

21 NOV 2005



Bye-laws
of
Lodge Engineers

No. 340

CHENNAI

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Bye-laws of Lodge Engineers No. 340, framed under Rule 111 of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of India.

MEMBERS

1. The Members of the Lodge shall comprise of four classes namely, Resident, Non-resident, Honorary and Life.

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 the Non-resident members as provided for in Bye-law No. 2.

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

Explanation : (4) Life members are those who are member of the Lodge, and has been a subscribing member of one or more Lodges continuously for 20 years and has also attained the age of 55 years may become a Life Member of the Lodge on payment of 7 years lump sum subscription provided that a member with multiple membership of Lodges could become a Life member in one of the Lodges of his choice. Moreover the Life Membership subscription so paid will be exclusive of the Grand Lodge and Regional Grand Lodge dues which shall be payable in addition, at the rates as applicable from time to time. The subscription amount shall be as per Bye-law No. 10.

2. Any Resident Member, who ceases to reside within the Corporation limits of the City of Chennai may be placed by the Lodge 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 such an application is received. The revised subscription will be applicable from the ensuing year.
3. Non-resident Members, who reside within the corporation 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 in which three months period is completed. The revised subscription will be applicable from the ensuing year.

MEETINGS

4. The Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held at Freemasons' Hall, 87, Ethiraj Salai,

Chennai - 600 008, on the First Wednesday of every month except in the months of May and June at such hour as may be directed by the Worshipful Master from time to time.

EMERGENCY MEETING

5. Emergency Meetings of the Lodge may be held for the purposes mentioned in the Book of Constitutions and in accordance with the provisions thereof.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION MEETINGS

6. The master shall annually be elected at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge in September and shall be installed at the next Regular meeting in October.
7. The Treasurer shall be annually elected at the regular meeting of the Lodge in September.

8. The Tyler shall also be chosen at the Regular Meeting in September.

FEES AND SUBSCRIPTION

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|---|-------------|
| 9. Fees for initiation | Rs. 5000.00 |
| Fees for joining from a Lodge
under the Grand Lodge of India | Rs. 4000.00 |
| Fees for joining from a Lodge
under any other constitution | Rs. 6000.00 |
| Fees for re-joining | Rs. 4000.00 |

The above fees are payable in advance before initiation or joining or re-joining as the case may be.

10. The accounting year will be from 1st September to 31st August. The annual subscription and other dues shall be collected for this period every year.

The subscription payable shall be as follows :

Resident Member per year Rs. 1000.00

Non-resident Member per year Rs. 500.00

Honorary members shall not be liable for any fees payable to the Lodge. The subscription shall be payable in advance at the beginning of each year.

11. Members shall also pay the dues as demanded by the Grand Lodge and Regional Grand Lodge from time to time along with the subscription.

- 11a. Any member, whose subscription remains unpaid for three full months after it becomes due, shall be deprived, while so in default of all or any of the rights of voting, proposing or seconding a candidate and being appointed or elected to offices and he shall further be liable for exclusion in accordance with provision contained in Rule 156 of the Book of Constitution.

- 11b. Any member of the Lodge may resign his membership by notifying such resignation by written notice to the Secretary or by declaration in open Lodge. The resignation takes effect in accordance with Rule 158 of the Book of constitutions. Any member who has resigned his membership, will be permitted to Re-join on payment of Re-joining fee, and any arrears due but shall be subjected to a fresh ballot.

ADMISSIONS OF MEETINGS

12. Every candidate for initiation or Brother for joining or rejoining must be proposed and seconded by members in good standing at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge.

Every candidate for initiation or any Brother for joining or re-joining must be qualified engineer or an architect with a degree or diploma from an University or a Central /

State Technical education Board / Department
or Member/Associate Member of the
Institute of Engineers.

13. No person shall be considered for being admitted as a Member of the Lodge unless and until the Membership Committee of the Lodge considers and reports to the Lodge upon the character, qualification and general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership.
14. Applications for Initiation or Joining or Re-joining shall be deposited with the Secretary at least seven days before the Meeting at which the candidate is to be proposed and seconded.
15. No candidate for Initiation, or Joining from a recognized constitution other than the Grand Lodge of India shall be initiated or balloted for until he has signed a declaration as set forth

under Rules 136 and 137 of the Book of constitutions and has been duly proposed and seconded and all fees payable therefore have been paid.

16. A candidate for initiation or a Brother desirous of Joining or Re-joining the Lodge shall be eligible to be made a Member on his securing two third of the votes cast in the meeting when the matter comes up for election. In case of doubt, the Master may immediately cause a second ballot to be taken and if it proves unfavourable, it shall be final. In every case, the Secretary shall communicate the result of the ballot to the candidate. In all cases of unfavourable ballot, the fees shall be returned at the time information is furnished to him.
17. A candidate or a Brother rejected on ballot shall not be eligible to be proposed again until after the expiry of six months from the date of such rejection.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

18. 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 Lodge upon the character, qualifications and the general desirability of the candidates proposed for Membership in the Lodge.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

19. 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. It shall be the duty of the committee to submit at the Installation meeting an Annual report on the financial position of the Lodge.

STANDING COMMITTEE

20. A) The Lodge shall at the Installation Meeting appoint a Standing Committee which shall consist of the Worshipful Master, the Immediate Past Master, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Director of Ceremonies and two other Members to be elected by the Lodge. The Master may invite any Past Master to attend any meeting of the Standing Committee.
- B) The Standing Committee shall meet at least once a month, except in the months of May and June 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 Standing 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 Standing Committee, the quorum shall be five.

F) All 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.

H) All proceedings of the Standing Committee shall be signed by the person who presides.

SECRETARY

21. (i) The Secretary of the Lodge shall conduct the general correspondence, issue summonses for all meetings, record minutes of the proceedings, keep the Member's Register and the Declaration Book.

(ii) 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 Immediate Past Master and place the same before the Standing Committee for its inspection and information.

(iii) The Secretary shall also keep in safe custody all records and take charge of the Lodge Seal.

(iv) He shall, immediately they are due, prepare the returns, for the Grand Lodge and Regional Grand Lodge and forward them, through the W. Master, together with all fees and contributions due thereon to the authorities concerned.

(v) The Secretary shall be the Ex-Officio Secretary to all Committees.

TREASURER

22. (i) The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the moneys and account books of the Lodge.

(ii) The Treasurer shall receive all collections and remit the money in the bank from time to time.

(iii) The Treasurer shall make no payments save on the authority of the Worshipful Master or the Officer in charge of the Lodge.

(iv) The Accounts shall be opened in the name of the Lodge in a Scheduled Bank approved by a Resolution at the Installation Meeting.

(v) All Cheques must be signed by any two of the following : the Worshipful Master, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

(vi) The Treasurer shall prepare a statement of accounts annually made up as on 31st August of each year showing the exact financial position of the Lodge and submit the same to the audit committee as early as possible in the month of September every year.

(vii) The Treasurer shall at every regular meeting submit and read in open Lodge a monthly statement of accounts.

TYLER

23. The Tyler shall prepare the Lodge for the Meeting and see that every Brother, whether a Member or visitor, is properly clothed, previous to admission into the Lodge.

The Tyler shall also be incharge of the Collars, Aprons etc. belonging to the Lodge.

PROPOSTION AND DISCUSSIONS

24. No proposition shall be entertained until it has been duly seconded, and when a motion has been duly made and seconded, the opinion of the Brethrens present who may wish to speak thereon shall be taken before it is put to vote: but no vote shall be taken on any proposal until due notice has been given in the summons. The Bye-law shall not have reference to the subject matter pertaining to correspondence brought up by the Secretary, subject to the discretionary powers of the Worshipful Master.

25. No Member shall be entitled to speak more than once upon any question before the Lodge, except strictly in explanation; but the Member shall have the right to reply, after all the Members, who may wish to do so, shall have addressed the Lodge.
26. Whenever a Brother may have occasion to speak in Lodge, he shall do so standing, in order, and shall address his remark to the Worshipful Master in calm and decorous language.
27. To preserve the Harmony of the Lodge, the Master shall have the discretionary power.
28. Any Resolution duly passed in the open Lodge shall be binding on all the Members of the Lodge. No motion shall be made or discussed in the Lodge which is not mentioned in the Summons, unless, incase of emergency, the Master directs otherwise. No question once decided in open Lodge shall be raised again a second time without the

permission of the Master or until three months shall have lapsed after its discussion.

LODGE PROPERTY

29. Property of every description belonging to the Lodge shall be vested in the Worshipful Master and the Wardens for the time being, in trust for the Lodge, except as may be otherwise provided for.
30. An inventory of the whole of the Lodge property shall be entered into a book, which shall be countersigned by himself and his wardens. Such verification shall be reported in the immediate regular meeting after installation.
31. The warrant, Jewels and Volumes of sacred Laws belonging to the Lodge, shall be in charge of the Worshipful Master, or such other Officers as he may appoint.

CONSTITUTIONS

32. 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.

BYE - LAWS

33. i) 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.

(ii) 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.

iii) Every Member of the Lodge 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.

Adopted unanimously at the Consecration and constitution of the Lodge held on Saturday, 2nd August 2003 at Freemasons' Hall, Chennai.