

BY-LAWS
of
SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL LODGE No. 351 A.F. & A.M

Article I

Lodge Name, Title, Purpose, and Communications

Section 1. The name and title of this Lodge is “Sir Winston Churchill Lodge No. 351. Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota”.

Section 2. The authority of this Lodge is a charter granted on the 28th day of March, A.D. 2009 by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, to whose Constitution, Regulations, Laws, Rules and Edicts, the implicit respect and obedience shall ever be paid by this Lodge and its members.

Section 3. The purpose of this lodge is two-fold: (1) to conduct its regular Masonic functions (i.e., petitions, voting, conferring of degrees on actual Lodge candidates, stated meeting agendas, etc.) in accordance with the rules, guidelines, and forms outlined in the Minnesota Masonic Code and (2), to research, appreciate, and promote the British form of Masonry.

Section 4. The regular Stated Communications of the Lodge shall be held monthly throughout the calendar year. No two Stated Communications shall be held within the same calendar month. Stated Communications shall be held on the third Friday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Section 5. Special Communications may be called by the Master as provided by and for the purposes specified in Article XIII, Section G13.10, General Regulations.

Article II Membership

Section 1. The members of this Lodge are its charter members, as defined in Article XII, Section G12.02, General Regulations, other Master Masons in good standing, as defined in Article XIII, Section G13.31, General Regulations, who have successfully affiliated to this

Lodge through petition, and all Master Masons having received the degrees of Masonry as conferred by the Lodge.

Section 2. A demit shall be granted to any member of this Lodge in good standing (except a current Master or Warden), whose dues are fully paid, and who is clear on the books, and who is clear of charges, upon application for the same, in accordance with the provisions of Article XVI, Section G16.01, General Regulations.

Section 3. Any member of this Lodge in good standing (except a current Master or Warden), whose dues are paid, who is clear on the books, and who is free of charges may withdraw from membership by filing written notice, as provided by Article XVI, Section G16.06, General Regulations.

Article III

Elections and Duties of Officers

Section 1. The elective officers of this Lodge are: Master (whose title is 'Worshipful'), Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Secretary, who shall be elected by ballot and majority vote at the Stated Communication in November annually.

Section 2. The Master, immediately after his installation, shall appoint the following officers: Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Chaplain, Marshal, Tyler, Lodge Education Officer, and other such offices as he shall deem necessary.

Section 3. The installation of officers shall take place, if practicable, on or before the next Stated Communication after their election or appointment. The Master-elect shall determine the time and location of the installation.

Section 4. The Master shall appoint, after his installation, a finance committee, consisting of three (3) members, who shall examine all bills and demands against the Lodge and report in writing thereon, and shall make a detailed report in writing of the financial affairs of the Lodge at the Stated Communication in January annually.

Section 5. The duties of the Master shall be such as traditionally belong to his office, and as may be required by the Constitution, General Regulations and Laws of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons in Minnesota and the ancient law, rules and usages of Masonry.

Section 6. In the event of the death, or absence from the jurisdiction (either temporarily or permanently) of the Master, or of his inability for any reason to serve his Lodge, the Senior Warden and Junior Warden, in order, will succeed to his duties and prerogatives, except to install officers.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall receive all monies from the Secretary, receipting for same, and pay them out only upon the order of the Master and with the consent of the Lodge, as attested by the Secretary. He shall prepare a correct, detailed report of his accounts and submit the same to the Lodge at each Stated Communication. He shall pay over all monies of the Lodge and deliver all books, papers, and information in his possession concerning the financial condition of the Lodge, to his successor, immediately upon the installation of the latter.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the records and record all proceedings of the Lodge as proper to be written; to receive monies of the Lodge and pay the same over to the Treasurer; to make out all reports to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Minnesota; and, at the Stated Communication in January annually, submit a full report in writing of all monies received and orders drawn on the Treasury, as well as of all changes in Lodge membership which have occurred during the year. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to submit the Annual Report to the Grand Lodge of Minnesota pursuant to Article XIII, Section G13.35, General Regulations.

Section 9. The Tyler shall take care of the jewels, furniture, and regalia; serve all notices when required by the Master; and tile the Lodge at all Communications.

Article IV

Petitions for Degrees, Affiliation and Membership

Section 1. .Petitions received and voted on for the degrees of Masonry as conferred by the Lodge shall be in accordance to the rules and guidelines described by Article XIV of the General Regulations.

Section 2. A petitioner for affiliation, dual membership, re-instatement and restoration shall not be in the Lodge while the Lodge is balloting on his petition.

Section 3. Petitions for affiliation, plural membership, or restoration must be in writing and shall contain all the data required by Article XIV, Sections G14.02 and G14.03, of the General Regulations.

Article V

Conferring of Degrees

Section 1. The degrees conferred by the Lodge on its own petitioning candidates will conform to the form and ritual of the Minnesota cipher.

Article VI

Finances

Section 1. Any change in fees for conferring of degrees for the up-coming year shall be determined and voted on by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at the regular Stated Communications each October. The dues amount for each upcoming year shall be determined and voted on by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present at the regular stated meeting in October.

Section 2. Pursuant to Article XIII, Section G13.24, of the General Regulations, no fee shall be assessed on a petition for affiliation.

Section 3. Dues shall be payable to the Lodge by January 1st of the Lodge year. A new

member who has affiliated into the Lodge during the Lodge year shall be assessed a pro-rated dues amount based on the proportion of the Lodge year remaining, as follows:

For each full quarter of the year remaining from the date of the affirmative vote by the Lodge to grant a new member's Petition of Affiliation, he will be assessed one fourth (25%) of Annual Dues, not including the per capita portion. The amount assessed will be rounded up to the nearest whole dollar, for convenience.

During the remainder of their first partial year of membership, new members who join the Lodge via Degrees (i.e., not by Affiliation) are exempt from paying Dues until January 1 of the next full calendar year.

Section 4. Any member in arrears for more than one (1) year's dues may be stricken from the Lodge Roll in the manner prescribed by Article VIII, Section G8.05, General Regulations.

Section 5. A Master's and Warden's benevolence fund may be established to carry out acts of charity in the name of the Lodge in accordance with Article XI, Section G11.07, General Regulations. Monies shall be contributed directly to said fund by members of the Lodge. The fund shall not be derived from dues or assessments. Special fund-raisers may be utilized specifically for the purpose of raising monies for this fund. Dispersals shall be made by at least three (3) affirmative votes of a committee comprised of the Master, the Wardens, the Treasurer, and the Immediate Past Master. The Treasurer shall report on the balance of the fund in his Treasurer's report at each regular Stated Communications and, while it will not be necessary for the committee to make detailed accountings of their actions to the Lodge, the Treasurer shall report that an action has taken place and that it was in accordance with the requirements of this section of the bylaws.

Section 6. Payment of any sum exceeding \$200.00 (\$250.00 in respect of Lodge Charity funds), if for other than ordinary purposes, may be made only by resolution of the Lodge, except in the case of emergency or when the Lodge is dark, when such payment may be authorized by the Master and reported to the Lodge at the next Stated Communications.

Article VII
Rules of Order for Business

Section 1. The order of business at Stated Communications of this Lodge shall be as follows (subject to the will and pleasure of the Master):

- (a) Reading and/or distribution of the minutes of the last Stated Meeting and all intervening Communications.
- (b) Reading and/or distribution of the Treasurer's report.
- (c) Petitions
- (d) Balloting on petitions.
- (e) Reports of Committees.
- (f) Unfinished business.
- (g) New Business
- (i) Lodge Education/Enlightenment

Section 2. The rules of order at all Communications shall be these by-laws, the Constitution, laws, rules and edicts of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge and all other Masonic usage.

Section 3. A majority vote shall decide all questions not otherwise provided for.

Article VIII
Committees and Communication Venues

Section 1. In addition to the Finance and Charity committees specifically mentioned earlier in these by-laws and the Committee on Programs (as required by Article XIII, G13.20(c) of the General Regulations), the Master may appoint special committees throughout his year to assist with the efficient operation of the Lodge, the development and adherence to accurate and proper ritual practice, the harmonious fellowship of its members, and for other purposes in support of the tenets of our Fraternity.

Section 2. As Sir Winston Churchill Lodge currently does not have a permanent Lodge residence, all degree work and the raising of Candidate(s) will be conducted at a Lodge facility of another constituent Minnesota Lodge or at a site approved by the Grand Lodge of

Minnesota in accordance with Article XIII, Section G13.17 of the General Regulations. It is the responsibility of Sir Winston Churchill Lodge to coordinate use of another constituent Lodge's facility and communicate the proposed use of such venue to the Grand Master in a timely fashion.

**Article IX
Amendments**

Section 1. The foregoing forms, rules of order, and procedure, or any part thereof, may be amended as provided by Article XIII, Section G13.32, of the General Regulations.

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, this is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws, including amendments, of Sir Winston Churchill Lodge No. 351, A.F. & A.M.

Mark Luther
Secretary

Approved as to form

Date: _____

Member of Jurisprudence Committee

Date: _____

Approved

Brian E. Beermann
Grand Master

Date: _____