

REGULATIONS
of the
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Adopted May 18, 1886
Revised May 17, 1955
Revised May 10, 1980
Revised May 8, 1993
Revised May 12, 2001

The
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
ordains and establishes the following
REGULATIONS

for the better government of itself, of the Chapters under its jurisdiction, and of the Craft of its obedience.

PART 1
GRAND CHAPTER

ARTICLE 1 - AUTHORITY

Section 1.1.1 - General

1.1.1.1 - The Grand Chapter has power and authority to establish such rules and adopt such regulations for its own government, that of the Chapters under its jurisdiction, and of the craft under its obedience, as may from time to time be considered necessary and proper, and to alter and amend the same in the manner hereinafter provided, consistently with the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons International and ancient Masonic usage.

1.1.1.2 - The Grand Chapter claims, and of right enjoys, the sole government and superintendence of all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within this State, and the right to settle any controversies arising therein.

1.1.1.3 - The Grand Chapter may reprimand, suspend or expel from Royal Arch Masonry in New Hampshire any member of who violates these Regulations, or is guilty of gross unmasonic conduct.

1.1.1.4 - The Grand Chapter may consider and do all things whatsoever it may regard as necessary, or appertaining to the well-being and perpetuation of Royal Arch Masonry in this State; and the enumeration of powers herein shall not be construed to deprive it of powers not named.

1.1.1.5 - The Grand Chapter Fiscal Year shall be from April 1 through March 31 of the following year.

Section 1.1.2 - Charters and Dispensations

1.1.2.1 - The Grand Chapter has sole authority, within this State, to grant Dispensations and Charters for holding Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, with the right to confer therein the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason, and when justifiable to annul, revoke or amend such Dispensation or Charter heretofore granted by it. No Dispensation or Charter shall be granted for instituting a Lodge of Mark Master Mason, Past Master or Most Excellent Master, except within a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

1.1.2.2 - During recess of the Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest may issue a Dispensation to nine or more regular Royal Arch Masons empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and to hold Lodges of Mark Master Mason, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master. The Dispensation shall bear the signatures of the Grand High Priest and the Grand Secretary, and shall be affixed with the Seal of the Grand Chapter. The Dispensation shall remain in effect until acted upon at a subsequent convocation of the Grand Chapter. The fee for each Dispensation to form a new Chapter shall be one hundred dollars

(\$100.00). Payment of this fee shall accompany the request to form a new Chapter.

1.1.2.3 - At a subsequent convocation called for that purpose, a Dispensation to hold a Chapter must be returned to the Grand Chapter with a request for a Charter. The request shall be supported by a copy of the records of the acts done under its authority, a copy of the By-laws proposed for the government of the new Chapter, and a current financial statement.

Section 1.1.3 - Fees and Assessments

1.1.3.1 - The Grand Chapter may assess and collect from the several Chapters under its jurisdiction such sums of money, annually or otherwise, as may from time to time be found necessary for the reasonable support and maintenance of the Grand Chapter.

1.1.3.2 - The fee for a Charter for a new Chapter shall be \$100.00. The fee previously paid for a Dispensation to hold this Chapter shall satisfy this requirement.

ARTICLE 2 - COMPOSITION

Section 1.2.1 - General Membership

1.2.1.1 - The Grand Chapter is composed of the following:

- a) Current Elected and Appointed Grand Officers of New Hampshire;
- b) Past Elected Grand Officers of New Hampshire;
- c) Past Appointed Grand Officers of New Hampshire who have served for 5 or more years;
- d) High Priests, Kings and Scribes, or their duly appointed proxies, of the Chartered Chapters under this jurisdiction;
- e) Past High Priests of Chapters under this jurisdiction;
- f) Any Companion unanimously elected to permanent membership by the Grand Chapter.

1.2.1.2 - Each member of the Grand Chapter, or his proxy, has one vote on matters before Grand Chapter.

Section 1.2.2 - Elected Officers

1.2.2.1 - The Elective Officers of the Grand Chapter shall consist of the following:

- a) Grand High Priest
- b) Grand King
- c) Grand Scribe
- d) Grand Treasurer
- e) Grand Secretary
- f) Grand Assistant Treasurer
- g) Grand Assistant Secretary
- h) Grand Captain of the Host.

1.2.2.2 - These Officers shall be elected at each Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, via written ballot and by a majority of the votes cast.

1.2.2.3 - No Companion shall be elected to the office of Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe or Grand Captain of the Host who is not a Past High Priest of a Chapter under this jurisdiction. No Companion shall be elected to any other Grand Office unless he is a member of a Chapter under this jurisdiction.

1.2.2.4 - No Companion shall serve as Grand High Priest for more than three successive years.

Section 1.2.3 - Appointed Officers

1.2.3.1 - The appointed Officers of the Grand Chapter shall consist of the following:

- a) At least two Grand Chaplains
- b) Grand Principal Sojourner
- c) Grand Royal Arch Captain
- d) Three Grand Masters of the Veils
- e) Grand Lecturer and Three Grand Deputy Lecturers
- f) Three Grand Deputy Captains of the Host
- g) Grand Organist
- h) Grand Sentinel
- i) Such other officers as the Grand High Priest may from time to time deem necessary.

1.2.3.2 - These officers shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest Elect prior on his installation. Each Grand High Priest shall give serious consideration to equal representation of all constituent Chapters in the Grand Line.

1.2.3.3 - No Companion shall be appointed to any Grand Office unless he is a member of a Chapter under this jurisdiction.

1.2.3.4 - The Title of each Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lecturer and each Deputy Grand Lecturer is Right Excellent. The title of each other appointed officer is Excellent.

Section 1.2.4 - Officer Installation

1.2.4.1 - Every Companion elected or appointed to an office in this Grand Chapter shall, if present, be installed at some suitable time before the final closing of the convocation at which he may have been elected or appointed. Should any Companion elected or appointed to an office be unavoidably called away before being installed, it shall be his duty to present himself to the High Priest of his own Chapter for installation. Immediately thereafter, he shall cause a certificate of such installation to be filed promptly with the Grand Secretary.

1.2.4.2 - Each officer of the Grand Chapter and of each constituent Chapter shall, at the time of his installation, make the following declaration: " I do most solemnly promise on the honor of a Royal Arch Mason that to the utmost of my knowledge and ability I will strictly comply with all the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire, and will support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International and all other Masonic usage."

1.2.4.3 - Each Grand Chapter Officer shall hold his office and discharge his duties until his successor is duly installed.

Section 1.2.5 - Officer Succession

1.2.5.1 - In case of the permanent absence of the Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, or Grand Captain of the Host, the elective officer next in rank shall replace his superior. In the event the Grand Captain of the Host progresses to the office of Grand Scribe, the Grand High Priest shall make a

temporary appointment to fill the office of Grand Captain of the Host. In the absence of all the above listed officers, the senior Past Grand High Priest present shall preside.

Section 1.2.6 - Proxies

1.2.6.1 - The appointment of a proxy for the High Priest, King or Scribe in a Chapter, to represent that officer in Grand Chapter, shall be in writing on the form provided for that purpose. The Form shall be signed by the principal, shall designate at what convocation of the Grand Chapter the proxy shall act, shall be valid for that convocation only, and shall be voided if the principal appears in person.

1.2.6.2 - No Companion shall be appointed a proxy for any Officer unless he is a member of the same Chapter as his principal.

ARTICLE 3 - CONVOCATIONS

Section 1.3.1 - Annual Convocation

1.3.1.1 - The Grand Chapter shall hold a Convocation annually on the second Saturday in May, at a location agreed upon by the Grand High Priest and the Grand Master of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of New Hampshire. The Annual Convocation shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of New Hampshire and on a rotational basis. That is, a morning convocation one year, and an afternoon convocation the next.

1.3.1.2 - Any business may be conducted at the Annual Conclave.

Section 1.3.2 - Annual Business Convocation

1.3.2.1 - The Grand Chapter shall hold a Business Convocation annually within 30 days prior to the second Saturday in May. All reports of the Grand Chapter may be given at this Annual Business Convocation with the exception of the following reports, which MUST be given and approved at the Annual Convocation:

The Reports of the Grand Secretary
Grand Treasurer
Jurisprudence Committee
Credentials Committee
Finance Committee

1.3.2.2 - Any business may be conducted at the Annual Business Convocation.

Section 1.3.3 - Special Convocations

1.3.3.1 - The Grand High Priest may call Special Convocations, as he may deem proper.

1.3.3.2 - The only business to be transacted at a Special Convocation shall be that stated in the notice therefor, which shall be issued at least 30 days beforehand, and include the time and place of the Convocation.

Section 1.3.4 - Business Discipline

1.3.4.1 - For each motion not otherwise provided for in these Regulations, the Presiding Officer shall ensure that the motion presented for consideration is clearly understood before the vote is taken. In case of doubt he may require that the motion to be presented in writing.

1.3.4.2 - Any motion to reconsider a vote shall lie over until the next convocation.

ARTICLE 4 - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1.4.1 - Grand High Priest

1.4.1.1 - The Grand High Priest shall preside in the Grand Chapter. He shall exercise and discharge executive functions thereof when Grand Chapter is not in session, and render watchful care and supervision over the constituent Chapters in this jurisdiction.

1.4.1.2 - The Grand High Priest may suspend any Grand Officer for just cause, and appoint a suitable person to act instead until the next convocation of the Grand Chapter.

1.4.1.3 - During periods of recess, the Grand High Priest shall temporarily fill each vacancy that occurs in any office of the Grand Chapter, except those covered in ¶ 1.2.5.1.

1.4.1.4 - The Grand High Priest may convene any Chapter, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and require conformity to Masonic law, usage and custom.

1.4.1.5 - The Grand High Priest may for good cause suspend the labors of a constituent Chapter by arresting its Charter until the next convocation of the Grand Chapter.

1.4.1.6 - The Grand High Priest shall, in person or by proxy, duly constitute and consecrate newly chartered Chapters.

1.4.1.7 - The Grand High Priest may for good cause suspend the High Priest of a constituent Chapter from the exercise of the functions of his office until the next convocation of the Grand Chapter. In such case he shall furnish the suspended High Priest with a copy of the charges filed against him, and summons him to appear at the next convocation of the Grand Chapter.

1.4.1.8 - Whenever the offices of High Priest, King, and Scribe of a Chapter all become vacant, the Grand High Priest shall appoint a High Priest, King and Scribe from the members of such Chapter to act as such until replacement officers are elected by the Chapter.

1.4.1.9 - The Grand High Priest may direct any elective officer of the Grand Chapter to perform an official Visitation of any constituent Chapter. Such officer shall have the powers of the Grand High Priest during such Visitation.

1.4.1.10 – The Grand High Priest shall have the power to grant dispensations for all purposes within the scope of his duties.

1.4.1.11 - The Grand High Priest shall recommend the appointment of a Grand Representative to each Grand Chapter recognized by this Grand Chapter. If any Grand Representative does not attend the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter for three consecutive years, the Grand High Priest shall consider recommending a replacement.

1.4.1.12 – The Grand High Priest shall consider, and approve as appropriate, each recommendation from another jurisdiction for the appointment of a Grand Representative to New Hampshire from their Grand Chapter.

1.4.1.13 - The Grand High Priest shall perform such other duties and exercise such other powers and prerogatives as properly pertain to his office, consistent with these Regulations, the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, and ancient Masonic usage.

Section 1.4.2 - Grand Treasurer

1.4.2.1 - The Grand Treasurer shall manage all property and funds of the Grand Chapter. He shall receive all monies belonging to the Grand Chapter from the Grand Secretary or other sources. He shall

pay all bills consistent with the budget, or ordered paid by the Grand Chapter.

1.4.2.2 - At each Annual Convocation the Grand Treasurer shall include in his Annual Report an account of all monies received and paid out since the last Annual Convocation; an inventory of all funds assigned to him by the Grand Chapter including the General Fund and the Triennial Fund; and an inventory of any Grand Chapter equipment necessary to the functioning of the office of Grand Treasurer.

1.4.2.3 - The Grand Treasurer shall receive in payment for his services the sum of fifty dollars per year as salary, and fifty dollars per year for use of his facilities, which will be paid annually.

Section 1.4.3 - Grand Secretary

1.4.3.1 - The Grand Secretary shall maintain and manage the Archives of the Grand Chapter. He shall keep a fair record of all the transactions of the Grand Chapter, cause the same to be printed immediately after the close of each Annual Convocation, and distribute the same as directed by the Grand Chapter.

1.4.3.2 - The Grand Secretary shall maintain an inventory of the following:

- Grand Chapter Charter
- The Official Seal of the Grand Chapter
- Grand Officers' jewels, collars, and aprons
- Past Grand Officers' jewels
- Service pins
- Insurance policies
- Fidelity bonds
- Plain text rituals
- Grand Chapter Properties (Paraphernalia)
- Such office equipment as may be needed for Grand Chapter operations
- All unused properties resulting from discontinued constituent Chapters

1.4.3.3 - The Grand Secretary shall execute and maintain a \$25,000 (\$100.00 deductible) fidelity bond covering the following:

- a) The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Assistant Treasurer, and Grand Assistant Secretary of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire, and the Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary of each constituent Chapter;
- b) The Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Assistant Treasurer, and Grand Assistant Recorder of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of New Hampshire, and the Treasurer, Recorder, Assistant Treasurer, and Assistant Recorder of each constituent Council;
- c) The Grand Treasurer, Grand Recorder, Grand Assistant Treasurer, and Grand Assistant Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of New Hampshire, and the Treasurer, Recorder, Assistant Treasurer, and Assistant Recorder of each constituent Commandery.

1.4.3.4 - The Grand Secretary shall provide constituent Chapters with Annual Returns Forms, and Credential/Proxy Forms. (See Appendix for Forms)

1.4.3.5 - The Grand Secretary shall transfer all Grand Chapter monies received by him to the Grand Treasurer taking his receipt therefor.

1.4.3.6 - The Grand Secretary shall maintain a safe repository in the name of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire and of sufficient size to accommodate certificates of deposit, stock, deeds

and such other items as he shall deem of sufficient value to be placed therein.

1.4.3.7 - The Grand Secretary shall attend to such other duties as may be required by his office.

1.4.3.8 - The Grand Secretary shall receive in payment for his services the sum of \$400.00 per year as salary, and \$400.00 per year for use of his facilities, which will be paid annually.

Section 1.4.4 - Remaining Grand Officers

1.4.4.1 - The remaining Grand Officers shall perform such duties as are traditionally appropriate to their respective stations, and as may be assigned to them by the Grand High Priest or the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE 5 - COMMITTEES

Section 1.5.1 - Standing Committees

1.5.1.1 - The Finance Committee shall consist of at least three members, who shall be elected at each Annual Convocation.

1.5.1.2 - The Grand High Priest immediately after his installation shall appoint the following Standing Committees:

- Credentials
- Doings of Grand Officers
- Correspondence
- Jurisprudence
- Unfinished Business
- Hiram Wales Johnson Charity Fund

Section 1.5.2 - Special Committees

1.5.2.1 - The Grand High Priest shall appoint such other Special Committees, as he deems necessary. (See Appendix for Committee membership requirements and duties).

ARTICLE 6 - DEGREES RECOGNIZED

Section 1.6.1 - Listing

1.6.1.1 - The only degrees recognized by this Grand Chapter are the following: Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason. These degrees must be conferred only in the order enumerated.

ARTICLE 7 - VISITATIONS

Section 1.7.1 - Purpose

1.7.1.1 - The purpose of Visitations is to assist the constituent Chapters in gaining and maintaining proficiency in the administration of Chapter affairs, and the performance of ritual. The Visiting Officer shall attend to the administrative segment, and the assigned Lecturer shall attend to the ritual segment.

Section 1.7.2 - Performance

1.7.2.1 - The Elected Line Officers shall perform official Visitations of constituent Chapters as assigned to them by the Grand High Priest. During each Visitation, the Visiting Officer shall inspect for the presence and condition of the following:

- Charter, Warrant or Dispensation
- By-laws
- Secretary Records
- Most recent Treasurer Annual Financial Statement
- Chapter Book of Marks
- The Plain Text Ritual
- Chapter Properties (to ensure minimal ritual requirements)

1.7.2.2 - Each Visiting Officer shall report his findings to Grand High Priest, with a copy to the Grand Secretary, within 10 days of his Visitation and on the official form provided for that purpose by the Grand Secretary. The report shall attach a copy the most recent Chapter Annual Financial Statement.

1.7.2.3 - The Grand Lecturer shall oversee ritual performed by constituent Chapters in order to promote uniformity and exactness. He shall be assisted by three (3) Grand Deputy Lecturers appointed by the Grand High Priest. The Grand Lecturer shall assign a Grand Deputy Lecturer to each Visiting Officer. The Grand Lecturer shall accompany the Grand High Priest during each of his official Visitation(s), and personally perform the Lecturer's duties on those occasions.

1.7.2.4 - At each Official Visitation, the assigned Grand Deputy Lecturer or the Grand Lecturer shall observe and comment on the ritual performed. He shall report his findings on the official form provided for that purpose by the Grand Secretary. The Report shall be sent to the Grand Lecturer within 10 days, with copies to the Grand Secretary and the Chapter Secretary.

ARTICLE 8 - AWARDS

Section 1.8.1 - Meritorious

1.8.1.1 - The General Grand Chapter Distinguished Service Medal Meritorious Award in bronze may be presented by the General Grand Chapter each year to one Companion from this jurisdiction, usually based on a recommendation by the Grand High Priest submitted prior to February 1. The recommendation normally shall be derived from nominations received from constituent Chapters. Each nomination should include Masonic/Civic accomplishments and a full explanation of qualifications. Past Grand High Priests and current Elected Grand Officers are not qualified for this award.

1.8.1.2 - One Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire Distinguished Service Medal may be awarded annually to one worthy Companion of a constituent Chapter. The recipient of this award shall be selected by the Grand High Priest, normally derived from recommendations from constituent Chapters. Each recommendation should include a description of exceptional service to Capitular Masonry.

1.8.1.3 - Each constituent Chapter may present annually one David A. Dean Memorial Quarry Award to a Companion of that Chapter who has exhibited outstanding service to that Chapter. The Grand Chapter shall supply this award to constituent Chapters at cost.

Section 1.8.2 - Longevity

1.8.2.1 - The Grand Chapter shall provide at cost to constituent Chapters a suitable lapel pin to recognize a Companion who has held Chapter membership for a period of twenty years.

1.8.2.2 - The Grand Chapter shall award a suitable lapel pin as a token of recognition to a Companion who has been a Chapter member for a period of forty years.

1.8.2.3 - If requested by a constituent Chapter, certificates are available from the Grand Secretary to recognize 20, 40, and 50 years of membership and at increments of five years thereafter.

PART 2 CONSTITUENT CHAPTERS

ARTICLE 1 - DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS

Section 2.1.1 - Requirements

2.1.1.1 - Each Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction shall have a Dispensation or a Charter issued by this Grand Chapter.

2.1.1.2 - Dispensations and Charters to constituent Chapters shall include the power to hold Lodges of Mark Master Mason, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, and to confer the associated degrees.

2.1.1.3 - Each petition for a Charter for a new Chapter shall be signed by at least nine regular Royal Arch Masons. The fee for such Charter shall accompany the petition (See ¶ 1.1.3.2).

Section 2.1.2 - Withdrawal

2.1.2.1 - Grand Chapter may arrest the Charter of any Chapter if:

- a) the Chapter failed to make Annual Returns in the prescribed form during a period of three consecutive years; or
- b) the Chapter was not represented at either the Annual Convocation or Annual Business Convocation of Grand Chapter during a period of three consecutive years.

2.1.2.2 - Each Charter surrendered or arrested by the Grand Chapter shall be returned to the Grand Chapter together with the Chapter Seal. Chapter Records, By-laws, costumes, funds and other property of the Chapter of every description normally shall be returned to Grand Chapter for disposition. If this action is unacceptable to a majority of the surviving members of that Chapter, a special committee from Grand Chapter shall meet with them to resolve this matter.

ARTICLE 2 - BY-LAWS

Section 2.2.1 - Requirements

2.2.1.1 - Each Chapter must adopt By-laws for its own special regulation and government, and may revise, alter or amend the same. Such By-laws must not be contrary to the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International, these Regulations, or the ancient usage of the craft. No revision, alteration or amendment shall be made to the By-laws until such action shall have been presented in writing at a Stated Convocation, entered on the Chapter Record and laid over until the next Stated Convocation. The Grand High Priest shall approve such change before the same shall take effect.

Section 2.2.2 - Life Membership

2.2.2.1 - A constituent Chapter may offer Life Membership to its members providing the By-laws of that Chapter specifically state that Life Memberships are permitted in that Chapter. (See Life Membership appendix to these regulations).

ARTICLE 3 - CONVOCATIONS

Section 2.3.1 - Annual Convocation

2.3.1.1 - The Annual Convocation of each Chapter in this jurisdiction shall be held during the month of March.

Section 2.3.2 - Special Convocations

2.3.2.1 - A Special Convocation of a Chapter may be held at such time as the High Priest may direct and upon due notice to the members. No business shall be in order at a Special Convocation except as stated in the notice.

Section 2.3.3 - Other Requirements

2.3.3.1 - Each Chapter must meet for the transaction of business at least four times during the Capitular year, at the place specified in the Dispensation or Charter, and at such time as may be determined by the Chapter By-laws. Should any Chapter fail to meet for the space of one year, without the consent of the Grand Chapter or the Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter may arrest the Charter of that Chapter.

2.3.3.2 - All business of the Chapter must be conducted in an open Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

ARTICLE 4 - OFFICERS

Section 2.4.1 – Elective Officers

2.4.1.1 – The Elective Officers of a constituent Chapter shall consist of the following:

- a) High Priest
- b) King
- c) Scribe
- d) Captain of the Host
- e) Treasurer
- f) Secretary
- g) Assistant Treasurer (Optional)
- h) Assistant Secretary (Optional)

2.4.1.2 - These officers shall be elected at the Annual Convocation of the Chapter, by a written ballot, and by a majority of the votes cast.

Section 2.4.2 - Appointed Officers

2.4.2.1 - The Appointed Officers of a constituent Chapter shall consist of the following:

- a) Chaplain
- b) Principal Sojourner
- c) Royal Arch Captain
- d) Master of the 3rd Veil
- e) Master of the 2nd Veil
- f) Master of the 1st Veil
- g) Sentinel
- h) Such other officers as the High Priest may from time to time deem necessary.

2.4.2.2 - These officers shall be appointed by the High Priest Elect prior to his installation.

Section 2.4.3 – Titles

2.4.3.1 - The title of the High Priest is Excellent. The title of each other officer is Companion.

Section 2.4.4 - Duties

2.4.4.1 - The duties of Chapter Officers are prescribed in the Appendix.

2.4.4.2 - Each officer shall hold his office and discharge his duties until his successor is duly installed.

Section 2.4.5 – Officer Succession

2.4.5.1 - In the case of the permanent absence of the High Priest, King, Scribe, or Captain of the Host, the elective officer next in rank shall replace his superior. In the event the Captain of the Host progresses to the office of Scribe, the High Priest shall make temporary appointment to fill the office of Captain of the Host. In the absence of all the above listed officer, the Senior Past High Priest present shall preside.

ARTICLE 5 - CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Section 2.5.1 - Prerequisites

2.5.1.1 - A Chapter may confer the degrees within its gift only upon a petitioner who has been elected to receive the degrees and has paid the required fee.

2.5.1.2 - A Royal Arch Mason from without this jurisdiction who has not received one or more Chapter degrees required by these regulations may receive the missing degrees from any constituent Chapter, free of charge, and thereby satisfy our regulatory requirements of a Royal Arch Mason.

Section 2.5.2 - Ritual

2.5.2.1 - Each High Priest shall see that the degrees are conferred according to current New Hampshire Grand Chapter Ritual.

ARTICLE 6 - PROPERTIES

Section 2.6.1 - Requirements

2.6.1.1 - Each Chapter shall have a seal, which seal shall be affixed to all Official communications. An impression of each seal, with a written description of the features thereon, shall be transmitted to the Grand Secretary as a permanent record.

2.6.1.2 - Each Chapter shall have a suitable Lodge Book of Marks (See Appendix for format) in which shall be recorded the mark of each member. Each Mark Master Mason attached to a Chapter under this jurisdiction must before his exaltation select his mark and have the same recorded in the Lodge Book of Marks. Each candidate for affiliation must provide a copy of his mark to the petitioned Chapter and, if elected, the same shall be recorded in the Lodge Book of Marks before he is permitted to sign the By-laws.

ARTICLE 7 - DUES, FEES, AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 2.7.1 - Collection

2.7.1.1 - Each Chapter has the right to assess and collect from its members such dues, fees, and assessments as shall be necessary to pay the Grand Chapter obligations, defray the ordinary expenses of the Chapter, and keep up its Charity Fund. If any Companion shall neglect to pay such dues and assessments he may be suspended from membership in the same manner as prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. A Companion suspended under this section may be restored to membership in accordance with the Chapter By-laws.

2.7.1.2 - The fee for conferral of Chapter degrees shall be at least twenty-five dollars.

Section 2.7.2 - Payment

2.7.2.1 - Each Chapter in this jurisdiction shall pay annually to the Grand Secretary, on or before the fifteenth (15th) day of April, the following:

- a) Three dollars (\$3.00) for each candidate exalted in that Chapter during the year ending March 31st.
- b) Four dollars (\$4.00) for each member of that Chapter, which shall include all General Grand Chapter International fees and assessments.
- c) Each Special Assessment approved by this Grand Chapter.

2.7.2.2 - Each Chapter not filing the required Annual Return with the money due the Grand Chapter will be charged a late fee of \$1.00 per delinquent day.

ARTICLE 8 - GRAND CHAPTER REPRESENTATION

Section 2.8.1 - Requirements

2.8.1.1 - Each Chapter shall be represented at every Convocation of Grand Chapter. Minimum Chapter representation shall consist of the High Priest, King and Scribe, or their respective legally appointed proxies. Each Chapter not represented at the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter by at least one of the aforementioned officers shall pay a \$5.00 fine to the Grand Chapter (General Fund).

PART 3 INDIVIDUALS

ARTICLE 1 - ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 3.1.1 - Requirements

3.1.1.1 - Any Master Mason may make application for membership to any constituent Chapter within this jurisdiction provided he has resided within this State for a period of at least six (6) months next preceding such application.

3.1.1.2 - Each application for the degrees or membership in a Chapter must be made in writing. The application must be signed by the applicant, recommended by two members of that Chapter, must be accompanied by the required fee, may be referred to a committee for investigation, and must be accepted by unanimous ballot, which may be taken the same day the application is received.

3.1.1.3 - Any Chapter shall not consider an application from a previously rejected Petitioner until six months from the date of that rejection.

3.1.1.4 - No person shall be admitted a member of any Chapter who has not regularly received the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master Mason, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason.

3.1.1.5 - Any Royal Arch Mason in good standing may become a member of any Royal Arch Chapter within this jurisdiction by conforming to these regulations and to the By-laws of the Chapters involved. However, he shall hold an Elective Office in only one Chapter at the same time.

3.1.1.6 - Membership in a Chapter is voluntary. A member in good standing may therefore at any time, upon application to a Chapter, withdraw his membership and be granted a Demit. However, if suspicion of

Masonic offense exists, his Demit may be withheld until a reasonable time for the introduction of charges.

3.1.1.7 - In order to maintain membership in a constituent Chapter, a Companion must be a member in good standing in his Symbolic Lodge.

ARTICLE 2 - DECORUM

Section 3.2.1 - General

3.2.1.1 - All Royal Arch Masons in good standing are welcomed and encouraged to attend all Grand Chapter activities.

3.2.1.2 - Each Companion present in Grand Chapter should be clothed with the badge of a Royal Arch Mason. Each credentialed Chapter Officer or his proxy should be clothed with the jewel of his office.

3.2.1.3 - All Masonic communication by any constituent Chapter or member thereof, or by any regular Royal Arch Mason residing in this jurisdiction, with a clandestine Chapter, member thereof, or any person advanced or exalted therein, is forbidden.

3.2.1.4 - Any Chapter may, for cause, deny to an unaffiliated Companion the privilege of visiting the Chapter or joining in public processions.

ARTICLE 3 - TRIALS AND PUNISHMENT

Section 3.3.1 - Requirements

3.3.1.1 - Constituent Chapters not only possess the right, but it is their express duty, to take cognizance of the conduct of all Companions within this jurisdiction, whether such Companions are members of constituent Chapters or otherwise, and to suspend or expel from the rights and privileges of the Royal Craft all within their purview who are found guilty of unmasonic conduct.

3.3.1.2 - In all cases of trial for any Masonic offense a Chapter shall proceed substantially in the manner prescribed by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire in its Constitution.

3.3.1.3 - Masonic Punishments shall consist of permanent expulsion, indefinite suspension, or reprimand. Punishment shall be administered by the High Priest in open Chapter. Refusal to submit to the penalty of reprimand leaves the convicted Companion suspended until the reprimand is administered.

3.3.1.4 - No Chapter can try its High Priest. Any five members of the Chapter may impeach him to the Grand High Priest, who will order an investigation of the charges.

PART 4 SPECIAL FUNDS

ARTICLE 1 - PERMANENT FUND

Section 4.1.1 - Purpose

4.1.1.1 - To assist the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire in meeting its general financial obligations.

Section 4.1.2 - Control

4.1.2.1 - The management of the Permanent Fund shall be vested in the Grand Treasurer, under the purview of the Grand Chapter Finance Committee. The Grand Treasurer shall manage the investment of the Funds, normally in the highest paying interest bearing insured vehicle.

4.1.2.2 - Each addition to the Permanent Fund must be unencumbered, must be received by the Grand Treasurer, and invested as provided herein.

4.1.2.3 - The Grand Treasurer is authorized to withdraw annually from the Permanent Fund an amount not to exceed one-half of the current annual earned income (interest) of said Fund and transfer the same to the General Fund. The remainder of the annual earned income of the Permanent Fund shall be invested until the principal of the Permanent Fund reaches the amount of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000). Thereafter, the Grand Treasurer is authorized to withdraw the total amount of the annual earned income and transfer the same to the General Fund.

4.1.2.4 - By a three-fourths vote of the members present at any Annual or Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter, funds may be withdrawn from the Permanent Fund in any amount found justified and proper.

ARTICLE 2 - HIRAM WALES JOHNSON CHARITY FUND (Established in 1963)

Section 4.2.1 - Purpose

4.2.1.1 - To fund an annual donation(s) to some worthwhile cause(s).

Section 4.2.2 - Control

4.2.2.1 - The management of this Charity Fund shall be vested in the Grand Treasurer, under the purview of the Grand Chapter Finance Committee. The Grand Treasurer shall manage the investment of the funds, normally in the highest paying interest bearing insured vehicle.

4.2.2.2 - Each addition to the Hiram Wales Johnson Charity Fund must be unencumbered, must be received by the Grand Treasurer, and invested as provided herein.

4.2.2.3 - The annually accrued interest or any part thereof may be donated to some worthwhile cause. The selection of a recipient(s) to receive monies from this Fund shall be made by the Hiram Wales Johnson Charity Fund Committee. This Committee shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest at each Annual Convocation. Payments from the Fund shall be made upon unanimous approval of the Committee members.

ARTICLE 3 – J. LAWRENCE HALL MEMORIAL FUND (Established in 1985)

Section 4.3.1 - Purpose

4.3.1.1 - By the will of M.E. Companion Hall, PGHP, the Grand Chapter was bequeathed the sum of \$1000.00. Disbursements from this fund are limited to interest only, for general expenses.

Section 4.3.2 – Control

4.3.2.1 - The management of this fund shall be vested in the Grand Treasurer, under the purview of the Grand Chapter Finance Committee. The Grand Treasurer shall manage the funds normally in the highest paying interest bearing insured vehicle.

4.3.2.2 - Any addition to the fund must be unencumbered, must be received by the Grand Treasurer, and

invested as provided herein.

4.3.2.3 - The annually accrued interest or any part thereof may be applied to any general expense.

ARTICLE 4 – GRAND CHAPTER TRIENNIAL FUND (Established in 1955)

Section 4.4.1 - Purpose

4.4.1.1 - To help defray the expenses of the Grand Chapter Voting Representative(s) associated with attending the Triennial Session of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons International.

Section 4.4.2 - Control

4.4.2.1- The management of this fund shall be vested in the Grand Treasurer, under the purview of the Grand Chapter Finance Committee. The Grand Treasurer shall manage the investment of the funds normally in the highest paying interest bearing insured vehicle, and shall ensure that the fund remains above \$1000.00.

4.4.2.2 - A budgeted sum shall be applied to this fund annually.

4.4.2.3- Upon a consolidated written request by the attending Representatives(s) to the Grand Treasurer, and with the agreement of the Finance Committee, the request may be fulfilled within the resources available in the fund.

PART 5 ALTERATIONS

ARTICLE 1 - ALTERATIONS TO THESE REGULATIONS

Section 5.1.1 - Requirements

5.1.1.1 - The Grand Chapter shall have full power and authority to make such amendments, alterations, and additions to these Regulations at any Convocation, as they shall find proper and expedient. Each amendment, alteration or addition shall be proposed in writing at any Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and be filed with the Grand Secretary. The written proposal should be forwarded to the Grand Secretary at least 45 days prior to the Convocation so that it can be included in the notice for that Convocation. Each proposal published in the notice for a Convocation shall be considered at that Convocation, and shall require a three-fourths favorable ballot to accept. Otherwise the proposal shall be abandoned. A proposal presented at a Convocation but not published in the notice for that Convocation may be considered at that Convocation, but shall require a unanimous ballot to accept. Otherwise, the proposal shall lie over until the next Convocation, at which a three-fourths favorable ballot is required to accept.

5.1.1.2 - Amendments, alterations and additions to the Appendices of these Regulations may be approved at any Convocation by a simple majority vote.

**PART 6
PRECEDENTS**

ARTICLE I - OTHER MATTERS

Section 6.1.1 - General

6.1.1.1 - On any matter not mentioned in these Regulations, the Constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Hampshire shall determine such question in conformity with accepted Masonic usage.