

BYE LAWS

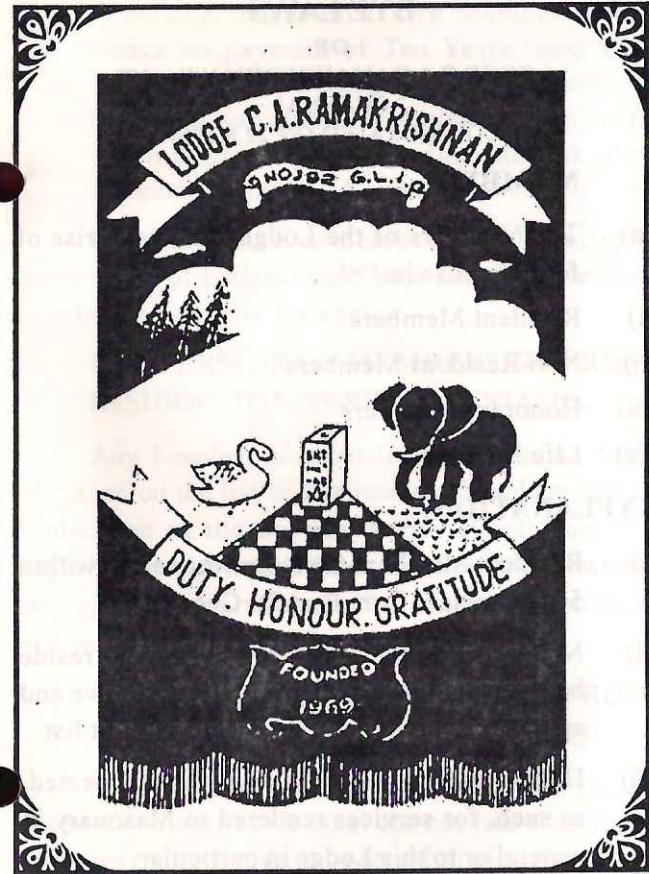
OF

Lodge C.A.RAMAKRISHNAN

No.: 192



CHENNAI  
CONSECRATED  
ON 22.8.1969



**BYE LAWS**  
OF  
**LODGE C.A.RAMAKRISHNAN No.:192**  
CHENNAI  
CONSECRATED ON 22.8.1969

**1. MEMBERS :**

- (a) The Members of the Lodge shall comprise of four classes viz:
  - (i) Resident Members
  - (ii) Non-Resident Members
  - (iii) Honorary Members
  - (iv) Life Members

**EXPLANATION:**

- (i) Resident Members are those who reside within 50 kilometers from Fort St. George.
- (ii) Non-Resident Members are those who reside beyond the limits as explained in (i) above and apply to be brought on the Non-Resident list
- (iii) Honorary Members are those who are elected, as such, for services rendered to Masonry in general or to this Lodge in particular.

- (iv) A member becomes a Life Member of the Lodge on payment of Ten Years lump sum subscription as on date payable to the Lodge, if he was a subscribing member for 25 years continuously in this- Lodge and has also attained the age of 55 years.

Provided that a member with Multiple membership of Lodges could become a Life Member in only one Lodge of his choice.

**2. CONVERSION OF MEMBERSHIP FROM RESIDENT TO NON-RESIDENT STATUS.**

Any Resident Member leaving Chennai, shall be placed on the list of Nonresident Members on his application to the Secretary with effect from the English Calender month following the month in which the application is received. The revised subscription will be applicable from the ensuing year.

**3. CONVERSION OF MEMBERSHIP FROM NON-RESIDENT TO RESIDENT STATUS:**

Non-Resident Members on their return to Chennai and stay in Chennai for not less than three consecutive months shall be transferred to the list of

Resident Members with effect from the first month after the month on which the three months period is completed. The revised subscription will be applicable from the ensuing year.

#### **4. CONVERSION OF MEMBERSHIP FROM EITHER RESIDENT OR NON-RESIDENT TO LIFE STATUS :**

Both Resident and Non -- Resident Members who become eligible can opt to convert their membership status to that of Life Member by paying the prescribed Life Membership fee, as per Bye Law No: 7 and according to Bye Law No: I -(.iv).

#### **5. MEETINGS :**

The regular meetings of the Lodge will be held on the fourth Saturday of January, February, March, April, July, August, September, October, and November.

Emergency Meetings may be held in accordance with Rule 116 of the Book of Constitutions. The expenses of any emergency meeting and dispensation fee, if any due to the Regional Grand Lodge shall be defrayed by the brother at whose instance the meeting is held and dispensation obtained.

6. **ELECTION & INSTALLATION MEETINGS :**
  - (a) The election of the Worshipful Master and Treasurer will take place in the Regular Meeting in November and Installation Meeting will be held in January
  - (b) The Worshipful Master shall be elected by ballot at the Regular Meeting in November and, installed at the next Regular Installation Meeting in January.
  - (c) The Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the Regular Meeting in November and -invested at the next Regular Installation Meeting in January.
  - (d) The Tyler shall be selected by show of hands at the Regular Meeting in November and invested at the next Regular Installation Meeting in January.
7. **SUBSCRIPTION AND FEES**

The following shall-be the Subscription and the fee payable in advance:

*Annual subscription :*

Resident Members	Rs.1300
Non- Resident Members	Rs. 650

*Fee :*

Initiation	Rs. 2000
Joining from Indian Constitution	Rs.1500
Joining from other recognized constitutions	Rs. 1500
Re-Joining	Rs 1500

Annual subscription shall be paid in the beginning of each year.

**8. ADMISSION & RETIREMENT OF MEMBERS:**

- a. No candidate for freemasonry shall be initiated and no brother shall be admitted as a Joining member of the Lodge unless, two thirds of the members present and voting -shall vote in his favour.
- b. A candidate for Initiation or Joining shall furnish three passport size photographs along with the proposal forms to enable the lodge to maintain an album of its members.

c. A candidate rejected for initiation or joining shall not be again proposed in the Lodge until after the lapse of six months from the date of last ballot.

d. A member whose Subscription remains unpaid till December 31st of the said year shall come under automatic cessation as per Rule 124 of the Book of constitutions.

e. A member who has resigned or- has ceased to be a member or has been excluded for non-payment of dues, shall be permitted to rejoin only on payment of all the arrears together- with his re-joining fee and shall be Subject to a fresh ballot.

**9. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The Lodge shall annually elect at the Installation Meeting a Membership -Committee consisting of three members for the purpose of considering and reporting to the Permanent Committee upon the character, qualifications and the general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership in the Lodge for consideration by the Permanent Committee.

## 10. AUDIT COMMITTEE

The lodge shall annually elect at the Installation Meeting an Audit committee consisting of two members, as prescribed in Rule 129 of the Book of Constitutions, for the purpose of conducting the Audit of the Accounts of the Lodge.

## 11. PERMANENT COMMITTEE

- (a) The Worshipful Master, IPM, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, Senior Deacon, three Past Masters and two other members elected at the Installation Meeting shall constitute the permanent committee.
- (b) The permanent committee shall meet atleast once a month except in the month of May, June and December before the Regular Meeting.
- (c) It shall be the duty of the Committee to check the accounts, make arrangements for the meetings and consider all matters connected with the working of the Lodge, to inspect and check all the properties of the Lodge and report upon the general working of the Lodge.

(d) The Worshipful Master 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 a member- of the committee shall preside over the meeting.

- (e) In order to constitute a meeting of the permanent committee, the quorum shall be three.
- (f) All the matters shall be decided by a majority decision.
- (g) In the case of conflict of votes on any matter, the person who presides shall have a Second or casting vote.

## 12. SECRETARY

- (a) The Secretary of the Lodge shall conduct the general correspondence, issue Summons for all meetings, record Minutes of the Proceedings, keep the Members Register and Declaration Book.
- (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 articles, books and records of the Lodge and sign the same, countersigned by the Worshipful Master and the Immediate Past Master and place the same before the permanent committee for its inspection and information.

- (c) The Secretary shall also keep in safe custody all records.
- (d) The Secretary shall make payments for petty contingent expenses for which purpose he shall receive an advance of not more than Rs. 500 from the Treasurer from time to time. All payments made by him shall be accounted for with vouchers, bills or self declaration as the case may be.
- (e) The secretary shall be the Ex-Officio Secretary to all Committees.

### **13 TREASURER**

- (a) The Treasurer shall have charge of and responsible for all the moneys and account books of the Lodge..
- (b) The Treasurer shall receive all collections and remit the money in bank from time to time.

- (c) The Treasurer shall not keep more than Rs. 500 at any time on hand.
- (d) The Treasurer shall make payments for ordinary expenses on the authority of the Worshipful Master or the 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 must be signed by any two of the following namely the Worshipful Master, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
- (g) The Treasurer shall submit his accounts to the regular meeting of the Lodge and to the Permanent Committee meeting.

### **14. STEWARDS FUND**

A Stewards Fund shall be constituted.. A sum of Rs. 25/- per resident member in good standing shall be transferred annually from the Lodge account to the Stewards Fund. Out of the amount so due, and transferred to the Stewards' Fund. 80% Of Rs.25/- (i.e Rs. 20 per resident member) shall be paid to the Master-Elect to defray part of the banquet expenses on the Installation night.

## 15. EXCLUSION

- (a) If any member whose Subscription for a period of six months or more remains unpaid shall be liable to exclusion under the provisions of Rule 156 of the Book of constitutions.
- (b) Any Member who has been excluded under bye-laws No.-15(a) may be permitted to rejoin, provided that he is regularly proposed and balloted for in accordance with rule 138 of 'the Book of Constitutions and provided further he pays all arrears due from him and the prescribed fee for rejoining.

## 16. PROPOSITIONS :

- (a) No motion shall be made or discussed in the Lodge which is not mentioned in the summons unless, in case of emergency or the Master directs otherwise.
- (b) No question Once decided in the open Lodge, shall be raised again for consideration without the permission of Master or until 3 months shall have elapsed after the last decision.

## 17. LODGE PROPERTY

The control of the Lodge property shall, be as provided in Rule 119 of the Book of Constitutions.

## 18. CONSTITUTIONS

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

## 19. 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 duly proposed and seconded at one Regular Meeting, approved at the next Regular Meeting and thereafter, confirmed at the following Regular Meeting of the Lodge, and approved by the R.W., The Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India and the M.W., The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of India.

(b) In the event of any abrogation, amendment or revision of any Bye Law or Bye Laws, the secretary shall provide each member with a copy thereof after obtaining approval from the R.W., The Regional Grand Master of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India and the M.W., The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of India.

(c) Every Member of the Lodge on his Initiation or Joining shall be presented with a copy of the Bye Laws and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the Rules contained therein.

\*\*\*\*\*

## REVISION OF BYE LAWS

- ★ Approved by the Permanent Committee on 29-11-2002
- ★ Proposed and seconded in open lodge at the 357th Regular Meeting on 29-11-2002.
- ★ Approved in open lodge at the 360th Regular Installation meeting on 1-2-2003
- ★ Confirmed in open lodge at the 361st regular meeting on 22-2-2003.

Approved by the Regional Grand Master on 17-11-2003.

Approved by the Grand Lodge of India on 25-11-2003.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CONFIRMED IN OPEN LODGE

(sd.) V. Vasant Kumar  
W. Master  
(sd.) Rajesh Mani Senior Warden.  
(sd.) D. Vijay Shankar Junior Warden  
(Sd.) S. Siva Shanmugam Secretary

Approved  
(sd.) Dr. B. Biswa Kumar  
Regional Grand Master

Approved my M.W. The Grand Master  
(sd.) Dr. Harish Gupta  
Grand Secretary

---

Printed : January 2004 (200 Copies)  
Proof Approved : Bro. S. Siva Shanmugam

---

## AMENDMENTS

1970 Meeting Day amended to 3rd Thursday, instead of 3rd Wednesday, of January, February, March, July, August, September October and November

1971 Meetings amended to include April as an additional Month for holding Meetings.

1972 Meetings amended as - Penultimate day of the month January, February, March, April, July, August, September, October and November.

1974 Permanent Committee - to include all Past Masters.

1975 Meetings - Regular Meetings fall on Sundays, to hold the same on the previous or next day.

1976 Non Resident Members clause introduced and fees amended.

1983 Stewards Fund clause introduced.

1995 Fees amended.

1996 Fees amended.

1999 Fees amended.

2002 Meetings amended as 4th Saturday of months January, February, March, April, July, August, September, October and November instead of Penultimate day.

2003 Revision of Bye-Laws.

---