

BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND ORDER OF THE SWORD OF BUNKER HILL

Adopted December 23, 2019

(revised 3/13/2020)

ARTICLE 1 TITLE AND PURPOSES

SECTION 1 The name of the National Organization shall be The Grand Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill of Illinois, doing business as "The Grand Order" or "The Grand Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill". The Grand Order is the governing body for all subordinate "Orders" operating in the United States. Subordinate orders are called "Orders of the Sword of Bunker Hill" or a "Grand Order" of a specific State, ie: Grand Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill Kansas. There will be only one "State Grand Order". All other Orders in those states are called subordinate "Orders".

The Grand Order and its subordinates are an organization exclusively for charitable and educational non-profit purposes by inspiring, promoting and encouraging the highest ideals of the tenants of Masonry. To form a social and fraternal organization to perpetuate the principles of American liberty and to instill into the minds of each generation the sacrifices of our Masonic forefathers in forming our great republic. To forever inspire patriotism and loyalty by administering to every candidate for the Order the oath of allegiance to State and Nation. To further cement our friendship and brotherly love by providing social entertainment and, to encourage Masons to make a more regular attendance at their respective Masonic Lodge meetings.

ARTICLE II MEMBERS

SECTION 1

Membership: Each applicant for the Order must be a Master Mason in good standing in a recognized Masonic Lodge who has fraternal relations and recognition or who has received a Charter from the Grand Lodge of a state in the USA and/or such Lodge is in the publication know by the title of "Lodges Masonic" and who accepts the stated purposes of the Order and stands ready to cooperate with other like-minded Master Masons toward achievements of those purposes, sign the application in the form prescribed, and make the necessary payment of dues. The degree of the order on worthy candidates, called "Order of the Sword" will be conducted in due form.

SECTION 2

Annual The Annual Meeting of the Grand Order is customarily hosted by a local Subordinate Order. The location shall be determined at a Grand Session on a designated month, after the fiscal year, at such time and place designated by the Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief (MHGCC) with the approval of all present at that Grand Session, Due notice will be sent to all Subordinate and Grand State Orders prior to the newly selected session. The fiscal year for The Grand Order of The Sword of Bunker Hill closes on June 17th of each year.

The Annual Grand Meetings will be presided over by the Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief (MHGCC). In the absence or disability of the Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief, an appointee will be designated by the MHGCC.

Annual meetings shall include but are not limited to the following:

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States
2. Invocation
3. Roll Call of Grand Officers
4. Reading and disposal of unapproved minutes
5. Travel Report
6. Annual Scoreboard and Review
7. Annual Financial Report
8. Such other business as shall regularly come before the membership or raised by the members thereat.

SECTION 3

Special Meetings Special meetings may be called by the Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief at any time as needed with due notice being sent to the subordinate Orders fourteen (14) days prior thereto. Closed session meetings may be called for Grand Officers only at the discretion of the MHGCC with no notice to the subordinate Orders.

SECTION 4

Quorum & Voting Seven (7) members present shall constitute a quorum, and all matters shall be decided by a majority of those voting.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS AND DUTIES

SECTION 1

Grand There are 12 Most Honorable Grand Officers and 2 Members of the Grand Noble Officers: Council. The Most Order Honorable Grand Command in-Chief is the presiding Officer. Local bodies are called "Orders" and have 9 Officers, with the Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief presiding. All Grand Officers will be appointed by the Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief. All Grand Officers will serve in their respective position until such time they feel they can no longer fulfill their duties and responsibilities. No Officer receives compensation for their services.

Most Honorable Grand Officer Positions are:

- Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief (MHGCC)
- Most Honorable Deputy Grand Commander in-Chief (MHDGCC)
- Most Honorable Lieutenant Grand Commander in-Chief (MHLGCC)
- Most Honorable Grand Commander of the Right Wing (MHGCRW)
- Most Honorable Grand Commander of the Left Wing (MHGCLW)
- Most Honorable Grand Secretary (MHGS)
- Most Honorable Grand Treasurer (MHGT)
- Most Honorable Grand Chaplin (MHGC)
- Most Honorable Grand Adjutant (MHGA)
- Most Honorable Grand Sergeant-at-Arms (MHGSA)
- Most Honorable Grand Quartermaster (MHGQM)
- Most Honorable Grand Webmaster (MHGWM)

There are 2 Members of the Most Honorable Grand Noble Council

Local Orders select their Officers individually as an Order. Officers receive no compensation for their services.

Their Officers are:

Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief (HGCC)

Honorable Grand Commander of the Right Wing (HGCRW)

Honorable Grand Commander of the Left Wing (HGCLW)

Honorable Grand Chaplin (HGC)

Honorable Grand Adjutant (HGA)

Honorable Grand Sergeant at Arms (HGSA)

Honorable Grand Commissary General (HGCG)

Honorable Grand Secretary/Treasurer (HGST)

Honorable Grand Sentinel (HGS)

Note: Other Officers ie: Ambassadors, Musician, District Deputy etc. may be appointed at the discretion of the HGCC. The Secretary/Treasurer may be two offices.

SECTION 2

Grand
Officers:

All Most Honorable Grand officers will be appointed by the Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief (MHGCC). All Grand Officers including the Most Honorable Grand Commander in Chief will serve in their respective positions until such time they feel they can no longer fulfill their duties and responsibilities. The Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief will name his replacement when he can no longer fulfill his duties and responsibilities.

SECTION 3

MHGCC:

The Most Honorable Grand Commander in-Chief will be the presiding Officer and will oversee all Grand Order activities, financial and social, with the assistance of other select Grand Officers in the performance of his duties as needed. Should the MHGCC be absent from or unable to perform his duties, he will appoint a representative from the Grand Order to officiate during his absence.

MHGT:

The Most Honorable Grand Treasurer shall be responsible for all current funds of The Grand Order of The Sword of Bunker Hill. He shall see that all expenditures are duly authorized by the MHGCC. The MHGT shall also sign and/or countersign, as may be necessary, all such bills, notes, checks, contracts and other instruments as may pertain to the ordinary course of the Grand Orders business. He will coordinate all activities with the MHGCC.

MHGS

The Most Honorable Grand Secretary shall keep full minutes of all meetings of the Grand Order. He shall be responsible for giving notice of all meetings of the Grand Order to subordinate Orders. He shall make report of all minutes at the Grand Order Annual Grand Session. In his absence, the MHGCC will appoint a temporary MHGS.

OTHER
GRAND
ORDER

Members of the Noble Council, District Commanders and Liaison Officers are appointees of the MHGCC for the purpose of representing the Grand Order in districts to which they are assigned.

APPOINTEES:

Their duties are to see that the work of the subordinate Orders is conferred in a dignified and impressive manner and that nothing of a questionable nature is tolerated. Liaison Officers are what the name implies. The appointments are made with specific states or areas in mind. These Grand Officers function under orders from the MHGCC for regulating a group of subordinate Orders. Harmony being the main objective.

ARTICLE IV REGULATIONS OF THE ORDER

SECTION 1

History: The History of The Grand Order of The Sword of Bunker Hill is copyrighted and registered in the United States Patent Office. Any use of the History by anyone, not sending in reports to the Grand Order, any work similar to The Grand Order of The Sword of Bunker Hill work, or any use of the name in any way, is a violation of the United States Patent. Any fraudulent use thereof will be prosecuted.

SECTION 2

Starting a New Order: In order that a new Order may be formed it is necessary that the following requirements are complied with:

1. The MHGCC must receive written approval from the Grand Lodge or Grand Master of the requesting State. The letter must state the approval to accept a new "Order" in that state. No action can be taken until the letter is received.
2. There must be at least 10 members of the Sword of Bunker Hill within the area in which the new Order is located.
3. An application for a Charter must be made to the MHGCC and after permission has been granted, Officers must be selected and a name of the new Order chosen. This information with a Charter fee of \$100.00 must be sent to the MHGCC.
4. It is suggested that each Officer be required to memorize his part of the ritual, and after each has shown suitable proficiency, a Certificate of Dispensation will be issued, which continues in force for not more than 1 year, then if found worthy the Order will be issued a Charter.

SECTION 3

Membership Fee: The Universal initiation fee of \$25.00 must be collected for each candidate prior to initiation. NO ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE SHALL BE CHARGED.

SECTION 4

Other Regulations: Additional Administrative Regulations are described in the Sword of Bunker Hill Ritual handbook.

ARTICLE V FISCAL YEAR

SECTION I The fiscal year of the Grand Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill USA shall end on the 17th day of June of each year.

ARTICLE VI FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1

Dues: The dues for membership into the Order of the Sword of Bunker Hill shall be a one time payment of twenty-five (\$25.00) in US currency, payable to the Secretary of the respective Order. Sixteen dollars (\$16.00) of that fee will stay with the respective Order for operating expenses and charitable endeavors as directed by the Order, eight dollars (\$8.00) to the Most Grand Order for operating expenses and charitable endeavors of the Grand Order, and one dollar (\$1.00) to be collected by the Most Honorable Grand Treasurer for deposit into a Masonic Youth Fund of the Grand Order of the Sword of

Bunker Hill.

**ARTICLE VII
MASONIC YOUTH FUND**

SECTION 1

Payment to Orders: Requests of any monies from the Masonic Youth Fund may only be made by the subordinate Orders of the Sword of Bunker Hill upon written request to the MHGCC and the MHGT. Only available funds that had been collected for the specific Order will be distributed to that Order to be used for Masonic Youth group and/or charitable purposes.

**ARTICAL VIII
AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1

Amendments: These By-Laws may be amended by a TWO-THIRDS vote of those present and voting at a duly stated or called Grand Order Session at which a quorum is present. The proposed amendment change must first be sent to the MHGCC 1 month prior to the end of the fiscal year for review for conflicts to the By-Laws and Administrative Regulations. A notice that contains the proposed amendments shall be mailed or sent by electronic means to each HGCC or Secretary of each subordinate Order not less than fourteen (14) days before the stated Grand Session meeting.