

Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland



3rd March 2022

The Book of Constitutions comprising
The Laws and Regulations of
The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland

to which are appended
The Old Charges, Prayers and Forms to be used in Lodges and the
Book of Clothing and Insignia



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3rd March 2022

The Declaration that follows was read by the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Donoughmore, K.P., Most Worshipful Grand Master, at the meeting of the Grand Lodge held in Belfast, 6th October, 1938, and was unanimously approved by the Brethren present:

DECLARATION

1. From time to time the Grand Lodge of Ireland has deemed it desirable to set forth in precise form the aims of Freemasonry as consistently practised under its Jurisdiction, since it came into being as an organised body in 1725, and also to determine the principles governing its relations with those other Grand Lodges with which it is in fraternal accord.
2. In view of representations which have been received, and of statements recently issued which have distorted or obscured the true objects of Freemasonry, it is once again considered necessary to emphasise certain fundamental principles of the Order.
3. The first condition of admission into, and membership of the Order is a belief in the Supreme Being. This is essential and admits of no compromise.
4. The Bible, referred to by Freemasons as the Volume of the Sacred Law, is always open in the Lodges. Every candidate is required to take his Obligation on that Book or on the Volume which is held by his particular creed to impart sanctity to an oath or promise taken upon it.
5. Everyone who enters Freemasonry, is at the outset, strictly forbidden to countenance any act which may have a tendency to subvert peace and good order of society; he must pay due obedience to the law of any State in which he resides or which may afford him protection, and he must never be remiss in the allegiance due to the Sovereign of his native land.
6. While Irish Freemasonry thus inculcates in each of its members the duties of loyalty and citizenship, it reserves to the individual the right to hold his own opinion with regard to public affairs. But neither in any Lodge, nor at any time in his capacity as a Freemason, is he permitted to discuss or to advance his views on theological or political questions.
7. The Grand Lodge has always consistently refused to express any opinion on questions of foreign or domestic state policy either at home or abroad, and it will not allow its name to be associated with any action, however humanitarian it may appear to be, which infringes its unalterable policy of standing aloof from every question between political parties, or questions as to rival theories of government.
8. The Grand Lodge is aware that there do exist Bodies, styling themselves Freemasons, which do not adhere to these principles, and while that attitude exists the Grand Lodge of Ireland refuses absolutely to have any relations with such Bodies or to regard them as Freemasons.
9. This Grand Lodge is a Sovereign and independent Body practising Freemasonry only

within the three Degrees and only with the limits defined in its Constitution as “pure Ancient Masonry”. It does not recognise or admit the existence of any superior Masonic authority, however styled.

10. On more than one occasion the Grand Lodge has refused, and will continue to refuse, to participate in Conferences with so-called International Associations claiming to represent Freemasonry which admit to membership Bodies failing to conform strictly to the principles upon which the Grand Lodge of Ireland is founded. The Grand Lodge does not admit any such claim nor can its views be represented by any such Association.
11. There is no secret with regard to any of the basic principles of Freemasonry, some of which have been stated above. The Grand Lodge will always consider the recognition of those Grand Lodges which profess, and practice, and can show that they have consistently professed and practised those established and unaltered principles, but in no circumstances will it enter into discussion with a view to any new or varied interpretation of them. They must be accepted and practised wholeheartedly and in their entirety by those who desire to be recognised as Freemasons by the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

In accordance with the terms of the above Declaration, Grand Lodge Passed the following resolution on 7th December, 1939:

“The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland will not in future enter into relations with a Grand Lodge which is in amity with any of the Bodies referred to in paragraph 8 of the Declaration as ‘Bodies styling themselves Freemasons’.

Furthermore, as and when a vacancy shall occur in the Representation of a Foreign Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of Ireland or of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at a Foreign Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of Ireland will not make, sanction, or approve a new appointment if the Grand Lodge concerned recognises any of the bodies referred to above.”

The following Extract from the Minutes of Grand Lodge of 6th October, 1949, bears on the same subject: “The Grand Lodge of England has been asked if it still stood by this Declaration, particularly in regard to paragraph 7. The Grand Lodge of England replied that it stood by every word and then asked for the opinion of the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland. A conference has been held between the three Grand Lodges and all unhesitatingly reaffirm the statement that was pronounced in 1938; nothing in present day affairs has been found that could cause them to recede from that attitude.

If Freemasonry once deviated from its course by expressing an opinion on political or theological questions, it would be called upon not only publicly to approve or denounce any movement which might arise in the future but would sow the seeds of discord among its own members.

The three Grand Lodges are convinced that it is only by this policy that Freemasonry has survived the constantly changing doctrines of the outside world, and are compelled to place on record their complete disapproval of any action which may tend to permit the slightest

departure from the basic principles of Freemasonry. They are strongly of the opinion that if any of the three Grand Lodges does so, it cannot maintain a claim to be following the Ancient Landmarks of the Order and must ultimately face disintegration.”

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This reprint of the Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland contains all alterations made therein, to 3rd March 2022.

*Philip A.J. Daley
Grand Secretary*

The Book of Constitutions
Comprising the Laws and Regulations
of The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland

1. The Grand Lodge of Ireland, hereinafter called the Grand Lodge, as representing the whole Fraternity of Freemasons under the Irish Constitution has an inherent right to make new Laws and Regulations, and to alter those already made, preserving at the same time the Ancient Landmarks.
2. The following Laws and Regulations shall take effect from the third day of March 2022, and all other general Laws and Regulations hitherto in force are hereby repealed, except as regards any proceedings of the Grand Lodge heretofore taken.
3. Pure Ancient Masonry consists of the following Degrees and no others, viz: The Entered Apprentice, the Fellow Craft, the Master Mason and the Installed Master, but the Degrees of Royal Arch and Mark Master Mason shall also be recognized so long as the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland shall work only those two Degrees in the form in which they are worked at the Passing of this Law.

of the Grand Lodge

4. The Government of the Fraternity is placed in the hands of the Grand Lodge, which is composed of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Assistant Grand Master, the Grand Officers, the Past Grand Officers, the Provincial Grand Officers, the Past Provincial Grand Officers and all Master Masons of Subordinate Lodges on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. All members of the Grand Lodge must be subscribing members of a Lodge on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
5. The members of the Grand Lodge rank in the following order, viz.:
The Most Worshipful the Grand Master,
Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters,
The Right Worshipful the Deputy Grand Master,
Right Worshipful Past Deputy Grand Masters,
The Right Worshipful the Assistant Grand Master,
Right Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Masters,
Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Masters,
Right Worshipful Past Provincial Grand Masters,
Right Worshipful Grand Inspectors,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Inspectors,
The Right Worshipful the Senior Grand Warden,
Right Worshipful Past Senior Grand Wardens,
The Right Worshipful the Junior Grand Warden,
Right Worshipful Past Junior Grand Wardens,
The Right Worshipful the Grand Treasurer,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Treasurers,

Right Worshipful Grand Registrars,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Registrars,
The Right Worshipful the Grand Secretary,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Secretaries,
The Right Worshipful the Grand Director of Ceremonies,
Right Worshipful Past Grand Directors of Ceremonies,
The Right Worshipful the Senior Grand Chaplain,
Right Worshipful Past Senior Grand Chaplains,
Right Worshipful Junior Grand Chaplains,
Right Worshipful Past Junior Grand Chaplains,
The Very Worshipful the Senior Grand Deacon,
The Very Worshipful the Junior Grand Deacon,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Deacons,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Superintendent of Works,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Superintendents of Works,
The Very Worshipful the Assistant Grand Treasurer,
Very Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Treasurers,
The Very Worshipful the Assistant Grand Secretary,
Very Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Secretaries,
The Very Worshipful the Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies,
Very Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies,
Right Worshipful Provincial Deputy Grand Masters,
Right Worshipful Past Provincial Deputy Grand Masters,
Right Worshipful Provincial Assistant Grand Masters,
Right Worshipful Past Provincial Assistant Grand Masters,
Very Worshipful Assistant Grand Inspectors,
Very Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Inspectors,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Steward,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Stewards,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Sword Bearer,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Sword Bearers,
Very Worshipful Grand Stewards of Charities,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Stewards of Charities,
Very Worshipful Grand Almoners,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Almoners,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Organist,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Organists,
The Very Worshipful the Assistant Grand Organist,
Very Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Organists,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Lodge Standard Bearer,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Lodge Standard Bearers,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Master's Standard Bearer,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Master's Standard Bearers,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Inner Guard,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Inner Guards,
Very Worshipful Grand Medical Support Officers,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Medical Support Officers,

The Very Worshipful the Grand Information Officer,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Information Officers,
The Very Worshipful the Grand Secretary for Instruction,
Very Worshipful Past Grand Secretaries for Instruction,
Very Worshipful Assistant Grand Secretaries for Instruction,
Very Worshipful Past Assistant Grand Secretaries for Instruction,
Right Worshipful Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges,
Right Worshipful Past Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges,
Very Worshipful Elected Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction,
Very Worshipful and Worshipful Provincial Grand Officers, according to rank and seniority,
Very Worshipful and Worshipful Past Provincial Grand Officers, according to rank and seniority,
Worshipful Brethren holding Overseas District Grand Rank,
The Masters, Wardens, Past Masters and Master Masons of all Subordinate Lodges.

Past Grand and Past Provincial Grand Officers shall rank according to seniority, after the Actual Grand or Provincial Grand Officers of the same rank.

6. The Grand Lodge shall meet for the despatch of business on the First Thursday in the months of March, June and October; and on the Festival of St. John, 27th December, or on such other day and at such hour as the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master or the Assistant Grand Master may appoint should occasion require, and at other times when duly summoned. The Grand Officers elected for the ensuing year will be proclaimed and saluted at the St. John's Day Communication of Grand Lodge, when the newly elected Officers of subordinate Lodges will be submitted to Grand Lodge for approval. In case the Festival of St. John falls on a Sunday, the Communication shall be held on the Monday following.

A Notice of a Grand Lodge Communication shall be sent to each of the Provincial Grand Secretaries and to the Secretary of each Subordinate Lodge, at least one month before. A report of the Proceedings at the preceding Quarterly Communication and at any intervening meeting of the Grand Lodge shall be forwarded to all those entitled to receive Grand Lodge Notices.

Any Member of the Grand Lodge may have such Notices and Proceedings emailed or posted to him on registering his address with the Grand Secretary and paying such fee as defined in the schedule of fees.

The Communications of Grand Lodge shall be held in Dublin. The Grand Master may, at his discretion, order such Communication to be held in any one of the Provincial Centres of Masonry which he may think desirable, provided that one such Communication of Grand Lodge shall be held each year alternately in the Provinces of Antrim and Down.

Grand Lodge shall always be opened on the Third Degree, except in the case of an occasional Grand Lodge summoned for the purpose of Constitution only, which shall be opened on the First Degree.

7. At each Communication the Grand Lodge shall be opened and ruled by the Grand Master, in his absence by the Deputy Grand Master, in his absence by the Assistant Grand Master, and in his absence by the member of the Grand Lodge then present, who shall be next in order of precedence, according to Grand Lodge Law No. 5.
8. A Brother, who is not a member of the Grand Lodge, shall not be present at its Communications, except by permission of the Presiding Officer. Any Brother so admitted shall not be allowed to address the Chair, unless by permission of the Presiding Officer, nor shall he in any case vote.
9. Each member of the Grand Lodge attending any Communication thereof, shall, before entering, sign his name on the appropriate attendance sheet provided for that purpose.
10. All Brethren attending the Grand Lodge or any Subordinate Lodge shall wear the appropriate Apron, and the Collar and Jewel of his rank, but no member of the Grand Lodge or any Subordinate Lodge or visitor thereto shall be permitted to wear any Jewel, Medal or Device belonging to any Order or Degree other than those approved by Grand Lodge, however the Jewel of a Past Master is included. There is no provision for jewels for Past Officers of Lodges. The Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges may wear the insignia of the Grand Lodges they represent. This Law also applies to meetings for refreshment as well as for labour.
11. The Jewels of Office worn by the Officers of Subordinate Lodges shall be of Silver, including Past Masters' Jewels; the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Provincial and Past Provincial Grand Officers are entitled to wear Jewels of Gold.
12. The Grand Lodge having been opened, the Minutes of the last Stated, and of any intervening, Communication, having been circulated previously, when confirmed, shall be signed by the Presiding Officer, after which motions of which due notice had been given, shall be taken into consideration. The report of the Grand Master's Council shall then be submitted to the Grand Lodge for its determination. The Grand Lodge reserves to itself the power of hearing and determining all applications, memorials and petitions which it may deem proper, though not previously submitted to the Grand Master's Council.
13. All differences amongst Lodges or Brethren (other than disputes dealt with pursuant to Grand Lodge Law No. 32) which cannot be adjusted by a Provincial Board of General Purposes or the Provincial Grand Lodge or otherwise, shall be decided by the Grand Lodge Conduct Committee. The Grand Lodge Conduct Committee reserves the right to hear any case which it feels appropriate even if not heard by the above bodies. Any Brother aggrieved by such decision may at any time within one month appeal to the Grand Lodge Conduct Committee. No appeal can be received unless couched in proper and respectful language.
14. All motions submitted to the Grand Lodge shall be determined by a majority of votes cast by the members present, the Presiding Officer included; and if on a division the

numbers be equal, the Presiding Officer shall have a casting vote.

15. The Members of any Lodge which shall have neglected for one whole year to keep the records of its members up to date, register its officers and make its payments to the Grand Lodge, shall be thereby disqualified from voting in the Grand Lodge, or acting upon any Board or Committee, until such returns and payments shall have been made.
16. Each Brother while addressing the Chair shall remain standing and shall not be interrupted unless by a special motion to order, or by being called to order by the Presiding Officer.
17. A Brother shall not be at liberty to speak more than once on the same motion, unless in explanation or reply, or when called upon by the Presiding Officer or where he has asked for leave from the Presiding Officer to do so and the Presiding Officer has, in his sole and exclusive discretion, given him such leave. If any Brother behave in Grand Lodge in such a manner as to disturb the harmony of Grand Lodge, he shall be formally admonished by the Presiding Officer, and if he persists in his irregular conduct he shall be excluded for the remainder of the meeting on the vote of the majority of the members present. The same power may be exercised in Provincial Grand Lodges and Subordinate Lodges, but in such cases an immediate report shall be made to Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge as the case may be.
18. A notice for the enactment of a new Law or for the alteration or repeal of an existing Law, or for the grant of money (except in such cases as are provided for in Grand Lodge Law No. 94), shall be entertained at any Communication of Grand Lodge; provided also that notice thereof in writing, shall have been given at a previous Communication of Grand Lodge; such notice shall be printed in the summons for those Communications, and a copy of such summons shall be sent to each of the Provincial Grand Secretaries and to the Secretary of each Subordinate Lodge, at least one month before. However, the Grand Officer who is to preside, having received prior notice of a matter and deeming it to be of pressing urgency, may agree, prior to any Communication of Grand Lodge, to admit such matter for discussion and resolution.
19. A discretionary power is vested in the Presiding Officer of rejecting, at the time of its being handed in, any notice of motion, if such shall be deemed by him improper, unlawful, or inconsistent with the Ancient Landmarks.
20. Any motion, the substance of which the Grand Lodge has already considered and decided upon, shall not be brought forward again or otherwise discussed until after the lapse of six months from the date of such decision.
21. If the proposer of a motion shall not attend to move it or authorise some other Brother so to do, then, unless the Grand Lodge shall consent to a postponement, it shall be competent to any other member of the Grand Lodge to move it, as if he had originally given notice thereof.
22. The Transactions or Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, or any Provincial Grand Lodge, or

of any Subordinate Lodge, or of any Masonic Committee, or any comment thereon, portion thereof, or reference thereto, shall not be published without the permission of the Grand Lodge; or of the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master, or if in a Masonic Province, of the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy.

23. The Grand Lodge shall subscribe annually, having regard to the state of Grand Lodge funds at the time, to such Masonic Charity (one or more of them) as Grand Lodge shall from time to time decide, such sums as shall be the subject of motion annually in Grand Lodge.
24. A paid Officer of the Grand Lodge shall not act as Secretary or Treasurer to any Lodge or other Subordinate Masonic Body.
25. The Grand Lodge strictly prohibits as unlawful all assemblies of Freemasons in Ireland, under any title whatever, purporting to be Masonic, not held by virtue of a Warrant or Constitution from the Grand Lodge or from one of the other Masonic Grand Bodies recognised by it and acting in Masonic union with it.

Any Brother being a member of any Lodge on the Register of the Grand Lodge or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, who shall take any part in such unlawful assembly, or shall join or become a member of any Body or Society in Ireland purporting to be Masonic, and not in connection with or sanctioned by the Grand Lodge or other Masonic Grand Body recognised by it, shall be liable to the Grand Lodge disciplinary process. A Member of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall not be a member of or attend any meeting of any Body or Society which requires Freemasonry as a basis of or qualification for membership, except of such Bodies as sanctioned by the Grand Lodge.

If any Lodge or member of a Lodge shall give any information as to the standing of a member in reply to an enquiry from any such non recognised Body, it shall be deemed to be unmasonic conduct and may be dealt with accordingly. Members of Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Ireland are forbidden to join or to belong to Clubs or other Bodies purporting to be or calling themselves Masonic, including "Benevolent Associations", established within Subordinate Lodges for the purpose of raising funds for the Benevolent Institutions, unless such Clubs or Bodies have been sanctioned by the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master, or if in a Masonic Province by the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy, or if abroad in a country under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland by such Grand Lodge. Such sanction may at any time be withdrawn without notice.

26. The discussion of religious or political matters shall not, under any pretence whatever, be permitted in any Masonic assembly.
27. Masonic Clothing or Insignia shall not be worn at any Masonic procession, ball, concert or other assembly, unless by permission of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master; or the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy, if in a Masonic Province; and at all Masonic processions of any kind

whatsoever, even though authorised as above, it is strictly prohibited to introduce any party colours or party tunes.

28. If Ladies and non-Masons attend Festive Boards and other Masonic occasions, collars and jewels may be worn within Masonic premises, if appropriate and as customary, and that Masonic Toasts may be proposed and responded to, so long as no salutes shall be given.
29. Members of the Craft are strictly forbidden to use the fact of their membership as a means of promoting business or of securing private advantage. They are forbidden to use any of the emblems of Freemasonry on a sign or in any other way on business premises, business correspondence paper or in connection with any business advertisement. A Masonic Certificate must not be displayed or allowed to be displayed on business premises. Any breach of this ruling will be considered as unmasonic conduct. This rule is not intended to apply to the sale of Masonic articles in Masonic circles or advertising them in Masonic Papers.
30. A Brother shall not create or belong to any Social Media Platform, describing itself as being associated with, or belonging to, or representing in any way, Irish Freemasonry, or the Grand Lodge, that is not authorised by the Grand Lodge; unless such Social Media Platform shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

In the case that the Grand Lodge permits the establishment of such a Social Media Platform, it reserves the right to have a representative of Grand Lodge appointed as an administrator, of the said Social Media Platform.

Such Social Media Platforms that shall be authorised by the Grand Lodge, shall abide by and act in accordance with the advices and recommendations provided in the current version of the "Guidance for the use of Social Media" of the Grand Lodge, as appearing on the Grand Lodge official website.

31. A Brother shall not create or develop a Website, describing itself as being associated with, or belonging to, or representing in any way, Irish Freemasonry, or the Grand Lodge, that is not authorised by the Grand Lodge. unless such Website shall be approved by the Grand Lodge.

Any authorised Website must have a current security certificate and be hosted with a reputable hosting service.

Such Websites that shall be authorised by the Grand Lodge, shall abide by and act in accordance with the advices and recommendations provided in the current version of the "Guidance for Websites" of the Grand Lodge, as appearing on the Grand Lodge official website.

32. Any Brother, any Lodge, the Board of General Purposes of any Provincial Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge Conduct Committee or the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland may bring a charge against any Brother in respect of any act or omission pursuant

to Grand Lodge Law No. 35 which charge shall be in writing.

If the Brother charged belongs or has belonged to a Lodge in a Masonic Province it shall be referred directly to Board of General Purposes of such Province.

If the Brother charged belongs or has belonged to a Lodge not in a Masonic Province it shall be referred directly to the Conduct Committee.

Such charge shall be sent to the Grand Secretary or the Provincial Grand Secretary, as the case may be.

If there shall be any conflict of interest in the aforesaid bodies, the Conduct Committee shall have the power to request that another body investigate and hear the case (this body can be another Province, the Conduct Committee itself, or any body appointed by them). At all times Brethren and bodies should act with fairness.

If, on consideration of the matters alleged in such charge, the Provincial Grand Lodge, or the Conduct Committee (the "Appropriate Body") shall find that a *prima facie* case has been made, then it shall cause to be served on the Brother so charged a summons to attend before the committee empanelled for the purposes of investigating, hearing and adjudicating the said charge (the "Adjudicating Committee"). Such summons shall be served, and the Adjudicating Committee established in accordance with Grand Lodge Procedures.

The Adjudicating Committee and the Conduct Committee is to be composed of Brethren who have attained the status of Master Mason and who have been deemed to be suitable to serve.

The Conduct Committee shall enjoy the power to set out such written rules and procedures as it sees fit for the handling of misconduct charges, such rules and procedures to strictly comply with all Laws and Regulations (the "Conduct Committee Rules"). The Conduct Committee Rules shall have the same effect as if they were Grand Lodge Laws and in any conflict between the Conduct Committee Rules and the Laws and Regulations herein, the Laws and Regulations herein shall apply.

On satisfactory proof of the service of the summons, the Adjudicating Committee shall at the time and place specified in the aforesaid summons, proceed to hear and adjudicate the charge, whether the Brother charged attends or not, and may from time to time adjourn the hearing and investigation as it shall think fit, and on the conclusion thereof shall report to the Appropriate Body on the following points, namely whether:

1. the charge has been proven, and if so, to what extent;
2. if so, what penalty (if any) should be imposed; and
3. there are any facts and circumstances in connection with the case, which it is necessary or desirable to bring to the attention of the Appropriate Body.

If the Appropriate Body sees fit to impose any sanction other than suspension or

expulsion, it shall do so itself and on its own authority.

If the Appropriate Body (other than the Conduct Committee itself) sees fit to impose the sanctions of either suspension or expulsion, it must make a recommendation in writing to the Conduct Committee, setting out the evidence and reasons for their recommendation.

An Adjudicating Committee acting on behalf of the Conduct Committee may, on its own authority, impose any sanction it sees fit, including suspension and expulsion.

The Conduct Committee shall then:

1. impose the said penalty; or
2. decline to impose the said penalty and impose another penalty on its own authority.

All decisions shall be advised to the Grand Lodge.

Any Brother aggrieved by any finding made and/or penalty imposed pursuant to this Grand Lodge Law No. 32 may, at any time within one month of same, apply to the Conduct Committee for a review of his case. If the Conduct Committee sees fit, it may, on foot of such an application, arrange for an appeal and/or re-hearing of all or any such aspects of the case as it deems fit in accordance with the Conduct Committee Rules.

The Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master may if he thinks fit, in the case of any Brother subject to a misconduct charge, prohibit temporarily such a Brother from attendance at his own or any other Lodge under the Irish Constitution, or at Refreshment in connection therewith, pending investigation of the charge. In Overseas Provinces a like power may be exercised by the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy, but in such case, an immediate report must be made to the Grand Secretary. This prohibition must be reviewed after a period of 6 months should the case not be concluded.

33. If an Appropriate Body be appointed by the Conduct Committee to investigate and report upon any complaint, the Brother or Brethren who apply for such Committee, shall at the discretion of the Conduct Committee deposit a sum, as defined in the schedule of fees to the said Committee. The Appropriate Body shall have authority to apply the sum or so much thereof as shall be necessary in the discharge of the travelling expenses of the Committee; and the surplus, if any, shall be returned to the Brother or Brethren so depositing the same.
34. Any Lodge wilfully, recklessly or negligently transgressing or failing to observe any of the Laws or Regulations herein or hereafter to be prescribed, or being guilty of unmasonic conduct in any other respect, shall in addition to any fine or other penalty imposed for such a breach of any law or regulation, or such unmasonic conduct, be liable to be tried for such misconduct in such a manner as the Appropriate Body or Conduct Committee shall direct, and if found guilty, may have its Warrant suspended or cancelled as the Conduct Committee may direct. Each subscribing or actual member of such Lodge, at

the time of its having incurred either of these penalties, shall be under suspension, unless specifically exempted (See Grand Lodge Law No. 111), and shall not have the privilege of joining or visiting any other Lodge until his suspension is removed by the Conduct Committee on petition of the member so suspended. If the offence be deemed not to deserve the suspension or cancellation of the Warrant, the Conduct Committee may reprimand, fine or otherwise punish the Lodge.

In regard to the conduct of proceedings pursuant to this Grand Lodge Law No. 34, the Conduct Committee shall enjoy the power to set out such written rules and procedures as it sees fit for the handling of misconduct charges, such rules and procedures to strictly comply with all Laws and Regulations. These rules shall have the same effect as if they were Grand Lodge Laws and in any conflict between them and the Laws and Regulations herein, the Laws and Regulations herein shall apply.

For the purposes of all Laws, unmasonic conduct or misconduct means any actions or words which, by virtue of their incivility, discourtesy, dishonesty, violence or tendency to cause damage or offence to others, are inconsistent with Masonic values, objectives and principles and would tend to bring Masonry in general or the Grand Lodge of Ireland, any Provincial Grand Lodge, Subordinate Lodge or any Masonic entity, in particular, into disrepute.

35. If any Brother shall be found guilty of wilfully, recklessly or negligently transgressing or failing to observe any of the Laws and Regulations herein or hereafter to be prescribed, to be kept observed by individual Brethren, or of unmasonic conduct, the Brother so offending may be reprimanded, suspended (for a maximum of 3 years), expelled, subject to a pecuniary penalty or required to take such action as may be deemed necessary to remediate the consequences of his conduct as the Appropriate Body (as defined in Grand Lodge Law No. 32) shall direct. The Appropriate Body may also direct that a Brother sanctioned hereunder engage in or refrain from such future activities as are conducive to maintaining peace, love and harmony.

For the purposes of all Laws, unmasonic conduct or misconduct means any actions or words which, by virtue of their incivility, discourtesy, dishonesty, violence or tendency to cause damage or offence to others, are inconsistent with Masonic values, objectives and principles and would tend to bring Masonry in general or the Grand Lodge of Ireland, any Provincial Grand Lodge, Subordinate Lodge or any Masonic entity, in particular, into disrepute.

of the Grand Officers

36. The Grand Master and all the Grand Officers, except the Deputy Grand Master, the Assistant Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, Assistant Grand Secretary and the Grand Master's Standard Bearer, that is to say, the Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Grand Registrars, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Chaplains, Grand Deacons, Grand Superintendent of Works, Assistant Grand Treasurer, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Steward, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Lodge Stewards of Charities,

Grand Almoners, Grand Organist, Assistant Grand Organist, Grand Lodge Standard Bearer, Grand Inner Guard, Grand Medical Support Officers and Grand Information Officer shall be annually elected by the Grand Lodge.

37. A Grand Lodge Office or Appointment shall not be held, or be extended, beyond a period of ten years from date of Installation or Appointment, the foregoing rule being subject only to dispensation by the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master. This rule does not apply to paid Officers of Grand Lodge whose terms and conditions of employment shall remain as heretofore; nor shall it apply to Past Grand Officers, Honorary Past Grand Officers or Elected Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction.
38. The Grand Master shall, with the concurrence of Grand Lodge, have the power of conferring Honorary Past Grand Rank on such Grand Officers of other Jurisdictions in Masonic union with the Grand Lodge of Ireland as he shall consider worthy of this distinction, provided that such Honorary Rank shall not be higher than that which they enjoy or have enjoyed in their own Grand Lodge. The Grand Master with the concurrence of Grand Lodge shall also have the power of conferring Honorary Past Grand Rank upon such Past Masters of the Irish Constitution as may be considered worthy of the distinction; also of conferring the Honorary Rank of Past Master under the Irish Constitution on any Brother who has already Passed the Chair of Master in a Lodge under the Constitution of either England or Scotland or of any Sovereign Grand Lodge with which Grand Lodge is in amity.

In Overseas Districts where there is not a Provincial Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall have the power of conferring Overseas District Grand Rank upon such Past Masters of the Irish Constitution as may be considered worthy of the distinction.

Brethren on whom this honour has been conferred shall rank after Worshipful Past Provincial Grand Officers and they may wear Aprons and Collars similar to Past Provincial Grand Officers with a Jewel bearing the design; a trowel superimposed on a terrestrial globe.

39. A Brother shall not be eligible for election to any office in the Grand Lodge, unless he be a subscribing Past Master of a Subordinate Lodge, and a Master Mason of at least five years' standing.
40. A Grand Officer under the rank of Junior Grand Chaplain (excepting the Grand Superintendent of Works, Assistant Grand Treasurer, Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, the Grand Organist, the Assistant Grand Organist, Grand Medical Support Officers and the Grand Information Officer, the Grand Secretary for Instruction and the Assistant Grand Secretaries for Instruction) having held office for a period of one year shall not be eligible for election to the same or any inferior office until after the interval of at least three years, but the Offices of Grand Lodge Stewards of Charities and Grand Almoners may be held for a period of two years.
41. The Grand Master's Council shall have the privilege of nominating Brethren to hold

office in Grand Lodge, and the Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts; such nomination to be submitted to the Stated Communication of the Grand Lodge in June, together with a return showing the attendance of the Grand Deacons and Junior Grand Officers during the previous year; and at said Communication it shall be competent for any member of the Grand Lodge to propose any other qualified Brother or Brethren for any such office. If more than one Brother be proposed for any such office, the election shall be by ballot at the October Communication, otherwise those nominated by the Grand Master's Council shall be declared elected. This Law excludes any paid office of Grand Lodge.

42. The property and funds of the Grand Lodge of Ireland shall be vested either in not more than six Trustees who shall be members of Grand Lodge or solely in any trust corporation incorporated within Ireland of which all the directors and members are members of Grand Lodge. The Grand Master's Council shall appoint the Trustees subject to the approval of Grand Lodge. The said property and funds or any part thereof may from time to time be disposed of or dealt with by way of sale, mortgage, lease, investment or otherwise as the Grand Master's Council from time to time may direct and so that any person or persons or corporation holding any of the said property or funds on a Trust, whether express or implied, on behalf of the Grand Lodge shall carry out any such sale, mortgage, lease, investment, disposition or dealing in accordance with the directions given by the Grand Master's Council in connection with any such sale, mortgage, lease, investment, disposition or dealing.

Any Brother who has ceased to be a member of the Order, whether by retirement, resignation, expulsion or by any other cause whatsoever, shall thereupon cease to hold any office of Trustee or any other office within or in connection with the Order.

43. Personal canvassing for any of the Grand Offices is strictly forbidden, and any Brother proved to have been personally engaged therein shall thereupon be deemed ineligible for election to such Grand Office.
44. If a vacancy in any office in the Grand Lodge, save that of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Assistant Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Grand Registrar, Grand Secretary or Grand Superintendent of Works shall occur during the year, such office shall remain vacant until the ensuing annual election.
45. If the Grand Master shall decline to preside over the Fraternity, the Grand Master's Council shall recommend a suitably qualified Brother for the Office of Grand Master; such recommendation to be submitted to the Grand Lodge at its next Communication, at which Communication it shall be competent for any member of the Grand Lodge to propose any other qualified Brother, and in such case the election to such office shall be held at the ensuing Communication of the Grand Lodge.
46. The Grand Master shall, as his inherent right, nominate and appoint the Deputy Grand Master, who thereupon shall be proclaimed, saluted and installed in proper form. The Grand Master, in like manner, may appoint an Assistant Grand Master who thereupon shall be proclaimed, saluted and installed in proper form.

47. In the case of the demise of the Grand Master, or if from any cause the Grand Master be rendered permanently incapable of discharging the duties of his office, the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master, or in their absence the Senior Grand Officer who shall be available, shall forthwith summon a meeting of the Grand Master's Council to be followed by an Emergency Communication of the Grand Lodge, if deemed expedient, in order to elect a Grand Master; but until a Grand Master shall have been elected and installed, the Deputy Grand Master shall act as Grand Master, and shall have the powers and privileges of Grand Master.
48. The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master shall have authority to require the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary to attend them with their books whenever they shall respectively deem it necessary.
49. The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master have each full authority and right to preside in any Provincial Grand Lodge or Subordinate Lodge.
50. No communication should be made direct to the Grand Master, but to the Deputy Grand Master, through the Grand Secretary. In the case of the absence of the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary may forward such communications direct to the Grand Master.
51. A Committee chaired by the Deputy Grand Master shall following a selection process nominate for approval to the Grand Master's Council a suitable Brother for the post of Grand Secretary. The Grand Master's Council shall advise the Grand Lodge of the appointment.

of the Grand Master's Cabinet

52. The Grand Master's Cabinet shall consist of the following:
 - The Grand Master
 - The Deputy Grand Master
 - The Assistant Grand Master
 - The Grand Treasurer
 - The Grand Registrars
 - The Grand Secretary
 - The Grand Superintendent of Works
53. The Grand Master's Cabinet shall meet at least bi-monthly on dates and times as determined by the Grand Master.
54. The Grand Master will chair the Cabinet. In his absence the Deputy Grand Master, or in his absence the Assistant Grand Master.
55. Meetings of the Grand Master's Cabinet may be attended by third parties at the invitation of the Cabinet.
56. The Grand Master's Cabinet may appoint committees for specific purposes, who shall

report to the Cabinet on the subjects referred to them.

57. The key responsibilities of the Cabinet will include:

57.1 Planning, objectives and strategy

- making recommendations for the objectives and strategy of the Grand Lodge to the Grand Master's Council for its approval;
- optimising the allocation and adequacy of the resources of Grand Lodge; and
- the development of the Grand Lodge budgets and long term plan to be presented to the Grand Master's Council for its approval.

57.2 Operations and Performance

- oversight of the implementation of the objectives and strategy approved by the Grand Master's Council;
- the day-to-day management of the Grand Lodge in accordance with the approved objectives and strategy;
- monitoring performance against budgets and achievement of the long term plan approved by the Grand Lodge;
- facilitating active liaison, co-ordination and co-operation between the various functions and bodies within Freemasonry.

57.3 Internal control

- approving actions and agreements in line with responsibilities;
- to review, debate and form recommendations on relevant items before escalation to the Grand Master's Council and Grand Lodge;
- approving and, where necessary, reviewing (before their presentation to the Grand Master's Council) significant contracts and transactions;

57.4 People

- monitoring the staff requirements across Grand Lodge;
- reviewing staff development and succession planning;

of the Grand Master's Council

58. The Grand Master's Council shall consist of the following:

The Grand Master
The Deputy Grand Master
The Assistant Grand Master
The Grand Treasurer
The Grand Registrars
The Grand Secretary
The Provincial Grand Masters

59. The Grand Master's Council shall meet on the first Tuesday in the months of February, May and September and the last Tuesday in the month of November or such other dates as determined by the Grand Master.

60. The Grand Master's Council may appoint committees for specific purposes, who shall report to the Council on the subjects referred to them.
61. The Grand Master's Council shall at its first meeting in each year elect a committee of eight, one of whom shall be the Grand Treasurer *ex officio*, who shall be Chairman, to be termed the Finance Committee. Two shall form a quorum. They shall meet monthly, or as required, and their duty shall be to examine at each meeting the Accounts of Grand Lodge as shown by the Abstracts of Income and Expenditure and the Bank Statement. They shall from time to time report to and advise Grand Lodge upon questions of finance. All cheques drawn on the Grand Lodge account shall be signed by two of the signatories authorized by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee delegates the authority to make electronic fund transfers to at least two designated administrators.
62. The Accounts of Grand Lodge shall be audited each year by a Professional Accountant who shall be entitled to such fee as agreed with the Finance Committee. The appointment shall be made in conformity with Grand Lodge Laws No. 41 and 64.2. If the Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts shall die or resign or become incapable of carrying out the duties of the office before they shall have completed the audit of the Grand Lodge Accounts, the Grand Master's Council shall at its next meeting appoint a duly qualified replacement to audit or complete the audit of the Accounts as may be necessary.
63. The audited Accounts of Grand Lodge, signed by the Auditor, shall be presented by the Finance Committee to a meeting of the Grand Master's Council and after their review and approval shall be submitted to Grand Lodge at its meeting in March or June by a member of the Finance Committee. There shall be included in the Annual Report, a statement of the Income and Expenditure of the year and a statement showing all sums remaining due to Grand Lodge.
64. The duties of the Grand Master's Council shall be as follows:
- 64.1 To submit to the Grand Lodge at its Stated Communications, a correct list of all Lodges whose Warrants have been cancelled, suspended, surrendered, or restored since the last stated Communication.
- 64.2 To nominate Grand Officers in conformity with Grand Lodge Law No. 41, Trustees in conformity with Grand Lodge Law No. 39 and 41, and the Auditor of Grand Lodge Accounts, such nominations to be subject in every case to the approval of the Grand Lodge.
- 64.3 To agree the duties of the paid Officers of the Grand Lodge.
- 64.4 To supervise and control the management of the property and finances of Grand Lodge subject to any directions and decisions of Grand Lodge.
- 64.5 To recommend to Grand Lodge the name of a suitable Past Master to fill any vacancy which may occur in the representation of a Foreign Grand Lodge at the Grand Lodge of Ireland. The election shall take place at the next Stated Communication of the Grand Lodge, and the name be sent forward for approval

to the Foreign Grand Lodge. Provided always that three names be sent forward by the Grand Master's Council when any Foreign Grand Lodge shall require more than one name to be submitted, preserving, however, the existing right as to nomination for ballot.

65. All matters on which the Grand Master's Council shall have come to any decision shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting and submitted to the next Communication of the Grand Lodge.

of Provincial Grand Lodges - General Regulations

66. Each Provincial Grand Lodge shall consist of a Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Deputy Grand Master, Provincial Assistant Grand Master's (where such an Officer has been appointed in accordance with Grand Lodge Law No. 70), Provincial Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Provincial Grand Treasurer, Provincial Grand Secretary, Provincial Grand Deacons, and Provincial Grand Inner Guard, together with all Master Masons of each Subordinate Lodge in the Province. A Provincial Grand Chaplain and other Provincial Grand Officers may be appointed, taking precedence as in Grand Lodge, and also Provincial Grand Inspectors, in accordance with Grand Lodge Law No. 83. The Present and Past Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Deputy Grand Master and Provincial Assistant Grand Masters are styled "Right Worshipful"; Present or Past Provincial Grand Wardens, Treasurers, Registrars, Secretaries, Directors of Ceremonies or Chaplains, "Very Worshipful", and all other Provincial Grand Officers, "Worshipful".
67. Provincial Grand Lodge Offices or Appointments shall not be held, or be extended, beyond a period of ten years from date of Installation or Appointment, the foregoing rule being subject only to dispensation by the Provincial Grand Master, or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master. This rule does not apply to paid Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge whose terms and conditions of employment shall remain as heretofore; nor shall it apply to Past Provincial Grand Officers or Honorary Past Provincial Grand Officers.
68. The appointment of a Provincial Grand Master is the prerogative of the Grand Master; by whom a patent may be granted, during the pleasure of the Grand Master for the time being, to such Brother of eminence and ability, being a Past Master as may be thought worthy of the appointment. On the demise or resignation of the Grand Master, each Provincial Grand Master shall continue to discharge his functions until the pleasure of the succeeding Grand Master shall be declared.
69. The Provincial Grand Master when duly installed, is empowered to appoint as his Deputy a Past Master, being a subscribing member of some Lodge in the Masonic Province; and the Provincial Grand Master shall, within one month after such appointment shall have been made, cause the name of such Deputy to be transmitted to all the Lodges within his Masonic Province, and also to the Grand Secretary's office, in order that the appointment may be duly registered.
70. The Grand Master may authorise a Provincial Grand Master to appoint annually a Past

Master, who shall be a Subscribing Member of a Lodge in the Province, to act as Provincial Assistant Grand Master. If considered desirable the Provincial Grand Master may be authorised to appoint more than one such Assistant. The name of such Assistant or Assistants to be transmitted to all Lodges in the Province within one month of such appointment. Provincial Assistant Grand Masters in their own Province shall take precedence immediately after the Provincial Deputy Grand Master. In a Province where there is more than one Provincial Assistant Grand Master they shall take precedence among themselves in accordance with seniority of appointment. In the absence of the Provincial Grand Master or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master, a Provincial Assistant Grand Master may visit and preside in every Lodge within his Province.

71. All elective Provincial Grand Officers (who must be Past Masters, and also subscribing members of some Lodge in the Masonic Province), shall be annually elected by the Provincial Grand Lodge, and their names must be notified to the Grand Secretary's Office on or before the 20th November in each year, unless otherwise by agreement, for registration in the books of the Grand Lodge; provided always that this rule shall not apply to Provincial Grand Masters, Provincial Deputy Grand Masters or Provincial Assistant Grand Masters.
72. The Provincial Grand Master, or in his absence the Provincial Deputy Grand Master or in their absence the senior Provincial Assistant Grand Master, shall hold a Provincial Grand Lodge within his Masonic Province four times in each year; one in each quarter, for the despatch of business, and may convene Provincial Grand Lodges of Emergency whenever such may be deemed necessary. At each Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge the Chair shall be filled by the Provincial Grand Master, or in his absence by the Provincial Deputy Grand Master or in their absence the senior Provincial Assistant Grand Master, and in their absence by an Actual or Past Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge present who shall be next in order of precedence.

In Overseas Provinces a By-law may be introduced to permit a Provincial Grand Lodge to hold less than four, but not less than two, Stated Communications per annum.

73. Members attending, or Brethren visiting, a Provincial Grand Lodge shall appear in full Masonic clothing as required when attending the Grand Lodge.
74. The Provincial Grand Secretary shall summon the Provincial Grand Officers, and the Master and Wardens of each Lodge within the Province to attend each Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The Provincial Grand Secretary shall also send a notice to each Subordinate Lodge within the Province to be read in open Lodge.
75. The Provincial Grand Master or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master or the Provincial Assistant Grand Master, assisted by his Provincial Grand Lodge, shall have power to hear and determine all subjects of Masonic complaint or irregularity respecting Lodges or individual Brethren within the Province; and may proceed according to the Laws of the Craft, to reprimand, or fine; which decision in all such cases, shall be final, unless there be an appeal made therefrom to the Grand Lodge Conduct Committee within one month after such decision; provided always that when the case is of such a nature as to require

the suspension or cancellation of a Warrant, or the suspension or expulsion of a Brother, the Provincial Grand Lodge shall proceed in accordance with Grand Lodge Law No. 32.

76. If the Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Deputy Grand Master or the Provincial Assistant Grand Master shall neglect or decline to bring before the Provincial Grand Lodge any application or complaint on which its decision may be required, such application or complaint may be transmitted directly to the Grand Lodge.
77. The Provincial Grand Master, or in his absence, the Provincial Deputy Grand Master or a Provincial Assistant Grand Master, may visit and preside in every Lodge within his Province.
78. The Provincial Grand Lodge may summon any of, or all of, the Officers of any Lodge within its Province, or any individual member or members thereof, to attend and produce the Warrant, books, papers and accounts, or other documents of such Lodge. If the summons is not complied with, or sufficient reason not given for non-compliance, a peremptory summons shall be issued; and in case of non-compliance the Lodge or Brother shall be liable to a charge of unmasonic conduct, and the proceeding shall be notified to the Grand Lodge.
79. The Provincial Grand Master is responsible that the Provincial Grand Lodge does not at any time exceed its lawful powers; he shall therefore cause correct minutes to be kept of all its proceedings, and produce them to the Grand Lodge whenever required.

The Provincial Grand Master shall cause a certified copy of the Accounts of the Province, when audited, to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary no later than the 30th June each year.

The Provincial Grand Master shall confirm in writing to the Grand Secretary that a certified copy of the Balance Sheet of each Subordinate Lodge in his Province has been received by the Provincial Grand Treasurer no later than the 30th June each year.

80. The Provincial Grand Master shall, when required, transmit to the Grand Lodge an account, in writing, of the state of Masonry within his Masonic Province.
81. If the Provincial Grand Master should die, resign, or be removed, the authority of the Provincial Deputy Grand Master shall continue for a period of six months after such event, or until a successor to the Provincial Grand Master shall be appointed and installed. In case no appointment of a Provincial Grand Master shall have been made before the expiration of said period of six months, the Grand Master shall have power to extend the authority of the Provincial Deputy Grand Master or appoint some Brother, being a Past Master, to act as Provincial Grand Master pending the filling of the vacancy in the office of Provincial Grand Master.
82. Each Provincial Grand Lodge shall have the power of framing By-laws for its own government, including its Board of General Purposes, provided that such By-laws as well as any alteration that may be made therein, shall be first submitted to and approved by

the Grand Lodge By-laws Committee, and shall become valid and take effect only from the date of such approval. Two copies thereof, as approved, shall be lodged in the Grand Secretary's Office.

83. The Provincial Grand Master, with the concurrence of his Provincial Grand Lodge, shall have power to appoint Provincial Grand Inspectors. They shall rank immediately before the Provincial Grand Stewards, and their duties shall be to visit such Lodges in the Province as may be placed under their supervision, and to carry out such instructions as may be given by the Provincial Grand Master his Deputy or Assistants. They shall have power to call for and examine the minute book and other official books and documents belonging to the Lodge visited, and any refusal or neglect on the part of the Officers or Brethren having custody of same, to produce them after due notice, shall be reported to the Provincial Grand Lodge, which may thereupon proceed by admonition, reprimand, or fine against the Brother or Brethren so reported.
84. In each Provincial Grand Lodge within Ireland, the Provincial Grand Master is empowered, annually, at his discretion and option, to confer upon Brethren of worth and experience, who are members of a Lodge within his Province and have rendered distinguished service to the Craft and who fulfil the provisions of Grand Lodge Law No. 39, the Honorary Rank of Past Provincial Grand Officer. A Brother upon whom Honorary Past Provincial Grand Rank has been conferred under this Law, shall be entitled to wear the regalia of a Past Provincial Grand Lodge Officer of equivalent Rank. Brethren, on whom this honour has been conferred, shall rank after the holder and past holders of the Provincial Grand Rank to which they have been appointed.
 1. In any Province of 75 or more Lodges, four Honorary Past Provincial Grand Officers of whom one may be a Junior Warden, the other three of lesser Rank.
 2. In any Province of 30 or more Lodges but less than 75, two Honorary Past Provincial Grand Officers, of whom one may be a Junior Warden in each other year, the others to be of lesser Rank.
 3. In any Province of less than 30 Lodges, one Honorary Past Provincial Grand Officer of lesser rank than Junior Warden, but once in every five years the Rank may be Junior Warden.

Provincial Grand Lodges Overseas

85. In each Provincial Grand Lodge Overseas, the Provincial Grand Master is empowered, annually, at his discretion and option, to confer upon Brethren of worth and experience, who are members of a Lodge within his Province and have rendered distinguished service to the Craft and who fulfil the provisions of Grand Lodge Law No. 39, the Honorary Rank of Past Provincial Grand Officer. A Brother upon whom Honorary Past Provincial Grand Rank has been conferred under this Law, shall be entitled to wear the regalia of a Past Provincial Grand Lodge Officer of equivalent Rank. Brethren, on whom this honour has been conferred, shall rank after the holder and past holders of the Provincial Grand Rank to which they have been appointed.

1. In any Province with 30 or more Lodges, four Honorary Past Provincial Grand Officers, of whom one may be a Junior Warden, the other three of lesser Rank.
 2. In any Province with less than 30 Lodges, two Honorary Past Provincial Grand Officers below the Rank of Junior Warden, but once in every five years a Brother may be given the Honorary Rank Junior Warden.
86. A Provincial Grand Master of any Provincial Grand Lodge outside Ireland on the advice and with the consent of his Provincial Grand Lodge, may confer Honorary Membership of such Provincial Grand Lodge on such District or Provincial Grand Masters of recognised Sister Constitutions having Lodge meetings in his Province as he shall consider worthy of this distinction. He shall inform the Grand Master immediately such distinction has been conferred.
87. Provincial Grand Masters of Provincial Grand Lodges outside Ireland on the advice and with the consent of their Provincial Grand Lodges, may appoint District Grand Inspectors to represent them in country districts where such districts are very distant from the place where the Provincial Grand Lodge holds its Communications. Such District Grand Inspectors must be Past Masters and subscribing members to a Lodge in the District. They must be resident in the District for which they may be appointed.
88. The duty of such District Grand Inspector shall be to investigate all cases of Masonic irregularity which may arise in his district, and forward the evidence taken thereon, with his remarks, and a judicial statement of the matter in dispute to the Provincial Grand Master, whose instruction thereon he shall fully carry out. He is to transmit all applications for Warrants, Dispensations, and Certificates to the Provincial Grand Secretary, and shall, when required, report on the condition of Masonry within his District. He shall rank as the highest Officer within his District excepting the Provincial Grand Master, the Provincial Deputy Grand Master and the Provincial Assistant Grand Masters. His powers and authority shall be confined to the District for which he has been appointed.

In overseas Districts where there is no Provincial Grand Lodge, the Grand Master may, with the consent of Grand Lodge, appoint Grand Inspectors whose duties shall be similar in all respects to those of the Provincial District Grand Inspectors mentioned above, but who shall rank as the highest Officers in their own Districts, and as Grand Officers immediately after Past Provincial Grand Masters, such Grand Inspectors overseas may, with the approval of the Grand Master, appoint Assistant Grand Inspectors, who must be Past Masters and subscribing members to a Lodge in the locality for which they may be appointed.

of the Boards of General Purposes

89. Each Provincial Grand Lodge shall set up and establish a Board of General Purposes, consisting of Actual or Past Masters, for the respective Province; the constitution of each

such Board shall give such Representation thereon to the Lodges in the Province as shall be appointed by the respective Provincial Grand Lodges (subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge).

The duties of such Boards of General Purposes of Provincial Grand Lodges shall be to receive in the first instance and investigate all subjects of Masonic complaint or irregularity which may occur within their respective Province; and generally, to manage all Masonic affairs in their own Province. All cases involving the recommendation of expulsion or suspension of a Brother cancellation or suspension of a Warrant, shall be reported to the Conduct Committee.

The granting of a Warrant, the issue of Duplicate Certificates or Warrants, or appeals for funds outside their Province, and all such cases as are specifically provided for in Grand Lodge Laws shall, after investigation, be reported to the Grand Master's Council and finally to Grand Lodge.

The Provincial Grand Master shall be the Chairman of his Provincial Board of General Purposes, which shall adopt its own By-laws (subject to the approval of its Provincial Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge).

The Provincial Grand Secretary shall act as the Secretary of the Provincial Board of General Purposes.

of Committees of Inspection

90. At all Committees of Inspection, it is a breach of Masonic Duty on the part of any Brother present at any meeting of the Committee of Inspection, to disclose outside such Committee the name of any member in connection with any observations made at such meeting.
91. The Provincial and District Committees of Inspection shall function as per their By-laws and in accordance with such Regulations as shall be approved by Grand Lodge.

of the Grand Lodge Committee of Charity and the Charity Fund

92. The Charity Fund of Grand Lodge shall be applied to the relief of distressed Brethren or the widows or children of deceased Brethren, or deserted wives of Brethren, and shall be administered by a Committee of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Assistant Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer, the Grand Registrars and the Grand Secretary.
93. Every Lodge shall pay to the Charity Fund an annual sum as defined in the schedule of fees. All collections in Grand Lodge shall be carried to the credit of the same Fund, unless otherwise agreed by Grand Lodge. The accounts of the Charity Fund shall be kept separately from all other accounts, and shall be presented annually to the Grand Lodge.

94. No portion of the Charity Fund shall be disbursed without an order from the Grand Lodge or from the Committee of Charity, signed by a member of the Committee for the time being, except in cases of urgent distress, to meet which, funds to the extent as defined in the schedule of fees shall be left in the Grand Secretary's hands, to be used by him at his discretion, and to be accounted for by him at each meeting of the Committee.
95. All applications for relief must be by written or printed petition stating the name, occupation, residence and present circumstances of the petitioner; and in the case of a Brother, the number of the Lodge in which he was Initiated, and of any other Lodge to which he may have been affiliated. The applicant must sign the petition unless unable to do so through incapacity, whether physical or mental.
96. To every petition shall be appended a recommendation from the Lodge to which the applicant does or did belong (or in the case of a deceased Brother's widow or child or of a deserted wife, the Lodge to which the husband or father belonged or belongs), or from a Lodge meeting in the immediate neighbourhood of the applicant's residence.

Such recommendations shall be signed by the Master, Secretary and Almoner on behalf of the Lodge. A visit shall have been paid to the applicant at his or her residence by the Almoner or some Brother deputed by him, and the result of his enquiries shall have been reported to the Master, Secretary and Almoner. A written report must be forwarded with the petition to the Committee.

97. Except in accordance with a special resolution of the Grand Lodge, no Brother under the Irish Constitution nor his deserted wife, shall be entitled to relief unless he shall have been a subscribing Master Mason for three years; nor shall the widow or children of a deceased Brother be relieved unless the deceased shall himself have been entitled to relief, or have been a subscribing member up to the time of his death.
98. A Brother, his deserted wife or the widow or child of a deceased Brother, who has been relieved by the Committee, shall not be again relieved until after the expiration of one year from the date of the last grant unless some new and unexpected circumstance, to be stated in the petition, shall have arisen to warrant a new grant within that time; nor shall the deserted wife of a Brother or the widow or child of a deceased Brother be relieved more than three times, except in accordance with a special resolution of the Grand Lodge.
99. All petitions for relief must be lodged in the Grand Secretary's Office. The Grand Secretary, or his assistant, shall examine the same and report thereon, and shall act generally as Secretary of the Grand Lodge Committee of Charity.
100. In such cases as shall have complied with the foregoing rules, the Committee of Charity shall have power to grant a sum as defined in the schedule of fees, and if any such case shall appear exceptionally deserving the Committee shall have power to grant a further sum, subject to confirmation by the Grand Lodge at its next ensuing Communication.

101. Brethren under the Constitution of the Grand Lodges of England or Scotland, as well as Brethren of all other recognised Grand Lodges, may be relieved on the production of their Grand Lodge Certificates or other satisfactory credentials together with proof of their identity.

of Subordinate Lodges

102. The Grand Master's Lodge is to be governed as heretofore by the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master or the Assistant Grand Master, and in their absence by the Senior Officer present. Membership of the Grand Master's Lodge shall be by invitation of the Grand Master.
103. A Lodge shall not be assembled without a Warrant or authority from the Grand Lodge, nor shall any individual be acknowledged or received as a Freemason who has not been Initiated in a regular Lodge. Such Warrant must be evident at every Communication of the Lodge, whether Stated or Emergency.
104. Warrants are issued to a particular location and cannot be removed therefrom except where a Lodge wishes to hold a meeting in the Headquarters of Irish Freemasonry at Freemasons' Hall, Dublin. For the avoidance of doubt, this prohibition on the removal of a Warrant includes, in particular, the 'travelling' of a Warrant to any location outside the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The temporary removal of a Warrant is permitted where a dispensation has been granted by the Provincial Grand Master. A temporary Warrant will be issued by the Provincial Grand Lodge.

105. Every application for a new Warrant shall, where practical, have the recommendation of three regular Lodges meeting in the neighbourhood where it is proposed that the new Lodge shall be held, and also of the Provincial Grand Lodge, or of the Provincial Grand Master, or his Deputy, if there be such Officers within the area from which the memorial shall have been sent; the Grand Lodge having the power, if it should think fit, to dispense with any of the foregoing recommendations.

A Lodge must not be named after living individuals.

106. A Brother who signs the Memorial for a New Warrant and does not withdraw his name before the Constitution of the Lodge, or offer a sufficient reason for his failure to withdraw his name, is deemed to be a Founder-member of the Lodge and therefore liable for dues from the date of Constitution.
107. When a memorial for a Warrant, to be held in any of the Masonic Provinces, shall have been forwarded to the Grand Secretary's Office without the recommendation of the Provincial Grand Lodge, notice of the receipt of such memorial shall, prior to its being submitted to the Grand Master's Council, be sent to the Provincial Grand Secretary of such Province.

108. The cost of each Warrant for a Lodge shall be as defined in the schedule of fees which must be deposited with the Grand Secretary before the application for such Warrant can be taken into consideration. This sum shall defray all charges for the registry of the Warrant of the new Lodge, and for a copy of the Book of Laws and Constitutions.
109. The Grand Secretary shall not issue any Warrant without having received the fee, as per the schedule of fees.
110. If the Warrant of any Lodge be purchased or procured by any other means than the regular permission of the Grand Lodge, such Warrant shall be cancelled; and all acts done under such Warrant, after the same was irregularly obtained, shall be void and the fine applied as per the schedule of fees.
111. If any Lodge be suspended, or have its Warrant cancelled by order of the Grand Lodge, each subscribing member of such Lodge, at the time of its having incurred such penalty, except such member or members as shall be specially exempted by name in such order, shall be considered as under suspension, and shall not be allowed to visit or join any other Lodge, at labour or refreshment, until his suspension shall have been removed by order of the Grand Lodge, obtained on the application of the member so suspended.
112. On satisfactory evidence that a Warrant has been lost or destroyed, the Grand Lodge may grant a duplicate on payment of a fee as defined in the schedule of fees; but a Warrant called in by order of the Grand Lodge shall forthwith be forwarded to the Grand Secretary's Office, and marked null and void.
113. A Lodge shall not assemble in any licensed premises or other place, unless such place of meeting be first approved of by the Grand Lodge or if situated within a Masonic Province by the Provincial Grand Lodge.
114. A Lodge shall not be permanently removed from its usual place of meeting until a month's notice of the proposition for such removal shall have been given in open Lodge, which proposition must be approved of by a majority of the members present at a Communication which shall be summoned by the Secretary for that special purpose, at least one week before such Communication shall be held; such removal must also have the recommendation of the Provincial Grand Lodge, or the Provincial Grand Master, or his Deputy and must be recorded by the Grand Secretary's Office.
115. The Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master shall have the power to vary the place and time of meetings of all Lodges should circumstances render it desirable.

The Provincial Grand Master, or his Deputy shall have the power to vary the place and time of meetings of all Lodges in their respective Province, should circumstances render it desirable.

116. It is the Masonic duty of those Lodges who are the owners of Halls, and of the Trustees in which the Halls are vested, to afford all accommodation reasonably required by other

Lodges or Masonic Bodies recognised by Grand Lodge, and that they should obey the directions in these respects of Grand Lodge or the Provincial Grand Lodge in each Masonic Province with a right in the latter case to appeal to Grand Lodge against any direction of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

117. A Lodge, wherever held, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, shall not meet for labour on Sunday.
118. A Lodge of Emergency may, at any time, be called by the authority of the Master, but not otherwise. The business to be transacted at such Lodge of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business shall be entered on at that Communication.
119. A Brother shall not be eligible to hold any Office in his Lodge, or to vote therein on any question, until he shall have obtained the Third Degree.
120. The ordinary Officers of a Lodge are: The Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, Steward of Charities, Almoner, Chaplain, Senior and Junior Deacons and Inner Guard who must be subscribing members of the Lodge. A Lodge may also have an Assistant Treasurer, an Assistant Secretary, an Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Stewards and an Organist or Organists, but these Brethren shall not be deemed Officers of the Lodge. The Director of Ceremonies must be a Past Master save in the exception contained in Grand Lodge Law No. 124 in regard to the Secretary of a subordinate Lodge, which shall also apply to a Director of Ceremonies. A Brother shall not hold the position of Secretary whilst serving as Master or Warden, but the Offices of Treasurer and Secretary may be filled by the same Brother. There may also be a Tyler who shall not, however, be deemed an Officer of the Lodge. A Brother shall not be paid as Tyler to his own Lodge.
121. A Brother shall not be elected to hold the Office of Master of a Lodge unless he shall have served the Office of Warden in some Lodge under the Irish Constitution, nor shall he hold the Office of Master of a Lodge oftener than twice consecutively, nor shall any Brother be competent to hold any of the three Principal Offices, or the Office of Secretary in more than one Lodge at the same time; provided, however, that the Grand Master's Council shall have power to dispense with any part of this Law.
122. All Lodges shall elect their Officers prior to the 31st of October in each year, and shall without delay register their Officers for the ensuing year. The names of the said Officers shall be submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge at its Stated Communication on St. John's Day. No subordinate Lodge in Ireland shall, under any circumstances, install its Officers prior to St. John's Day, 27th December, nor prior to registering their Officers as required by Grand Lodge Law No. 157, nor prior to paying all Fees and Fines due to the Grand Lodge at the date of such return, nor prior to receiving the approval of Grand Lodge from the Grand Secretary.
123. Lodges meeting outside Ireland, that are designated Southern Hemisphere in the Grand Lodge records, shall elect their Officers on or before the 30th April in each year, and shall

without delay register their Officers for the ensuing year. The names of the said Officers shall be submitted for the approval of Grand Lodge at its Stated Communication on the first Thursday in June. No subordinate Lodges meeting outside Ireland shall, under any circumstances, install their Officers until they shall have received confirmation from the Grand Secretary, or the Provincial Grand Secretary, that such Officers have been approved.

In the case of Lodges meeting outside Ireland within the jurisdiction of a Provincial Grand Lodge, and following confirmation from Grand Lodge that all are qualified, the names of Officers duly elected shall be submitted to the Provincial Grand Secretary and he will, in turn, submit them to the Board of General Purposes of the Provincial Grand Lodge. No subordinate Lodges meeting outside Ireland within the jurisdiction of a Provincial Grand Lodge shall, under any circumstances, install their Officers until they shall have received confirmation from the Grand Secretary, or the Provincial Grand Secretary, that such Officers have been approved.

The Grand Lodge recommends that a Brother should not be elected to the Office of Master who is not capable of properly conferring the Degrees of Craft Masonry.

124. In every Lodge a Past Master shall be appointed Secretary, who shall keep a book in which he shall enter all the transactions of the Lodge, according to the form appended to these Laws, or as near thereto as circumstances will permit. The Grand Secretary's Office may, upon fit cause being shown, give permission to any Lodge to elect to the office of Secretary a Brother below the rank of Past Master, provided that in the case of a Lodge meeting within a Masonic Province such permission shall only be granted upon the recommendation of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the Provincial Grand Master, or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master. It is not permissible for a Lodge Secretary to be paid.
125. All communications from and to the Grand Lodge of Ireland, a Provincial Grand Lodge or a Subordinate Lodge, shall be read in open Lodge and entered in the minutes. Correspondence should be read as follows; Grand Lodge of Ireland, a Provincial Grand Lodge, then all other correspondence.
126. A Communication of a Lodge shall not be regular unless an Actual or Past Master be present at the opening and during the Communication of the Lodge. In the absence of the Worshipful Master, a Past Master of the Lodge, or Actual or Past Master of any other Lodge must occupy the Chair.
127. Three Master Masons (one of whom must be an Acting or Past Master) may hold a Warrant. This does not refer to a case where the majority of the members of a Lodge desire to return the Warrant to Grand Lodge. Five may hold a meeting and transact ordinary business including the reading of the minutes. At least seven must be present at the conferring of a Degree. Of this minimum number of seven, in the First Degree, all need not be Master Masons, in the Second Degree all must be at least Fellow Crafts and in the Third Degree all must be Master Masons.
128. In case the Worshipful Master of any Lodge shall during his term of office die or be

removed, or become incapable of discharging the duties of his office, then the immediate Past Master, or in case of his absence or incapacity, the Senior Past Master (such immediate or senior Past Master being a subscribing member of the Lodge) shall rule the Lodge until the next election of Officers, and the installation of the newly elected Master.

In case the Worshipful Master is absent due to change of residence or of employment or some such cause, the Worshipful Master should appoint a substitute, but may do so for one meeting only, and that a renewal of the appointment or a fresh appointment must be made for each separate meeting of the Lodge at which the Worshipful Master is unable to be present, to hold good for that meeting only.

A Worshipful Master cannot resign his Office and remain a member of the Lodge.

129. When attending a funeral of a Brother, it is permissible for one Brother, representing all those present, to cast a sprig of acacia into the grave, providing that permission had first been sought and given by the widow or close family of the deceased Brother.
130. New Candidates: Every subscribing Master Mason has an inherent right to propose in open Lodge a Candidate for admission to his Lodge, after which the Lodge may refer the name to a Committee of Scrutineers for enquiry and report, but this must be after and not before the actual proposal.

A person shall not be balloted for in any Lodge unless he shall have been duly proposed and seconded in open Lodge, and seven days at least shall elapse between the day of proposal and the meeting for ballot; the day either of proposal or of ballot must be a Stated Communication of the Lodge. The summons for ballot shall notify the name, profession or occupation, and residence of the candidate; also, the names of the proposer and seconder, and shall be sent to every member of the Lodge at least three days previous to the ballot. If a Committee of Scrutineers has been appointed, then they will report their findings prior to the Ballot.

131. It is a fundamental right of every subscribing Master Mason to be able to express, by the ballot, his unbiased opinion on the desirability, or otherwise of admitting a new member, and after the ballot has been declared no discussion shall be allowed respecting the reason which may have actuated any member in casting his vote, and no attempt should be made directly or indirectly to ascertain how any individual voted.
132. If the ballot is clear (Refer to Grand Lodge Law No. 145) then the candidates details should be forwarded to the local Committee of Inspection, if one exists, for their approval. If a Committee of Inspection does not exist in the Province then the candidates name should be forwarded to the Provincial Grand Lodge for them to enquire as to the suitability of the candidate for Freemasonry. In either case if a satisfactory reply is received from the Inspection Committee or Provincial Grand Lodge then the Lodge should proceed to initiate the candidate.

The candidate must not be advised that the ballot was clear until final approval has been

given by the Committee of Inspection or the Provincial Grand Lodge as set out in Grand Lodge Law No. 91.

In the case of an adverse ballot, the Worshipful Master, if he has any reason to believe that a mistake has been made, may order a fresh ballot.

133. If the candidate lives outside the local area within which the Lodge meets (local Committee of Inspection where one exists) then the Lodge shall proceed as directed by Grand Lodge Law No. 130 until the ballot is complete. Upon a satisfactory result from the ballot the Lodge shall forward an enquiry, as to his suitability for Freemasonry, to a Committee of Inspection within the candidates home area, if one exists. If no Committee of Inspection exists in the candidate's home area then enquiries should be made to one or more Lodges in the candidates home area or to the Provincial Grand Lodge as appropriate. Upon a satisfactory reply from one of the foregoing then the Lodge will proceed as directed by Grand Lodge Law No. 132.
134. When a Lodge receives similar inquiries respecting the character of a local resident proposed elsewhere, the reply which must be the result of discussion in open Lodge, should deal solely with his suitability as a member of the Fraternity at large, and not with his eligibility for admission to that particular Lodge.

Lodges under the Constitution of this Grand Lodge shall not Initiate any Candidate whose usual place of residence or domicile is in England or Scotland, or in any place where the United Grand Lodge of England or the Grand Lodge of Scotland has exclusive Masonic Jurisdiction, without first making all enquiries and obtaining the special permission of the Grand Lodge concerned. This Law shall not apply to members of any University where there is a Lodge confined to members of that University.

Residents outside the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland who may return to their native town or district on a temporary visit are not eligible for initiation there until enquiries shall have been made by the Grand Secretary from the Grand Lodge having jurisdiction over the neighbourhood of the Candidate's permanent residence.

A Candidate for initiation rejected by a Lodge shall not be again proposed in the same Lodge until after the lapse of at least six months.

The home address of any member of the Security Forces shall not appear on any circular, but his address, the branch of the Security Forces to which he belongs and his place of employment must be submitted on the form sent to the Committee of Inspection.

A candidate may not be balloted for, who has not at least twelve months residence within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

135. A Military Lodge, under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, shall not Initiate any civilian anywhere if a lawfully constituted Lodge exists within ten miles of the place where such civilian resides, or where such Military Lodge then meets. A Lodge of

civilians shall not Initiate any military man below the rank of a commissioned officer, where there is a Warranted Lodge in the Regiment or Garrison to which such military man belongs; nor shall a Regimental Lodge Initiate any military man not belonging to the Regiment if there is a Garrison Lodge in the locality where the Candidate is stationed, or where such a Regimental Lodge then meets. Any Lodge violating this Law shall have its Warrant cancelled or suspended, or shall be fined a fee as defined in the schedule of fees, as the Grand Lodge may see fit.

136. A Lodge shall not Initiate any person until he shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, unless by Dispensation from the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master or, where a Lodge meets outside Ireland, from the Provincial Grand Master or his Deputy or from the Grand Inspector where one exists.
137. If a candidate proposed for admission be in any physical manner maimed, lame or defective he shall not require dispensation; for, in symbolic Masonry, it is his moral worth, not physical integrity, that justifies his admission.
138. Re-joining Candidate/Lapsed Membership: A Brother lapsing from membership, for any reason, whether by resignation, or by being struck off the roll for non-payment of dues shall not be permitted to re-join until he has produced his Grand Lodge Certificate, and also, when possible, a Clearance Certificate or Demit from the last Lodge of which he had been a member, from which Lodge a recommendation of him as a joining Brother must be requested and obtained; and read in open Lodge prior to ballot. He must then be proposed, seconded, balloted for and cleared by the appropriate Committee of Inspection or Provincial Grand Lodge as per Grand Lodge Law No. 132. When the foregoing is satisfactorily completed, he may be invited to join the Lodge.
139. Affiliations: A Brother wishing to affiliate to a Lodge must be a subscribing member of another Lodge under the Irish Constitution. He shall not be balloted for until due enquiry shall have been made and a satisfactory reply received from such Lodge, which shall be read in open Lodge before ballot. Any Lodge knowingly affiliating a Brother who is in arrears of dues in another Lodge shall be held liable for such arrears.

A Brother shall not be balloted for affiliation in any Lodge unless he shall have been duly proposed and seconded in open Lodge, and seven days at least shall elapse between the day of proposal and the meeting for ballot; the day either of proposal or of ballot must be a Stated Communication of the Lodge. The summons for ballot shall notify the name, profession or occupation, and residence of the candidate; also, the names of the proposer and seconder, and shall be sent to every member of the Lodge at least three days previous to the ballot. It is not necessary to submit the name of a Brother affiliating from a Lodge under the Irish Constitution to a Committee of Inspection.

140. Affiliations or joining from another Constitution: A Lodge wishing to affiliate or admit a Brother who is, or was, a member of a Lodge under another Constitution, which must be recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, must first seek approval, via the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, from the Grand Lodge of which the Lodge is a member. This permission must indicate that the Brother is in good standing with the

Lodge or left the Lodge in good standing.

When confirmation has been received, via the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, then the process as outlined in Grand Lodge Law No. 132 must be followed as if the Brother was a joining member.

141. Candidates from Grand Lodges not recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland are not eligible for affiliation, and must be Initiated, Passed and Raised under the Irish Constitution. This means that they must be treated as new joining members.
142. If a Brother seeks affiliation from a Constitution that has been suppressed or which has ceased to work, but which was in Amity and exchanged Representatives with the Grand Lodge of Ireland up to the time of its suppression or cessation, he must produce his Certificate or a document corresponding thereto, showing that he was a Mason in good standing before the suppression or cessation of the Constitution under which he was Initiated, and the Lodge to which he wishes to affiliate must make all possible enquiries about him. The result of these enquiries must be sent to the Grand Secretary, and the Brother concerned shall not be balloted for until the permission of the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master or the Assistant Grand Master shall have been given.
143. Honorary Membership: A Lodge may elect as Honorary Members Brethren of eminence or distinction in the Craft, or who may have rendered special service to the Lodge. Such Brethren may be of the Irish Constitution, or any other Constitution recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Such Honorary Members shall not be eligible to hold office in the Lodge, or to vote on any question before the Lodge; nor shall any Lodge confer Honorary Membership on one of its own members. The Brother in question must be a subscribing member of another Craft Lodge. The Brother must be proposed and seconded in open Lodge and seven days at least shall elapse between the day of proposal and the meeting for ballot; the day either of proposal or of ballot must be a Stated Communication of the Lodge.

No annual fee shall be payable to Grand Lodge in respect of such Honorary Members, their election shall be on the same terms as affiliates, and the Provisions of Grand Lodge Law No. 139 regarding exclusion shall also apply to them. Should the Brother cease to be a subscribing member of any Lodge his Honorary membership shall be discontinued.

An Honorary Member of a Lodge desiring to become a Member of the Lodge must be proposed, seconded and balloted for in accordance with Grand Lodge Law No. 139.

144. Emeritus Membership: Where a Brother may have rendered signal service to his Lodge, or there are special personal circumstances to justify it, a Lodge may elect a Brother, being a subscribing member of the Lodge, to the dignity of Emeritus Member. Such Emeritus Member shall not be eligible to pay annual dues to his Lodge; but the Lodge will be responsible for paying his Grand Lodge dues and Provincial Grand Lodge dues, if any, annually on his behalf. An Emeritus Member, is not debarred from membership of other Branches of the Order; and he shall retain full rights as theretofore, to hold Office, to propose motions and vote on any question before the Lodge.

145. Balloting: Balloting must in all cases be with beans, one black bean to exclude, except in the case of Brethren already members of the Craft seeking Affiliation, when admission shall be according to the By-laws of the Lodge; if a Lodge has no By-law on the subject, the election must be unanimous. In every case the proposer or seconder must be present at the ballot; At a ballot for Candidates all subscribing members of a Lodge present at the ballot must vote, even if in arrear of dues, provided they have attained the rank of Master Mason. On all other subjects members may refrain from voting if they so desire.

If, upon taking a ballot for a Candidate, the number of beans in the box does not coincide with that of the members present who are entitled to vote, the ballot is void, and it may be held again immediately, or at a subsequent meeting. In the event of an adverse ballot, it must be borne clearly in mind that the Worshipful Master of a Lodge should have some substantial reason for supposing a mistake to have been made in the first ballot before ordering a second to be taken.

It is a fundamental right of every member to be able to express, by the ballot, his unbiased opinion on the desirability, or otherwise of admitting a new member, and after the ballot has been declared no discussion shall be allowed respecting the reason which may have actuated any member in casting his vote, and no attempt should be made directly or indirectly to ascertain how any individual voted.

146. If there be more than one Candidate for initiation, affiliation or rejoining, then separate ballots must be held, unless the ballot box makes provision for multiple ballots in separate compartments.
147. Any Subordinate Lodge on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland may confer any Degree upon a Candidate who has been elected a member of another Lodge of the Irish Constitution, upon receipt of a written request to do so, signed by the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Secretary of the Lodge of the Candidate on whose behalf the favour is sought and having the Lodge Seal affixed, accompanied by a statement that all the provisions of the Constitution applicable to the case have been complied with.

Any Subordinate Lodge on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland may, as a favour and without affiliation or entrance fee, Pass or Raise any Candidate from England, Scotland, or any other Masonic Jurisdiction having a Grand Lodge recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland, upon receipt of a written request from the Lodge of which the Candidate is a member, countersigned by the Grand Secretary or other appropriate Officer of the Grand Lodge to whose Jurisdiction it owes allegiance, and forwarded by him in the first instance to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland for transmission to the Lodge by which the Degree, or Degrees, are to be conferred. The fact that any Degree has been so conferred shall be reported to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland who shall report in due course to the Lodge of which the Candidate is a member and to the Grand Lodge of the Masonic Jurisdiction to which the Lodge belongs, from which Grand Lodge alone the Certificate of the Degree, or Degrees, shall be issued.

A Candidate for initiation to a Lodge belonging to any Masonic Jurisdiction other than that of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, may not be Initiated in any Lodge working under a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

148. The Minimum Fees for initiation shall be as defined in the schedule of fees.

In every case, no dues or charges whatever may be included in the fee chargeable under the By-laws of a Lodge for Initiation. The fees must be paid in full before the initiation of the Candidate; and a Lodge shall not on any pretence remit, repay, refund, receive by instalment or in any way defer payments of the whole or any part of the foregoing fees.

Unless special provision is made to the contrary in the By-laws, a newly-elected Brother is not liable for Lodge dues until the period when dues next become payable by members as fixed by the By-laws; for example, a Candidate joining a Lodge whose By-laws provide for the quarterly payment of dues in advance, will not be liable to pay dues until the first day of a quarter following his admission.

For any breach of this Law, a Lodge shall be subject to a fine as defined in the schedule of fees, and to such further penalty as Grand Lodge may determine.

149. Every Brother shall, on his admission as a member, sign a declaration, pledging himself to observe the By-laws for the time being in force in the Lodge, and shall be furnished with a printed copy of such By-laws.

Every Brother seeking Affiliation from a Lodge not on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland shall, on his admission as a member, sign in open Lodge a declaration pledging himself to observe the Laws, Regulations and Usages of Grand Lodge and shall also be furnished with a printed copy of the By-laws of the Lodge.

150. Candidates and Degrees

150.1 A Lodge shall not Initiate a Candidate on the day on which he shall be balloted for, except by Dispensation from the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master, or the Provincial Grand Master or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master, or from the Grand Inspector where one exists, nor shall a Lodge on any pretence confer more than one Degree on the same person on the same day.

150.2 The First Degree should normally be conferred on only one Candidate at a time, but if it should be imperative that the Degree be conferred on more than one Candidate at the same Communication, each Candidate must be received and obligated and instructed in the Secrets of the Degree after which he must be invested and saluted in accordance with ancient custom. It is permissible to omit any explanations until the second (or third) Candidate has been obligated when the explanation of the various points may be given to both, or all, together.

When the First Degree is to be conferred, the Degree shall take precedence over

all other business.

The Second Degree may be conferred on not more than three Candidates at the same time.

The Third Degree can only be conferred on one Candidate at a time and must be conferred in its entirety.

Not more than three Candidates may receive Degrees at any one Communication.

- 150.3 Twenty-four weeks at least shall intervene between the conferring of the First Degree and the Third Degree. In exceptional circumstances, dispensation from the Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master, or the Assistant Grand Master, or the Provincial Grand Master or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master, or the Grand Inspector where one exists, shall have been previously obtained by the Lodge, authorising the conferring of the said Degrees, within a shorter time than the said period of twenty-four weeks.

All applications for such Dispensations must give good and sufficient reasons for granting same, and must be signed by the Master and Secretary of the Lodge.

- 150.4 In case of Military Brethren, who, owing to the exigencies of the Service, may be required on short notice to remove from the locality of their respective Lodges, an interval of one week between each Degree shall be deemed sufficient, but the circumstances justifying such exception must be forthwith notified to the Grand Secretary.

- 150.5 In Lodges abroad, not under the superintendence of a Provincial Grand Lodge or a Grand Inspector, an interval of one week between each Degree may be held sufficient in the case of Candidates who produce evidence of exigencies of time or distance analogous to those of Military Service, but the circumstances justifying such exception must be deemed satisfactory by resolution of the Lodge and must be forthwith notified to the Grand Secretary's Office.

- 150.6 It occasionally happens that a Candidate duly elected by a Lodge fails to present himself for Initiation within a reasonable time, (twelve months or more). His election should be regarded as void and a fresh ballot must be taken.

Any Lodge violating this Law, or any clause thereof, shall be liable to a fine as defined in the schedule of fees, or to have its Warrant suspended.

151. A Lodge shall not Initiate, Pass or Raise any one admitted into, or belonging to another Lodge, unless on the written requisition of such Lodge, signed by the Master, Wardens and Secretary thereof, and having the Lodge Seal affixed.

152. A visiting Brother shall not be permitted to be present at the opening of any Lodge unless

vouched; nor shall he be entitled to admission thereto during the time of labour or refreshment unless vouched or otherwise qualified to the satisfaction of the Master, nor until he has, if required, produced his Grand Lodge Certificate. The Master shall have power to refuse admission to any visiting Brother whose admission would, in his opinion, disturb the harmony of the Lodge. A visitor shall not be entitled to vote or take part in any discussion, nor to be present at refreshment of a Lodge unless invited.

If the Master knows, or has reason to anticipate, that a Brother whose admission he would feel bound to refuse, will or may seek admission, the Master (in order to obviate the unpleasantness of a refusal in Open Lodge) has power to give the necessary instructions to the Tyler in advance.

Visiting: No Brother unless he has received the Degree of Master Mason shall visit a Lodge if unvouched nor shall he claim to be examined. Brethren of the rank of Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft, if vouched, may by permission of the Worshipful Master as in all other cases be present whilst the Lodge is at Labour on the Degrees which they have received.

Examination: No unvouched visitor claiming to be a Freemason shall be examined before being admitted to a Lodge, until he has satisfied the examiners that the Lodge of which he claims to be a member is warranted by a Grand Lodge which is in amity with and recognised by the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Unvouched Visitors: The Worshipful Master of a Lodge may at his discretion refuse to examine an unvouched Worshipful Master or Past Master, at the Ceremony of Installation of Officers, and may request him to retire.

153. Any Lodge knowingly permitting a person to be present at any of its Communications who has not been Initiated in a regular Lodge, or who is disqualified by being suspended, expelled and not a subscribing member of a Lodge subverts the Landmarks of Freemasonry, and the Warrant of any Lodge so offending shall be suspended or cancelled, and the offending members thereof punished at the discretion of the Conduct Committee.
154. Any Brother who shall knowingly or wilfully be present or assist at any irregular meeting of a Lodge, shall be disciplined as the Appropriate Body or Conduct Committee may deem expedient.
155. If any Brother shall disturb the harmony of a Lodge, he shall be admonished by the Master, and if he persists in his irregular conduct shall be punished according to the By-laws of the Lodge, or the case may be reported to the Appropriate Body or Conduct Committee for adjudication.
156. Every Lodge meeting within Ireland shall pay to the Grand Lodge for each subscribing member a fee as defined in the schedule of fees, of which an amount as defined in the schedule of fees shall be applied to the Grand Lodge Loan and Grant Fund. In the case of affiliate members the sum shall be as defined in the schedule of fees so long as such

affiliate members continue to be paid for at the full rate in another Lodge. In Lodges meeting outside Ireland, the subscriptions shall be as defined in the schedule of fees.

157. Every Lodge shall keep the records of its members up to date on the Client Relationship Management System. Access to the Client Relationship Management System will be provided by the Grand Secretary's Office to the Lodge Secretary or Designated person. Records to be kept up-to-date will be directed by the Grand Secretary's Office.

The Lodge Secretary or Designated person shall ensure that all records are kept up-to-date. Census day will be the 31st December in each year and dues will be charged as per the membership records at that date.

The Lodge Secretary or Designated person shall ensure that the Registration of Officers for the ensuing year shall be completed on or before the 30th November in each year; and at the same time all moneys outstanding to the Grand Lodge shall be forwarded. No Lodge shall install its Officers until they are approved by Grand Lodge.

Any Lodge failing to keep the records of its members up to date and register its officers in strict conformity with this Law shall be liable to a fine as defined in the schedule of fees.

158. If any Lodge shall not have been opened for labour during one year, or if its subscribing members shall be less than five, its Warrant shall be suspended, and the Master, or other Brother in whose possession or custody said Warrant may be, shall be called upon to deliver up same. Any Brother retaining a Warrant after it has been called in by the Grand Lodge shall be liable to suspension.
159. No memorial, recommendation, or other application shall be accepted from any Lodge which has not kept the records of its members up to date and registered its Officers according to the foregoing Laws.
160. Every Brother affiliated to any Lodge must be registered as such in the Register of the Grand Lodge. Every Brother affiliating from a Lodge not on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland shall, on submission of his signed declaration, as per Grand Lodge Law No. 149, be supplied with an Affiliation Grand Lodge Certificate and, at the same time, be furnished with a copy of the Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

An Affiliating Past Master takes precedence in the Lodge immediately after the Worshipful Master of the year in which he affiliated.

A member of one Lodge serving as Worshipful Master of another to which he affiliated takes precedence in his Mother Lodge immediately after the Worshipful Master of the year.

An Installed Master of the Irish Constitution who is one of the founders of a new Lodge should be regarded as *ipso facto* a Past Master of the new Lodge, taking precedence in accordance with the order of his signature on the Memorial.

A Past Master of any other recognised Constitution has no precedence in an Irish Lodge unless he has served Office under the Irish Constitution, except by special dispensation by Grand Lodge.

161. Every Brother shall be entitled to a Grand Lodge Certificate immediately upon his being registered as a Master Mason in the books of the Grand Lodge, and his Lodge shall forthwith procure such Certificate and issue it to him. At the same time as his Grand Lodge Certificate is issued, every newly Raised Brother will be supplied with a printed copy of the Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.
162. Every Brother to whom a Grand Lodge Certificate is granted must sign his name in the margin thereof immediately on receipt of same. Without such signature the Certificate shall not be valid, and when practicable, the signature shall be appended in open Lodge. Under no circumstances may an addition of any kind be made to a Master Masons Certificate after it has been issued, other than the signature of the Brother in whose name it is made out.
163. A Duplicate Certificate shall not be granted unless satisfactory proof be produced of the loss or destruction of the original, and in every case the application must be recommended by the applicant's Lodge and will be issued on the payment of the appropriate fee as defined in the schedule of fees.
164. Any member of a Lodge is entitled to retire therefrom upon paying all dues and discharging all liabilities thereto. Any member clear of dues and in good Masonic standing, retiring from a Lodge, shall be furnished with a Clearance Certificate or Demit, signed by the Master, Wardens, and Secretary, and having the Lodge Seal affixed thereto. (See sample form.) A Brother wishing to resign from a Lodge must submit his decision, in writing, to the Lodge Secretary for reporting to the Lodge; or verbally, in person, at a Stated Communication of a Lodge, when it must thereupon be taken as an item of business. Any Brother who is under investigation for an Offence, or any misconduct which might constitute a Charge of Unmasonic Conduct and who wishes to resign may do so but should not be issued with a Clearance Certificate or Demit.

A Lodge may grant a reduced subscription to Members reaching retirement age or being permanently retired at an earlier age due to illness or disability or redundancy.

A Lodge may grant 'Country Membership' to any Brother who does not reside, or attend a regular place of business, within eighty kilometres or fifty miles from the place of Meeting of the Lodge.

A Brother paying and continuing to pay a Country Membership Subscription in one Irish Constitution Lodge only shall not be eligible for Office in that Lodge whilst he is paying such Subscription.

A full Subscribing Member of one Lodge and who is a Country Member of one or more other Lodges in the Irish Constitution, shall be eligible for election to Office in the Lodge

or Lodges of which he is a Country Member.

The Lodge dues must not include a contribution to Charity.

165. A Brother shall not be suspended for non-payment of dues to his Lodge, but the Lodge shall have the power of striking off its roll any member more than twelve months in arrear of dues, provided that one month previously, application in writing for such arrears shall have been sent by registered letter or recorded delivery to the member, directed to his last-known address, together with an intimation that in the event of non-payment, his name will be removed from the roll of members of the Lodge, and the removal reported to the Grand Secretary's Office.
166. A Brother removed by his Lodge from membership for non-payment of dues shall not be affiliated by, nor shall he continue a member of, any other Lodge, nor shall he be permitted to visit any Lodge at Labour or refreshment, until it shall have been ascertained from the Lodge from which the Brother was removed, that such arrear of dues has been discharged. In the event of a Brother discharging his liabilities to his Lodge, he will be considered a re-joining member under Grand Lodge Law No. 138.

Any subordinate Lodge knowingly violating this Law shall be held liable for such arrears, and shall pay same to the Lodge of which the Brother was formerly a member, and shall further pay a fine as defined in the schedule of fees to the Grand Lodge.

167. A register shall be kept in the Grand Secretary's Office of the names and addresses of Brethren reported in accordance with Grand Lodge Law No. 165, and in each case the amount of arrears due shall be specified.
168. A Lodge shall have power to exclude from attendance at any meeting or function of the Lodge any Brother whose continuance as a member may be considered objectionable, or injurious to the Lodge, provided that four-fifths of the subscribing members present shall so decide at a Communication specially called to consider the matter. The decision of the Lodge shall be by ballot (with beans). Every subscribing member who has obtained the Third Degree, if present when the ballot has been declared open, shall vote, and the decision shall be subject to an appeal to the Grand Lodge by the Brother so excluded. The Worshipful Master shall have power to order a second ballot if he has reason to believe that a mistake has been made in the first, but shall report to Grand Lodge the circumstances which justified such procedure. A Brother who wishes to remain a member of the Order must continue to pay his Dues to the Lodge or affiliate to another Lodge. Whilst the Brother remains a subscribing member of the Lodge all notices of meetings and dues outstanding must continue to be sent by the Lodge.
169. Subordinate Lodges shall for their better government frame their own By-laws, provided that the same be in accordance with the Ancient Landmarks, and with the Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge and must prescribe the hour of the meeting for its Stated Communications. No meeting of a Lodge other than a Stated Communication can be called without the authority of the Worshipful Master. All meetings should start promptly.

The By-laws of a Lodge cannot take effect until confirmed by the Grand Secretary's Office and when so confirmed cannot be altered, suspended or abrogated, except with the sanction of the Grand Master's Council.

Two copies of such proposed By-laws, and of any subsequent alterations therein, shall be submitted for approval to the Provincial Grand Lodge and then to the Grand Lodge By-laws Committee and shall become valid and take effect only from the date of such approval. One copy of such Bylaws, when approved, shall be deposited in the Grand Secretary's Office, and one with the Provincial Grand Secretary of the Province in which the Lodge meets.

It is not permissible for a Lodge to limit members to one particular class (profession or otherwise). It is permissible to have a Preface that might be used stating that the Lodge was primarily for persons of a certain class.

170. Lodges are permitted to issue an Annual Card or Circular giving the dates of Communications. When a Ballot or a Notice of Motion or an Emergency Communication or when the Worshipful Master would consider it desirable, a Notice would be issued on each of these occasions.
171. Where there is a Royal Arch Chapter of the same number as a Lodge, and/or where there is a clear association and affinity between a Lodge and a Royal Arch Chapter, then the Lodge Summonses may include reference to the date, place and time of meeting of same Royal Arch Chapter, in accordance with the provisions of Grand Lodge Law No. 3. Overseas Lodges are permitted to give information on their Summonses as to the Registrar and location of Royal Arch Chapters in their area.
172. Each Lodge shall have a Seal wherewith to verify the Lodge transactions. The device shall consist of a Hand and Trowel, together with the number and name of the Lodge, and the name of the place where held.
173. Audio and or visual recording or transmission of any part of a Lodge meeting is prohibited, without the specific sanction of the Grand Secretary's Office. Electronic devices and other similar recording and transmitting equipment may not be used during Lodge meetings, except the Lodge Secretary who may use an electronic device for taking notes of the meeting. Mobile phones should be turned off, however at the very least they should be turned to silent so as not to disrupt the proceedings of the meeting.

Any breach of this ruling will be subject to investigation by an Appropriate Body or Conduct Committee.

174. All Lodges are enjoined to observe the same usages and customs in working; any wilful deviation therefrom shall be visited with the censure of the Grand Lodge, and if persevered in, shall be punished as the Grand Lodge shall think fit.
175. All Ritual worked in a Lodge under the Irish Constitution must be in accordance with that

laid down by Grand Lodge. It is strongly recommended that visitors from other, regular and recognised Constitutions do not participate in ceremonies during Labour, particularly the conferring of degrees. In rare and exceptional circumstances, where their participation is required, and permission having been granted, the visitor must first pass an examination in Irish Ritual by acknowledged experts.

of Subordinate Lodges - Finance

176. A certified copy of the Balance Sheet of Subordinate Lodges in the Provinces, when audited, shall be forwarded to the Provincial Grand Secretaries prior to the 31st March each year, year-end in each case to be 31st December. Each Lodge will have a bank account in the name of the Lodge. In the event that a bank will not open an account in the name of the Lodge, an account may be opened in the name of three Brethren appointed by the Lodge. All cheques drawn on the Lodge account shall be signed by two of the signatories authorized by the Lodge. All moneys received shall be lodged in the said account, and that all payments shall be made by cheque or electronic fund transfer from the same Account. The Lodge may delegate the authority to make electronic fund transfers to at least two designated administrators.

The funds of a Lodge collected solely from Masonic sources for Masonic purposes, should not be used for any other purpose whatever unless by special permission of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master or the Assistant Grand Master.

The monetary amount as proposed by a Notice of Motion may be decreased on amendment but cannot be increased without a fresh Notice of Motion.

177. It is not in accordance with the spirit of Freemasonry that any portion of the funds of a Subordinate Lodge should be used for the purpose of making presentations to individual members of such Lodge, unless such presentations take the form of Masonic Jewels or Insignia, or presentations of Life Governorships in one of the Masonic Charities; and any violation of this resolution may be dealt with under Grand Lodge Law No. 32.
178. All appeals emanating from Subordinate Lodges for contributions to presentations to members, or appeals for charity, must receive the sanction of the local Provincial Grand Lodge before being circulated in the Province, and the sanction of Grand Lodge before circulation in the rest of the Constitution.
179. If upon the adoption of a resolution to return the Warrant of a Lodge to Grand Lodge or the suspension of any Lodge or the cancellation of the Warrant of any Lodge there remains after satisfaction of all the debts and liabilities of the Lodge any property whatsoever, the same shall not be distributed among or paid to the members of the Lodge but shall be transferred or given to another Lodge or paid to a Masonic Charity or Charities or otherwise as may be approved by Grand Lodge.
180. Appeals should not be made for subscriptions to any Masonic object (such as building a New Hall), to Brethren or Lodges outside the Irish Constitution, except by special

permission of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master or the Assistant Grand Master, Provincial Grand Master or the Provincial Deputy Grand Master.

Schedule of Fees and Fines
Payable under the Grand Lodge Laws
as at 3rd March 2022

LAW

Charges by Order of The Grand Lodge

| | | |
|-------|---|---------|
| 108 | For a Lodge Warrant | €100.00 |
| 112 | For a Duplicate Warrant | €100.00 |
| 33 | For the Conduct Committee to investigate Complaints | €100.00 |
| 38 | Registration of Honorary Past Grand Rank..... | €100.00 |
| 163 | Duplicate Grand Lodge or Past Masters Certificates Each | €25.00 |
| 6 | For receipt of Grand Lodge Notices and Proceedings | €10.00 |
| 110 | For issuing a Warrant irregularly | €100.00 |
| 148 | For initiating at less than minimum Fee | €100.00 |
| 150.6 | For initiating a Candidate disqualified under Grand Lodge Laws | €100.00 |
| 135 | For initiating a Military man in Civilian Lodge or a Civilian in a Military Lodge | €100.00 |
| 166 | For affiliating a Brother struck off the Roll for non-payment of dues, the amount of his arrears and..... | €100.00 |
| 157 | For neglecting to make an annual return of Officers and Members | €100.00 |

For Subordinate Lodges

| | | |
|-----|--|---------|
| 156 | Each Subscribing Member of a Lodge meeting in Ireland (annually) | €32.00 |
| 156 | Each Subscribing Member of a Lodge meeting Overseas (annually) | €13.50 |
| 156 | Affiliated Members will pay 50% of Subscribing Members Fee | |
| 156 | Loan and Grant Fund Allocation (included in above subscriptions) | €3.50 |
| 93 | For the Grand Lodge Charity Fund (annually) per member | €0.10 |
| 148 | For Initiation (minimum payable to Lodge) | €100.00 |
| | Grand Lodge Hall Fee per member (Lodges based in Molesworth Street) | €37.00 |

Committee of Charity

| | | |
|-----|---|-----------|
| 94 | Sum to be granted by the Grand Secretary (not exceeding) | €1,000.00 |
| 100 | Sum to be granted by the Committee of Charity (not exceeding) | €1,000.00 |
| 100 | Additional sum as confirmed by Grand Lodge (not exceeding)..... | €1,000.00 |

Specimen of a Lodge Minute Book

A Stated / An Emergency Communication of (*Lodge Name and Number*) held on (*date and time*) at (*address of hall*).

The Lodge opened in Form on the Entered Apprentice Degree, W.Bro. (*Name of presiding officer*) presiding as Worshipful Master and all attendances as per the attendance book.

Mr. (*Name of Candidate*) being in attendance, and being duly prepared for admission, received the Entered Apprentice Degree, and was saluted according to ancient usage.

The Minutes of the last Stated (*and any intervening*) communication having been read (*or previously circulated*) were confirmed, signed by the Worshipful Master and counter signed by the Secretary and the Lodge Seal was affixed thereto.

The Secretary read a Communication from the Grand Lodge of Ireland, Provincial Grand Lodge, and all other correspondence: (*here Insert the letter/s*).

Mr. (*Name of Candidate*), who had been proposed at a previous Communication, and concerning whom the Committee of Enquiry reported favourably was balloted for and elected.

Brother (*Name of Proposer*) proposed the motion of which he had given notice, and it was seconded by Brother (*Name of Seconder*) After due decision the Worshipful Master put the question from the Chair and declared it carried. A division having been demanded, the numbers appeared, for the motion ??, against ??; whereupon the Worshipful Master declared the motion carried (or lost).

The Lodge was then called up to the Fellow Craft Degree, all Brethren not of that Degree having previously retired.

The Lodge was then called up to the Master Mason Degree, all Brethren not of that Degree having previously retired.

Brother (*Name of Brother*), a Fellow Craft Freemason, being prepared, was raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason, and saluted.

The Lodge was called down to the Fellow Craft Degree, and subsequently to the Entered Apprentice Degree.

Bro. (*Name of Brother*) proposed; "that the name of Mr. (*Proposed Candidates Name*), residing at (*Full postal address*), (*profession or occupation*) be placed on the books of the Lodge for the usual time previous to ballot." Seconded by Bro. (*Name of Brother*), and agreed to. Bro's. (*Names of Brethren*) were appointed as the Scrutineers.

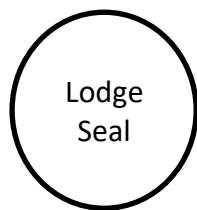
Any other Business.

As there was no further business the Lodge closed in Peace, Love and Harmony.

Worshipful Master _____

Secretary _____

Date _____

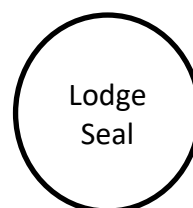


Form of Demit
or
Clearance Certificate
(Required by Grand Lodge Law No.164)

We, the Master, Wardens and Secretary of Lodge No. *(Insert Lodge No.)* holden under the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland do hereby Certify that Brother *(Name of Brother)* (whose signature is annexed in the margin) was a member of this lodge from *(date)* to *(date)*; he has paid all Fees and Dues up to this date.

Dated at this day of 20

_____ Worshipful Master
_____ Senior Warden
_____ Junior Warden
_____ Secretary



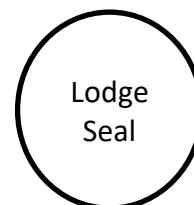
Form of Declaration
for
Brethren Affiliating from Foreign Constitutions
(Required by Grand Lodge Law No. 160)

I, *(Name of affiliating Brother)* having been regularly initiated in Lodge No. *(Insert Lodge No.)* on the Register of the Grand Lodge of *(Insert Grand Lodge Brother is Affiliating from)* and being now desirous of membership in Lodge No. *(Insert Lodge No.)* on the Register of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, do hereby solemnly declare in open Lodge that I will faithfully observe the Laws, Regulations, and Usages of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

_____ (Signature and Date)

In witness whereof we subscribe our names, and append the Seal of the Lodge.

_____ Worshipful Master
_____ Secretary



The above Bro. *(Name and Occupation)* was duly affiliated to Lodge No. *(Insert Lodge No.)* on the *(date)*.

When this form has been completed, it should be forwarded to the Grand Secretary's Office.

The Old Charges
of the
Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland

As originally issued for the use of Lodges in
Great Britain and Ireland 1730

also
the Charge to
New-Admitted Brethren

as originally approved by
The Grand Officers of Ireland
1734

The Charges of a Freemason

(Reprinted from the Version published in 1730 by
Bro. John Pennell, Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ireland)

THE GENERAL HEADS

1. Of God and Religion.
2. Of the Civil Magistrates, Supreme and Subordinate.
3. Of Lodges.
4. Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices.
5. Of the Management of the Craft in Working.
6. Of Behaviour, viz.:
 - 6.1 In the Lodge while constituted.
 - 6.2 After the Lodge is over and the Brethren not gone.
 - 6.3 When Brethren meet without Strangers, but not in a formed Lodge.
 - 6.4 In presence of Strangers not Masons.
 - 6.5 At Home, and in the Neighbourhood.
 - 6.6 Towards a strange Brother.

1. Concerning God and Religion

A Mason is obliged, by his Tenure, to obey the moral Law, and not to be a stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious Libertine; that is, Masons are to be good Men and true, or Men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Denomination or persuasion they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the Centre of Union and the means of conciliating True Friendship among Persons that must otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.

2. of the Civil Magistrate, Supreme and Subordinate

A Mason is to be a Peaceable Subject to the Civil Powers wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in Plots or Conspiracies against the Peace and Welfare of the Nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior Magistrates. Ancient Kings and Princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen because of their Peaceableness and Loyalty, whereby they practically answered the Cavils of their adversaries and promoted the Honour of the Fraternity, who ever flourished in the Times of Peace. So that if a Brother be a Rebel against the State he is not to be countenanced in his Rebellion, however, he may be pitied as an unhappy man; and, if convicted of no other Crime, though the Loyal Brotherhood must and ought to disown his Rebellion, and give no Umbrage or Ground of Political Jealousy to the Government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the Lodge, and his relation to it remains indefeasible.

3. of Lodges

A Lodge is a place where Masons assemble and work; hence that Assembly or duly organised Society of Masons is called a Lodge, and every Brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its Bylaws and the General Regulations. It is either particular or general, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the Regulations of the General or Grand Lodge hereunto annexed. In ancient times no Master or Fellow could be absent from it, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appeared to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him.

The persons admitted Members of a Lodge must be good and true Men, free-born and of mature and discreet age, no Bondmen, no Women, no immoral or scandalous Men, but of good report.

4. of Masters, Wardens, Fellows, and Apprentices

All Preferment among Masons is grounded upon real Worth, and personal Merit only, that the Lords may be well served, the Brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised. Therefore no Master or Warden is chosen by Seniority, but for his Merit. and no Master should take an Apprentice unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a Perfect Youth, having no maim or defect in his body, that may render him incapable of learning the Art, of serving his Lord, of being made a Brother and Fellow-Craft, and in due time a Master, and, when qualified, he may arrive to the honour of being Warden, then Master of a Lodge, then Grand Warden, and at length Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to Merit.

No Brother can be a Master, Warden, or Deacon of a Lodge, until he has passed the part

of a Fellow-Craft; and the Grand Master has power to choose his own deputy, who must likewise have passed the part of a Fellow-Craft.

These Officers are to be obeyed in their respective Stations, by all the Brethren, with all Humility, Reverence, Love, and Alacrity.

5. of the Management of the Craft in Working

All Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the times appointed by the Law of the Land, or confirmed by Custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the Fellow-Craftsmen shall be chosen or appointed the Master, or Overseer of the Lord's work, who is to be called Master by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill Language, and to call each other by no disobliging Name, but Brother or Fellow, and to behave themselves, courteously within and without the Lodge.

The Master, knowing himself to be able of Cunning, shall undertake the Lord's Work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his Goods as if they were his own; nor give more Wages to any Brother Apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons receiving their Wages justly, shall be faithful to their Lord and honestly finish their Work, whether Task or Journey; nor put the Work to Task that hath been accustomed to Journey.

None shall envy the Prosperity of a Brother, not supplant him, or put him out of work, if he be capable to finish the same.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their Wages without Murmuring or Mutiny, and not desert the Master until the Work is finished.

A younger Brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent spoiling the Materials for want of Judgment, and for increasing and continuing of Brotherly Love.

All Tools used in working shall be approved of by Grand Lodge. No Labourer shall be employed in the proper Work of Masonry; nor shall they teach Labourers and unaccepted Masons, as they should teach a Brother.

6. of Behaviour

6.1 In the Lodge while Constituted

You are not to hold private Committees, or separate Conversation, without Leave from the Master, nor to talk of any Thing impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any Brother speaking to the Master. Nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming Language upon any Pretence whatsoever; but to pay due Reverence to your Master, Wardens and Fellows.

If any Complaint be brought the Brother found guilty shall stand to the Award and Determination of the Lodge but you must never go to Law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute Necessity apparent to the Lodge.

- 6.2 Behaviour after the Lodge is over and the Brethren not gone
You may enjoy yourself with innocent Mirth, treating one another according to Ability; but avoiding all excess or forcing any Brother to eat or drink beyond his Inclination, or hindering him from going when his Occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may hinder an easy and free Conversation; for that would blast our Harmony and defeat our laudable Purposes. Therefore no private Piques or Quarrels must be brought within the Door of the Lodge, far less any Quarrels about Religion, or Nations, or State Policy, we being only, as Masons, of the Catholic Religion abovementioned; we are also of all Nations, Tongues, Kindred and Languages, and are resolved against all Politicks as what never yet conduced to the Welfare of any Lodge, nor ever will.
- 6.3 Behaviour when the Brethren meet without strangers, but not in a formed Lodge
You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other Brother, freely giving mutual Instruction as shall be thought expedient without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that Respect which is due to any Brother, were he not a Mason. For though all Masons are Brethren upon the same Level, yet Masonry takes no Honour from a Man that he had before; nay, rather it adds to his Honour, especially if he has deserved well of the Brotherhood, who must give Honour to whom it is due, and avoid ill Manners.
- 6.4 Behaviour in Presence of Strangers not Masons
You shall be cautious in your Words and Carriage, that the most penetrating Stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a Discourse and manage prudently, for the Honour of the worshipful Fraternity.
- 6.5 Behaviour at Home and in your Neighbourhood
You are to act as becomes a moral and wise Man; particularly not to let your Family, Friends or Neighbours know the Concerns of the Lodge, &c., but wisely to consult your own Honour, and that of the Ancient Brotherhood, for Reasons not here to be mentioned. You must also consult your Health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home after Lodge Hours are past; and by avoiding Gluttony or Drunkenness that your Families be not neglected, or injured, nor you disabled from Work, or other Business. You are likewise honestly to pay the Debts you contract, and not to contract Debts, but such as in your conscience you know yourself able and willing to pay, and that in a reasonable Time that the Craft be not Despised, nor the Brotherhood evil spoken of on your Account.
- 6.6 Behaviour to a Strange Brother
You are cautiously to examine him, in such a Method as Prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant, false Pretender, whom you are

to reject with Contempt and Derision, and beware of giving him any Hints of Knowledge. But, if you discover him to be a true and genuine Brother, you are to respect him accordingly; and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved. You must employ him some days, or else recommend him to be employed; but you are not to do beyond your Ability nor prejudice yourself, only to prefer a poor Brother, that is a good Man and true, before any other Person in the same Circumstances.

Finally: All these Charges you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in another way; cultivating Brotherly Love, the Foundation and Copestone, the Cement and Glory of this ancient Fraternity; avoiding all Wrangling and Quarrelling, all Slander and Backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest Brother; but defending his Character and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your Honour and Safety, and no farther. And if any of them do you Injury, you must apply to your own Lodge, and from thence you may appeal to the Grand Lodge, at the Quarterly Communication, and from thence to the annual Grand Lodge, as has been the ancient laudable Conduct of our Forefathers in every Nation, never taking a legal Course but when the Case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly Advice of Master and Fellows when they would prevent your going to Law with Strangers, or would excite you to put a speedy Period to all Law Suits, that so you may mind the affairs of Masonry with the more Alacrity and Success. But with respect to Brothers or Fellows at Law, the Master and Brethren should kindly offer their Mediation which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending Brethren; and if that Submission is impracticable, they must, however, carry on their Process, or Law Suit, without Wrath and Rancour (not in the common way), saying or doing nothing which may hinder Brotherly Love and good Offices to be renewed and continued, that all may see the benign influence of Masonry, as all true Masons have done from the Beginning of the World, and will do to the end of Time.

Amen.

The Entered Apprentice Charge

(Reprinted from the original issue, published under the sanction of the Grand Officers of Ireland, in Brother William Smith's Freemasons' Pocket Companion, Dublin 1734.)

A short charge to be given to new-admitted Brethren

You are now admitted by the unanimous Consent of our Lodge, a Fellow of our most Ancient and Honourable Society; Ancient as having subsisted from Time immemorial, and Honourable, as tending in every Particular to render a Man so that he will be but conformable to its glorious Precepts. The Greatest Monarchs in all Ages, as well as of Asia and Africa, as of Europe, have been Encouragers of the Royal Art; and many of them have presided as Grand Masters over the Masons in their respective Territories, not thinking it any lessening to their Imperial Dignities to level themselves with their Brethren in Masonry, and to act as they did.

The World's Great Architect is our Supreme Master, and the unerring Rule He has given us is that by which we work.

Religious disputes are never suffered in the Lodge; for, as Masons, we only pursue the universal Religion, or the Religion of Nature. This is the Cement which unites Men of the most different principles in one sacred Band, and brings together those who were the most distant from one another.

There are three general Heads of Duty which Masons ought always to inculcate, viz.: to God, our Neighbours, and Ourselves.

To God, in never mentioning His name but with that Reverential Awe which becomes a Creature to bear to his Creator, and to look upon Him always as the *Summum Bonum* which we came into the world to enjoy; and according to that View to regulate all our pursuits.

To our neighbours, in acting upon the Square, or doing as we would be done by.

To Ourselves, in avoiding all Intemperances, and Excesses, whereby we may be rendered incapable of following our Work, or led into behaviour unbecoming our laudable Profession, and in always keeping within due bounds and free from all Pollution.

In the State, a *Mason* is to behave as a peaceable and dutiful Subject, conforming cheerfully to the Government under which he lives. He is to pay a due Deference to his Superiors, and from his Inferiors he is rather to receive Honour with some Reluctance, than to extort it.

He is to be a Man of Benevolence and Charity, not sitting down contented while his Fellow Creatures, but much more his Brethren, are in Want, when it is in his Power (without prejudicing himself or Family) to relieve them.

In the Lodge, he is to behave with all due Decorum, lest the Beauty and Harmony thereof should be disturbed or broken.

He is to be obedient to the Master and presiding Officers, and to apply himself closely to the Business of *Masonry*, that he may sooner become a Proficient therein, both for his own Credit, and that of the Lodge.

He is not to neglect his own necessary avocations, for the sake of Masonry, nor to involve himself in Quarrels with those who through Ignorance may speak evil of or ridicule it.

He is to be a Lover of the Arts and Sciences, and to take all Opportunities of improving himself therein.

If he recommends a Friend to be made a Mason, he must vouch him to be such as he really believes will conform to the aforesaid Duties lest by his Misconduct at any Time the Lodge should pass under some evil Imputations. Nothing can prove more shocking to all faithful MASONS than to see any of their Brethren profane or break through the sacred Rules of their Order, and such as can do it they wish had never been admitted.

External Forms and Ceremonies

For use in the Lodges

Recommended by the Grand Lodge of Instruction, 11th May, 1899.

*W.J. CHETWODE CRAWLEY,
Grand Secretary Instruction*

Approved by the Grand Lodge, 1st June, 1899.

*CASTLETOWN,
Grand Secretary*

Introduction

The Old Charges refer to the Craft of Masonry under two denominations. Operative and Speculative. The skill of the operative Fraternity, handed down from generation to generation by oral tradition in secret Lodges, was displayed in building material edifices, conspicuous for Wisdom of Design, Strength of Construction and Beauty of Figure. The corresponding task of Speculative Craftsmen is to take their share in building up a moral edifice, which shall display to like advantage the social, intellectual, and spiritual faculties with which it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to endow the Brethren.

The Articles, Obligations and Sanctions of the Mediaeval Brotherhood, designed to prevent knowledge from falling into unworthy hands, serve the same purpose to-day, though the Operative has become merged in the Speculative aspect of the Fraternity. The Ceremonies, Methods and Implements of the Operative Brethren continue to condense and convey instruction which, without such Emblems, Symbols and Mnemonics, would run the risk of being distorted or lost in the Vicissitudes of oral tradition. It behoves every Freemason, therefore, to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the outer forms, as well as with the inner teaching of our Ritual, so that neither encroachment on our Ancient Landmarks, nor deviation from our Established Usages shall take place.

The manner of Constituting a Lodge including the Ceremony of Installation etc.

An application for a Warrant to erect a new Lodge must be by petition to the Grand Master and Grand Lodge. It must be signed by not less than three regularly registered Master Masons, and the Lodges to which they belong, or formerly belonged, must be specified. The names and Lodges of all the Brethren who are to be thus formed into a new Lodge must be appended to the application.

The Brethren nominated as the first Master and Wardens must sign the application and must be Master Masons of at least five years' standing.

The petition should whenever practicable, have the recommendation of three regular Lodges in the district where the new Lodge is to be held; and if the new Lodge is to be held within the limits of a Masonic Province it must also have the recommendation of the Provincial Grand Lodge, or of the Provincial Grand Master (or his Deputy). Each Signatory to a Memorial shall produce to the Grand Secretary or (if the new Lodge is to be held within the limits of a Masonic Province) to the Provincial Grand Secretary, as a condition precedent to the recommendation of the Memorial, a clearance certificate or demit from the last Lodge of which he has been a member, or, if he be still a subscribing member of another Lodge or Lodges, a certificate or certificates in the prescribed form, from the Secretary or Secretaries of the Lodge or Lodges of which he is a member, that he is in good standing, and that all dues have been paid by him up to date. Any signatory may also be called upon to produce his Grand Lodge Certificate. The fee payable for the Warrant must be deposited along with the petition in the Grand Secretary's Office. The Grand Secretary shall then lay the petition before the Grand Masters Council for their consideration and shall submit their report thereon to the Grand Lodge (*See Grand Lodge Laws Nos. 105 to 109*).

Form of Petition

The following is the form of petition, copies of which may be had at the Grand Secretary's Office:

"To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland.

We, the undersigned, being regularly registered Master Masons of the Lodges specified against our respective names, having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and being anxious to use our best endeavours to promote and diffuse the principles of Freemasonry, are desirous of forming ourselves into a New Lodge.

In pursuance of this desire, we pray for a Warrant of Constitution, empowering us to assemble as a regular Lodge, (*See Grand Lodge Laws Nos. 105 to 109*) at (*Meeting Place*) in the town of (*Town*) and county of (*County*), to be called the (*Name of Lodge*) Lodge, and to meet as aforesaid, within the limits of the Masonic Province of (*Name of Province*) there to discharge the duties of Freemasonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the usages of the Craft, and the Laws of the Grand Lodge.

And we have nominated and do recommend Brother (*Name of Brother*) to be the first Master, and Brother (*Name of Brother*) to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother (*Name of Brother*) to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge. (*These Brethren must be Master Masons of at least five years' standing and particulars of their Lodges must be appended.*)

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to all the Laws and Regulations of the Craft, and to the Edicts and Commands of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge."

Ceremony of Constitution

In the event of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Assistant Grand Master, or the Provincial Grand Master (or his Deputy) not being able to attend in person, they, or any of them, may delegate, by written authority under hand and seal, power to constitute to any three Grand Officers, or to the Worshipful Master and Wardens of any Subordinate Lodge.

If the Grand Master is present in person, the Lodge is said to be opened in *ample form*; if the Deputy Grand Master or the Assistant Grand Master or the Provincial Grand Master presides, it is said to be opened in *due form*; in all other cases the Lodge is said to be opened in form.

The Presiding Officer and the Brethren in attendance on him form in procession and enter the Lodge Room wherein the other Brethren are already assembled. Three suitable vessels containing respectively Corn, Wine, and Oil, and the Three Great Lights, are borne before the Presiding Officer by Past Masters or other Senior Brethren. When silence has been proclaimed the Presiding Officer takes the Chair, and appoints to the Wardens' Chairs, the Brethren designated in authority to constitute. The Subordinate Offices are then filled as may be expedient, and the Presiding Officer proceeds to open the Lodge on the First Degree, as an Occasional Lodge for the purpose of Constitution only.

When this ceremony has been completed, the Acting Secretary of the new Lodge announces:

"Sundry Brethren, to wit, Bros. (*Repeating their Names and Lodges as detailed on the petition*) duly instructed in the Mysteries of Freemasonry and having the interest of the Craft at heart, are desirous of forming themselves into a new Lodge. With this intent, they have applied to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Lodge for a Warrant or Charter of Constitution, which has been granted to them. These Brethren are now in attendance, and await the pleasure of the Grand Lodge."

The Presiding Officer informs the Brethren that he is empowered to constitute them into a Lodge; and, if he be other than the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the Assistant Grand Master or the Provincial Grand Master (or his Deputy), orders the written authority under which he acts to be read. He then calls on the Acting Secretary to produce and read the Warrant, which, together with the Furniture, Insignia, and Jewels of the Lodge, are entrusted to his keeping till the Officers have been installed. The Acting Secretary must also submit for the inspection of the presiding Officer the Roll of Officers and Members of the new Lodge, and copies of the Laws and Constitutions of Grand Lodge, and of the By-laws of the Lodge. These preliminaries having been complied with, the Presiding Officer proceeds to dedicate the Lodge.

The Presiding Officer calls the Brethren to prayer, and, all assuming a posture of devotion, the Chaplain reads the following prayer:

Prayer

Almighty God, Great Architect of the Universe, who hast laid the foundations of the Earth, and reared the Heavens on high, mercifully look upon Thy servants now assembled before Thee, and grant that our labours begun in Thy name, may be continued under Thy direction,

and ended to Thy glory. Graciously bestow upon us Wisdom in all our undertakings, Strength in all our difficulties and the Beauty of Harmony in all our Communications. Let Faith be the foundation of our Hope, and Charity the fruit of our obedience to Thy will.

May all who shall be appointed to rule in this Lodge be under Thy special guidance and protection, so that they may faithfully fulfil their obligations to Thee and to the Lodge. May all who enter the Lodge have but one heart and one mind, to serve, and to honour, and to obey Thee, as Thy Majesty and beneficence require, and to love one another as Thou hast loved us. May the Great Light of the Sacred Law, ever present in our Lodges, illumine our minds with its steadfast rays, to the end that Peace and Contentment, Love and

Charity, Harmony and Happiness, may dwell triumphant in our hearts. May we here meet in Thy presence as a band of Brethren who were brought into being by the same Almighty parent, are daily sustained by the same bountiful power, and are travelling the same road to the gate of Death.

And finally, when the time of our earthly labour is drawing to an end, and the Pillar of our Strength is lowered to the ground, enable us, supported by Thy rod and Thy staff, to pass through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, to those mansions eternal in the Heavens where Peace, and Love, and Harmony, such as the world cannot give, for ever reign before Thy Throne. *Amen.*

The Brethren all answer aloud *“Glory to God on high, on earth peace, goodwill towards men. So mote it be”*.

(Solemn Music may here be introduced.)

The Vessels containing Corn, Wine, and Oil are then borne in procession, thrice round the Lodge room, before the Presiding Officer, who halting in the East on the first round, scatters Corn on the Altar; on the second round sprinkles Wine, and on the third sprinkles Oil. He accompanies these actions with announcements to the following effect:

First Round

“I scatter Corn, in token of Prosperity and Plenty.”

Second Round

“I sprinkle Wine, in token of Cheerfulness and Joy.”

Third Round

“I sprinkle Oil, in token of Peace, Love and Harmony” And each time the Brethren shall respond; *So mote it be.*

The Presiding Officer having resumed his seat, the Three Great Lights are borne in procession thrice round the Lodge. The Senior Brother in the procession, requests the Presiding Officer to place the Three Great Lights in proper position for the use of the new Lodge. The Presiding Officer does this in person, and makes proclamation to the following effect:

“By virtue of the authority entrusted to me I place in proper position for the use of Lodge No. (*Lodge No.*), the Three Great Lights, without which no Work can be lawfully transacted in the Lodge.”

Then, directing the Brethren to assume a posture of devotion, the Presiding Officer delivers the Invocation.

“Invoking the blessing and favour of the all-merciful and gracious Creator, of whose free and universal Bounty this Corn, Wine, and Oil are the significant emblems, and of whose Laws the Three Great Lights are the symbols to us, I dedicate this Lodge of Freemasons to Virtue, Truth, and universal Benevolence. *Amen. So mote it be.*”

The Brethren all respond “The Lord is gracious and His mercy endureth for ever. *Amen. So mote it be.*”

The Presiding Officer then resumes his seat; the Brethren do likewise, and the Ceremony of Dedication ends with an Anthem or other solemn music.

The Presiding Officer then calls upon the members of the new Lodge to come forward. The Acting Secretary reads their names, beginning with the Worshipful Master, from the Roll placed on the Pedestal. The Brethren advance in order towards the East, and stand before the Chair, the Presiding Officer and the other Brethren being seated. The Presiding Officer thus addresses them:

“By virtue of the authority vested in me, I constitute and form you, my Trusty Brethren, into a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. I empower you to act hence-forward as a regular Lodge, constituted in conformity with the Laws and Usages of the Grand Lodge, the Charges of our Ancient and Honourable Society, and the Ancient Landmarks of the Craft; and may God be with you. *Amen. So mote it be.*”

The Presiding Officer, advancing to the front of the dais, directs the Wardens to declare the Lodge (designating it by its title and number) to be at labour, &c. &c.

He then calls on the rest of the Brethren present to salute the newly constituted Lodge, after which a suitable Charge or Address on the history, tenets, and duties of Freemasonry should be delivered by the Presiding Officer, or such other competent Brother as he shall appoint.

(Solemn Music may here be introduced.)

The Presiding Officer proceeds to install the Officers of the new Lodge in the manner hereinafter prescribed; which form is also to be observed at the installation of a new Worshipful Master and Officers in Lodges previously established.

Form of Installation

(No Officers can be Installed otherwise than in Open Lodge, at Labour on the E.A. Degree.)

I. The Warrant, II, the Book of Constitutions, together with the Bylaws of the Lodge. and III. The Volume of the Sacred Law, are borne in procession before the Master elect, who is conducted thrice round the lodge by two Past Masters, or two Senior Master Masons, to the steps of the Throne, and presented to the Worshipful Master as follows:

“Worshipful Master, We present unto you this our worthy Brother to be installed Master of this Lodge. We know him to be of good morals and great skill, true and trusty, and a lover of the whole Fraternity, wherever dispersed over the face of the earth.”

The Worshipful Master then informs the Master elect that his assent is required to the Old Charges, and proceeds to read the following summary of them:

1. You are to be a good man and true, and strictly obey the Moral Law.
2. You are not to be concerned in plots or conspiracies against the State, but you are to be a peaceable subject, and cheerfully to conform to the laws of the country wherein you reside.
3. You are to respect the civil magistrate; to work diligently, live creditably, and act honourably to all men.
4. You are to obey the rulers and governors of the Society of Freemasons, Supreme and Subordinate in their several stations; and submit to the awards and resolutions of your Brethren.
5. You are to avoid all private piques and quarrels, as unworthy of a Mason; and to guard against all manner of Intemperance and excess.
6. You are to be cautious and prudent in your behaviour, courteous to your Brethren, and faithful to the Lodge to which you belong.
7. You are to respect all genuine Brethren and to discountenance all impostors.
8. You are strictly to attend to the duties of the Grand Lodge, and to see that they be similarly attended to by your Wardens, so that the dignity of the Society may be supported.
(This charge may be omitted if the Lodge does not meet in a Masonic Province. If in a Masonic Province, insert “Provincial” before the words “Grand Lodge.”)
9. You are to promote to the utmost of your ability the general good of the Society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to be always ready either to give or receive instruction.”

The Worshipful Master then addresses the Master elect thus:

“Do you now, Brother, cheerfully submit to these several charges and regulations, and promise to support them as all good Masons have done?”

The Master elect having signified his assent, the Worshipful Master shall then proceed as follows:

“Then, Brother, in consequence of the recommendation I have received of you, and your cheerful conformity to the Charges and Regulations rehearsed, and since it is the will and pleasure of the Brethren of this Lodge that you become Master thereof for the usual time, as they confide in your known good behaviour, and deem you a fit and proper person to discharge the duties of said Office; I am ready and willing to admit you thereto, and install you therein; cautioning you that you are not only to walk uprightly before God and Man, and strictly to maintain the Ancient Landmarks and Constitutions of Freemasonry in general, but also to obey the Laws of Grand Lodge, and the By-laws of this Lodge in particular, which shall be delivered to you along with the implements of your Office.”

Here the Worshipful Master calls upon all Brethren who have not passed the Chair to retire from the Lodge room.

The Master elect shall then receive the Secret Instructions in the presence of none but Installed Masters (Actual or Past), of whom at least three must be present.

When the Secret Instructions have been communicated, the Brethren who retired are to be recalled and the newly Installed Worshipful Master proclaimed according to Ancient Usage.

The Immediate Past Master (or Installing Master) then addresses him thus:

“First, I deliver to you this Maul, which shows your authority to the Brethren, testifying to them to whom the title of Worshipful Master belongs.

Secondly, I invest you with this Collar and Jewel as the Insignia of your Office, and ornamental badges of Freemasonry, that have with pride been worn at all times by Masters of Lodges. Observe, the Jewel is a Square denoting in its moral sense, that you are always so to square your life and actions as to convince all men that you are worthy of the pre-eminence conferred upon you; and in its Masonic sense, that as when applied to work it shows whether it be straight, even, and correct, so it is to remind you that it should be your constant care to see that not only your own conduct and actions, but also those of the Brethren entrusted to your charge, are straight, even and correct.

Thirdly, I render unto you the Volume of the Sacred Law, which contains the rules and precepts whereby all men, but particularly Freemasons, ought to govern and regulate their entire course of life.

Fourthly, I give unto you this Book of the Constitutions of Freemasonry, together with the By-laws of the Lodge, by which you are to regulate your conduct as Worshipful Master, and to direct the actions of those under your authority.

And lastly, I hand over to you the Warrant of this Lodge, being the authority under which its meetings are held.”

The Installing Master then proceeds thus:

“We most heartily wish you all happiness, and pray God of His infinite mercy and goodness to guide and direct you in the governance of this Lodge, and keep you from being ever guilty of any breach of the duties of your important Office.” *Amen.*

After which, the New Master is saluted according to Ancient Usage.

(Solemn Music may here be introduced.)

Senior Warden

The Senior Warden elect is then brought up by two Past Masters, or by two Senior Master Masons and similarly presented to the new Master, who thereupon invests him with the insignia of his Office, and thus addresses him:

“Brother (X) you are by the consent of this Lodge, elected Senior Warden thereof for the usual time, in consequence of which I now invest you with this Collar and Jewel as the Insignia of your Office. Observe the Jewel is a Level, to denote to you, in its moral sense that in the original state of mankind all were meant to be on a level and, morally speaking, may be deemed so still; and in its Masonic sense, that you are to maintain the original principles of equality without subverting the distinctions necessary in the concerns of the Craft. Your early and regular attendance at your Lodge is particularly necessary, in order to assist to the utmost of your power and skill, in the good management thereof.”

The Senior Warden is then installed in his chair and saluted.

Junior Warden

The Junior Warden elect is then, in like manner brought up to the new Master, who thereupon invests him with the Insignia of his Office, and thus addresses him:

“Brother (X) you have been by the consent of this Lodge elected Junior Warden thereof for the usual time, in consequence of which I invest you with this Collar and Jewel as the Insignia of your Office. Observe the Jewel is a Plumbet, with plumb-line affixed, to denote to you, in its moral sense, that you are at all times to be upright in your conduct; and in its Masonic sense, that, as your new office entails new responsibilities, you are to take especial care to act with perfect uprightness, when entrusted with the charge of your Brethren.”

The Junior Warden is then installed in his chair, and saluted.

Treasurer

The Treasurer (if that office is to be held separately from that of Secretary in the Lodge) is then brought up to the Master who invests him with the insignia of his Office. saying:

“Brother (X) you are chosen to be the Treasurer of this Lodge, and I therefore invest you with the Insignia of your Office. Be faithful and diligent in the trust reposed in you, so that the Brethren may never have reason to alter their opinion of your integrity. It is expected that your accounts shall always be kept accurately, clearly, and intelligibly, and ready for inspection. Remember that the Lodge confides to you, not only its pecuniary resources, but its character and its credit. The due discharge of your important duty to the Lodge will justly entitle you to our gratitude.”

The Treasurer is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Secretary

The Secretary is then brought up to the Master and invested with the Insignia of his Office, when the Master addresses him thus:

“Brother (X) you have been elected Secretary to this Lodge; it is your province to record the Minutes, to apprise the members of our Communications, to carry on the correspondence of the Lodge, and to make the due returns of Officers and members to the Grand Lodge. Your zeal for Freemasonry, and your attachment to this Lodge will, I am confident, induce you to discharge the duties of your Office with fidelity, as by so doing you will continue to merit the esteem and approbation of your Brethren.”

The Secretary is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Conjoint Offices of Treasurer and Secretary

If the Offices of Treasurer and Secretary are held by the same Brother, the Master, when investing him with the Insignia of his Office, shall address him to the following effect:

“Brother (X) I invest you with the Insignia of the conjoint Offices of Treasurer and Secretary of this Lodge. In your double capacity you will have confided to your care the collection of the dues payable to the Lodge, the discharge of its various liabilities, and the administration of its charity. In all these matters, you must be faithful, diligent and punctual, so that neither the resources of the Lodge may be impaired by your remissness, nor its character blemished by your improvidence. You will also have to keep the records of the Lodge, to apprise the members of its Communications, to carry on its correspondence, and to make proper returns to the Grand Lodge. I feel assured your conduct will justify the confidence your Brethren repose in you.”

The newly-invested Brother is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Director of Ceremonies

The Director of Ceremonies is then brought up to the Master, and invested with the Insignia of his Office, when the Master addresses him thus:

“Brother (X) you have been elected as Director of Ceremonies of this Lodge. It is an important Office for it will be your responsibility to assist the Master to see that our Ceremonies are carried out with dignity and accuracy. Your early and regular attendance is essential so that all may be in readiness for each Communication of the Lodge.”

The Director of Ceremonies is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Steward of Charities

The Steward of Charities is then brought up to the Master, and invested with the Insignia of his Office, when the Master addresses him thus.’

“Brother (X) you have been elected to the Office of Steward of Charities, an Office of great importance in the Craft and in which I have pleasure in investing you. Your responsibility is to see that the Brethren are at all times aware of the needs of the Charities and the necessity to support them to the utmost of their power. Your regular attendance at meetings will ensure that these ideals are kept well to the forefront of our thoughts and actions.”

The Steward of Charities is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Almoner

The Almoner is then brought up to the Master, and invested with the Insignia of his Office, when the Master addresses him thus:

“Brother (X) I now invest you as Almoner with the Insignia of your Office. Your duty is to attend to the comfort and comforting of the aged and unfortunate among your Brethren and their dependants.

You are to seek out the needy, visit the sick, administer to and, if possible, anticipate their requirements, remembering always that, in the particular sphere of your activities, you can bring joy and comfort to those who are in need.”

The Almoner is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Chaplain

The Chaplain is presented to the Master and invested with the Insignia of his Office when the Master addresses him thus:

“Brother (X) as Chaplain of this Lodge, you will be responsible for ensuring that at each Communication, whether regular or emergency, due acknowledgement is made of the Great Architect of the Universe whom we all seek to serve and obey in all our labours. You have also an important role to play in maintaining in the Lodge those great Masonic virtues of

Peace, Love and Harmony through helping to spread Tolerance, Contentment and Happiness in all our undertakings.”

The Chaplain is then conducted to his seat, and saluted.

Deacons and Inner Guard

The Deacons and Inner Guard are then invested with the Insignia of their respective Offices; upon which the Master addresses them as follows:

“Brothers (X), (Y) and (Z) it is your province to attend on the Master and Wardens, and to act as their assistants in the active duties of the Lodge; such as the reception of candidates into the different Degrees of Freemasonry, and the constant practice of our ceremonies. These badges of your Office I entrust to your care, being assured of your vigilance and attention.”

The newly-invested Brethren are conducted to their seats, and saluted.

Charge in Conclusion

The newly-installed Master then addresses the newly-installed and invested Officers in the following terms:

“It is the will and pleasure of the Brethren forming this Lodge, that you are now to discharge the duties of your respective offices for the usual time. You have heard the Old Charges read to the Master, in fulfilling which, according to your several stations, you are each to bear a part; and further, you are to aid and support him in the good government and well-being of this Lodge. You are all, I trust, too well grounded in the principles of Freemasonry to require further instruction in the duties of your respective Offices; suffice to say, it is hoped and expected, that you will carefully imitate what you have seen praiseworthy in others, and avoid what may have appeared defective in their work. You are at all times to endeavour to promote good conduct and goodwill, thereby setting a bright example for the other members of the Lodge. To do all this properly, you must make yourself well acquainted with the general Constitutions of the Craft as well as the By-laws of the Lodge.”

W.M. gives one knock - all remaining Brethren rise.

‘And we pray the Great Architect of the Universe to bless your endeavours to discharge your duties towards the Lodge, and to give you grace to acquit yourselves in all things like men of probity and zeal. Amen’.

So Mote It Be.

(Solemn Music may here be introduced.)

The

Charges Appointed

for use in Lodges

The Following Charges or Addresses are Appointed for the Three Degrees

The First Degree

Charge to a Newly-Made Brother

Brother: As you have now gone through the ceremony of initiation, allow me to congratulate you on being admitted, by the unanimous consent of the Lodge, a member of our Ancient and Honourable Society; Ancient, as embodying principles that have existed from time immemorial; and Honourable, as tending to make all those honourable who are strictly obedient to its precepts. No institution can boast a more solid foundation than that on which Freemasonry rests — the practice of social and moral virtue. And to so high an eminence has its credit been advanced, that even monarchs have become the promoters of the Craft; have not thought it beneath them to exchange the sceptre for the trowel; have become members of our Society; and taken part in our assemblies.

As a *Freemason*, I would first recommend to your most serious contemplation the Volume of the Sacred Law; charging you to consider it as the unerring standard of truth and morals, and to regulate your actions by the Divine precepts it contains. Thereby you will learn how to discharge your duty to your God, to your neighbour, and to yourself. To God, by never mentioning His Name save with the awe and reverence that are due from the creature to the Creator; by imploring His aid on all your undertakings; and by looking up to Him in every emergency for comfort and support. To your neighbour, by acting towards him uprightly; by rendering him every kind office that justice or mercy may require; by sympathising in his distresses, by soothing his afflictions, and by always doing to him as you would he should do unto you. To yourself, by such a prudent and well-regulated course of discipline as may tend to preserve your faculties in their fullest energy, and may enable you to exert most usefully the talents with which God has blest you, as well to His glory as to the welfare of your fellow-creatures.

As a *Citizen*, I enjoin you to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties, by never proposing or countenancing anything which may disturb the peace and good order of society; by paying obedience to the laws of the State in which you reside, and by which you are protected; and by never losing sight of the allegiance you owe to the sovereign of your native land.

As an *Individual*, I would enjoin upon you the practice of every domestic as well as public virtue. Let *prudence* direct you; *temperance* chasten you; *fortitude* support you; and *justice* be the guide of all your actions. Bear constantly in mind the indispensable duties of Candour, Discretion and Fidelity. And be especially careful to maintain in their fullest vigour those truly Masonic characteristics, Benevolence and Brotherly Love.

Salute

The Second Degree

Charge to a Newly-Passed Fellow Craft

Brother: As you have now been passed to the Second Degree of Freemasonry, it is my duty to remind you of the responsibilities, which, by your entrance into our Society, you have bound yourself to discharge, and of the necessity for a conscientious endeavour to fulfil your voluntary obligations. Your experience in the previous Degree will have given you an insight into our tenets; and in your new character it is expected that you will not only assent to the principles of the Craft, but steadily persevere in their practice.

The first Degree is intended to enforce the duties of Fidelity, Candour, and Discretion, and thereby to safeguard the noblest principles which can adorn the human mind; the second Degree extends the plan, and develops a comprehensive system of Benevolence. The responsibilities of your new position require you to be particularly attentive to your behaviour at our assemblies. You are never to neglect the duty of being present, when regularly summoned, at our meetings subject only to the exception already explained to you. You are to help the weak, to relieve the distressed, and to assist the struggling and industrious among your Fellows in the Craft, to the utmost of your power and ability.

As a *Craftsman*, in our private assemblies, you are entitled to offer your opinion on such subjects as are regularly introduced under the superintendence of the Master, whose duty it is to guard our Landmarks from encroachment. Thus you may improve your intellectual powers, qualify yourself to be a useful member of our Society, and eventually become a skilled Craftsman, by constantly striving to excel in what is good and great.

Salute

The Third Degree

Charge to a Newly-Raised Master Mason

Brother: Your zeal for the principles of Freemasonry, your progress in their practical application, and your obedience to our general regulations, have pointed you out as a fit object of esteem and advancement.

In the character of a Master Mason, you are henceforth authorised to warn the younger Brethren against conduct tending to any breach of fidelity, and to bring all irregular work into conformity with the general plan of Freemasonry. You are to inculcate universal

benevolence, and by the propriety of your own behaviour, to afford the best example for the conduct of others. The Ancient Landmarks of the Craft are to be your constant care, and you are to preserve them sacred and inviolate, and never to sanction an infringement of our customs, or a deviation from established usages.

Duty, honour, and gratitude now bind you to your trust; let no motive, therefore, ever make

you swerve from your voluntary obligations. Imitate, rather, the example of that true and trusty Craftsman whom you have once represented. Endeavour, in a word, to convince the world that merit alone has been your title to our confidence, and that on you our privileges have been deservedly bestowed.

Salute

Prayers

for use in Lodges

To be used at the Opening of Lodges

May the favour of Heaven be upon this meeting; and as it is happily begun, may it be conducted with order, and closed with harmony. *Amen. So mote it be.*

To be used at the Closing of Lodges

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon us, and all regular Masons; may brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue cement and unite us. *Amen. So mote it be.*

To be used at the Initiation of a Candidate

Vouchsafe Thy needful aid, Almighty Architect of the Universe, to this our present convention; and grant that this Candidate for Masonry may dedicate his life to Thy service, and become a true and faithful Brother among us; endow him with a competence of Thy Divine Wisdom, that he may be better enabled to display the beauties of Godliness to the honour of Thy Holy Name. *Amen. So mote it be.*

To be used at Passing a Candidate to the Second Degree

We supplicate Thine aid, O Merciful Lord, on behalf of ourselves and of him who now kneels before Thee: may the Work begun in Thy Name be continued to Thy glory, and evermore established in us, by obedience to Thy holy precepts. *Amen. So mote it be.*

To be used at Raising a Candidate to the Third Degree

Almighty and Eternal Being, Thou great and glorious Architect of the Universe, by Whose creative word all things were made, we, the frail creatures of Thy Providence, implore Thee to pour on this our convention, assembled in Thy Holy Name, the continual dew of Thy blessing; more especially we beseech Thee to impart Thy grace to this Thy servant, who now offers himself a Candidate to partake with us the mysterious secrets of the Master Mason, endow him with such fortitude, that in the hour of trial he fail not; but that passing safely under Thy protection through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, he may finally arise from the tomb of transgression to attain everlasting life, and to shine with the stars for ever and ever. *Amen. So mote it be.*

Obituary Prayers

We brought nothing into this world, it is certain we will take nothing out, the Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. *(This introduction should open each prayer).*

1. The Great Architect of the Universe is our God for ever, a guide and support even through dark valleys of the shadow of death. Our Brother *(Name of Brother)* has been called by Him from labour in the terrestrial world to partake of Divine refreshment in the heavenly realms.

Let us meditate on the virtues of his character, his benevolence, where the needy are supported, the distressed comforted, the woes of widows assuaged, the tears of orphans dried up. May we see in the precepts of our faith and in our Masonic teaching the principles which influenced our departed Brother to adore his Maker, to love his fellowman who taught him how to live and die.

Surround his family and all who mourn his passing with your love, compassion and strength. Great Architect of the Universe, extend to us your everlasting favour and blessing, crown us with life immortal and to your name be Glory and Honour for ever. *Amen. So mote it be.*

2. Great Architect of the Universe, we honour you as the God of time and eternity, ruling the destiny of all your people. As it has been your Will to take from us our (Distinguished) Brother, who is dear to our hearts and who like us has been raised on the Five Points of Fellowship and so has hastened to the service of the needy Brethren, to the welfare of others, keeping hidden what was given in confidence, never hesitating to stretch out a helping hand or imparting a timely warning with good advise to those in need of such.

Give those who mourn the passing of this Companion, comfort, support and strength at this time of sadness and separation. When our earthly labour has ceased may we be raised with him to the fadeless light and immortal life of your heavenly kingdom where Brotherly love, relief and truth shall prevail through eternal ages in the presence of your own Almighty and Supreme King of Heaven and Earth – to you be Glory and Honour for ever. *Amen. So mote it be.*

3. Great Architect of the Universe, we acknowledge you as our God of Infinite Wisdom, of Time and Eternity, ruling the destiny of all people, of Angels of Heaven, you are aware of when a sparrow falls. It was your Will to take from us our departed Brother, now sadly missed by us and by his family circle. We now celebrate his life as a Brother Freemason and the measures of his worth and every single life he touched while here on Earth. We now pay our last respects as we meet in Brotherhood here, we thank you for memories held dear, acknowledge the privilege of calling him Brother, carrying him in spirit until we meet again in your nearer presence. To you our God be Honour and Glory. *Amen. So mote it be.*

4. The sons of the righteous are in the Hand of God, there shall no torment touch them, they are at peace.

Almighty and Eternal Great Architect of the Universe at whose creative word we were made in your image and at whose decree our Earthly life comes to an end. We thank you for our Late (Distinguished) Brother, partaker with us in honourable and lawful secrets, concealed from the eyes of the World.

We express gratitude for his earnest endeavours in the labours of Freemasonry, for observing the Five Points of Fellowship and the connecting links of Brotherly love, relief and thrust which unite Freemasons throughout the world.

We praise you that he has endured fortitude and in the hour of trial did not fail you.

We ask for your consolation and strength on all who mourn his passing, fill them with your peace which the world cannot give.

Grant O God that when our time on earth comes to its end that we, with our departed Brother may rise from the tomb of transgression to shine with the stars for ever and ever.
Amen. So mote it be.

5. Great Architect of the Universe, the melancholy event which has brought us to call to mind the death of our friend and Brother (*Name of Brother*) whose loss we deplore, should convey to our hearts a reminder of the sacredness and uncertainty of life, the vanity of earthly hopes and our inevitable destiny, not knowing the hour when for each of us our dust shall return to the earth as it was, and our spirit returns to the God who gave it.

In humble dependence on the mercy of the Great Architect of the Universe, we trust that when our earthly life is complete we will re-join our departed Brother in the Grand Lodge above where you, our Great Architect of the Universe lives and reigns for ever.

Deal kindly O God with all who mourn our Dear Brother's passing, remembering it is decreed in Heaven that one day we too must sever connections with those we love on Earth and that God will comfort those left to mourn.

May the Great Architect of the Universe in his Infinite Goodness and Mercy towards us crown our hope of everlasting bliss in the realms of boundless Eternity and to Him be Glory and Honour. *Amen. So mote it be.*

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 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 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 & Assistant Secretaries

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 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 thereat from a 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 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

Masonic Clothing and Insignia

by Order of

The Grand Lodge of Ireland

Notice

No modification or ornamentation, inconsistent with the established forms, or tending to obscure the original design of the Clothing and Insignia, shall be permitted.

All designs for Lodge Badges or Insignia, involving any addition to, or variation from the patterns annexed, shall be submitted for approval to Grand Masters Council, or such other authority as Grand Lodge shall from time to time prescribe.

Masonic Clothing and Insignia by Order of The Grand Lodge of Ireland

Aprons

Entered Apprentices

Of plain white lambskin, from fourteen to sixteen inches wide; twelve to fourteen inches deep; square at bottom, and without ornament, white strings.

Fellow Crafts

Similar to the foregoing, with the addition only of two sky-blue rosettes at the bottom.

Master Masons

Similar to the foregoing, with sky-blue binding and sky-blue edging an inch-and-a-half deep; an additional rosette on the fall, which is to be triangular; and silver tassels. No other colour or ornament shall be allowed, except the number or Badge of the Lodge, which may be embroidered in silver on the Apron in such a manner as shall have been approved by the Grand Masters Council, or such other authority as Grand Lodge may from time to time prescribe. Silver braid, not above half-an-inch-wide, may be worn upon the blue edging.

Worshipful Masters and Past Masters



Same as for Master Masons, with an addition (if the wearer pleases) of the square and compasses enclosing the letter G embroidered in silver.

Representatives of Grand Lodges

Representatives of Foreign Grand Lodges may wear such Aprons, Collars and other Insignia, as may be prescribed for them by the Grand Lodges which they represent.

Provincial Grand Officers

Provincial Grand Masters and other Provincial Grand Officers, past and present, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, are entitled to wear Aprons similar to those of the Officers of the Grand Lodge of and under the rank of Grand Warden.

Grand Officers



All Grand Officers, past and present, of and under the rank of Grand Warden, are entitled to wear Aprons of the same dimensions as those worn by Master Masons, but with the point of the fall squared off. The Apron is to be lined and edged with sky-blue silk, the edging not to exceed two inches in width; trimmed with gold lace on the sides of the edging, and fringed on the outside with gold fringe not exceeding an inch-and-a-half in depth.

Deputy Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master

The Deputy Grand Master and the Assistant Grand Master are entitled to wear Aprons similar to those of the other Grand Officers, but laced with three bars of gold lace upon the blue edging, and fringed with gold fringe not exceeding two inches in depth.

Grand Master

The Apron of the Grand Master is to be laced upon the edging with three bars of gold lace, and is to be fringed with gold bullion not exceeding two inches in depth.

Past Grand Officers and Past Provincial Grand Officers

All Past Grand Officers and Past Provincial Grand Officers may wear the Aprons of the Offices they have held.

Collars of Office

The Collars of Officers of Subordinate Lodges are to be of sky-blue watered ribbon, about four inches wide. They may be edged with silver lace not more than half-an-inch wide, and may have the number or Badge of the Lodge embroidered in silver on the front. Silver Collars of such pattern as shall have been approved by the Board of General Purposes, or such other authority as Grand Lodge may from time to time prescribe, may be substituted for the above in Processions.

Provincial Grand Officers

Elected Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction and Provincial Grand Officers shall wear Collars of sky blue watered ribbon about four inches wide, with the ends squared in front. They may be edged with gold lace half-an-inch in width and fringed at the ends with gold fringe, similar to that worn on the Aprons.

Past Provincial Grand Masters may have a central bar of gold lace in addition.

Grand Officers

The Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ireland shall wear Gold Chains of Office as Collars.

Chains of Office

Provincial Grand Masters, Provincial Deputy Grand Masters, Provincial Assistant Grand Masters and Grand Inspectors overseas appointed by the Grand Master under Grand Lodge Law No. 72, may wear Gold Chains of Office as Collars.

Gauntlets of Office

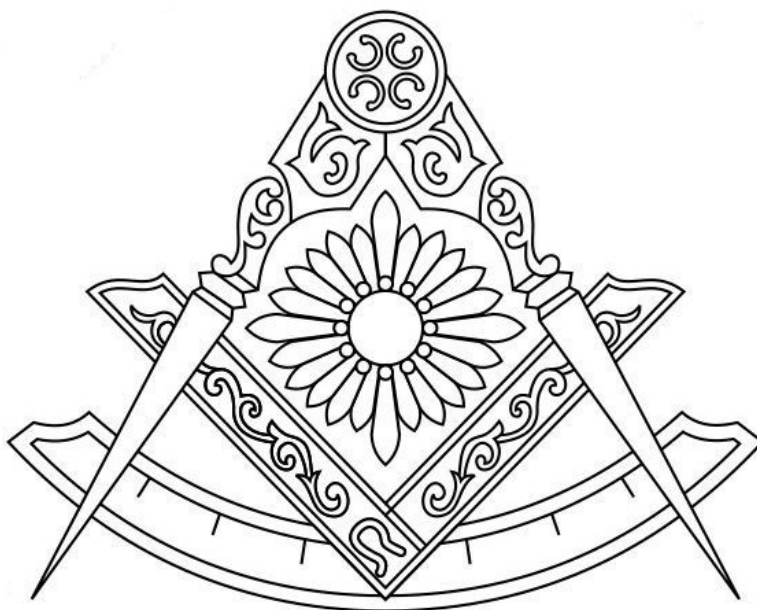
The Gauntlets of Grand Officers and of Provincial Grand Officers shall not exceed eight inches at their greatest depth. They shall be made of sky-blue watered silk, edged with gold lace, and ornamented with the Jewel or Badge of the Office to which the Bearer is entitled. The use of Gauntlets, though permitted, is not to be considered imperative except in Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge.

Jewels of Office

The Jewels of Office worn by the Officers of Subordinate Lodges shall be of Silver, including Past Masters' Jewels;

The Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Provincial and Past Provincial Grand Officers are entitled to wear Jewels of Gold and worn suspended from prescribed Collars.

The Grand Master



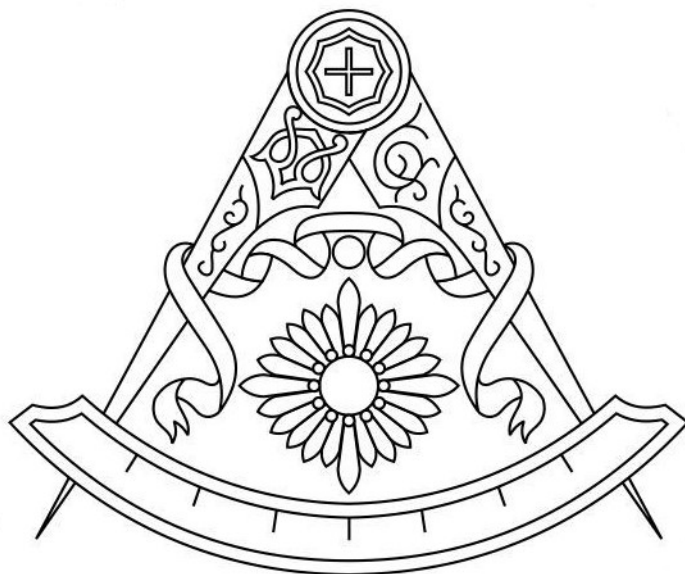
The Square and Compasses, the latter extended to 45°, with a segment of a circle at the points. In the centre a jewelled Sun irradiated

Past Grand Master



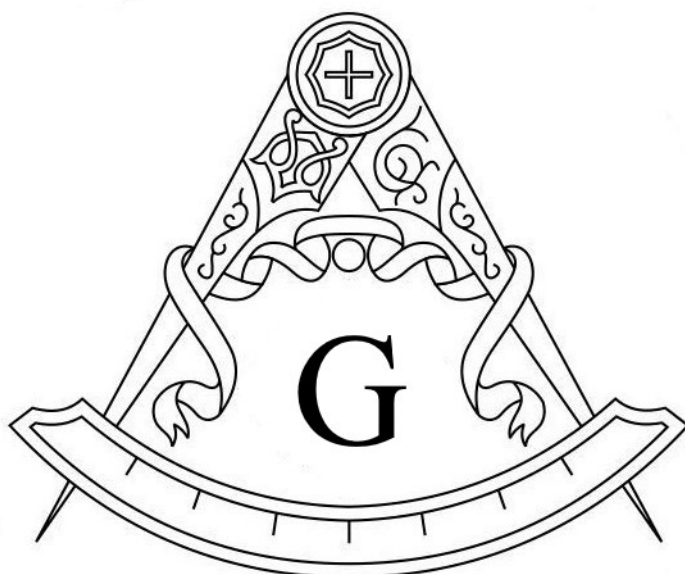
The Square and Compasses, the latter extended to 45°, with a segment of a circle at the points. In the centre the letter G

Deputy Grand Master



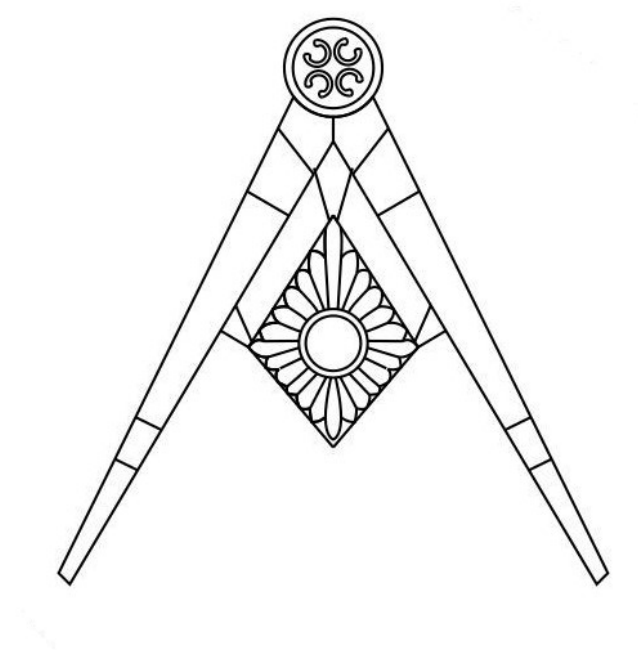
The Compasses extended to 45°, with a segment of a circle at the points, and a jewelled and irradiated Sun in the centre

Past Deputy Grand Master



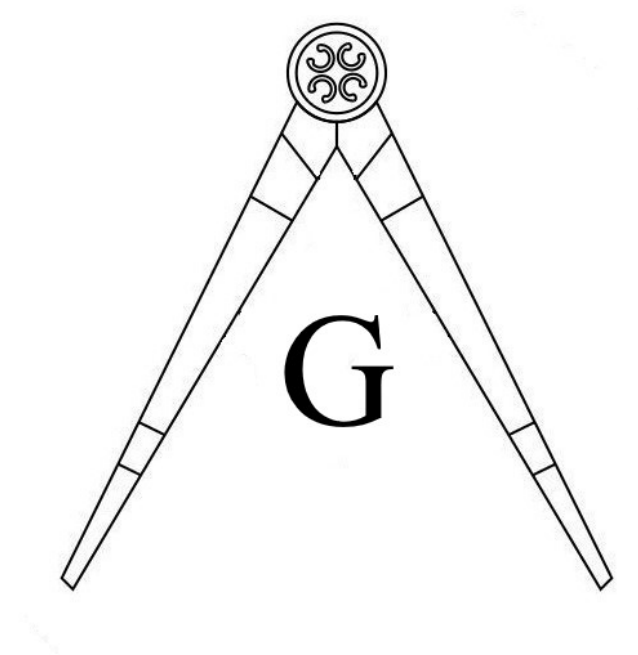
The same as the foregoing with the letter G in place of the Sun

Assistant Grand Master



The Compasses extended to 45°, and a jewelled and irradiated Sun in the centre

Past Assistant Grand Master



The same as the foregoing with the letter G in place of the Sun

Senior Grand Warden

The Level

Junior Grand Warden

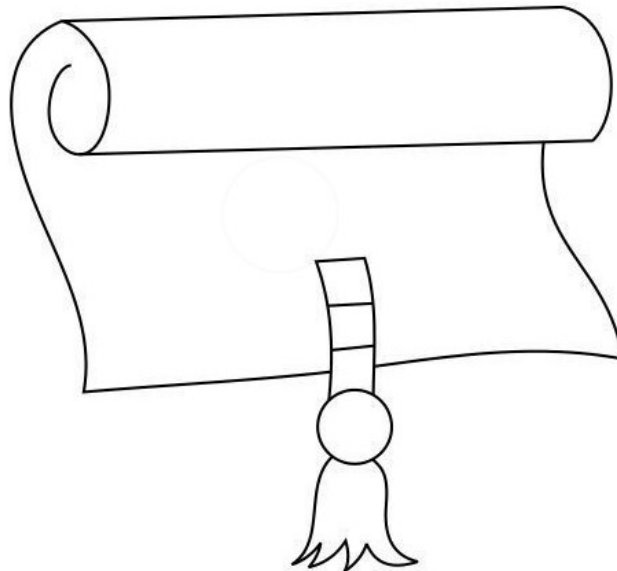


The Plumb

Grand Treasurer

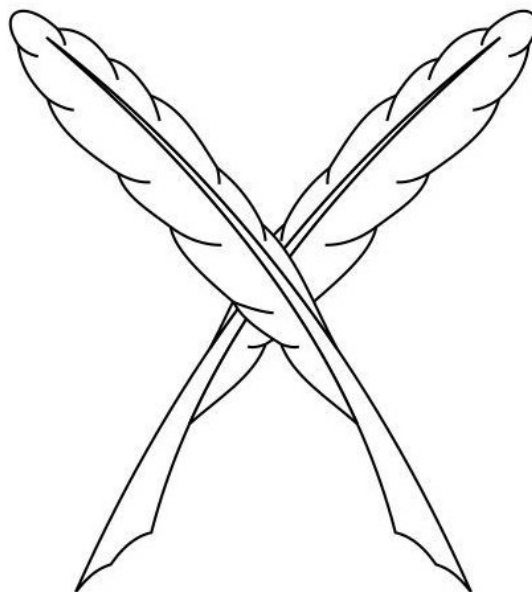
Crossed Keys

Grand Registrar



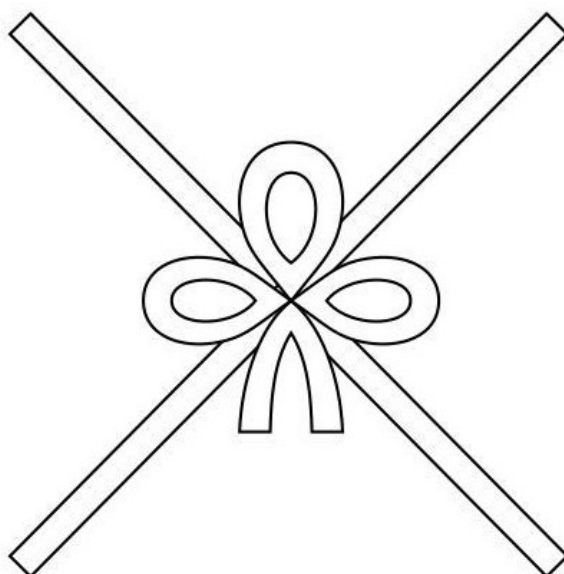
A Scroll with Seal attached

Grand Secretary



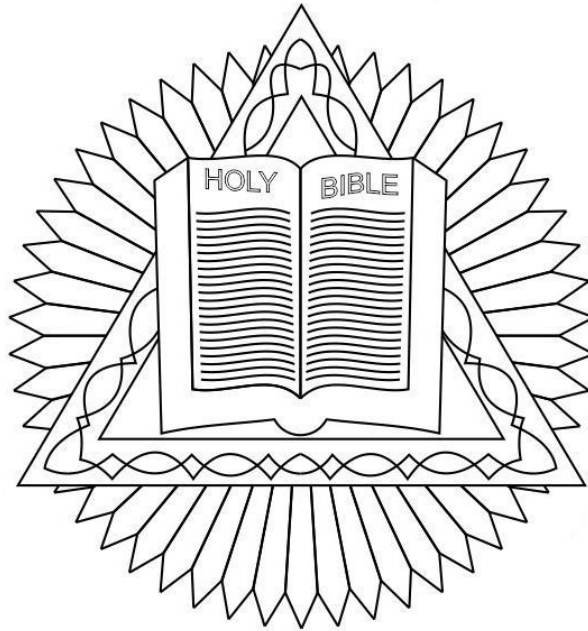
Crossed Pens

Grand Director of Ceremonies



Two Batons crossed

Grand Chaplain



An open Bible within a radiant Triangle

Grand Deacons

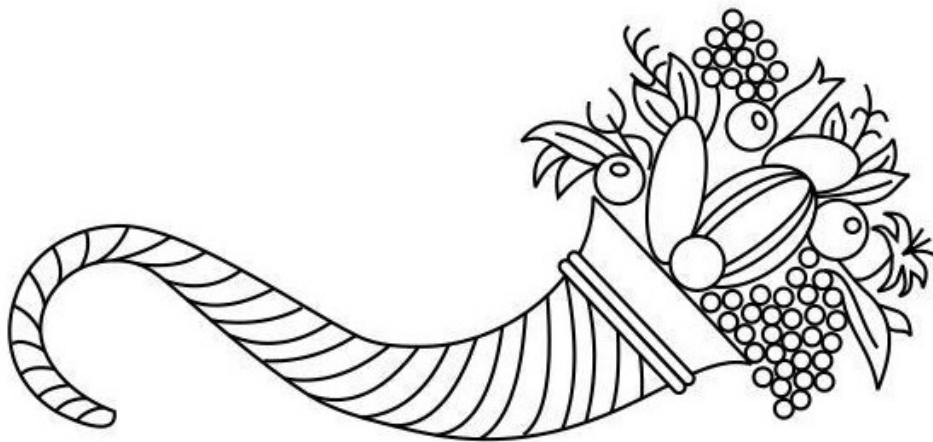


A Dove and Olive Branch, and two Wands crossed saltier-wise

Grand Superintendent of Works

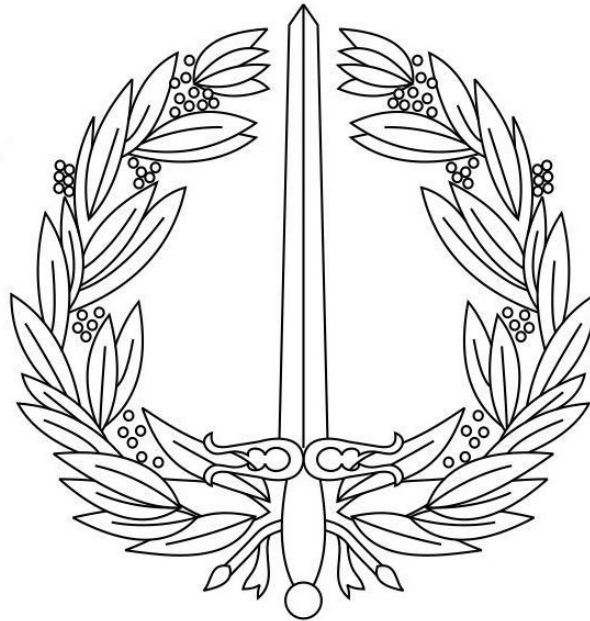
A semi-circular Protractor within a wreath of palm leaves

Grand Steward



A Cornucopia

Grand Sword Bearer

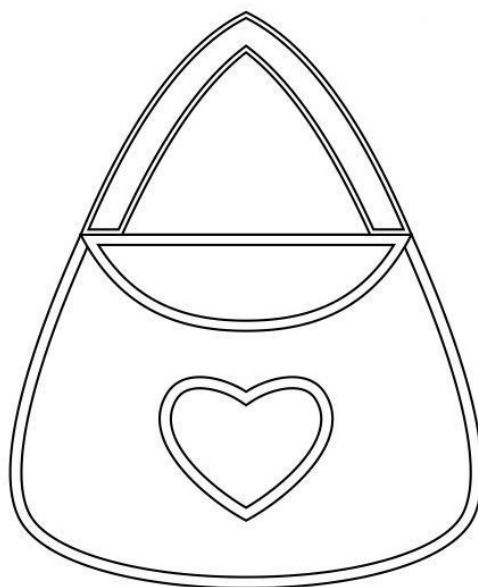


A Sword, point upwards, within a wreath of palm leaves

Grand Stewards of Charities

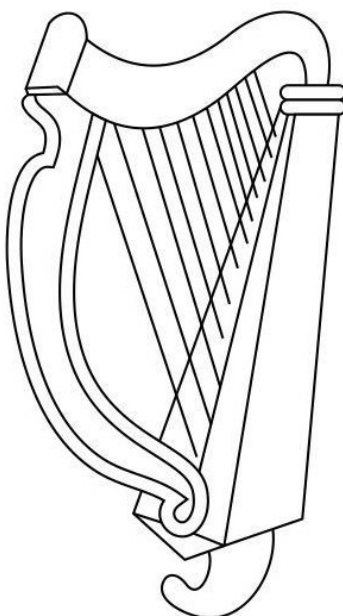
On the Sun in splendour a five pointed star having a shamrock at each point. Superimposed in the centre the All Seeing Eye with the right hand of fellowship emerging from the clouds both surrounded by a Wreath of Laurels

Grand Almoners



A Scrip-purse upon which is a heart

Grand Organist



An Irish Harp

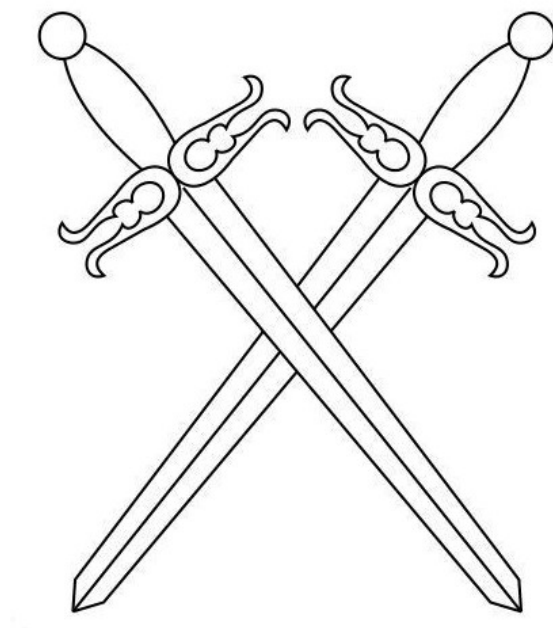
Grand Lodge Standard Bearer

The Grand Lodge Arms within a Wreath of Shamrocks.

Grand Master's Standard Bearer

The Grand Master's Arms within a Wreath of Shamrocks.

Grand Inner Guard



Two Swords crossed.

Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Instruction

The Medal of the Grand Lodge of Instruction, imposed upon two crossed Pens.

Tyler to Grand Lodge

A Sword, point downwards

Past Grand Officers

The Jewels are to be suspended from plain sky-blue ribbons round the neck, or suspended from a gold bar.

Provincial Grand Officers



Provincial Grand Officers wear the same Jewels as Grand Officers of corresponding rank, but enclosed within a broad Circle, on which is inscribed the name of the Province, and are to be worn suspended from prescribed Collars.

Past Provincial Grand Officers

The Jewels are to be suspended from plain sky-blue ribbons round the neck, or suspended from a gold bar.

Provincial Grand Inspectors

A Trowel imposed on open Volume of The Laws and Constitutions.

Overseas District Grand Rank

A trowel superimposed upon a terrestrial globe.

Grand Lodge of Instruction

The Members of the Grand Lodge of Instruction are entitled to wear a quatre-foil medal, with the words "Grand Lodge of Instruction, Ireland," on a border of blue enamel enclosing a P.M. Jewel. The medal may be worn from an enamelled bar.

Worshipful Masters of Lodges

The Square.

Past Masters

The Square and Compasses, enclosing the letter G. The Past Master's Jewel may be worn from a sky-blue ribbon or cord round the neck.

Senior Warden

The Level.

Junior Warden

The Plumb.

Treasurer

Crossed Keys.

Secretary

Crossed Pens.

Director of Ceremonies

Two Batons crossed.

Steward of Charities

On the Sun in splendour a five pointed star having a shamrock at each point. Superimposed in the centre the All Seeing Eye with the right hand of fellowship emerging From the clouds both surrounded by a Wreath of Laurels.

Almoner

A Scrip-purse upon which is a heart.

Chaplain

The Volume of the Sacred Law, open within a radiant Triangle.

Deacons

A Dove and Olive Branch, with two Wands crossed saltier-wise.

Inner Guard

Two Swords crossed.

Tyler

A Sword, point downwards.

If supplementary Officers, such as a Steward or an Organist, be appointed by a Subordinate Lodge, their Jewels of Office are to be similar to those of the corresponding Officers of Grand Lodge.

All Jewels of Office in Subordinate Lodges are to be worn suspended from the prescribed

collars, and are to be of silver.

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