

October 5, 2011

**BY LAWS OF NEW CASTLE CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX**

**AASR**

Instituted November 12, 1914

Constituted November 12, 1915

**ARTICLE I**

The title of this Body is "New Castle Chapter of Rose Croix, 18<sup>o</sup>, 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 Most Wise Master, Senior Warden or Junior 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 Most Wise Master.

**Section 3.** The hour of the meeting shall be such as the Most Wise Master 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 3.** The Presiding Officer of the New Castle Chapter of Rose Croix, 18<sup>o</sup>, will make recommendations to the Valley of New Castle Officers Reviewing Committee. The names of prospective officers for the New Castle Lodge of Perfection 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 Chapter of Rose Croix, 18<sup>o</sup>, 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 4. The first three officers as well as the Treasurer and the Secretary of the New Castle Chapter of Rose Croix 18<sup>o</sup>, 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 Chapter of Rose Croix 18<sup>o</sup> 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 Most Wise Master of the New Castle Chapter of Rose Croix, 18<sup>o</sup>, shall appoint all other officers who will serve as an appointed officer in the New Castle Chapter of Rose Croix, 18<sup>o</sup>, for his term as Most Wise Master. 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 Most Wise Master 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 is designated as the fiscal agent of all of the Subordinate Bodies in a Valley. Any such fiscal agent serving

as Trustee shall report its transactions in full detail to the authorizing Body or Bodies at least once each year.

**Section 2.** The Treasurer of New Castle Consistory shall have charge of the funds of the Body, other than moneys in the hands of the Trustees of New Castle Consistory in the Investment Fund and the Permanent Fund, together with all such books and papers as pertain to his office. He shall keep an exact account of all moneys received and pay the same out on order drawn upon him by the proper authority.

**Section 3.** The Secretary of New Castle Consistory shall keep full and correct minutes of the proceedings of the Body and issue notices for each stated and special meeting. Preceding the stated meeting in March, he shall notify each member of the amount of his indebtedness, including the dues to April 1<sup>st</sup>, for the current year and said notice shall have printed therein, Article VII of these By-Laws. He shall furnish in writing, to the first named on each committee a list of the Committee and an abstract of the business to which its attention is directed, with the papers relating thereto; which papers must be returned with the report of the Committee. He shall keep the accounts of dues, and fees between the Body and each of its members. He shall receive all moneys which may be paid to the Body, report the amount received at each meeting, and pay the same forthwith to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. He shall make regular returns as required by the Constitutions of the Supreme Council and the Rules and Regulations of the Council of Deliberation, and conduct the correspondence of the Body under the direction of the Presiding Officer. He shall have his books and accounts ready for examination whenever required by the Body or the Presiding Officer and perform such services appertaining to his office as the Body may require.

**Section 4.** All other officers, either elected or appointed from time to time, shall perform such services appertaining to their office or appointment as the Body may require.

## **ARTICLE V DEGREES AND MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** All petitions for degrees and membership must be recommended by two members of this Body and the petitioner must be a member in good standing of a Symbolic Lodge, Lodge of Perfection and a Regular Council Princes of Jerusalem.

**Section 2.** The fees for degrees and membership in this Body (17<sup>o</sup> to 18<sup>o</sup> inclusive), shall be \$25.00 which shall be paid in full before degrees are conferred.

**Section 3.** There is no ballot for the petitioners but any member may object to the petitioner receiving the degrees or becoming a member with notification to the Presiding Officer or Secretary.

**Section 4.** If an objection is received by the presiding officer or secretary then Art 512, 513, and 514 of Supreme Council Constitution will prevail.

## **ARTICLE VI FEES**



affiliation, 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 Chapter, 18<sup>o</sup>, 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.