

11/6/92

BYE-LAWS

LODGE OM VIGHNESWARA NO. 218

BY-LAWS OF  
LODGE OM VIGHNESWARA  
NO. 218 G.L.I.  
MADRAS

(As Amended upto 15th March 1991)

By-Laws of Om Vighneswara No. 218 G.L.I. framed under Rule 111 of the  
Constitution of Grand Lodge of India

MEMBERS

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

Explanation: (1) Resident Members are those who ordinarily reside within the radius of 30 kms. from Freemasons' Hall.

Explanation: (2) Non-Resident Members are those who ordinarily reside beyond a radius of 30 kms. from Freemasons' Hall, Madras and are placed on the list of the Non-Resident Members as provided for in By-Law No. 2.

Explanation: (3) Honorary Members are those elected as such by the Lodge in accordance with Rule 142 of the Book of Constitutions.

2. Any Resident Member who ceases to reside within the radius of 30 kms. from Freemasons' Hall, Madras, may be placed by the Lodge on the list of Non-Resident Members on his application to the Secretary with effect from the English Calendar month following the month in which such an application is received.

3. Non-Resident Members, who reside within the radius of 30 kms. from Freemasons' Hall, Madras, for not less than three consecutive months shall be transferred to the list of Resident Members with effect from the month next after the month in which three months period is completed.

4. 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

: 5. The Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held at Freemasons' Hall, Madras-600105, on Third Friday of every month at such hour as may be directed by the Master from time to time.

EMERGENCY  
MEETINGS

: 6. 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  
MEETINGS

: 7. The Master and Treasurer shall annually be elected at the Regular Meeting of the Lodge in February and shall be installed at the next Regular Meeting in March.

8. The Tyler shall be chosen at the Regular Meeting in February.

SUBSCRIPTIONS  
AND FEES

: 9. The following shall be the scale of fees:

Fees for Initiation : Rs.500/-

Joining Fee - : Rs. 300/-  
Joining from a Lodge  
under Grand Lodge  
of India

Joining Fee - : Rs. 500/-  
Joining from a Lodge  
under other Consti-  
tutions

Re-Joining Fee : Rs. 200/-

The above fees do not include the fees payable to Grand Lodge of India and Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

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

10. The subscription payable shall be as follows

Resident Member : Rs. 211/- per year

Non-Resident Member : Rs. 120/- per year

Subscriptions shall be payable in advance at the beginning of each year i.e. 1st March. Honorary Members shall not be liable for any fees payable to the Lodge.

The above Subscriptions do not include the amounts payable to Grand Lodge of India and Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

11. In case an Emergency Meeting is held for the sole purpose of conferring a Degree at the request of and for the convenience of a candidate, the Lodge may require from such candidate a sum not exceeding Rs.50/- (Rupees Fifty only) towards expenses of the Meeting.

ADMISSION OF  
MEMBERS

: 12. 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, qualification and general desirability of the candidates proposed for Membership.

13. Application for Initiation or Joining or Re-Joining shall be deposited with the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting at which the candidate is to be proposed and seconded.
14. 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 has been duly proposed and seconded and all fees payable therefor have been paid.
15. A candidate for Initiation or a Brother desirous of Joining or Re-joining the Lodge shall not be accepted, if on the ballot, two or more black balls appear. In cases of doubt, the Master may immediately cause a second ballot to be taken and if it proves unfavourable, it shall be final. In every case, the Secretary shall communicate the results of the ballot to the candidate. In all cases of unfavourable ballot, the fees shall be returned at the time information is furnished.
16. A candidate or a Brother rejected on ballot shall not be eligible to be proposed again until the expiry of six months from the date of such rejection.

EXCLUSION

- : 17. Any member, whose subscription remains unpaid for two years after it becomes due, shall be deprived, while so in default, of all or any of the rights of voting, proposing or seconding a candidate and being appointed or elected to offices and he shall further be liable for exclusion in accordance with the provision contained in Rule 156 of the Book of Constitutions.

18. Any Member, who has been excluded under By-Law 17 may be permitted to re-join, provided he is regularly proposed and ballotted for in accordance with Rule 138 of the Book of Constitutions and also pays all arrears due by him and the prescribed fees for Re-Joining.

RESIGNATION

- : 19. Any Member of the Lodge may resign his Membership by notifying such resignation by a written notice to the Secretary or by 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 Re-join on payment of re-joining fee, and any arrears due but shall be subjected to a fresh ballot.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

- : 20. (i) The Secretary of the Lodge shall conduct the general correspondence, issue summons for all meetings, keep the Membership Register and the Declaration Book.

(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. Countersigned by the Master and Immediate Past Master, he shall place the same before the Permanent Committee for 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 an advance of not more than Rs.25/- from the Treasurer from time to time.

DUTIES OF THE  
TREASURER

: 21. (i) All monies due to or held for the Lodge shall be paid or remitted to the Treasurer directly, who shall without undue delay deposit the same in an account in the name of the Lodge at the scheduled Bank, approved by the Resolution of the Lodge.

(ii) All cheques must bear the signature of the Treasurer and the Master of the Lodge.

(iii) The Treasurer shall regularly enter a complete record of all monies passings through his hands in the proper books of accounts.

(iv) The Treasurer shall prepare a statement of accounts annually made up as on 28th February 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 March every year.

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

DUTIES OF TYLER

: 22. The Tyler shall prepare the Lodge for the Meeting 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.20/- per meeting or such other remuneration as the Lodge may vote from time to time.

PROPOSITIONS

- : 23. (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:

Provided the Master shall have the power to enable any urgent proposition of importance to be raised and put to the vote of the Lodge

(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 the permission of the Master or until 6 months have elapsed.

PERMANENT  
COMMITTEE

- : 24. The Master, Immediate Past Master, Present Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Director of Ceremonies, S.D., J.D. and I.G. and 2 Members elected at the Installation Meeting shall constitute the Permanent Committee.

It shall be the duty of this Committee to check the accounts, make 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 seniormost Brother present shall preside. The Permanent Committee shall meet at least once in a month except in the months of May, June, July and August before Regular Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP  
COMMITTEE

- : 25. The Lodge shall elect at the Installation Meeting a Membership Committee consisting of two members for the purpose of 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

- : 26. At the Regular Meeting of the Lodge in February every year, the Lodge shall elect an 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 the duty of the Committee to submit at the Installation Meeting an Annual Report on the financial position of the Lodge.

RELIEF

- : 27. A sum of Rs.50/- from the General Funds of the 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 By-Law, he shall report the circumstances at the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge.

SUMMONS AND  
NOTICE

- : 28. Summons or Notice which is to be sent to any Member, shall be deemed sufficiently served if it is sent through post to the address stated in the Membership Register, unless the Secretary is duly notified of the change of address by the Member concerned.

CONSTITUTIONS

- : 29. In respect of matters not specifically and expressly provided for in the By-Law, the Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of India as embodied in the Book of Constitutions shall apply.

BY-LAW

: 30. (i) It shall not be competent for the Brother to abrogate, amend, add to or alter these By-Laws, unless the abrogation, amendment, addition or alteration shall have been approved of, at one Regular Meeting and confirmed at the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge and 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 By-Law or By-Laws, the Secretary shall provide each Member with a copy thereof after approval by the R.W. The Regional Grand Master of Southern India and by the M.W. The Grand Master.

(iii) Every Member of the Lodge, on his Initiation or Joining, shall be presented with a copy of these By-Laws and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the rules contained therein.

Adopted unanimously at the Consecration and Constitution of the Lodge on 5th February 1974.

(Sd) S. SRINIVASAN  
Senior Warden

(Sd) S. RAJAN  
W.Master

(Sd) B. KRISHNARAU  
Junior Warden

(Sd) R. PARTHASARATHY  
Secretary

Approved by the R.W. Regional Grand Master,  
Madras, 6th Feb. 1974

(Sd) K. VEERASWAMI  
Regional Grand Master

Approved by the M.W. The Grand Master  
Madras, 6th Feb. 1974

(Sd) P.M. SUNDARAM  
Grand Secretary

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