



**BYE-LAWS OF
DAKSHIN MARK MASTERS LODGE
NO. 100**



PREFACE TO THE 2013 EDITION

The Bye-Laws of Dakshin Mark Masters Lodge No.100 were last printed at the time of Consecration of the Mark Lodge in 2001.

In the years since the last printing of the Bye-Laws, which had some typographical errors, the stock of available copies of the same were exhausted. It was thus imperative to re-print these Bye-Laws incorporating the necessary corrections. This 2013 edition of the Bye-Laws incorporates them all.

I hope that the members of Dakshin Mark Masters Lodge No.100 will find this edition useful.

Chennai
28th July 2013

V.W. Bro. BHARAT V. EPUR
Worshipful Master



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BYE - LAWS

OF

DAKSHIN MARK MASTERS LODGE No. 100

Under the authority granted by the Grand Mark Lodge of India, a Lodge of Mark Master Masons under the name and style of DAKSHIN MARK MASTERS LODGE No.100. shall be held by rotation at Freemasons' Hall, Chennai, or Freemasons' Hall, Bangalore, or Gosha Mahal Baradari, Hyderabad, or St.John's Hall, Secunderabad, or Freemasons' Hall, Trivandrum, or at any other venue or place as may be decided by the Mark Lodge and with dispensation from R.W. the Regional Grand Mark Master of the Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India.

1. Membership :

The Members shall comprise only of two classes viz.. Subscribing Members and Honorary Members.

2. Meetings :

- (a) Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held on the 3rd Sunday of March, July and November every year at such hour as may be directed by the Master for each Meeting.
- (b) Emergency Meetings of the Lodge may at any time be called by the authority of the Master and the business to be strictly in accordance with Rule 90 of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Mark Lodge of India. Any fee charged shall be to the account of the person / persons on whose behalf the emergency meeting is to be held

- c) Summons convening the Regular / Emergency Meetings shall be despatched by the Secretary to all members of the Lodge at least seven days before the date of each meeting.

3. Election and Installation Meetings:

The Master shall be elected annually at the Regular Meeting the Lodge in November and shall be installed at the next regular Meeting in March.

The Treasurer and the Tyier shall be elected and chosen respectively each year at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge in November and invested at the Installation Meeting in March.

4. Members:

The Members comprising of Subscribing and Honorary Members shall be Ruling or Past Masters of any Mark Lodge.

Admission of Members:

- (a) Any Mark Master or Past Master of a Mark Lodge desirous of Joining or Rejoining shall be proposed and seconded at a Regular Meeting and ballotted for at the next Regular Meeting, the Summons in respect of which shall clearly spell out the full particulars as required by Rule 98 (c) of the Book of Constitutions.
- (b) Any such proposal for Joining or Rejoining may also be made by letter addressed to the Secretary of the Mark Lodge, 15 days before any Regular Meeting and the same may be incorporated in the Agenda of the Regular Meeting for ballotting and for Joining or Rejoining as the case may be.

5. Ballot and Voting:

- (a) No Brother shall be admitted as a Joining or Rejoining Member of the Lodge if, on the ballot more than the number of black balls as specified under the relevant Rules of Book of Constitution of Grand Mark Lodge of India shall appear against him. In the event of an unfavourable ballot, the candidate shall not be re-proposed until after the lapse of one year from the date of rejection.
- (b) In all cases where the votes of brethren on any proposition are equal, the W. Master shall have a second or casting vote.

6. Fees and Subscription:

- (a) The following shall be the scale of admission fees:

- i. Fee for joining from a Lodge under
Grand Mark Lodge of India - Rs. 200.00
plus GMLI and RGML of SI Joining fees
- ii. Fee for joining from a Lodge under
other Constitution - Rs. 250.00
plus GMLI and RGML of SI Joining fees
- iii. Re-joining Fee - Rs.200.00
plus GMLI and RGML Joining fees

- (b) The above fees are payable before Joining or Re-Joining.
- (c) Membership subscription will be as follows:
- i. Rs.250/- payable to the Mark Lodge per year

PLUS

- ii. Such annual dues payable to the Grand Mark Lodge of India as may be fixed from time to time

PLUS

- iii. Such annual dues payable to the Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India as may be fixed from time to time. The above subscriptions shall be payable in advance each year.

A Candidate for Joining / Re-Joining at any part of the year shall pay the full annual subscription together with the admission fees for Advancement, or Joining / Re-Joining as the case may be. Honorary Members are not liable to pay any fees.

- (d) If a Serving Brother is elected as a Tyler, he may either be exempted from paying his regular Lodge subscription or he may be paid such remuneration for every meeting he attends, as the Lodge may vote from time to time.

7. Exclusion:

If any Brother allows his subscription to be in arrears for more than a year, the Secretary shall advise him of the amount due, by Registered Post, and if the full amount is not paid within thirty days thereof, he shall be liable for exclusion under Rule 109 of the Book of Constitution.

8. Resignation:

Any Brother desirous of resigning from the Lodge may notify the same by letter to the Secretary, and such notice unless

withdrawn, shall take effect from the date on which it is given. Any member who has resigned will be permitted to rejoin on payment of Re-Joining Fees and any arrears due, but shall be subject to fresh ballot.

Duties of Officers:

- (a) **Secretary** : The Secretary shall conduct all the general business and correspondence of the Lodge and he shall keep record of the proceedings of the Regular and Emergency Meetings of the Lodge in the Minutes Book and read the same at the next Regular Meeting for confirmation. He shall maintain in a separate book, a record of Meetings of Standing and Audit Committees. He shall maintain a Membership Register and preserve all records, files, documents etc., of the Lodge.

He shall be entrusted with a maximum sum of Rs.500/ (Rupees Five Hundred only) for contingent expenses for which he shall render accounts to the Treasurer periodically.

- (b) **Treasurer** : He shall have charge of and be responsible for the money and account books of the Lodge. He shall enter details of the money received viz., subscriptions and other dues and of all payments made in the appropriate books of account. He shall deposit, without any delay, such sums of money as have been received, in an account standing in the name of the Lodge with a Scheduled Bank duly approved by the resolution of the Lodge. Such Bank account will be operated by any two of the following: viz. the Treasurer and any one of the W.Master, or the Secretary. All payments

above the sum of Rs.100/- (Rupees One hundred only) shall be generally made by cheque.

He shall have authority to pay all routine expenses of the Lodge such as dues to the Grand Mark Lodge of India Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India, premises rent, etc., as and when they fall due. But all other payments shall be made by the authority of the Lodge.

At the Installation Meeting accounts of the Lodge drawn upto the end of February every year, shall be presented, duly audited and certified by the Audit Committee. The Treasurer shall at every Regular Meeting submit and read in open Lodge the Statement of Accounts.

- c) **Tyler :** The Tyler shall prepare the Lodge for the meetings, and see that every brother whether a member or visitor, is properly clothed before entering the Lodge. He shall be in charge of the Warrant, Regalia, etc. of the Lodge.

10. Standing and Audit Committees :

There shall be a Standing Committee composed of the W. Master, Immediate Past Master, Present Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies and two brethren elected at the Installation Meeting. There shall also be an Audit Committee of two brethren who are not members of the Standing Committee, elected at the Installation Meeting. The duties of the Standing Committee shall be to consider the application of Candidates for joining or rejoining, check the accounts of the Lodge, check all properties of the Lodge and report on matters leading to the improvement of the Lodge. The

Audit Committee shall verify and audit the Annual Statement of Accounts of the Lodge and shall certify the correctness thereof before being circulated to all Members prior to the Installation Meeting.

Propositions :

Every proposition for the consideration of the Lodge shall be proposed by one Member and seconded by another. No proposition shall be considered at a Meeting unless notice of it had been given at the previous Meeting or forwarded in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days ahead for inclusion in the Summons before the Meeting at which the proposition is to be considered.

12. Property :

Furniture, Regalia, the Charter and other properties of the Lodge shall be vested in the care of the Worshipful Master and Wardens. An inventory of such property shall be recorded by them in a book kept for that purposes and such Inventory shall be presented at the Installation Meeting signed by the Worshipful Master and Wardens. The Worshipful Master and Wardens, if they so desire, may entrust the properties mentioned above to the Secretary on their behalf for proper care and custody.

13. Byelaws :

- (a) Every Member, on admission, shall be presented with a copy of the Bye Laws of the Lodge and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed his submission thereto.

- (b) The Bye Laws shall be read in open Lodge at least once in a year.
- (c) It shall not be competent to the Brethren of the Lodge to abrogate, amend, or alter these Bye laws unless the abrogation, amendment or alteration shall have been moved in open Lodge and are confirmed at the immediately subsequent Regular Meeting and thereafter approved by R.W. the Regional Grand Mark Master, Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India and M.W. the Grand Master of the Grand Mark Lodge of India.

CERTIFIED that these Bye laws have been duly adopted at the CONSECRATION AND CONSTITUTION Meeting of Dakshin Mark Masters Lodge No. 100 held on 25th November 2001 at Bangalore.

(sd.) Arun Chintopanth
W. Master

(sd.) V. Sarangapani
Senior Warden

(sd.) R. Velayudham
Secretary

(sd.) G.K. Selvarajan
Junior Warden

Approved by R.W. The Regional Grand Mark Master

Place: Chennai
Date : 31.01.2002

(sd.) Arun Chintopanth
Regional Grand Mark Master

Approved by M.W. The Grand Master

Place: New Delhi
Date : 19.04.2002

(sd.) Harish Gupta
Grand Secretary