

BY-LAWS

11 MAR 2002



LODGE WALTAIR

No. 56

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OF

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No. 56

Preamble

Whereas 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.

Object 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 Antient Custom and in conformity with the Constitution of the Antient 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 these 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.

4. Resident members are those who reside within the municipal limits of Visakhapatnam and Gajuwaka 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 D 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 lumpsum including Grand and Regional Grand dues and Honour 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 joins lodges not recognised by GLI vide Rule 124 A.

12. A member who has resigned or has ceased to be a member under Rule 124 or has been excluded for 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 fresh 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 covering the regular meetings 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 selected at the regular meeting in December.

16. The monthly subscription of a resident member shall be Rs. 38.50/- payable on the first day of every month and in case a member pays the subscription in lumpsum for one year commencing from first day of January to thirty-first day of December on or before the thirty-first day of March - the subscription shall be Rs. 400/- per annum and of non resident member shall be Rs. 350/- payable yearly and in advance.

Besides, residents members will pay annual dues payable to Grand Lodge of India and Quarterages of the Regional Grand Lodge of Southern India.

A non-resident member shall pay besides subscription additional fees chargeable by GLI/RGL. Further both resident and non-resident PMS through their Mother Lodge and Ruling

WM and Past and Present Wardens shall pay fees of honour to Grand Lodge of India.

Note for Clarity ! See Appendix I

Visitors

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

Fees

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

Initiation	Rs. 250/-
Joining	Rs. 250/-
Joining from another Constitution	Rs. 250/-
Re-joining	Rs. 250/-
Miscellaneous/Incidental	Rs. 40/-

Besides fees chargeable by GL I / RGL of S.I. shall be payable over and above the fees shown above.

Also refer Appendix II for Clarity

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

20. Where an emergency meeting is held for the sole purpose 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. 100/- towards expenses of the Meeting.

Charity Fund

21. The Charity Fund shall be maintained by donations and

voluntary subscriptions from members and visitors and by transfer of 2% of the monthly subscriptions.

22. The master shall have powers to spend a sum not exceeding Rs. 200/- in a year from the general funds of the Lodge to meet emergent cases of distress. In case the Master exercises this privilege- he shall report the circumstances at the next regular meeting of the Lodge.

Every Initiate and Joining / rejoining member shall pay Rs. 1,000/- lumpsum towards Building Fund on his admission into the Lodge

Building Fund

23. A separate Building Fund shall be maintained from the rents realised on the guest house-banqueting hall etc. The fund should be spent for the purpose of the maintenance and repairs of the building and for payment of all taxes and charges payable thereon.

Every Initiate and Joining/Rejoining member shall pay Rs. 1,000/- lumpsum towards Building Fund on his admission into the Lodge. The fund shall be exclusively used for repairs 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 the contributions from the Initiates and Joining Members and 15% of the subscriptions from the general funds. 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 therein, 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 within 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 three 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 of Book of Constitution. The Treasurer shall not be a member of this Committee.

31. The duties of the Standing Committee appointed by the Lodge shall be:-

- 1) To enquire about and report on candidates for Initiation and Joining
- 2) To inspect and check all the property of the Lodge at least once a year: and
- 3) 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 Committee 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 a Bank approved by a resolution of the Lodge and shall make payments as are duly authorised or have been sanctioned by the Lodge. He shall generally conform with the requirements of Rule 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 31st December which statement shall be verified and audited by the Audit Committee before January meeting.

37. The Tyler, if he be a Serving 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 charge shall not become effective until subsequently approved by the Regional Grand Master of Southern India and the Most Worshipful Grand Master of India.

Endowment Fund

39. The Lodge may accept Endowments from members and visitors on the recommendation of the standing committee. 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 Rs. 1,000/-

Amendments approved by RW the R & M of S.I. on 18-12-93, 3-11-94 by MW the GM on 21-2-94, 30-11-94 and 16-1-96.

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

Bro. BV Nageswara Rao, SW

Bro. V. Lakshminarayana Rao, JW

VW Bro. K.K. Banerjee, Secretary

Further amendments approved by RW the R & M and M
"GM the April/May 1997.

W. Bro. V. Lakshminarayana Rao - WM

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

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

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

Brought upto - date - 20-2-99

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

Bro. K. Ratan Kumar - SW

Bro. N.V.N. Raju - JW

RW. Bro. K.K. Banerjee - Secretary

Appendix I

Various Fees as chargeable in 1999:

1 For Regular Member :

• Subscription/Year : Rs. 750/- Honour Fee For PMS, WM +
Wardens (Past and Present) if not paid directly to GLI : Rs. 50/-

2 For Non-Resident Members :

• Subscription/Year : Rs. 520/-
• Miscellaneous Incidentals of Rs. 40/- included in Subscription/
Year.

Appendix II

3 Fees payable by Initials and Joining/Rejoining members

Initiation : Rs. 250/-

Joining : Rs. 250/-

Subscription/Year including Miscellaneous/Incidentals : Rs.750/-

Steward Fund : Rs. 150/-

Building Fund : Rs. 1,000/-

An Initiate pays : Rs. 2,150/-

A Joining Member : Rs. 2,150/-