

BY - LAWS of

# Lodge Vidya No. 164



6th March 1965  
(Amended upto 31st January 2006)

## MEMBERS

### BYE LAW 1

The members of the Lodge shall comprise of two classes.

- a) Subscribing Members : Subscribing members are those who are regularly initiated into the Lodge by due process and/or joining members from daughter Lodges under the Grand Lodge of India and sister Constitutions recognised by the Grand Lodge of India and pay their annual subscription to the Lodge, RGL and GLI dues according to rule 4 and 5 of the bye-laws of the Lodge
- b) Honorary Members : Honorary members are those who are elected as such for service rendered to Masonry in general or to this Lodge in particular in accordance with Rule 142 of the Book of Constitution. HONORARY MEMBERS ARE EXEMPTED FROM PAYING ANY SUBSCRIPTION OR FEES.

### DAYS OF MEETING

### BYE LAW 2

The Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held at Freemasons' Hall, Egmore, on the FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH, at such hour as the Master may, from time to time, direct.

### BYE LAW 3

Summons for convening the regular meetings of the Lodge shall be issued at least seven days previous to such Meetings.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES

### BYE LAW 4

The following shall be the Subscription payable by members in advance.

<u>Annual subscription</u>	<b>Rs. 950/-p.a</b>
Steward fund (vide Bye-law No. 22A)	<b>Rs. 400/-p.a</b>

### BYE LAW 5

The following shall be the SCALE OF FEES payable in advance by candidates:

For INITIATION:	<b>Rs. 750/-</b>
For JOINING (Same Constitution):	<b>Rs. 350/-</b>
For JOINING (Foreign Constitution):	<b>Rs. 750/-</b>
For REJOINING:	<b>Rs. 350/-</b>

#### a. OTHER FEES

Annual dues to Grand Lodge of India : Annual dues to Grand Lodge of India as applicable at the prevailing rates. Past Masters who do not hold any ranks of Grand Lodge of India and Ruling Master, Sr. & Jr. Wardens at



Rs. 50/- p.a. (vide Rule No. 182 of the Book of Constitution)

Annual dues to the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India : As applicable at the prevailing rates. Past Masters who do not hold any ranks of Regional Grand Lodge of India and Ruling Master, Sr. & Jr. Wardens at Rs. 50/- p.a. (vide Rule No. 3 read with Rule no 7 of the Book of Constitution)

#### BYE LAW 6

The expense of any Emergency Meeting and the Dispensation Fee, if any, due to the Regional Grand Lodge, shall be defrayed by the Brother or Brethren at whose instance the meeting is held or Dispensation obtained.

#### ADMISSION AND RETIREMENT OF MEMBERS

#### BYE LAW 7

No person shall be made a Mason in, or admitted a member of the Lodge, unless if on ballot, two thirds of the members present and voting in the Lodge approve the proposal for such candidature.

#### BYE LAW 8

A Candidate rejected for Initiation or Joining shall not be again proposed in Lodge until after the lapse of six months from the date of the last ballot.

#### BYE LAW 9

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 Constitution.

- a. Any member whose Subscriptions for a period of twelve months or more remains unpaid shall be liable to cessation under the provisions of Rule 156 of the B. of C.

#### BYE LAW 10

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 former arrears, together with his rejoining fee but shall be subjected to a fresh ballot.

#### ELECTIONS etc.

#### BYE LAW 11

The Master and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the Regular Meeting in February and shall be Installed and Invested respectively at the next Regular Meeting in March.

#### BYE LAW 12

The Tyler, if a serving Brother, shall be elected by show of hands at the Regular Meeting in February.

#### BYE LAW 13

No Motion shall be made or discussed in the Lodge which is not mentioned in the Summons, unless, in case of emergency, the Master directs otherwise.

#### BYE LAW 14

No questions once decided in open Lodge shall be raised again a second time without the permission of the Master or until 3 months shall have elapsed after its last decision.

#### BYE LAW 15

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

#### BYE LAW 16

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#### BYE LAW 17

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#### BYE LAW 18

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#### AUDIT COMMIT

Committee shall be to audit the annual accounts of the Lodge made up to the end of January each year and present the same to the members for their consideration at the Regular Meeting in March.

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Bye Law No. 16A

Three other members to be nominated to the Standing Committee be elected at the Regular Election meeting in February and such elected members names be declared as other members for the Standing Committee as referred in Bye Law No. 16.



**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** : The duties of the Committee shall be to consider and report to the Standing Committee upon the character, qualifications and general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership in the Lodge.

**BYE LAW 19**

The Secretary of the Lodge shall be Ex-officio Secretary of all Committees appointed by the Lodge.

**BYE LAW 20**

All letters from members of the Lodge shall be addressed to the Secretary.

**BYE LAW 21**

- a. The Secretary of the Lodge shall conduct all the General Business and correspondence of the Lodge, issue Summons for or Notices for all meetings of the Lodge or Committees and Record the minutes of the proceedings and keep the Register of Members, Declaration Book and all the registers and Records except the accounts to be kept by the treasurer.
- b. The secretary along with the outgoing Incumbent in the said office shall upon investiture take charge of his office before the next regular meeting of the Lodge prepare an inventory of articles, books, 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 information and inspection.
- c. He shall preserve all books and records and articles of the Lodge and shall be responsible for the same.

**BYE LAW 22**

The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the money and the account books of the Lodge. He shall receive direct all moneys due to or held for the Lodge and deposit the same in the name of the Lodge, in a Bank approved by a Resolution of the Lodge, and shall make payments for current ordinary expenses on the authority of the Master or other Officer-in-charge of the Lodge. No other payment shall be made without a Resolution of the Lodge. He shall submit his accounts to the Regular Meetings of Lodge.

All Cheques must be signed by the Treasurer and any one of the following:

- I. Worshipful Master
- II. Secretary

By-Law No. ....

WES - 25.8.09  
22A

The Lodge shall open a STEWARD'S FUND ACCOUNT in the name of THE LODGE VIDYA STEWARD'S FUND to be operated by ANY TWO of the following viz., The Treasurer jointly with either the W. Master or The Secretary. All members shall contribute to this fund, the sum as may be decided by the Lodge from time to time.

EXPLANATION: The proceeds of the STEWARD'S FUND is to be utilized for dinner expenses both on the days of meeting and also meeting participated by the Lodge with approval of the Open Lodge.

character, qualifications, circumstances and social standing of the candidates proposed for membership.

**BYE LAW 27**

All applications for initiations or joining or rejoining shall be deposited duly filled in with the secretary at least 2 weeks before the meeting at which the candidate is to be proposed or seconded along with the prescribed fees paid in full.

**BYE LAW 28**

If a candidate for initiation is not initiated within a year after the date of ballot his candidature shall be void.



## **BYE LAW 29**

All the members of the Lodge shall wear white closed collar coats, white pants and black shoes with black socks or military uniform or Indian national dress while attending any meetings either Regular or Emergency. New candidates are exempted from the dress code till he is made a Master Mason.

## **BYE LAW 30**

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.

## **BYE LAW 31**

Every Member of the Lodge on his Initiation or Joining shall be presented with a copy of these Bye Laws along with a copy of Book of Constitution and Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India Bye-Laws, and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the Rules contained therein.

## **BYE LAW 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.

These By-Laws were first approved and adopted at the Consecration Meeting of the Lodge held on the sixth day of March 1965.

(Sd.) E.N. NARAYANASWAMY,  
*Senior Warden.*

(Sd.) A.R. NARAYANA RAO,  
*Worshipful Master.*

(Sd.) R. RAMAKRISHNAN,  
*Junior Warden.*

(Sd.) S.R. GOVINDARAJAN,  
*Secretary.*

Approved by the R.W.Regional Grand Master on 26th, April 1965  
(Sd.) S.T. SRINIVASA GOPALACHARI,  
*Regional Grand Master,*

Approved by the M.W.Grand Master on 2nd May 1965.  
(Sd.) P.M. SUNDARAM,  
*Grand Secretary.*

Amendment 1 - 2002

Amendment 2 - 2006 approved with effect from 31.01.2006