



**By-Laws**  
of the  
**Worcestershire**  
**Provincial Grand**  
**Stewards' Lodge**  
**No. 9142**

## **By-Laws of the Worcestershire Provincial Grand Stewards' Lodge, No. 9142**

### **1. Places and Dates of Meeting.**

The Lodge shall meet at the Masonic Hall, Northfield, or at other places as may be authorised by the Lodge Committee, and a dispensation for the same be granted by the Provincial Grand Master.

The regular meetings shall be on the second Friday in September, and the second or third Friday in May, at such hour as the Master may direct.

### **2. Election and Installation Meetings.**

The Master and the Treasurer shall be elected by ballot, or declared elected (subject to the provisions of Rules 105(a) and 112(a) respectively) at the regular meeting in September. The Master elect shall be installed at the regular meeting in May.

### **3. Election of Tyler.**

Subject to Rule 113, Book of Constitutions, the Tyler shall be elected at the Regular Meeting in September by a show of hands. The Lodge shall also elect an inner Tyler annually, who will normally be the last joining member of the Lodge, subject to his agreement.

### **4. Lodge Committee.**

The Lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Officers and Past Masters of the Lodge.

This Committee shall consider, and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership and on any matters specially referred to it by the Lodge. 5 members of the Lodge form a quorum.

### **5. Account Examination Committee and Annual Accounts**

The Account Examination Committee (AEC) shall consist of two members of the Lodge who shall be elected at the regular meeting in September.

The accounts shall be made up to the 31st March in each year, and presented to the Lodge, duly examined, at the regular meeting in September. A copy of the accounts and of the AEC's certificate that all balances have been checked and that the accounts have been examined, shall be sent to all members with the summons convening that meeting, or distributed at the meeting.

## **6. Fees and Annual Subscription**

The initiation fee shall be £1,000, the Joining Fee shall be £25 and the re-joining fee £25, such fees being exclusive of subscription. In addition to these fees the candidate shall pay the Lodge such registration fees that are payable to Grand Lodge and to Provincial Grand Lodge, together with any tax thereon, and the candidate shall, before becoming a member, be informed of the total amount due.

The annual subscription, due and payable in advance on 1st April and exclusive of dining fees, shall be of such amount as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice on the summons at the previous regular meeting. The dining fee for members and visitors shall be as is reasonably determined by the Treasurer from time to time, and shall be notified of such in advance of the relevant meeting.

Any member whose subscription is unpaid for a full 12 months shall be liable to be excluded from the Lodge, after due written notice, in accordance with Rule 181, Book of Constitutions.

## **7. Membership**

The admission of candidates shall be regulated by the provisions of Rules 157 to 166, Book of Constitutions. In the ballot for a candidate for initiation or joining, one black ball shall exclude.

## **8. Termination of Membership**

Any member desirous of terminating his membership of the Lodge shall tender his resignation in writing to the Secretary, or orally in open Lodge, in accordance with Rule 183, Book of Constitutions, and shall be entitled to the Certificate mentioned in Rule 175, Book of Constitutions, stating the circumstances in which he left the Lodge.

Should he at any future period wish to rejoin, he shall be subject to the rules relating to joining members.

## **9. Payments from Lodge Funds**

Payment of any sum exceeding £250, if for other than ordinary purposes, may be made only by resolution of the Lodge, for which notice has been given on the summons, except in cases of emergency when such payment may be authorised by the Master and reported to the next regular meeting.

## **10. Amendment of By-Laws**

Except as otherwise required by Rule 141, Book of Constitutions, amendment of these By-Laws, or any of them may be made only in the following manner:

(a) Notice of Motion in writing stating the precise amendment or amendments proposed shall be given in open Lodge at a regular meeting.

(b) The motion shall be set out in the summons for the next regular meeting or for an emergency meeting summoned for the purpose, and shall at such meeting be put to the Lodge.

(c) A resolution for amendment, of which notice shall have been given as aforesaid, shall be carried if a majority of the members voting shall vote in favour of it, but it shall not be effective until approved by the Provincial Grand Master on behalf of the Grand Master.

## **FOUNDERS RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Membership***

*Membership is primarily intended for those Masons who have been appointed as Provincial Grand Stewards in Craft, Royal Arch or Mark Masonry.*

### ***Officers***

*Appointment shall be in the hands of the Master Elect, who will consult with the Lodge Committee.*

*All Officers, except those of Treasurer, Secretary, Almoner, Charity Steward and Senior Steward, shall be vacated annually.*

*Following notification by the Secretary after the May meeting, the Senior Past Master of the Lodge will receive from the WM, SW, JW, IPM and the second most recent Past Master five names in order of preference for the office of Junior Warden, allocating 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1 point to each, 5 being the most preferred, 1 the least. The Senior Past Master will then total the points for each nomination, and the name of the member with the highest number of points will be notified to the WM, who will ask the nominated person whether he accepts the office. Should the first chosen nominee decline the position, the whole process will be repeated until a 'first choice' selected nominee accepts. The selected Wardens will progress to the Master's Chair should they so desire.*

*As every member of the Lodge is eligible for election as Master, the reading of the list is not necessary, but every member has the right to vote for whom he pleases.*

## FOREWORD

With pride and great joy I feel privileged to consider this Lodge - The Worcestershire Provincial Grand Stewards' Lodge, No. 9142 - as my very own personal Masonic Child. A child born on the 31st May 1985, from an earnest desire conceived in my mind soon after I was appointed and invested as the Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire, that I would introduce to the Province a change of appointment by style in respect of the Rank of Steward.

This rank is conferred upon those brethren of high quality and distinctive bearing and, as in the past, all brethren will wear the 'Red' of Steward with pride. The Stewards' Lodge will be an example, and form the basis of Freemasonry as we are taught to know it.

I am proud of all the members of this Lodge, just as I am of all my Lodges in this Province.

May this Lodge prosper and justify my faith; my hopes; and my prayers for Happiness, Sincerity, Efficiency, and Masonic Love to abide in this Lodge, until time with us is no more.

EDWARD F. HANSON  
Provincial Grand Master

May 1985