-3; 26.040-1
invitation to petition	29.140
questionnaire required	29.030
reasons for rejection	29.110-4
recommenders	29.030
refer to committee	29.030; 29.080; 29.090
refuse to receive	29.030
rejected	32.010; 32.010-1; 32.010-4; 27.030-1
residence (<i>refer to Masonic Residence</i>)	
signature	29.030
waive requirements	29.030-5
Photographs	21.020-5
Physical Qualifications	
after initiation	31.020-3
comply with ceremonies	31.020
elected candidates	31.030
epilepsy	31.020-4
Lodge not determine	31.020-1
Lodge U.D.	13.040; 31.021; 35.020
one Lodge only	31.040
permission from G.M.	31.020
petitions from physically impaired	31.020

rejected petitioner	31.050
restoration	31.030
stuttering	31.020-4
Place of Residency	28.030; 29.050
Plural Membership	Chapter 40
application	40.050; Chapter 29
date of membership	40.080
death	40.130
defined	40.040
discipline	40.120
fees	40.100; 12.030
forms	15P; 16P; 17P; 18P; 18-1P; 19P; 20P
in Indiana	40.030
membership	40.010; 40.010-1; 40.060
outside Indiana	40.020
privileges/obligations	40.070; 40.070-1
rejected petitions	40.140
special purpose	40.150; 13.040
suspension	40.110
Political Meetings	21.020
Preliminary Instructions	57.050
Presentation to Candidates	35.030
Presiding Officer	
any competent Brother	18.020
installation	17.150
P.M. may not preside	18.020-1
trial	44.020
W.M.	18.020; 18.030; 44.020
Warden	18.020; 18.030
who may close	18.020-2; 22.060
who may open	18.020; 18.020-1
Prizes	21.020
Profanity	42.020-13
Proficiency of Candidates	Chapter 30
certificate of	63.050; Form 47
election void	30.020; 30.020-1 thru 30.020-4
must attain	30.010; 30.040; 60.080; 30.010-1; 30.010-2; Form 43
time between election/initiation	30.030; 30.030-1
Proxies to Grand Lodge	18.010
Proxy Vote	39.070-2; 50.040-1
Public Ceremonies	
at ease	35.020-3; 22.090-2
dedication/rededication	22.080
expenses	1.040
Grand Lodge	22.080
installation	Article VIII; 17.160
laying cornerstone	22.080
memorial services	22.040-2
reception of distinguished guests	Appendix C
service awards	62.010
subordinate Lodge	22.090

Public Interest Purposes	39.080
Publishing Names	34.010; 34.020

Q

Quadriplegic	29.100-4
Qualification of Candidates	Chapter 31
degrees on handicap candidates	31.021; 13.040; 35.020; 31.040
elected candidate	31.030
minimum	31.010; 26.070; 29.040; 31.060; 31.010-1 thru 31.010-7
moral	31.060
physical	31.020; 31.021; Edit. Note, page 132; 31.020-1 thru 31.020-4
rejected petitioner	31.050
who may not petition	29.040
Questionnaires	
investigating committee	27.060-1; 29.030; 29.070; 57.010; Form 14
non-Masonic sources	55.140
petitioner	Form 13
request for waiver	27.060-1
Quorum	
Grand Lodge meetings	Article IV
subordinate Lodge meetings	22.050
trial	43.110

R

Raffles	42.030-4
Raymond L. White Medal	62.080
Reading Old Charges	63.020; Appendix B
Real Estate	20.010; 39.070; 39.070-1 thru 39.070-3; Appendix D, Article 3
Reception of Distinguished Guests	Appendix C
Recommendations	
new Lodge	Article XII; Form 2
petitioner for membership	29.030
suspended/expelled from defunct Lodge	49.070; Form 41
Reconsideration	
ballot	29.130; 29.130-1; 29.130-2
motion	11.130; 22.010
request for demit	33.020-4
voice vote	29.130-3
Recording Equipment	44.010-1; 44.100-1; 44.110-2; 45.030-6; 45.060-3
Reimbursement of G.M.	39.060; 54.060
Rejected petitioners/Objections	Chapter 32
applicant	32.010; 26.060; Edit. Note, page 135; 32.010-1 thru 32.010-4
forfeiture of membership	32.070; Article IX; 2.010; Chapter 37
objection to advancement	32.060; 32.060-1 thru 32.060-5
W.M. arrest E.A. degree	32.050
Relief Funds	
assessment	37.090
minimum	38.040
requirement	38.040
Revised June 2005	
Remission of Dues	37.030; 28.020; 37.010; 37.040; 49.050
Removal of W.M.	

By Lodge	17.100; 17.130
by G.M.	2.010
special deputy	Article IX-6; 2.010-1; 43.010-2; 43.050-2
Reports of Lodges	
auditing committee	20.040; Form 7
committee for testimony	45.020; Form 33
duty of W.M.	18.010
failure to make	39.020
financial statement	24.030; Form 7
indebtedness	20.050
investigating committee	29.080; 29.090
Lodge U.D.	13.060
Masonic Home Ambassador	24.030; 39.040
relief committee	24.030
secretary	24.030; Form 7
treasurer	24.030; Form 7
trustees	24.030; Form 7
Representation in Grand Lodge	Chapter 5
Lodge representatives	5.020
pay of members	5.010; Article II; 54.120
who shall vote	5.030; Article II; 5.030-1; Edit. Note, page 34
Requirements for a Lodge	Chapter 12
Requirements for Resolutions	55.150
Reserve for Maintenance and Repair	54.050
Resignation of Officer	17.070; 17.110; 17.120; 17.130
Restoration	Chapter 49
by Grand Lodge	49.070; Form 41
by remission	49.050; Form 39
certificates of restoration	49.080; Form 42
condition of non-affiliated	49.060; Forms 40, 40A; 49.060-1 thru 49.060-7
expiration of time	49.010; 49.010-1; 49.010-2
fee	49.030
program	49.020
retain dues	49.040
suspended for non-payment of dues	49.020; 37.080; 49.040; Form 38; 49.020-1 thru 49.020-4
Reviewer	2.010; 4.050
Right of Appeal	48.020-2
Road Signs	63.070; 42.060
Rules of Order of Grand Lodge	Chapter 11
amendments	11.160
division of question	11.120
debate	11.060; 11.070; 11.080; 11.090
motions	11.040; 11.050; 55.150; 11.110; 11.130
order and decorum	11.030
order of business	11.020; 55.150
time for opening	11.010
voting	11.100

S

Salaries and Bonds	Chapter 3
Sample Minutes (<i>refer to Secretaries Manual</i>)	
Scottish Rite	19.040
Seals	55.010; 55.020; 57.040
Secrecy of Ballot	29.100; 29.100-1 thru 29.100-4
Service Awards	Chapter 62
date for presentation	62.060; 62.060-1
eligibility	62.040; 62.050
gold awards	62.010; 62.010-1
P.M. award	62.070
posthumous	62.020
seventy-five year	62.010; 62.010-1
silver	62.050; 62.050-2; Edit. Note, page 273
wearing	62.030
Seventy-Five Year Award	62.010; 62.010-1; 62.020; 62.030; 62.040; 62.050-1; 62.060; 62.060-1
Shrine	19.040-1
Silver Awards	62.050; 62.050-2
Simultaneous Ceremonies	23.050; 19.020
Smoking	35.020-9; 63.030
Soliciting	42.021; 42.050
Special Deputy	Article IX-6; 2.010-1; 13.030; 18.020-1; 19.060; 22.080; Edit. Note, page 93; 31.020; 35.020-9; 36.040; 39.060; 43.010-2; 43.050-2; Appendix C
Standard Dues Card	57.060
Standing Resolutions	page 229
Statute of Limitations	43.090-2
St's John Days	17.010; 22.040; 22.070
Students	26.020
Subordinate Lodge	
bonds	3.020
by-laws	Appendix D
certificate of dispensation	12.010
change location	25.030
common interest	12.042
craft clubs	39.120
father and son night	57.030
fund-raising	20.010-5; 39.080; 39.080-3; Edit. Note, page 170; 42.020-4; 42.050
how to dissolve	16.010
income	20.040
indebtedness	20.030
Lodge for instruction	2.040; 19.010-3
Lodge of Research	13.041; Edit. Note, page 53
Lodge of Sorrow	22.060; 23.020; 23.020-1 thru 23.020-5; 23.030; 18.020; 22.050; 23.030-1; 23.030-2
member of suspended Lodge	16.060
member of unsound mind	57.020
Succession of S.W.	17.120; 17.120-1
Suicide	23.020-1

Summons

failure to obey 42.020-9; 44.090-8
issued by secretary 44.090
minutes must show 43.100-1
no quorum 44.090-6; 43.110

Sunday Observance

attend divine services 22.040
awards 22.040-4; 62.010-1
church may use temple 21.020
Easter breakfast 21.040-1
games 42.080
meetings of O.E.S. 21.020-4; 21.040-4
memorial services 21.020; 22.040-2
non-masonic function 21.020-9; 21.040-8
receptions 21.020-4; 21.040-4
St. John’s Day 22.070-3
trials 22.030-3

Supervisory Board

annual reports 20.020
appointment 2.010
approves building plans 20.010
approves indebtedness 20.030
changes in plans 20.060
duties 4.030
public processions 22.070
publications 55.120
real estate 39.070
report to 20.050; 20.020
representation in Grand Lodge Chapter 5
reprimand Article IX-8; 16.070-1; 43.010-3; 43.050-1
seal 57.040
special purpose 13.040; 22.020
sponsorship 21.010; 35.050; 39.100
suspension Article IX; 2.010; 16.060; 39.020; 42.050
titles of officers 12.020
work or business 18.020; 18.030; 22.050; 22.060

Suspended for Non-Payment of Dues 24.010-2; 37.080; 39.090;
49.020; 49.040; 50.010; 55.070

Suspension 37.080; Article IX; 2.010; 32.070

T

Table Lodge 63.090; 12.010-2; 19.020-2

Temple Association 20.020

The Sublime Degree 35.090; Appendix G

Time Limit

appeal 48.010; 48.040
demitted 33.050
initiation 30.020-1; 30.020; 30.030; 30.030-1
Lodge U.D. 13.060

motion for new trial	47.020
transfer of membership	33.010
waiver of jurisdiction	27.020
Transcript of Trial	45.070; 45.070-1; 48.040
Transfer of membership and Demission	Chapter 33
action of Lodge	33.020-3
blanket demits	33.020-1
certificate of Grand Secretary	33.040
charges against demitted Mason	33.020-11
demits	33.020; 33.020-1 thru 33.020-17; 13.010-1; 13.010-2; 13.070-1; 13.080-1; 14.030-1; 23.010; Edit. Note, page 123; 29.130-4; 37.100; 43.040-2; 37.090-2
duplicate demit	33.020-13
E.A. or F.C.	33.030; 28.030; 33.030-1 thru 33.030-3
effective	33.010; 33.010-1; 33.020
fee for demit	33.020-15
from other jurisdiction	33.040
how to	33.010; 33.010-1 thru 33.010-6; Forms 15-19
identify	33.020-14
non-affiliate rights	33.050; 29.110; 33.050-1; 33.050-2
not granted	33.020-16; 33.020-17; 37.090-2
other jurisdictions	33.040
reconsideration	33.020-4
time limit	33.020-12
Trial by Commission	43.170
Trial Forms	Appendix H
Trials (<i>refer to Masonic Trials</i>)	
Trustees, Boards, Committees	Chapter 4
committee meetings	4.060; Article II
duties of committees	4.050; 55.150; 4.050-1
home foundation	4.020
Masonic Home	4.040; Chapter 58
supervisory board	4.030; Chapter 20
trustees	4.010; 54.130
Twenty-Five Year (Silver) Awards	62.050; 62.050-2; Edit. Note, page 273

U

Unauthorized Ciphers	35.040; 60.050
Unsound Mind	57.020
Use of Lodge Halls	Chapter 21
limitations	21.020; 21.020-1 thru 21.020-12
Lodge rooms	21.010; 39.080; 39.100; 37.080-3; 39.100-3; 21.010-1 thru 21.010-6
other rooms	21.030; 21.040; 21.040-1 thru 21.040-11
Use of Work "Masonic"	42.070; 42.070-2

V

Vacancies in Office	17.080; 17.080-1; 17.080-2; 17.081; 17.081-1; 17.100; 17.110; 17.110-1; 17.120; 17.130
Virtual Past Master	17.030; 17.030-1

Visitations	35.020-4
dues receipt	36.010; 36.010-2
E.A. or F.C.	36.030
examination	36.010-2
lawful information	36.020
non-affiliate	33.050
objection	36.040; 44.080-2; 44.090-7; 36.040-1
Visitors (<i>refer to Examination of Visitors</i>)	
Voting	11.100; 18.010-1; 18.010-2; 21.040-3; 26.030; 44.020-1; 46.040; 46.040-1; 50.020; 50.020-1; 50.020-2; 50.030; 50.030-1; 50.030-2; 50.040; 50.040-1 thru 50.040-3; 50.050; 50.050-1; 50.050-2

W

Waiver of Jurisdiction	Chapter 27
action	27.020; 27.050; 27.060
another jurisdiction	27.010; 26.010; 27.010-1
objection after granting	27.050
petition rejected	27.030; 27.030-1; 32.010-4
referred to committee	27.060; 27.060-3
refusal to grant	27.040; 27.040-1
request denied	27.030; 27.040
residence when balloting	27.010
time limit	27.020
unanimous ballot	27.060
unworthy petitioner	27.060-2
Waiver of Trial	43.070-1
Warden	
auditing committee	17.010-6
J.W. prefers charges	43.080
may preside	18.020
work legal	18.030
Weddings	21.020-8
Wholesale Suspension	37.080-5; 43.090-7
Worshipful Master	
complaints	Articles IX-4, IX-5; 43.010; 43.020; 43.050
decline to serve	17.060
demit/resign	17.070-1
duties (<i>refer to Duties of W.M.</i>)	
reprimanded	Article IX-8; 16.070-1
residence	17.130
resignation	17.070; 17.110
special election	17.110; 17.120; 17.130
successor	17.120
suspension	2.010; 60.050
trustee	12.020-2; 17.010-4
vacancy	17.110; 17.120; 17.130

Y

Your Sacred Right and Duty Appendix F

Youth Organizations 19.030-4; Edit. Note, page 87

 contributions 39.080

 parodies 42.060-2

 sponsorship 39.100

 use of Lodge rooms 19.060; 21.020; 21.010; 21.040-7