



# Research Lodge of Colorado

**ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS**

CHARTERED JANUARY 28, 1953 – CONSTITUTED MARCH 18, 1953

## **BY-LAWS**

### **PREAMBLE**

The Research Lodge of Colorado, A.F.& A.M., is organized to promote, encourage and foster Masonic research and study, for the purpose of spreading Masonic Light and Knowledge.

### **ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1.** There shall be four classes of members, i.e.

Active  
Associate  
Corresponding  
Honorary

**SECTION 2.** Active membership in the Lodge shall be limited to Master Masons who are members in good standing of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F.& A.M. of Colorado.

**SECTION 3.** Associate membership in the Lodge shall be limited to Master Masons who are members in good standing of Lodges in other Grand Jurisdictions, which are recognized by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

**SECTION 4.** Corresponding membership in the Lodge shall be limited to constituent Lodges of the Grand Lodge of Colorado; Masonic Lodges, or other Masonic Bodies which are regular members of, or affiliated with, or sponsored by, Masonic Bodies which are recognized as such by the Grand Lodge of Colorado; Masonic Libraries operated, sponsored or maintained, by Masonic Bodies recognized as such by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

**SECTION 5.** Honorary Membership in the Lodge shall be limited to Master Masons in good standing who are deemed worthy of such distinction.

**SECTION 6.** Petitions for membership in the Lodge shall be received at any Stated Communication of the Lodge. Ballot on such petitions for Active, Associate or Corresponding memberships shall be had at the Communication at which they are received and shall be by a show of hands. A simple majority of the members present and voting shall be sufficient for election. At the discretion of the Master, petitions for each class of membership may be voted on jointly, or en-masse, but a separate ballot shall be taken for each class of membership. Membership of any member, in any class shall cease when membership in his regular constituent Lodge shall cease, or when recognition of the Body holding a corresponding membership is withdrawn by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

**SECTION 7.** Honorary Membership may be proposed at any Stated Communication of the Lodge and ballot on such memberships had at the next Stated Communication, after a minimum of thirty days written notice to all members of the Lodge. Election to Honorary Membership shall be by secret ballot and a unanimous vote of the members present and voting shall be necessary for election. Separate ballots for Honorary Memberships must be taken for each name proposed and mass balloting on such memberships is prohibited. A letter of objection to the election of anyone as an Honorary Member, written by a member in good standing who is unable to attend the meeting when election is to be held, shall have the same force and effect as a negative ballot.

## **ARTICLE II - OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1.** The officers of the Lodge, all of whom must be active members, shall be a Master, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Senior Deacon, a Junior Deacon, a Senior Steward, a Junior Steward, a Chaplain and a Tiler.

**SECTION 2.** The Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected annually by ballot at the Annual Communication.

**SECTION 3.** All other officers shall be appointed by the Master, after consultation with the Wardens.

**SECTION 4.** No one shall be eligible for the office of Master of this Lodge who has not served previously as Master of a regular symbolic Lodge, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colorado or some other Grand Jurisdiction, recognized as such by the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

**SECTION 5.** The officers, elected and appointed, shall be installed at the Annual Communication.

**SECTION 6.** The officers of the Lodge shall perform the duties incident to their stations and places, as outlined by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

**SECTION 7.** No officer shall receive any compensation for his services, with the exception of the Secretary and the Tiler. The Secretary and Tiler shall receive as compensation for their services such amounts as the Finance Committee may determine, subject to the approval of the Lodge at its Annual Communication.

## **ARTICLE III - COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1.** Following his installation at the annual Communication in January, the Worshipful Master shall announce the appointment of the following committees:

Finance  
Programs and Speakers  
Publications and Printing

The number of members of each committee shall be left to his discretion, except that the Committee on Finance shall consist of three members, with the Senior Warden acting as Chairman. (Amended October, 2007)

**SECTION 2.** Other committees may be appointed by the Master as he shall deem advisable.

**SECTION 3.** The committee on Finance shall oversee the finances of the Lodge; annually examine the books of the Treasurer and Secretary; audit all expenditures; and make report in writing at the Annual Communication as to the financial condition of the Lodge.

#### **ARTICLE IV - COMMUNICATIONS**

**SECTION 1.** Stated Communications of the Lodge shall be held on the last Saturday afternoon of January, April, July, and October at 2:00 PM in the Masonic Temple, 4819 Montview Blvd, Denver or as announced and published. (Amended January, 2022)

**SECTION 2.** The Annual Communication of the Lodge shall be held on the last Saturday afternoon in January, or on the first Saturday after Grand Lodge, at which time the officers and committees shall present their reports, in writing, to the Lodge.

**SECTION 3.** Special Communications of the Lodge, on call of the Master, may be held in the Hall of any constituent Lodge of The M.:W.: Grand Lodge of Colorado, A.F.& A.M., on invitation of the host Lodge.

**SECTION 4.** The order of business at stated or special Communications of the Lodge shall be determined by the Master.

#### **ARTICLE V - FEES AND DUES**

**SECTION 1.** The fee for membership, of all classes except Honorary, shall be set by a two-thirds majority of members present at any stated meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed change has been sent to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting wherein the vote is to be held. The fee for membership must accompany the petition, except if Perpetual Membership is paid with the petition, in accordance with the Grand Lodge Constitutions, and then there shall be no further fee. (Amended February, 2006)

**SECTION 2.** The annual dues shall be set by a two-thirds majority of members present at any stated meeting, provided that written notice of the proposed change has been sent to all members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting wherein the vote is to be held. Dues are due and payable in advance of the first day of January of each year and such dues shall be paid by all save honorary members. (Amended October, 2003)

**SECTION 3.** Any member who is two years in arrears in his dues shall be automatically dropped from the rolls, without action by the Lodge, unless such dues shall be remitted by the Lodge.

**SECTION 4.** Reinstatement to membership, of a member dropped for non-payment of dues, shall be automatic by the payment of all dues owing at the time of his suspension, and without action by the Lodge.

**SECTION 5.** The Treasurer and Secretary shall give good and sufficient bond, cost of

which to be paid by the Lodge.

#### **ARTICLE VI - PUBLICATIONS**

**SECTION 1.** The Lodge may publish its proceedings and transactions, in whole or in part, as recommended by the committee on Publications and Printing, subject to approval by the Lodge of the expenses of such publication.

**SECTION 2.** All members in good standing, of all classes, are entitled to receive the publications of the Lodge.

#### **ARTICLE VII - PROCEDURE**

**SECTION 1.** Masonic Law and procedure, as established by the M.W. Grand Lodge, A.F.& A.M. of Colorado, shall govern this Lodge in all its proceedings and actions.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS**

**SECTION 1.** Amendments to these By-Laws may be presented at any stated communication and action thereon had at the next stated communication.

**SECTION 2.** Notice of proposed amendments to the By-Laws shall be sent to all active members at least thirty days prior to the communication at which they will be acted upon.

**SECTION 3.** Approval of amendments shall require a majority of those present eligible to vote.

July 22, 1992

Amended October 25, 2003

Amended February 4, 2006

Amended October 27, 2007

Amended February 1, 2020

Amended January 29, 2022