

*On*  
25 APR 2019

## **BYE LAWS**

**LODGE THILLAI NO.468**

**BYE-LAWS**

**LODGE THILLAI No.468**

**(Warranted on 14th November 2018 )**

**(Consecrated on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018)**

**Bye-laws of the Lodge Thillai No.468 framed under Rule 111 of Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of India.**

**MEMBERS**

- 1. The members of the Lodge shall comprise of three classes, namely – Resident, Non-Resident and Honorary.**
- a) The Resident members are those who ordinarily reside within the municipal limits of the Chidambaram Taluk/Town and all revenue villages within it.**
- b) The non-Resident members are those who ordinarily reside beyond the municipal limits of the Chidambaram Taluk/Town.**
- c) The Honorary members are those elected as such by the Lodge in accordance with Rule 142 of the B of C.**
- d) Any resident member who ceases to reside within the municipal limits of the Chidambaram Taluk/Town for THREE consecutive months may be placed on the list of non-resident members list on his application to the Secretary with effect from the succeeding month.**
- e) Any non-resident member who resides within the municipal limits of the Chidambaram town for THREE consecutive months shall be transferred to the list of Resident members.**

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

- 2. The regular meetings of the lodge shall be at University Meeting Hall, Annamalai University Campus, Chidambaram Taluk (till such time a permanent premises is made ready) held on the Third Saturday of December, March, June (Election) and September (Installation), at such hour as may be directed by the Ruling Master from time to time.**

**EMERGENCY MEETING**

- 3. Emergency meeting may be held for the purposes mentioned in the B of C and in accordance with the provision thereof.**

### **ELECTION AND INSTALLATION MEETINGS**

4. The Worshipful Master and the Treasurer shall be elected by ballot and the Tyler by show of hands, annually every year at the Regular meeting in the month of June. The Worshipful Master shall be installed, and the Treasurer and Tyler shall be invested at the next Regular meeting in the month of September along with other officers of the lodge.

### **SUBSCRIPTION**

5. Every Resident member shall pay an annual subscription of Rs. 2,000/- and a Steward fund of Rs.500/-, Charity Fund of Rs.50/-. Every non-Resident member shall pay an annual subscription of Rs.1500/- and a Steward fund of Rs.500/-, Charity fund of Rs.50/-
6. In addition to the above, both resident and non-resident member shall pay annual dues payable to the Grand Lodge of India and Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India as applicable from time to time.
7. The accounting year of the lodge is from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> August.
8. The lodge may open and operate the following bank accounts in a schedule bank for its administration: General Account, Steward Account, Charity Account and Almoner Account.

### **EXCLUSION**

9. a) Any member whose subscription remains unpaid for twelve months shall be liable to be removed under cessation in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 124 of B of C.  
b) Any member who has been removed under cessation under bye-law No. 9 -a, may be permitted to rejoin, provided that he is regularly proposed and balloted for in accordance with Rule No. 138 of B of C and provided further he pays all the arrears due to the lodge by him and also the prescribed fee for joining as per laid down in the lodge bye-laws.

## **INITIATION, JOINING AND REJOINING**

**10. No candidate for initiation, joining and rejoining is/are to be proposed and seconded in open lodge, until they appear before the Membership committee and obtain for their approval.**

- a) Application Fee for initiation, joining or rejoining shall be deposited with the Secretary at least FIFTEEN days prior to the meeting at which they are to be balloted and without the submission of the Forms, requisite Fee balloting will not be taken.**
- b) No candidate for initiation, joining and rejoining shall be initiated or balloted for until he has signed the declaration as set forth under Rule No. 137 of B of C and has been duly proposed and seconded and all fees payable therefore have been paid.**

## **BALLOT**

**11.a) No candidate shall be initiated, admitted as a joining/rejoining member, unless if on ballot for initiation, joining or rejoining, a simple majority of members present and voting in the Lodge approve the proposal for such candidature. Provided if the Master is of the opinion that a mistake may have occurred in the ballot, he may order a second ballot to be taken forthwith and the result of such ballot shall be finally accepted.**

- a) Such of those candidates rejected by ballot shall not be again proposed to the lodge until the expiry of SIX months from the date of the last ballot. The fees previously paid by him/them, shall be refunded.**
- b) The ballot must be considered separately for each category.**

## **SCALE OF FEES**

**12. Initiation fee payable to the lodge: Rs. 3,500/-.**

**13. Joining fee payable to the lodge : Rs. 3,000/-.**

**14. Rejoining fee payable to the Lodge: Rs.3,000/-.**

**In addition to the fee mentioned in Clauses 12, 13, and 14 above, a member in each of the above category is also required to pay the Subscription as applicable in Clauses 5 and 6 above.**

**Any candidate at whose request an Emergency Meeting is convened shall bear the expenses incurred in conducting the said meeting.**

## **PERMANENT COMMITTEE**

**15. The lodge shall, at the installation meeting, constitute a Permanent Committee which shall consist of the Master, Immediate Past Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, D of C, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Senior Steward and TWO other Past Masters duly elected at the Installation meeting.**

- a) The Committee shall meet Fifteen days prior to every Regular meeting or at an appropriate time prior to every Regular Meeting to consider arrangements for the meetings, all matters related with the general working of the lodge, to inspect and to record inventory of all properties of the lodge and to consider any other important matter as it deemed.**
- b) The Master ordinarily shall preside over the Permanent Committee meetings. In the absence of the Master, the Immediate Past Master or in his absence any other Past Master who is the member of the committee shall preside over the meeting.**
- c) In order to constitute a meeting of the committee, the quorum shall be Four.**
- d) All matters slated in the agenda shall be generally decided by the decision of the majority.**
- e) In case of conflict of votes on any matter, the person who presides, shall have a second or casting vote.**
- f) All proceedings of the Permanent Committee shall be recorded and signed by the Secretary or such person who presides.**

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- 16. The lodge shall annually at its Installation meeting elect TWO members to the said committee as prescribed in Rule 129 of the B of C. The committee shall check the accounts of the lodge periodically and submit its recommendations to the Permanent Committee.**

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

- 17. The lodge shall annually at its Installation meeting elect TWO members to the said committee for the purpose of considering and reporting to the lodge upon character, qualifications and general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership of the lodge.**

#### **DUTIES OF SECRETARY**

- 18. The Secretary of the Lodge shall conduct the general correspondence, issue summons for the meetings, record minutes of the proceedings, preserve in safe custody the lodge Minutes book/s, Membership register, Declaration book, Inventory register, all past and existing records and seal of the lodge in good condition. He shall maintain a separate book of record of the meetings of the Permanent and Audit Committee.**

- a) The Secretary along with the outgoing incumbent in the said office shall every year after taking charge of his office, but, not later than the next regular meeting of the lodge, check inventory of all properties of the lodge and sign the same with counter signatures of Master and IPM and place his report before the Permanent Committee for its inspection and information.
- b) He shall also keep in safe custody all records and take charge of the Lodge seal.
- c) He shall be Ex-Officio Secretary to all committees as laid down by these bye-laws or to any other especial committee constituted by the Master for a specified purpose.

#### **DUTIES OF TREASURER**

**19. The Treasurer shall have charge of and be solely responsible for the moneys and account books of the lodge.**

- a) Account/s shall be opened in the name of the Lodge in a Scheduled Bank approved by a resolution at the installation meeting.
- b) Shall raise demand and receive subscription and other collections and remit the moneys in the said bank account without any delay from time to time.
- c) The Treasurer shall enter details of the money received Viz. subscription and other dues and of all payments made in the appropriate books of accounts.
- d) All cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer along with either the Master or the of the Secretary lodge.
- e) All payments above Rs.100/- (Rupees one hundred only) shall be generally made by cheque. He shall have authority to pay all routine expenses of the Lodge such as the dues to GLI, RGL, premises rent etc; as and when they fall due.
- f) The Treasurer shall at every Regular meeting submit and read in open lodge the Statement of Accounts.
- g) He must submit the account books and other related documents to the Audit committee members and to the Permanent Committee members when it was called upon.
- h) Shall prepare the accounts up to 31<sup>st</sup> August of every year and submit the audited statement of account/s, duly signed by the concerned, at the Annual Installation meeting every year for approval and adoption by the lodge members.

#### **PROPOSITIONS**

**20. No motion unless it is purely formal or technical shall be raised in the Lodge at any meeting for which notice has not been given in the previous Regular meeting or by a communication addressed to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the Regular meeting at which such proposition is to be made. The said motion shall be included in the summons.**

a) Provided the Master and the majority of the brethren present shall have the power to enable any urgent proposition of importance to be raised and put to vote of the lodge. No question once decided shall be raised again without the permission of the Master or until a period of 3 months had elapsed.

### CONSTITUTIONS

21. In respect of matters not specifically and expressly provided for in the bye-laws, the laws and regulation of Grand Lodge of India as embodied in the Book of Constitution shall apply.

### BYE-LAW

22. 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 be duly printed in the summons of the Lodge and have been proposed at one Regular meeting, approved of at one Regular meeting and confirmed at the next Regular meeting and duly approved by the R.W. The Regional Grand Master of Southern India and by the M.W. The Grand Master of Grand Lodge of India.

23. In the event of abrogation, amendment or revision of any bye-law(s), the Secretary shall provide each member with a copy thereof after approval by the concerned authorities, as above said.

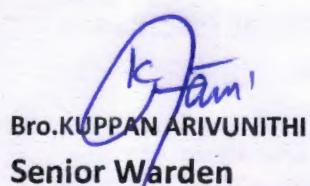
24. Every member of the Lodge on his initiation, or his joining or on his rejoining shall be presented with a copy of these bye-laws and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the rules contained therein. These bye-laws were duly approved and adopted at the Consecration Meeting of the lodge held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018.



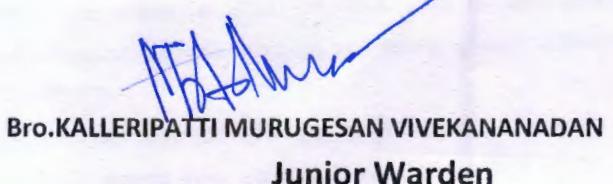
W.Bro. GOPINATHAN RAMDAS  
Worshipful Master



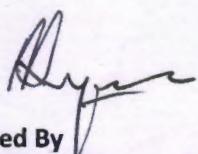
V.W.Bro. SURESH SHENOI  
Secretary



Bro. KUPPAN ARIVUNITHI  
Senior Warden



Bro. KALLERIPATTI MURUGESAN VIVEKANANADAN  
Junior Warden



Approved By  
R.W.Bro.The Regional Grand Master

Place: 28.04.2019

Date : chennai

Approved By  
M.W.The Grand Master

Place: NEW DELHI

Date : 04.05.2019



Grand Secretary