CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Page 3 – Organization changed to “PREAMBLE”

Page 4 – Article IV, Section 3: Eligibility, C) – Add at end of sentence, “and where needed have the appropriate proficiency.”

Page 6 – Article VI - Vacancies - Add information regarding inability of advancement.
Section 2: Associate Grand Patron through illness, resignation or some emergency, not be able to advance:
   A) The next Grand Officer in line will be advanced by the Grand Secretary casting a unanimous vote for the vacant office.
   B) If this situation leaves the office of Associate Grand Patron vacant, notice will be given to the Grand Chapter in writing, and read by the Grand Secretary on the first full morning of the Grand Chapter Session.

Section 3: Grand Sentinel through illness, resignation or some emergency, not be able to advance, a nomination must be place in the nomination box for Associate Grand Patron.

Page 6 – Article VII, Section 1, B – add “and available on the website”

Page 7, Article VIII - Voting Regulations – Delete Section 2 – Chapters in Arrears

Page 8, Article XI – Arrest or Suspension of a Subordinate Chapter Charter –
Section 2, A) and B) – add “for two (2) consecutive years.”

Page 8, Article XI – Arrest or Suspension of a Subordinate Chapter Charter –
Section 3, C – changed to the following: “All expenditures must be approved by Worthy Grand Matron.”

Page 8, Article XI – Arrest or Suspension of a Subordinate Chapter Charter –
Add Section 5: “This process may be appealed by the Chapter to the Grievance and Appeals Committee.”
RULES AND REGULATIONS – GRAND CHAPTER

Page 10 – Article I, Section 1, A – inserted “as stated in Article IV, Section 1) G).”

Page 11 – Article I – Meetings –
Section 1: Stated Annual Session, C) – Add the following:
1) Necrology
2) Informal Opening
6) Filling of Vacancies

Reenumerate the following items

Page 12 - Article I Meetings -
Section 4: Reports
A) - Change “four (4)” to six (6)
A, 2) - insert after to “each member of”

Page 12 – Article I – Meetings –
Section 4: Reports, F), 1) - insert after Completed “detailed”

Page 16, Article II, Section 2: Worthy Grand Patron
Add appointing the Nominating Committee first thing Monday morning, since the Nominating Committee was eliminated in the list of Committees.

Insert new E) Appoint 3 members to the Nominating Committee whose duty it will be to check the ballot box with the Worthy Grand Patron on Tuesday morning at 10:00 am.

Reenumerate the remaining item

Page 18 - Article II, Section 5: Grand Secretary –
B) Directories, 1) – delete “in our geographic area”
And insert “Grand Secretary of District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia.”

Page 19 - Article II, Section 5: Grand Secretary –
E), 4) – delete “voucher checks” and insert “warrants” in both places in the section.

Page 19 - Article II, Section 5: Grand Secretary -
F) Reports 2) – delete “on February 16th” and insert “last day of February”.

Page 21 – Article II, Section 5, Q - Added “6) Names, addresses, and emails of Grand Officers installed at the Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, Order of the Eastern Star.”
Page 22 - Article II, Section 6: Grand Treasurer -
A), 3) – delete “voucher checks” and insert “warrants”

Page 22 - Article II, Section 6: Grand Treasurer -
C), 1) – delete “Grand Treasurer” at end of paragraph

Page 22 - Article II, Section 6: Grand Treasurer –
D), 2) – delete “bills” and insert write “checks”

Page 23 – Article II, Section 7: Grand Trustees, L) Surety Bond, 3) –
Delete entire section and insert - “The original copy of the Surety Bond to be in the Safe Deposit Box and copies for the Chairman and the Grand Secretary.”

Due to deleting who the Surety Bond covers, amend H), 1) as follows:
Article II, Section 7, Grand Trustees, H), 1) 
The Grand Trustees will secure a Blanket Surety Bond to cover the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and Subordinate Chapter Secretaries and Treasurers from a solvent and satisfactory Guarantee Company authorized to do business in the State of Delaware.

Page 24 – Article II, Section 9: Grand Lecturer – C) - add “no later than April 15th.”

Page 24 – Article II, Section 9: Grand Lecturer –
Add D) – Will be the only one to test Individuals and issue certificates of proficiency.

Page 24 – Article II, Section 9: Grand Lecturer –
Add E) Forward copies of Certificate of Newly Installed Officers to next Appointed Grand Lecturer.

Page 24 - Article II, Section 10: Grand Representatives –
Section C) Grand Representative -
Add - “Commissions may be presented at special occasions and the Chapter notified by letter under seal.”

Page 24 – Article II, Section 12: Emeritus Title –
To receive an Emeritus Title, a Grand Officer must have served in the Grand Office for a period of six (6) years and by vote of the members of the Grand Chapter.

Page 25 – Article III, Section 3: Standing Committees - (added and remainder renumbered)
Section 3: Committee Composition and Term of Appointment
1) Standing and Special Committees will consist of three (3) members;
2) Committees of Benefit for Children, Credentials, ESTARL, Grievance and Appeals, Jurisprudence, and Shustack Scholarship shall serve for a term of three years;
3) The original three (3) members of these committees shall be appointed for one (1), two (2) and three (3) years respectively;
4) One member shall retire each year and the incoming Worthy Grand Matron shall appoint her or his successor;
5) The senior member of each committee shall be the Chair of that year;
6) For Standing and Special Committees other than Benefit for Children, Credentials, Jurisprudence and Grievance and Appeals, Shustack, ESTARL, the appointments shall cease at the close of the Grand Chapter Session.

Page 25 – Article III, Section 4 – Added “L) Triennial Assembly Committee

Page 25 – Article III – Committees of the Grand Chapter –
Section 3 – Standing Committees –
B) - Changed name of Committee to “Committee to Benefit Children with Special Needs”

Page 25 – Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter –
Section 4: Special Committees, C) –
Delete C) and re-letter remainder of Section 4

Page 26 – Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter –
Section 5: Committees Duties and Composition, A) – Annual Session
   Insert 1) Necrology (we did not describe their duties as this section states)
   Insert 2) Informal Opening (we did not describe their duties as this section states)
   Re-number the remainder

Page 27 - Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter –
Section 5: Committees Duties and Composition, D) ESTARL
4) after “Awards” insert “of $1000.00 per person”

Page 27 - Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter –
Section 5: Committee Duties – D) ESTARL
4) last sentence - delete “Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, Order of the Eastern Star” and insert “the Appendix.”

Page 28 – Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter –
Section 5: Committees Duties and Composition, E) Grievances and Appeals
4), d) – delete “who”.

Page 29, Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter -
Section 5: Committee Duties – H) Jurisprudence
2) - Add a) For the year 2017-18 the Committee will be composed of the 2 remaining members of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and the Jurisprudence Committees. Going forward from 2018 the committee will be 3 members as stated above.
Page 31 – Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter
Section 5: Committee Duties – N) Web Page
   rename committee “Website”
   delete “administration” and replace with “administrator”

Page 31 – Article III – Committees of Grand Chapter –
Section 5: Committee Duties - O) – GGC Charities – Delete entire section

Page 32 - Article IV – Revenue, Expenditures, and Fiscal Year -
Section 1, C), 1) – delete $10.00 and insert “$15.00”

Page 32 – Article IV – Revenue, Expenditures and Fiscal Year -
(This Section deals with Registration Fees for Annual Session)
   G) – Delete “Pre- “and amount at end of line.
   G), 1) - Change Pre-Registration Fee to “$15.00”
   G), 2) – Change Onsite Registration Fee to “$20.00”

Page 33 – Article IV – Revenue, Expenditures and Fiscal Year –
Section 4: Honorarium, etc.
   Add the following as A), and B) and re-letter the following sections
   A) – Worthy Grand Matron will receive the sum of $225.00 to defray her expenses
       while in office and make an itemized report annually to the Grand Chapter (2015)
   B) – Worthy Grand Patron will receive the sum of $100.00 to defray his expenses while
       in Office and make an itemized report annually to the Grand Chapter (2015)
   F) - Assistant Secretary will receive the sum of $100.00.

Page 33 – Article IV – Revenues, Expenditures, and Fiscal Year –
Section 5: Advances: -
   Delete wording and insert
   “All Committees with financial needs submit requests for necessary funds, with justification, to
   the Grand Trustees by April 15th of each year so these requests may be considered for funding
   within the proposed annual budget.”

Page 33 – Article IV – Revenues, Expenditures and Fiscal Year –
Section 6: Expenses
A) – delete “and” after Grand Secretary and insert “Grand Treasurer, Subordinate Chapter
   Secretary and Treasurer”

Page 35 – Article VII – Grand Chapter Proficiency –
Delete entire Section 1) and insert –
“See Book for Instructions Section 30 for proficiency requirements for Elected
Grand Chapter Officers.”
Page 36 – Article VIII – Trienium Assembly –
Section 1: – reverse Associate Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron

Page 36 – Article X – Associations –
Section 1, A), 4) – delete “Grand” and insert “Appointed”

Page 36 – Article X – Associations –
Delete C) - Associations may not engage in any prerogative of the Subordinate Chapters of Order of the Eastern Star.

RULES AND REGULATIONS – SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS
Page 59 – Article II, Section a, A –
Inserted “from September to June”.

Page 60 – Article II – Meetings
Section 2) – Rules and Regulations for Subordinate Chapters, B), 1) – delete line “Funerals, memorial services, ceremonies and observances”

Page 61 – Article II – Meetings
Section 2, C, 5 – added “including Open Installation”.

Page 61 – Article II – Meetings
Section 3, C – Changed working in first line from “in addition to the presiding officer” to “for the transaction of business are:” and listed “1) Worthy Matron, 2) Associate Matron and 4) Conductress”

Page 61 – Article II – Meetings
Section 4) E) Delete and insert:
Short form to open the Chapter can be used only four (4) times during a one-year term.

Page 64, Article III, Section 11: Membership -
Section E) – delete “any one of the elected offices “ and insert “the office of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron or Associate Patron”

Page 64, Article III, After Section 11, add new Section 12 and renumber the remainder. 
Section 12) Marriage to a Profane. A female who is qualified to receive the degrees who is married to a man who is not a Mason is eligible to receive the degrees.

Page 65, Article III – After Section 16, add new Section 17
Section 17 – 50 Year Membership
A) – Fifty (50) Years of Membership will be based on accumulated membership.
B) – To be awarded on the Anniversary Year.
Page 65, Article IV, Section 1 –
After title “Initiation Fee inserted “Including Plural Membership Fee)

Page 66, Article V, Section 3, A) –
Added at end of sentence “but must hold the appropriate Proficiency Certificate for Conductress, Associate Matron, Worthy Patron and Worthy Matron.”

Page 66, Article V, Section 1) –
add after Trustees: one for a term of three years – (Will be obligated but not installed.)

Page 68, Article VII, Section 5 –
Add – “G) File or have filed a Form 990-N-E Postcard.”

Page 68, Article IX, Section 4 –
Added “but a Special Dispensation must be secured if on a night other than the first Regularly Stated Meeting in April.”

BOOK OF INSTRUCTIONS
Page 88 – Section 11: Procedure for Election of Subordinate Chapter Officers, F) – Change to read:
“Officers may only hold the office of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron or Associate Patron in one of the plural Chapters to which they belong.”

Page 99 Section 15: Introductions, J) – delete “brought” and insert “escorted through the Labyrinth”

Page 107 — Section 30 – Proficiency.

A.  'C' Certificate: Conductress Examination:

1. Associate Conductress is required to have earned this certificate no less than ten (10) days before being elected as Conductress.

2. Requirements. The candidate must be able to:

   a. Recite from memory all Conductress work in the ceremonies of opening, closing, Official Visit, and initiation (excepting the Worthy Patron's and Associate Patron's parts of the initiation) as well as the obligation and her portion of the Secret Work;

(Recite from memory all Conductress work in the ceremonies of opening, closing, Official Visit, and Initiation (entrance of candidate, altar presentation,) Winding of the Labyrinth as shown in Ritual, and Signs and passes from Secret Work.)
b. Show floor work for entirety of initiation and Official Visit; demonstrate knowledge of pattern of signet for initiation. Demonstrate draping and undraping of altar and charter.

3. These requirements must be completed in one sitting.

B  'B' Certificate: Associate Matron Examination:

1. Must have earned the 'C' certificate prior to testing for this certificate. *

2. Associate Matron is required to have earned this certificate no less than ten (10) days before being elected as Associate Matron. *

3. Requirements. The candidate must be able to:
   a. Recite from memory all Associate Matron and Worthy Matron work in the ceremonies of opening, closing, and initiation;
   b. Summarize the process of balloting, receiving petitions, appointing investigating committees, and Official Visit as per the Ritual and the Book of Instruction.

4. These requirements must be completed in one sitting.

C. 'B' Certificate: Associate Patron Examination:

1. Associate Patron must earn this certificate no more than ninety (90) days after installation as Associate Patron.

2. Requirements: The candidate must be able to:
   a. Recite from memory all Associate Patron and Worthy Patron work in the ceremonies of opening, closing, and initiation (except pages 86-90 in the Ritual);
   b. Demonstrate knowledge of pattern of signet for initiation

3. These requirements must be completed in one sitting.

D. 'A' Certificate:

1. Must have earned the 'C' and 'B' certificates prior to testing for this certificate.
2. The candidate must be able to:
   
a. Recite from memory all parts of the opening and closing ceremonies, all parts of the initiation ceremony (except for the Worthy Patron parts and sections included in the ‘B’ and ‘C’ certificate);

b. Demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution and Bylaws, Rules and Regulations Governing the Grand Chapter, Rules and Regulations Governing the Subordinate Chapters and the Book of Instruction by successfully passing an open book test of 25 questions (must be able to find the location of the answer to the questions in the document). Selection of questions to be asked will be at the discretion of the Grand Lecturer who may also ask additional questions as may be deemed necessary.

3. These requirements must be completed in no more than three (3) sittings.

4. Anyone intending to serve as Grand Lecturer, Deputy Grand Lecturer, or as an elected Line officer of the Grand Chapter whose ‘A’ Certificate (or ‘A’ Certificate Recertification) is more than ten years old will be required to recertify as delineated in paragraph b above.

E. Worthy Grand Patron Certificate:

1. The Grand Sentinel is required to have earned this certificate no less than six (6) months before being installed as Associate Grand Patron. *

2. The Candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution and Bylaws, Rules and Regulations Governing the Grand Chapter, Rules and Regulations Governing the Subordinate Chapters and the Book of Instruction by successfully passing an open book test of 25 questions (must be able to find the location of the answer to the questions in the document). Selection of questions to be asked will be at the discretion of the Grand Lecturer who may also ask additional questions as may be deemed necessary.

F. *Grace Period:

Officers elected out of the normal officers’ line of progression may, with the permission of the Worthy Grand Matron, be installed at the regular time and be granted a grace period of ninety (90) days from the date of installation to pass the required proficiency examination(s). Elected officers who are in the normal officers' line of progression cannot be installed if the proper Certificate of Proficiency has not been earned.
G. The Grand Lecturer will be the only one to test individuals and issue certificates of proficiency. Deputy Grand Lecturers will assist as requested by individuals desiring to prepare for a proficiency examination.

GRAND CHAPTER PROFICIENCY

A. Worthy Grand Patron Certificate:

1. The Grand Sentinel is required to have earned this certificate no less than six (6) months before being installed as Associate Grand Patron. *

2. The Candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution and Bylaws, Rules and Regulations Governing the Grand Chapter, Rules and Regulations Governing the Subordinate Chapters and the Book of Instruction by successfully passing an open book test of 25 questions (must be able to find the location of the answer to the questions in the document). Selection of questions to be asked will be at the discretion of the Grand Lecturer who may also ask additional questions as may be deemed necessary.

B. Recertification of 'A' Certificate:

1. Grand Officers elected to the Line must have an 'A' Certificate prior to being elected to that office.

2. Anyone intending to serve as Grand Lecturer, Deputy Grand Lecturer, or as an elected Line officer of the Grand Chapter whose 'A' Certificate (or 'A' Certificate Recertification) is more than ten years old will be required to recertify as delineated in paragraph A2 above.

3. Officers elected out of the normal officers' line of progression may, with the permission of the Worthy Grand Matron, be installed at the regular time and be granted a grace period of ninety (90) days from the date of installation to pass the required proficiency examination(s).