

Page 115: Regalia, Clothing, Insignia, Jewels, Optional Jewels, Chains and Collars and Aprons, and Gauntlets

Together with the Appendix this section is quite self-explanatory but will be covered in a separate Fact Sheet.

Page 131: Fees and Contributions

This section explains the Annual Dues payable by every one of us to The Grand Lodge Fund of General Purposes out of our annual Lodge subscriptions.

Page 134: Appeals Court and Panel for Clemency

Like any Man Management system we have an Appeals Court and a Panel for Clemency so that any Brother or Lodge feeling aggrieved by a local decision has the right to make an appeal.

Page 143: Charges of a Free-mason

These six Charges should be read out at the making of a Mason or when the Worshipful Master declares it. In many Lodges one of these Charges is read out during the collection of the Alms. You are encouraged to read these Charges at regular intervals.

Page 153: Illustrations of Jewels, Chains, Collars and Aprons

You are recommended to study carefully the illustrations of the various regalia worn by Brethren, particularly that worn by Officers in Private Lodges.

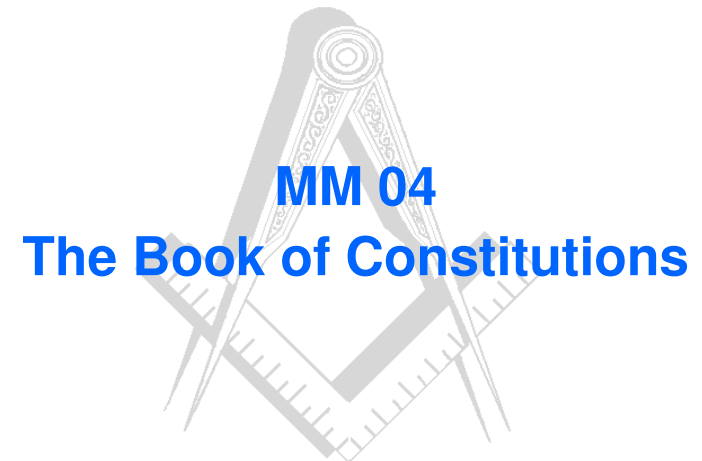
The Rulers Forum

The General Council has been replaced by the Rulers Forum which plays an essential role in the Craft. It is headed by the Grand Master and the other rulers of the Craft, and they act as a central exchange for new ideas and other issues of general importance to English Freemasonry. Under the Rulers Forum are 10 Working Parties (called 'Groups'), one from the Metropolitan area and the other 9 made up from the 47 Provinces. For example Groups 1, 4 and 8 were given the task of identifying and collating the best practices from all the Mentoring Schemes across the country. Page 106 Rules 216 - 222 refers.



District of Cyprus Mentoring Programme

**A series of Fact Sheets for a
Master Mason**



Making a daily advancement in Masonic knowledge

The Book of Constitutions

When you were initiated into Freemasonry you were informed in the Charge that your obedience must be proved by a strict observance of our Laws and Regulations. On completion of the Ceremony the Worshipful Master presented you with a copy of the Book of Constitutions and it is in this book that our general Laws and Regulations are laid down. The Book of Constitutions is full of valuable information and in this Fact Sheet we will break it down into its various sections.

Since the mid 1970's the Book of Constitutions has also included the Regulations for the Supreme Grand Chapter and this will be the topic of a later Fact Sheet. This Fact Sheet will only look at the sections relating to the Craft.

Inside cover: The Arms of the United Grand Lodge of England



The Coat of Arms shows the impalement of the two Coats of Arms with the motto AVDI VIDE TACE, which basically states "Listen, Observe and be Silent".

Section vii: Summary of the Ancient Charges and Regulations

Every Master Elect, before he is installed into the Chair of King Solomon, has to promise to support these Charges and Regulations during his year as Master. They are read out to him by the Secretary in open Lodge.

Section x: Aims and Regulations of the Craft

These were accepted by Grand Lodge on the 7th September 1949 and which are quite self-explanatory.

Section xiv: Basic Principles for Grand Lodge recognition

There are a number of Grand Lodges, or sometimes called Grand Orient, throughout the world and the eight separate requirements listed have to be confirmed before the United Grand Lodge of England will recognise another Grand Lodge.

General Laws and Regulations for the Government of the Craft

Page 1: The Grand Lodge

This section relates to Grand Lodge but has many interesting Rules. Rule 5 explains how the members of Grand Lodge rank; Rule 6 describes how certain Senior Brethren are addressed; Rule 51 describes how a Grand Lodge is Opened and Closed.

Page 24: Metropolitan, Provincial and District Grand Lodge

London is the only Metropolitan Grand Lodge. There are 47 Provincial Grand Lodges in England and Wales which correspond roughly to the old County borders, and there are 33 District Grand Lodges in various parts of the world.

Page 45: Lodges abroad, not under a District

There are collections of Lodges not big enough to be formed into Districts, each one being under the control of a Grand Inspector; to date there are 5 in number.

Page 45: Overseas Grand Rank

This section details how the Grand Master can confer Overseas Grand Rank.

Page 47: Private Lodges

This section details everything relating to your own Lodge. For example, Rule 104 (a)-(g) describes the Regular and Additional Officers of a Lodge and their precedence for investiture.

Page 110: Board of General Purposes

This Board deals with every aspect relating to the Craft. It has the administration and control of the property of Grand Lodge, and the control of its finances. In Districts with more than seven Lodges there shall be a Board of General Purposes Rule 81.