



Bye - Laws
of
Lodge Chennai No. 317
CHENNAI

Date of Warrant : **2nd September, 1998**

Date of Consecration : **21st September, 1998**

Lodge Chennai No. 317

(Warranted on the 2nd day of September 1998
Corresponding to the 11th day of Bhadra 1920 Saka Era)

BYE LAWS

Bye Laws of Lodge Chennai No. 317 framed under Rule 111 of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of India.

1. **MEMBERS** : The members of the Lodge shall comprise of three classes, namely, Resident, Non-Resident and Honorary.

EXPLANATION : 1. Resident Members are those who ordinarily reside within the Corporation limits of the City of Chennai.

EXPLANATION : 2. Non-resident Members are those who ordinarily reside beyond the Corporation limits of the City of Chennai and placed on the list of Non - resident Members as provided for in Bye Law 3.

EXPLANATION : 3. Honorary Members are those elected as such by the Lodge in accordance with Rule 142 of the Book of Constitutions.

2. Any Resident Member who ceases to reside within the limits of the city of Chennai may be placed on the list of Non-resident Members on his application to the Secretary with effect from the English Calendar month following the month in which the application is received.
3. Non-resident Members residing within the limits of the City of Chennai for not less than three consecutive months shall be transferred to the list of Resident Members with

effect from the month next after the month on which the three months period is completed.

4. **SUBSCRIPTION :** Every Resident member shall pay an Annual Subscription of **Rs. 500.00** and a Steward Fund of **Rs. 100.00** and every Non-resident member shall pay an Annual Subscription of **Rs. 250.00** and a Steward Fund of **Rs. 100.00** to the Lodge. In addition, both resident and non - resident member shall pay annual dues to the Grand Lodge of India and to the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India as applicable from time to time.

(with effect from 22nd August 2005)

5. **EXCLUSION :**

- a. Any member whose subscription remain unpaid for six months shall be liable to be excluded in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 156 of B of C.
- b. Any member who has been excluded under Bye Law 5(a) may be permitted to rejoin, provided that he is regularly proposed and balloted for in accordance with Rule 138 of B of C and provided further he pays all the arrears due by him and the prescribed fee for rejoining.

6. **INITIATION AND JOINING**

- a. No candidate for initiation or joining shall be initiated or balloted for until he has signed the declaration as set forth under Rule 136 and 137 of B of C and has been duly proposed and seconded and all fees payable therefore have been paid.
- b. Application for initiation or joining shall be deposited with the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting at which the candidate is to be proposed and seconded.
- c. No candidate shall be initiated or joining Member admitted, if on the ballot two black-balls appear against him.

Provided if the Master is of the opinion that a mistake may have occurred in the ballot, he may order a second ballot to be taken forthwith and the result of such second ballot shall be finally accepted.

- d. In all cases of an unfavourable ballot, the fees previously paid by the candidate, shall be refunded.
- e. Any Candidate rejected for initiation or membership shall not be again proposed to the Lodge until the expiry of six months from the date of the last ballot.
- f. The Scale of fees payable by a candidate for initiation or re-joining shall be as follows :

1. **Initiation**

- a. Initiation fee payable to Lodge Rs. 500/-
- b. Fees payable to GLI
- c. Fees payable to RGLSI
- b & C as applicable from the time to time

2. **Joining from Indian Constitution**

- a. Joining fee payable to Lodge Rs. 300/-
- b. Fees payable to GLI
- c. Fees payable to RGLSI
- b & C as applicable from time to time

3. **Joining from other Constitution**

- a. Joining fee payable to Lodge Rs. 500/-
- b. Fees payable to GLI
- c. Fees payable to RGLSI
- b & C as applicable from time to time

4. **Rejoining :**

- a. Rejoining fee payable to Lodge Rs. 300/-
- b. Fees payable to GLI
- c. Fees payable to RGLSI
- b & C as applicable from time to time

7. Any candidate at whose request an Emergency Meeting is convened shall pay a fee of Rs. 500.00 and also such other

expenses which are incurred on account of holding such an Emergency Meeting.

8. **REGULAR MEETING :** The Regular Meeting of the Lodge shall be held at Freemasons's Hall, Chennai on the **FIRST Saturday** of every month except in the months of April, May and June at such hour may be directed by the Master from time to time. Out of nine meetings one may be an outstation meeting.

(with effect from 10th December 2003)

9. **EMERGENCY MEETING :** Emergency Meeting may be held for the purposes mentioned in the B of C and in accordance with the provision thereof.

10. **ELECTION AND INSTALLATION MEETING :**

- a. The Master and the Treasurer shall be annually elected every year at the Regular Meeting in November and shall be installed and invested at the next Regular Meeting in **December**.
- b. The Tyler shall also be elected at the Regular meeting in November.
- c. Every year the accounts of the Lodge will be closed on the **15th of November**.

(with effect from 22nd August 2005)

11. **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE :** The Lodge shall elect at the Installation meeting a Membership Committee consisting of **THREE** members for the purpose of considering and reporting to the Lodge upon the character, qualifications and the general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership of the Lodge.

12. **AUDIT COMMITTEE :** The Lodge shall annually at its regular meeting in November elect the committee prescribed in Rule 129 of the Book of Constitutions.

13. **PERMANENT COMMITTEE :**

- a. The Lodge shall, at the installation meeting, appoint a Permanent Committee which shall consist of the **Master**, the **Immediate Past Master**, the **Wardens**, the **Treasurer**, **Director of Ceremonies**, the **Secretary** and Members the **Senior Steward** with **THREE** other members elected by the members of the Lodge.
- b. The Permanent Committee shall meet at least once in every month, before the Regular Meeting, except in the months of April, May & June.
- c. It shall be the duty of the committee to check the accounts, consider arrangements for the meetings and all the matters connected with the working of the Lodge, to inspect and check all the proprieties of the Lodge and report upon the general working of the Lodge.
- d. The worshipful Master ordinarily shall preside over the Permanent Committee Meetings. In the absence of the Worshipful Master, the Immediate Past Master or in his absence, any other Past Master who is the Member of the committee shall preside over the Meeting.
- e. In order to constitute a meeting of the committee, the quorum shall be three.
- f. All matters slated in the Agenda shall be decided by decision of the majority.
- g. In the case of conflict of votes on any matter, the person who presides, shall have a second or casting vote.
- h. All proceedings of the Permanent Committee shall be signed by the person who presides.

14. **SECRETARY :**

- a. The Secretary of the Lodge shall conduct the general correspondence, issue summons for the meetings, record minutes of the proceedings, keep the member's Register and Declaration Book etc.,

- b. The Secretary along with the outgoing incumbent in the said office shall every year soon after taking charge of his office but not later than the next regular meeting of the Lodge, prepare an inventory of all articles, books and records of the Lodge and sign the same, countersigned by the Master and Immediate Past Master and place the same before the Permanent Committee for its inspection and information.
- c. He shall also keep in safe custody all records and take charge of the Lodge Seal.
- d. He shall make payments for petty contingent expenses, for which purpose he shall receive an advance of not more than Rs. 400.00 from the Treasurer from time to time.
- e. He shall be Ex-Office Secretary to all committees.

15. **TREASURER :**

- a. The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the moneys and account books of the Lodge.
- b. He shall receive all collections and remit the moneys in the bank from time to time.
- c. He shall not keep more than Rs. 200.00 at any time on hand.
- d. He shall make no payments save by the authority of the Master or other Officer in Charge of the Lodge.
- e. The Accounts shall be opened in the name of the Lodge in a Scheduled bank approved by a Resolution at the installation meeting.
- f. All Cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer and either the Master or Secretary.

16. **PROPOSITIONS :**

- a. No motion unless it is purely formal or technical shall be raised in the Lodge at any meeting for which notice has not been given in the previous Regular Meeting or by a communication addressed to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the meeting at which such proposition is to be made. The said motion shall be included in the summons.
- b. Provided the Master and the majority of the Brethren present shall have the power to enable any urgent proposition of importance to be raised and put to vote of the Lodge.
- c. No question once decided shall be raised again without the permission of the Master or until a period of 3 months had elapsed.

17. **CONSTITUTIONS :**

In respect of matters not specifically and expressly provided for in the Bye Laws, the laws and regulations of Grand Lodge of India as embodied in Book of Constitution shall apply.

18. **BYE LAWS :**

- a. It shall not be competent for the brethren to abrogate, amend, add to or alter these Bye Laws, unless the abrogation, amendment, addition or alteration shall have been approved of at one Regular Meeting and confirmed at the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge and approved by the R.W. The Regional Grand Master of Southern India and the M.W. The Grand Master.
- b. In the event of any abrogation, amendment or revision of any Bye Law of Bye Laws, the Secretary shall provide each member with a copy thereof after approval by the R.W. The Regional Grand Master of Southern India and by the M.W. The Grand Master, as above said.

- c. Every Member of the Lodge the on his initiation or joining shall be presented with a copy of these Bye Laws and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the rules contained therein duly adopted at the Consecration Meeting of the Lodge held on 21st September, 1998.

(Sd/-)

N. SURYANARAYANA MURTHY

Senior Warden

(Sd/-)

G.K. SELVARAJAN

Worshipful Master

(Sd/-)

K. SUKUMARAN

Junior Warden

(Sd/-)

P. MADHUSUDHAN

Secretary

Approved by R.W. The Regional Grand Master

(Sd/-)

K.R. RAJASEKARAN NAYAR O.S.M.

Regional Grand Master

Place : Trivandrum

Date : 18-11-1998

Approved by the Most Worshipful The Grand Master

(Sd/-)

S. KRISHNAN

Grand Secretary

Place : New Delhi

Date : 17-07-1999