

# BY-LAWS



# LODGE WALTAIR No. 56 G.L.I

Consecrated on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1895  
(Warranted on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 1961)

BY - LAWS

OF

# LODGE WALTAIR

No.56

With best compliments from

**V.W.Bro. Major P.R. Rao (Retd)**

ARGM-S.I - 2011

ARGM-E.I - 2007

Arg. AGM OF E.I. 2013

## Preamble

Where it appears proper and necessary to us, to revise and redraft our By-laws, We the members of Lodge Waltair No. 56 on the Register of the Grand Lodge of India do hereby establish and subscribe to the following Revised By-laws:

### **Objects of By-Laws**

1. The By-laws are established with the object of assisting in the well ruling and governing of the Lodge according to Ancient Custom and in conformity with the Constitution of the Ancient Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons under the Grand Lodge of India.

### **Headings**

2. The headings are for convenience of reference only and are not to affect the construction of the Rules nor to form any part thereof.

### **Membership**

3. The Members of the Lodge shall consist of four classes viz:-1) Resident (2) Non-Resident (3) Honorary (4) Life Members  
4. Resident members are those who reside within the municipal limits of Visakhapatnam and Gujuwakar, and include those residing outside the said limits and who apply to be transferred to the Resident list.

5. Non-Resident members are those who reside beyond the municipal limits of Visakhapatnam and Gajuwaka as above and shall apply to be transferred to the non-resident list.
6. Life members shall be governed by Rule 142 A of B of C guidelines of the Board of General purposes stipulate that a member of 20 years standing and 50 years of age or over could become a life member if he pays 5 years subscription in lump-sum including Grand and Regional Grand dues and Honor fee if leviable.

#### Admission & Retirement of Members

7. No candidate for Freemasonry shall be initiated and no brother shall be admitted as joining member of the Lodge if, on the ballot three black balls or more appear against him.
8. The Master may if he is of the opinion that a mistake may have been made in the ballot, cause a second ballot to be taken forth-with, which shall be final.
9. A candidate rejected for initiation or joining shall not be again proposed in the Lodge until after the lapse of six months from the date of ballot.
10. Any subscribing member whose subscription for a period of 12 months remains unpaid shall be liable to exclusion under the provisions of Rule 124 of the B of C.

11. A brother shall also cease to be a member if he lodges not recognized by GLI vide Rule 124 A.
12. A member who has resigned or has ceased to be member under Rule 124 or has been excluded non-payment of dues shall be permitted to rejoin only on payment of all former arrears together with rejoining fee and shall be subjected to a free proposition and ballot according to Rules 137, 138 of B of C.

#### Regular Meetings

13. The Regular Meetings of the Lodge shall be held at the Hamilton Memorial Masonic Temple, Visakhapatnam - on the third Saturday of every month at such hour as the Master may direct.
14. Summons for convening of the regular meeting of the Lodge shall be issued at least seven days previous to such meetings.
15. The Master shall be elected by ballot at the Regular Meeting in December and the Master Elect shall be installed at the next regular meeting in January. The Treasurer and the Tyler (if not a Serving Brother) shall be elected at the regular meeting in December.
16. The monthly subscription of a resident member shall be Rs. 125/- payable on the first day of every month and in case the member pays the subscription in lump sum for one year commencing from first day of January to thirty-first day of December on or before the third day of March - the subscription shall be Rs.1,50/- per annum and of non-resident member shall be Rs.1,150/-payable yearly and in advance. Besides, resident members will pay annual dues payable to Grand Lodge of India and half yearly dues of Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

A non-resident member shall pay non-resident PMS through their Mother Lodge and Ruling WM and Past and Present Wardens shall pay fees of honor to Grand Lodge of India if not directly paid to GLI & RGL.

Note for Clarity! See Appendix I

### Visitors

16. The admission of visitors shall be regulated by the provisions of Rules 104 to 106 of B of C.

### Fees

17. The following shall be the fees payable in advance.

Initiation	Rs. 350/-
Joining	Rs. 350/-
Joining from another Constitution	Rs. 400/-
Re-Joining	Rs. 350/-
Miscellaneous/Incidental	Rs. 50/-

Besides fee chargeable by GLI/RGL of SI Shall be payable over and above the fees shown above.

Also refer Appendix-II for Clarity

18. The holdings of emergency Meetings (By Dispensation) shall be regulated by Rule 116 of B of C.

19. Where an emergency meeting is held for the sole purpose of conferring a degree at the request and for the convenience of a candidate or candidates, the Lodge may require from such Candidate or Candidates a total sum not exceeding Rs. 250/- towards expenses of the Meeting.

### Charity Fund

20. The Charity Fund shall be maintained by donations and voluntary subscriptions from members and visitors and by transfer of 2% of the monthly subscriptions.

21. The Master shall have powers to spend a sum not exceeding Rs. 500/- in a year from the general fund of the Lodge to meet emergent cases of distress. Case the Master exercises this privilege, he shall report the circumstances at the next regular meet of the Lodge.

22. Every Initiate and Joining/Rejoining member shall pay Rs.1,000/- lump-sum towards Building Fund on his admission into the Lodge.

### Building Fund

23. A separate Building Fund shall be maintained from the amounts received from the other Lodges. This fund should be spent for the purpose of maintenance and repairs of the building and payment of all taxes and charges payable thereon.

The Building fund shall be exclusively used for repair and maintenance of the buildings, furniture and other appurtenances and not to be used for any other purposes.

### Steward Fund

24. The Steward Fund shall be maintained from contributions from the Initiates and Joining Members and 15% of the subscriptions from the general fund. Every Initiate and Joining Member should contribute Rs.150/- towards Steward Fund along with the fees. This fund shall be used for the monthly banquets and other refreshments.

## Propositions

25. Any members of the Lodge desiring to make a motion there in, or to submit any matter for its consideration at any regular meeting thereof shall give notice in writing to the Secretary of the precise nature of such matter, not less than fourteen days before such meeting. No such motion or matter shall be dealt with in the Lodge, unless such notice has been given except by special leave of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.
26. No motion the substance of which the Lodge has already considered and decided upon shall again be brought forward or otherwise discussed, save at the instance of the Master, or after the expiry of six months from the date of such consideration or discussion.
27. Two-thirds of the Members present at the meeting may allow to be introduced or discussed at any Regular Meeting of the Lodge without notice, any business or motion, which they shall consider to be urgent.
28. Nothing in the foregoing Rules shall require notice to be given of any motion to adopt or otherwise deal with any report or recommendation of any Committee of the Lodge.

## Committees

29. At the regular meetings in January the Lodge shall appoint a Standing Committee consisting of the Master, Wardens, the Secretary, The Treasurer, all Past Masters of and in the Lodge and two other elected members.

30. At the regular Meeting in November the Lodge shall appoint Audit Committee referred to in Rule 129 Book of Constitution. The Treasurer shall not be member of this Committee.

31. The duties of the Standing Committee appointed by the Lodge shall be:-
  - i) To enquire about and report on candidates for Initiation and Joining.
  - ii) To inspect and check all the property of the Lodge least once a year and
  - iii) To prepare an annual report of the financial condition of the Lodge, budget estimates for the ensuing year and upon general questions affecting the Lodge during the period under review and circulate to all members for its adoption on the Installation Day of the Master elect in January.

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

## Secretary's Duties

33. All the correspondence from members of the Lodge shall be addressed to the Secretary.
34. As per Rule 36 of B of C, the secretary and Tyler shall be exempted from payment of their monthly subscription if they so desire and the Lodge shall pay the Grand Lodge and Regional Grand Lodge dues on their behalf.

## Treasurer's Duties

35. The Treasurer shall have charge of and be responsible for the monies and the account books of the Lodge. He shall receive directly all monies due or held for the Lodge and deposit the same in the name of the Lodge at

Bank approved by a resolution of the Lodge and shall make a payments as per duly authorized or have been sanctioned by the Lodge. He shall generally conform with the requirements of Rue 129 of B of C.

36. The treasurer shall prepare a statement of accounts annually in January showing the exact financial position of the Lodge as on 31<sup>st</sup> December which statement shall be verified and audited by the Audit Committee before January meeting.
37. The Tyler, if he be a Servicing Brother shall receive a fee of such amount per meeting as the Lodge shall from time to time determine. The property and Regalia of the Lodge shall be in his custody subject to the inspection of the Master and Wardens.
38. It shall not be competent for the brethren to adrogate, amend or alter these By-Laws unless the abrogation amendment or alteration shall have been circulated with the summons at which it is to be finally considered and shall have been read and approved of at one meeting and confirmed at the next Regular Meeting of the Lodge. The change shall not become effective until subsequently approved by the Regional Grand Master of Southern India and the Most Worshipful The Grand Master of India.

#### Endowment Fund

39. The Lodge may accept Endowments from members and visitors The proceeds of the Endowments shall generally be spent in the manner in which the Donor desires

The purpose of the fund shall be within the provisions of masonic principles.

An endowment shall not be less than **₹ 1,000/-**.

Amendments approved by RW the R. G. M of S.I on

18.12.1993, 3.11.1994 by MW the GM on 21.2.19<sup>th</sup>  
30.11.1994 and 16.1.1996.

W.Bro.Dr.C.Veerabhadra Rao - WM

W.Bro.B.V.Nageswara Rao - SW

W.Bro.V.Lakshminarayana - JW

W.Bro.K.K.Banerjee - Secretary

Further amendments approved by RW the R.G.M. a  
M.W. The GM the April/May 1997.

W.Bro. V.Lakshminaryana - WM

Bro. Maj.P.R.Rao ( Retd)- SW

Bro. Dr.A.B.Narasinga Rao - JW

W.Bro. Dr.C.Veerabhadra Rao - Secretary

Brought up to date - 20.2.1999

W.Bro. Dr.A.B.Narasinga Rao - WM

Bro. K.Ratan Kumar - SW

Bro. N.V.N.Raju - JW

R.W.Bro. K.K.Banerjee - Secretary

Brought up to Date 31/12/2010

W Bro Cdr T. Raja Ravi WM

Bro. D. A. Srinivasa Rao SW

Bro. B. Anjaneyulu JW

W Bro Maj. P.R. Rao (Retd) Secretary

## APPENDIX-I

Various Fees as chargeable in 2010

**1. For Regular Member :**

Subscription per year : Rs. 1500/- Honor Fee For PMs, WM + Wardens (Past and Present) if not paid directly to GLI : Rs. 50/-

**2. For Non-Resident Members:**

- \* Subscription per Year : Rs. 1150/-=<150>+50 for PM
- \* Miscellaneous Incidentals of Rs.40/- included in Subscription per year

## APPENDIX-I

**3. Fees payable by Initiates and Joining/Rejoining members**

Initiation : Rs. 350/-

Joining : Rs. 350/-

Subscription per Year including Miscellaneous/Incidentals : Rs. 1500/- and G.LI & R.G.L of Southern India dues.

Steward Fund : Rs. 150/-

Building Fund : Rs. 1,000/-

An Initiate pays : Rs. 3,000/-

A Joining Member pays : Rs. 3,000/-

**NOTE**