

BYE-LAWS
of
R.A.M. Lodge Bharathi
No. 109

MEETINGS

1. The Lodge shall meet on the second saturday in the months of March, June, September and December at the Freemason's Hall, 3rd street, Kumaran Nagar, Lawspet, Pondicherry 605 008, at such hour as the Worshipful Commander Noah may decide.
2. An Emergency Meeting may be held at any time when duly summoned by command of Worshipful Commander Noah or the Officer-in-Charge of the Lodge after obtaining proper dispensaion.
3. Summons for a Regular Meeting or for an Emergency Meeting shall be sent by the Scribe to all the members of the Lodge seven clear days before the day of Regular/Emergency Meeting.

4. The Summons shall contain a notice of all business to be transacted at such meeting. At an Emergency Meeting only the business set forth in the Summons shall be transacted. At a Regular Meeting, the Worshipful Commander may at his discretion permit any business not given notice of in the Summons, to be transacted if it appears to him to be of urgency or importance.

Permanent Committee

5. Permanent Committee will consist of the Worshipful Commander Noah, IPCN, the Wardens, Director of Ceremonies, Treasurer, the Scribe and two elected members. Worshipful Commander shall be the President of the Committee. All past Com Noah's will be special invitess without voting right.
6. Two additional members to the permanent committee shall be elected during regular Installation Meeting.
7. This Committee shall consider such matters specifically referred to by the Lodge, deal with applications for membership and prepare an Annual Report on the state of the Lodge, which shall be submitted to the Lodge for approval at each Installation Meeting.

8. The Committee shall meet at least once in every quarter and its proceedings shall be read in open Lodge at the next Regular Meeting. Three members shall form a quorum.

Audit Committee

9. An Audit Committee shall consist of two members, who shall be elected by the Lodge at regular Installation Meeting. The Audit Committee shall audit the accounts of the Lodge for the year and certify its correctness.

Scribe

10. The Scribe shall conduct all the general business and correspondence of the Lodge. He shall keep record in a Minutes Book of the business transacted at every Regular/Emergency Meeting of the Lodge 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 General Committee. He shall keep a register of all members of the Lodge. He shall carefully preserve all the registers and records of the Lodge.

Treasurer

11. The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the money and account books of the Lodge. 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 Lodge in a Bank approved by resolution of the Lodge. He shall have authority to pay as and when they fall due all routine expenses of the Lodge such as Grand Mark Lodge and Regional Grand Mark Lodge dues, contributory share, electricity charges, Hall rent, Summons printing charges, Warder's fees, postage, courier expenses and sundry expenses.
12. All other payments shall be made only on the authority of the Lodge, or the Worshipful Commander or the officer-in-charge of the Lodge. All cheques must bear the signature of the Treasurer and either WCN or Scribe.
13. At the Installation Meeting he shall place before the Lodge the accounts written upto 14th August, audited and certified as correct by the Audit Committee.

Financial Year

14. The financial year of the Lodge shall be from 15th August to 14th of August.

Fees, Subscription Etc.,

15. The following fees shall be payable to the Lodge:

a) **Annual Fees :**

Annual Fees shall be Rs. 650/00 payable every 13th August. *1000/- Monthly*

b) **Fee for Elevation:**

Rs. 1000/0 plus the elevation fees payable to the Grand Mark Lodge of India & Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India. *3000/- Monthly*

c) **Fee for Joining or Rejoining:**

Rs. 1000/0 plus the joining fees payable to the Grand Mark Lodge of India & Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India. *2000/- Monthly*

d) **Fees for Joining from a Lodge of recognised Constitution:**

Rs. 1000/0 plus the joining fees payable to the Grand Mark Lodge of India & Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India

e) Fee for Emergency Meeting:

The dispensation fees will payable by the Brethren at whose convenience the meeting is held.

Election or Installation

16. The Worshipful Commander Noah and Treasurer shall be elected annually by ballot and the Warder chosen by show of hands at the Regular Election Meeting in June. The Worshipful Commander-elect shall be installed, and he shall appoint and invest the officers and invest elected Treasurer and chosen Warder at the next Regular Installation Meeting in September.

Admission of Members

17. A Mark Master Mason desirous of being Elevated to this Degree may either be proposed and seconded at a Regular Meeting of the Lodge, or an application duly signed by his proposer and seconder, may be sent to the Scribe at least fifteen days before the meeting and the proposal shall be included in the Summons for the next Regular Meeting. The Summons shall contain full name of the candidate, his date of Birth, profession or occupation, place of residence and the name and number of the Mark

Lodge of which he is or was a member, his date of Advancement and the names of the proposer and seconder must appear in the Summons for the Meeting at which the ballot is to take place. Before the ballot is taken his Grand Lodge Certificate as Mark Master Mason and a No Dues / Clearance Certificate from each of the Mark Lodges which he is or was a member, must be inspected by the W Comm. Noah. All the dues must have been paid.

18. If a Brother who is a Royal Ark Mariner is desirous of joining the Lodge, may either be proposed and seconded at a Regular Meeting of the Lodge or an application duly signed by his proposer and seconder may be sent to the Scribe at least fifteen days before the meeting. The Summons for the next Regular Meeting shall contain full name of the candidate, his date of birth, profession or occupation, place of residence and name and number of the RAM Lodge of which he is or was a member including his date of Advancement. The names of the proposer and seconder must appear in the Summons for the Meeting at which the ballot is to take place. Before the ballot is taken his Grand RAM Lodge Certificate, no dues and clearance Certificate from each of the

RAM Lodges, of which he is or was a member, must be inspected by the W Comm. Noah. All the dues must have been paid.

19. No Brother shall be Elevated in or admitted a member of the Lodge if on the ballot one third of the members' present vote in favour of him. In the event of an unfavourable ballot, the candidate shall not be proposed again until after the lapse of six months from the date of his rejection. In case of any doubt about the Ballots the Com. Noah may ask for repeat ballot, which, can be repeated if required.
20. In all cases where the votes of the Brethren on any proposition are equal the Worshipful Commander Noah shall have a second or casting vote.

Resignation & Exclusion of Members

21. If any Brother allows his subscription to remain in arrears for one year, the Scribe shall advise him of the amount due by registered post and if the full amount is not paid off within thirty days from the date of postals he shall be liable to Exclusion under Rule 109 of the Book of Constitutions. (Mark)

22. Brethren desirous of resigning from the Lodge may notify the same either verbally in open Lodge or by letter to the Scribe. If a Brother fails to observe this rule he shall be liable to pay his subscription until such notice is given.

Propositions & Amendments to Bye-laws

23. Every proposition for consideration by the Lodge shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another.
24. Amendments, duly proposed and seconded, may be moved to the vote first, and if negatived the original proposition shall be put to vote, but if the amendment is carried the original proposition shall be corrected accordingly.
25. No proposition shall be considered at a meeting unless notice of it had been given at the previous Regular Meeting, or forwarded in writing to the Scribe for inclusion in the Summons at least fifteen days before the date of the Meeting at which the proposition is to be considered; but the Worshipful Commander Noah shall have power to admit a proposition for consideration if he considers it of importance or urgency, even though previous notice, as aforesaid had not been given.

26. Every member must address the Worshipful Commander standing and in the manner usual amongst Royal Ark Mariners. No member shall speak more than once on the same subject. The proposer shall have the right to reply.
27. It shall not be competent to the Lodge to abrogate, alter or amend these Bye-laws unless the abrogation, amendment, or alteration shall have been moved in open Lodge at one meeting, considered and passed at the next Regular Meeting and confirmed at the subsequent Regular Meeting. Approval must then be obtained from Regional Grand Mark Master of Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India and Grand Mark Master of Grand Mark of India in accordance with Rule 87 of Book of Constitution.
28. Should any matter arise for which no provisions has been made in these Byelaws, the provisions in the books of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Mason of India shall apply.
29. It will be incumbent on every member of the Lodge to possess a copy of these Bye - Laws.

These Bye-laws were considered and adopted on the date of Consecration on 26th June 2010 at Pondicherry.

Sd.
N. Suryanarayanamoorthy, W.C.N.
Sd.
Dr. K.P. Singh, S.W.
Sd.
S.T. Gauthaman, J.W.
Sd.
T.K. Sureshkumar, Scribe

Approved by R.W. the Regional Grand Mark Master. Regional Grand Mark Lodge of Southern India.

Place : Vishakapatnam Sd./- RW Bro. V. Narasimham
Date : 07-9-2010 Regional Grand Mark Master

Approved by M.W. The Grand Master of India

Place: New Delhi Sd./- RW Bro. B. Kamakoti
Date : 27-9-2010 Grand Secretary