

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF INDIA

30 SEP 2024



M.E.Comp. AJAY BHARGAVA
Grand Scribe E



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No.172(C)

26th September 2024

The Regional Grand Scribe E
Regional Grand Chapter of SI
Chennai.

Dear Sir and E Companion,

With reference to your letter No.C-172/2024 dated 6th September 2024, I
return herewith two copies of bye-laws of RA Chapter Ernakulam No.172 duly
approved by ME the First Grand Principal.

With best wishes

Yours fraternally

AJAY BHARGAVA
Grand Scribe E

Chapter Ernakulam No 172

Warranted on 24th day of May 2024
3rd day of Jyaistha 1946 Saka Era

Consecrated on 9th day of August 2024
18th day of Sravana 1946

BYE-LAWS

PREAMBLE

HOLY ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER ERNAKULAM has been founded in Ernakulam under the Charter dated 24th day of May 2024, Corresponding to 3rd day of Jyaistha 1946 Saka Era, from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India and the Chapter was consecrated and constituted into a Regular Chapter, by M.E. A.K. SHARMA, M.E. the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, on the 9th day of August 2024, corresponding 18th day of Sravana 1946 Saka Era and is assigned the No. 172 on the Roll of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India.

1. CHAPTER SECRETARIAT

The chapter secretariat will unless amended function from Sreepatham Krishnaswamy Road, Cochin 682 035. All communication to the chapter shall be addressed to the said address.

2. MEMBERS

The members of the chapter shall comprise two classes, namely subscribing members and honorary members.

a) Subscribing members: All the Founder Members and those members exalted into or joined or rejoined the chapter as per the provisions of Book of General Regulations.

b) Honorary members: Any companion of good standing and worthy of such distinction by reason of his service to the chapter, may be elected as such by the chapter in accordance with Book of General Regulations.

3. REGULAR CONVOCATIONS

The chapter shall meet at the Ernakulam Masonic Hall, Thrikkakara, Kochi on the on the last Thursday in the months of March, June, September, and December every year or at such other place and time as the Principals may fix from time to time.

4. EMERGENCY CONVOCATIONS

Emergency convocations of the chapter may at any time be called 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 63² of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND INSTALLATION

The Three Principals of the Chapter shall be elected annually by ballot in open chapter at the regular election convocation in the month of September and shall be installed at the next regular convocation in the month of December. The Treasurer of the chapter shall be elected annually by ballot in open chapter at the regular

election convocation in the month of September. The janitor shall be elected annually by show of hands at the regular election convocation in the month of September.

6. OTHER OFFICERS

The Officers of the Chapter shall be appointed in accordance with Rule 52 of the Book of General Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India and shall be installed at the next regular convocation in the month of December.

7. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

Candidates for exaltation, joining or rejoining the Chapter must be proposed and seconded by subscribing members of the chapter. Such propositions may take place at regular convocations of the chapter or by notice in writing transmitted by the proposer to the Scribe E at least fourteen days before the convocation. Such proposal(s) shall be included in the summons for the convocation at which the ballot is to take place giving full particulars of the candidate(s) in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 70 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

Candidate(s) for joining or rejoining not already registered in the books of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India shall make the declaration as provided in Regulation 71 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

A joining member will have to produce a "No dues Certificate" from all the

Chapters in which he has been a member before he can be balloted.

Before the ballot for ~~exaltation~~ joining / rejoining is proceeded with, the Scribe E of the chapter shall satisfy himself that he has taken care of the provisions of Regulations 69 to 72 of the Book of Royal Arch Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of India.

No one shall be admitted if, on the ballot more 50% of the members present and voting have cast black balls.

A candidate or a companion rejected on ballot for Exaltation or membership shall not be eligible to be proposed again until after the expiry of one year from the date of such rejection.

8. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES

The fees for exaltation, joining from the same constitution / re-joining will be Rs 10,000/- . The annual subscription is fixed as Rs 1,000.00 in addition to the annual dues payable to the Supreme Grand Chapter of India and The Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India. The chapter shall periodically decide on an annual stewards fund payable. The fees for exaltation⁴, joining and rejoining, may be determined from time to time by resolution in open chapter after due notice on the summons. The cost of ritual books, aprons, sash, and breast jewel will be charged extra at actuals. The amount of the annual subscription and other dues are payable in advance on the first day of September every year.

All ruling Principals shall pay in the annual subscription an additional fee in accordance with Rule 100 of the Book of General Regulations of the Supreme

Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India, as applicable from time to time.

Honorary Members are not liable to pay any subscription fees.

9. ARREARS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

Any member, whose subscription remains unpaid for one year after it becomes due, shall be liable for exclusion in accordance with the provisions contained in Rule 75 of the Book of General Regulations of the Supreme Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India. Any member, who has been excluded under this Bylaw may be permitted to rejoin, provided he pays all arrears due of him and the prescribed fees for rejoining and he is regularly proposed and balloted for favourably in accordance with Rule 70 of the General Regulations.

10. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be responsible for receiving all fees, dues, etc., and for making all payments on behalf of the Chapter and shall deposit them in the name of the chapter, in a bank approved by the chapter, which shall be operated jointly by the M E 'Z' or Scribe and Treasurer. He shall present the audited statement of accounts, made up to last day of August at every installation meeting.

11. SCRIBE

The Scribe shall be the custodian of all records and documents of the chapter, and keep minutes of proceedings of the chapter, and separately of any chapter committee. He shall issue summonses for all chapter meetings, at least fourteen days in advance to every member. He shall also maintain an inventory of the assets

of the chapter and transfer the assets and records / documents to the successor at the installation meeting every year.

12. PROPOSITIONS

No motion unless it is purely formal or technical shall be raised in the chapter at any convocation for which notice has not been given in the previous regular convocation or by a communication addressed to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the convocation at which convocation such proposition is to be considered. The said motion shall be included in the summons. In the case of a tie on any vote arising out of consideration of such proposition(s), the First Principal shall have the right of a casting vote, which shall decide the ballot. No question once decided shall be raised again without the permission of the First Principal or until six months have elapsed after its last decision.

13. STANDING COMMITTEE AND AUDITORS

The Standing Committee shall consist of the Three Principals, Treasurer, Scribe E, subscribing Past Principles in the chapter and two members elected at the installation meeting. The Standing Committee shall meet as and when decided by the M.E.Z.

Two auditors who will audit the annual accounts shall be elected at the election meeting every year.

14. RESIGNATION

A companion wishing to resign from the chapter shall tender it, either in open chapter or by letter to the Scribe, and on payment of all dues, shall be entitled to a

certificate of clearance. The resignation shall take effect from the date of its receipt by the Scribe of the chapter or from the day the resignation was announced by the member in open chapter.

15. SUMMONS AND NOTICE

Summons or notice which is to be sent to any member shall be deemed sufficiently served, if sent through Electronic Mail to the address stated in the Membership Register. Every notice of exclusion or intended exclusion shall be sent through registered post with acknowledgment due to the last known address of the member. All changes of addresses shall be invariably notified to the Scribe 'E' in writing by members immediately when they occur.

16. CONSTITUTIONS

In respect of matter not specifically and expressly provided for in the Bylaw, the Law and Regulations of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India as embodied in the General Regulations and Bylaws of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India shall apply.

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17. BYLAWS

It shall not be competent for the Companions to abrogate, amend, add to or alter these Bylaws, unless the abrogation, amendment, addition or alteration, shall have been proposed in writing at one regular Convocation and approved by a majority of the members voting in favour of such change(s) at the next regular convocation of the chapter and also be approved by the M.E. Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India and the M.E. the

First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India. In the event of any abrogation, amendment or revision of any Bylaw or Bylaws, the Scribe 'E' shall provide each Member with a copy thereof, after approval by the M.E. Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter of Southern India and the M.E. the First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of India.

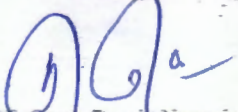
Every member of the chapter on his Exaltation, or joining shall be presented with a copy of these Bylaws and his acceptance thereof shall be deemed a pledge of his strict adherence and submission to the rules contained herein.

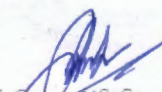
18. CHAPTER EFFECTS

The jewels and furniture of the chapter are the property of the three Principals for the time being, in trust for the members. The Warrant of Constitution is the property of ME the First Grand Principal and the M E 'Z' shall be responsible for its safe custody and shall produce it at every meeting of the Chapter. An inventory of the properties of the Chapter shall be maintained by the Scribe, to be handed over to the newly installed M E 'Z' at every installation⁸ meeting. The chapter, by a resolution, may also invest its funds in approved fixed deposits or bonds in banks, Government and other recognized institutions.

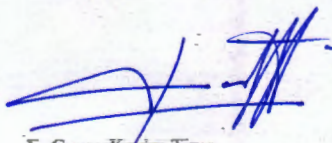
Adopted unanimously at the consecration and constitution of the Chapter

on 9th day of August 2024 at Kochi.


M.E. Comp. Premjit Nagendran
First Principal


E. Comp. A.S. Suresh Shenoy
Second Principal


Comp P. Haridas
Third Principal


E. Comp Koshiy Tims
Scribe E

Approved by M.E. the Grand Superintendent of the Regional Grand Chapter
of Southern India, Chennai

Place : Chennai

Date: 6/9/24
Grand Scribe 'E'

M.E. Comp. T.N. Manoharan

Regional Grand Superintendent

Approved by M.E. The First Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Chapter
of Royal Arch Masons of India, New Delhi

Place : Delhi

Date: 26.09.2024

M.E. Comp. Ajay Bhargava

Grand Scribe 'E'