

However, the Lodge may resolve that such payments can be made without reference to the Lodge, up to a stated amount, such amount to be determined by the Lodge from time to time after Notice of Motion given at the previous regular meeting, Notwithstanding the provisions of this By-Law, in case of emergency, the Master may authorize such payment over the stated limit, the details of which and reasons for such payment are to be reported to the Lodge at its next regular meeting.

11. Charity Fund

A separate and distinct account of all monies received and paid on account of the Charity Fund shall be kept by the treasurer

The Charity Fund shall be devoted to charitable purposes only and no part of it shall be used for any other purpose.

A collection in aid of this fund shall be made at all regular meetings of the Lodge

It shall be lawful for the Master to order payments from the Charity Fund for the relief of a Brother in good standing, the merits of whose case warrant the granting of such aid, such sums not to exceed a limit to be decided by the Lodge by Resolution after Notice of Motion given at the previous regular meeting. Whenever in his opinion, however, such sums are insufficient to meet the circumstances of the case, he shall refer the matter to the Lodge Committee, which shall have the power to deal with it and report to the next regular meeting of the Lodge.

12. Notice of Motion

A Motion will only be entertained at a Regular Meeting when previous notice of such Motion shall have been given in open Lodge or in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Meeting, and such notice of Motion shall be inserted in the Summons convening the Meeting at which it is to be discussed

13. Amendment of By-Laws

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

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

The Motion shall be set out on the summons for the next regular meetings or for an Emergency meeting summoned for the purpose, and shall at such meeting be put to the Lodge

A resolution for amendment, of which notice shall be given as aforesaid, shall be carried if a majority of the members voting shall vote in favor of it, but shall not be effective until approved by the District Grand Master on behalf of the Grand Master.

Royal Victoria Lodge No. 443

Consecrated June 1937

United Grand Lodge of England

District Grand Lodge of the Bahamas & Turks

R W Bro. Robert C. Deal Jr.

District Grand Master



BY-LAWS

Revised 2005

By-Laws of the Royal Victoria Lodge No.443

Revised 2005

1. Place and Date of Meetings

The lodge shall meet at the masonic Temple, Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas, and shall hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday in February, April, June, October, and December, and on the second Saturday in November at such hour as the Master shall direct

2. Election and Installation

The Master and the Treasurer shall be elected by ballot at the regular meeting in October, The Master Elect shall be installed at the regular meetings in November

3. Appointment of Officers, Appointment or Election of Tyler

The Officers of the Lodge shall be appointed by the Master. The Tyler, who shall be a subscribing member of the lodge, shall likewise be appointed (without emolument) by the Master

4. The Lodge Committee

The lodge Committee shall consist of the Master, Wardens, Past Master of the Lodge, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Brethren to be elected at the regular meeting in October. Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum, of whom two shall be Installed Masters. The Committee shall consider and report to the Lodge on all proposals for membership and on any other matters specially referred to it by the Lodge, in accordance with Rule 154, Book of Constitutions.

5. Audit Committee and Annual Accounts

The Audit Committee shall consist of two members of the Lodge who shall be elected annually at the regular meeting in October. The Treasurer shall prepare a statement of accounts annually which shall be made up to the 30th of September in each year and which shall be presented to the Lodge, duly audited, at the regular meeting in February. A copy of the Accounts with the Audit Committee's certificate thereon shall be sent to all members convening that meeting.

6. Fees and Annual Subscriptions

The fees for Initiation, Joining and rejoining shall be of such amounts as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice of motion at the previous regular meeting.

These fees shall in no event be less than the of the Annual Dues payable to Grand Lodge, to District Grand Lodge and of the Benevolent fund levy applicable to resident members and the candidate shall, before becoming a member, be informed of the total amount due.

The annual subscription is due and payable in advance on October 1st and shall be of such amount as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution, after notice of motion at the previous regular meetings.

The secretary's services shall be deemed equivalent to the payment of subscription.

The annual dues of Brethren aged 75 years and above shall be paid from Lodge funds.

The amount of the dining fee for members and visitors shall be declared by the junior Warden at each meeting, but in no event shall be less than 10.00

The Master shall have the privilege of inviting guests to each dinner, free of the dining fee. The number of such guests shall be fixed from time to time by the Lodge Committee.

Any member whose subscription is unpaid for more than a year shall be liable to be excluded from the Lodge, after due notice, in accordance with Rule 181, Book of Constitutions, any member whose subscription is unpaid for two full years shall, at the expiration of that period, cease to be a member of the Lodge in accordance with Rule 148, Book of Constitutions.

Prior to being accepted as a candidate for joining or Rejoining, any Brother who is or has been a member of this Lodge or any other Lodge, shall produce a Certificate of Good Standing (in accordance with Rules 163 and 175 Book of Constitutions) from each Lodge to verify that he is not indebted to that Lodge and shall provide other certificates and information as prescribed in those Rules.

7. Non-Resident Members

Any member who, for reasons acceptable to the Lodge, is not in a position to enjoy the privileges of the Lodge, may, on written application to the secretary and by resolution of the Lodge, be considered a Non resident member and shall pay a subscription annually in advance on October 1st, which shall be of such amount as the Lodge shall from time to time decide by resolution after notice of motion, on the Summons, at the previous regular meeting. The amount of such reduced subscription shall in no event be less than the total of the Annual Dues payable to Grand Lodge, to District Grand Lodge and of the Benevolent fund Levy applicable to non-resident members.

8. Admission of candidates

The admission of candidates for initiation and joining shall be regulated by the provisions of Rules 157 to 166, Book of Constitutions. On the ballot for a candidate for initiation or joining, two black balls shall exclude. A further application shall not be acted upon until twelve (12) months from the date of such exclusion

9. 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 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 rejoining member.

A Brother may at any time resign his membership of the Craft under Rule 183A, Book of Constitutions, by notifying such resignation to the District Grand Secretary in writing on the form or forms he shall supply for transmission to the Grand Secretary

10. Payment from Lodge Funds

The payment of any sum other than for ordinary purposes may be made only by resolution of the Lodge after Notice of Motion given at the previous regular meeting.