

# **JACKSON YORK RITE COLLEGE #3**

By-Laws as approved 01/18/12

## **PREAMBLE**

This York Rite College hereby declares its fealty to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Michigan and the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.

## **ARTICLE I**

### **Name, Number and Location**

- A. This College shall be known as Jackson York Rite College No. 3.
- B. The City of Michigan Center, Michigan shall be the home, or the usual Assembly place of this College.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **College or Fiscal Year**

- A. The fiscal year of this College shall begin on June 1<sup>st</sup> and end on May 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Purposes**

- A. The purposes of this York Rite College shall be:
  - 1. To foster a spirit of cooperation and coordination among each of the Bodies of York Rite Masonry.
  - 2. To assist in worthy efforts to improve the ritualistic and dramatic presentation of York Rite Work.
  - 3. To conduct an educational program in order to inculcate a greater appreciation of the principles, ideals and programs of York Rite Masonry.
  - 4. To strengthen York Rite Masonry in every proper manner.
  - 5. To build a love of country and to aid and support genuine Patriotism.
  - 6. To reward outstanding service to York Rite Masonry by awards, honors and other methods of proper recognition.
  - 7. To support Charitable and Benevolent endeavors of Free Masonry.

## **ARTICLE IV Membership**

- A. Membership shall be limited to Regular members who are in good standing in a Symbolic Lodge of master Masons, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a Council of Cryptic Masons [or Royal and Select Masons] and a Commandery or Preceptory of Knights Templar and who are actively engaged in working for the York Rite.
- B. The Council, as described in Article V, Section E, acting as a Screening Committee, shall consider all Proposals for Membership and cause them to be presented to the Assembly or be filed by the Secretary, but a majority vote of the members in attendance at an Assembly can bring a Proposal up for a ballot if he qualifies by "Section A" above.
- C. Membership in this College shall be by written invitation only.
- D. Any member in good standing may recommend an eligible York Rite Mason for membership on the Proposal form provided for that purpose.
- E. Membership in this College shall be as follows:
  - 1. Primal: Regular member
  - 2. Dual: Membership in this College plus Primal membership in a different Grand Jurisdiction.
  - 3. Plural: Membership in more than one College within this State.
- F. A unanimous vote of those members present at a Regular Assembly or a Special Assembly called for that purpose, shall be necessary for election to membership.
- G. Life (Prepaid Membership)
  - 1. General Requirements
    - a. Each of the Chartered Colleges of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America is authorized to establish a Life (Prepaid) Membership Plan in order to establish a Prepaid Dues Pan.
    - b. Each Prepaid Dues Fund shall be the property of this College.
    - c. A member's dues must be current at the time of the Proposal for Prepaid Membership.
    - d. The College shall not co-mingle any of its assets with the Prepaid Dues Fund.

- e. The College shall in no case borrow from the Prepaid Dues Fund, pledge its assets as security or loan any part of such Prepaid Dues Fund to any individual or private Corporation.
2. Establishment and Cost
    - a. After proper notice according to the By-laws of this College, the members may adopt a Prepaid Membership Plan by a majority of its members present.
    - b. The Member must pay twenty (20) times the amount of annual dues, which in no case shall be less than \$250.00 (two hundred fifty dollars).
    - c. Investment of the Prepaid Dues Fund must be consistent with investment policies of the Grand Lodge of Michigan and must be approved in advance by the Grand Governor and be reported to the Sovereign College.
    - d. Only the interest collected from the Prepaid Dues Fund assets may be transferred to the General Fund of the College.

## **ARTICLE V Officers**

- A. The Officers of this York Rite College by Title and Rank are:
  1. Preeminent Governor
  2. Eminent Deputy Governor
  3. Eminent Chancellor
  4. Eminent Treasurer
  5. Eminent Secretary
  6. Noble Primate
  7. Noble Preceptor
  8. Noble Seneschal
  9. Noble Marshall
  10. Noble Sentinel
  11. Noble Organist (optional)
  12. Noble Herald(s) (optional)
- B. The first five (5) shall be elected at or before the Annual Assembly.
- C. The Governor shall make all appointments.
- D. The term of office shall be one year, or until a successor is duly installed.
- E. The five (5) Elected Officers shall constitute the Council of this College.

- F. It shall be the duty and privilege of the Governor to preside at all Assemblies of the College. In his absence, the Deputy Governor, Chancellor or the Junior Past Governor present, in that order, will open the College and preside.
- G. Should the Office of Governor become vacant, the Deputy Governor or Chancellor, in that order, shall succeed to the Office of Governor until the next Annual Assembly. Should a special election become necessary, the Governor General may grant his dispensation upon application.
- H. The election and installation of Officers must comply fully with applicable Sovereign College Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE VI Assemblies**

- A. Due and proper notice shall be given for all Assemblies.
- B. The Annual Assembly of this York Rite College shall be held on the third Friday in May.
- C. There shall be a minimum of four (4) Assemblies per College year including the Annual Assembly.
- D. The fixed dates of the subsequent three (3) Assemblies shall be the third Friday of September, January and March with the time of such Assemblies @ 7:30P.M.
- E. The Governor may call Special Assemblies at his discretion providing due and proper notice is sent to the membership.
- F. Nine (9) Companion Knights shall constitute a quorum.

#### **ARTICLE VII Fees and Dues**

- A. The fee for membership in this College shall be \$25.00 plus and Per Capita or special assessment levied by the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.
- B. The annual dues for membership in this College shall be \$15.00 plus any Per Capita or special assessment levied by the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.

#### **ARTICLE VIII Committees**

- A. The Council shall serve as a Standing Committee on Charity and may authorize an amount not to exceed \$100.00 to relieve a worth distressed Companion Knight.

B. Immediately after his election, the Governor shall appoint Committees on:

1. York Rite Cooperation
2. Membership
3. Budget and Finance
4. Degree Teams
5. Entertainment
6. Advisory
7. Awards
8. Hospitality

#### **ARTICLE IX Defunct Colleges**

A. If this College shall cease to exist, except for the purpose of consolidation, the Governor and Secretary shall within thirty (30) days thereafter; transmit to the Secretary General of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America all books, papers, rituals, jewels, seals, robes, all paraphernalia and all other property or Funds, or evidence thereof, together with the Charter unless the same has been arrested or removed by order of the Governor General.

#### **ARTICLE X Vacant Offices**

A. An Office may be vacated in the following way.

1. Death
2. Inability or refusal to serve
3. Temporary or permanent suspension
4. Expulsion from the Order
5. Loss of Prerequisite membership

B. Appointed Officers serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

C. The Grand Governor may suspend an Elected Officer failing to properly fulfill the duties of his office (e.g., Article X, A, 2 above).

#### **ARTICLE XI Conflict Disclaimer**

A. Anything contained herein that is in conflict with the spirit and intent of the Sovereign College Constitution and By-laws, together with the guidelines of the Governor General and the Board of Directors is hereby declared to be null and void.

**ARTICLE XII  
Amendments**

- A. These By-laws may be amended as follows:
1. The written proposal to amend shall identify the Article, Section, Page and Line(s) to be deleted, amended or replaced.
  2. It shall identify the New Amendment by Article, Section and Page.
  3. It shall quote the new language exactly.
  4. It must be received by a majority vote at a Regular Assembly or a Special Assembly called for that purpose.
  5. It must then lay over, and due and proper notice, both as to content of the Amendment and the time and place of the Assembly where it will be voted on, be given to the membership. It must be adopted by a 2/3 majority vote at said Assembly.
  6. It must bear the signature of the Grand Governor.
  7. It must be properly signed and submitted in triplicate to the Secretary General for the Governor General's signature.

Approved:

Governor: Robert C. Cunningham  
Grand Governor: William P. Herlihy  
Governor General: Joe R. Manning, Jr.  
Secretary General: D. Allen Surratt

Date: 12/17/10  
Date: 04/08/11  
Date: 12/18/11  
Date: 01/18/12

These By-Laws were proposed at the Regular Assembly on September 24, 2010, and adopted at the Regular Assembly on December 12, 2010

JACKSON YORK RITE COLLEGE #3  
By-Laws Committee:

APPROVED BY YORK RITE SOVEREIGN  
COLLEGE: January 18, 2012

Timothy C. Forche - Chairman  
William L. Leonard - Member  
Theodore R. Welch - Member