

**CONSTITUTION**  
**of the**  
**Southeastern Shrine Association**

ARTICLE I

Section 1 – This body shall be known by the name, style and title of

**THE SOUTHEASTERN SHRINE ASSOCIATION**

Section 2 – Its object shall be to promote cordiality and friendship between the Shrine Temples chartered by Shriners International in the territory assigned the Southeastern Shrine Association which includes nine (9) southeastern states and one Territory, namely:

Alabama  
Florida  
Georgia  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
North Carolina  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
and  
Puerto Rico

The Temples eligible for membership are listed annually in the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Appendix of Forms, Shriners International, Part IV (Amended 1993).

Section 3 – The purposes of the Association are:

- (a) To promote large classes during all Temple Ceremonials, thereby stimulating interest in Shrinedom generally.
- (b) To promote and support fundraising projects for Shrine Hospital programs.
- (c) To cooperate with Shriners International in promoting close Masonic fraternal association with Blue Lodges and other Allied Orders.
- (d) To promote membership campaigns throughout our territory to increase membership by obtaining new members and preventing loss of members except of unavoidable causes.
- (e) To harmonize territorial and jurisdictional questions.
- (f) To set fees and dues.
- (g) To formulate plans for the exchange of ideas, cuts and stunts used in Shrine Ceremonials.
- (h) To promote, support and oversee competitive events among the Uniformed Unit Associations.
- (i) To support donations in conjunction with the Wills, Bequests and Gifts Committee of Shriners International.

- (j) To support the “One Hundred Million Dollar Club.”
- (k) To sponsor and support the Order of DeMolay International and Job’s Daughters International.

Section 4 – The Southeastern Shrine Association yields compliance with Shrine Law and the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of Shriners International.

Section 5 -- Unless otherwise provided by resolution or bylaws, Parliamentary procedure shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order, latest edition copyrighted by the Robert’s Rules Association.

## ARTICLE II

### **Meetings**

Section 1 – The Southeastern Shrine Association, herewith referred to as the ASSOCIATION, shall meet annually on any Thursday, Friday and Saturday during August at such place as shall have been proposed by the Time and Place Committee, and approved by a majority of the members at a previous meeting.

- (a) In accordance with Shriners International Bylaws, if in person meeting should be deemed to be inadvisable due to pandemic or similar situation, virtual meeting is allowed provided that a quorum of the Temples can be heard on the virtual platform.

Section 2 – Special meetings may be called by the President in any emergency, at any time and place at his discretion, or when requested by twelve (12) member Temples of the ASSOCIATION; due notice of said special meeting to be given to each Representative stating the business to be considered.

- (a) During the Mid-Winter planning session, the Board of Directors and Committees present should prepare the proposed budget for the current year’s operations to be approved by the voting delegates at the annual meeting in August.

Section 3 – A quorum for any meeting for the transaction of business shall consist of representation from the majority of member Temples.

Section 4 – Notice of annual meetings must be given at least ninety (90) days in advance. Notice of special meetings shall be issued at least ten (10) days prior to such meetings.

Section 5 – The various Uniformed Unit Associations within the Southeastern Shrine Association shall arrange their meetings with those of the SESA, at the same time keeping their bylaws amendable to laws, regulations and edicts of the SESA and Shriners International and all officers of Uniformed Units of the Association must be from member Temples.

Section 6 – The Mid-Winter session is a planning session for officers and committees, but all Member Temples, Delegates and their families and related Associations are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

## ARTICLE III

### **Membership & Dues**

Section 1 – The voting power of the ASSOCIATION shall be vested in a Body composed of five (5) Representatives from each member Temple, said Representatives to be the Potentate, Chief Rabban, the Recorder and two (2) additional Nobles to be elected by each member Temple. Further, that all elective officers of the ASSOCIATION, Past Potentates of member Temples and all Shriners International Officers and Past Shriners International Potentates within the jurisdiction of the ASSOCIATION, shall be Representatives AT LARGE with all rights and privileges and that all Past Presidents of the ASSOCIATION shall be Representatives AT LARGE with all rights and privileges.

The Southeastern Shrine Association may, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any session, elect as an Emeritus Member of the Southeastern Shrine Association, providing their Temple is a member Temple in good standing with this Association. If a Noble has been a Representative for ten (10) years and is recommended for such honor by the Committee of Nomination of Emeritus Members; in the event there is no meeting held by the ASSOCIATION due to a catastrophic event during any of their ten years, the year in question would be granted that year for credit entitling the Representative to be an Emeritus Member provided that he was/is a Representative for that year, or a member of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Laws, or a member of the Committee on Finance and Accounts. Every Emeritus Member shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an elected Representative, providing their Temple is a member Temple in good standing with this ASSOCIATION. Further, that all Chief Rabbans, Assistant Rabbans and Shriners International representatives of each member Temple, shall be honorary members of the ASSOCIATION without voting power, rights and privileges.

Section 1A – Any Representative, who shall be suspended or expelled from the Shrine, shall there by forfeit his office and it shall become vacant. If such vacancy shall occur from either of these two causes or if any Representative, including the Potentate or Recorder, should resign as a Representative or find that he is unable to attend the annual meeting for any reason, the Potentate or ranking Divan officer present is authorized to appoint a Representative to fill such vacancy or vacancies, and the Secretary of the ASSOCIATION shall be immediately notified of such appointment by the Recorder of the Temple in which such event occurs.

Section 2 – The annual dues of each member Temple in the Association shall be twenty (\$0.20) cents per capita of its membership as reported to Shriners International each year. Such dues shall be remitted to the Secretary/Treasurer on or before March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. These funds shall be retained by the Secretary/Treasurer for the expenses of the ASSOCIATION and shall be dispersed on order of the ASSOCIATION at any regular meeting or upon order of the SESA President.

Section 2.1 – The ASSOCIATION is hereby empowered to charge a registration fee, not to exceed fifteen (\$15) dollars per person, payable in advance to help defray the expenses of said convention.

A Noble of any Shrine Temple or Unit Association who has not paid the registration fee and received the official convention badge shall not be permitted to engage in any competition, including the parade. On-site registration will be available during said convention to include a late fee of three (\$3) additional dollars. No Noble of a Shrine Temple may occupy a Unit Association hotel unless he has received the express permission of his Potentate.

Section 2.1.2 – Also, in order to assist further in defraying the expenses of the convention, the ASSOCIATION Temples and Uniformed Unit Associations are authorized to sell ads in the official program, with the ASSOCIATION retaining one hundred percent (100%) of the net proceeds from ads.

Section 2A – Any Temple which fails to pay its annual dues in full on or before May of each year shall Ipso Facto cease to remain a member of the ASSOCIATION and any Representative, by office or elected to the annual meeting shall not be entitled to sit as a Representative at said meeting.

Section 2B - Any Temple which may be dropped from the ASSOCIATION for the non-payment of dues shall not be reinstated without the payment in full of the year such Temple is dropped and payment in full for the current year's dues for the year application is made for reinstatement. Reinstatement of a Temple for any of the above reasons automatically reinstates the rights and privileges of the Past President and Emeriti members of said Temple.

Section 2C - The ASSOCIATION is authorized to charge a six dollar (\$6) per room, per night rebate on rooms used at the SESA Annual Convention.

## ARTICLE IV

### **Officers, their Titles, Election and Tenure of Office**

Section 1 - The officers of the ASSOCIATION shall Be:

1. PRESIDENT
2. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
3. SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
4. THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
5. FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT
6. FIFTH VICE PRESIDENT
7. SECRETARY/TREASURER

Section 2

1. Any Shrine Temple may nominate a member for election as a Southeastern Shrine Association officer, provided he's a Representative to the Body at the time of their election.
2. Sponsorship shall be by election and proper resolution by the Nominee's Shrine Temple at a regular or called meeting. A copy of this election and resolution shall be filed with the Secretary/Treasurer of this ASSOCIATION at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.
3. The Recorder of the candidate's Shrine Temple shall notify the Southeastern Shrine Association's President, Vice Presidents, Secretary/Treasurer of said endorsement at least ninety (90) days prior to the Southeastern Shrine Association's annual meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer of the ASSOCIATION shall notify the Recorder of each member Shrine Temple of all qualified candidates at least 60 days prior to the Annual Meeting. If there are no qualified candidates by the deadline, nominations will be received from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

4. Each officer shall serve for a period of one (1) year or until his successor is elected, qualified and installed. No officer may succeed himself in office except for the Secretary/Treasurer.
5. A Noble may not serve as President of the ASSOCIATION unless he shall first have been elected and served as Potentate of his Shrine Temple and served at least one term as either First Vice President and/or Second Vice President.
6. Two officers may serve on the SESA line from the same state, not including the Secretary/Treasurer.

### Section 3

1. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice President, the Shrine Temple sponsoring said Vice President should be extended the privilege of presenting a nominee for the vacancy, except if the vacancy occurs in the office of First Vice President or Second Vice President, in which case, the sponsoring Shrine Temple shall not be permitted to fill that vacancy and the ASSOCIATION will extend the privilege to that said Shrine Temple to present a nominee for the bottom of the line.

## ARTICLE V

### **President's Duties**

Section 1 – The President is the executive officer. He shall preside over all stated and special meetings.

Section 2 – When, in his judgment, the good of the ASSOCIATION requires it, he shall have power to call a special meeting of the ASSOCIATION, specifying the business to be conducted.

Section 3 – He may do all such other acts and perform such other duties not inconsistent with the Constitution, as in his judgment, the interests of the ASSOCIATION require.

## ARTICLE VI

### **Vice President's Duties**

Section 1 - In event of death, removal or physical disability of the President, they shall, with full power, severally and respectively, assume the responsibilities and discharge the duties of their superior officers, according to rank, until the disqualification is removed. At all other

times, each shall perform the duties traditionally appropriate to his respective position or assigned to him by the President.

## ARTICLE VII

### **Secretary/Treasurer's Duties**

Section 1 - The Secretary/Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the ASSOCIATION and keep a true record of all its deliberations and transactions and transcribe the same in a book for that purpose.

Section 2 - He shall collect and receive all the revenues, giving his receipt therefore and shall deposit in a national bank or trust company in the name of and subject to the order of the ASSOCIATION. He shall pay all orders authorized to be drawn on him, all payments to be by check drawn on the funds of the ASSOCIATION and he shall give a surety bond in favor of the ASSOCIATION in the sum of not less than \$20,000.00, the ASSOCIATION to pay the premium on said bond.

Section 3 - He shall make an annual report of his accounts. He shall have his books, papers and accounts present at each annual meeting and render a correct account of his receipts and disbursements, prepared for examination by the Committee of Finance and Accounts. He shall have the custody of the official seal and affix it to all the official communications; notify members of the ASSOCIATION of the annual and special meetings and perform such other duties appertaining to his office as may be required; and at the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver to his successor all monies, books, papers or other control as Secretary/Treasurer, and belongings to the SOUTHEASTERN SHRINE ASSOCIATION.

Section 3A - In the event of the disability or death of the Secretary/Treasurer while in office, the ASSOCIATION President or his designee, shall make every reasonable effort to procure all monies, books, papers and property of the SOUTHEASTERN SHRINE ASSOCIATION in a timely manner.

Section 4 - He shall prepare uniform credential blanks and mail them to the several Temples in ample time for presentation at the annual meetings of the ASSOCIATION.

Section 5 - He shall represent the ASSOCIATION and is fully empowered to coordinate plans for the annual convention and mid-year meeting each year with the Director General and his Committees.

Section 6 - He shall receive for his services a sum recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Welfare and Advisory Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII

### **Amendments**

Section 1 - Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be in writing and filed with the Secretary/Treasurer at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting of the ASSOCIATION, and notice of said proposed Amendment shall be sent by the Secretary/Treasurer to each Member Temple.

Section 2 - All Amendments proposed to this Constitution shall be in writing. They may be modified in any manner by the ASSOCIATION while the same is under consideration, but such modification must be germane to the subject matter of the proposed Amendments. The entire section to be amended must be fully written out as same will read with the proposed Amendment incorporated therein. Adoption of Amendments will be by a two-thirds vote of the accredited representatives registered and voting.

## **BY-LAWS of the Southeastern Shrine Association**

### Article I

Section 1 – At every meeting, all questions shall be determined by a majority of votes (except alterations of the Constitution, as therein provided), the presiding officer not being entitled to vote except in case the vote is equally divided, when he shall have the deciding vote.

Section 2 – At each meeting, when the President shall have called the ASSOCIATION to order, the Committee on Credentials shall immediately determine as to the credentials of the Representatives.

### Article II



## **Committees**

Section1 - The following Standing Committees, each consisting of three or more Representatives of the ASSOCIATION, shall be appointed by the President at least sixty (60) days before the annual meeting of the ASSOCIATION. Committees shall examine and report to the ASSOCIATION upon the several matters referred to them.

Credentials - Whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon the credentials of the elected Representatives.

Emeritus - To this committee shall be referred the name of any member who has qualified and attended as a Representative for 10 years upon the certification of the Recorder of his Temple and the Secretary of the ASSOCIATION. A Certificate of Emeritus Membership shall be issued.

Finance and Accounts - It shall be its duty to examine the books and vouchers of Secretary/Treasurer; it shall annually recommend such appropriations as may be necessary.

Necrology - To it shall be referred the names and records of the dead, that a fitting Memorial may be made in the proceedings of the good deeds of those who have entered The Unseen Temple.

Time and Place - Shall consist of the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Vice Presidents, and Secretary/Treasurer, whose duty it shall be yearly to recommend a Time and Place for the next three annual Conventions. The next Annual Meetings or Meetings shall be decided by a majority vote of the Representatives assembled.

The Representatives may by a majority vote at any time, authorize the Time and Place Committee to select the city for its Annual Convention and mid-year Meeting. Any invitation by a member Temple to host a Convention, in order to be valid, must be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Southeastern Shrine Association at least thirty (30) days prior to opening date of the Annual Convention. The Secretary shall in turn notify the members of the Time and Place Committee.

Welfare and Advisory - There shall be a Welfare and Advisory Committee composed of the officers and Past Presidents of the ASSOCIATION to whom shall be referred all matters pertaining to the betterment of the Shrine, its charities and membership department. It shall be the duty of this committee to meet twice annually to discuss and recommend to the various committees, Uniformed Unit groups and to the ASSOCIATION such matters as in their discretion should properly be brought to the attention of the various committees, Uniformed Unit groups and the ASSOCIATION, affecting the welfare of the organization and adherence to Shriners International Law.

Other necessary Committees may be appointed by the President.

### ARTICLE III

#### **Seal**

Section 1 - The Seal shall be round, not less than two inches in diameter, with the words: "SOUTHEASTERN SHRINE ASSOCIATION, ORGANIZED DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 1934," in an outer circle, the center to contain a condensed map in the shape of the nine Southeastern States, and the Territory of Puerto Rico in the ASSOCIATION.

### ARTICLE IV

Section 1 - Annual Meeting: The President of the Association shall appoint a Director General. The President shall notify the Secretary of this appointment not later than sixty (60) days following the President's election.

Section 2 - Registration Badges: Participation in and admission to any convention activity by any adult over eighteen (18) years of age will require a convention registration badge as well as any other necessary tickets.

Section 3 – Refunds: Any member Temple shall have the right to cancel any or all registrations by giving written notice to the Secretary/Treasurer before June 1<sup>st</sup> of the Convention. Registration fees covering such cancelled rooms shall be refunded to the Temple within fifteen (15) days of Cancellation notice.

#### Section 4 -Parade

- a) The order of the Southeastern Shrine Association Parade shall be that listed in the latest edition of the Directory, Shriners International for Association/Temple parades.
- b) Shrine Temples shall follow the dignitaries in the following order.
  - 1) Imperial Officers
  - 2) President's Temple
  - 3) President Elect's (1<sup>st</sup> V.P.) Temple
  - 4) Temples of President's state by charter date.
  - 5) Temples of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President's state by charter number.
  - 6) In order, through the 5<sup>th</sup> Vice-President, each numbered Vice-President's Temple followed by his state's Temples by charter date.
  - 7) Non-Association Temples by charter date.

ARTICLE V

**Amendments**

Section 1 - A proposed Amendment to these By-Laws may be submitted to the ASSOCIATION at any time during the meeting and may be adopted by a majority of votes cast by the accredited Representatives present and voting.

Section 2 - All proposed Amendments to the By-Laws shall be offered in writing. They may be modified in any manner by the ASSOCIATION while the same are under consideration, but such modification must be germane to the subject matter of the proposed Amendment. The entire Section to be amended must be fully written out as the same will read with the proposed Amendment incorporated therein.

Form #12A

**CERTIFICATE TO ACCOMPANY NEW OR AMENDED  
BYLAWS OF ASSOCIATIONS OF TEMPLES**

William C. Carr, president of Southeastern Shrine  
Association, hereby certify that:

1. Southeastern Shrine is an association of temples;
2. the attached bylaws or amendments were duly presented for consideration in accordance with the bylaws of this Association; and §209.1 (e) of the bylaws of Shriners International;
- and
3. they are approved for presentation to the Imperial Potentate.

William S. Carr P.P.  
President

Attest:

Gregory J. Carr  
Secretary

**APPROVAL**

The foregoing bylaws or amendments are approved.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022

Alison  
Chairman—Jurisprudence & Laws  
Committee

Henry Carr  
Imperial Potentate