

**By Laws  
of  
ARIZONA COMMANDERY  
No. 1  
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
at  
Tucson, Arizona**



**Charter Granted  
August 23, 1883 - A.O.765**

Uniform By Laws – 2014 Edition

REVISED BY LAWS OF  
ARIZONA COMMANDERY NO. 1, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR  
TUCSON, ARIZONA

HELD UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF  
ARIZONA, AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE SUPREMACY OF THE GRAND  
ENCAMPMENT OF THE U.S.A.

CHARTER DATED: August 23, 1883 - A.O. 765



## **ARTICLE I**

### **NAME, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

**Section 1.** This Commandery shall be known as Arizona Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, hereinafter referred to as the Commandery, and its officers shall consist of a Commander, (whose title is Eminent), a Generalissimo, a Captain General, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Prelate, a Treasurer, a Recorder, a Standard Bearer, a Sword Bearer, a Warder, a Sentinel, and such other officers as the Commandery may deem it proper to appoint.

**Section 2.** Every Knight named in the Dispensation by authority of which this Commandery was first opened or who has affiliated therewith, and every Knights Templar who has received the several Orders of Knighthood therein shall, while in good standing, be members of this Commandery.

**Section 3.** The Commander shall, at the completion of his term of office, receive from the Commandery his choice of either a Past Commander Jewel or a Past Commander Cap and Mantle (with sword sting), the total cost thereof, to the Commandery, not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

## **ARTICLE II**

### **CONCLAVES OF THE COMMANDER**

**Section 1.** Meetings will be held monthly, except for July and August, on the third Thursday evening starting at 7:00 PM in the form of a Standard meeting, whereby there is a ritualistic opening and closing according to the established ritual of the Commandery. The Eminent Commander may call special Meetings of the Commandery at any time, after giving due notice to the membership.

**Section 2.** Minutes of the monthly meeting will reflect, at a minimum, the degree or order in which the formal opening was made, the number of officers and members present to establish a quorum according to the opening requirements, committee reports, unfinished and new business, and a report of the financial status.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

**Section 1.** Any member in good standing, and who is not indebted to the Commandery, shall be entitled to vote at all elections and shall be eligible to any office in the Commandery.

**Section 2.** The Commander, the Generalissimo, the Captain General, the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, the Treasurer, and the Recorder shall be chosen annually by ballot at the Stated Conclave in the month of April and shall occupy their respective stations until their successors are chosen and installed.

**Section 3.** All of the other officers of the Commandery shall be appointed by the Commander and shall occupy their several stations during the will and pleasure of the Commander.

**Section 4.** The offices of Recorder and Treasurer may be consolidated into the one office of Recorder/Treasurer, and when so combined, the Recorder shall assume and perform all of the duties of the Treasurer as set forth in ARTICLE IV, Section 2 of these Bylaws.

**Section 5a.** There shall be three Trustees of this Commandery, each of whom shall serve a term of three years, unless he sooner resigns or is removed for cause. They shall serve staggered terms, with one to be elected by ballot each year at the regular annual elections of officers held at the Stated Convocation in April.

**Section 5b.** Each Trustee shall hold office until his successor shall be elected and installed, and by virtue of this election shall also be a director of the York Rite Temple Association for his term of office.

**Section 5c.** In the event of the resignation, death or removal of an elected Trustee, the Commander shall appoint a Trustee to serve for the unexpired term of his predecessor Trustee.

**Section 5d.** No Trustee shall be reelected to succeed himself.

**Section 6a.** All the officers shall be installed as soon as practicable after their election or appointment, and shall hold their respective office until their successors have been duly installed.

**Section 6b.** If an appointive officer fails to attend three successive stated meetings without good and sufficient cause as determined by the Commander, the Commander may remove such officer from office and appoint a successor to that office.

**ARTICLE IV**  
DUTIES OF OFFICERS

**Section 1.** The Commander, the Generalissimo and the Captain General shall perform such duties as are prescribed in the Statutes and Orders of the Grand Commandery, and as traditionally appertain to their respective stations.

**Section 2.** The Treasurer shall receive all monies from the Recorder, shall keep a just and accurate account thereof, and shall pay the same out only upon order duly signed by the Recorder and approved by the Commandery. He shall submit his books for audit prior to the Stated Conclave in March or at any other time that the Commander or the Commandery may require. He may receive such compensation for his services as the Commandery may direct.

**Section 3.** The Recorder, in addition to the duties prescribed in the Statutes and Orders of the Grand Commandery shall issue all notices of meetings; shall sign all vouchers for payment of Commandery funds; and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Commander or the Commandery. He may receive such compensation for his services as the Commandery may direct.

**Section 4.** The other officers shall perform such duties as traditionally appertain to their respective stations or which shall be assigned to them by the Commander.

**ARTICLE V**  
PETITIONS FOR THE ORDERS AND APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.** Every petition for the Orders of Knighthood shall declare the Lodge, Chapter and Council in which the petitioner is affiliated, and the Commandery in which he will be affiliated. It shall also give his full name, date of birth, residence and occupation and shall state whether he has petitioned any other Commandery, and if so, the name of such Commandery, time, date and any action taken thereon, and the facts of his residence showing his qualifications. The petitioner shall declare by his signature that he is a firm believer in the Christian religion and that he has read the petition. Two members of the Commandery who shall vouch for the good character and Masonic standing of the petitioner and recommend favorable action must sign the petition.

**Section 2.** When a petitioner for the Orders of Knighthood or an application for Affiliation has been received, it shall be acted upon in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Commandery of Arizona.

**Section 3.** When an applicant shall be rejected the fee accompanying his application shall be at once returned to him; and when one who has been elected to receive the Orders shall neglect to present himself for that purpose within twelve months after receiving notice thereof, unless valid reason is given, his election may be declared void, and his fee may be forfeited to the Commandery.

**Section 4.** Affiliation in a Lodge, a Chapter and a Council is necessary to qualify a petitioner for membership In the Commandery.

**Section 5.** An application for Affiliation must show evidence of affiliation in a Lodge, Chapter and Council In order to qualify him for membership in the Commandery with this exception that Grand Encampment requires that if he is a Knight Templar from some other Grand Jurisdiction that does not require Council Membership, then we may not require it.

**Section 6.** A petition for plural membership must be accompanied by Certificate of good standing issued by the Commandery of which the petitioner is a member. Plural membership shall be subject to alt the requirements of the Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery of Arizona.

**Section 7.** Every member of the Commandery must sign the By-Laws thereof in order to be eligible to vote and hold office therein.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **FEES AND DUES**

**Section 1.** The fee for the Orders of Knighthood shall be Sixty dollars (\$60.00) and shall invariably accompany the petition, out of which fee the applicant's dues for the first year shall be paid. The fee may be lowered by majority vote of the Knights present, provided that a written resolution to do so be presented at one stated convocation and notice sent to all members that the resolution will be voted upon at the next stated convocation, and provided further that the minimum fee shall be no less than that set forth In the Constitution of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Arizona. Annual dues prorated according to the time of the dues year shall not be Included in the fee for special programs.

**Section 2.** There shall be no fee for affiliation with the Commandery.

**Section 3.** The annual dues for members of this Commandery shall be 10 dollars (\$10.00) per year, plus the Grand Commandery Per Capita Fees, rounded up to the nearest whole dollar, \$1.00 of which shall be sent to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation. If the member is a Life member of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, he shall pay one dollar (\$1.00) less per year. Dues are due January 1, each year and payable in advance.

**Section 4.** Any member of this Commandery who shall be one year in arrears for dues shall be notified thereof by order of the Commander, and if said dues shall not be paid at or before the stated time, or sufficient reason be given for non-payment, he shall be suspended by vote of the Commandery. (G.E. 207-208)

**Section 5.** Any member of this Commandery, suspended for non-payment of dues, may be restored to membership by a majority vote after payment of the arrearages. (G.E. 203)

**Section 6.** This Commandery shall allow the purchase of Perpetual Memberships from the Grand Commandery in accordance with the provisions for same in the Constitution of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Arizona.

## **ARTICLE VII** COMMITTEES

**Section 1.** The first three officers of the Commandery shall constitute a Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be to report any un-knightly conduct on the part of its members; to reconcile, if possible, any differences which may exist among or between them; and to receive and examine into applications for assistance from alt Sir Knights, their widows and orphans, and if found worthy, afford relief as their immediate necessities may require.

**Section 2.** The Commander, at the Stated Conclave after his installation, shall appoint an auditing committee, whose duty it shall be to examine and correct alt accounts against the Commandery before presentation by the Recorder.

**Section 3.** At the Stated Conclave in February, a Committee shall be appointed to examine and audit the Books of the Treasurer and the Recorder, and the committee shall report thereon at the next Stated Conclave.

**Section 4.** Such other committees as the Commander or the Commandery may deem proper or necessary may be appointed from time to time by the Commander or the Commandery. ALL committees shall present their reports in writing. The Commander shall be ex officio member of all committees.

## **ARTICLE VIII** WITHDRAWALS

**Section 1.** Any member of this Commandery, in good standing, may withdraw there from upon payment of all dues, and giving notice of such withdrawal at a stated conclave.

## **ARTICLE IX** UNLAWFUL REVELATIONS

**Section 1.** Any member of this Commandery, or a Knight Templar within its jurisdiction who shall be so unmindful of his duties as to improperly reveal any of its transactions may, after due trial and by a majority vote of the Commandery be suspended or expelled.

**ARTICLE X**  
THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Section 1.** The order of business at a Stated Conclave shall be as follows:

1. Reading the Minutes of the preceding Conclaves.
2. Reports on Receipts and Disbursements.
3. Reception of Committee Reports.
4. Reception and referral of Petitions and Applications.
5. Balloting on Petitions and Applications.
6. Reading of Communications.
7. Unfinished and Miscellaneous Business.
8. New business.
9. Good of the Order including conferring of the Orders when required.

**ARTICLE XI**  
AMENDMENTS AND REVISION

**Section 1.** A Committee shall be appointed by the Commander, at least biannually, to review these Bylaws and submit recommendations for any additional changes and deletions deemed necessary by the Committee.

**Section 2.** These By-Laws may be amended at any Stated Conclave by the votes of two-thirds of the members present, provided that notice of such amendment shall have been given at the Stated Conclave preceding, and also, that the membership shall have been notified by mail previous to its being taken; but such amendment shall not be valid until approved by the Grand Commandery or the R. E. Grand Commander, and until such approval shall have been transmitted to the Grand Recorder.

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Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder

(SEAL)

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

R. E. Grand Commander

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Recorder

(Grand  
Commandery  
Seal)

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Bibliography of subsequent revisions:

REVISION DATE:

DATE APPROVED:

APPROVED BY: