



**BYE LAWS**  
**OF**  
**LODGE GANDHIAR**  
**NO. 411**

## **BYE-LAWS LODGE GANDHIAR NO. 411**

### **PREAMBLE**

As it is necessary for the good government and well being of every institution and lawfully organized Society that Rules and Regulations shall be framed for the guidance of its Members, the Master, Wardens and the Members of LODGE GANDHIAR No.411 G.L.I do for the purpose of preserving that harmony which should always distinguish Freemasons, establish and hereby agree to the following Bye-laws under Rule 111 of the Book of Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of India, which contain nothing inconsistent with the Laws maintained in the Book of Constitutions of Grand Lodge of India.

LODGE GANDHIAR founded in Chennai under the Warrant dated 03.11.2015 from the Grand Lodge of India and the Lodge was consecrated and constituted into a Regular Lodge by, M.W.Bro.Vasudev Jumnabihar Masurekar.O.S.M., M.W. The Grand Master, Grand Lodge of India, New Delhi on 12.11.2015 and is assigned the No.411 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of India.

### **BYE-LAW**

#### **MEMBERS**

1) The Members of the Lodge shall comprise of three classes, namely, Resident, Non Resident and Honorary Members.

(a) Resident Members :

Members ordinarily residing within the limits of Corporation of Chennai.

(b) Non Resident Members :

Members residing beyond the limits of Corporation of Chennai.

(c) Honorary Members :

Any brother of good standing and worthy of such distinction by reason of his service to the Craft or to the particular Lodge, who is or within the previous year, has been a subscribing Member of a Regular Daughter Lodge, may be elected as such by the Lodge in accordance with the Rule 142 of the Book of Constitutions.

2) If a Non Resident Member is appointed or elected to a Regular Office in the Lodge, he shall be deemed to have become a Resident member.

3) In case of Transfer of Members from the Resident to Non Resident list or Vice versa, a change in the rate of subscription will be effected from the month following.

**MEETINGS:**

4) The Regular meeting of the Lodge shall be held at Freemasons' Hall Chennai - 600 108, on the second Wednesday of every month, except the months of May, June and December at 6.00 p.m or at such hour as the Master may fix from time to time.

**EMERGENCY MEETINGS**

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 MEETING**

6) The Master of the Lodge shall be elected annually by ballot at the Regular Election Meeting in the month of January and shall be installed at the next Regular Meeting in the month of February.

7) The Treasurer and Tyler shall be elected annually at the Regular Election Meeting.

**OFFICERS**

8) The Regular Officers of the Lodge shall be the Master, the Immediate Past Master, Senior Warden Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Inner Guard and Tyler.

9) The Master may appoint as additional officers, a Chaplain, a Director of Ceremonies, as Assistant Director of Ceremonies, an Almoner, Bearers of V of S.L., a Sword Bearer, an Organist, an Assistant Secretary and Stewards and no other.

**ADMISSION OF MEMBERS**

10) 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, qualifications and general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership.

11) Applications for initiation, or joining or Rejoining shall be deposited with the Secretary at least Fourteen days before the meeting at which the candidate is to be proposed and seconded.

12) No candidate for Initiation or Joining shall be Initiated or balloted for, until he has signed a declaration as set forth under Rules 137 and 138 of the Book of Constitutions and he has been



duly proposed and seconded and all fees therefor have been paid. However, a candidate desirous of becoming a Joining Member from a Lodge under the Grand Lodge of India need not sign the declaration under Rule 138 of the Book of Constitutions.

13) A candidate for Initiation or a Brother desirous of Joining or Rejoining the Lodge shall not be accepted if on the ballot, more than one third balls of those present at the Meeting appear against the Candidate. In case of doubt, the Master may immediately cause a second ballot to be taken and if it prove unfavorable, it shall be final. In every case, the Secretary shall communicate the result of the ballot to the candidate. In all cases of unfavorable ballot, the Fees shall be returned at the time when the information is furnished.

14) A candidate or a Brother rejected on a ballot for Initiation or Membership shall not eligible to be proposed again until after the expiry of six months from the date of such rejection.

### FEES

15) The scale of Fees payable by a Candidate for Initiation, Joining or Rejoining as all be as follows :

- |                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. a) Initiation fee payable to Lodge | Rs.3,000/-    |
| b) Fees payable to G.L.I              | As applicable |
| c) Fees payable to RGL of SI          | As applicable |
| d) Stewards Fund payable to Lodge     | Rs.100/-      |
| 2. Joining from Indian Constitution : |               |
| a) Joining fee payable to Lodge       | Rs.2,000/-    |
| b) Fees payable to G.L.I              | As applicable |
| c) Fees payable to RGL of SI          | As applicable |

### 3. Joining from others Constitution :

- |                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| a) Joining fee payable to Lodge | Rs.3,000/-    |
| b) Fees payable to G.L.I        | As applicable |
| c) Fees payable to RGL of SI    | As applicable |

### 4. Rejoining :

- |                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| a) Joining fee payable to Lodge | Rs.2,000/-    |
| b) Fees payable to G.L.I        | As applicable |
| c) Fees payable to RGL of SI    | As applicable |

The above fees are payable in advance before Initiation or Joining or Rejoining.

16) Any candidate at whose request, an Emergency meeting is convened shall pay a fee of Rs.3,000/- and also such other expenses which are incurred on account of holding such Emergency Meeting.

### SUBSCRIPTION

17) The Annual Subscription payable by the members shall be as follows :

Resident Member Rs.2,000/- + Steward Fund Rs.100/- per year  
= Rs.2,100/- per year

Non Resident Member Rs.2,000/- per year

In addition, the Members shall pay the dues payable to the Grand Lodge of India and Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India, as applicable from time to time.

The Honorary Members shall not be liable for any Fees.

Subscription shall be payable in advance at the beginning of each year. In addition to the Subscription as above, the Lodge

may also create Stewards Fund, Almoners Fund and such other Fund as may be necessary from time to time and collect the sums from the Members. Such creation and collection of funds shall be duly proposed and passed by the Members in the Open Lodge.

### **EXCLUSION**

18) Any member, whose subscription remains unpaid for six months after it becomes due, shall be deprived while so in default, of being appointed or elected to offices and he shall further be liable for exclusion in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 124 of the Book of the Constitution.

19) Any Member, who has been excluded under Bye-Law No.18 may be permitted to rejoin, provided he is regularly proposed and balloted for, in accordance with Rule 138 of the Book of Constitutions and also pays all arrears due by him and the prescribed fees for rejoining.

### **REGISTRATION**

20) Any member of the Lodge may resign his Membership by notifying such Resignation by a written notice to the Secretary or 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 rejoin on payment of rejoining fee and any arrears due, but shall be subject to a fresh ballot.

### **DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY**

21) (i) The Secretary shall conduct the General correspondence, record minutes of the proceedings, issue summonses for all meetings, keep the membership register and the declaration book and make due returns to Grand Lodge and

Regional Grand Lodge, He shall also be the Ex-Officio Secretary of the Permanent Committee.

(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 all articles, books, and records of the Lodge and sign the same, counter signed by the Master and Immediate Past Master and place the same before the Permanent Committee for its inspection and information.

(iii) He shall also keep in safe custody all records and take charge of the Lodge seal.

(iv) He shall make payments for petty contingent expenses for which purposes he shall receive and advance of not more than Rs.1,000/-

### **DUTIES IF THE TREASURER**

22) (i) The Treasurer shall collect all fees and monies due to or held for the Lodge and shall issue official receipts for the same. He shall, without undue delay, deposit them in an account in the name of the Lodge at a Scheduled Bank approved by a Resolution of the Lodge.

(ii) The Treasurer shall keep accounts of the General Fund, the Benevolent Fund and the Stewards Funds and other funds of the Lodge.

(iii) All financial transactions of Lodge shall be carried out by the Treasurer, Master and Secretary. The Treasurer along with two other officers namely the Master or the Secretary shall be the Joint signatories to the operations of the bank accounts and all financial transactions of the Lodge.



(iv) All the Chques must be signed by the treasurer and either the Master or the Secretary of the Lodge.

(v) The Treasurer shall regularly enter a complete record of all monies passing through his hands in the proper Books of Accounts.

(vi) The Treasurer shall prepare a statement of Accounts annually made up as on 31st December 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 December.

(vii) The Treasurer shall at every Regular Meeting, submit and read in open Lodge, a Monthly statement of accounts.

(viii) The Lodge by resolution may also invest its funds in Government and other recognized securities.

#### DUTIES OF TYLER

23) The Tyler shall prepare the Lodge for the Meetings and see that every Brother, whether a Member or visitor is properly clothed, previous to admission into the Lodge. The Tyler shall also be in charge of the Collars, Aprons, etc belonging to the Lodge. He shall receive for the proper discharge of his duties, a sum of Rs.100/- for every meeting or such other remuneration as the Lodge may vote from time to time.

#### PROPOSITIONS

24) (i) 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 Meeting at which such proposition is to be considered. The said motion shall be included in the Summons.

(ii) In the case of a tie, the Master shall have the right of a casting vote, which shall decide the ballot.

(iii) No question once decided, shall be raised again without permission of the Master or until 6 months have elapsed.

#### PERMANENT COMMITTEE

25) The Master, Immediate Past Master, Present Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, and Two Members elected at the Installation Meeting shall constitute the Permanent Committee.

It shall be the duty of this Committee to check the Accounts, make the arrangements for the Meetings and consider all the matters connected with the working of the Lodge, to inspect and check all the properties of the Lodge, and report upon general questions affecting the Lodge. The Master, if present shall preside and in his absence, the Immediate Past Master or in his absence, the Senior most Brother present shall preside. The permanent committee shall meet on such date and time as the Master may order once in a month before the Regular Meeting.

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

26) The Lodge shall elect, at the Installation Meeting, a Membership Committee consisting of Three Members for the purpose considering and reporting to the Lodge upon the character, qualifications and the general desirability of the candidates proposed for membership of the Lodge.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

27) At the Regular Installation Meeting of the Lodge in the month of February every year, the Lodge shall elect Two Members to the Audit Committee to verify and audit the Annual Statement of Accounts prepared by the Treasurer under Rule

129 of the Book of Constitutions. It shall be duty of the Committee to submit at the Installation Meeting, an Annual report and audited statement of account.

### RELIEF

28) A sum of Rs.1,000/- from the General funds of Lodge shall be held at the disposal of the Master to meet emergency cases of distress. In case the Master shall think fit to take advantage of this Bye law, he shall report the circumstances at the next Regular meeting of the Lodge.

### SUMMONS AND NOTICES

29) Summons on notice which is to be sent to any Member shall be deemed sufficient service, if sent through electronic mail or by post to the address stated in the Membership register, unless the Secretary is duly noticed of the change of the address by the Member concerned.

### CONSTITUTIONS

30) In respect of matters not specifically and expressly provided for in the Bye law, the Law and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of India as embodied in the Book of Constitutions and the Bye laws of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India shall apply.

### LODGE COLOURS AND DRESS REGALIA

31) The colours of the Regalia shall be sky blue and the members of the Lodge will attend the meeting of the Lodge in white shirt, tie, Black or Dark Suit, Black socks and Black shoes.

### BYE LAWS

32) (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 approved at

one Regular meeting and confirmed at the next Regular meeting of the Lodge and duly approved by the R.W.Regional Grand Master of Southern India and the M.W.Grand Master.

(ii) In the event of any abrogation, amendment or revision of any Bye-law or Bye-laws, the Secretary shall provide each member with copy thereof, after approval by the R.W.Regional Grand Master of Southern India and M.W.the Grand Master.

(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 herein.

Adopted unanimously at the Consecration and Constitution of the Lodge on 5th November 2015 at Chennai.

W.Master

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Secretary

Approved by R.W.Bro., Regional Grand Master of  
R.G.L. of Southern India

Chennai

10.02.2016

Regional Grand Master

Approved by M.W. Grand Master

New Delhi

30.03.2016

Grand Secretary