



THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33°
OF THE ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE FOR AUSTRALIA

17 January, 2008

Circular 08/01

Distribution: Chapter Recorders, Council Grand Secretaries
District Commanders, District Recorders
cc Supreme Council, Regional Commanders

Changes to Supreme Council Regulations

Many members may not have realised that the regulations for the Order in Australia are changed each time Supreme Council makes a decision which impinges on the existing Regulations. As the supreme authority for the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite within Australia, the Supreme Council is charged with the responsibility for running the Order and keeping it viable. In this era of change it is more important than ever that it acts decisively and effectively.

Most changes which affect our operations have been notified by circulars so that these, together with the current regulations are your best guide to changes in the Regulations.

Unfortunately, the publishing system has not kept pace and consequently the current book of Regulations dated 2001 (even with amendment 1, issued in July 2004) is sadly out of date. Work has commenced on a revised edition which will hopefully be issued later this year. In the meantime, a comprehensive amendment is being prepared to provide for the immediate future. Nonetheless, even that is not fast enough for a number of issues which need to be clarified and accordingly the attached amendment number 2 is being issued to cover some immediate needs.

These changes relate largely to the introduction of Open Chapters and a change in the method of arriving at decisions within Supreme Council.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

R Lions 33°
Grand Secretary General H.:E.:



Supreme Council 33° for Australia

Regulations

Amendment No 2, January 2008

The following amendments have been made to the Regulations and supersede the relevant portions of the edition dated June, 2001

Contents pages.

- Page VI Change "Christian Faith" to "Christian Chapters".
- Page VI Remove the word "Christian" from "Christian Practice and Character of the Order".
- Page XVI Under ORDER,--- Remove the words "Christian in" from "Christian in Character and Practice".
- Page XXIII Under SUPREME COUNCIL 33° - After the words "decisions at", remove - ", to be unanimous".

Regulations

- Reg 2.2 Delete the existing printed regulation. Replace with the following -"The Order is open to all Master Masons of high moral standing. The 18th Degree Chapters which are Christian in character and practice restrict their membership to Trinitarian Christians only".

- Reg 3.6 a) After the words "at a regular meeting of Supreme Council by the"- delete the word "unanimous".
- b) After the words "junior member", delete the words - "The negative vote --*through to*--reject the candidate", and insert the following:-
- "The voting procedure shall be in accordance with the process in Regulation 3.14.

- Reg 3.14 Delete the first sentence and replace with the following: - "In any vote of Supreme Council after 1 July 2007, where there is no unanimous decision, the following procedures shall apply:-

- a) If there is only one dissenting vote: - That member is given the opportunity to convince 2 other members of the validity of his reason(s) for voting NO. If he is successful, and they also then vote NO, the vote is lost. If he is not successful, the vote is passed.
- b) If there are 2 dissenting votes, those members are given the opportunity to convince another member of the validity of their reason(s) for voting NO. If they are successful, and another member then votes NO, the vote is lost. If they are not successful the vote is passed."

- Reg 29.1 Delete the words "professes the Christian faith and". After the word "character" add the following: - "Christian Chapters require also that candidates must profess the Trinitarian Christian faith."

- Reg 29.3 Delete the words "As the 18° may only be conferred on brethren professing the Christian faith", and replace with "In Trinitarian Christian Chapters only,"