

**BY-LAWS**

of the

**District Grand Council of**

**Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight**

in the Order of

**Royal & Select Masters**

**Of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas**

**2011**

1. The District Grand Council shall meet regularly at least once in every year at such time and at such place as the District Grand Master shall appoint. The meeting shall be convened by notice 21 days prior to the date of the meeting.
2. The members of the District Grand Council are the Officers and Past Officers thereof, the Masters, Deputy Masters, Principal Conductors of the Work and Past Masters of Royal and Select Master Councils within the District and Masters and Past Masters who are subscribing members of Councils within the District. All other Royal and Select Masters who are subscribing members of any Council under the Constitutions and Regulations, may, by the authority of the District Grand Master, be permitted to attend District Grand Council, but they cannot vote or speak on any resolution.
3. The Officers of District Grand Council shall rank in the following order, and every Companion, on his appointment to an active or past rank, shall pay towards the funds of the District Grand Council such Fee of Honour as shall from time-to-time be recommended by the Executive Committee and ratified by resolution in District Grand Council:

District Grand Master  
Deputy District Grand Master  
District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work  
District Grand Chaplain  
District Grand Treasurer  
District Grand Recorder  
District Grand Director of Ceremonies  
District Grand Lecturer  
Deputy District Grand Director of Ceremonies  
District Grand Captain of the Guard  
District Grand Conductor of the Council  
Assistant District Grand Director of Ceremonies  
District Grand Sword Bearer  
District Grand Standard Bearer  
Assistant District Grand Recorder  
District Grand Organist  
District Grand Steward  
District Grand Manciple  
District Grand Sentinel

4. The fee of honour shall be payable on appointment, and no Companion shall assume the rank nor wear the regalia of the office until such fee be paid.
5. A Companion promoted to a superior office shall pay the difference (if any) between the fee paid for the office which he leaves and that appertaining to the office to which he is promoted.
6. Each officer shall provide himself with the regalia of his rank.
7. An Officer, Past Officer or member of District Grand Council who ceases to be a subscribing member of a Council in the District, shall cease to be a member of this District Grand Council, but on again becoming a subscribing member of a Council within the District he shall be a member of the District Grand Council.
8. Every Companion, before entering District Grand Council, shall be properly clothed and shall sign his name in the book provided for that purpose.

9. The District Grand Master, Deputy District Grand Master, District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, District Grand Treasurer, District Grand Recorder and District Grand Director of Ceremonies shall form the Executive Committee.
10. The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as the District Grand Master shall appoint, and at least once in every year. Three shall form a quorum. The Chair shall be taken by the senior member present at the opening of the meeting. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall give a second casting vote.
11. The Executive Committee may recommend for consideration of District Grand Council any matter, subject, or question relating to the Order.
12. The Treasurer shall be elected at the annual meeting and nominations must be submitted in writing to the District Grand Recorder 21 days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Accounts of the District Grand Treasurer shall be examined, previously to the Annual Meeting, by two Companions elected by District Grand Council. The financial year for the District shall end on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. The District Treasurer shall pay all moneys received into an account approved by the Executive Committee.
13. All communications intended for submission to the District Grand Master or District Grand Council, shall be forwarded to the District Grand Recorder for presentation.
14. Every motion for a new by-law or regulation, or for the repeal of an old one, or any change or complaint against a Council or a member or members thereof, or any other proposition intended to be made at a meeting of District Grand Council shall be stated in writing, together with the name of the mover or complainant, his rank in the Order, and the name and number of the Council of which he is a subscribing member, and transmitted to the District Grand Recorder not less than four weeks before the day of the meeting of District Grand Council at which it is intended such motion shall be made; and no motion or matter shall be entertained by District Grand Council, or brought into discussion therein, unless the foregoing requirements be complied with or with the express permission of the District Grand Master.
15. Twenty one days notice of every meeting of District Grand Council appointed to be held shall be given by the District Grand Recorder to District Grand Council Officers, both present and past, and also to the Recorder of each Council in the District who will notify every member of his Council; but if no return of the Officers of any Council has been made, then a notice sent to the Master or Recorder of such Council at the last known address, shall be deemed sufficient. The said notice shall state the place, day and hour at which the meeting is to be held and a summary of the business to be transacted and of propositions to be made at such meeting.
16. The Master or Recorder of every council in the District shall, in the month of September in each year, furnish the District Grand Recorder with a regular return of its numbers, stating the date on which a Companion was Chosen or Joined within the previous year, or since the day of the previous return, and also a return of all the Officers of such Council. The fees due to the District Grand Council shall at the same time be paid. If any Council shall neglect, for the space of four months to make such returns and payments, its members shall thereby be disqualified from attending District Grand Council or any Committee thereof, until its arrears or returns and payments shall have been made, and if, after due admonition, such returns and payments are not made, the Council so offending shall be reported to Grand Council.

17. The following fees shall be paid to the funds of the District Grand Council by each Council in the District:
- i. Annually, for each subscribing member of a Council of Royal and Select Masters in the District, such amount as shall, from time-to-time, be decided by District Grand Council, but not exceeding 40% of the rate of annual dues payable to Grand Council.
  - ii. For the registration or alteration of the by-laws of a Council, or for a dispensation, such amount as shall, from time-to-time, be decided by the District Grand Council.
18. All fees levied shall be paid to the District Grand Recorder.
19. The Recorder of each Council shall send one copy of each summons to the District Grand Master, and the District Grand Recorder.
20. Every application for a dispensation shall be made in writing to the District Grand Master stating clearly the object thereof, and transmitted through the District Grand Recorder.
21. Companions desirous of forming a new Royal and Select Masters Council in the District shall conform to the rules prescribed in the Constitutions and Regulations. Every petition for a new Council must be made on the prescribed form to the District Grand Master, whose approval must be obtained before it shall be forwarded to the Most Illustrious Grand Master.
22. These By-laws shall be binding on all Councils in the District, unless and until the same be altered in a constitutional manner.
23. In all particulars not herein specifically set forth, the District Grand Master, District Grand Council and its Officers shall be governed and regulated by the same laws as those applicable to the Most illustrious Grand Master, and to Grand Council and its Officers.
24. No alteration of or addition to these By-laws shall be valid until agreed by the District Grand Council and approved by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.
25. A copy of these By-laws shall be sent to the Recorder of each Council in the District and to every District Officer on his first appointment. It is the responsibility of the Council Recorder to ensure that a copy of these By-laws is presented to every new member of the Order or joining member from another District.

Amended By-Laws  
Approved by District Grand Council

27<sup>th</sup> August 2011

R.III.Comp. George J. Deacon  
District Grand Master

Approved on behalf of the Most Illustrious Grand Master  
Grand Recorder  
29<sup>th</sup> November 2011

# Annex to District By-Laws 2011

## **Resolution to By-Law 3. 'Fees of Honour'.**

Passed in District Grand Council on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2012

<b>District Office</b>	<b>Fee £</b>
Deputy District Grand Master	42:00
District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work	36:75
District Grand Chaplin	26:25
District Grand Treasurer (Elected)	Nil
District Grand Recorder	Nil
District Grand Director of Ceremonies	26:25
District Grand Lecturer	26:25
District Grand Deputy Director of Ceremonies	21:00
District Grand Captain of the Guard	21:00
District Grand Conductor of the Council	21:00
Assistant District Grand Director of Ceremonies	21:00
District Grand Sword Bearer	21:00
District Grand Standard Bearer	21:00
Assistant District Grand Recorder	Nil
District Grand Organist	15:75
District Grand Steward	15:75
District Grand Manciple	15:75
District Grand Sentinel	Nil

## **Resolution to By-Law 17. 'Fees Payable'.**

Passed in District Grand Council on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

ii)

- Registration of Council By-laws £ 5:00
- Alteration to Council By-laws £ 5:00
- Dispensations, other than those granted by Grand Council £10:00

## **Resolution to By-Law 17. 'Fees Payable'.**

Passed in District Grand Council on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

i)

- Annual dues for each subscribing member £ 4:00

Ill. Comp. Peter R. Dack  
District Grand Recorder  
31<sup>st</sup> August 2012