

October 5, 2011

BY LAWS OF NEW CASTLE PRINCES OF JERUSALEM, 16^o

AASR

Instituted November 13, 1914

Constituted November 14, 1915

ARTICLE I

The title of this Body is "New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, 16^o, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite", and works under a warrant granted by the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and last degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose Grand East is at Lexington, Massachusetts.

**ARTICLE II
MEETINGS**

Section 1. The stated meetings of this body shall be held on the third Wednesday of each month, after 7:30 o'clock PM. Six members shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business, provided the Sovereign Prince, High Priest or Senior Warden shall be present. There shall be at least four meetings per year including the annual meeting in March.

Section 2. Special Meetings may be called at the pleasure of the Sovereign Prince.

Section 3. The hour of the meeting shall be such as the Sovereign Prince may designate, the members having due notice of the hour of meeting.

Section 4. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except that for which such meeting is called, as stated in the notice.

Section 5. The following days of special obligation according to ancient custom, shall be observed as desired; namely, the fifteenth of the month Tishri celebration of the anniversary of the building of the first Temple.

**ARTICLE III
ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. At the stated meeting next preceding April 1st, the election of officers, as provided by the Constitutions of the Supreme Council, shall be the first business in order after reading the minutes, and reports of committees.

Section 2. No member shall be entitled to vote at the annual election or be eligible to any office unless his dues shall have been paid in full for the current year or the same duly remitted by vote of the Body.

PROCEDURES OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 4. The Presiding Officer of the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, 16^o, will make recommendations to the Valley of New Castle Officers Reviewing Committee. The names of prospective officers for the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, must be submitted in a sufficient time prior to

the election, to allow the committee to carefully consider and review all the prospective officers for the ensuing term as outlined in the Manual of Officers. All elected officers must receive a satisfactory review from the Valley of New Castle Officers Reviewing Committee to stand for election or advance in the line.

The Valley of New Castle Officers Reviewing Committee will consist of the Commander-in-Chief, and four designated members. The Commander-in-Chief will serve as chairman of the Committee, and the Chairman will appoint the other remaining members of the Offices Reviewing Committee.

The Valley of New Castle Officers Reviewing Committee will present their recommendations to the Deputy for the State of Pennsylvania and the Active Member of Supreme Council for the Valley of New Castle for their approval. The Valley of New Castle Officers Reviewing Committee will present their recommendations at regular stated meeting of the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, 16^o, for consideration by the general membership in attendance at said meeting.

After the report is presented, the Presiding Officer may ask, "Are there any further nominations?" If there is competition for any position, paper ballots will be used in the election. If there is not any competition, a motion would be in order empowering the secretary or some other designated member to cast one ballot for the slate of officers presented. If this motion is approved by a majority vote the Secretary, or whoever is designated, should then cast the ballot, and report to the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer should then announce that the slate of officers has been duly elected.

Section 5. The first four officers as well as the Treasurer and the Secretary of the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, 16^o, shall be elected. No one shall be elected as a Presiding Officer who has not previously served in one of the first three elected officers of the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem 16^o unless the Deputy for the State waives such requirement. No member who has reached the age of 75 years may be nominated or elected to any elective office in this body.

The Sovereign Prince of the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, 16^o, shall appoint all other officers who will serve as an appointed officer in the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem, 16^o, for his term as Sovereign Prince. There is to be no "line" or "ladder promotion" policy or practice for advancement purposes. The advancement for elected officers will start no more than three stations from that of the Presiding Officer.

ARTTICLE IV DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The Sovereign Prince shall at the time of his election, appoint such officers (not elective) as are provided for by the Constitution of the Supreme Council; all of whom shall be members of the Body. He shall appoint all standing and special committees, unless otherwise provided for by these By-Laws.

Any body of the Rite, Board of Trustees or similar agency designated as the fiscal agent of all of the Subordinate Bodies in a Valley shall be deemed to be serving as Trustee for all such Bodies, whether or not so designated, and shall hold title and control of any property, real and personal, committed to its care in trust for such Bodies as their respective interests shall appear. The Presiding Officer of each subordinate Body in the Valley shall be a member of any such Board of Trustees or similar agency which

The annual dues shall consist of the New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem dues and the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation dues.

Section 1. The annual dues of each member New Castle Council Princes of Jerusalem shall be as follows:

April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009	\$ 8.75
April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010	\$ 9.10
April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011	\$ 9.45
April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012	\$ 9.80
April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013	\$10.15
April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014	\$10.50
April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015	\$10.85

payable on or before April 1st of each year.

Section 2. Any member of this body being in the arrears, for dues and assessment to the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation and/or the Supreme Council, for more than one year on the night of the annual election, may be suspended from membership by vote of the body, provided he shall have been notified of his indebtedness. By statement of indebtedness delivered in person or by mail to his last address, shall be sufficient notice.

Section 3. The Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation annual assessment shall have the same status as dues, and shall be subject to the same penalties. The Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation at its annual meeting shall set the Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation assessment rate per member.

Section 4. The Supreme Council annual Assessment shall have the same status as dues, and shall be subject to the same penalties. The Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America at its annual meeting shall set the Supreme Council assessment rate per member.

ARTICLE VIII

Restoration of Membership

Section 1. Any member who has been discharged from membership in this body for non-payment of dues, and whose dues have been paid or remitted to the date of his discharge together with payment of dues for the current year, may be restored to membership therein, upon presentation of evidence of good Masonic Standing in the preceding Symbolic and coordinate Bodies, by majority vote of those present, and voting at any regular meeting of his body, provided, however, that if such payments are made within three months from the date of such discharge, a vote of the body shall not be required to effect such restoration. A member of this Body who has been suspended or unaffiliated for the non-payment of dues or who has become non-affiliated in Symbolic Freemasonry, and whose suspension, unaffiliation, or non-affiliation has been terminated therein, may be reinstated to the full rights and privileges in this body upon his written application therefor and by majority vote of those present and voting at any regular meeting in this Body.

Section 2. A member who has been denied the rights and privileges of membership for non-payment of dues, may, upon presentation of an application for membership, have said rights and privileges restored by majority vote of all the members present at a stated meeting, provided said application for membership be accompanied by evidence that the amount of indebtedness named on the Involuntary Certificate of Withdrawal has been paid.

Section 3. Any member wishing to resign from this Body shall present his resignation in writing at a stated meeting, which resignation shall lie over until the next stated meeting; except in case of emergency, when, by the unanimous consent of the members present, it may be considered and accepted forthwith; provided, that he is not in arrears, and that no charges are pending against his character in this Body.

Section 4. Any member who shall have resigned, and desires to be restored to membership shall present an application for membership which shall take the same course and be subject to the same rules that govern application for membership.

Section 5. No Withdrawal Certificate shall be granted by this Body until all dues have been paid to date by the applicant or have been regularly remitted by action of this Body. Any members desiring a Withdrawal Certificate shall make a request in writing at a stated meeting; which application shall lie over until the next stated meeting; except in cases of emergency, when the Withdrawal Certificate may be granted by the Secretary, if the same be authorized by the Presiding Officer of this Body, and providing, that the applicant is not in arrears and no charges are pending against his character in this Body.

ARTICLE IX Annuity Life Membership

Section 1. A member of this Council, 16^o, who is in good standing may thereafter be exempt from payment of annual dues but subject to any and all assessments levied by the Supreme Council, the Council of Deliberation having jurisdiction, or the said subordinate body, provided said member pay a sum of money in cash, not less than an amount representing the present value of an immediate life annuity on his life, computed in accordance with the Commissioners Standard Ordinary Life Insurance Experience Table of Mortality, of a n amount equal to the yearly dues of such subordinate body on a single life at two percent interest.

All such payments made as heretofore provided in this section, on and after the adoption of this amendment shall be placed in a separate fund to be designated as the "Annuity Membership Fund" and no part of said "Annuity Membership Fund" shall be used except that for each such member who shall have made such payment pursuant to this section, if living, a sum equal to the annual dues of such members at the time of such payment, may be withdrawn annually until such member shall have attained the age of eighty years and used for the general support of said subordinate body.

ARTICLE X FISCAL AGENT

Section 1. New Castle Consistory shall be the fiscal agent for all the Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of New Castle and all bills contracted, shall upon approval, be certified thereto for payment.

**ARTICLE XI
AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. No addition, alteration of amendment to these By-Laws shall be made unless a motion therefor be presented in writing at a stated meeting, with the names of the mover and seconder. It shall be read by the Secretary and lie over without debate, until the next stated meeting; in the notices for which the proposed amendment or alteration shall be set forth in full, with notice to the members that same will then be considered and acted upon; and if it shall then be approved by a majority of the members present it shall be adopted.