

By-Laws for Subordinate Masonic Lodges

Form approved by Grand Lodge, December, 1903
Edited and made to conform with all Amendments to the Constitution and Code of the
Grand Lodge adopted prior
To April, 2004
BY-LAWS
OF
HARMONY LODGE,
No. 22

ARTICLE I Name and Location.

This Lodge shall be known and designated as Harmony
Lodge, No. 22; located at
Beaufort, County of Beaufort

ARTICLE II

Communications.

SECTION 1. That stated Communications shall be held on
the second Thursday
of each month, and on same
at 7:30 o'clock pm., from April 1st to October 1st, and
at 7:30 o'clock pm. During the remainder of the year.

Sec.2. During the months of July, August and September the
Meetings may be suspended by special action of the Lodge.

Sec.3. Extra Communications may be held at any time by
order of the Master, at which nothing shall be done other than
the business for which the Communication was called.

ARTICLE III.

Order of Business

The following shall be the order of business at stated Communications:

1. Reading recorded minutes for confirmation.
2. Receiving and referring petitions.
3. Reports of Committees on petitions
4. Balloting
5. Unfinished business
6. New business
7. Work
8. Reading Rough minutes for correction.

The order of business may be changed, or temporarily dispensed with by the Master when the occasion requires it.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS-ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Sec.1. The officers shall be Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior and Junior Deacons, two Stewards and a Tiler.

Sec.2. The first five officers shall be elected by ballot, and by a majority of the votes present, for twelve months, at the stated Communications either in November or December on or preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist (December 27), and shall be installed on or before said Festival, on which Festival they shall assume the duties and prerogatives of their respective offices, but every officer shall hold his office until his successor has been installed.

Sec.3. On the night of election the Worshipful Master-Elect shall appoint the Senior Deacon and Tiler; the Senior Warden shall appoint the Junior Deacon, and the Junior Warden shall appoint the two Stewards.

Sec.4. The Worshipful Master-Elect shall also, on the night of election, appoint a committee of three to examine the Treasurer's and Secretary's books, who shall report at a stated Communication, prior to March 1st. A copy of the report shall be sent to the Grand Secretary immediately after it has been made to the Lodge, but not later than April 1.

ARTICLE V.

Duties of Officers.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Section 1. The Worshipful Master shall preside at all times, when present. He shall have charge of the Warrant of Constitution, Jewels and furniture. He shall see that the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina, as well as the By-Laws of his Lodge, be strictly obeyed; that his officers perform their duties faithfully; and that the Annual Returns be made, and dues punctually paid to the Grand Lodge. He shall appoint committees, and be *ex officio* Chairman of the same, when he shall think it proper to attend. On all questions where the votes of the Lodge are equally divided, the Master shall be entitled to the casting vote, in addition to his vote as a member.

There can be no appeal from the decision of the Master except to the Grand Lodge.

WARDENS.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Wardens to assist the Worshipful Master in the government of his Lodge, and in his absence to preside according to seniority, unless through courtesy they relinquish the right of presiding to a Past Master present. In the event of a Memorial Service or Burial service, a Past Master of the Lode shall be empowered to convene the Lodge for this sole purpose.

TREASURER.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer shall keep an exact account of all the funds of the Lodge, and all scrip and certificates of the stock, and all titles of property belonging to the Lodge. He shall pay all orders signed by the Worshipful Master and countersigned by the Secretary, and those drawn on him by the Committee on Charity. He shall report the state of the funds at the regular Communications in June and December in each year. He shall submit his books to inspection whenever required by the Worshipful Master, or the Lodge. For the faithful discharge of his Duties he shall receive the sum of \$120.00 dollars.

He shall give bond for the faithful performance of his duties
in the sum of \$1000.00 dollars.

(MINIMUM BOND IS \$1000.00 AND MAXIMUM BOND IS \$5000.00)

SECRETARY.

Sec. 4. The Secretary shall issue all necessary summonses for stated Communications, and for extra Communications, when required by the presiding officer. He shall keep a record of all the proceedings of the Lodge, which may be committed to paper, and insert the names of the members and visitors. He shall receive all monies due the Lodge, and forthwith pay them over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same, and report all members in arrears at the stated Communications in June and December. He shall make out the Annual Return to the Grand Lodge, agreeably to the form prescribed, and transmit the same to the Grand Lodge. For the faithful performance of his duties

he shall receive the sum of \$240.00 dollars.

He shall give bond for the faithful performance of his duties
In the sum of \$1000.00 dollars.

(MINIMUM BOND IS \$1000.00 AND MAXIMUM BOND IS \$5000.00)

DEACONS.

Sec. 5. The Senior and Junior Deacons shall perform all the duties appertaining to their respective offices, under the direction of the Master and Wardens.

STEWARDS.

Sec. 6. The Stewards shall, under the direction of the Junior Warden, Prepare and superintend the Craft during hours of refreshment. They shall also be entrusted with the preparation of candidates and the examination of visitors.

TILER

Sec. 7. The Tiler must be a worthy Master Mason. It shall be his duty to Serve all summonses delivered to him by the Secretary; to prepare the room for the Communication of the Lodge, and carefully to collect and Replace the Jewels and furniture after the Lodge is closed. For the faithful Performance of his duties he shall receive \$50.00 dollars.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Sec. 8. The Worshipful Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary shall be the Standing Committee on the Funds, whose duty it shall be to make sale or commutation of stock, or other property of the Lodge, also to invest such cash as may be, from time to time, in the hands of the Treasurer, and which they may be directed to invest, in such stock or other property, and on such items as may be determined on by a majority of the committee.

Sec. 9. A Committee on Charity, to consist of three members, shall be annually appointed, at the stated Communication in January, to whom may be referred all Applications for Relief during the recess of the Lodge. The majority of the committee shall have power to draw on the Treasurer for an amount, not to exceed \$100.00 dollars

ARTICLE VI

CANDIDATES

Section 1. Every candidate for initiation in the jurisdiction must be Without maim or defect that may render him incapable of learning and Demonstrating the moral teachings and the secret work and practices of Masonry. In the demonstration of secret work, artificial limbs may be Used. Except for sight, speech and hearing, the foregoing listed qualifications may be waived on a specific case by case basis by the Grand Master upon written request of the Lodge. Such requests must describe the physical disabilities of the applicant. He must have resided in the state for twelve consecutive months immediately preceeding his application; must be able to read and write; and must state on his Petition whether of not he has been rejected by any Lodge of Ancient Free Masons; and must sign his name in full on his Petition.

Sec. 2. All Petitions for Degrees or Membership must be made in writing, at a stated communication, recommended by two members, and enclosing not less than ten dollars, upon which a committee of three shall be appointed to inquire into his qualifications, and to report at the next stated communication.

Sec. 3. Should the report of the committee be favorable, he may be balloted for, and, if unanimously elected, he shall receive the degrees conferred by the Lodge, on his paying the established fees; but should one dissenting ball appear, the ballot shall be repeated, and if one black ball shall then appear, the candidate shall be declared rejected. The rejected candidate shall again be balloted upon by the Lodge at its next regular communication upon the same petition and the same report of investigation, unless the candidate shall withdraw his petition. Provided further that anyone who has been twice rejected may not apply again for initiation, affiliation, reinstatement or advancement until six months shall have elapsed after second rejection.

Sec. 4. The same principles and regulations as to petition, investigation and unanimous ballot shall govern the application of Brethren for membership.

Sec. 5. Should a candidate neglect to attend for initiation, passing or raising, at the end of three months the money and his Petition shall be forfeited to the Lodge; and in the case of passing or raising, new ballot shall be ordered, if the Lodge desires.

Sec. 6. No candidate can receive a higher degree unless he is, before receiving it, unanimously elected thereto by the Lodge, nor until by open examination in the Lodge he shall have exhibited suitable proficiency in the preceeding degrees to the satisfaction of the presiding officer.

Sec. 7. No higher degree can be conferred on any candidate at a less Interval than one lunar month from the time of his receiving the preceeding degree, except by dispensation; and not more than five degrees can be conferred in one day, except by dispensation.

Sec. 8. This Lodge shall not receive as a member any Brother who has been a member of another Lodge in this or any other Jurisdiction unless he produces a Demit from the Master of such Lodge, countersigned by the Secretary, and showing that he has paid up his dues and is in good standing, or otherwise fully satisfy the Lodge that he has done so; or a certificate which is equivalent thereto for this purpose.

Sec. 9. No candidate can be initiated, passed or raised in this Lodge nor any Brother admitted a member hereof without the unanimous consent of all the members present. If there be but one black ball, the

presiding officer shall order a second ballot, and if on that ballot one black ball shall again appear, or if on the first ballot more than one black ball appears, the candidate shall be declared to be rejected. Sec. 10. If any Brother shall disclose the rejection of a candidate in this Lodge to any person other than a Master Mason he shall be deemed guilty of unmasonic conduct, and liable to be dealt with accordingly; and if a visiting Brother shall presume to make such disclosure, he shall thereafter be excluded from this Lodge, and his own Lodge shall be notified of the fact. Whenever a rejection shall occur Section 102, Par. 6 of the Code of the Grand Lode shall be read.

ARTICLE VII

FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1. The fees for the degrees in this Lodge shall be \$160.00 dollars,
To be paid in money as follows:

Deposit, accompanying petition.....	\$35.00
For E. A. Degree.....	\$35.00
For F. C. Degree.....	\$35.00
For M. M. Degree	\$55.00

But the fees for ministers of God shall be \$0.00, which several sums shall actually be paid at or before the time of receiving the petition, or the conferring of each degree.

(But in no case shall the minimum fee charged be less than \$30, except for ministers of God.)

Sec. 2. The fee for affiliation shall be equal to the annual Grand Lodge per capita charge for the same year in dollars, which sum shall accompany the petition, except for ministers of God, which shall be same.

Sec. 3. Each member of this Lodge shall pay \$46.00 plus an amount equal to the Grand Lodge per capita charge for the same year (i.e. \$46.00 plus \$18.00 for 2008) dollars to the Secretary as dues in accordance with Article 104 of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, except for ministers of God, who shall pay the same in dollars.

Sec. 4. Any member may become a life member upon paying the sum of (SEE ARTICLE XIII) dollars (which sum must be at least ten times the annual dues for one year), if he is clear of the books and not under charges; and the Lodge may elect one a life member, upon its own motion, as a reward for eminent Masonic Services; but no life member is exempt from being expelled, suspended, or subjected to other Masonic discipline, for cause shown.

Sec. 5. Any member of this Lodge who has been in continuous or Accumulative membership for a period of 40 years or more shall automatically become a Life Member and exempt from all further payment of dues. (If a Lodge has adopted the Perpetual Life Membership Plan into their By-Laws, a member can become a Perpetual Life Member in accordance with Article 15g of the Code.)

ARTICLE VIII

DEMIT

Any member desiring to withdraw from this Lodge shall give written notice through the Secretary, which shall be read at a stated communication, when, if all arrears are paid, and there are no charges against him, he shall be eligible for a Demit from this Lodge as provided by Section 148 of the Code.

ARTICLE IX

DISCIPLINE

All charges and trials in this Lodge shall conform to the provisions Of Chapter XXVI of the Constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina.

ARTICLE X

RULES OF ORDER.

Section 1. When the presiding officer takes the chair, every officer and member shall immediately take his place, and observe strict order and decorum.

Sec. 2. No member shall speak until he first rise, and respectfully address the presiding officer; nor shall he speak more than twice on any subject, unless to explain, or by permission from the chair.

Sec. 3. All questions of order shall be decided by the presiding officer, without appeal to the Lodge.

Sec. 4. No motion shall be entertained until seconded, and no debate had thereon until it is stated by the presiding officer.

Sec. 5. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received but to postpone, indefinitely or to a time certain, to refer, to substitute, or to amend, which motions shall always be in order, and shall take precedence in the order named.

Sec. 6. All questions before the Lodge, not otherwise particularly defined, shall be decided by a majority of the Lodge.

Sec. 7. No person shall be permitted to leave the room during the session of the Lodge but by permission of the presiding officer.

Sec. 8. No officer shall leave his seat, except it be in the discharge of his official duties.

Sec. 9. No Brother shall move his place, nor shall any member or visitor be permitted to enter, at any time during the opening or closing of the Lodge, the reading of the minutes, at the time of preparing a candidate, or while conferring a degree, unless with the permission of the chair.

Sec. 10. If any member or visitor shall be guilty of indecorum during the session of the Lodge, the Worshipful Master may at his discretion, reprimand or exclude him, for that Communication, from the Lodge.

Sec. 11. No member who owes the current year's dues shall be eligible for election to any office, or be allowed to vote at the election of officers.

Sec. 12. The Constitution of the Grand Lodge and the Landmarks of the Order, as set forth in the Ahiman Rezon of Brother Mackey, shall be the governing principle of this Lodge, and shall be referred to in all cases of doubt. In all decisions of the Lodge, appeals may be had to the Grand Lodge, but until the opinion of the latter is made known the decision of the former is held valid.

Sec. 13. These By-Laws shall be read in open Lodge at least once in each year.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

No additions, alterations or amendments can be made to these By-Laws, unless presented in writing and read at three stated Communications, and approved by three-fourths of the members present; nor can any such addition, alteration or amendment become operative until approved by the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master and attested by the Grand Secretary. (A sample form for amending the By-Laws of the Lodge can be found in the appendix of the Ahiman Rezon – Art.XI)

ADDITIONAL BY-LAWS

ARTICLE XII

Section 1. On the night a member is raised a Master Mason he will be presented the following items:

An Ahiman Rezon, Lambskin Apron, Masonic Bible and a Harmony Lodge 250th Anniversary Commemorative Coin (until such time coin supply is exhausted).

ARTICLE XIII

Section 1. On September 11, 1997 the members voted to participate in the Perpetual Life Membership Plan, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge in April of 1997 and printed in the Grand Lodge Proceedings, numbered Section 15q of the Code.

The formula for determining the fee is as follows:

Dues of the years application is made multiplied by the appropriate factor.

Age	18-23	24-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65+
Factor	27	25	23	20	18	15	10

Any Brother, who is already a Life Member, may purchase an Honorary Perpetual Life Membership, at anytime, for the sum of \$200.00. Anyone may also purchase a Memorial Perpetual Life Membership for a loved one for the same amount of \$200.00.

This is to certify that the foregoing By-Laws were read at three stated Communications of the Lodge and adopted by a three-fourths vote of the members present at the stated Communication held on the 17th day of September, 2007.

(Seal.)

ATTEST;
Henry C. Chambers, PM

Worshipful Master.

Kevin U. Ennis, DDGM

Secretary.

Approved _____ September 17, 2007 _____

(Seal.)

ATTEST;
Gerald L. Carver, GM

Grand Master.

G. Ray Marsh, PGM

Grand Secretary.