

THE
BY-LAWS

OF THE

ANCIENT and ACCEPTED
SCOTTISH RITE BODIES

ORIENT OF MISSOURI
VALLEY OF KANSAS CITY

1928

EXPLANATORY NOTE:

These By-Laws shall be binding on each of the Bodies when separately adopted by that Body. Any provisions which may more particularly apply to one of the Bodies shall be fully effective as to the same and shall be availed of by such Body as necessity may require. The purpose has been and is to embrace within these By-Laws all of the tentative suggestions made by the Supreme Council relative to uniform By-Laws.

ARTICLE I.

Name.

Section 1. The four Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Orient of Missouri, Valley of Kansas City, were chartered by the Supreme Council, Thirty-third and last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, under the names and on the dates respectively as follows: Adoniram Lodge of Perfection No. 2, October 17, 1888; Areiopagus Chapter Rose Croix No. 2, December 22, 1888, De Molai Council of Kadosh No. 2 March 8, 1890; Consistory of Western Missouri No. 2, September 22, 1890.

ALLEGIANCE. Sec. 2. These four Bodies bear true faith, fealty, allegiance, and subscribe to the Statutes, Resolutions, Decrees and Edicts of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third and last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America, the orders of the Grand Commander, and of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or the Deputy of the Supreme Council in this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE II.

Meetings.

STATED. Section 1. The stated meetings of the several Bodies shall be as follows: The Lodge of Perfection shall meet at 8 p. m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month, but the Lodge may suspend its meetings during the months of July and August. The Chapter shall meet at 8 p. m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month but may suspend its meetings during the months of July and August. The Council shall meet at 8 p. m. on the fourth Wednesday of February, April, June, August, October and December but may suspend its meeting in August. The Consistory shall meet at 8 p. m. on the fourth Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September and November but may suspend its meeting in July. Provided, however, that the date and hour of a stated meeting may be changed at any time by the Sovereign Grand Inspector General or by the presiding officer with the consent of the Sovereign Grand Inspector General. Due notice of such change shall be given. All meetings of the several Bodies shall be held in the Scottish Rite Temple, located in Kansas City, Missouri.

SPECIAL. Sec. 2. Special meetings of any one of the Bodies may be called by the presiding officer of that Body (or in his absence or inability to serve by the second officer, or in the absence of both presiding officer and second officer, then by the third officer) at such time as may be deemed necessary or in the interest of the Body.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS. Sec. 3. Notices of date of stated meetings and of special meetings shall be given at least two days in advance by one of the following methods:—

By notice mailed to the members, or, by advertisement in a Kansas City, Missouri daily newspaper. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except such as is specified in the call. Notices shall set out the date and hour of the meeting.

ARTICLE III.

Officers.

LODGE. Section 1. The elective officers of the Lodge of Perfection are:—(1) Venerable Master, (2) Senior Warden, (3) Junior Warden, (4) Orator, (5) Almoner, (6) Secretary, (7) Treasurer. The appointive officers are:—(1) Master of Ceremonies, (2) Expert, (3) Assistant Expert, (4) Captain of the Host, (5) Tiler. The Almoner, Secretary and Treasurer of the Lodge of Perfection shall serve as such officers for all Bodies.

CHAPTER. Sec. 2. The elective officers of the Chapter of Rose Croix are: (1) Wise Master, (2) Senior Warden, (3) Junior Warden, (4) Orator. The appointive officers are: (1) Master of Ceremonies, (2) Expert, (3) Assistant Expert, (4) Standard Bearer, (5) Guardian of the Temple, (6) Tiler.

COUNCIL. Sec. 3. The elective officers of the Council of Kadosh are: (1) Commander, (2) First Lieut. Commander, (3) Second Lieut. Commander, (4) Chancellor, (5) Orator. The appointive officers are: (1) Marshal of Ceremonies, (2) Turcopolier, (3) Draper, (4) First Deacon, (5) Second Deacon, (6) Bearer of Beauseant, (7) Bearer of White Standard, (8) Bearer of Black Standard, (9) Lieutenant of the Guard, (10) Sentinel.

CONSISTORY. Sec. 4. The elective officers of the Consistory are: (1) Master of the

Kadosh, (2) Prior, (3) Preceptor, (4) Chancellor, (5) Minister of State. The appointive officers are: (1) Prelate, (2) Marshal of Ceremonies, (3) Expert, (4) Assistant Expert, (5) Captain of the Guard, (6) Steward, (7) Tiler.

ARTICLE IV.

Election of Officers.

Section 1. The elective officers of the Lodge, Chapter, Council and Consistory shall be elected annually for a term of one year, on the dates and at the times as provided by the Statutes of the Supreme Council.

ARTICLE V.

Duties of Officers.

Section 1. The duties of the elective and appointive officers of these Bodies shall be such as are prescribed in the Statutes of the Supreme Council and the Rituals of the Bodies. A Body of its presiding officer may direct any officer to perform any additional duty not inconsistent with Masonic practice and customs.

PRESIDING OFFICER. Sec. 2. The presiding officer of each Body shall appoint all appointive officers and all committees of such Body, except as may be otherwise provided herein, but no such appointment shall be for a period of more than one year nor extend beyond the term of his office.

ALMONER. Sec. 3. The Almoner shall disburse the collections for fraternal assistance. He shall keep an accurate record of money received and disbursed, and this record shall be kept in the office of the Secretary and shall be open at all times to the inspection of the presiding officer of each Body.

REGISTRAR. Sec. 4. The Registrar, Recorder or Secretary, shall in addition to his other duties conduct the correspondence of

all Bodies, collect all fees and dues, keeping a record thereof in an approved cash book and ledger. At the stated communication of the Lodge of Perfection in January of each year he shall render a full report for the preceding year.

ARTICLE VI.

Committees.

FINANCE COMMITTEE. Section 1. The Finance Committee shall consist of the Venerable Master, Wise Master, Commander, Venerable Master of Kadosh, the Treasurer and Secretary. It is the duty of this Committee to audit all bills against the Bodies and recommend the payment thereof.

AUDITING. Sec. 2. The Venerable Master shall employ an expert accountant to audit the books of the Bodies annually and such audits shall be reported at the annual meeting of the Lodge.

Sec. 3. The presiding officer of each Body shall be (ex-officio) a member of all committees of that Body with full rights and privileges.

EXECUTIVE. Sec. 4. The Executive Committee shall consist of the presiding officer of each of the four Bodies and the Secretary of the four Bodies. This Committee shall have charge of all activities for promoting the general good of the Rite in this Valley, the formulation and furthering of its policies, and shall serve as the medium of co-ordination between the four Bodies. It shall formulate plans for all reunions or joint meetings of the Bodies for conferring the Degrees, and shall have charge of all meetings and arrangements in connection therewith, and of all Committees and of the publicity for

the promotion of the Rite. The Committee may appoint such sub-committees as may seem necessary for carrying out these provisions and may authorize such expenditures as may be necessary, subject, however, to the terms of the Budget and approved by the Lodge of Perfection. The Committee shall have supervision of all activities of the Bodies for which provision has not been made otherwise. The Chairman shall be elected by this Committee.

BUDGET. Sec. 5. The Budget Committee shall consist of the presiding officers of the four Bodies, and the Secretary and Treasurer, who shall submit to the Lodge of Perfection not later than its stated communication in March of each year, a Budget, setting forth its estimate of the probable income of the Lodge, for the ensuing year and recommending apportionment of such income towards necessary and emergency requirements for the conduct of the Bodies.

Sec. 6. The Budget Committee may from time to time during the year revise its Budget, in view of actual excess of deficiency of income, as compared with its original estimates and thereupon submit to the Lodge for approval and adoption revised recommendations for apportionment of income to expenditures accordingly.

Sec. 7. Before taking final action in any matter the Executive and Budget Committees shall consult and advise with the Sovereign Grand Inspector General as to such proposed action.

ARTICLE VII.

Fees for Degrees.

Section 1. The fees for the Degrees shall be as follows: Lodge of Perfection, 4th to 14th Degrees, inclusive, \$40.00; Chapter of

Rose Croix, 15th to 18th Degrees, inclusive, \$30.00; Council of Kadosh, 19th to 30th Degrees, inclusive, \$30.00; Consistory, 31st and 32nd Degrees, inclusive, \$60.00. No fee shall be charged for affiliations.

ARTICLE VIII.

Dues.

Section 1. The annual dues of the Lodge of Perfection shall be Five Dollars, and of the Chapter, Council and Consistory One Dollar each, but members of the Lodge of Perfection residing outside of Kansas City and Jackson County, shall not be required to pay dues in excess of Five Dollars should they be or become members of the other Bodies. Members of one or more of such Bodies who are not members of the Lodge of Perfection in this Valley shall, so long as this status exists, pay annual dues in the sum of Five Dollars.

ARTICLE IX.

Order of Business.

Section 1. At all meetings of the Lodge, unless otherwise ordered, the following shall be the order of business:

1. Reading the records of former meetings.
2. Report of Almoner.
3. Presentation of bills.
4. Reception of petitions.
5. Reports of standing committees.
6. Reports of special committees.
7. Balloting on petitions.
8. Communications.
9. Unfinished business.
10. Motions, resolutions and new business.
11. Election and installation of officers.

The same order of business shall be followed in the Chapter, Council and Consistory, as far as the same may apply.

ARTICLE X.

Membership.

Section 1. All petitions for Degrees in the Lodge of Perfection must be in writing, signed by the applicant and recommended by two members, accompanied by the required fee.

ARTICLE XI.

Miscellaneous.

PROPERTY. Section 1. All property other than money shall be held in the name of the Scottish Rite Temple Association.

FUNDS. Sec. 2. The funds of the Lodge, Chapter, Council and Consistory shall be managed and controlled by the Lodge of Perfection, which shall, in addition to its own expenditures pay all bills incurred by the Chapter, Council and Consistory. The Secretary shall deposit all receipts in a depository or depositories approved by the Lodge to the credit of Adoniram Lodge of Perfection No. 2. Disbursements shall be made only on voucher checks signed by the Venerable Master and Secretary of the Lodge of Perfection and countersigned by the Treasurer and one other member of the Finance Committee.

OFFICIAL COMPENSATION. Sec. 3. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Tiler, only, shall be compensated for their services, and in such amounts as the Finance Committee may determine with the approval of the Lodge. Compensation for such clerical or other assistants as the Secretary may require shall be determined by the Secretary and the Finance Committee and submitted in annual Budget for approval.

BONDS. Sec. 4. Bonds for the faithful performance of their duties shall be given by the

Secretary, the Treasurer and such others as the Finance Committee shall determine, and in such amount as may be fixed from time to time by the Finance Committee. The cost of these bonds shall be paid by the Lodge of Perfection.

REPRESENTATIVES. Sec. 5. The presiding officer of each Body shall appoint a representative from that Body to attend each regular reunion of the other Scottish Rite Bodies in Missouri. The actual expenses of such representative shall be paid by the Lodge of Perfection.

BOX OF FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE. Sec. 6. No Body of the Rite shall close until the Box of Fraternal Assistance has been passed, unless two or more Bodies shall meet on the same day, and it shall have been passed on one of them.

Sec. 7. Each Body must have a copy of the Statutes of the Supreme Council, and a copy of these By-Laws present at all meetings held by the Bodies.

ARTICLE XII.

Amendments.

Section 1. These By-Laws may be added to, altered or amended by resolution presented in writing at a stated meeting, and acted on not less than four weeks thereafter, at a subsequent special or stated meeting, due notice of intention to act thereupon being given to the members, and shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present for adoption. Amendments or new By-Laws shall take effect as provided in the Statutes of the Supreme Council.

Certificate.

I certify that the foregoing By-Laws were regularly presented in writing at stated meetings of the Four Scottish Rite Bodies, Orient of Missouri, Valley of Kansas City, and were passed in Adoniram Lodge of Perfection No. 2, on November 23, 1927, in Areiopagus Chapter Rose Croix No. 2, on November 23, 1927, in DeMolai Council of Kadosh No. 2, on December 28, 1927, and in Consistory of Western Missouri No. 2, on November 23, 1927.

ORLANDO POWERS BLOSS,
Secretary, Recorder and Registrar.

Approval.

The foregoing By-Laws having been adopted by Adoniram Lodge of Perfection No. 2, Areiopagus Chapter Rose Croix No. 2, DeMolai Council of Kadosh No. 2, and the Consistory of Western Missouri No. 2, all of the Orient of Missouri, Valley of Kansas City, at stated meetings duly called and held, I hereby approve the same. Dated this 3rd day of January, 1928.

ALEXANDER G. COCHRAN,
Sovereign Grand Inspector
General in Missouri.