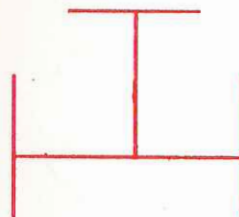


**BYE - LAWS
OF
The St. John's Chapter
(R.A.) No. 2
CHENNAI**



(AS AMENDED UPTO 30th JUNE 2006)

The St. John's Chapter

(R.A) No. 2.

Bye-Laws

Regular Convocations

1. The Regular Convocations of the Chapter shall be held at the Freemasons' Hall 87, Ethiraj Salai, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008, on the Fourth Friday in February, April, June, August (Election), October (installation) and December, at such hour as the Principals may fix.

Emergency Convocations

2. The Principals may convene an Emergency Convocation when such shall be deemed necessary. Provided that when such an Emergency Convocation is held for the sole purpose of Exaltation at the request or for the convenience of a candidate or candidates, the Chapter shall require from such candidate or candidates all expenses incurred for such Convocation.

Election of Officers

3. The Principals, Treasurers and Officers shall be elected by ballot on the regular day of election in August prescribed by the Bye-laws of the Chapter, provided that, except for the Principals who must be elected, it shall be in order for the Chapter on the day of

election to resolve that they must be appointed by the Principals so elected. The Installation of the Principals, if present, shall take place in October in accordance with these Bye-laws and shall be followed by the investiture of the Officers. Any Principal not so installed shall be installed at the next Convocation of the Chapter at which he may be present.

The Janitor, who must be a Royal Arch Mason registered as such in the books of the Grand Chapter, shall be elected by show of hands on the regular day of election in August. The Chapter may, however, resolve that a subscribing member of the Chapter shall be Janitor without emolument, in which case he may be either elected or appointed as in the case of the other Officers.

Duties of Scribe E

4. The Scribe E shall be in charge of all Chapter records, other than the account books maintained by the Treasurer. He shall be ex officio Secretary and Convenor of all Committees appointed by the Chapter. He shall receive from the Treasurer a permanent advance not exceeding Rs. 250/- for contingencies for which he shall render an account to him.

Duties of Treasurer

5. All moneys due to the Chapter, shall be paid to the Treasurer direct, who shall without undue delay deposit the same in an account in the name of the Chapter at a Bank approved by a resolution of the

Chapter. He shall maintain accounts and shall make only such payments as are duly authorised or have been sanctioned by the Chapter. All such payment shall be made by Cheques. All Cheques must be signed by any two of the following viz : 1st Principal, the Treasurer and the Scribe E. He shall prepare a statement of accounts annually as on the 30th of September of each year showing the exact financial position of the Chapter.

Permanent Committee

6. The Permanent Committee shall consist of the three Principals., Scribe E., The Treasurer and all the Past First Principals of and in the Chapter and three other members to be elected by the Chapter at the **Regular Convocation in October**

The duties of the Committee shall be :-

1. To consider and to report on any matter referred to it by the Chapter.
2. To submit to the Chapter for consideration any matter which it may deem to be for the benefit of the Chapter.
3. To Check the inventory of the property belonging to the Chapter once a year.
4. To consider and report of the Regular Convocation in **October** upon the work and condition of the Chapter during the preceding year.

Audit Committee

7 (a) The Audit Committee shall consist of two members of the Chapter who shall be elected annually at the Regular convocation in **December**. It shall be the duty of this Committee to audit :

(i) The accounts of St. John's Chapter 150th year Commemoration Charitable Trust for the period ending 31st March, and

(ii) The accounts of the Chapter for the year and the statement of accounts prepared by the Treasurer as on 30th September.

7 (b) A member of the Trust Board cannot be elected to the Audit Committee.

Honorary Members

8. The Chapter may, subject to the provisions of Rule 142 of the B. of C., elect as Honorary Member any Companion who has rendered distinguished service to it or to the Order.

Candidates for Admission

9. Every candidate who has been exalted in a regular Chapter not under the Grand Chapter of India shall upon election or within one year after his election, and before being admitted for the first time as a member of the Chapter, make the following declaration:-

"Iexalted in the..... Chapter, No..... on the Register of the Grand Chapter of do solemnly promise that if I am admitted a member of this Chapter, I will pay strict obedience to the commands of the First Grand Principal and the Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter."

The declaration shall be made in the Chapter which the Companion is joining or in some other Chapter under the Grand Chapter or in writing witnessed by a Companion, who shall state the Name, Number and jurisdiction (which must be a Grand Chapter recognised by the Grand Chapter) of the Chapter to which he himself belongs. The declaration validates the election retrospectively and must be recorded in the Chapter minutes.

No one shall be admitted if, on the ballot there appears more than two black balls : any one so rejected shall not be again proposed for admission until six months shall have elapsed from the date of his rejection.

Fees

10. The following fees shall be payable to the Chapter in advance.

Exaltation Fee	Rs. 500.00
Joining Fee	Rs. 300.00
Rejoining Fee	Rs. 300.00
Joining from other Constitutions	Rs. 500.00

Plus the fees payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and the Regional Grand Chapter of S.I. on Exaltation, Joining, Re-joining and Joining from other Constitution at the prevailing rates.

By-Law No. 11 wef 10.11.2010

The annual Subscription shall be Rs.440.00 for every Companion payable in advance plus the annual dues payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India respectively at the prevailing rates. Out of the annual subscription, a sum of Rs.200/- per companion shall be allocated to a 'Stewards' Fund and the same shall be utilized to defray, the dinner charges of the Companions and visitors at the regular Convocations excluding installation Convocation and Fellowship at all Convocations. Any Companion allowing his subscription to remain unpaid for more than six months shall be liable for exclusion under Rule 156 of Book of Constitution.

to rejoin he shall be subject to the rules relating to joining Members.

Propositions Etc.

13. No motion shall be entertained unless it is proposed by one member and seconded by another. Subject to the provisions of the General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter, every motion shall be

determined by the majority of votes of the Companions present and voting. In cases where the votes are equal, the presiding First Principal shall have a casting vote.

Note : By the Constitutions, certain matters require two thirds majority.

14. No motion shall be brought forward for consideration at any Convocation, of which notice was not given at the previous Regular Convocation, or in writing to the Scribe E., in time to be circulated with the summons for the Convocation, provided that, the presiding First Principal may waive previous notice in the case of any matter requiring immediate consideration by the Chapter.

Property of the Chapter

15. The property of the Chapter shall vest in the three Principals for the time being, in trust for the Chapter.

Alteration of Bye-Laws

16. It shall not be competent for the Companions to abrogate, amend, or alter these Bye-laws, unless the abrogation, amendment or alteration shall have been read and approved of at one Regular Convocation, confirmed at the next Regular Convocation of the Chapter and approved by the Grand Superintendent of Southern India and by the First Grand Principal.

Approved at the Regular Convocation held on 26-4-1968 and confirmed at the Regular Convocation held on June 27, 1968.

Approved by M.E. The Grand Superintendent Southern India, 5th August 1968.

Approved by the M.E. First Grand Principal on 12th October 1968.

Amendment approved at the Regular Convocation on 27-12-2002 & Confirmed at the Regular Convocation held on 28-02-2003.

(As Amended upto 30th June 2006)