

CHAPTER ASOKA NO.156

BYE - LAWS

Under the authority granted by the Supreme Grand Chapter of India, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons under the name and style of Chapter ASOKA No.156, was consecrated at Chennai on the 22nd day of October 2016, corresponding to the 22nd day of Ashwina 1938, Saka Era, to meet at Freemasons' Hall, No.14, Ethiraj Salai, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

MEMBERSHIP

The Members of the Chapter shall comprise of two classes viz., Members and Honorary Members, Honorary Member would be a Companion who has done service to a daughter Chapter or to the Order.

MEETINGS

a)The Chapter shall meet on the second Tuesday in the months of January, April and July and October at Freemasons' Hall, No.14, Ethiraj Salai, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008 at 6.30 p.m. or at such hour as the Principals may fix from time to time.

b)An Emergency convocation may be called by summons of the First Principal or the other two Principals with the concurrence of the First Principal, if present and seven clear days notice shall be given of every Chapter of Emergency. The reason for convening such meetings shall be stated in the summons and no other business shall be transacted.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION MEETINGS

The Three Principals shall be elected annually by ballot in the month of July and shall be Installed and Invested at the next succeeding Convocation of the Chapter in October. The Janitor shall be elected by show of hands. Companions may empower the Principals Elect to appoint the rest of the Officers under R.A. Regulations 52.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

- a) Candidates for Exaltation and Companions desirous of being admitted as Members of this Chapter shall submit an application in the form approved by the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and must be duly proposed and seconded at a Regular Convocation or by Notice in writing transmitted to Scribe E atleast 14 days before the next Regular Convocation.

v. k. guptha

- b) Applications for Exaltation and Joining shall first be placed before the permanent committee or such committee authorised by the Principals for recommendation and thereafter will be included in the summons for the next regular convocation or Chapter of Emergency when the decision of the Members shall be declared as laid out in the Royal Arch Regulations.
- c) A Candidate or Companion, rejected on ballot for Exaltation or Membership shall not be eligible to be proposed again until after the expiry of One Year from the date of such rejection.

EXALTATION AND JOINING FEES

The fees for exaltation and joining including Grand Chapter Registry and Certificate shall be as follows:

Exaltation Fees Rs.2000/-

Joining from Indian Constitution Rs.2000/-

Joining from Other Constitution Rs.2000/-

Rejoining Fees Rs.2000/-

Additionally, Annual Subscription payable to the Chapter as per Bye-Laws.

The above fees are payable in advance before Exaltation or Joining.

MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION

Every Companion shall pay an annual subscription of Rs.500/- and the prevailing annual dues payable to The Supreme Grand Chapter of India and The Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India. The subscription shall be payable in advance.

No Companion shall be entitled to vote or be elected or appointed to any office if he has failed to pay his subscription for more than one year. If a Companion is in arrears for one full year, the rules applicable for cessation shall apply as per Royal Arch Regulations No.75.

V.K. Singh

The Chapter is at liberty to elect at a regular convocation, Companions of eminence who have rendered valuable service to Royal Arch Masonry in general or Chapter Asoka No.156 in particular as Honorary Members who are exempted from the payment of subscription. Any Candidate or Candidates at whose request, an Emergency Convocation is convened, shall bear all such expenses which are incurred on account of holding such Emergency Convocation.

CESSATION

If any Companion allows his subscription to remain in arrears for one full year, he shall be served with a notice by Registered Post with acknowledgement due and if the member fails to make payment within 30 days, Article 75 of the Royal Arch Regulations shall apply.

RESIGNATION

Any member of the Chapter may resign his membership by notifying such Resignation by a written notice to the Scribe E. He will be permitted to rejoin on payment of Rejoining Fee and any arrears due, but shall be subjected to a fresh ballot.

MANAGEMENT

a)The affairs of the Chapter shall be managed by a Permanent Committee consisting of the Three Principals, IPZ, D of C, Scribe E and Treasurer, in addition to two members elected at the Installation Meeting.

b)This committee shall consider such matters specifically referred to by the Chapter, deal with applications for membership and prepare an Annual Report on the state of the Chapter, which shall be submitted to the Chapter for approval at each Installation Meeting. The Committee shall meet once before each Regular Meeting. Five members shall form a quorum.

c)The Scribe E shall conduct all the general business and correspondence of the Chapter. He shall keep record in a Minutes Book of the business transacted at every Regular/Emergency Meeting and read the same for confirmation at the next Regular Meeting. He shall maintain in a separate book, a record of the meetings of the permanent committee. He shall keep a register of all members of the Chapter. He shall carefully preserve all the registers and records of the Chapter.

V. K. Singh

d)The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the moneys and account books of the Chapter. He shall enter the details for moneys received and paid out, in appropriate books of accounts. He shall collect the subscription and other dues, if any from members and deposit them in the name of the Chapter in a Bank approved by resolution of the Chapter. He shall have authority to pay as and when they fall due, all routine expenses of the Chapter such as Supreme Grand Chapter and Regional Grand Chapter dues, contributory share, and electricity charges, summons printing charges, janitor's fees and sundry expenses. All other payments shall be made only on the authority of the Chapter, or the Principals, or other competent authority authorized by the Principals. At the Installation Meeting, he shall place before the Chapter, the accounts written upto 31st December previous, audited as per Bye-Law. All cheques must be signed by the Treasure along with either First Principal or Scribe E.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

An Audit Committee of two members shall be elected at the Installation Meeting in January who shall audit the accounts of the Chapter for the year and certify its correctness.

PROPOSITIONS

- a) Every proposition for consideration shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another.
- b) No proposition shall be considered at a meeting unless notice of it had been given at a previous Regular Meeting or forwarded in writing to the Scribe E for inclusion in the Summons atleast 14 days before the date of the meeting at which the proposition is to be considered, but the First Principal shall have the power to admit a proposition for consideration if he considers it of importance or urgency or merely formal and routing even though previous notice as aforesaid had not been given.

REGULATIONS

In respect of matters not specifically and expressly provided for in the Bye-Law, the Laws and Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and the Bye-Laws of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India, shall prevail.

V.K. Gupta

CHARITY

At every Regular and Emergency Meeting of the Chapter, the charity box shall be circulated and the funds thus collected may be kept separate and used only for such charitable purposes as the Companions in open Chapter may decide.

BYE – LAWS

It shall not be competent for the Chapter to abrogate, alter or amend these Bye-Laws unless the abrogation, amendment or alteration shall have been moved in open Chapter at one Regular Meeting, considered and passed at the next Regular Meeting and confirmed at the subsequent Regular Meeting, *and shall be applicable after approval from Supreme Grand Chapter and Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India*
The Bye-Laws of the Chapter shall be read once in a year at the convocation of the Chapter. Every Companion on becoming a member of the Chapter shall be presented with a copy of these Bye-Laws.

All matters not expressly provided for in these Bye-Laws shall be decided according to the Rules and Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter.

Adopted unanimously at the consecration and constitution of the Chapter on 22nd October 2016 at Chennai.

[Signature]

E Comp L Ravichandran

First Principal

[Signature]

E Comp L Manoharan

Second Principal

[Signature]

E Comp J Laxminarayanan

Third Principal

[Signature]

E Comp N C Prabhakar

ScribeE

Approved by M E The Grand Superintendent of The Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India

Place: Chennai

[Signature]
M E Comp Arvind Prasad Chitra

Date: 22nd October 2016

Grand Superintendent

Approved by M W The First Grand Principal of The Supreme Grand Chapter of India

Place: Delhi

M E Comp V K Gupta

Date: 13.12.2016

[Signature]
Grand Scribe E