



CEREMONIAL BOARD RULINGS & GUIDELINES

(CMAN 003)

MANUAL

The United Grand Lodge of Queensland

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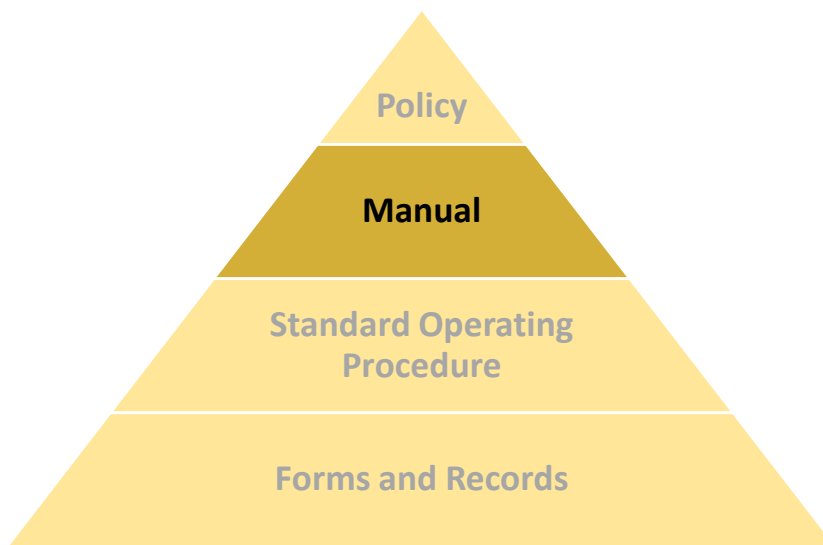
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Purpose

The Board considers it is important that key Rulings and Guidelines are readily available to members to ensure they are properly informed on the matters contained therein.

RW Bro David Melville APM ASM AGM
 Chair
Ceremonial Board
 November 2022

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1 Introduction

The Ceremonial Board, at its November 2022 meeting, resolved to re-establish a Rulings & Guidelines Manual. It is proposed the Manual be available in digital form and updated on the United Grand Lodge of Queensland website within six weeks of each Quarterly Communication, provided a suitable Ruling and/or Guideline is available for publication.

The Board considers it is important that key Rulings and Guidelines are readily available to members to ensure they are properly informed on the matters contained therein.

To this end, it is anticipated that the Chair, Ceremonial Board will include recent key Rulings and Guidelines in his Report on the Ceremonial Board to each Quarterly Communications. It is these Rulings and Guidelines which will, in turn, be included in the Rulings & Guidelines Manual.

The introduction of the Manual does not change the need for some Rulings and Guidelines to be also incorporated in other manuals and/or Rituals such as the Dress and Regalia Manual.

Brethren are encouraged to read future updated publications to ensure they are fully acquainted with new Rulings and Guidelines.

2 RULINGS

Ruling 1/2022-23: July, 2022,

Worshipful Master, First Time - Not Completing Tenure

The following Ruling relates to circumstances when a Brother has been Installed as Master of a Lodge but does not fulfil his obligation/s and/or pledges:

When a brother, who is installed for the first time in the Chair as Master of a Lodge, by virtue of the UGLQ Constitutions and authorised Installation Ritual, he is bound to all the provisions contained therein and, prima facie, loses all entitlements received by virtue of his Installation as Master of that Lodge should he, without reasonable excuse, not fulfil all his obligation/s and/or pledge/s taken during his Installation as Master of a Lodge.

Ruling 2/2022-23: October, 2022,

Wearing of Charity Jewels

The following Rules relate to the wearing of the Masonic Fund of Benevolence (MFOB), Charity Jewels:

1. *“Brethren may wear only one of the MFOB Charity Jewels during ceremonial occasions.*
2. *Brethren may wear a Fund of Benevolence (FOB) Charity Jewel (as issued up to and including 31st October 2022) together with their highest ranked Masonic Fund of Benevolence (MFOB) Charity Jewel (as issued from 1st November 2022).*
3. *The wearing of single or dual charity jewels (e.g., a single FOB Jewel & single MFOB Jewel) must be done strictly in accordance with the provisions of this Dress and Regalia Manual.”*

3 GUIDELINES

Guideline 1/2022-23: September, 2022,

Death of a Lodge Worshipful Master

The Board sought a legal interpretation of Articles 201 and 202 of The Constitutions, 2022. As a result, the Board received and endorsed the following advice as to the correct procedure to be adopted by a Lodge when the Lodge Worshipful Master passes, to the Grand Lodge above, during their term in office:

1. **Article 201** is concerned with who has the power to summon a Lodge until the next Installation of a Master. Successively it is: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Immediate Past Master and Senior Past Master of the Lodge concerned.
2. **Article 202** is concerned with who is to preside in a Lodge so summoned (and also in the casual absence of the Master). Successively it is: Immediate Past Master, a Senior Past Master of the Lodge who is present, Senior Past Master of any Lodge who is a current subscribing member of the Lodge concerned, Senior Warden (from his place in the West) or Junior Warden (from his place in the South)."

Guideline 2/2022-23: October 2022,

Correct Lodge Etiquette during ceremonies

This guideline is intended to remind brethren as to correct standards of behaviour or etiquette during Ceremonies, particularly with Candidates being present:

"The following behaviour is generally regarded as inappropriate and should not to be used by members during UGLQ ceremonies. The reason being it is regarded as inconsiderate and, at times, off putting to a brother delivering his work and as such, should not occur unless otherwise requested by him to do so:

1. *Read a personal Ritual rather than pay full attention to the various Ritualists during ceremonies involving a Candidate. Naturally, this does not apply to a brother mentioned at Point 3 below;*
2. *'Mouth' the words of a charge, in the view or otherwise of the brother delivering a charge. This is unlikely to impress Candidates. One can practice a charge in one's mind during its delivery without the need to move one's lips.*
3. *Prompt a brother delivering a charge unless he is the Official Prompter or otherwise requested to do so by the brother delivering the charge.*
4. *Carry on a conversation or exchange of remarks with another brother during the delivery of a Charge unless essential to do so. Very often brethren do not realise that they can be easily heard around the Lodge Room. This may be quite distracting to a brother delivering a Charge and other brethren in attendance.*
5. *Odes: during the singing of Odes, it is important that brethren make every effort to sing to the timing of the music and not sing to their own beat, which is very often quicker than the music being played."*

Guideline 3/2022-23: November 2022,

Fraternal Visits & Fraternal - Procedures

This guideline is intended to clarify for brethren the correct requirements and procedures in undertaking a Fraternal Visits and Fraternal (Abridged version):

“FRATERNAL VISITS’ AND ‘FRATERNAL’ - PROCEDURES

A Fraternal Visit is one in which a lodge Master or IPM, accompanied by 4 other Officers of said lodge, and any number of additional lodge brethren, undertake an advertised visit to another lodge at a Regular Meeting of that lodge.

A ‘Fraternal’ consists of the lodge Master or his IPM, one or both Wardens, and include a minimum of the Worshipful Master or IPM and 4 other Officers of the lodge.

Lodges enter in the following manner.

- 1. Enter the lodge-room in single file in order of seniority, the Master (or IPM) leading.*
- 2. The Master halts at the North-west corner of the tessellated pavement.*
- 3. Other Officers and Members fall into a straight line North to South, facing the East, on the right-hand side of the preceding Officer or Member, in rank, precedence and closed out by the D of C.*
- 4. Should numbers dictate, a second line is formed behind the Officers in the front row.*
- 5. On order from the Visiting Lodge DC, they salute the host Wor Master with the sign of the degree in which they entered.*
- 6. DC of the Host Lodge then collects the visiting Lodge Worshipful Master from the West and conducts him to the East, whence he is introduced to the Host Lodge Wor Master.*

DC - “Wor Master, I present to you Wor Bro ..., Worshipful Master of Lodge, accompanied by Officers (and Members) of his lodge, on the occasion of a fraternal visit.”

- 7. The visiting Master, on invitation by the host lodge Master, advances to the Master’s pedestal, exchanges greetings with the host Master, then either takes a proffered seat in the SE, or elects to sit with his brethren on the floor of the lodge (in which case he moves directly to a seat).*

Should there be no AGDD present, the Visiting Master may be invited to take the seat to the host Master’s immediate right.

- 8. The visiting brethren wait until their Master has taken his seat, then move to and take their seats on the floor of the lodge, squaring the lodge as necessary.*

The fraternal, except for the visiting Master who has already been invited to sit by the host Master, remain standing until seated by the host lodge DC.

- 9. The Visiting Lodge delegation should sit together on the floor of the lodge. The IPM may join his Master in the SE.*

NB. *No tools of office are carried by the visiting lodge, e.g., no DC baton or Deacon wands; and the visiting DC does not, other than lead the salute to the host Wor Master, take any active role on the floor of the lodge.”*

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