CONSTITUTION

and

BY-LAWS



THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF OREGON

FIFTHEENTH EDITION 2023

DECLARATION

We, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon, in order to form a perfect fraternal union, establish order, insure tranquility, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Royal Craft, and secure to the fraternity in Oregon the blessing of Royal Arch Masonry, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

PART ONE

CONSTITUTION

STYLE AND TITLE OF GRAND CHAPTER

Section 1. The name and style of this Grand Chapter shall be "The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon."

MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. This Grand Chapter shall consist of its past and present elective officers, its present appointive officers and committees during their terms of service or office, the Past High Priests of the several chartered and constituted chapters; and the Excellent High Priests, Kings and Scribes for the time being of the several chartered and constituted chapters under its jurisdiction, or their legally appointed proxies.

SEAL

Section 3. The following is hereby adopted as the seal of the Grand Chapter.



A circle having inscribed an annular border, next to which is inscribed the words "The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon" at the bottom of which separating the words "Seal" and "Oregon" is to be found an asterisk with arrow heads, one pointing to each word. On the inner face are embossed two pillars surmounted by an arch with a keystone at its apex. Between the pillars a Royal Arch altar surmounted by a burning censer. On the inside portion and below the altar are inscribed the words: "A. I. 2390."

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

Section 4. The Grand Chapter shall hold its annual convocation on the Thursday preceding the second Monday in April of each year, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at such place as may be designated by the Grand Chapter in annual convocation. Provided, however, that in case of

emergency, the Grand Trustees may designate the time and place of the annual convocation. (1982)

QUORUM

Section 5. No stated or special convocation of the Grand Chapter shall be opened, nor shall any business be transacted therein, unless seven of the chartered Chapters of the jurisdiction be represented; but a smaller number may meet and adjourn from day to day for two days. If a quorum is not then present, the Grand High Priest shall declare the Grand Chapter closed until the next annual convocation, and the grand officers will hold over for another term.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICE Membership in Constituent Chapter

- **Section 6**. (a) No one is eligible to membership in Grand Chapter unless in good standing in a chartered Chapter in this jurisdiction.
- (b) To be eligible for election to Grand High Priest, the Companion must have served as Grand King, Grand Scribe and/or Grand Captain of the Host and performed all of the duties of that office sufficient to demonstrate that he is qualified to perform all of the duties incumbent upon that high office. (1997)
- Section 7. (1) To be eligible for office in the Grand Chapter on must be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing in a Chartered Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction.
- (2) To be eligible for the office of Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe or Grand Captain of the Host, one must have been duly installed and have served as High Priest of a Chartered Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction (2001)
- (3) To be eligible for election to the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances one must have been duly installed and have served as High Priest of a Chartered Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction and cannot be serving as Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Treasurer or Grand Secretary. (2014)

PROXIES

Section 8. The High Priest, King, or Scribe of a chartered Chapter may, if unable to attend, appoint any member of such Chapter in Grand Chapter, and such appointment shall be in writing and signed by the officer. No other proxies shall be recognized.

VOTES

Section 9. In all elections and upon all questions before the Grand Chapter, each constituent Chapter shall be entitled to three votes. Each Past High Priest of each constituent Chapter, when present, shall be entitled to one vote. Each Grand Officer, each Past elective Grand Officer, and each Committee member during his term of office, when present, shall be entitled to one vote; no member being entitled to more than one vote, on any question, in his own right.

ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS

Section 10. At each annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, there shall be elected by ballot:

A Grand High Priest.

A Grand King.

A Grand Scribe.

A Grand Treasurer.

A Grand Secretary.

A Grand Captain of the Host.

A member to the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances. (2014)

Provided, however, that the Office of Grand Treasurer and of Grand Secretary may be held by one and the same Companion. (1983)

APPOINTIVE GRAND OFFICERS

Section 11. There shall be appointed, by the Grand High Priest, the following Grand Officers:

A Grand Lecturer.

A Grand Principal Sojourner.

A Grand Royal Arch Captain.

A Grand Master of the Third Veil.

A Grand Master of the Second Veil. A Grand Master of the First Veil.

A Grand Chaplain.

A Grand Orator.

A Grand Historian.

A Grand Capitulator Reviewer.

A Grand Musician.

A Grand Sentinel.

(1994)

MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED

Section 12. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to the choice of the elective Grand Officers.

SUCCESSION IN OFFICE

- Section 13. The office of Grand High Priest is never vacant. Should the Grand High Priest be unable to perform the duties of his office by reason of death, absence from this Grand Jurisdiction or inability to act, the duties of the Grand High Priest shall be performed by:
 - (a) The Grand King.
 - (b) If both are incapacitated, the Grand Scribe.
- (c) If all the foregoing Grand Officers are incapacitated, the Immediate Past Grand High Priest shall summon the Past Grand High Priests to a meeting in Portland for the purpose of filling the office of Grand High Priest. Three days notice shall be given. Three Past Grand High Priests shall constitute a quorum. Selection for the vacancy shall be made from the Past Grand High Priests by majority ballot. Should the Immediate Past Grand High Priest be unable to perform the duties assigned to him, the surviving Past Grand High Priest preceding him in office, and able to serve, shall perform such duty.

VACANCIES

Section 14. (1) Vacancies in the office of Grand King, Grand Scribe or Grand Captain of the Host can be filled only by Grand Chapter in Annual or Special Convocation.

RESIGNATION OF GRAND OFFICERS

- Section 14 1/2. (1) The Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe or Grand Captain of the Host cannot resign.
- (2) Resignations of other Elective or Appointive Grand Officers and members of any Committee may be accepted by the Grand High Priest.

SOVEREIGNTY AND JURISDICTION

Section 15. This Grand Chapter is the only source of authority over matters pertaining to Capitular Masonry in the State of Oregon.

CLANDESTINES

Section 16. Any organization, association, parties or persons professing to have any authority, powers or privileges in Capitular Masonry within the State of Oregon, not derived from this Grand Chapter, are declared to be clandestine, and intercourse with, or recognition of them, or any of them, is prohibited.

POWERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER

Section 17. The Grand Chapter has power: (2011)

General Provisions

(1) To do whatsoever may be considered necessary to the well-being and perpetuity of Capitular Masonry in the State of Oregon.

Dispensations and Charters

(2) To grant dispensations and charters for holding Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, with the right to confer therein the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch; and when deemed expedient and for good cause, to revoke or amend such dispensations or charters, or any pre-existing dispensations or charters.

Exclusive Jurisdiction

(3) To exercise original and exclusive jurisdiction over all subjects of Capitular legislation and administration: appellate, judicial and administrative jurisdiction from the decisions of the Grand High Priests and High Priests, and from the decisions and acts of Chapters, and, when expedient, to exercise original judicial jurisdiction over its officers, members, High Priests and Royal Arch Masons under its jurisdiction.

Territorial and Judicial Jurisdiction

(4) To assign the limits and fix the location of each Chapter under its jurisdiction, and settle all controversies that may arise between them, and to make final decisions and determination of all matters of controversy or grievances which may be brought up by appeal or otherwise.

Legislative Powers

(5) To make and adopt general laws and regulations for the government of the several Chapters under its jurisdiction, and to alter, amend, or repeal the same.

Assessments

(6) To assess and collect, from the several Chapters under its jurisdiction, such money annually as may be provided by laws, and found necessary for the support, maintenance and activities of the Grand Chapter; provided that contributions levied upon Chapters shall be equal and uniform, in proportion to their membership.

Finances

(7) To supervise the state and condition of its own finances, and adopt such measures in relation thereto as may be deemed necessary.

Penal Jurisdiction

(8) To reprimand, suspend or expel any member from its own body for violation of the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, or for any un-Masonic conduct, and to suspend or expel any accused person upon trial or by appeal.

Review of Reports

(9) To consider and review the reports and doings of the Grand Officers for the past year, as well as those of the several Chapters under its jurisdiction.

Ritual

(11) To enforce the use of the Ritual and Lectures promulgated by its Committee on Ritual and regularly adopted by this Grand Chapter.

Powers Without Limitation

(12) All powers herein expressed, either general or special, shall not limit or control any power or function expressed, but each clause shall be construed in furtherance, and not in limitation, of all powers anciently or otherwise exercised.

POWERS OF GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Section 18. The Grand High Priest has power:

- (1) To convene the Grand Chapter in special convocation in case of emergency.
 - (2) To preside at all convocations of the Grand Chapter.
 - (3) To decide all questions of usage, order and Capitular law.
- (4) To appoint Grand Representatives to the various Grand Chapters in correspondence with this Grand Chapter.
- (5) To exercise the executive functions of the Grand Chapter when not in session.
 - (6) To issue dispensations for the formation of new Chapters.
- (7) To convene any Chapter within this grand jurisdiction and in person, or by proxy, to preside therein, with the High Priest on his left, inspect its proceedings and require its conformity to Capitular rules.
- (8) To suspend the charter of any Chapter when he may deem it expedient.
- (9) To constitute Chapters and set them duly at work, in person or by proxy.
- (10) To command every Grand Officer and call on any of them for information, advice and assistance on business relative to the craft, and to require of them any information concerning their offices.
- (11) To issue his dispensation to a Chapter to ballot on a petition for degrees at a special convocation, hold an election other than at its November stated convocation, waiving statutory requirements as to time to change its meeting place, levy a special tax, or install its High Priest after December 27. (1995)

- (12) To appoint all committees not otherwise provided for by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter.
- (13) To appoint all officers and fill all vacancies not otherwise provided for by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter.
- (14) To have and to use the Grand High Priest's seal as herein described:

Grand High Priest's Seal



A circle, having inscribed an annular border, next to which is inscribed the words "Grand High Priest R.A.M. Oregon" with the word Oregon at the bottom of said inscription, with a star on each side of the word separating it from the word Grand and the letter M. On the inner face is embossed a Past Grand High Priest's jewel, surrounded by an annular border, all being within the words "Grand High Priest R.A.M. Oregon."

BY-LAWS

Section 19. By-Laws shall be adopted by this Grand Chapter to enforce the provisions of this constitution, define the duties of officers and committees and to regulate such other matters as, to the Grand Chapter, may seem expedient.

AMENDMENTS

- **Section 20.** The Grand Chapter, by a favorable vote of three-fourths of its members present at a Stated Convocation, may revise or amend its constitution as follows:
- (1) Any member intending to submit an amendment shall give notice thereof, in writing, to the Grand Secretary at least Seventy days before the day on which the Stated Convocation is to be held, and notice thereof shall be sent to the Constituent Chapters at least fifty days prior to the date of convening such Convocation; otherwise no such amendment shall be entertained. (2000)
- (2) Provided, that if the Grand Secretary fails to give such notice, the proposed amendment may be called up by three-fourths of the members present and acted upon as if such notice had been given.

(3) Provided also, that no such proposed amendment shall be acted upon by the Grand Chapter until after it is referred to and reported on by the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances.

Section 21. No standing resolution shall repeal, change or modifianty section of this Constitution.

PART TWO

BY-LAWS RELATIVE TO THE GRAND CHAPTER

PREAMBLE

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon does ordain and establish, in pursuance of Section 19 of the Constitution, the following By-Laws:

ANNUAL CONVOCATIONS

Section 101. The Grand Chapter shall hold its annual convocation on the Thursday preceding the second Monday in April of each year, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at such place as may be designated by the Grand Chapter in Annual Convocation. (1982)

SPECIAL CONVOCATIONS

Section 102. The Grand Chapter may be convened in special convocation when emergency demands, by the Grand High Priest, who shall fix the time, appoint the place and cause the Grand Secretary to give ten days notice to officers and members.

OCCASIONAL CONVOCATIONS

Section 103. An occasional Grand Chapter may be assembled, by the Grand High Priest or his representative, whenever and wherever the same may be necessary for the celebration of regular Capitular ceremonies or performance of Capitular work.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Section 104. After the Grand High Priest has called the Grand Chapter to order, the following order:

- (1) Calling the roll of the Grand Officers and Chapters.
- (2) The usual solemn ceremonies of opening the Grand Chapter in ample form.
 - (3) Reception of Grand Representatives.
 - (4) Reading and approving the minutes of any previous convocation.
 - (5) Message of the Grand High Priest.
 - (6) Reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.
 - (7) Report of the Committee on Grand High Priest's Message.
 - (8) Reports of Committees.
 - (9) Appointments, by the Grand High Priest, of committees.
 - (10) Reports of Trustees and other Grand Officers and committees.
 - (11) Miscellaneous business.
 - (12) Unfinished business.

ELECTION

Section 105. An Election of Officers shall be held at 11:00a.m. on the day of each Annual Convocation, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Chapter. (1982)

INSTALLATION

Section 106. The installation may take place after the completion of the business and prior to the closing of the Grand Chapter, or after business the Grand Chapter may be closed, the installation to follow immediately after closing, by order of the Grand High Priest elect. (1985) (See Attachment for Installation Ceremony) (1985)

VOTES

Section 107. Each Constituent Chapter shall be entitled to three votes; each Grand Officer, each Past Elective Grand Officer, each Past High Priest, and each member of committees during his term of service, when present, shall be entitled to one vote in his own right.

APPOINTMENTS

Section 108. The Grand High Priest shall fill all appointive offices.

LAWS

Section 109. The laws of this Grand Chapter are:

The written law.

The unwritten law.

- (1) The written law of this jurisdiction consists of the Constitution and the enactments of the Grand Chapter as expressed in this code, and its subsequent enactments as published by its authority. When written law is silent in the Capitular Code, reference is made to the Code of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon. (1937)
- (2) The unwritten law of the jurisdiction consists of the time-honored customs and usages of Royal Arch Masons, of general recognition, as they are found in the tradition and historic records of Capitular Masonry and adapted to the conditions and time in which we live, together with such rules for applications as will perpetuate its integrity and usefulness, and not repugnant to its written laws.

FORCE OF FORMER LAW

Section 110. While the written law of the jurisdiction is to be four only in this code and the subsequent enactments of the Grand Chapter, it is not to be understood that rules of law heretofore expressed by Grand Chapter enactment may not have force as unwritten law, if comprehended within the definition given, the purpose being

to render the written law more accessible to the craft for practical use, by limiting the scope of its record and specifying where it is to be found. In other words, the design of this code, as to previous Grand Chapter enactments not embraced herein, is to destroy their force and effect as written law, and repeal them for all purposes wherein they are repugnant to its provisions.

OFFICIAL DEFINITION OF CODE

Section 111. These laws, when compiled and published, shall be designated the "Capitular Code of Oregon," and shall be divided into sections, each to be numbered consecutively from one (1) to the highest number given. And for purposes of reference and citation, it may be known as the "Code," adding, as it may be necessary, the section; and all amendments hereto, when offered in Grand Chapter, shall specify the section of the code, according to the intent; and if to add new sections, it shall so state, and number the same, the intention being, not only that the enactments at the time of adopting the code, but all subsequent enactments as written law, shall be embraced herein; and the provisions of this code shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of adoption.

GRAND HIGH PRIESTS DECISIONS

Section 112. The Grand High Priest shall report to the Grand Chapter decisions upon Capitular law made by him during its recess. If made to and approved by the Grand Chapter, they do not have the force or effect of written law, nor are they binding as correct expressions of the unwritten law. They are to have the effect of an approval of the act of the Grand High Priest in the particular instance, and are of value only as an opinion formed upon an ex parte statement without an issue submitted in a proceeding requiring judicial determination.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Section 113. The recommendations of the Grand High Priest in his message as to changes in, alterations of, or additions to the law, although concurred in by the Grand Chapter in its action thereon, or on the report of a committee to which it has been referred, shall not be of force or effect as law, merely by reason of such action; but to render it a legal enactment, it must be presented to the Grand Chapter in writing, independent of such recommendation or report, and then be referred and adopted as by law provided, it being the intention that in no case shall

the adoption of a report have the effect of enacting or changing a provision of this code.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a committee from accompanying its report with a draft for a change in the law, in accordance with a recommendation, or otherwise, or from making recommendations or statements as to such draft; but the action of the Grand Chapter in its enactment must be independent of its action on the report.

EFFECT OF APPEALED CASES

Section 114. Cases reported by the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, coming to the Grand Chapter on appeal under the forms of law, are proper judicial proceedings; and the action of the Grand Chapter upon their report, touching the legal questions involved, is judicial in its nature, and may be considered as a correct interpretation of existing laws, whether written or unwritten. But such action by the Grand Chapter must in no sense be considered as legislative, or the making of law.

RITUAL

Section 115. (1) The Grand Chapter hereby adopts and authorizes the ritual promulgated by its Committee on Ritual.

(2) Certification of Proficiency -- Any Companion may 'stand' in any Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction and be examined as to his proficiency in the requirements listed below. A letter of 'certification' will be required from the Chapter, signed by the High Priest and the Secretary under the SEAL of the Chapter, stating the date, name of the Companion(s) and the type of CARD earned. This letter must also be signed by a WHITE CARD holder, or a District Deputy Grand High Priest, or the Grand High Priest, Grand King or Grand Scribe. This letter must then be forwarded to the Grand Lecturer who will issue the CARD and send it to the Grand High Priest for his signature and SEAL of the Grand Chapter. The CARD(S) will then be sent to the Chapter wherein the examination took place for proper presentation. In addition, a WHITE CARD must be presented with an appropriate document personally by the Grand High Priest or his Deputy.

REQUIREMENTS: BLUE CARD

All signs, grips and words of the 4 Chapter Degrees. Explain the symbolism of the Keystone. Be able to take a ritualistic part in the opening and closing of the Royal Arch Degree. (It is recommended that all Chapter Officers earn this card.)

PURPLE CARD

All the requirements of the BLUE CARD, plus be able to read all coded portions of our Ritual.

RED CARD

All the requirements of the PURPLE CARD, plus be able to recite, from memory, all coded portions of our Ritual.

WHITE CARD

All the requirements of the RED CARD, plus, be able to recite, from memory, a major ritualistic part such as PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER, Royal Arch Degree (MM-PM-MEM-RA), or The ADDRESS, Royal Arch Degree, or KS, MEM Degree, or ONE (1) of the lectures Degree, or TWO (2) of the Charges (MM-PM-MEM-RA).

EXAMINATIONS:

BLUE CARD; In open Chapters, West of Altar, by any cardholder. PURPLE, RED or WHITE CARDS: May be in open Chapter, or before or after Chapter meeting, by any WHITE Cardholder, or by the GRAND HIGH PRIEST, GRAND KING or GRAND SCRIBE, or by a DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST. (1976)

STATUTORY COMMITTEES

Section 116. The Statutory Committees of the Grand Chapter shall be as follows:

Credentials

Grand High Priest's Message

Memorials

Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances

Ritual

Code

CREDENTIALS

Section 117. The Committee on Credentials shall consist of the Grand Secretary and two or more Past Grand High Priests. The Grand Secretary shall not serve as chairman. The Committee shall include the Chairman of the Committee on Distinguished Guests. (1976)

GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S MESSAGE

Section 118. The Committee on Grand High Priest's Message shall consist of the Junior Past Grand High Priest and the Chairmen of the following committees: Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances, Capitular Review.

MEMORIALS

Section 119. The committee on Memorials shall consist of the Grand Chaplain, as chairman, and the Grand Captain of the Host and Grand Principal Sojourner.

JURISPRUDENCE, APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES

Section 120. At each annual convocation there shall be elected to the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances a member to serve for three years. The senior member, in point of service, shall be chairman. If a member is unable to fulfill his term, the Grand High-Priest shall appoint a qualified companion to finish that term. (2014)

CODE

Section 121. The Committee on the Committee on the Code shall consist of the Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Captain of the Host and such other members as the Grand High Priest may deem appropriate (2001)

RITUAL

Section 122. The Grand Lecturer shall be Chairman of the Committee on Ritual and encourage conformity to the established ritual, ceremonies, customs and usages of this Grand Jurisdiction. He may with the approval of the Grand High Priest, institute such practices and procedures as he may deem necessary to fulfill these duties. The Grand High Priest shall appoint four Companions to serve as members of this committee. (1975)

MANDATORY COMMITTEES

Section 123. The Mandatory Committees of this Grand Chapter shall be as follows:

Dispensations and Charters.

Finance.

PERSONNEL

Section 124. The Mandatory Committees shall each consist of three members, the first named Companion to be the chairman thereof.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 125. Special Committees of this Grand Chapter shall be appointed as occasion requires, and shall consist of three members, unless otherwise ordered, the first named Companion to be chairman thereof.

REVENUES AND PROPERTIES

Section 126. This Grand Chapter shall be entitled to revenue and property as follows:

- (1) For a dispensation to form a new Chapter, Fifty Dollars.
- (2) For a charter to perpetuate a new Chapter, Fifty Dollars.
- (3) For a dispensation to confer degrees, Five Dollars.
- (4) For any other dispensation, Two and one-half Dollars.
- (5) For each Royal Arch degree conferred, Two and one-half Dollars.
- (6) For each Royal Arch Mason reported in the Annual Returns of a Chapter, Six Dollars Twenty Five cents (\$6.25). (2008)
 - (7) Any sum realized out of the property of dissolved chapters.
- (8) Any money or property, whatsoever, to which this Grand Chapter is or may become entitled.
- (9) For each Royal Arch Mason reported in the annual returns of a Chapter, fifteen (15) cents shall be paid out and set aside as a Triennial Fund for the purpose of sending the Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe to the Triennial Meeting of the General Grand Chapter. (1991)

APPROPRIATIONS

- **Section 127.** (1) Every proposal to appropriate or expend money shall be made in writing and referred to the finance committee. No money shall be appropriated or expended until after such committee has reported.
- (2) Every account against the Grand Chapter shall show upon its face each item composing the whole claim, and by whose authority the indebtedness was created.

SALARIES AND TRAVELING EXPENSES

Grand Secretary

Section 128 (1) The office of Grand Secretary shall be a position of Voluntary service (2) The Grand Secretary shall receive an expense allowance of Seven Dollars Fifty cents per day (1999)

Capitular Reviewer

Section 129. The Capitular Reviewer shall receive an annual salary of Fifty Dollars. (1982)

TRAVEL EXPENSE, GRAND OFFICERS

Section 130. (1) The Grand High Priest shall be reimbursed up to \$2400 for official travel associated with his office. Official travel is intended to mean official visitations to at least every district in this jurisdiction and to at least two jurisdictions outside Oregon. The Grand King, Grand Scribe and Grand Captain of the Host shall be reimbursed up to \$500 for travel associated with making official visits to assigned Chapters. The Grand King, Grand Scribe and Grand Captain of the Host shall make no less than 80 percent of the required visits prior to March 30 to be entitled to full reimbursement. The officer shall submit a list of visitations made to the Grand Secretary no later than April 1. The Grand Secretary shall make payment on a percentage of visits made if less than 80 percent. (1997)

(2) Other Grand Officers shall be reimbursed for any money authorized to be expended in the necessary discharge of their duties. (1997)

Section 131.

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HOW MONEY MAY BE DISBURSED

Section 132. (1) No debt shall be contracted, nor any disbursement made, otherwise than by order of the Grand Chapter or Grand Chapter Trustees.

(2) Each warrant drawn on the Grand Treasurer shall show on its face: For what consideration or purpose it was issued. Upon what fund it is drawn. Whether it is drawn by order of the Grand Chapter or the Grand Chapter Trustees.

TRUSTEES-PERSONNEL

Section 133. The Grand High Priest, the Grand King and the Grand Scribe shall be the Trustees of the Grand Chapter.

MEETINGS

Section 134. (1) The Trustees shall hold not less than four meetings each year: one in April after the Annual Convocation, one in September, one in January, and one in March. Two Trustees shall constitute a quorum; the senior officer shall preside; all meetings shall be held at such times and place as designated by the Grand High Priest or, if he fails to act, by the Grand King; and all shall have five days notice thereof.

POWERS

- Section 135. (1) The Trustees shall manage and control the funds and have and exercise a general supervision over all of the real, personal and mixed property of the Grand Chapter. In dealing therewith, the title to all real, personal and mixed property shall be taken and held in the name of "The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon," and all the business shall be conducted in that name.
- (2) The Trustees may buy real estate and invest in bonds of the United States, or other approved standard securities, with power to improve, rent or sell, hypothecate and dispose of same, consistent with good business judgment and as the needs of the Grand Chapter may render expedient, and in the exercise of these powers shall have authority to order warrants drawn upon the Grand Treasurer.
- (3) The Trustees may lend money upon unencumbered real estate to an amount equal to one-half of its then fair appraised value.

-) The Trustees shall make all contracts for printing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, the reports of the committees, the Constitution and By-Laws and all other matters ordered printed by the Grand Chapter.
- (5) The powers granted to the Trustees shall be exercised in obedience to and conformity with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter. The Trustees shall not have power to alter, amend, se aside or modify any provision of the Constitution or By-Laws.
- (6) The Trustees shall procure a blanket position bond, in such amounts as they deem proper, from a reliable surety company for the bonding of the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, and the Treasurer and Secretary of each Constituent Chapter, such bond to be conditioned that each officer will faithfully perform the duties required and will deliver to his successor all moneys, books. papers, securities or other property in his possession, pertaining to his office. The expense of such bonding to be paid from the Treasuries of the respective bodies, and included with the Annual Returns commencing with the Annual Returns for 1956.

FUNDS AND FISCAL YEAR

Section 136. The funds of the Grand Chapter shall be the general fund and such other funds as the Grand Chapter may from time to time designate. The fiscal year of the Grand Chapter shall commence on the first day of January and end the last day December of each year. (1983)

GENERAL FUND

Section 137. The general fund shall consist of all moneys paid into the Grand Chapter Treasury, except those belonging to or especially intended for other funds. All expenses of the Grand Chapter shall be paid from the general fund.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND

Section 137 1/2. The Life Membership Fund shall consist of all money, bonds and securities accruing thereto from the sale of life memberships by the Chapters as provided in Section 223-1/2. The principal of this fund shall never be transferred to any other fund nor expended. It shall be invested by the Trustees of the Grand Chapter in such securities as provided for the investments of trust funds generally.

The interest derived from the investment of the principal of this fund shall, at the end of each calendar year, be distributed to the Chapters of this jurisdiction pro rata according to the amount of money each Chaptershall have to credit in this fund.

ROBERT E. DODGE ENDOWMENT FUND

Section 137-3/4. The DODGE ENDOWMENT FUND shall consist of all moneys, bonds and securities accruing thereto from contributions, bequests, or other sources.

The PRINCIPAL of this fund shall never be expended or co-mingled with any other fund. It shall be invested by the Trustees of the Grand Chapter in such securities as provided for investments of trust funds generally. The income derived from the investment of the principal of this fund shall, at the end of each calendar year, be distributed to the General Fund.

The purpose of this fund is to reduce and or eventually eliminate the per capita assessment. (1980)

SPECIAL FUND

Section 138. The Grand Chapter may set aside from the general fund, from bequests devised to the Grand Chapter or from other properties or moneys of which it may become possessed, such other funds as may seem desirable, and shall prescribe the names of such funds and the manner of their administration.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Section 139. It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest:

- (1) To present at each annual convocation, a written message setting forth his official acts during the year, the acts of the Trustees, the general conditions of Capitular Masonry within this jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation as he may deem necessary; and he should submit such message to the committee on Grand High Priest's Message ten days before the annual convocation.
- (2) To announce the names of the Companions appointed to serve during the annual convocation on the following mandatory committees, namely: Dispensations and Charters, Finance.
- (3) To appoint such special committees as the Grand Chapter may direct.
- (4) To suspend from the functions of office the Excellent High Priest of a constituent Chapter upon satisfactory proof of un-Masonic conduct.
- (5) To divide this Grand Jurisdiction into such number of districts as he may deem advisable and to increase or decrease such number as, in his opinion, will best serve the interests of the craft, and to appoint a District Deputy of the Grand High Priest for each District. (1978)
- (6) To perform such other duties as may be required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter and the usages of Capitular Masonry.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND KING AND GRAND SCRIBE

Section 140. It shall be the duty of the Grand King and the Grand Scribe to perform such duties as are incumbent upon these respective grand officers by Capitular Masonic usage, and such other duties as shall be required of them by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND TREASURER

Section 141. The Grand Treasurer shall have possession and charge of all funds and securities of the Grand Chapter. It shall be his duty:

- (I) To receipt for all moneys paid him by the Grand Secretary, and to collect all interest and dividends on securities belonging to the Grand Chapter.
- (2) To keep full, accurate and complete accounts of all money received and disbursed by him in substantial and permanent books.
- (3) To keep the accounts of the general fund and the accounts of all other funds distinct, separate and apart from each other.
- (4) To pay all warrants drawn upon him by the Grand Chapter or the Trustees, when signed by the Grand High Priest and countersigned by the Grand Secretary.
- (5) To keep the securities, stocks and bonds of the Grand Chapter in a proper and suitable drawer or box in a safety deposit vault, the annual rental thereof to be paid by the Grand Chapter.
- (6) To attend the convocations of the Grand Chapter and, when required, meet the Trustees and committees of the Grand Chapter with his books and all necessary documents relating to his office
- (7) To pay all money in his hands belonging to the Grand Chapter to his successor in office and deliver to him all books, securities, stocks, and valuable papers in his hands as Grand Treasurer, taking proper receipts and vouchers therefor and filing the same with the Grand Secretary.
- (8) To present, on the first day of each annual convocation, an itemized report of the receipts and disbursements and an inventory of the securities, stocks, bonds and valuable papers in his hands as Grand Treasurer. To make such report as to the general fund and all other funds.
- (9) At the commencement of his term of office, to be bonded in accordance with, and conditioned as provided in Section 135 (6).
- (10) He shall receive an annual expense allowance of Two Hundred dollars payable at the end of the fiscal year. (1998)

DUTIES OF THE GRAND SECRETARY

Section 142. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary:

- (1) To keep and maintain his office in or near a city or town in Oregon that has a chartered Chapter of Royal Arch Masons therein. (1983)
- (2) To attend upon the convocations of the Grand Chapter, observe and record the proceedings and preserve the same in suitable books.
- (3) To receive all revenues of the Grand Chapter, as specified in Section 126 of these By-Laws, except those mentioned in Section 141 Subdivision (1), and pay the same over to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor.
- (4) To keep suitable and permanent books of accounts and carefully record therein an account of all moneys received and disbursed by him, and all accounts of the several Chapters. These books he shall transmit to his successor in office.
- (5) To keep a Grand Chapter Registry, and inscribe therein the names and Capitular record of all members reported to him in the annual Chapter returns.
 - (6) To have the custody of the seal and jewels of the Grand Chapter.
- (7) To procure for the use of the Grand Chapter, blank dispensations, charters, demits and all necessary blank forms.
- (8) To provide and furnish, at cost, to constituent Chapters all blanks, according to the forms adopted.
- (9) To prepare, attest, and duly seal all instruments of writing emanating from the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest.
- (10) To preserve, among the archives of the Grand Chapter, the original manuscript of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of each convocation.
- (11) Within twenty days after each annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, to communicate to The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, International and to the Grand Chapters in correspondence with this Grand Chapter, and to the constituent Chapters, the names of the Grand Officers.
- (12) To certify yearly, to the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Oregon, and the Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Oregon, and to each constituent Chapter, the names of all Royal Arch Masons rejected, suspended, expelled, dropped from the rolls, or reinstated, as reported by the Chapters in this jurisdiction. (1983)
- (13) To officially request of the Grand Secretary of The Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Oregon, quarterly reports, showing the names of all Master Masons who have either lost or regained their standing in the

constituent Lodges in this jurisdiction, and to transmit such report to the Secretaries of the constituent Chapters.

- (14) To make special mention in the proceedings of each annual convocation, upon suitable memorial pages set apart for the purpose, of the name of each Companion of this jurisdiction in good standing who has departed this life during the preceding year.
- (15) To have printed in the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, the portrait of the presiding Grand High Priest, together with his name and term of office. (1983)
- (16) To report on the first day of each annual convocation, the amount of money received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received; also the Chapters that have neglected to render proper returns or are in arrears.
- (17) To superintend the printing of the annual proceedings of the Grand Chapter and all other documents ordered printed, and see that the contract for the printing thereof is faithfully performed. To forward on or before the first day of September after the Annual Convocation, two copies of the printed proceedings to each constituent Chapter and the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; and one copy each to the Grand Officers, Past Elective Grand Officers, District Deputies, Grand Chapters in the United States and Canada, and foreign Grand Chapters recognized by this Grand Chapter. (1983)
- (18) To include in the proceedings of each year a list of all Grand Officers, Past Elective Grand Officers, Grand Representatives to and from this Grand Chapter, and all members of the Grand Chapter present at each convocation.

To include also in such proceedings each year a tabulated statement exhibiting the name, number and location of the several Chapters, the number advanced, inducted, received and acknowledged, exalted, struck from rolls, expelled, died, rejected and relieved from dues during the year, together with the net gain or loss in membership, and the total Grand Chapter dues paid by each Chapter.

To append to such proceedings a roll of Chapters, showing name, number and location, time of meetings, date of charter or dispensation, names of officers, together with list of all exalted, affiliated, reinstated, suspended, expelled and died, and a complete roster of all the members of each Chapter.

- (19) To furnish each Chapter duplicate blanks for annual returns, one to be returned to the Grand Secretary, the other to be retained by the Chapter.
- (20) To report to the Grand Chapter on the first day of each annual convocation the condition of each constituent Chapter.

(21) At the commencement of his term of office to be bonded in accordance with, and condition as provided in Section 135, (6).

On surrendering his office to his successor, he shall take duplicate receipts for all funds, jewels, vouchers, books, papers and property in his possession belonging to the Grand Chapter, one of which shall be delivered to the Grand Treasurer.

- (22) To attend upon the meetings of the Trustees of the Grand Chapter, and record their proceedings, which shall be deemed a part of the records of the Grand Chapter.
- (23) To issue warrants when authorized by the Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest, or Grand Chapter Trustees, and maintain a record of the same. Such warrants shall be of the form authorized by the Grand Chapter Trustees, and shall contain consideration, date of issue, to whom, by whom, and for what purpose, and upon what fund drawn. (1983)
- (24) To append to the published proceedings the annual proceedings of the Order of High Priesthood, upon request of its President.
- (25) To append to the published proceedings the report of the committee on Capitular Review.
- (26) To review the records of one-third of the Chapters each year, through the District Deputy of the Grand High Priest for that district, and submit to the Grand Chapter a report on the same. (1988)
- (27) To check the annual returns of the constituent Chapters, and submit to the Grand Chapter a report on the same.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND CHAPLAIN

Section 143. The Grand Chaplain shall attend the annual convocation, and offer prayer, at the request of the Grand High Priest, according to ancient usage.

DUTIES OF THE GRAND CAPITULAR REVIEWER

Section 143.1. To inquire into the character and status of all foreign grand bodies who may hereinafter apply for recognition, and to ascertain whether or not they will recognize and maintain the doctrine of absolute and exclusive Grand Chapter jurisdiction, and to report specifically thereon. To consider, review, abstract and comment upon proceedings of all sister Grand Chapters in fraternal correspondence with this Grand Chapter, and to submit a printed report upon the same annually to the Grand Chapter. (1982)

DUTIES OF THE GRAND ORATOR

Section 144. The Grand Orator shall deliver an address at the annual convocation at public installations, dedications or other public occasions, and at such other times as the Grand High Priest may direct.

DUTIES OF THE DISTRICT DEPUTIES

Section 144.1. It shall be the duty of the District Deputy of the Grand High Priest:

- (1) To visit each Chapter in their respective districts at least twice during their terms of office, examine its records and report thereon to the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary. (1988)
- (2) To perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Grand High Priest. (1978)

DUTIES OF OTHER GRAND OFFICERS

Section 145. The other appointed Grand Officers shall perform such duties as by ancient usage and custom pertain to their respective offices. The Grand Masters of the Veils, under the direction of the Grand Royal Arch Captain, shall perform the duties of tellers at the election of officers of the Grand Chapter.

DUTIES OF STATUTORY COMMITTEES

Section 146. It shall be the duty of the several Statutory Committees:

On Credentials

(1) To receive and examine the credentials of the representatives to the Grand Chapter and report thereon in the forenoon of the first day session.

On Grand High Priest's Message

(2) To receive the annual message of the Grand High Priest for comment and distribution, and report thereon.

On Memorials

(3) To report and comment upon the death of deceased Companions of this and other grand jurisdictions. To prepare, or have prepared, eulogies for deceased Past Grand High Priests and other Grand Officers of this grand jurisdiction. (1995)

On Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances

(4) To consider all questions of Capitular law arising in the business coming before the Grand Chapter or any of its committees, and all decisions of the Grand High Priest. To consider all propositions to amend the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, and all questions relative to the usages, privileges and customs of the fraternit. To have full charge of the Constitution and By-Laws and to keep looseleaf copies containing all amendments that may be made from time to time. To furnish copies of amendments to be sent to the constituent

Chapters, and to furnish copy for all reprints of the Constitution and By-Laws, and no amendments or reprints shall be issued until the committee shall have approved same. All questions having to do with the matters contained in this section shall be referred to the committee and it shall report to the Grand Chapter in session.

To consider all appeals to the Grand Chapter and all grievances which are required by law to be referred thereto, or which in the judgment of the Grand Chapter should be so referred. To make a separate and distinct report upon each and every subject or case referred to it for consideration.

On Ritual

(5) To promulgate and submit for adoption by this Grand Chapter, a suitable and convenient ritual and lectures for the ceremonies, appropriate to the several Capitular Degrees, and thereafter to pass upon all proposed changes, additions or amendments to the same, and to act in the capacity of Custodians and Instructors in the work.

On the Code

- (6) (a)To examine all proposed amendments to the Code to see that they are in proper form and that any other Section or Sections with which the proposed amendments may be in conflict are also covered by companion proposed amendments.
- (b)To assist any Companion or Companions in preparing amendments to the Code.
- (c) To Familiarize themselves with the Code, consider suggestion and present such amendments as they may deem necessary. Following review by this Committee, Grievances for their action. All proposed amendments will be forward to the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances for their action (2001)

DUTIES OF MANDATORY COMMITTEES

Section 147. It shall be the duty of the several Mandatory Committees:

On Dispensations and Charters

(1) To examine the records, work and returns of Chapters under dispensation, and to report to the Grand Chapter the character and merits of each, together with such recommendations as may seem best, and to examine such other matters of like character, including cases where charters have been arrested, as may be referred to them.

On Finance

(2) To examine and report upon the accounts of the Grand Officers and all claims affecting the finances of the Grand Chapter, to submit an estimate of receipts and disbursements for the ensuing year of the Grand Chapter on the first day of the Annual Convocation, and to analyze and comment upon the expenditures of the preceding year. No appropriation of the Grand Chapter Funds shall be made without reference to and report from said Committee.

DUTIES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 148. Special committees shall investigate promptly all matters referred to them and report to the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.

RULES OF ORDER

Section 149. The rules of order shall be as follows:

- (1) At the first stroke of the Grand High Priest's gavel there shall be order, and any breach thereof shall subject the offender to reprimand.
- (2) No Companion may speak more than once on the same question without permission.
- (3) Any member twice called to order at one session for transgressing these rules, and guilty of a third offense, may be peremptorily ordered to leave the Grand Chapter room for that day.
- (4) Every Companion who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the "Most Excellent Grand High Priest," and no member shall interrupt him unless to call him to order; but after he has been set right he may proceed if he observes due order and decorum. No Companion shall speak until he is recognized by the Grand High Priest.
- (5) All reports of committees of the Grand Chapter shall be typewritten in triplicate and signed by at least a majority of the committee; provided that a dissenting minority may also present a report in similar form and manner.
- (6) Every resolution submitted to the Grand Chapter, shall be in triplicate and referred to an appropriate committee.
- (7) No appeals to the Grand Chapter from the decision of the Grand High Priest upon any question arising in Grand Chapter shall be entertained.
- (8) The yeas and nays shall be ordered upon demand of five representatives. In taking the yeas and nays, the Chapters in their order shall be called first, the members second, and the Grand Officers last.
- (9) On all other matters and not repugnant to established custom, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern, except that to move the previous question shall not be permitted.

FORMATION OF NEW CHAPTERS Consent of Nearest Chapter

Section 150. (1) When twelve or more Royal Arch Masons seek to form a new Chapter, they shall first obtain the consent and recommendation of the Chapter nearest them.

If the nearest Chapter is located within a city or town having more than one chartered Chapter, then, and in that event any Chapter within such city or town shall be deemed the nearest Chapter and all other Chapters within such town having concurrent jurisdiction shall be furnished a copy of the petition made to the nearest Chapter and the consent of a majority of all of them must be obtained before recommendation can be made.

Requirements of Petition

(2) A dispensation for a new Chapter can only be granted upon a petition signed by not less than twelve Royal Arch Masons, none of whom shall be the present Excellent High Priest, King or Scribe of a Chapter. If any signer of the petition is a member of a constituent Chapter, there shall be filed with the petition a certificate under the seal of the Chapter certifying that the petitioner is a member in good standing and clear of charges on the books. If any signer of the petition has taken a demit it shall be filed with the petition showing it has been granted by a recognized Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Each petition and supporting documents when filed with the Grand Secretary shall be accompanied by the recommendations of a chartered Chapter as in this section provided and also a certificate showing the proficiency of the officers in the work and that the proposed meeting place is safe and suitable. The petition must also give the present and past Masonic affiliation of the Companions who propose to form the new Chapter, the names of the proposed Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe, the name desired for the Chapter and its location. No Chapter shall be permitted to assume the name of any person during his life.

Procedure When Acting on Copy of Original Petition

(3) The copy of the original petition shall be read in each Chapter having concurrent jurisdiction at the first stated convocation after receipt by its Secretary, and if the Chapter takes a vote thereon it shall be taken according to the provisions of subdivision 4 of this section regulating voting by the Chapter to which the original petition is presented, provided that such vote shall be taken not later than the next stated convocation after the copy of the petition is received and read in the Chapter, and the Secretary shall at once notify the Chapter to which the original petition was presented, and also the Grand Secretary as to whether the vote was favorable or unfavorable. Failure to vote within

the time herein prescribed or to notify the Chapter to which the original petition was presented, shall be construed as consent and waiver of objection to the formation of the new Chapter.

Procedure When Acting on Original Petition

(4) When the original petition for a new Chapter is received by the nearest Chapter it shall be read at its first stated convocation after being The petitioners must also present proof that a true and complete copy of the petition has been delivered to the Secretary of each Chapter having concurrent jurisdiction with such nearest Chapter. The Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe of the Chapter receiving the original petition shall inspect the proposed Chapter room as to safety and suitability and shall also require the proposed Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe to appear in open Chapter and exemplify their proficiency in opening and closing a Chapter and conferring the four degrees in full. If, after all the Chapters having concurrent jurisdiction shall have held a second stated convocation after receiving a copy of the petition, and a majority of all of them, including the Chapter acting on the original petition, shall have voted favorably or shall have failed to object, and the petitioners shall have complied satisfactorily with all the provisions of this section, then the Chapter to which the original petition was presented shall forward it and all documents relating thereto to the Grand Secretary and report that the recommendation is granted. however, a majority of all the Chapters have voted and reported unfavorably the original petition and accompanying documents shall be returned to the petitioners and the recommendation shall be denied. Recommendation by the Chapter receiving the original petition or consent by a Chapter of concurrent jurisdiction shall not be given by less than a two-thirds vote of the members present and entitled to vote. No vote upon the original petition of a new Chapter or upon consent thereto shall be taken unless there shall be present at least twelve members of the Chapter qualified to vote. No member of the Chapter considering an original petition or copy thereof shall be permitted to vote thereon if he is one of the petitioners.

Complete Proficiency in Work and Law May Be Required

(5) The Grand High Priest may in his discretion require the officers of a proposed new Chapter to appear before the Committee on Ritual and take the examination on all of the work of the four degrees. If it shall appear to the Grand High Priest that the petitioners have compliant satisfactorily with all requirements and have paid to the Grand Secretary the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) and no valid objections appear, a

dispensation may be granted to the petitioners authorizing them to form a new Chapter, confer the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry, and admit members by affiliation.

Institution of Chapter

(6) Every Chapter under dispensation shall be set to work by the Grand High Priest or his special representative, assisted by an occasional Grand Chapter. The brethren named in the dispensation shall be Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by members of the Chapter; other offices shall be filled as in chartered Chapters.

Rights of Chapters Under Dispensation

(7) Chapters under dispensation shall have territorial jurisdiction as provided in Section 213, and may exercise all the rights of chartered Chapters, except electing the three principal officers, installing any of its officers, granting demits, and, sending representatives to the Grand Chapter; but they may send the Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe, or any of them, as delegates to the Grand Chapter.

Return of Dispensation and Records

(8) Every new Chapter shall return its dispensation to the Grand Chapter at the following Annual Convocation, together with its records and books, and may then present its petition for a charter, but no charter shall be granted to any such Chapter unless it shall have conferred the four degrees of Royal Arch Masonry.

Requirements for Granting Charter

(9) The Grand Chapter, upon the return of the dispensation, if the work and proceedings of the Chapter prove satisfactory, may order a charter to be issued to the new Chapter and assign it such name and number as shall be deemed proper, the dispensation under which such Chapter worked shall be returned to it during the interim.

How, When and By Whom Constituted

(10) A new Chapter to which a charter has been granted shall elect its officers at its first stated convocation thereafter. After such election, and within sixty days after the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, at which the charter was granted, the Grand High Priest or his special representative, assisted by an occasional Grand Chapter, shall constitute the Chapter and install its officers.

REVOCATION OF CHARTER

Causes For

Section 151. (1) The Grand Chapter may revoke the charter of a constituent Chapter for disobedience of its orders, rules or laws or failure to recognize the authority of the Grand High Priest or obey his orders and if upon due trial there shall be found a departure from the original plan of Royal Arch Masonry, or failure without sufficient excuse to meet during a period of six months, or neglect to be represented in Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter for two consecutive years, or failure to make annual returns and pay its obligations to the Grand Chapter for two years, or a condition of the Chapter as to discipline or otherwise such that its further existence is deleterious to the honor or usefulness of the Craft, or a depreciated condition as to members, finances or interest in the work, the charter may be revoked and, if revoked, the Chapter shall forfeit and transfer its funds and property of every kind and character whatsoever to the Grand Chapter.

Grand High Priest May Arrest Charter

(2) For any of the reasons stated in the foregoing subdivision of this section, the Grand High Priest, during the recess of the Grand Chapter, may arrest the charter of a constituent Chapter, but in such case he must report his action to the Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation with his reasons therefore, for its approval or disapproval, and at suttime the Chapter may be heard on its own behalf.

Grand Chapter May Restore Charter If

(3) The Grand Chapter, upon final hearing, may approve or disapprove the action of the Grand High Priest; it may restore the charter without revocation if satisfied that the discipline is already sufficient and the good of the Craft will be thereby served.

Grand Chapter Not Liable for Debts of Chapter

(4) The Grand Chapter is in no sense responsible for the payment of the debts or obligations of constituent Chapters. In any case where the Chapter becomes extinct either by surrender or revocation of its charter the assets available shall be used for the payment of its obligations under the direction of the Grand High Priest, and for that purpose they may be converted into money and otherwise applied.

Grand Chapter May Subsequently Restore Charter on Appeal

(5) If the Grand Chapter shall revoke the charter, it may afterwater restore it, provided that application therefore be made at some Annual Convocation, but in such case the restoration must be made to the identical Chapter in name and number and with the right of membership therein to every member thereof at the date of revocation who is yet unaffiliated, but in good standing.



Section 152. The Charter of a Chapter (or a photocopy thereof) must always be present when the Chapter is open. When a photo-copy is used, the Original Charter must be placed in a fire-proof safe, or a Bank Safe Deposit Box, and be available on demand by the Grand High Priest or the Grand Chapter. (1976)

Replacement of Lost Charter

(2) Whenever the charter of a Chapter shall be destroyed, stolen or surreptitiously taken and detained, or shall have become so defaced or illegible as to be unfit for use, it shall be the duty of such Chapter to apply to the Grand Chapter or to the Grand High Priest for a duplicate charter bearing the original name and number, together with the names of the original Grand Officers and charter members, supplemented with the cause of its issue. Such charter shall issue without fee.

PENAL JURISDICTION Masonic Offenses

Section 153. Masonic offenses are those defined in the Masonic Code of the Grand Lodge of Oregon. The Grand Chapter and the constituent Chapters, in the exercise of penal jurisdiction, shall be governed by the penal jurisdiction as prescribed in the Masonic Code of Oregon, Section 238 to 243 inclusive.

CLOTHING GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS

Section 154. The clothing of an officer of the Grand Chapter shall be a white lambskin apron, 13x15 inches, lined and bound with scarlet and trimmed with gold bullion, with the jewel of his office enclosed within a triangle, and all within a circle of gold embroidered on the body, and a triple tau within a triangle and all within a circle of gold embroidered on the flap; together with the appropriate jewel of his office appended to a scarlet silk or satin ribbon to be suspended from the point of a scarlet gold embroidered collar trimmed with gold bullion. The name of the Grand Chapter to be shown on gold bars attached to such ribbon.

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIESTS

Section 155. A Past Grand High Priest's apron shall be the same as a Grand High Priest's, except that his name and date of service shall be recorded on the body under the flap and the jewel of a Past Grand High Priest shall be placed upon the body of the apron in place of the regular jewel.

OTHER GRAND CHAPTER MEMBERS

Section 156. All other members of the Grand Chapter shall wear a plain white apron, bound in scarlet, with a triple tau within a triangle, and all within a circle embroidered in scarlet on the flap, except that High Priests, Kings and Scribes may wear the apron of their office. Past High Priests not holding such office may wear a Past High Priest's apron, bound in scarlet with a white background. (1998)

GRAND HONORS PRIVATE

Section 157. The private grand honors of Capitular Masonry are the due-guards and signs of the several degrees to be used only on four occasions. When a new Chapter is to be constituted, a High Priest-elect to be installed, a Grand High Priest or his deputy to be received on an official visitation to a Chapter.

PUBLIC

Section 158. The public grand honors consist of a three times three battery of clapping of hands in unison, as follows: Give three claps of the hands, with the right hand uppermost, reverse the hands and give three, reverse again and give three more.

JEWELS

GRAND OFFICERS

Section 159. The Jewels of the Grand Officers shall be:

- (1) The Grand High Priest, a mitre.
- (2) The Grand King, a level surmounted by a crown.
- (3) The Grand Scribe, a plumb surmounted by a turban.
- (4) The Grand Treasurer, crossed keys.
- (5) The Grand Secretary, crossed pens.
- (6) The Grand Captain of the Host, a Soldier.
- (7) The Grand Lecturer, an open Ritual.
- (8) The Grand Principal Sojourner, a Pilgrim.
- (9) The Grand Royal Arch Captain and the Grand Masters of the Veils, a single sword pointing downward.
 - (10) The Grand Chaplain, an open Bible.
 - (11) The Grand Orator, a Scroll.

- (12) The Grand Historian, a closed Book.
- (13) The Grand Capitular Reviewer, a Circular shaped Magnifying Glass, its handle crossed by a Quill Pen.
 - (14) The Grand Musician, a Lyre.
 - (15) The Grand Sentinel, crossed Swords. (1994)

PAST GRAND HIGH PRIEST

Section 160. The jewel of a Past Grand High Priest shall be an imitation of a High Priest's breast plate superimposed upon three interlaced triangles, the whole enclosed within a wreath, and to be of gold or gilt.

NAMES, RANKS, TITLES AND STATIONS OF OFFICERS

Section 161. The officers and members of this Grand Chapter are, and their ranks, titles, stations and places therein shall be as follows:

- (1) Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in the Grand East, at the head of the Grand Chapter.
- (2) Right Excellent Grand King, in the Grand East, on the right of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.
- (3) Right Excellent Grand Scribe, in the Grand East, on the left of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest.
- (4) Right Excellent Grand Treasurer, on the right in front of the Grand Council.
- (5) Right Excellent Grand Secretary, on the left in front of the Grand Council.
- (6) Right Excellent Grand Captain of the Host, on the right of the Grand Council and west of the Right Excellent Grand Treasurer.
- (7) Excellent Grand Lecturer, on the right of the Right Excellent Grand Captain of the Host.
- (8) Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner, on the left of the Grand Council and west of the Right Excellent Grand Secretary.
- (9) Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain, on the left of the Grand Council and west of the Excellent Grand Principal Sojourner.
- (10) Excellent Grand Masters of the Veils, west of the Excellent Grand Royal Arch Captain at suitable distance apart.
- (11) Excellent Grand Chaplain, (Very Reverend Companion, if a Clergyman) in the North.
- (12) Excellent Grand Orator, on the left and beside the Right Excellent Grand Captain of the Host.
- (13) Excellent Grand Historian, on the right and beside the Excellent Grand Lecturer.
- (14) Excellent Grand Capitular Reviewer, on the right of and beside the Excellent Grand Historian. (1982)

- (15) Excellent Grand Musician, at or near the instrument.
- (16) Excellent Grand Sentinel, outside the closed door. (1975)

APPROVAL AND REPEAL

Section 162. All resolutions, approved decisions and laws of this Grand Chapter are hereby declared to be incorporated in and evidenced by the contents hereof, and all other resolutions, approved decisions and laws heretofore passed and adopted by the Grand Chapter are hereby expressly revoked and repealed.

AMENDMENTS

- Section 163. (1) The Grand Chapter, by a favorable vote of twothirds of its members present at a Stated Grand Convocation, may revise or amend its by-laws as follows: (1975)
- (2) Any member intending to submit an amendment shall give notice thereof in writing to the Grand Secretary at least Seventy days before the day on which the Stated Convocation is to be held, and notice thereof shall be sent to the Constituent Chapters at least Fifty days prior to the date of convening such Convocation; otherwise no such amendment shall be entertained. (2000)
- (3) Provided, that if the Grand Secretary fails to give such notice, the proposed amendment may be called up by three-fourths of the member present and acted upon as if such notice had been given.
- (4) Provided also, that no such proposed amendment shall be acted upon by the Grand Chapter until after it is referred to and reported on by the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances.
- (5) No section of these By-Laws shall be revised or amended by mere reference to its title, but the section so revised or amended shall be set forth and published at full length.
- (6) No standing resolution shall be declared to repeal, change or modify any section of these By-Laws.
- (7) Provided, however, that nothing in the foregoing sections shall prevent the Grand Chapter from varying the order of business as laid down in these By-Laws for the purpose of facilitating the work of the Grand Chapter.

PART THREE

BY-LAWS RELATIVE TO CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Section 201. Every Chapter shall consist of an Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, Master of the Third Veil, Master of the Second Veil, Master of the First Veil, and Sentinel, and may have a Chaplain and Organist, with other members.

ELECTIVE AND APPOINTIVE OFFICERS

Section 202. The Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary and Captain of the Host shall be elected by the Chapter. All other officers shall be appointed by the Excellent High Priest.

SEAL

Section 203. Each Chapter shall adopt an appropriate seal.

POWERS

Section 204. The powers of a Chapter are such as are prescribed in its charter or dispensation and by the constitution, by-laws and regulations of this Grand Chapter.

DUTIES OF A CHAPTER

Section 205. It shall be the duty of a Chapter:

Stated Convocations

(1) To hold not less than one stated convocation each calendar quarter, nor more than two stated convocations in each month. (1995)

Chapter Room

(2) To provide a safe and suitable Chapter room.

Minutes

(3) To keep a full and proper record of its transactions and to use for this and all other purposes only the regular forms provided by the Grand Secretary.

Annual Returns

(4) To transmit to the Grand Secretary, on or before the first Monday in February in each year, its annual returns in form for the fiscal year ending December 31st, which shall embrace a list of officers and members, of present and past Grand Officers, of those advanced, inducted, received and acknowledged, exalted, reinstated, affiliated, died, suspended, expelled, demitted, or rejected, with their respective

dates, signed by the High Priest and Secretary, and shall pay to the Grand Secretary all sums due the Grand Chapter as shown on such annual return. Chapters filing late annual returns shall be penalized in the amount of One Dollar (\$1.00) for each day of tardiness, but not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for any one year; provided however, that the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances may recommend to the Grand Chapter the remission of all or part of such penalty upon receipt of satisfactory and justifiable excuse therefor. (1978)

Penalty For Failure to Report

(5) No Chapter shall be entitled to representation in Grand Chapter unless it has complied with the requirements of Subdivision (4) of this Section, and if a Chapter fails to comply with them for two years, its charter shall be suspended and the effects of the Chapter disposed of for the benefit of the Grand Chapter; provided that upon showing satisfactory excuse for failure to comply with the aforesaid regulations, and upon making full returns and paying all back dues, the charter and other effects of such Chapter may be restored by the Grand Chapter.

Roster

(6) To keep a Chapter register, in which shall be entered and consecutively numbered the names of all members and their Capitular record.

Black Book

(7) To keep in a suitable binder the quarterly reports of the Grand Secretary to the Chapters containing the record of rejections, suspensions, expulsions, withdrawals, dropped from the roll and reinstatements.

Certificate of Membership

- (8) To present to each Royal Arch Mason, within thirty days after he shall have received the Royal Arch degree, a certificate, under the seal of the Chapter, attested by the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Grand Chapter, that he is a member of such Chapter in good standing.
- (8a) The Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Secretary of each Constituent Chapter shall have in his possession a copy of the Capitular Code of Oregon, and Manual of the Chapter.

Notice to Grand Secretary

(9) To notify the Grand Secretary of all rejections, withdrawals suspensions, expulsions and restorations immediately after the meeting at which the transaction has occurred.

Official Communications

(10) To read all official communications from Grand High Priest or Grand Secretary in open Chapter, at the stated convocations next following their receipt.

Un-Masonic Conduct

(11) To punish, by reprimand, suspension or expulsion, any member who may be found guilty of drunkenness, gambling or any other un-Masonic conduct.

Representation in Grand Chapter

(12) To be represented in every annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.

Certificate to Family of Deceased

(13) To issue, to the family of a deceased Companion, a certificate under seal of the Chapter, showing his Capitular standing.

List of Officers to Grand Secretary

(14) To, within five days after the installation of officers, transmit to the Grand Secretary, a list, duly certified under the seal of the Chapter, of the names of the newly elected and installed officers, with the dates of their installation and the name and title of the installing officer, and also the post office address of the High Priest and Secretary.

Bv-Laws

(15) To adopt by-laws conforming to the uniform code.

Audits

(16) To audit the finances of a Chapter before January 30 of each year. The audit shall indicate income and disbursements, and the name of each financial institution where money is located, including its location, account number and amount in the account. The audit shall be made available to the members of the Chapter and a copy to the Grand Secretary with the annual returns as described in (4) above. (1995)

PROHIBITIONS

No Removal of Meeting Place Except

Section 206. (1) No Chapter shall remove its place of meeting from the city, or place named in its charter or dispensation, except by the special authority of the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest, granted upon the written petition of the Chapter. No petition for the removal of the place of meeting of a Chapter shall be allowed or granted, unless it shall appear that notice of the petition was given at a stated convocation

of the chapter and consideration thereof postponed one month, and also that the petition was approved by two-thirds of the members of the chapter present.

No Change of Chapter Room Except

(2) No Chapter shall remove its place of meeting from one building to another in the same city except by special dispensation of the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.

No Special Tax Except

(3) No Chapter shall levy a special tax or assessment, except by the authority of the Grand Chapter or special dispensation of the Grand High Priest.

No Public Procession Except

(4) No Chapter shall appear in public processions on any other than purely Masonic occasions.

No Affiliation Except on Documentary Evidence

(5) No Chapter shall receive an application for affiliation unless it be accompanied by a certificate of standing or proper demit from a Chapter of which the applicant is or was last a member.

No Intercourse With Irregular Chapters or Members

(6) No Chapter or member thereof shall recognize or hold Masonic communication with any Chapter or body which has been declared illegal by the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest, or with any person who is a member of any such Chapter or body.

No Recognition of Illegally Conferred Degrees

(7) No Chapter shall recognize as a Royal Arch Mason, any person who, being at the time a resident of this State, has received or claims to have received the Capitular degrees from any source beyond the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter without waiver of jurisdiction from the Chapter nearest his place of residence. This prohibition shall not extend to or include any person who has received the degrees of Capitular Masonry in foreign jurisdictions while he was actively engaged in the service of the United States Army, Navy or Marine forces.

No Representation in Grand Chapter

by Chapters Under Dispensation Except

(8) No Chapter shall be entitled to representation in the grand Chapter until chartered and duly constituted, but a Chapter under dispensation

may send delegates thereto who may be admitted to seats and be permitted to speak, but shall have no vote.

No Suspension of By-Laws Except

(9) It is beyond the power of any Chapter to suspend the operation of any part of its By-Laws or the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, to meet special or urgent cases. Such action can only be authorized by special dispensation of the Grand High Priest.

No Loans to Members

(10) No Chapter shall lend money to a member thereof.

No Degree Except in Full

(11) No Chapter shall confer less than a full degree on any candidate at any convocation.

No Name of Living Person Permitted

(12) No Chapter shall be permitted to assume the name of any person during his life.

No Incorporation Except

- (13)(a) A Chapter desiring to incorporate shall secure the permission of the Grand Chapter or the Trustees of the Grand Chapter.
- (b) Any Chapter which shall hereafter incorporate shall include, in the articles of incorporation a clause to provide that, upon arrest, revocation of Charter, or upon dissolution of the Chapter for any reason, title of all property, of whatsoever kind, of which the Chapter may be possessed, shall vest in the Grand Chapter, subject to all legal and equitable rights of creditors of such demised Chapters in and to such properties. (1977)

No Jurisdiction Over Rejected Material Except

(14) No Chapter shall receive the petition of a candidate for the degrees of Capitular Masonry who has been rejected by any other Chapter, without first obtaining the unanimous consent of the Chapter which rejected him, until after the expiration of five years from the date of his rejection.

No Opening of Chapter Outside Ritual

(15) No Chapter can open and conduct business or confer degrees except using one of the forms found in the approved ritual. Deviation from the ritual, except for trials conducted under the guidance of the Grand Lecturer and approved by the Grand High Priest, is a Masonic offense. (1995)

No Visitation Except

(16) No person shall be admitted as a member or visitor in any Chapter unless he shall have regularly received the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch, in just and legally constituted bodies of such; except such person hails from a foreign jurisdiction in which the above Capitular system of degrees is not required.

CONVOCATIONS

Section 207. The convocations of a Chapter are stated and special:

Stated Convocations

- (1) (a) Stated convocations are those held at the time prescribed by the By-Laws. When the convocation shall fall on a legal holiday, or the day preceding or following such holiday, or upon the date set for the Annual Sessions of the Grand York Rite Bodies of Oregon, or a District Meeting, the Excellent High Priest of a Chapter may advance postpone the date of such stated convocation without dispensation, provided, that all resident members of the Chapter are notified in writing at least ten days prior to such change.
- (b) Stated convocations are held for the purpose of conducting the business of the Chapter, such as reception of petitions, balloting for degrees or membership, election of officers, reception of Grand Officer and discussion of questions of interest to the Chapter in particular or Masonry in general.
- (c) Stated convocations shall not be held less than once each calendar quarter. (1995)

Special Convocations

(2) Special convocations shall be called at the discretion of the High Priest, by giving due notice thereof; but no business except conferring degrees or ceremonial observances shall be transacted therein; provided, however, that if urgent business should require immediate action at a special convocation, the Grand High Priest, upon the petition of the High Priest, King and Scribe, showing the necessity of such convocation, may grant a dispensation for the purpose; and provided, further, that all resident members be notified of such convocation, that the minutes shall show all the facts in full, and that no other business except that specified shall be transacted. A special convocation for work in a particular degree may be opened on the appropriate degree only, and need not be opened on any other degree.

No Convocations on Sunday

(3) No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall be convened on Sunday.

QUORUM

Section 208. Six (6) Royal Arch Masons in good standing, including four or more members of the Chapter, one of whom shall be the High Priest, King or Scribe, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Nine (9) Royal Arch Masons in good standing shall constitute a quorum for conferring the Degree of Royal Arch Mason, except as provided in Section 150 Subsection (4). (1997)

ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE

Section 209. Except in the case of new Chapters, no Companion shall be eligible to the office of High Priest in any chartered Chapter unless he is an actual member thereof, nor unless he has been duly elected and regularly installed as a High Priest, King or Scribe of some legally chartered Chapter; provided that in case of an emergency the chapter may elect any member not so qualified, but no Companion so elected can be installed except by a dispensation from the Grand High Priest, applied for by a duly authenticated petition of the Chapter, signed by the High Priest; and any member of a Chapter qualified to vote in the election of officers shall be eligible to any other office in the Chapter.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 210. (1)Each Constituent Chapter shall choose the following elective officers (including trustees, if provided for in its By-Laws) annually at the first stated convocation in the month of November: an Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, Secretary and Captain of the Host. Election may be held by nominations from the floor, and, if after three calls for nominations there is no more than one nominee, the nominee may be elected by acclamation. However, if there is more than one nominee, the High Priest shall call for the ballot. If conducted by ballot, a majority of all votes cast (blanks excluded) shall be necessary for election.

(2) Constituent Chapters whose stated convocations fall on the third or fourth week of the month, may elect officers during the stated convocation in the month of October. The Chapter must notify all members in writing of the date of election. (1997)

FAILURE TO HOLD ELECTION

Section 211. In case any Chapter shall fail to elect its officers as prescribed in Section 210, it shall forthwith apply to the Grand High Priest for a dispensation to hold an election as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

INSTALLATIONS Installing Officer

Section 212. (1) No Companion is qualified to install the officers of a Chapter except one who has been duly elected and installed as High Priest of a chartered Chapter working under the jurisdiction of some recognized Grand Chapter, and who is, at the time of exercising such official authority, an actual member in good standing of some regular Chapter.

Date of Installation

(2) The High Priest of each Chapter should be installed on or before St. John's Day, in December of each year; provided that, if a Chapter fails to do so for unavoidable reasons, it must petition the Grand High Priest for a dispensation to install its Excellent High Priest after that date. The subordinate officers should be installed at the annual installation or as soon thereafter as convenient.

None By Proxy

(3) No officer of a Chapter can be installed by proxy.

All Must Be

- (4) Officers of a constituent Chapter must be installed as often as reelected.
- (5) The Annual Installation of the Officers of a Chapter may be eith private or public as the Chapter may determine. If the installation shall be public, the Chapter need not be opened, but a record thereof shall be made in the minutes of the Chapter and the Grand Honors shall be as in Section 206(1). In addition, such 'public' installation shall be subject to Section 206(1),(2) and Section 207(2),(3) and Section 208. (1976)

CHAPTER JURISDICTION

Territorial Jurisdiction

Section 213. (1) All Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction shall have concurrent territorial jurisdiction. (1985)

Personal Jurisdiction

(2) The personal jurisdiction of a Chapter shall extend over all its members (except its High Priest, or the Grand High Priest, if a member thereof) wherever they may reside, and over its unfinished work, wheresoever dispersed. (1985)

Chapter Jurisdiction -- Penal

(3) Every Chapter has jurisdiction over all candidates for the Degrees of Capitular Masonry and all Royal Arch Masons affiliated within this Chapter for any violation of moral or Masonic Law. (1985)

Masonic Residence Defined

(4) By Masonic residence of an applicant is meant a permanent, settled domicile, or fixed abode from choice, and as a rule is identical with his legal residence. (Renumbered 1998)

POWERS OF THE HIGH PRIEST

Section 214. The High Priest shall have power:

- (1) To convene his Chapter in special convocation whenever he may deem it proper and necessary.
- (2) To preside at every convocation of his Chapter, except that he shall surrender the gavel to the Grand High Priest, or his proxy, on official visitations.
- (3) To cause to be issued all notices and summons which may be required.
 - (4) To appoint all non-elective officers of his Chapter.
 - (5) To appoint all committees.
 - (6) To fill a vacancy in any appointive office.
- (7) To perform such other acts as by ancient usage pertain to his office, which shall not contravene any of the provisions of this Code.
- (8) After having opened his Chapter, to place any Companion in the East, and permit him to confer any or all of the degrees.

DUTIES OF THE HIGH PRIEST

Section 215. It shall be the duty of the High Priest:

(1) To convene his Chapter in stated convocation at the time prescribed in the By-Laws of his Chapter. However, he may, without dispensation from the Grand Chapter office, convene on a different date, should the stated convocation fall on a holiday or during the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oregon. He shall notify all members, in writing, of such change. (1995)

- (2) To superintend the official acts of the officers of his Chapter, see that their respective duties are properly performed, and to rule and govern his Chapter.
- (3) To carefully guard against any infraction of the By-Laws of his Chapter, the written and unwritten laws of the Grand Chapter, or the general regulations of Capitular Masonry, and suffer no departure therefrom upon the pleas of convenience or expediency, except in cases of emergency, and then only by dispensation from the Grand High Priest.
- (4) To see that proper returns of work, etc., are annually transmitted to the Grand Secretary, and that the Grand Chapter dues are promptly paid.
- (5) To cause summons to issue only when the welfare of Capitular Masonry, the interests of the Chapter or the rights of a Companion demand, and to take special care that disobedience of a duly served summons be promptly followed by discipline, unless the offender render an excuse for the offense satisfactory to the Chapter.
- (6) To cause all necessary notices to be issued in the prescribed manner and form.
 - (7) To permit no appeal from his decision to be made to the Chapter.
- (8) To convene his Chapter upon the official visitations of the Grand High Priest or his representative, and extend to him the appropriate courtesies, and, when called upon, to submit for his inspection the By Laws and records of the Chapter.
- (9) To report to his Chapter any instance of culpability on the part of any member of his Chapter which may come to his knowledge, to cause the Scribe to prefer charges against said Companion, and said Companion shall be put upon trial in the Chapter having jurisdiction and be dealt with as provided in Sec. 153.
- (10) To sign the minutes at the same convocation at which they are approved by the Chapter.
- (11) Resignations of appointive officers may, for good cause, be requested and received. The High Priest shall appoint and install officers to fill the vacancies.
- (12) The High Priest shall appoint, at the first stated convocation in each year, two Companions who shall act with the King as a finance committee, two Companions who shall act with the Scribe as a grievance committee, and three Companions who shall act as an audit committee. (1995)

DUTIES OF THE KING AND SCRIBE

Section 216. It shall be the duty of the King and Scribe:

- (1) To assist the High Priest in the discharge of his duties, and to perform such other acts as Capitular Masonic usages has assigned to their respective stations.
- (2) In the absence of the High Priest, the duties of his office shall be discharged by the King, and if both are absent, by the Scribe.
- (3) No King or Scribe can call a special convocation of the Chapter while the High Priest is within the territorial jurisdiction thereof and able to authorize a call.

DUTIES OF TREASURER

Section 217. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer:

- (1) To receive and safely keep all money and property of every kind which shall be placed in his hands by the Secretary, or by order of the Chapter, and to give proper receipt therefor.
- (2) To disburse or transfer the same or any part thereof, with the consent of the Chapter, upon the order of the High Priest, duly attested by the secretary.
- (3) To keep a book or books which shall contain a correct statement of his receipts, disbursements and financial condition.
- (4) To perform such other duties appertaining to his office as the By-Laws may require or the Chapter, at any time, may direct.
- (5) At the commencement of his term of office, to be bonded in accordance with, and conditioned as provided in Section 135(6) (Amended 1956).

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

Section 218. It shall be the duty of the Secretary:

- (1) To record all the proceedings of the Chapter proper to be written, including its current receipts and disbursements, and all financial reports, and to submit such record to the Chapter at its next stated convocation for approval or correction, and to the High Priest for his signature, attesting such approval.
- (2) To prepare and to transmit a copy of such record, or any part thereof, to the Grand Chapter or to the Grand High Priest or District Deputy Grand High Priest, when required.
- (3) To collect and to receive all moneys due the Chapter giving receipt therefor, and to pay the same promptly to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.
- (4) To make to the Chapter, as its By-Laws direct, a report of its work, of the condition of its accounts with its officers and members, and

of all other matters relating to its finances or business which may be under his care.

- (5) To keep a cash book and ledger, and deliver the same with all other books and records pertaining to his office, to his successor.
- (6) To keep the seal of the Chapter, to affix the same, with his attestation, to all papers issued under authority of the Chapter or by order of the High Priest and in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter.
- (7) To preserve the By-Laws of the Chapter, the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter, its published proceedings and ceremonials.
- (8) To notify any member of the Chapter who may have been dropped from the roll, suspended, expelled or reinstated, immediately after the action of the Chapter.
- (9) To study the rules and forms prescribed by the Grand Chapter, to keep the records, books and other papers in accordance therewith.
- (10) At the commencement of his term of office, to be bonded in accordance with, and conditioned as provided in Section 135(6).
- (11) To furnish, to the Grand Secretary, the names of the officers elected and installed annually.
- (12) To perform these and such other duties as are required of him, not inconsistent herewith, as the High Priest or the Chapter may direct.

DUTIES OF OTHER OFFICERS

Section 219. All other officers of the Chapter shall perform such duties therein as may be directed by the High Priest, not conflicting with the general regulations of Capitular Masonry.

MEMBERSHIP

Section 220. It is the duty of every Royal Arch Mason to be a member of some regular Chapter.

MEMBERSHIP -- HOW ACQUIRED

Section 221. Membership in a Chapter may be acquired:

- (1) By having regularly received the degree of Royal Arch Mason therein and signing its By-Laws.
 - (2) By election to membership upon transfer or demit.
- (3) By being one of the petitioners for a new Chapter to which a dispensation to work has been granted.

MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONED

Section 222. Membership in a constituent Chapter of this Grand Chapter shall be conditioned on membership in a regular Lodge of

Master Masons, and any severance of membership in a Lodge of Master Masons shall constitute a like severance of membership in a constituent Chapter, except in the case of Lodge demits, severance of membership in his Chapter shall not become effective for one year from date of Lodge demit.

MEMBERSHIP -- HOW TERMINATED

Section 223. Membership in a constituent Chapter can only be terminated:

- (1) By dissolution of the Chapter.
- (2) By voluntary formal demission therefrom.
- (3) By transfer of membership to another Chapter.
- (4) By becoming a member of a Chapter under dispensation.
- (5) By suspension or expulsion.
- (6) By voluntary withdrawal.
- (7) By being suspended or expelled from membership in the Lodge of Master Masons wherein his membership is held.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Section 223.5.(1) Any member in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction, whose dues are paid to date, may purchase a life membership and be thereby relieved from the further payment of dues, subject to the provisions set forth in this section.

(2) The purchase price of life memberships shall be no less than:

- (3) All sums collected by the Chapters for life memberships shall be immediately transmitted to the Grand Secretary.
- (4) The Grand Secretary shall place all moneys so received in the Life Membership Fund.
- (5) The Grand Secretary shall immediately issue to the member paying the required fees, a life membership certificate under seal of the Grand Chapter, signed by the Grand High Priest and attested by the Grand Secretary.
- (6) Upon the holder of a life membership certificate transferring to another Chapter within this Grand Jurisdiction, the Grand Secretary shall, upon notice thereof, transfer on the books of the Life Membership Fund, the fees received for such life membership to the credit of the Chapters transferred to.
- (7) Upon the holder of a life membership certificate demitting from this Grand Jurisdiction to a Chapter in another Grand Jurisdiction

and/or taking a withdrawal certificate from his Chapter, then the fee paid for such life membership shall remain to the credit of such Chapter in the Life Membership Fund.

- (8) Chapters are prohibited from donating and/or selling life memberships in any other manner than provided in this Section; except a Chapter may by vote, purchase from its funds a life membership certificate for a member thereof, paying the fee provided.
- (9) All life memberships existing previous to the adoption of this section of the Code (April, 1943) shall remain STATUS QUO and upon request, the Grand Secretary shall issue a special life membership certificate setting forth the standing of such member. The fee for the issuance of such certificate shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) which shall be placed in the Life Membership Fund to the credit of the Chapter requesting the certificate.
- (10) When two or more Chapters consolidate, all money in the Life Membership Fund to the credit of such Chapters shall be transferred to the credit of the consolidated Chapter.
- (11) Upon the dissolution of any Chapter, holders of Grand Chapter certificates, who hold life membership certificates, affiliating with another Chapter, shall have such life memberships transferred as provided in subdivision 6 of this section. The interest accruing from the fund remaining to the credit of such dissolved Chapter shall, at the end each year, be added to the principal of this Fund.
- (12) Holders of life membership certificates are subject to all the laws, rules and regulations as provided in the Capitular Code of the Grand Chapter of Oregon and loss of membership by suspension or expulsion shall automatically abrogate his life membership and any claim to any portion of any fees paid for such life membership; but the Chapter of which he was a member last, shall continue to receive the income from such funds.
- (13) Any Chapter or any individual may purchase a Memorial Life Membership in the name of a deceased Companion for the sum of \$25.00, provided that the Companion, in whose name the certificate is to be issued, was in good standing in a legally constituted Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Oregon at the time of his demise. The issuance or any subsequent transfer of such Memorial Life Membership shall be governed by the provisions set forth in Subsections (3), (4), (5) and (10) of this Section.

Upon dissolution of the Chapter in which the Membership is held, all interest accrued, and earned thereafter, shall be added to the Grave Chapter Life Membership Fund in perpetuity. (1976)

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

Section 224. Every candidate applying for the degrees of Capitular Masonry must:

- (1) Be a Master Mason in good standing in some regular Lodge of Master Masons.
- (2) Have resided within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter for one year and within the jurisdiction of the constituent Chapter for three months preceding the presentation of the petition; providing that where the petitioner has not resided within the jurisdiction of the constituent Chapter for one year preceding the presentation of his petition, a report on such petition should be secured from the Chapter having jurisdiction over the territory of his former residence, and provided further that a person in the service of the United States Government not qualified by residence for one year, may present his petition if the Grand High Priest grants a dispensation to the Chapter to receive and consider it.
- (3) Not have been rejected by any Chapter during the six months immediately preceding the presentation of his petition, or as provided in Section 206, Subdivision (14).

PETITIONS FOR DEGREES

Not Accepted If --

Section 225. (1) No petition for the degrees of Capitular Masonry shall be received or considered by any Chapter if the applicant has been previously rejected by a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, without the consent of the Chapter which rejected the applicant, subject to Section 206.

Requirements of Petitions

(2) All petitions for the degrees shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, with his name in full giving his place of nativity, present residence, age and occupation, and show the qualifications prescribed in Section 224 and shall be accompanied by the required fee. Every petition shall be recommended in writing by two members of the Chapter, and be presented at a stated convocation, and record thereof made.

Referred to Committee

(3) Every petition for the degrees shall be referred to a committee on investigation, appointed by the High Priest, consisting of three members of the Chapter, who shall diligently inquire into the moral, mental and physical qualifications of the applicant, and ascertain whether he is and has been an actual resident within the jurisdiction of the Chapter and Grand Chapter as provided in Section 224 immediately preceding the presentation of his petition, and report thereon, provided, however, that

the provisions herein set forth may be waived upon compliance with the requirements of Section 233, paragraph (2) of this code. (1954)

Committee Report

(4) If the report of the committee, or any member thereof, be unfavorable, no ballot shall be had, but the High Priest, upon the report shall declare the candidate rejected; but if the committee finds the applicant disqualified under the provisions of Section 224, they shall make a special written report thereon, in which case the High Priest may direct the withdrawal of the petition and order the fee returned, but such withdrawal shall not constitute a rejection.

Reasons for Report Not Required

(5) No one may demand from the committee, or any member thereof, reasons for the report and conclusions of the committee or the facts on which the same were based. Members of a Chapter who recommend the applicant must not be appointed on the investigating committee.

NO DISPENSATION FOR DEGREES UNLESS

Section 226. No dispensation shall be issued to a Chapter to receive and act upon the petition for degrees of a person in the service of the United States who has not the qualification of residence, unless the Chapter votes unanimously to request such dispensation, and if the dispensation be issued the petition shall take the usual course of reference and ballot.

PETITIONS FOR ADVANCEMENT

Section 227. A petition by a Mark Master, Past Master or Most Excellent Master, residing in this jurisdiction, for advancement and membership, shall state the name, number and location of the Chapter in which he received such degrees, and the name of the Grand Chapter under which such Chapter was working. Such petition shall be accompanied by a duly authenticated waiver of jurisdiction from the Chapter in which the applicant received such degrees; provided, that no Chapter can receive such petition unless the applicant has resided within the grand jurisdiction one year immediately preceding the presentation of the petition. Such petition must be proceeded within all particulars as a petition for degrees, except reference to other Chapter or Chapters having concurrent jurisdiction.

PETITIONS FOR AFFILIATION

Section 228. All petitions for membership by affiliation shall star the name, number and location of the Chapter of which the applicant was last a member, and the name of the Grand Chapter under which such Chapter is or was working; also the name of the Lodge in which he received the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees. Such petition shall be accompanied by a certificate of standing or demit or other satisfactory evidence that the petitioner is now a member of, or has lawfully withdrawn from, the Chapter of which he was last a member, or if such membership has been lost in any other manner, or if the applicant hails from a jurisdiction where no demits are issued to members, he must submit other satisfactory evidence of his standing in the fraternity. A petition for affiliation must be proceeded within all particulars as a petition for degrees, except reference to other Chapter or Chapters having concurrent jurisdiction.

PREVIOUS RESIDENCE NOT REQUIRED

Section 229. A non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason residing in the State of Oregon may petition, for affiliation, the Chapter within whose jurisdiction he resides, at any time and as provided in the preceding section.

WITHDRAWAL OF PETITION FOR AFFILIATION

Section 230. The petition of a Royal Arch Mason applying for membership may be withdrawn or returned prior to the committee's report, upon written application therefor and the concurrence of a majority of the members present at a stated convocation of the Chapter.

COURTESY DEGREES

Section 231. A Chapter may, at the duly authenticated request of a constituent Chapter, of this or any other grand jurisdiction, confer a degree or degrees upon a candidate of the requesting Chapter, and in such cases the Chapter can have no jurisdiction over the candidate it has conferred the degree or degrees upon; it has simply performed an act of Masonic courtesy.

FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR DEGREES

Section 232. If any candidate, Mark Master, Past Master or Most Excellent Master, fails to present himself for advancement within a period of one year, he shall be dropped from the roll, but may be reinstated upon his petition therefor. The petition in such cases shall conform to the requirements of a petition for affiliation so far as the same are applicable, and shall be received, considered and disposed of by the Chapter in the same manner in which it would dispose of an application for affiliation. The Chapter may grant waiver of jurisdiction to one so reinstated.

BALLOTING

When

Section 233. (1) No ballot shall be taken upon a petition for any degree or for affiliation at any other than a stated convocation.

None Within Four Weeks

- (2) No ballot shall be taken upon a petition for the degrees, by initiation, without compliance with the provisions of paragraph (2a), nor upon any petition for affiliation in a less period than four weeks from the time the petition was received by the Chapter, except upon dispensation of the Grand High Priest.
- (2a) A ballot may be taken upon a petition for the degrees, by initiation, the same meeting the petition is received if three (3) Companions of the Chapter shall, in open Chapter, vouch for the veracity and integrity of the petitioner as being able to suit the requirements of a regularly appointed investigating committee. THIS VOUCHMENT SHALL BE IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED IN THE MANUAL OF THE CHAPTER

When and How Taken

(3) If the report of the committee on investigation be favorable, a ballot on the petition shall be had and it shall require a unanimous ballot to elect. If but one black ball appears in the ballot box, the High Priest, without declaring a rejection, shall at once order a second ballot for the purpose of correcting a possible mistake, which shall be the last, but in no case, after one ballot has been had, shall any discussion be permitted in the Chapter, before the second is taken nor at any time, nor shall the second ballot be postponed to another convocation. There shall be but one ballot for the four Capitular degrees.

Balloting Collectively

(4) In balloting upon petitions for the degrees or for affiliation when two or more petitions are to be balloted upon, it may be by collective ballot, provided, however, if one or more black balls appear, then each petition shall be balloted upon separately. Any member of another Chapter in this jurisdiction may vote upon petitions for degrees only.

Results Only Announced

(5) After the ballot has been taken as provided herein and duly examined, the result shall in all cases be final and conclusive, and shall be then and there so declared by the High Priest. The result only named, "elected," or "rejected," shall be made known and recorded, and such result cannot be set aside.

REJECTIONS

Effect of Rejection for Affiliation

Section 234. (1) Any Companion whose application for affiliation has been rejected may renew his application to the same, or to any other Chapter in this grand jurisdiction, and is not limited as to time or restricted in his choice of the Chapter. The rejection of the petition of a Companion for affiliation shall not affect his Capitular standing.

Effect of Rejection for Advancement

(2) Any Mark Master, Past Master, or Most Excellent Master, whose petition for advancement has been rejected, may renew his petition at any time to the Chapter which rejected him.

Notice of Rejection

(3) When any applicant is declared rejected, notice thereof shall be communicated to him by the Secretary forthwith, and the fee shall be returned to him with the communication.

OBJECTIONS TO ADVANCEMENT

Section 235. Whenever a Royal Arch Mason, in good standing, being a member of a Chapter in this grand jurisdiction, shall express in writing to the High Priest of a Chapter any objection to the advancement of a Brother in the Chapter governed by such High Priest, to the Past Master, Most Excellent Master, or Royal Arch degree, the reason therefor must be made known to the Chapter, and the matter shall be referred to a committee of three members. The High Priest shall appoint such committee and it shall have power and it is its duty to inquire into such reasons and report thereon to the Chapter as soon as possible. Upon the reception of the report, the Chapter shall proceed to consider the same. If the reasons assigned, in the opinion and judgment of a majority of the members of the Chapter present be insufficient, the Chapter may confer the degrees in the same manner in which it would have preceded if the objection had not been made; but if the reason assigned shall be deemed sufficient to stay the degree or degrees, the candidate shall be entitled to a trial upon the objections alleged. If upon such trial the objections are sustained, the candidate shall not be entitled to advancement; but if the objections are not sustained, the candidate shall be entitled to receive the degree or degrees.

FEES

For Degrees

Section 236. (1) The fees for the degrees shall be fixed by the Chapters, but shall not be less than Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00).

For Affiliation

(2) No Chapter shall charge any fee for affiliation.

Fee Returned When --

(3) A Chapter shall return the fee of a candidate elected to receive the degrees, if he does not present himself for initiation within one year after election.

DUES

Section 237. A Chapter may, by a majority vote, fix the annual due of its members, in accordance with Section 267, Article XIV (1), Amendments to By-Laws. (1998)

PENALTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Section 238. A member one full year in arrears for dues may be dropped from the roll by a majority vote of the Chapter by the following procedure. Notice to be served upon him to show cause why he should not be dropped for nonpayment of dues, which shall be served personally or by mail. The following time shall elapse between service and action:

If a resident of the county in which the Chapter is located, ten days.

If not a resident of the county, but of this grand jurisdiction; twenty days.

If not a resident of this grand jurisdiction, forty days. If residence is unknown, service is unnecessary.

REINSTATEMENT

- Section 239. (1)A Companion who has been dropped from the rol for non-payment of dues shall stand reinstated if, within two years of the date of stated convocation at which he was dropped from the roll, he shall_pay all dues charged against him prior to the date when he was dropped, however, the Chapter may remit such dues in whole or in part, but the_Chapter shall remit to Grand Secretary the Grand Chapter dues on the member so reinstated based on the amounts paid to the Chapter.
- (2) A companion who has been dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, and who has not been reinstated within two years from the date of the stated convocation at which he was dropped, can be reinstated by presenting a Petition of Reinstatement in and on the from prescribed by the Grand Chapter and accompanied by a least the dues stated in the By-Laws of the Chapter for the preceding year and for the current year. The petition, if accepted, shall be submitted to an investigating committee and, if found worthy, he must receive favorable action by the Chapter by unanimous ballot. (1999)

REMISSION OF DUES

Section 240. A Chapter may, if it appears the Companion is unabto pay his annual dues for the current year, by a majority vote relieve his from the payment of dues, and in such cases no Grand Chapter dues shall be exacted.

TRANSFERS, WITHDRAWALS AND DEMITS

Applications To Be In Writing

Section 241. (1) All applications for certificates of standing, of transfers of membership, of withdrawals and of demits shall be made in writing and made of record at the next stated convocation of the Chapter.

Certificate of Standing

(2) Any member of the Chapter who is in good standing and whose dues are paid, and who desires to affiliate with another Chapter in the grand jurisdiction, may apply to the Secretary of the Chapter of which he is a member and receive from him a duly attested certificate of his standing in the Chapter, and the Secretary of the Chapter shall notify the Grand Secretary of the issuance of such certificate.

By presenting such certificate with his application, a member may apply for affiliation with another Chapter in the manner prescribed in Section 228.

Upon the election of the applicant to membership, the Secretary of the Chapter shall notify the Chapter which issued the certificate of standing of the date of the Companion's election to membership. (1999)

Demits

(3) Any member of a Chapter who has permanently removed from this grand jurisdiction or who desires to sever his membership, may apply in writing to the Secretary for a demit, which shall be issued to him if his dues are paid to date and no charges are pending against him, and such demit shall date and membership cease from the Chapter record, when the same was granted. Provided, however, that the Chapter may receive the application for affiliation of the holder of such demit, regardless of his residence.

Duplicate Demits

(4) If any Companion shall lose his demit, the Secretary of the Chapter shall, upon request and satisfactory proof of such loss, furnish him another certificate bearing the original date, and the fact of reissuance shall be entered upon the record.

Certificates of Withdrawal

(5) Any member of a Chapter whose dues are paid to date may apply for, in writing, and receive a certificate of withdrawal. Such certificate shall not entitle the holder thereof to apply for membership in any other Chapter, but should he again desire to become a member he shall apply for reinstatement to the Chapter which issued him the certificate of withdrawal, paying the regular dues for the time elapsed since date of withdrawal, and if a majority vote by ballot is favorable he shall be

reinstated. The Chapter, however, at its discretion, may remit all or part of such accumulated dues.

None to Unfinished Material

(6) Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master Masons shall not receive demits or certificates of withdrawals but a Chapter may grant them a certificate setting forth their stand in the Chapter.

NON-AFFILIATES

Section 242. Any non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason in this grand jurisdiction shall have the privilege of visiting Chapters for a period of one year from the date of his demit, or from the date of his arrival in this grand jurisdiction; but such non-affiliate should petition some Chapter within thirty days thereafter for membership, and if rejected shall contribute to some chartered Chapter in this grand jurisdiction its regular dues, payment of which shall entitle him to all Capitular rights with the exception of charity, and in case of non-compliance, he shall be debarred from all rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Mason.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS Majority Vote Required For

Section 243. All applications to the Grand High Priest for dispensations for any purpose shall emanate from a Chapter at a stated convocation, and be concurred in by a majority vote of the members present at such convocation and such application shall set forth fully and clearly the emergency, under the seal of the Chapter, and be signed by the High Priest and Secretary.

HIGH PRIEST MAY REQUEST

Section 244. In case of special emergency, where the provisions of the preceding section cannot be complied with, application for a dispensation may emanate from the High Priest.

RECORD AND REPORT REQUIRED

Section 245. Every dispensation shall be noted in the records of the Chapter, and prompt report made to the Grand High Priest of the action taken by authority thereof.

DISSOLUTION OF CHAPTERS

Section 246. A Chapter may be dissolved:

- (1) By voluntary surrender of its charter.
- (2) By a revocation of its charter by the Grand Chapter.

SURRENDER OF CHARTER

Section 247. The charter of a Chapter may be surrendered if the proposition be presented at a stated convocation thereof, and same be acted upon at a subsequent stated convocation, of which all the members whose residence is known shall have due and timely notice; but no charter can be surrendered as long as twelve Royal Arch Mason members of the Chapter desire to continue work under it, in accordance with the laws and regulations of this Grand Chapter.

CAUSES FOR REVOCATION OF CHARTER

Section 248. The charter of a Chapter may be revoked or suspended:

- (1) For disobedience of any provisions of the Constitution, laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter.
- (2) For violation or neglect of the generally recognized usages of Capitular Masonry.
 - (3) For disregard of the lawful authority of the Grand High Priest.
 - (4) For failure to meet during a period of six consecutive months.
 - (5) For neglect to meet in annual convocation two consecutive years.
- (6) For failure to make returns or pay its dues to the Grand Chapter for two consecutive years.

DUTIES OF LAST OFFICERS

Section 249. Upon the revocation or suspension of the charter of any Chapter, or if from any other cause a Chapter shall become dormant, it shall be the duty of the last High Priest, Treasurer and Secretary thereof to surrender to the Grand Secretary (subject to the order of the Grand High Priest) the charter, books, papers, jewels, furniture, moneys, or other property belonging to said Chapter, within two months from the time of such revocation, suspension or becoming dormant, and every member of a Chapter who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall, by vote or otherwise, make any other disposition of said effects than as herein designated, shall be liable to discipline for violating the laws and regulations of the Grand Chapter. All money accruing as herein prescribed shall be placed in the funds of the Grand Chapter.

LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Section 250. If, at any time, it shall be found necessary to suspend or revoke the charter of any Chapter for irregular or un-Masonic conduct, the members of such Chapter implicated in such conduct shall be subjected to discipline by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.

RIGHTS OF INNOCENT MEMBERS

Section 251. Upon the dissolution of a Chapter for any cause, its members who are not subject to the provisions of the last preceding section, upon payment of any back dues to the Grand Secretary, shall be entitled to a certificate from that officer, setting forth their Capitular standing.

FAILURE TO MEET FORFEITS JURISDICTION

Section 252. Whenever any Chapter shall fail to meet for six months, the next nearest Chapter or Chapters, upon giving notice to the Grand High Priest of their intention to do so, may exercise jurisdiction and act upon petitions therefrom, unless cause for such cessation shall be presented to and deemed satisfactory by the Grand High Priest. (1985)

DUTIES OF CHAPTER ACQUIRING JURISDICTION

Section 253. Any uncompleted act of a Chapter which has afterward ceased to exist shall be completed by the Chapter acquiring jurisdiction.

DISSOLVED CHAPTER NUMBER

Section 254. When a charter shall be revoked by the Grand Chapter it shall be erased from the register, and its number shall not be again used upon any charter in this jurisdiction, unless the charter is restored by the Grand Chapter.

CONSOLIDATION OF CHAPTERS

- Section 255. (1) Whenever a Chapter finds itself in a condition whereby consolidation with a Companion Chapter seems desirable, the procedure shall be as follows: The question of such action shall be presented by resolution in accordance with the rules for such an action and, after the membership has been notified by mails of such impending action.
- (2) After the second reading of such resolution, the question shall be put by the presiding officer: 'Shall such consolidation proceed?' If by two-thirds vote of the members present, the proposition is carried, the Secretary shall petition the chapter with whom consolidation is desired.

If after due discussion, the petitioned Chapter is agreeable to such proposition, the petitioning Chapter shall be notified that action will be taken to ascertain the will of the membership of the petitioned Chapter by resolution. All members of the petitioned Chapter shall be notified by mails of the impending action; which shall be at the next two state convocations and a resolution shall be prepared to care for the matter.

- (3) If, after the usual formalities have been consummated, the petitioned Chapter passes the resolution by two-thirds majority, the petitioning Chapter shall be notified that its prayer for consolidation has been accepted.
- (4) The name and number of the consolidated Chapters shall be that of the petitioned Chapter and the property and effects of the consolidated Chapter shall become the property of the consolidated Chapters under the name, number and seal of the petitioned Chapter. (1980)
- (5) The officers of the petitioned Chapter shall retain office until the regular election date. The officers of the petitioning Chapter shall be stricken from the list of officers of such constituent Chapters, and the officers declared vacant, except the officers shall be known as past officers of the petitioning Chapter.
- (6) The charter and seal of the petitioning Chapter shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter where it shall be kept securely. No other Chapter shall be given the name or seal of the petitioning Chapter, but the seal and name shall be preserved with the Charter in case at some future time the Companions in the locality of the petitioning Chapter may desire to reconstitute the Chapter; the same may be done by petition to the Grand Chapter giving proof of dependability.
- (7) When consolidation has been consummated the consolidated Chapter shall notify the Grand High Priest of a satisfactorily completed action of consolidation. The name and number of the petitioning Chapter shall then be erased from the Grand Chapter roll of constituent Chapters. (1976)

SUMMONSES

Requirements

Section 256. (1) Every summons issued by a chartered Chapter shall be written or printed, attested by the seal of the Chapter, and signed by the High Priest and Secretary; and shall be served either personally or by registered mail; no other matter than the requisition to attend a convocation of the Chapter need be inserted.

Failure to Answer

(2) Every Royal Arch Mason shall faithfully obey a summons issued by a Chapter and duly served upon him, if within his power; and for a failure so to do shall be liable to discipline in the manner provided by law, unless excused for reasons satisfactory to a majority of the members present as a stated convocation of the Chapter.

How Served

(3) The Scribe of every Chapter shall serve each summons requiring personal service and make due return thereon, and all summonses

served by registered mail shall be deemed sufficiently served when registered receipt is filed with the Chapter.

APPEALS FROM DECISIONS OF HIGH PRIEST None to Constituent Chapter

Section 257. (1) A member of a Chapter cannot appeal to the Chapter from the decision of the High priest. Only the Grand High priest or Grand Chapter can be appealed to.

To Grand Chapter

(2) Any appeal by a member of a Chapter to the Grand Chapter from a decision of its High Priest shall be made in writing, read in open Chapter, state the facts of the case, be duly authenticated and transmitted by the secretary to the Grand Secretary at least ten days before the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.

VISITORS -- VISITING

- Section 258. (1) It is the privilege of every Royal Arch Mason in good standing to visit and sit in every regular Chapter.
- (2) No visitor shall be admitted to any Chapter in this jurisdiction unless lawfully vouched for as a Royal Arch Mason in good standing. Documentary evidence alone shall not be sufficient to justify vouchment.
- (3) In addition to strict trial and due examination of his knowledge of Capitular Masonry, every Chapter or committee shall require a strange visitor to produce a certificate under the seal of his Chapter that he is a member of such Chapter in good standing, which certificate shall also be fortified by a certificate under the seal of the Grand Chapter of the jurisdiction under which the same shall be held that the Chapter issuing the certificate is a regular Chapter in good standing in the said jurisdiction.
- (4) Every Chapter shall require a visiting Companion, from time to time, and as often as once a year, to produce a receipt for dues or other satisfactory documentary evidence showing that he is then in good standing, both in his Lodge and Chapter.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS Dual Membership

Section 259. (1) In case the affiliating member shall, in his petition, indicate that he desires to retain his membership in another Chapter than that to which he petitions for affiliation, either in this Grand Jurisdictio or that of another Grand Jurisdiction, upon his acceptance by a Chapter, he shall become a member thereof on signing its by-laws,

and certificate of his discharge from membership in another Chapter is dispensed with. The Secretary of the accepting Chapter shall at once notify the Grand Secretary of this Grand Jurisdiction, or the Grand Secretary of the other Grand Jurisdiction, which ever the case shall be, and the other Chapter of which the affiliating Companion is a member. Before such a petition is received and referred in a Chapter, it shall be submitted to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Jurisdiction, who shall report thereon as to whether the Grand Jurisdiction in which the affiliated member holds his membership, does or does not permit membership in more than one Chapter. If such dual or plural membership is not so permitted, the Chapter shall thereon return said petition to the petitioner together with any fees paid thereon.

For the purpose of convenience, the Chapter in which the member holds his oldest membership shall be termed "Original Membership" and the other shall be termed "Dual Membership." The Secretary of each Chapter shall keep a record of such membership and make annual reports thereof to the Grand Secretary.

(2) If a member of any Chapter shall be suspended or expelled from the Chapter of Original Membership, he shall automatically be suspended or expelled from the Chapter of Dual Membership. No Royal Arch Mason shall be permitted to be Excellent High Priest, King or Scribe of more than one Chapter at the same time. (1998)

WHO QUALIFIED TO OPEN CHAPTER

Section 260. The only competent authority to open a constituent Chapter is the Excellent High Priest, or, in his absence, the legally chosen King and Scribe in priority, and in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe, a Chapter cannot be opened for any purpose, except by the Grand High Priest or his representative.

RESIGNATION OF OFFICERS PROHIBITED EXCEPT

Section 261. Neither the High Priest, King nor Scribe of a constituent Chapter can resign during his official term, except upon removal from this grand jurisdiction, but the resignation of any other elective office may be accepted by the Chapter. The vacancy shall be filled by special election held under authority of a dispensation from the Grand High Priest.

APPOINTIVE OFFICERS MAY RESIGN

Section 262. Resignations of appointed officers may, for good cause, be received. The High Priest shall appoint and install all officers to fill the vacancies.

JEWELS

Section 263. The jewels of the officers of constituent Chapters shall be as follows:

- (1) The Excellent High Priest, a mitre.
- (2) The King, a level surmounted by a crown.
- (3) The Scribe, a plumb surmounted by a turban.
- (4) The Treasurer, crossed keys.
- (5) The Secretary, crossed pens.
- (6) The Captain of the Host, a soldier.
- (7) The Principal Sojourner, a pilgrim.
- (8) The Royal Arch Captain and the Masters of the Veils, a sword.
- (9) The sentinel, crossed swords.

Each jewel to be within a triangle and to be of gold or gilt and to be suspended from the left lapel of the coat or by a collar or chain around the neck.

CLOTHING

Officers' Aprons

Section 264. The aprons of officers of a Chapter shall be as follows: Of white lambskin, 13×15 inches, lined and bound with scarlet, having the jewel of his office within a triangle embroidered on the body of the apron and a triple tau within a triangle inscribed in a circle embroidered on the flap. The embroidery to be gold or gilt or scarlet.

Members' Aprons

Section 265. The apron of members shall be a plain white apron bound with scarlet, with a triple tau within a triangle inscribed in a circle, in scarlet on the flap thereof.

Robes of Officers

Section 266. The robes of the officers for ceremonial purposes shall be as follows:

The Excellent High Priest -- A High Priest's robe, which should be a reproduction of the high priest's robe of the Hebrew people, with the proper mitre with "Holiness to the Lord" inscribed on the front thereof.

The King -- a scarlet robe, crown and sceptre.

The Scribe -- a purple robe, and turban of the same color.

The Captain of the Host -- a white uniform, helmet and sword.

The Principal Sojourner -- a black robe, with rose colored border, a cap of the same color, and a staff.

The Royal Arch Captain -- a white uniform, helmet and sword.

The Masters of the Veils -- each a uniform of the color of their respective veils, and turbans of the same colors, each having a sword.

These robes should be reproductions, as nearly as possible, of the costumes of the period which the ceremonies represent.

UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS FOR CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

Section 267. By-Laws conforming to the uniform code, as contained in this section, must be adopted by each constituent Chapter as provided under authority of Section 205 of these By-Laws.

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The name of this Chapter shall be Chapter, No. . .

ARTICLE II

The following is hereby adopted as the SEAL of the Chapter:



ARTICLE III Convocations

The	stated	convo	cations	of	this	Chap	ter	shall	be	held	on	the
			of the	mon	th at		o	'clock	N	A, exc	ept	that
for the	month	(s) of _			tl	he hou	ır sh	all be			o'cl	ock
M.	By ma	jority v	ote, the	Ch	apter	may	call	from	lab	or du	ring	the
months	of							(2	2023	3)	_	

ARTICLE IV Trustees

The Excellent High Priest, King, and Scribe shall be the trustees of this Chapter and shall have charge of the invested funds of the Chapter.

ARTICLE V

Rules for Administration of Invested Funds

(As desired by each Chapter.)

ARTICLE VI

Fees

The lees for conferring the degrees shall be \$					
dollars shall accompany the petition; dollars shall be paid before					
receiving the Past Master degree; dollars before receiving the					
Most Excellent Master degree; and dollars before receiving					
the Royal Arch degree.					
ARTICLE VII					
Annual Dues					
(1) Each member shall pay the sum of \$ per year into the funds of the Chapter, on or before January 31st of each year, as dues for the					
current year.					
Life Membership					
(2) Any member in good standing, whose dues are paid to date, may					
purchase a Life Membership and be thereby relieved from payment of					
dues, subject to the provision set forth in Section 223.5, Capitular Code					
of Oregon. The purchase price of Life Memberships shall be:					
or oregon. The parenase price of this memberships shall be.					
ARTICLE VIII					
Committee on Charity					
The Excellent High Priest, King and Scribe shall be ex-officio a					
committee on charity, and shall have power during recess of the Chapter					
to draw orders on the treasurer for any sum not exceeding \$ for					
the relief of any one applicant.					
ARTICLE IX					
Duties of Treasurer					
To make a report at the Stated Convocation in of					
each year, showing receipts, disbursements and financial condition for					
the year ending December 31st.					
ARTICLE X					
Salary and Duties of Secretary					
To make a report at the stated convocation in of					
each year, of the work, condition of its accounts with its officers and					
members, and all other matters relating to finances and business which					
may be under his charge. He shall receive \$ per for					
his service.					
AAAD DOA 1 1 2 0 1					

ARTICLE XI

Rules for Election of Special Trustees
Here may be inserted rules for election of special trustees, for the

conducting of the business of Masonic temples and Masonic cemeteries, with other rules for the administration of such properties.

ARTICLE XII

Order of Business

When the Chapter is opened in a stated convocation, the following order of business shall be observed:

- (1) Reading of minutes.
- (2) Reading and referring petitions.
- (3) Receiving reports of committees.
- (4) Balloting on applications for initiation or affiliation.
- (5) Receiving and considering resolutions and communications.
- (6) Considering unfinished business.
- (7) Disposing of such other business as may come before the Chapter.
- (8) Conferring degrees. Provided, that matters of charity always claim precedence.

ARTICLE XIII

In all matters not specifically covered herein, the By-Laws of the Grand Chapter shall govern. Effective on the date of approval of these By-Laws by the Grand High Priest, these By-Laws will supersede any previous By-Laws which are hereby rescinded.

ARTICLE XIV

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended in the following manner only:

- (1) The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at a stated convocation of the Chapter, and shall lie over for four weeks, after which it shall be submitted to a vote of the Chapter, and if a majority vote of the Chapter is favorable to the proposed amendment, it shall be submitted to the Grand High Priest for approval before becoming effective.
- (2) Such portions of Article II, III, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, as represented by blanks, to be filled in by the Chapter, may be amended according to subdivision (1) of this Article. Other portions of these By-Laws can be amended only by the Grand Chapter.
- (3) Articles V and XI may be amended in any part as provided in subdivision (1) of this Article.
- (4) Articles I, IV, VIII, XIII, XIV, can only be amended by the Grand Chapter.
- (5) Whenever the Chapter does not adopt rules as provided under Articles V and XI, these Articles must be left blank, and in no case shall the number of any Articles be changed.

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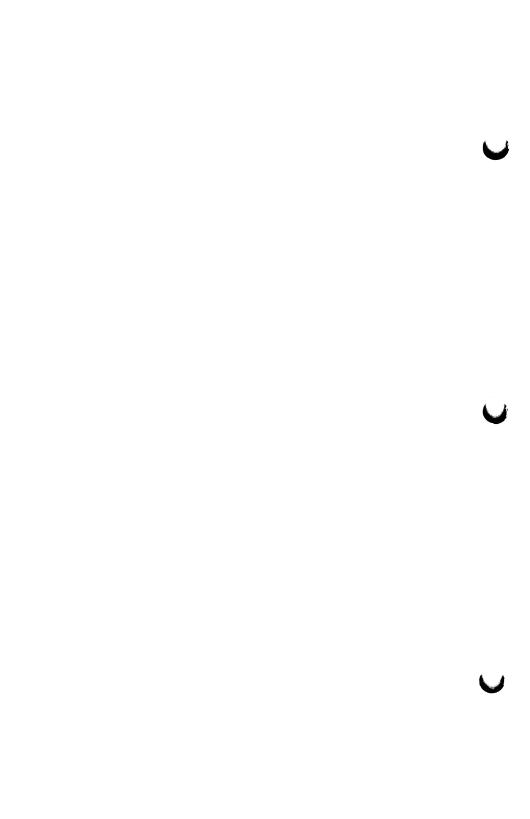
- (1) The proposed amendment must be submitted in writing at a stated convocation of the Chapter, and shall lie over for four weeks, after which it shall be submitted to a vote of the Chapter, and if a majority vote of the Chapter is favorable to the proposed amendment, it shall be submitted to the Grand High Priest for approval before becoming effective.
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- (3) Articles V and XI may be amended in any part as provided in subdivision (1) of this Article.
- (4) Articles I, IV, VIII, XIII, XIV, can only be amended by the Grand Chapter.
- (5) Whenever the Chapter does not adopt rules as provided under Articles V and XI, these Articles must be left blank, and in no case shall the number of any Articles be changed.

Approval and Repeal

Section 268. All resolutions, approved decisions and laws of this Grand Chapter are hereby declared to be incorporated in and evidenced by the contents hereof, and all other resolutions, approved decisions and laws heretofore passed and adopted by the Grand Chapter are hereby expressly revoked and repealed.

Amendments

- **Section 269.** (1) The Grand Chapter, by a favorable vote of two-thirds of its members present at a Stated Convocation, may revise or amend its by-laws as follows:
- (2) Any member intending to submit an amendment shall give notice thereof in writing to the Grand Secretary at least seventy days before the day on which the Stated Convocation is to be held, and notice thereof shall be sent to the Constituent Chapters at least Fifty days prior to the date of convening such Convocation; otherwise no such amendment shall be entertained. (2000)
- (3) Provided that, if the Grand Secretary fails to give such notice, the proposed amendment may be called up by three-fourths of the members present and acted upon as if such notice had been given.
- (4) Provided also, that no such proposed amendment shall be acted upon by the Grand Chapter until after it is referred to and reported on by the Committee on Jurisprudence, Appeals and Grievances.
- (5) No section of these By-Laws shall be revised or amended by mere reference to its title, but the section so revised or amended shall be set forth and published at full length.
- (6) No standing resolution shall be declared to repeal, change or modify any section of these By-Laws.
- (7) Provided, however, that nothing in the foregoing sections shall prevent the Grand Chapter from varying the order of business as laid down by these By-Laws for the purpose of facilitating the work of the Grand Chapter.



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ADDENDUM

The following are the required majorities for amending the various sections of the Capitular Code of Oregon:

Section	Majority	Section
Part One	Three-Fourths	20
Part Two	Two-Thirds	163
Part Three	Two-Thirds	269
Constituent Chapter By-	Laws Simple Majority	267 Article XN

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

ARTICLE VIII - 46 VOTING

When every one appears to have voted, the chair inquires, "Have all voted who wish to?" and if there is no response he says, "The polls are closed," whereupon the tellers proceed to count the ballots. If in unfolding the ballots it is found that two have been folded together, both are rejected as fraudulent. A blank piece of paper is not counted as a ballot and would not cause the rejection of the ballot with which it was folded. All blanks are ignored as simply waste paper, and are not reported, the members who do not wish to vote adopting this method of concealing the fact. Small technical errors, like the misspelling of a word, should not be noticed if the meaning of the ballot is clear. For instance, if at the trial of a member a ballot was written "guilty," every one knows what was intended. In all cases where the name on the ballot sounds like the name of one of the candidates it should be so credited. If a ballot is written "Johnson," or "Johnston," or "Johnstone," it should be credited to the candidate whose name is one of these: but if there are two candidates with these names and no eligible member with the name on the ballot, it must be rejected as illegal, or reported to the chair, who will at once submit the question to the assembly as to whom the ballot should be credited. If these doubtful ballots will not affect the result, the tellers may make their full report without asking for instructions in regard to them, placing these doubtful votes opposite the exact name as written on the ballot. Votes for ineligible persons and fraudulent votes should be reported under the heading of "Illegal Votes," after the legal votes.

When two or three filled-out ballots are folded together they are counted as one fraudulent vote. The names of the candidates should be arranged in order, the one receiving the highest number of legal votes being first. In reporting the number of votes cast and the number necessary for election, all votes except blanks must be counted. Suppose the tellers find 100 ballot papers, 4 of which are blank: the tellers' report should be in this form:

Number of votes cast	96
Necessary for election	49
Mr. A received	xx
Mr. B received	xx
Mr. C received	xx

