

Province of Worcestershire.

BY-LAWS

OF THE

CHARITY ORGANIZATION

Approved by Provincial Grand Lodge.

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CHARITY ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

*PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE,
BY-LAW No. 11.*

THE Charity Organization of the Province shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of the General Committee of the Province, two representatives to be elected or appointed from each Lodge in the Province, and a Charity Secretary, who shall be elected annually by Provincial Grand Lodge. This Committee shall be empowered to hold meetings, frame rules, and generally to conduct the Charity business of the Province, and shall be required to make an Annual Report to Provincial Grand Lodge of its proceedings, including the number and names of Candidates elected to the several Masonic Institutions, the number of votes expended in the election of the same, together with a statement of votes lent or borrowed, and particulars of the amounts that have been granted from the Benevolent Fund of the Province. Such report when approved and adopted by Provincial Grand Lodge shall be entered on the minutes thereof.

BY-LAWS.

MEETINGS

1.—The Regular Meetings of the Charity Organization Committee shall be held on the 3rd Saturdays in January and September in each year at the Masonic Hall, Worcester or such other place as may be appointed by the Provincial Grand Master. Special Meetings may be held at any time by order of the Provincial Grand Master or on the written request of five members of the Committee. At least seven days notice of such meeting to be given. The Committee shall have power to appoint executive or sub-Committees.

ADOPTION OF CANDIDATES

2.—No petition for benefits of either of the three Masonic Institutions shall be considered on behalf of any Candidate unless notice of the same has been submitted to the Committee through the Hon. Sec. at least seven days before the date of the regular meetings. Such

notice must contain all the necessary particulars, Masonic or otherwise, to enable the Committee to adjudicate on the merits of the case.

**MANAGEMENT
OF
ELECTIONS**

3.—The priority of Candidates for election to the several Institutions shall be decided by the Committee, and the allocation of votes and the management of the elections shall be carried out by the Hon. Sec.

VOTES

4.—In order that adopted candidates may receive the Benefits of the full voting strength of the Province it shall be the duty of the Charity Steward of each Lodge to keep a register of all votes held by members of his Lodge and to collect all voting papers and forward them as soon as possible after they are issued to the Hon. Sec., or at least seven days before the date of election.

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RELIEF

5.—The Committee shall have power to grant as relief from the Benevolent Fund of the Province (see P.G. By-Law 11) sums not exceeding £20 0s. 0d. to a necessitous Brother or the widow of a Brother on petition duly presented by the Charity Steward of a Lodge. In case of emergency immediate relief not exceeding £5, may be given by the Hon. Sec. with the approval of the Provincial Grand Master or in his absence the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and report shall be made at the next regular Meeting of the special circumstances of each grant.

APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF

6.—Applications for relief from the Provincial Benevolent Fund must be forwarded to the Hon. Sec. seven days prior to the Regular Meetings in January and September together with full particulars on the printed form to be obtained from him.

In the case of a Brother :

- A. Name in full.
- B. Age.
- C. Name of Lodge in which Initiated and date.
- D. Number of years subscribed.
- E. Cause of distress.
- F. Present means of support.
- G. If a subscriber to the Masonic Institutions.
- H. If previously relieved by Lodge or Province. (give particulars).

In the case of a Widow :

- A. Name in full and age.
- B. Name of husband.
- C. Name of Lodge in which Husband was initiated and date.
- D. Number of years husband subscribed.
- E. Cause of Distress.
- F. Present means of support.
- G. If she or husband subscribed to the Masonic Charities.
- H. If previously relieved by the Lodge or Province (give particulars).

TONTINE

7. The Tontine fund is for the purpose of enabling Brethren to become Life Subscribers of the Masonic Institutions by an annual subscription of £1 1s. 0d. for five years, subscription to be paid before the January Meeting of the Committee in each year, at which meeting a ballot shall be taken for the priority of allocation to as many Life Subscriberships of £5 5s. 0d. each as the amount in hand will permit. A Subscriber in arrear shall not participate in the ballot.

SHARES FULLY PAID

8.—A Subscriber who has not previously been successful in the ballot shall, on payment of the fifth subscription, be entitled to his allocation without ballot.

SUBSCRIBERS UNDERTAKING

9.—Every successful subscriber on his acceptance of a drawn share shall give an undertaking in writing to continue his Annual Subscription to the Association until the total amount allotted to him under the ballot has been paid.

**SUBSCRIBER
MAY DRAW
TWO SHARES**

10.—A Subscriber for two or more shares, on his being successful in the ballot in one case, may be allowed to draw a nomination value of two shares (£10 10s.) on his undertaking to take up a Life Governorship and to serve a Stewardship at one of the Festivals of the year.

ALLOCATION

11.—After the Ballot each successful subscriber shall be advised of the result and must at once inform the Hon. Sec. on the printed form provided, as to which Institution he desires his Life Subscribership or Life Governorship to be allocated. Failing such information being given within seven days of the date of the notice, the amount shall be given in the name of the subscriber to the Institution receiving the support of the Province in that year.

ARREARS

12.—A Subscriber having drawn his vote by Ballot and being two years in

arrears, shall be written to by the Hon. Sec. and if he fails to pay the amount due by the following meeting of the Committee, such vote shall be transferred by the Hon. Sec.

**DEATH OF A
SUBSCRIBER**

13.—In the event of the death of a Subscriber before completing his payments, the Lodge of which he was a subscribing member shall be asked to complete the payments, on the completion of which the vote, or presentation shall be transferred to the Lodge. Failing which it may be taken up by the Committee and allocated by the Hon. Sec.

**ALTERATION
OF
BY-LAWS**

14.—Alteration of these By-Laws may be made by a majority of the Committee present at any meeting, provided due notice of such alterations shall have been given in the circular calling the meeting. At such meeting any member present may move an

amendment to the alteration proposed and such amendment shall be first put to the meeting and if carried shall then be put as a substantive resolution. Such Alteration shall not be valid until sanctioned by the Right Wor. Provincial Grand Master.

***Approved and adopted by the
Charity Organization Committee held
at Worcester, January 25th, 1924.***

CHARLES P. PERRY,
Hon. Secretary.

G. T. CHERSHIDE & SONS,
COVENTRY STREET,
KIDDERMINSTER.

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