

Rules
of the
Grand Lodge of Instruction

As approved by The Grand Lodge of Ireland

5th October 2019

- I. The Grand Lodge of Instruction consists of the following Grand Officers as members *ex-officio*, viz:

The Grand Master,
The Deputy Grand Master,
The Assistant Grand Master,
The Grand Wardens,
The Grand Treasurer,
The Grand Registrars,
The Grand Secretary,
The Grand Director of Ceremonies,
The Assistant Grand Secretary,
The Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies,

together with such other Past Masters as have been or shall hereafter be elected by the Grand Lodge of Instruction; provided that at no time shall the total number of Elected Members exceed 50 and provided always that in no case whatever shall any Brother be eligible for membership of the Grand Lodge of Instruction unless he be a subscribing Past Master of at least three years standing, and also of proved skill and practical experience in working the Degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry.

Provincial Grand Lodges may each elect from its Members, Past Masters of the standing, skill and experience prescribed above, as Representatives to the Grand Lodge of Instruction, who shall be entitled to vote on all questions concerning the Ritual or Ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry.

1. In any Province of 75 or more Lodges, four Representatives may be elected.
2. In any Province of 30 or more Lodges but less than 75, three Representatives may be elected.
3. In any Province of less than 30 Lodges, two Representatives may be elected.

The Grand Lodge of Instruction may elect as Honorary Members Brethren of eminence or distinction in the Craft, or who may have rendered special service to The Grand Lodge of Instruction. Such Honorary Members shall not be eligible to hold office in the Grand Lodge of Instruction, or to vote on any question before the Grand Lodge of Instruction.

2. All questions concerning the Ritual or Ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry shall be decided at the Stated Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, or at a Communication thereof specially summoned for the purpose, by a majority of the votes of the Members and Representatives then present.
 3. Every decision of the Grand Lodge of Instruction in reference to matters of Ritual or Ceremony when approved by Grand Lodge, is binding on every Lodge and on every
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member of the Craft under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland; and any deviation therefrom shall be dealt with as provided by Grand Lodge Laws.

Stated and Special Communications

4. The Stated Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction shall be held on the second Thursday in the months of May and October in each year, or on such dates and at such hours as the Deputy Grand Master shall decide.
5. A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Instruction may be convened by the Secretary, or on the requisition of any three Members. The notice convening a Special Communication shall be issued at least ten days before the date of the meeting and shall specify the business for which it is convened. No business other than that mentioned in the notice shall be transacted at any Special Communication, and, unless Seven Brethren be present, the Communication cannot be held.
6. The Grand Lodge of Instruction shall have power, at the Stated Communications, or at a Special Communication, to appoint two or more of its Members or Provincial Representatives as a committee to instruct any Lodge in the proper working of any of the Degrees of Craft Masonry, including that of the Chair, and such conjoint instruction shall be received by such Lodge, as the working authorized and deemed correct by the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
7. Members or Representatives of a Provincial Grand Lodge, duly accredited, are alone entitled to be present at the Stated or any Special Communications.

Open Communications

8. Open Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction shall be held in Dublin, at 7.30 p.m., on the second Thursday in the months of November, December, February and March in each year, and at such times and places as the Deputy Grand Master shall authorise.

Open Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction shall be held in the Northern Provinces at 2.30 p.m., on the second Saturday in the months of October, December, February, March and the first Saturday in November in each year, and at such times and places as the Deputy Grand Master shall authorise.

9. At every Open Communication, in the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master, the Senior Member (other than the Secretary, or in his absence an Assistant Secretary) who shall not have already presided during the current session, shall have the right to preside. The Grand Lodge of Instruction
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shall not be opened unless either the Secretary, or an Assistant Secretary, or a Deputy appointed under Rule 14, and, at least, one other Member of the Lodge be present.

10. All Master Masons, vouched as such, may attend the Open Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, and shall be subject while present, to its Rules and Usages.
11. All Brethren, excepting members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, attending the Open Communications of the Grand Lodge of Instruction shall have the privilege of asking questions on the subject under immediate consideration.
12. At the Open Communications, an attendance book shall be provided in which each Member and Visitor attending a Communication may enter his name.
13. No subject, except such as relates to the Ritual, History or Ceremonies of Ancient Craft Masonry, shall be introduced or discussed at any Open Communication.

The Secretary

14. The Grand Lodge of Instruction, at its Stated Communication in May of each year, shall elect a Secretary and an Assistant Secretary and may elect one or more Assistants from amongst its Members. The elections in case of a contest, shall be by ballot, and be subject to the approval of Grand Lodge. During their terms of Office the Secretary and Assistant Secretary shall rank as Grand Officers; any Brother who shall have held the office of Secretary or Assistant Secretary to the Grand Lodge of Instruction shall, on retirement from that office, hold the rank of a Past Grand Officer, with the precedence as in Grand Lodge Laws.
15. At every Communication of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, it shall be the duty of the Secretary or Assistant Secretary to attend. The Secretary or such Assistant Secretary, in case of his unavoidable absence, shall appoint a Member of the Grand Lodge of Instruction as his Deputy.

The Secretary shall keep the Roll of Members, specifying the Name and Address and Date of Admission of each Member which Roll he shall produce at every Stated Communication.

The Secretary or such Assistant Secretary shall arrange the course of proceedings at the Open Communications, and shall perform such other duties relating to the business of the Grand Lodge of Instruction as shall be determined by Grand Lodge or the Grand Lodge of Instruction.

16. Any expenses incurred by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary in the performance of his duties as such, or in carrying out any rule or regulation of, or relating to the Grand
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Lodge of Instruction, shall, when sanctioned by the Grand Master's Council, be considered as part of the current expenses of Grand Lodge, and treated in all respects as such.

Election of Members

17. The election of Members shall take place at either of the Stated Communications, or at a Special Communication summoned for that purpose. In every case the election shall be by ballot, every Member present to record his vote, and one black bean in five shall exclude.

The summons convening the Communication shall specify the Name, Address and Lodge of every Candidate. as well as the names of the Members proposing or recommending him.

18. Every Candidate for Membership must be proposed by a Member of the Grand Lodge of Instruction and seconded by at least two other Members. Every such proposal must be on the regular form, which can be obtained only from the Grand Secretary for Instruction.

Completed forms must be lodged with the Grand Secretary for Instruction on or before the first day of March for the May Communication, and the first day of August for the October Communication.

No Candidates shall be Balloted for until the Grand Lodge of Instruction shall have been satisfied that he is fully qualified in every way in accordance with Rule I.

19. The name of all Candidates elected shall be submitted to the next ensuing Communication of Grand Lodge, and on approval thereby, shall be entered on *the* Roll of the members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction.

Any elected Member of Grand Lodge of Instruction with less than 20 years membership who shall not have attended one Stated and at least two Open Communications in the preceding year ending 1st October, shall cease to be a Member unless the Members present at the October Stated Communication shall, by ballot determine otherwise. Any Provincial Representative who shall not have attended one Stated and at least two Open Communications in the preceding year ending 1st October, and any Provincial Instructor who shall not have attended at least two Open Communications in the preceding year ending 1st October shall have his name forwarded to the Provincial Grand Lodge which he represents. or in which he instructs, with a view to having some other Brother nominated.

20. If any Member of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, or Representative thereof from a
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Provincial Grand Lodge, shall cease to be a Member of Grand Lodge, or shall in any way incur the censure of Grand Lodge, he shall cease to be a Member of, or Representative at, the Grand Lodge of Instruction.

21. The Grand Lodge of Instruction shall have a Special Seal, and the Minutes of its proceedings when confirmed at a subsequent Open or Stated Communication shall be signed by the Presiding Officer thereat and by the Secretary, and shall have the Seal of the Lodge affixed thereto.
22. The Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, as defined in the first paragraph of Rule No. I, are entitled to wear Aprons and Collars similar to those of the Officers of Grand Lodge of and under the rank of Grand Warden. They are also entitled to wear on the left breast a quatrefoil medal with the words "Grand Lodge of Instruction" on a border of blue enamel, enclosing a Past Master's Jewel. The Medal may be worn from an enamelled bar.
23. Representatives from Provincial Grand Lodges to the Grand Lodge of Instruction may wear a similar Jewel, enclosed in a Garter, on which are the words 'Representative from the Province of

The Jewels issued to Members are the property of Grand Lodge, and each Jewel is to be returned to the Grand Secretary when the holder has ceased to be a Member of the Grand Lodge of Instruction.

Those for Provincial Representatives are issued to the Provincial Grand Lodges, and each Jewel is to be returned to the Provincial Grand Secretary when the holder has ceased to represent his Province at the Grand Lodge of Instruction.

24. On the written request of a Provincial Grand Lodge, through its Secretary, to have one or more of its Members, being Past Masters of not less than three years standing under the Irish Constitution, examined as to his or their skills in working the Degrees, Ceremonies and Procedures of Ancient Craft Masonry, the Secretary shall arrange for the examination of such Brethren by a Board or not less than three elected Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, whose report shall be put before the next Stated Communication of the Grand Lodge of Instruction for approval, and if approved, the Grand Secretary for Instruction shall issue to each Candidate a Certificate authorising him to act as an Instructor within his own Province, but always as one of two such certified Instructors.
 25. A Grand Inspector may also request that a Past Master or not less than three years' standing under the Irish Constitution be suitably examined as arranged by the Grand Secretary for Instruction and if approved may be authorised to act as an Instructor in the area of the Inspectorate.
 26. Such certificated Instructors may wear the Jewel of a Provincial Instructor, which Jewel shall be the property of the Provincial Grand Lodge, by whom it shall be called in if, in
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the opinion of the Provincial Grand Lodge, or of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, the holder is not carrying out efficiently the duties of a Provincial Instructor.

27. The foregoing Regulations re-enacting or amending the Constitutions adopted on the 4th of May, 1876, shall constitute and regulate the Grand Lodge of Instruction for Ireland. They shall have force and effect from the 5th October 2019, and any Rule, Regulation or Usage to the contrary is hereby abolished.

By Order of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Philip A.J. Daley,
Grand Secretary,
5th October 2019

Freemasons' Hall
Dublin