

**Lodge of
Stability**

No. 564

BY-LAWS.

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Issue 1964.

**EXTRACT FROM ANCIENT BY-LAWS OF
THE LODGE OF STABILITY No. 564.**

"It is absolutely necessary to the good government and well being of every Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, that **strict order and decorum** be observed in all matters and transactions relating thereto, and therefore the most perfect **attention and willing obedience** is earnestly enjoined on every Brother, not only to the Rules and Regulations of the Book of Constitutions and the following By-laws, but also to all **commands of the Worshipful Master** and Officers of the Lodge, as becomes true and faithful Brethren and members of a Society so ancient, honourable and so justly calculated to make peace, harmony and goodwill as that of Freemasonry".

BY-LAWS.

Adopted by Resolution in Open Lodge,
24th September, 1963.

By-law No. 1. PLACE AND DATE OF MEETING.

The Lodge shall meet at the Talbot Hotel, Stourbridge, and shall hold regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday in January, February, March, April, September, October, November, and the third Wednesday in December, at such hour as the Master may direct.

By-law No. 2. ELECTION OF MASTER: TREASURER: TYLER. INSTALLATION OF MASTER.

The Master and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot, and, subject to Rule 113 Book of Constitutions, the Tyler shall be elected by show of hands, at the regular meeting in December. The Festival of St. John the Evangelist shall be celebrated on the fourth Tuesday in January, and on that day the Master-Elect shall be installed.

By-law No. 3. LODGE COMMITTEE.

The Lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Subscribing Past Masters of (and in) the Lodge, Treasurer, Secretary, and two other members to be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in December. 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. Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum.

By-law No. 4. AUDIT COMMITTEE.

The Audit Committee shall consist of three members of the Lodge, who shall be elected annually by the Lodge at the regular meeting in December. The accounts shall be made up to 31st December in each year, and shall be presented to the Lodge, duly audited, at the regular meeting in February. A copy of the accounts, and of the Audit Committee's certificate that the accounts have been audited, shall be sent to all members with the summons convening the meeting.

By-law No. 5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Any person desiring to become a member of the Lodge shall notify the Secretary in writing on the prescribed form. Such communication shall be considered by the Lodge Committee, the procedure for the admission of candidates for initiation and joining being regulated by the provisions of Rules 157 to 166 Book of Constitutions. A Brother desirous of becoming a Joining Member must first have been received as a Visitor at Banquet. On the ballot for a candidate for initiation or joining, three negative balls shall exclude, and disqualify for twelve months.

By-law No. 6. FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The initiation fee shall be fifteen guineas; the joining fee twelve guineas; and the rejoining fee three guineas; such fees to be exclusive of subscription.

(continued overleaf)

(By-law No. 6, continued.)

The annual subscription shall be six pounds, payable in advance on 1st January. Subscriptions of initiates and joining members are payable at the time of initiation or joining, but where membership commences in the second half of any year, the member shall pay half the annual subscription in respect of that year. The Secretary's services shall, if he so desire, be deemed equivalent to payment of subscription.

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

Visitors must be personally known to, or be vouched for by, a member present; or produce Grand Lodge Certificate, and undergo examination.

The visitor's fee at dinners shall be such amount as the Lodge shall from time to time determine by resolution, after notice on the summons.

The Master shall have the privilege of inviting four guests, and the Secretary one guest, free of the visitor's fee.

By-law No. 7. RESIGNATION.

A 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 he 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 time wish to rejoin, he shall be subject to the rules relating to Joining Members.

By-law No. 8. RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

All monies becoming due to the Lodge shall be paid in to the Lodge bank account, and all cheques drawn thereon shall be signed by both the Treasurer and Secretary of the Lodge for the time being. Payment of any sum exceeding £10, if for other than ordinary purposes, may be made only by resolution of the Lodge, of which notice has been given in the summons, except in a case of emergency, when such payment may be authorised by the Master and reported to the Lodge at the next regular meeting.

By-law No. 9. AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS.

Except as otherwise required by Rule 14 C, Book of Constitutions, amendment of these By-laws or of 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 and by the Grand Master.

By-law No. 10. VOTE OF MEMBERS:

All matters relating to the Craft in general, or this Lodge in particular, and not especially provided for by the Book of Constitutions or these By-laws, shall be determined by the vote of a majority of the members in regular Lodge.

APPROVED :-

O. W. D. SMITH,
Provincial Grand Master
for Worcestershire

10th October, 1963.

APPROVED by the M.W. Grand Master.

J. W. STUBBS,
Grand Secretary.

14th October, 1963.