

Royal Arch Chapter
Star of the South, No. 140
Bengaluru.



Bye - Laws
2014.

Royal Arch Chapter Star of the South, NO. 140

Freemasons' Hall, 19, Primrose Road,
Bengaluru - 560 025.
Charter Dt: 17.02.2014 Consecrated Dt: 25.02.2014

Bye-Laws

Preamble :

As it is necessary for the good governance and well being of every Institution & lawfully organized Society, that Rules and Regulations be framed for the guidance of its Members, the Principals and the Companions of Royal Arch Chapter STAR OF THE SOUTH No.140 for the purpose of preserving that harmony which shall always distinguish Freemasons, do establish and hereby agree to the following Bye-laws which contain nothing inconsistent with the Laws contained in the Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

Under the authority granted by the Supreme Grand Chapter of India, a chapter under the name and title of **ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER STAR OF THE SOUTH** is founded in Bengaluru. The Charter of this Chapter is granted by the Supreme Grand Chapter of India, New Delhi, dated 17th February 2014, and is assigned the Number 140, on the rolls of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

1. VENUE :

The regular Convocation of the Chapter shall be held at Freemasons' Hall, No.19, Primrose Road, Bengaluru - 560 025.

2. MEMBERS :

There shall be two classes of Members:

- (a). Subscribing Members.
- (b). Honorary Members.

3. CONVOICATIONS :

- (a). The regular Convocation of the Chapter shall be held on the Second Fridays of February, May, August & November at such hour as may be directed by the Principals.
- (b). Emergency convocations of the Chapter may be called at any time by the authority of the First Principal or by the other two Principals with the concurrence of the First Principal strictly in accordance with Regulation 63 of the General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India. Any fee charged shall be to the account of the persons/ members on whose behalf the Emergency Convocation is to be held. However, the permanent committee may at its discretion, waive such recovery of Fee.

3.1 SUMMONS :

- (i). The Summons convening the Regular/Emergency Convocation shall be dispatched by Scribe 'E' atleast 10 days prior to the date of such convocation.
- (ii). For the convenience and conservation of resources, the Summons shall be sent by e-mail to all the members. If required, printed copies shall be sent to the designated officers of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India (SGCI) and Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India (RGC of SI).

4. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION CONVOICATION:

- (i). The Principals shall be elected annually at the Regular Convocation of the Chapter in May and shall be installed at the next Regular Convocation in August.
- (ii). The Treasurer and Janitor shall also be elected annually at the Regular Convocation of the Chapter in May and invested as such at the Installation Convocation in August.

5. BALLOT AND VOTING :

- (a). No candidate shall be Exalted or admitted as a Joining or Re- joining Member of the Chapter, unless if on ballot, two thirds of the members present and voting in the Chapter approve the proposal for such candidature. However if the voting is not favorable, then the rejected candidate can be proposed again in the open Chapter only after twelve months from the date of such Ballot.
- (b). A collective Ballot for two or more candidates for Exaltation or Joining may be taken with the approval of the Chapter. However should there be even one Black Ball, each candidate shall be balloted individually. A Collective Ballot for Exaltation and a Joining Member is irregular.

6. FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS :

The Fees and Subscriptions are inclusive of Annual Membership/Subscription to the SGCI and RGC of SI.

- (a). Exaltation Fee with the application form: Rs.2,500-00.
- (b). Joining Fee payable with the application form: Rs.2,500-00.
- (c). Re-joining Fee payable with the application form: Rs.1,000-00 plus arrears due if any as on date of cessation/resignation of membership.
- (d). Annual Subscription: Rs. 1500.00.
- (e). If the Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India so provide & permit, then the revisions in Fees & Subscription approved by the members of the Chapter do not need the sanction / approval of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

The Chapter shall take collection for the Benevolent Fund at every meeting. The Benevolent Fund shall be utilized to make contributions to Masonic Charities and to aid a distressed member or the dependents of a deceased Companion. The merits of each case shall be investigated by the Permanent Committee.

7. EXCLUSION :

Under Regulation 75 of the Book of General Regulations of Supreme Grand Chapter of India, if the subscription of a member remains unpaid for one full year, at the expiration of the period, he shall cease to be a member, provided such a member has been duly served with a notice by Registered post with acknowledgement due of being in arrears of the subscription amount and the member fails to make payment within 30 days of receipt of such notice.

8. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS :

(a). SCRIBE 'E' :

- (i). The Scribe-E shall conduct all the General business and correspondence of the Chapter.
- (ii). He shall prepare and issue Summons and shall record the Minutes of the regular and emergent convocations.
- (iii). He shall read the same at the next convocation for confirmation.
- (iv). He shall maintain a membership register and preserve all records, files, documents etc., of the Chapter.
- (v). He shall make due returns and remit the Annual Fees payable to Supreme Grand Chapter of India and Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India.
- (vi). He shall also be the Ex-Officio Secretary of the Permanent Committee. The Secretary shall be exempt from paying the Chapter subscription.

(b). TREASURER :

- (i). The Treasurer shall collect all fees & dues and shall issue official receipts for the same. He shall deposit them in the Chapter's accounts at any of the branches of any of the Public Sector Banks in Bengaluru.
- (ii). The Treasurer shall maintain separate books of accounts and bank accounts for the General Fund, Benevolent Fund, and the Refreshment Fund of the Chapter.
- (iii). He shall allocate from the annual subscription of every member, Rs.200 towards the Benevolent Fund, Rs. 600.00 towards the Refreshment Fund and

- the balance to the General Fund from which the Annual Fees for SGCI and RGC of SI will be paid.
- (iv). The Chapter, by resolution, may also invest its funds in Government and other recognized securities, may sell or borrow against such securities.
 - (v). All the financial transactions including the Bank Accounts of the Chapter shall be operated by the Treasurer jointly with either the First Principal or the Scribe 'E'.
 - (vi). He shall at every Convocation, submit and read in open Chapter the Statement of Accounts.
 - (vii). He shall present at the Installation Convocation, the accounts of the Chapter drawn upto the last day of July duly audited and certified by the Audit Committee.
- (c). **JANITOR:**
The Janitor shall prepare the Chapter for the Convocation and see that every companion whether a Member or a Visitor, is properly clothed before entering the Chapter. He shall be in charge of Charter, Regalia, etc., of the Chapter.

9. PERMANENT COMMITTEE:

- (a). The Permanent Committee shall compose of Three Principals, all Past First Principals, the Scribe 'E', Treasurer and two Companions as appointed by the Chapter at the Installation Convocation. Five members shall form the quorum.

- (b). The Permanent Committee shall meet at Freemasons' Hall, No.19, Primrose Road, Bengaluru - 560 025 at the regular Convocation day half an hour prior to the Convocation, or at the day and time the First Principal may order.
- (c). The Permanent Committee shall check the Treasurer's Accounts, inspect and report on the Chapter property, consider and report on the proposals for membership of the Chapter and transact any other business regularly brought forward.
- (d). The Permanent Committee shall have the authority to propose the amendments to the fee structure including Subscription fee, if need arises. The same has to be approved in the open Chapter by majority of Companion present, as an item of the Agenda appearing in the summons.

10. PROPOSITIONS:

- (a). Every proposition before the Chapter assembled shall have to be duly proposed by one Member and Seconded by another.
- (b). Any amendment to any proposition maybe made duly Proposed and Seconded. Each amendments shall be put to vote first; if negative, the original proposition shall be then put to the vote, but if the amendment is carried, the original proposition shall be declared to be lost.

- (c). No proposition of importance shall be brought forward for consideration, unless notice thereof, has been given, at the previous Regular Meeting or in writing to the Scribe 'E', well in advance and in time to be circulated with the Summons of the Convocation.

11. BYE-LAWS :

- (a). These Bye-Laws shall be printed at the expense of the Chapter and a copy presented to every Companion. Every Member on his Exaltation or Joining shall receive a copy of the Bye-Laws. His acceptance shall be deemed to be a declaration of his submission to them.
- (b). These Bye-Laws shall be read in open Chapter at least once a year.
- (c). In any case for which the foregoing Bye-Laws do not provide, the General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India shall be binding on all concerned.
- (d). The Chapter has the power of framing proper bye-laws for its governance, but neither bye-law nor any alteration thereof except any change / amendments to the Subscription or any clause of Para 6 of these bye laws shall come into operation until approved by the Most Excellent the Grand Superintendent and Most Excellent the First Grand Principal.
- (e). When finally approved, the bye-laws must be printed, a copy sent to the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

Certified that these Bye-Laws have been duly adopted at the Consecration and Constitution Convocation held on 25th February 2014 at Bengaluru.

E. Comp. V.S.Hanumanthu - Founder First Principal
E. Comp. V.S.Jayashankar - Founder Second Principal
E. Comp. V.S.Ramakrishna - Founder Third Principal.



Date: 25th Feb 2014.
Place: Bengaluru.

Comp. V G T. Arasu.
Founder Scribe 'E'.


Approved by the ME the Grand Superintendent



Date: 5th March 2014
Place: Chennai.

(ME.Comp. R. Sushil Raj)
Grand Superintendent.

Approved by ME the First Grand Principal



Date: 15th March 2014.
Place: New Delhi.

(B.Kamakoti)
Grand Scribe 'E'.