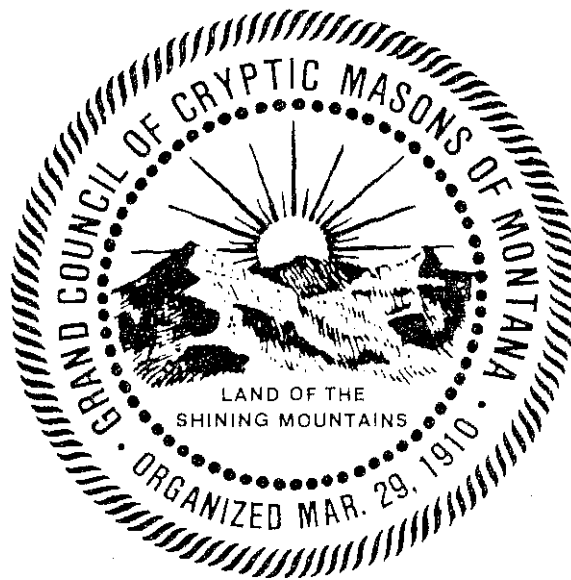


**CONSTITUTION
BY-LAWS
REGULATIONS**

OF THE



**GRAND COUNCIL
CRYPTIC MASONS
OF MONTANA**

REVISED

2012

**CONSTITUTION
of the
GRAND COUNCIL OF MONTANA**

The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Montana do ordain and establish for their Government the following Constitution.

**CONSTITUTION
of the
GRAND COUNCIL OF MONTANA**

ARTICLE I

Members- Voting Powers: The members of this Grand Council shall consist of the elected and appointed Grand Council officers and all regular members of any regularly Chartered and duly Constituted Council of Cryptic Masons within the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Montana, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote, but no right of proxy.

ARTICLE II

The officers of this Grand Council shall consist of a Most Illustrious Grand Master, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer, Right Illustrious Grand Recorder, Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard, Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council, Illustrious Grand Chaplain; Illustrious Grand Marshal, Illustrious Grand Steward and Illustrious Grand Sentinel, who shall perform such duties as are appropriate to their several stations.

ARTICLE III

Every member of this Grand Council must be a member of some Constituent Council under this jurisdiction and proxies shall be members of the respective Councils whose officers they represent.

ARTICLE IV

A representation of three constituent Councils shall be necessary to constitute a quorum, although a smaller number may meet and adjourn from time to time.

ARTICLE V

The stated Assembly of the Grand Council shall be held annually at such date and place as it shall determine; provided, however, that in the event of any serious emergency, and when any duly authorized official, board or body of the Nation or the State of Montana, shall call off all such annual conventions of all kinds, for the time being, and also when this Grand Council, by a majority vote of its Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Principal Conductor of Work, Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Captain of the Guard, and Grand Conductor of the Council, herein referred to as the "committee" shall deem the same advisable, the regular annual stated Assembly for that year shall be cancelled and in lieu thereof the said Committee shall call an "In Lieu" Assembly, which shall consist of the above named Grand Officers of said Committee, and the regular members of the Jurisprudence and Finance Committees of this Grand Council; that said "In Lieu" Assembly shall consist only of said Grand Officers and Committees, which shall conduct by a majority vote of the whole thereof, all business and exercise all the powers and authorities of a regular stated annual Assembly of this Grand Council conducting any and all business usually conducted by this Grand Council.

ARTICLE VI

The following Grand Officers shall be elected at each annual Assembly, and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and installed:

- Most Illustrious Grand Master.
- Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master.
- Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work.
- Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer.
- Right Illustrious Grand Recorder.
- Right Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard.
- Right Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council.

(2012)

There may be created a temporary office of Assistant Grand Recorder, the occupant of which is to be regularly elected in the same manner as the Grand Recorder, after being nominated in the usual procedure.

The new temporary officer so elected, will serve without remuneration in working with the Grand Recorder, in order to become familiar with the duties thereof in the event he should be elected to the office of Grand Recorder, when and if it became vacant.

When it becomes apparent that an Assistant Grand Recorder is no longer needed, the office shall be discontinued until such time as the need again arises. (1975).

All other Grand Officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master-elect before his installation.

No Companion shall be eligible to the office of Most Illustrious Grand Master, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master or Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, unless he is Past Illustrious Master of a constituent Council of Cryptic Mesons.

All elections shall be by ballot and the Companion having a majority of the votes cast shall be declared to be elected.

ARTICLE VII (Re-numbered 1993)

Grand Council Duties and Powers: The Grand Council shall have the sole government and superintendence of the Councils of Cryptic Masons within the State of Montana. It will also have power to constitute new Councils of Cryptic Masons within the State of Montana and grant charters and dispensations for the same, to which shall be affixed the seal of the Grand Council and the signatures of the Most Illustrious Grand Master and the Grand Recorder.

For violation of its laws, it may reprimand, suspend or expel any of its members; and it may require from the constituent Councils such dues and fees as it may judge necessary for its support.

ARTICLE VIII (Revised 1993).

The Most Illustrious Grand Master

Section 1. The Most Illustrious Grand Master shall, at each Annual Assembly, present a written report of all his official acts during the year,

and of the condition of Cryptic Masonry within his jurisdiction, together with such recommendations as he may deem expedient.

Section 2. He shall carefully supervise the Constituent Councils, and see that the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of this Grand Council are faithfully observed.

Section 3. He shall have the power when the Grand Council is not in session:

- A. To issue letters of dispensation under his hand and private seal, to a competent number of duly qualified persons, empowering them to open and hold a Council of Cryptic Masons, until the next annual Assembly of the Grand Council. Provided, that the fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) for such dispensation is deposited with the Grand Recorder. In all cases of such dispensation, the Most Illustrious Grand Master shall make a report thereof at the next annual Assembly of the Grand Council, when the Grand Council may either recall or continue the said dispensation, or may grant a charter of Constitution. In case such charter is granted, the fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) shall be deposited therefore but if a charter should not be granted nor the dispensation continued, the said fee shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.
- B. To grant letters of dispensation to a competent Companion to communicate the degrees to such a number of Royal Arch Masons in good standing as may be necessary to form a new Council.
- C. To issue dispensations for the election of an officer or officers of a Council at a time other than that named in this Constitution.
- D. To convene any Council within this jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect proceedings, and give such orders and instructions as he may deem necessary.
- E. To arrest the Charter or Dispensation of any Council, for good reason shown; and for proper cause, to suspend any Illustrious Master from the functions of his office until the ensuing Annual Assembly.

F. He shall constitute, either in person or by proxy, all newly Chartered Councils, and install their officers.

Section 4. If the death, absence or disability of the Most Illustrious Grand Master should occur within the first one hundred twenty (120) days of his term of office, the Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master will assume that office and with it all the rights and powers of that office. Upon completion of that term of office he shall have the option of becoming the immediate Past Most Illustrious Grand Master, or stand for election for another term.

Section 5. The Most Illustrious Grand Master shall fill any vacancies which may occur in the offices of the Grand Council until the next Annual Assembly.

ARTICLE IX
(Added 1993)

The Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master and Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work.

Section 1. The Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master and Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, in the absence of their superiors, shall severally act as Illustrious Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, in order according to rank; at all other times they shall perform such other duties as may be assigned them by the Grand Council.

ARTICLE X
(Added 1993)

The Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer to take charge of all the funds and securities of this Grand Council; to pay all orders duly drawn by direction of the Grand Council; to report annually to the Grand Council his receipts and disbursements by item, and the amount of money and securities in his hands.

ARTICLE XI
(Added 1993)

The Right Illustrious Grand Recorder

Section I. It shall be the duty of the Right Illustrious Grand Recorder to record all the transactions of the Grand Council which it is proper to have written, and to superintend the publication thereof immediately after the close of each Annual Assembly. He shall receive, duly file, and safely keep all papers and documents addressed or belonging to the Grand Council, and present such as may require its action at each Assembly. He shall keep the seal of the Grand Council, and affix the same with his attestation to all documents emanating from this Grand Body. He shall collect the revenue of the Grand Council, pay it over to the Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer, and present a detailed report of his receipts and of all business appertaining to his office, at each Annual Assembly. He shall report at each Annual Assembly all Councils which are in arrears to the Grand Council, or which shall have neglected or refused to comply with any provisions of its Constitution, By-Laws or Regulations. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Grand Council, and submit copies thereof at each Annual Assembly.

He shall take charge of the Jewels, Furniture, Clothing and all paraphernalia of the Grand Council during its vacations. He shall report at each Annual Assembly all unfinished business, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Grand Council or Most Illustrious Grand Master. He shall receive for his services such sum per annum as the Grand Council shall appropriate annually; and there shall be appropriated annually by this Grand Council for clerical assistance in the office of the Grand Recorder such sum as they may deem necessary.

ARTICLE XII
(Re-numbered 1993)

Grand Officer Declaration

Each Grand Officer, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall be lawfully installed and make the following declaration: "I, (name) do solemnly promise, on my honor as a Royal and Select Master, that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Montana, the Constitution of the General Grand Council Royal and Select Masters International, and all ancient Masonic usages; and that I will, to the best of my knowledge and ability, perform the duties of the office with which I am now to be invested. So help me God".

**ARTICLE
XIII**

(Re-numbered 1993)

Past Illustrious Masters of other Grand jurisdictions, becoming members of Constituent Councils of this jurisdiction, may be elected members of this Grand Council with all the privileges of Past Illustrious Masters of this jurisdiction.

**ARTICLE
XIV**

A. The Grand Council, upon concurrence of a majority of the members present at an annual Assembly, may revise or amend this Constitution, provided, that such amendments and revisions shall be submitted in writing to the Grand Recorder at least 120 days prior to the opening of the annual Assembly. The Proposed revisions or amendments shall then be submitted by the Grand Recorder to The Jurisprudence Committee within 15 days for proper form. The Jurisprudence Committee shall then return the proposals to the Grand Recorder within 40 days of receipt, who shall submit a copy of the proposed revisions or amendments to each constituent Council at least 60 days prior to the opening of the annual Assembly. The revisions or amendments shall lie over until the next annual Assembly. Final adoption shall require a three-fourths majority vote of the members present.

B. A Grand Master's recommendation, if it has the effect of amending the Constitution shall be granted the same status as a resolution, and be subject to all the requirements and provisions governing the same. (1993)

**ARTICLE
XV**

When the positive law of the Grand Council of Montana is silent on any subject, the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be followed if applicable. In the event that the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons are silent, The Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, AF&AM of Montana shall be followed if applicable.

**BY-LAWS
of the
GRAND COUNCIL OF MONTANA**

The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Montana do ordain and establish for their Government the following By-Laws:

SECTION I

The annual Assemblies of this Grand Council shall be held at the time prescribed in Article V of the Constitution.

**SECTION 2
(Revised 1993)**

Standing Committees

The Most Illustrious Grand Master-Elect, at each Annual Assembly shall appoint the following Standing Committees, who shall hold their offices until the close of the next Stated Assembly:

1. Cryptic Advancement and Membership

A Committee on Cryptic Advancement and Membership, consisting of two or more members, to include the Right Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard (who shall serve as Chairman) and the Captain of the Guard of each constituent Council, whose duties are as follows:

- a) Provide officer training in the constituent Councils, and devise programs to help Councils in soliciting membership.

2. Cryptic Rite Philanthropy

A Committee on Cryptic Rite Philanthropy, consisting of two or more members, to include the Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council (who shall serve as Chairman) whose duties are as follows:

- a) Collect funds for Council philanthropy, and promote activities in the Councils to raise funds for it.

3. Finance

A Committee on Finance and Accounts, consisting of between three and five members, to include the Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master, whose duties are as follows:

- a) to examine and pass upon all business of a financial nature.: to examine the books and accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Recorder, and to make a report thereof in writing, as early as may be reasonable, during the session of the Grand Council, and to perform such other duties as the Grand Council may refer to them.
- b) to prepare a budget, and examine the financial reports of the Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer and Right Illustrious Grand Recorder.

4. Foreign Correspondence

A Committee on State of Rite and Foreign Correspondence, consisting of three members, whose duties are as follows:

- a) to establish and maintain a system of correspondence with all Sister Grand Councils and report in a written or printed form at the annual Assembly succeeding their appointment.
- b) to review and report on Proceedings of other Jurisdictions.

5. Jurisprudence

A Committee on Cryptic Jurisprudence, consisting of three members whose duties are as follows:

- A) to examine all questions of Cryptic Law and Jurisprudence, the status of membership, conflicts of opinion, appeals and grievances, as existing or arising within the Bodies constituting the membership of the Grand Council, which may be referred to them for action or opinion, and perform such other duties as may be referred to by the Most Illustrious Grand Master or presiding officer.

- B) to review all proposed legislation, to see that it conforms to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Council of Montana.

6. Necrology

A Committee on Necrology, consisting of three or more members, to include the Illustrious Grand Chaplain, whose duties are as follows:

- A) to obtain lists, throughout the year, of Cryptic Mason deaths from the Right Illustrious Grand Recorder, and prepare sympathy cards or notes for mailing to deceased families by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.
- B) to assist in conducting memorial services jointly with other Grand Bodies.

7. Public Relations

A Committee on Public Relations, consisting of three or more members to include the Illustrious Grand Marshall, whose duties are as follows:

- A) to report on York Rite activities and devise plans to promote Masonry.

8. York Rite Coordination

A Committee on York Rite Coordination, consisting of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and the Right Eminent Grand Commander, whose duties are as follows:

- A) to coordinate the activities of the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council, and the Grand Commandery.

SECTION 3
(Revised 1993)

Session Committees

It shall be the duty of the Most Illustrious Grand Master, immediately after his installation in this Grand Council, to appoint the following committees, each of whom shall hold their offices until the close of the Annual Assembly. Provided that none but members of this Grand Council shall be appointed to serve on committees.

1. Appeals and Grievances

A Committee on Appeals and Grievances, consisting of three or more members to include the Illustrious Grand Sentinel, whose duties are as follows:

- A) Determine if any Council or Companion has any grievances that should be brought to the attention of the Grand Council.

2. Councils Chartered and Under Dispensation

A Committee on Chartered Councils and Under Dispensation, consisting of three or more members, whose duties are as follows:

- A) Report on warrants and charters issued, and charters surrendered.

3. Credentials and Per Diem

A Committee on Credentials and Per Diem, consisting of three members whose duties are as follows:

- A) to examine and pass on the credentials of all Grand Officers, Permanent Members, Representatives of Councils or their proxies, and members of Standing Committees present and entitled to seats and votes, also to prepare and pay to all present, who are entitled and qualified, per diem as authorized.
- B) to check and register all delegates and visitors and report those who are eligible to vote.

The members of this Committee will function throughout the entire sessions of the Montana Grand York Rite. One member of the Committee is to be appointed by the Most Illustrious Grand Master, one by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and one by the Right Eminent Grand Commander.

4. Distribution

A Committee on Distribution, consisting of three or more members, to include the Right Illustrious Grand Captain of the Guard, whose duties are as follows:

- a) Review the reports of the Grand Master and other officers,
- b) Recommend approval or rejection of actions taken by the Grand Master,
- c) Recommend assignment of Grand Master's recommendations to appropriate committee(s) for their review.

5. Examination of Visitors

A Committee on Examination of Visitors, consisting of three members, whose duties are as follows:

- a) Examine Companions from this or other jurisdictions, who wish to attend the Annual Assembly but who cannot be vouched for by members of the Grand Council.

6. Ritual

A Committee on Ritual, consisting of three or more members, together with the Illustrious Grand Conductor of the Council, whose duties are as follows:

- a) to make any changes in the ritual that have been requested by the Grand Council and see that they are installed in the Ritual.

7. Sound System

A Committee on Sound System, consisting of one or more members whose duties are as follows:

- a) to record the proceedings of the Grand Assembly, to take charge of equipment for recording and see that **it** is in good repair.

8. Unfinished Business

A Committee on Unfinished Business, consisting of two or more members to include the Immediate Past Most Illustrious Grand Master (who shall serve as Chairman), whose duties are as follows:

- a) to review proceedings of previous Annual Assembly,
- b) ascertain whether anything was left unfinished during the previous Assembly,
- c) and see that **it** is presented for action at the current Annual Assembly.

SECTION 4

There shall not be a greater number of Councils established in this State than there are of Royal Arch Chapters, nor more than one Council within the jurisdiction of each Chapter.

SECTION 5

The officers of each constituent Council under this jurisdiction shall consist of an Illustrious Master, Deputy Master, Principal Conductor of the Work, Treasurer, Recorder, Captain of the Guard, Conductor of the Council, Steward and Sentinel. There may also be a Chaplain and Master of Ceremonies.

SECTION 6

Every Council under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council shall have power to confer the following degrees, and in the following order, viz: Royal Master; Select Master; and Super-Excellent Master, and shall receive of each candidate the sum of not less than two dollars previous to his receiving the degrees; and no Council under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council shall admit for visitation or admit by demit for membership any Companion who shall not have received, in a legally established Council, the Royal and Select Master degrees. Companions from other legally recognized Grand Jurisdictions, wherein the Royal and Select degrees are regularly conferred by and in the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and which jurisdiction

has no regularly constituted Councils therein, shall be recognized and treated in Montana as Companions of the Council

SECTION

7

Each Council in the State shall have power to confer the degree of Super- Excellent Master upon such Select Masters as have not received the same, without fee, if the Council should so determine. Every Select Master of a Council in this jurisdiction shall be deemed a full member of the Council and shall be reported as such in the returns to the Grand Council. Councils are hereby encouraged to confer the Super-Excellent Degree on Select Masters within one year from the date of confer the Select Master degree; Provided, however, that the time may be extended for sufficient cause duly shown to the Council.

SECTION

8

There are no territorial jurisdictions of Councils in the Grand Council of Montana. The requirement for a candidate seeking application in a Council is provided for in Section 14 of these By-laws

SECTION

9

The fee for a charter and for constituting a new Council shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00), five (\$5.00) of which shall be paid to the Grand Recorder when the charter is issued, and shall constitute his fee for engrossing that instrument.

SECTION

10

Each Council working under dispensation shall return its dispensation to the next succeeding annual Assembly of the Grand Council, together with a record of its Proceedings and By-Laws.

**SECTION
11**

1. The several Councils under this jurisdiction shall be represented in the Grand Council by the Illustrious Master, Deputy Master and Principal Conductor of the Work, or by their proxies. In the event of the death of either of such representatives, the Council may choose, at a stated meeting, a proxy to represent such deceased representative at the ensuing Grand Council if such representative's office shall remain vacant.

The several Councils under this jurisdiction shall in addition to the officers listed above be represented by the Recorder of the constituent Council, with the right to vote but without the right of proxy. (1980)

2. They shall make an annual return to the Grand Recorder on or before the 15th day of February in each year, of their officers and members, and the number of candidates greeted previous to the 1st day of January. The report for the year ending December 31st, shall cover the period beginning January 1st.

3. Each Council shall pay to the Grand Council with its annual return an annual per capita of no more than **NINE DOLLARS** and **TWENTY FIVE CENTS (\$9.25)** for each member of the Council except those whose dues have been remitted, and **TWO DOLLARS (\$2.00)** for each candidate greeted.

4. The annual per capita of those members who have purchased a life membership are not exempted and are due each year the member is on the active rolls of which he is a member. If he dies during the year his per capita is to be paid for that full year, in which death occurred, at which time his name is then placed on the rolls of the Memorial fund and taken off the active rolls. (1980)

**SECTION
12**

If any Council under this jurisdiction shall fail to assemble for the space of twelve months, or to be represented at the annual Assembly of the Grand Council for two meetings in succession, or for the same length of

time to discharge its duties to the Grand Council, such Council may forfeit its charter.

SECTION 13

No Council of Cryptic Masons that may hereafter be formed within the jurisdiction of this Grand Council shall be deemed legal without the sanction of a charter or warrant from this Grand Council.

The several Councils under the jurisdiction of this Grand Council are required to have their work uniform and in conformity with the work adopted by the General Grand Council of Cryptic Mesons international.

SECTION 14

Anyone who is a Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason affiliated and in good standing in both Lodge and Chapter; or who is such an affiliated Master Mason, and who has petitioned a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Capitular degrees, and who has resided in Montana six months next preceding the presentation of his petition, is eligible to petition for the degrees conferred in the Council; (provided, however, that none of the degrees of the Council shall be conferred upon any such petitioner until he shall have received the Royal Arch Degree). The petition shall be made in writing and signed by the applicant with his full name, stating his age, occupation and place of residence, and shall be recommended by two members of the Council. It shall be presented at a stated Assembly of the Council; and if received, shall be referred to a Committee of three, who shall make report thereon; provided, that any constituent Council may at its own discretion provide by its By-Laws that action on any petition must lie over from one stated Assembly when received to the next regular stated Assembly before being acted upon, except by dispensation of the Grand Master.

SECTION 15

All petitions for transfer of membership shall be signed by the petitioner with his full name, and shall state the name, number and location of the Council of which the applicant was last a member, and be accompanied by a demit, or other satisfactory evidence that the petitioner has lawfully withdrawn from the Council of which he was last a member, and be recommended by two members of the Council to which he petitions, and be shall be referred to a Committee of three, who shall report at the same or some subsequent stated Assembly, when the ballot shall be had upon said petition. Provided, that when the petitioner received the Royal

and Select Masters degree in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a certificate of the fact from the Chapter must accompany the petition, and the petitioner must be regularly healed.

SECTION 16

No ballot shall be taken upon any petition, either for the degrees or for transfer of membership, except at a stated Assembly of the Council, unless by authority of a special dispensation issued by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

SECTION 17

Each chartered Council under this jurisdiction shall have a seal, with the name and number thereof engraved thereon, an impression of which shall be transmitted to the Grand Recorder.

SECTION 18

No money shall be paid out by the Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer without a vote of the Grand Council.

SECTION 19

The Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer and the Right Illustrious Grand Recorder shall receive such compensation for their services as the Grand Council may deem reasonable.

SECTION 20

The Grand Council, upon concurrence of two-thirds majority of the members present at the annual Assembly, may revise or amend these By-Laws, provided, that such revisions or amendments be submitted in writing to the Grand Recorder at least 120 days prior to the opening of the annual Assembly. The revisions or amendments shall then be submitted by the Grand Recorder to the Jurisprudence Committee within 15 days for proper form. The jurisprudence Committee shall then return the proposals to the Grand Recorder within 40 days of receipt. The Grand Recorder shall then submit a copy of the proposed revisions or amendments to each of the constituent Councils at least 60 days prior to the opening of the annual Assembly. If the revisions or amendment are adopted at the annual Assembly they shall become a part of these By-Laws.

A Grand Master's recommendation, if it has the affect of amending these By-laws shall be granted the same status as a proposed amendment, and be subject to all the requirements and provisions governing the same.

GENERAL REGULATIONS
for the GOVERNMENT OF
COUNCILS under the
Jurisdiction of the GRAND
COUNCIL OF MONTANA

COUNCILS- HOW COMPOSED

1. All lawful Assemblies of Cryptic Masons are called Councils, as those of the Ancient Craft degrees are called Lodges.
2. Every Council of Cryptic Masons under this immediate jurisdiction must have the following officers, viz.:
 - Illustrious Master.
 - Illustrious Deputy Master.
 - Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work.
 - Treasurer.
 - Recorder.
 - Chaplain.
 - Captain of the Guard.
 - Conductor of the Council.
 - Steward.
 - Sentinel.
3. Every Council of Cryptic Masons within the immediate jurisdiction of this Grand Council must have a dispensation or charter, duly issued by authority of this Grand Council, and any Council or Assembly of Cryptic Masons not complying with the foregoing provision is hereby declared irregular or clandestine; and all Masonic intercourse or communication whatever, either public or private, with such unlawful and clandestine association, or with any member thereof, is hereby interdicted and strictly forbidden under penalty of expulsion.

COUNCILS- HOW ORGANIZED

4. A petition for dispensation to organize a Council must be signed by at least nine (9) regular Royal and Select Masters.
5. The petitioners for the dispensation, who are desirous of maintaining their membership in the Council when constituted under charter, must

have deposited their demits before or at the time the Council is constituted.

6. The office of Illustrious Master, Illustrious Deputy Master, and Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work, of a Council under dispensation, is filled by appointment of the Grand Master, and all other officers necessary to form a Council while under dispensation are filled by appointment of the Illustrious Master.
7. No installation of the officers of a Council under dispensation is necessary or proper, nor does any title of honor or distinction accrue by reason of service in any office under dispensation.
8. A Council under dispensation possesses all the legal rights and privileges granted and conferred by the Grand Council upon a Council working under charter, except the right to elect officers while working under dispensation.
9. A representative from a Council working under dispensation is not entitled to vote in the Grand Council until a charter is granted.
10. When the work of a Council under dispensation has been approved and a charter issued by order of the Grand Council, before such Council can lawfully meet as such it must be assembled by or under the authority of the Grand Master, duly constituted, and the officers named in the charter, installed.
11. The Illustrious Master, when installed, will have the right to fill, by appointment, all other offices necessary to the organization of the Council, and all such officers will then serve as such until their successors are duly elected, and installed at the time as provided for in these regulations.
12. All expenses incurred by the Grand Master or his proxy, in constituting and dedicating a Council and installing the officers, must be paid by the Council receiving the services; in no case can such expenses come against the Grand Council.
13. It is the duty of every Chartered Council under this Jurisdiction to be duly represented in the Grand Council, and each Council must pay the amount of its dues to the Grand Recorder on or before the 15th day of March, annually.

COUNCILS- THEIR CIVIL JURISDICTION

14. There are no territorial jurisdictions of Councils in the Grand Council of Montana
15. Deleted
16. Deleted

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

17. The election for officers of a Council regularly constituted under charter must be held no earlier than the first regular Assembly in May and before the convening of the Annual Grand Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Montana.
18. Councils may provide, by their By-Law's, for the election of Illustrious Master, Illustrious Deputy Master, Principal Conductor of the Work, Treasurer and Recorder only, and for the appointment of all others by the Illustrious Master-elect at any time before his installation.
19. All elections for officers of a Council must be by ballot, and a majority of the votes cast is necessary to elect.

Blank ballots are not votes and shall not be counted.
20. All business must be transacted in open Council of Select Masters.
21. If for any cause, a Council fails to elect its officers at the time provided for in these rules, the officers last installed will continue in the discharge of the duties of their respective stations until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed.

22. The Grand Master possesses the power to grant dispensations to hold special elections for officers in case of failure to elect at the specified time.
23. Any member of a Council is eligible to be elected to and hold any office in his Council.

INSTALLATIONS

24. Officers elected or appointed (except those of Councils under dispensation), before exercising any of the functions of their office, must in all cases, be regularly installed by:
 - A. a sitting Illustrious Master
 - B. a Past Illustrious Master
25. All installation ceremonies must be performed as near the election as practicable, except that officers elected at a special election should be installed immediately after the election if possible; but no officer can be installed unless he be actually present, and take upon himself the responsibilities of the office. This cannot be done by proxy.
26. Officers appointed by dispensation from the Grand Master, act merely as the proxies of the Grand Master, and are not, therefore, entitled to Installation.

SPECIAL DUTIES OF ILLUSTRIOUS MASTER

27. The Illustrious Master of every Council has it in special charge, as appertaining to his office, duty and dignity, to see that the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Edicts of the Grand Council, as well as the By-Laws of his own Council, are strictly observed; that accurate records of his Council be regularly kept; that just accounts and reports of all financial matters be promptly rendered; that the annual returns to the Grand Council are regularly made out, according to the forms to be furnished by the Grand Recorder, and returned to that officer on or before the fifteenth (15) day of March annually; that the per capita to the Grand Council be regularly and punctually paid on or before the fifteenth (15) day of March annually; that each officer and member of his Council perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry; that the ceremonies of his Council are performed with due order and solemnity, avoiding all trifling and levity, and should anything of this character be indulged in by any Companion present, to call the offender strictly to an account for his impropriety.

28. He has the authority of convening his Council at pleasure, and it is his duty to attend all Assemblies of the Grand Council, either in person or by proxy.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

29. The associations of Masonry being voluntary, the Grand Council recognizes the right of any officer of a Council to resign his office, in which case the Illustrious Master will fill such vacancy by appointment until the next stated election.
30. Should the Illustrious Master resign, the next officer in rank will succeed to his duties, with power to fill all such other vacancies as may occur.
31. Should the Illustrious Master-elect decline to be installed the Illustrious Deputy Master and Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work, or either of them, being installed, will succeed respectively to the duties of the chair.
32. Should all of the above named officers-elect decline to be installed, the officers last installed shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected and installed.
33. Should the offices of Illustrious Master, Illustrious Deputy Master and the Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work, after installation, all become vacant by resignation or otherwise, the Grand Master may, by special dispensation, fill the same; or he may authorize the Council to hold a special election for that purpose, as he may judge best for the welfare of the Council.
34. In the absence of the Illustrious Master, the Illustrious Deputy Master will take the chair, and in the absence of the Illustrious Deputy Master, the Illustrious Principal Conductor of the Work will preside; provided however, that either of the above named officers may waive his right to preside in favor of an experienced past officer present.
35. In the absence of all three of the above named officers, the Council may be legally opened for business by the Senior Past Illustrious Master present.

36. No officer of a Council, during his continuance in office, can legally be a petitioner for a new Council.

ASSEMBLIES AND BUSINESS

37. All assemblies of a Council are either stated or called.

Stated Assemblies are those provided for at fixed periods in the By-Laws of the Council.

Called Assemblies are those convened by the Illustrious Master to meet some emergency.

38. No business can be transected at a Called Assembly but that for which it was convened; and resident members must be notified of the meeting and its objects either in person or by notice through the mails.
39. A verbal summons, notifying the members of the time and objects of the Assembly, is sufficient.
40. A Council duly opened in Stated Assembly cannot be called off to meet on some subsequent day, but must be regularly closed.
41. Every Council should meet for work at least once in every three months.: but if a Council fails to meet for an entire year it may forfeit its charter unless by special permission from the Grand Master.
42. Councils must hold all their Assemblies in some suitable room at the place named in the dispensation or charter, and in no case can they change their place of Assembly without special permission of the Grand Council or Grand Master. A Council may, however, remove its Council room from one house to another in the same place by a vote of a majority of its members present at a Stated Assembly, due notice of the proposed removal having been given in writing at a previous Stated Assembly.

A Council may, however, hold any regular or emergent special Assembly in any suitable room of any regular Masonic Temple provided that the Council Charter is displayed there at and due notice has been given members that the

place of the Assembly has been changed for that particular Assembly.
(1970) (2011)

43. All business presented for consideration of the Council must be taken up and acted upon in such order as the Illustrious Master in his discretion may determine, or as provided for in the By-Laws. In all discussion or debate in a Council, personal reflections and political or sectarian topics are strictly prohibited.
44. In the consideration and decision of all matters of complaint before a Council, no one must be permitted to speak more than once upon any point, except to explain, or by unanimous consent and must, in all remarks, confine himself strictly to the point under consideration.
45. When, in the judgment of the Illustrious Master, a subject has been sufficiently discussed, and he arises to put the Question, all debate must cease.
46. A Quorum for the transaction of business, except conferring of degrees, consists of six members entitled to vote, including an officer entitled to congregate and open the Council. (1985)

For conferring degrees nine Royal and Select Masters shall constitute a Quorum.

DEGREES AND RITUALS

47. The degrees recognized by the Grand Council are as follows:

- First - - - Royal Master
- Second - - Select Master
- Third -- Super-Excellent Master

And must be conferred in the order here enumerated.

This Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of Montana does approve the conferral of the "Opening Ceremony", the "Reception" including the "Obligation" and the explanation of the Signs, Grips, and Words of the degree and its emblems, the "Lecture" and the "Closing" including the "Circle of Friendship" as constituting the candidate a Super Excellent Master and able to prove himself one.

When possible and convenient, the above form of the Super-Excellent degree be conferred immediately following the conferral of the Select

Master Degree or otherwise at some other future assembly with such expediency as the Council may determine.

This shall not discourage the full conferral of the Super Excellent Master degree in such Montana Councils as may be able to furnish the necessary personnel and paraphernalia to exemplify the Biblical Drama Section. However, no portion of the ritual may be used publicly but only for the conferring of the degree on candidates, or within a tyled Assembly of a regular Council of Super Excellent Masters or in a Council for instruction. (1975)

48. The Ceremonies and rituals in conferring the several degrees of the Council, as well as the opening and closing ceremonies, must conform in each particular to that arranged and adopted by the General Grand Council which has been adopted by this Grand Council. The opening and closing ceremonies may be by the Ritual of General Grand Council or the optional 6 Man Short Form may be used.

(a) It is recommended that each Council during the year confer the Royal Master and the Select Master Degree, together with the Super Excellent Degree within their Council or at a District York Rite Festival, at least once and that the Recorder of each Council make a report to the Grand Recorder that these degrees have been conferred.

(b) The same system of monthly reports used in the Royal Arch Chapters and the Commanderies is adopted for the Montana Councils so that the Grand Recorder may in turn be able to furnish each Council and all Grand Officers with a monthly report as to all items of interest in the Constituent Councils.

(c) That the Councils in Montana be divided into districts and that a Grand Officer be assigned to each district with the responsibility of general supervision of the Councils in his district and the obligation of making an official visit to each such Council at least once during his year of office.

49. Should any Council be found violating any of the provisions of the foregoing rules, it shall be the prerogative of the Grand Master to arrest the charter and suspend the functions of such Council until further ordered by the Grand Council.

MEMBERSHIP

50. A Companion, free from charges, whose dues are paid to date, upon written application, is entitled to a demit, which should be granted by a majority vote of the Council.
51. A Companion receiving the degrees of Royal and Select Master, becomes a member of the Council electing him to the degrees, and by whose right they are conferred.
52. No Council can legally admit to membership a Companion from another Council until he shall produce satisfactory evidence that he has paid all dues and demands against him to the Council of which he was last a member, and or at his own request regularly demitted there-from.
53. Affiliation in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is essential to membership in a Council to the extent that voluntary non-affiliation in a Chapter, for six months, shall deprive a Cryptic Mason of his membership in the Council.
54. When a Council duly organized, shall surrender its charter, or the organization thereof be otherwise dissolved, the members thereby become unaffiliated, with the right to seek admission into another Council upon payment of all dues then owing their Council, to the Grand Recorder, who shall, thereupon, issue to such Companions a certificate of their former membership, which certificate shall be equivalent to a demit.

MEMBERSHIP - DUAL- HONORARY

55. A member of a Council in any Grand Jurisdiction which permits dual membership, may become a member of any Council in Montana, and visa-versa. The same is true as to a member of any subordinate Council of the General Grand Council.

The interpretation of the language in this Section permits Dual Membership as to a Council in Montana -and a Council in another Grand -Jurisdiction which provides for Dual Membership, or to two Councils in Montana.,

To maintain Dual membership dues are to be paid in both Councils and failure to maintain good standing in one Council resulting in suspension will have a similar effect in the dual Council. However, a

demit from one Council does not affect the standing in the other dual Council.

Councils may confer the distinction of Honorary Memberships upon such affiliated Companions not members of the Council conferring the honor, as may have merited the same by long or eminent services to the Craft.

56. The suspension, expulsion or demission of such member from the Council in which he may hold regular membership, will, in all cases, terminate such Honorary Membership.

PETITIONS AND ACTIONS THEREON

57. Repealed. (1935 Pro., pg. 30)

58. A petition for the degrees in a Council may be received only from one who has resided in Montana six months next preceding the presentation of his petition and who is a Master Mason and Royal Arch Mason in good standing and affiliated in both the Lodge and Chapter; or who is such an affiliated Master Mason and who has petitioned a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the Capitular degrees; but no petition may be received from one who has been rejected by another Council, without the consent of such Council, nor until one year shall have elapsed from the time of such rejection.

The constitutional requirement of six months residence within the jurisdiction of Montana will be waived for military personnel serving on active duty in one of the branches of military service of the United States. (1987)

59. Deleted

60. When a Council shall have legally received a petition, no other Council can have jurisdiction in the case, or in any manner interfere with the legitimate work of the Council without the consent of such Council first obtained.

61. After a petition shall have been regularly received by a Council, and the facts entered upon its records, it shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the Council, and not then after the Committee have reported.
62. No religious test shall be required of any applicant for the privileges of Cryptic Masonry, other than a firm and steadfast belief in the existence and perfections of Deity.
63. Deleted

BALLOTINGS, ETC.

64. The ballot for admission to the degrees, as well as for membership, must be unanimous, and every member present must vote, when should one negative vote appear, the Illustrious Master shall cause another ballot to be immediately had, when, should one negative vote appear, he shall declare the applicant rejected.
65. After a petitioner is declared rejected his case can not be brought before the Council again except upon petition, as in the first instance, and lie over for consideration until the next Stated Assembly of the Council.
66. When an unfavorable report upon a petition shall be made by a committee, the same proceedings must be had as upon a favorable report, the ballot alone deciding the question.
67. No debate must be allowed after a ballot is ordered, and no inquiry permitted as to who may have cast a negative vote.
68. After a ballot has been declared unanimous in favor of an applicant, it is competent for the Illustrious Master to arrest the conferring of the degrees should he become Satisfied the applicant is unworthy; and it is his imperative duty to do so while a member of the Council objects, which objection may be made at any time in open Council before the degrees are conferred; or if the objecting member be unable to attend, then by written communication to the Council. Such objection shall then have the same effect as a negative vote, and be so recorded.

69. A vote on the investigation of charges, or to inflict a penalty, must in all cases be taken by ballot, and a majority of the members present shall be necessary to find guilty, or to reprimand or suspend, or two-thirds to expell.
70. A vote to reinstate must also be taken by ballot, and it shall require the same vote to remove a penalty that it does to impose it.
71. A separate and distinct ballot must be held on each particular case before the Council.
72. A vote by ballot can in no case be reconsidered.
73. In all other cases not hereinbefore mentioned, the vote may be taken by ayes and nays or by a show of hands, as the Illustrious Master may deem proper, and a majority will decide the question.

RIGHT TO VISIT

74. The right to determine upon the propriety of admitting a visiting Companion is the prerogative of each and every Council in this jurisdiction. No visitor can, therefore, be admitted into a Council while a single member present objects. Nor can any objecting member be required to assign his reasons there-for, but may do so if he chooses.

UNAFFILIATED COMPANIONS

75. It is the duty of every Cryptic Mason to be a member of some Council, and obey the laws and regulations relative to the payment of dues and contributions to the charity fund.
76. Councils may, therefore, deny to unaffiliated Companions the privilege of visiting a Council or joining in the public procession of the Craft.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS, CEREMONIES, ETC_.

77. All public processions of Councils, except on purely Masonic occasions, are strictly prohibited.
78. Cryptic Masonry has no ceremony for the burial of the dead.

79. Councils within this jurisdiction may, at their discretion, have a public installation of their officers, according to the formula adopted by the Grand Council, a qualified Companion, who is at the time a member of a Council, being present and officiating.
80. Councils may also have ceremonies of constituting and dedicating their Council performed in public. But in such cases, the Grand Master, or a qualified Companion appointed by him, must be present and officiate.
81. Councils may join with Lodges and Chapters in celebrating the anniversaries, or in any public demonstration allowed by the Laws of their respective Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters, but all such processions and ceremonies must be strictly and purely Masonic. No mixture with other orders or societies whatever can be allowed.

COUNCIL REVENUES

82. The fee for conferring of the degrees of Cryptic Masonry shall be as determined by the By-Laws of each Constituent Council; provided that the fee so specified shall in no case be less than the amount of said fee which is payable to the Grand Council of the State of Montana in accordance with Section 11 of the By-Laws of said Grand Council.
83. Each Council has the right to assess and collect from its members such regular quarterly or yearly contributions as shall be necessary to pay the Grand Council dues, defray the expenses of the Council and keep up its charity funds; Provided, that no dues shall be charged against a member while under the sentence of suspension or expulsion.
84. All such assessments of dues, however, must be provided for in the By-Laws of the Council. A Council may levy a tax or assessment upon its members other than the regular dues if provided for in its By-Laws.
85. Each Council may remit the dues of any member who, through indigence or misfortune, may be unable to pay the same. In all such Cases, the Council shall not be required to account to the Grand Council for dues on any such member.

DROPPING FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

86. No Council shall expel a member for the non-payment of dues. Any Constituent Council under this jurisdiction may suspend any of its members who are twelve (12) calendar months in arrears for dues by a vote of a majority of the members present at any regular Assembly, provided, that there is full proof that the delinquent, if a

resident of this jurisdiction, has had thirty (30) days written or person notice, and if not a resident of this jurisdiction, but his residence is known to the Council, sixty (60) days notice in writing; if his residence is unknown and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained, the Council may suspend after ninety (90) days notice, given in open Council, of such delinquency. When a member has been suspended for non-payment of dues, the act of payment shall reinstate to membership, if made within one year from the date of suspension. After the lapse of one year, reinstatement can be made only after payment, and two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the Council. The Council may remit all or any part of the dues.

ANNUAL REPORTS

87. It is the duty of each Council, on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of March, in each year, to make out and transmit to the Grand Recorder an annual report, according to the form to be furnished by the Grand Recorder.

PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO ASSEMBLE OR BE REPRESENTED, OR TO REPORT

88. Deleted
89. Any charter, when arrested, can only be restored upon such terms as the Grand Council may prescribe.
90. Should the charter of any Council become forfeited, or should the same, for any cause whatever, be stricken, by order of the Grand Council, from the roll of Councils, the jewels, furniture, property and other effects of such Council shall become the property of the Grand Council, and the Grand Master, or such Companion as he may appoint, shall take possession of and hold the same for the benefit of the Grand Council.

OFFENSES AND PENALTIES

91. Whatever is a breach of good morals, contrary to the precepts of the Holy Scripture, or a violation of the laws of the State or the United States, is an offense against the precepts of Masonry, and must be dealt with by every Council in this jurisdiction promptly and efficiently.

92. Communicating the proceedings of a Council to persons not Cryptic Masons is a high offense against that particular Council and the proprieties of the Craft. If done by a visitor it shall bar his right to visit the Council, and if done by a member, the Council must vote out the penalty according to the aggravation of the offense.
93. Any Companion guilty of disorderly conduct in open Council, disobeys the order of the Illustrious Master, or persists in disturbing the harmony of the Council, shall be reprimanded; for the second offense, he shall, for that meeting be excluded from the Council, and for the third offense, expelled.
94. Should any member, for trifling, captious or unworthy motives, attempt to arrest the legitimate work of his Council, he will thereby render himself amenable to Masonic discipline.
95. Notice of suspension or expulsion of a member given to other Councils is not necessary, but Councils may do so at their own option. In no case, however, is a Council allowed to publish in a newspaper the suspension or expulsion of any of its members for any cause whatever.
96. The Grand Council having adopted a system of work and lectures for the conferring of the degrees in the Council, placed it in the care and under the control of the Grand Master, in order that uniformity shall be observed, therefore, Councils are expressly prohibited from receiving instructions in what is commonly called the work and lectures, from any other than a member of the Council, without express authority from the Grand Council or the Grand Master.
97. The only penalties for offenses against Masonic law and propriety are four, to-wit:
1st - Reprimand.
2nd- Suspension to a definite time.
3rd- Suspension indefinitely.
4th - Expulsion.
- One of which must be imposed by the Council finding a Companion guilty of the offense, according to the nature and degree of the offense committed.

JURISDICTION OVER OFFENSES

98. The penal jurisdiction of a Council extends over all Cryptic Masons within this jurisdiction. It is, therefore the duty of each Council to take cognizance of the conduct of every Companion within this jurisdiction, enforce violation of any moral or Masonic duty, to vindicate the law and administer justice; provided the Illustrious Masters are answerable only to the Grand Master and the Grand Council for facts growing out of their official duties. For any unofficial misconduct the Grand Master may suspend the Illustrious Master of a Council from his office.

99. A member of a Council in another jurisdiction shall be held to answer for any un-Masonic conduct to the Council within whose particular jurisdiction the offense may have been committed.
100. A member of a Council shall be held to answer for a breach of the moral code, either to the Council of which he may be a member or the Council within whose jurisdiction the offense may have been committed. Whichever of these Councils shall take cognizance of the case first shall have jurisdiction.
101. An unaffiliated Companion shall, in all cases, be held to answer to the Council within whose jurisdiction the offense may have been committed.
102. No one can be held to answer anywhere, except upon written charges specifically setting forth the particular matter complained of, or the offense committed.

CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS

103. No Companion can be reprimanded, suspended or expelled by any Council for any cause whatever, only upon written charges and specifications; and due notice of the time and place of trial, except in cases where the accused may have absconded before service of notice.
104. Any affiliated Companion has the right to prefer charges or matters of complaint, but in no case can this privilege be extended to one who is not affiliated.
105. Complaint against the Illustrious Master for official misconduct must be made to the Grand Master, in vacation, or to the Grand Council when in session, who will proceed to investigate the same according to the rules governing the case.
106. Charges and specifications against Illustrious Master of a Council for un-Masonic conduct, not growing out of the discharge of his official duties, must be made to the Grand Master, and if approved by him, he will fix a time for the trial, before the Council of which the Illustrious Master is a member, and notify the Council, with a copy of the charges and specifications, and the time fixed for trial, and instruct the Recorder of the Council to serve a like copy upon the accused.
107. In all things related to the trial of the Illustrious Master, by his Council, except as otherwise specified in these rules, the same proceedings must be had as in the trial of other members for like offenses, only that the Grand Master or a special deputy appointed by him must be present and preside.

108. The accused must, in all cases, when practicable, be furnished with a copy of the charges and specifications, and at least ten (10) days notice of the time and place of trial.
109. Charges for un-Masonic conduct must be made in writing and signed by the Companion making them, setting forth with reasonable certainty, specifications thereof, the time and place of the commission of the offense complained of, and must then be presented to the Council at a Stated Assembly, when they shall be read in open Council and spread on the record. The Illustrious Master shall then set a time for trial and order the Recorder to serve a copy of the charge and specifications upon the accused, and also notify him of the time set for trial; but in no case shall less than ten (10) days notice be deemed sufficient notice to the accused.
110. The Companion making the complaint must also file with the Council a list of names of the witnesses by whom the facts alleged can be proven.
111. The Recorder must serve the notice in person; or, if the accused resides at a distance, then by mail, but when sent by mail a reasonable time shall be allowed the accused to receive it, in addition to the ten (10) days.

TRIALS

112. Trials shall be held in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Montana.
113. The Illustrious Master shall decide as to the admissibility of any testimony that may be offered, as also all points of law and order that may be raised.

EFFECT OF PENALTIES WHEN IMPOSED

114. The suspension or expulsion of a member for any cause, effectually precludes, for the time being, all Masonic intercourse with him whatever.
115. A suspension or expulsion, for any cause, by a Lodge of Master Masons, or by a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, is effectually a suspension or expulsion from a Council of Cryptic Masons, and must be so regarded by every Council in this jurisdiction.
116. A sentence of suspension or expulsion by a Council will be enforced from and after the passage thereof, until reversed by the Council pronouncing the same, or by the Grand Council.
117. A refusal to submit to the penalty of reprimand will operate to exclude the Companion so refusing from all the rights and privileges of Cryptic Masonry during the time he shall so refuse to submit to the

judgment of the Council, and such refusal must be noted on the records of the Council.

118. A member suspended or expelled, for any cause, is not chargeable with dues during the continuance of such disability.

WHAT REMOVES A PENALTY

119. Submitting to the penalty of reprimand fully restores the Companion to his former standing.

120. The expiration of the time for which a Companion may have been suspended fully restores him to his former standing in Cryptic Masonry without further action on the part of the Council; but the Recorder must note the feat upon the records.

121. The power to restore from suspension or expulsion, for causes other than non-payment of dues, exists both in the Council pronouncing the sentence and in the Grand Council.

122. When the right is exercised by the Grand Council on an appeal reversing the decision of the Council upon the merits of the case, it operates to restore the Companion to the rights and privileges of Cryptic Masonry, as well as the membership which he may have had before charges were preferred against him.

123. When the sentence is reversed by the Grand Council for error in the proceedings it will operate to restore him as he was before the sentence was pronounced against him; and in all such cases the cause must be remanded to the Council for further trial.

124. When the right is exercised by the Grand Council for any cause without an appeal, it operates to restore him to the privileges of Cryptic Masonry only, and not to membership.

125. When the right is exercised by the Council it operates to fully restore him to all the rights and privileges of Cryptic Masonry, as well as to the membership which he may have had before the sentence was pronounced against him.

126. It is not proper nor right for a Council to restore a Companion who may have been suspended or expelled by a Council in another jurisdiction.

127. A Companion suspended or expelled by a council in another jurisdiction, and who, during the continuance of such sentence, removes within this jurisdiction, must nevertheless apply to the Council pronouncing the sentence against him, to be reinstated, if within the power of such council to do so; if not, then he must apply to the Grand Council.
128. A proposition to restore a Companion who may have been suspended or expelled, must be made in writing at a Stated Assembly of the Council and shall then be referred to a Committee and lie over until the next Stated Assembly of the Council, when it shall require the same vote to remove the penalty that it did to impose it.
129. A Companion who, for any cause, may have been suspended by a Lodge of Master Masons or a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and subsequently restored to the Lodge and Chapter, is thereby restored to good standing in his Council, and the Recorder shall note the fact on the record.

NEW TRIALS

130. New trials may be granted by the Council to a Companion against whom a judgment may have been pronounced by such Council, at any time within ninety (90) days from the date of such judgment.
131. All applications for a new trial must be made in writing, setting forth the grounds upon which such application is founded, and presented to the Council at a Stated Assembly. Should the Council refuse to grant the same, an appeal may be taken there-from to the Grand Master or Grand Council, when for good cause shown, a new trial may be granted, even after the expiration of the ninety (90) days.
132. In all cases where a new trial is granted, the same rules shall govern as on the trial of the case in the first instance.

APPEAL

133. In no case can an appeal be taken from a decision of the Illustrious Master to the Council over which he presides; but when desired, the appeal must be taken to the Grand Master or to the Grand Council.
134. Any member of a Council, or a Companion, against whom a decision may have been made, shall have the right to appeal there-from to the Grand Council at any time within one (1) year from the date of such decision, and not afterwards, except by express permission of the Grand Council.

135. A Companion desiring an appeal, shall make such desire known to the Council in writing, either in person or by some Companion in his behalf, which must contain a statement of the case, the exceptions taken to the decision or judgment appealed from, and the grounds upon which he bases his right of appeal.

136. Upon such desire being thus made known, it shall be the duty of the Recorder to make out a certified copy of the proceedings had in the case, which, with the testimony, so far as the same shall have been reduced to writing, he shall forward immediately to the Grand Recorder.

MISCELLANEOUS

137. The appropriate badge for the Council degrees is "a white lambskin apron", of such form and size usually worn by Master Masons, bordered on the sides and bottom and lower edges of the flaps with a band of purple, and are provided with purple strings or tape.

138. Councils are required to preserve at least one copy of the printed proceedings of the Grand Council as the same are issued, and have them bound in convenient volumes for preservation and use of the Council.

139. It is hereby made the duty of each Council to so amend its By-Laws as to make them conform in all respects to the foregoing General Regulations.

AMENDMENTS

140. The Grand Council, upon concurrence of a majority of the members present at the annual Assembly, may revise or amend these Regulations, provided, that such revisions or amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Grand Recorder at least 120 days prior to the opening of the annual Assembly. The revisions or amendments shall then be submitted by the Grand Recorder to Jurisprudence Committee within 15 days for proper form. The Jurisprudence Committee shall then return the proposals to the Grand Recorder within 40 days of receipt. The Grand Recorder shall then submit a copy of the proposed revisions or amendments to each of the constituent Councils at least 60 days prior to the opening of the annual Assembly. If the revisions or amendments are adopted at the annual Assembly they shall become a part of these Regulations.

A Grand Master's recommendation, if it has the effect of amending these Regulations shall be granted the same status as a resolution, and be subject to all the requirements and provisions governing the same.

RESOLUTIONS

141. That the travel allowance budgeted for that expense of the Most Illustrious Grand Master be increased by twenty (20) percent, or in

such an amount as the Finance Committee may propose and the Grand Council approve, and that the Montana Grand Officers in traveling and visiting the Annual Assemblies of Grand Councils in other Grand Jurisdictions, in every case, shall bear themselves all the expenses incurred on such visits for lodgings, and that the Montana Grand Council, commencing with the year 1972, discontinue the practice of paying hotel or motel expenses for any Grand Officer or other visitor unless expressly authorized by the Grand Council at an Annual Assembly thereof. (1971 & 1974)

142. Deleted

143. The Grand Council of cryptic Masons of the State of Montana at their Annual Assembly voted and passed a procedure which will govern the actions of the Grand Council until such time as changes are required. (1979)

(e). All Lodging to visitors will be no-host. The Grand Recorder will render assistance by making reservations should he be asked.

(b). The definition of an invited guest shall be as follows:

- 1 -Most Illustrious Grand Master/Canadian Counterpart and his lady
- 2- General Grand Council Right Puissant Regional Deputy General Grand Master and his lady
- 3- General Grand Council Most Puissant General Grand Master and his lady

If any one of the above officers cannot attend in person his personal authorized representative and lady will be accorded the same honors or privileges as if he himself were present.

(c). Meal tickets will be approved for the day of the event which the invited guests are attending in their official capacity. The meal tickets will also be provided to his lady if in attendance.

(d). All invited guests and their ladies present on the evening of the York Rite Banquet will be accorded tickets to attend this event.

(e). The only exception to this rule is the speaker at the York Rite Banquet and his lady, and the clergy and his lady who offers the prayers at the York Rite Banquet.

(f). Lodging will be no host for all guests except those of General Grand Council rank in the last two categories listed above.

(g). Lodging for the last two classes listed will be limited to the night prior to the event and the night of the event at which they are representing. This also applies to meals to be furnished. No-host for all but the evening of the day prior and the day of the event they represent.

(h). The only exception to this rule is that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Montana and his lady are the guests of the York Rite Bodies and they are guests for the meals and lodging expenses.

144. The incoming Most Illustrious Grand Master shall receive his apron when he is installed so that he may wear it during his term of office.

The apron shall have the State name of "MONTANA" inscribed on the bottom border. No other changes to be made to the apron.

This apron automatically becomes the Past Illustrious Grand Master Apron as the change of Grand Master takes place. (1979)

145 Deleted

146. Delegates Breakfasts will hereafter be part of each Grand Session, and "Delegates Breakfasts" will be scheduled for each morning of each Grand Session; that attendance at the "Delegates Breakfasts" shall be open to any York Rite Mason who is in attendance at the Grand Sessions; that the purpose of the "Delegates Breakfasts" shall be to provide a forum for delegates to share ideas for improvement of York Rite Masonry in Montana and to become better informed as to issues coming before the Grand Bodies at the sessions; that the presiding officers of each of the constituent bodies in the host city shall serve as chairmen for the "Breakfast Delegates" meetings on their respective Grand Session days. (1987)

147. The Incoming Grand Master is to make every effort to appoint a new Grand Officer from the appropriate District so as to insure representation from every District. (1986)

148. Deleted

149. The Cryptic Mason insignia, as shown below, and adopted by the General Grand Council is also adopted by this Grand Council. The design incorporates the emblems of Cryptic Masonry- the Square, Circle, Broken Triangle, Sword and Trowel. (1988)

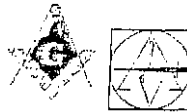
Lines - Gold
Background - Purple

150. A membership card, for the optional use of Constituent Councils is designed so as to show data for all three York Rite Bodies on one card.

The design of the Life Membership card will be changed so that Life Membership in one, two or three York Rite bodies can be shown on one card.

Constituent Councils are permitted to continue use of the separate cards for each body if they so wish. (1992)

151. At the Stated Assembly of The Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of Montana held Juneⁿ, 2003 in Kalispell, Montana this OFFICIAL EMBLEM was adopted.



152. The annual award of the Curly Harvey Silver Trowel by the Grand Council to a subordinate Council for contributions to the Grand Council Philanthropy be based on per capita, being calculated by dividing the total funds received for the philanthropy by the Grand Recorder of the Grand Council from the subordinate Council between 1 May and 30 April by the number of members of that subordinate Council on December 31 of that year on which the annual assessment is calculated.

153. The Illustrious Grand Master should make every effort to coordinate with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest and the Right Eminent Grand Commander in the appointment of the following committees: Finance, Jurisprudence, York Rite Coordination, Credentials, Unfinished Business, Membership Triennial and By-Laws.

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Abbreviations: Const! =Constitution,articles 1 - XV -pages1-7
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