

Constitutions for the Government of the Commemorative Order of St. Thomas of Acon USA

Any subject not herein dealt with by these Constitutions shall be governed by the general rules of the Knights Templar, so far as such Rules are applicable to the Order and not inconsistent with these Constitutions.

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(Revised 2017)

Grand Master's Council

(Revised 2017)

1. Governing Body:

The Order of St. Thomas of Acon shall be governed by a body styled "The Grand Master's Council"

All Masters and Priors (past and present) of Chapels of the Order are Members of the Grand Master's Council.

2. Ranks:

All Grand Officers must be subscribing members of a Chapel on the Register of the Order and Installed Masters of the Order. Members of the Grand Master's Council are entitled to the undernoted post-nominals and rank in the following order:-

Grand Master	G.M.
Grand Prior	G.P.
Past Grand Masters	P.G.M.
Past Grand Priors	P.G.P.
Knight Humilitas	K.H.
Knight Caritas	K.C.
Grand Preceptor	G.Prec.(jurisdiction)
Past Grand Preceptors	P.G.Prec.(jurisdiction)
Grand Marshal	G.Mar.
Past Grand Marshals	P.G.Mar.
Grand Treasurers	G.Treas.
Past Grand Treasurers	P.G.Treas.
Grand Registrar	G.Reg.
Past Grand Registrars	P.G.Reg.
Grand Secretary	G.Sec.
Past Grand Secretaries	P.G.Sec.
Grand Historian	G.Hist.
Past Grand Historians	P.G.Hist.
Deputy Grand Marshal	Dep.G.Mar.
Past Deputy Grand Marshals	P.Dep.G.Mar.
Grand Almoner	G.Alm.
Past Grand Almoners	P.G.Alm.
Grand Warden of Regalia	G.W.Reg.
Past Grand Warden of Regalia	P.G.W.Reg.
Grand Sword Bearer	G.Swd.B.
Past Grand Sword Bearers	P.G.Swd.B.
Deputy Grand Secretary	Dep.G.Sec.
Past Deputy Grand Secretaries	P.Dep.G.Sec.
Grand Banner Bearer	G.B.B.
Past Grand Banner Bearers	P.G.B.B.
Assistant Grand Marshals	Asst.G.Mar.
Past Assistant Grand Marshals	P.Asst.G.Mar.

Assistant Grand Treasurer	Asst.G.Treas.
Past Assistant Grand Treasurer	P.Asst.G.Treas.
Assistant Grand Secretary	Asst.G.Sec.
Past Assistant Grand Secretaries	P.Asst.G.Sec.
Grand Herald	G.Her.
Past Grand Heralds	P.G.Her.
Grand Organist	G.Org.
Past Grand Organists	P.G.Org.
Deputy Grand Organist	Dep.G.Org.
Past Deputy Grand Organist	P.Dep.G.Org.
Grand Doorkeeper	G.Dk.
Past Grand Doorkeepers	P.G.Dk.
Grand Cellarers	G.Cel.
Past Grand Cellarers	P.G.Cel.
Grand Sentry	G.Sent.
Past Grand Sentry	P.G.Sent.
Assistant Grand Sentry	Asst.G.Sent.
Past Assistant Grand Sentry	P.Asst.G.Sent.

(Revised 2017)

3. Styles:

The Grand Master	is styled:	"Most Worthy"
The Grand Prior	is styled:	"Most Eminent"
The Grand Preceptor	is styled:	"Right Worthy"
The Provincial Grand Prior	is styled:	"Right Eminent"
The Master of a Chapel	is styled:	"Worthy"
The Prior of a Chapel	is styled:	"Eminent"

All other members of the Order shall have the style of
 "Sir of "

4. Salutations:

Salutations shall be given as follows:

Grand		Master
		1
1		
Past	Grand	Masters
		1
1		
Grand Prior		9
Past Grand Priors		9
Knight Humilitas		7
Knight Caritas		7
Grand Preceptor		7
Past Grand Preceptors		7
Present & Past:		

Grand Marshal, Grand Treasurer, Grand Registrar	5
Grand Secretary, Grand Historian	
Provincial Grand Priors (only within their own Province)	5
All other Grand and Provincial Grand Officers	4

(Revised 2017)

5. Meetings and Election of the Grand Master:

The Annual Meeting of the Grand Master's Council shall be held on the Thursday included in the Masonic event commonly known as "Masonic Week", unless the Grand Master has issued a dispensation to permit it to be held on another more convenient date.

The Grand Master shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee composed of all Past Grand Masters and the Board of General Purposes. A meeting of the Nominating Committee will be held every year, and at the ensuing Grand Master's Council held during "Masonic Week" an election of a Grand Master shall be held. Any Past Worthy Master of a Chapel under the jurisdiction of the Grand Masters Council of the United States of America shall be eligible to be nominated, either by the Nominating Committee or from the floor, to be elected to serve as Grand Master.

Should the Grand Master die or resign, or by reason of infirmity or incapacity, be unable to discharge his duties, or otherwise be removed from office for cause by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, the Grand Prior shall pro tem exercise all powers of the Grand Master in his stead until such time as a Grand Master shall be elected. The Grand Prior shall, as soon as may be practicable, summon the Nominating Committee, and thereafter the Grand Master's Council, for the purpose of electing a new Grand Master who shall be installed immediately or at a convenient date thereafter. From the day of election the Grand Master shall exercise the powers and prerogatives of the office.

6. Appointments:

At the regular meeting of the Grand Master's Council, the Grand Master may appoint the following Grand Officers, who shall thereupon be invested:

- Grand Prior
- Grand Marshal
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Registrar
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Historian
- Deputy Grand Marshal
- Grand Almoner
- Grand Warden of Regalia
- Grand Sword Bearer
- Deputy Grand Secretary
- Grand Banner Bearer
- Assistant Grand Marshals (3)
- Assistant Grand Treasurer
- Assistant Grand Secretary
- Grand Herald
- Grand Organist

Grand Doorkeeper
Grand Cellarers (6)
Grand Sentry

(Revised 2017)

- a) The Grand Master may, once a year confer the rank designated Provincial Grand Rank on Knights who have rendered meritorious service to the Order as members of an Unattached Chapel and are Past Masters in the Order. They shall wear the regalia as prescribed for a Provincial Officer who is not in active office. Each Knight may append the post-nominal P.G.R. after his nomen.
- b) The award of merit of Knight Humilitas and Knight Caritas is the gift of the Grand Master, which he can revoke, and is limited to 12 and 33 subscribing members, respectively, at any one time.
(Revised 2017)
- c) The Grand Master and Past Grand Masters are Knights Humilitas, and the Grand Prior, and Past Grand Priors are Knights Caritas and by virtue of their rank. Receiving either award is not a prerequisite for election to Grand Master or appointment as Grand Prior. To remove doubt, current and past Grand Masters and Grand Priors are not included in the numerical limitations in note 6.b) above. *(Revised 2019)*
- d) Grand Preceptors are invited to recommend appointments to Grand Rank, before the 1st of September, for consideration by the Grand Master according to the following table:

Number of Chapels		Permitted number
From	to	of recommendations for Grand Ranks
1	6	1
7	10	2
11	14	3
15	20	4
21 +		5 (plus 1 for each additional Chapel)

All Grand Officers are appointed; promoted; replaced and or removed and shall serve in office, at the will and pleasure of the Grand Master.

7. Executive Committee:

There shall be an Executive Committee, chaired by the Grand Master, comprising:

Grand Master
Grand Prior
Grand Marshal
Grand Treasurer
Grand Registrar

Grand Secretary
Deputy Grand Marshal
Deputy Grand Secretary

(Revised 2017)

The Executive Committee shall meet at the Grand Masters discretion at least once per year.

8. Board of General Purposes:

There shall be a Board of General Purposes, chaired by the Grand Master, comprising:

The members of the Executive Committee and 7 Grand Preceptors (whether Past or Present) 3 of whom shall be appointed by the Grand Master or his nominee and 4 of whom shall be elected by the Grand Master's Council from time to time, each serving until replaced by their respective appointing person or body.

The Board of General Purposes shall meet once a year and on such other occasions as the Executive Committee shall by resolution determine.

The Board of General Purposes shall consider all matters placed before it by the Executive Committee and give comment and guidance thereon where appropriate prior to such matters being considered by the Grand Master's Council.

The Board of General Purposes shall each year elect the Grand Master in accordance with the preceding provisions by simple majority and in case of equality of votes the senior Grand Preceptor shall have a second and casting vote.

(Revised 2017)

9. Court of Appeal:

The Court of Appeal shall notwithstanding any previous rule to the contrary consist of such members as shall be appointed from time to time and at any time by the Grand Master's Council.

10. Grand Master's Award (Repealed):

(Repealed 2017)

11. Discipline:

A Knight of the Order, who believes another Knight needs to be disciplined, may submit a written statement to the Grand Master who shall determine if the complaint is an offense against the laws of Freemasonry. If the complaining Knight is not satisfied with the Grand Master's decision, he may appeal to the Grand Master's Council.

If the Grand Master believes discipline should be considered, he will appoint a three member Trial Commission who shall appoint appropriate personnel and oversee written charges, appropriate notice, opportunity for legal representation, trial and recommended punishment, if found guilty at the trial.

A full written report from the Trial Commission shall be available at the next Grand Master's Council. After consideration, the Grand Master's Council, by majority vote, may impose one of the following punishments:

- Expulsion
- Indefinite Suspension
- Definite Suspension for a given period
- Reprimand,

or determine the Knight to be not guilty.

Readmission into the Order after expulsion or indefinite suspension shall be by the same election as if never a member.

Grand Preceptor's Councils

12. Grand Preceptor's Council:

Each Province of the Order shall be governed by a body styled "The Grand Preceptor's Council for (*title of jurisdiction*)".

13. Provincial Ranks:

Every Grand Preceptor's Council shall be composed of the Grand Preceptor, the Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, and the Master and Priors (present and past) of every Chapel in the Province, with all the Installed Masters who are subscribing members of a Chapel within such Province.

Past Provincial rank can only be bestowed on knights after the Province has been in existence for a year.

Provincial appointments are not to be conferred on knights who are not in possession of the mantle and tunic of the Order.

Note: Grand Preceptor and Past Grand Preceptor are Grand Ranks.

14. Appointments:

Every Grand Preceptor shall, at least once in every year, hold a Meeting of the Grand Preceptor's Council at such a place within his Province as he may think fit, and appoint annually from amongst the subscribing members of Chapels within his Province, the following Provincial Grand Officers (who shall bear the indicated post-nominals):

Provincial Grand Prior	Prov.G.P.	*
Provincial Grand Marshal	Prov.G.Mar.	*
Provincial Grand Treasurer	Prov.G.Treas.	*
Provincial Grand Registrar	Prov.G.Reg.	*
Provincial Grand Secretary	Prov.G.Sec.	*
Provincial Deputy Grand Marshal	Prov.Dep.G.Mar.	*+
Provincial Grand Almoner	Prov.G.Alm.	
Provincial Grand Warden of Regalia	Prov.G.W.Reg.	
Provincial Grand Sword Bearer	Prov.G.Swd.B.	
Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary	Prov.Dep.G.Sec.	+
Provincial Grand Banner Bearer	Prov.G.B.B.	
Provincial Assistant Grand Marshal	Prov.Asst.G.Mar.	+
Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary	Prov.Asst.G.Sec.	+
Provincial Grand Herald	Prov.G.Her.	
Provincial Grand Organist	Prov.G.Org.	+
Provincial Grand Doorkeeper	Prov.G.Dk.	
Provincial Grand Cellarers	Prov.G.Cel.	
Provincial Grand Sentry	Prov.G.Sent.	

Only Installed Masters may be appointed to those offices marked with an asterisk (*).

Officers marked with a cross (+) are not mandatory appointments.

Not more than six Provincial Grand Cellarers may be appointed.

Past Provincial Grand Officers shall rank immediately after the corresponding Active Officer for the year, they will bear the title of their previous active rank preceded by the word "Past" and in the corresponding Post nominals will replace "Prov." With "P.Pr."

15. Past Rank:

Every Grand Preceptor may additionally from time to time appoint Knights of ability, who are members of Chapels within his Province and have rendered service to the Order to such Past Provincial Grand Ranks below the rank of Past Provincial Prior as he may deem advisable, according to the following scale.

Number of Chapels		Permitted number of past ranks
From	to	
1	6	1
7	10	2
11	14	3
15	20	4
21	+	5 (plus 1 for each additional Chapel)

Every Grand Preceptor may also from time to time promote such Knights who have served as Provincial Grand Officers or hold Past Provincial Grand Rank and have rendered further service to the Order to such Past Provincial Grand Ranks below the rank of Provincial Grand Prior as to him may seem appropriate.

16. Executive Committee:

There shall be a Provincial Executive Committee, chaired by the Grand Preceptor, comprising:

- Grand Preceptor
- Provincial Grand Prior
- Provincial Grand Marshal
- Provincial Grand Treasurer
- Provincial Grand Registrar
- Provincial Grand Secretary
- Provincial Deputy Grand Marshal (optional at the discretion of the Grand Preceptor)
- Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary (optional at the discretion of the Grand Preceptor)

To meet at the Grand Preceptor's discretion at least once per year.

(Revised 2017)

Private Chapels

17. Petition:

A petition for a warrant of Constitution for a Chapel shall be signed by at least seven Knights of the Order who are the subscribing members of Chapels on the register of the Order, and shall be submitted to the Grand Preceptor for his countersignature, and shall then be transmitted to the Grand Secretary for presentation to the Grand Master.

18. Officers:

The Officers of a Chapel shall be:

- Master
- Prior
- Marshal
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Deputy Marshal
- Almoner
- Four Working Knights
- Herald
- Organist
- Doorkeeper
- Cellarer(s)(6)
- Sentry

Note:

1. The Cellarer and Organist are permissive appointments

19. Progression:

Traditionally the progression to Master is in the sequence of joining the Chapel. A Knight shall not be Master of more than one Chapel at the same time.

20. Elections:

The Sentry, Auditors and members of a Chapel Committee shall be elected at the meeting previous to the Installation Meeting. The Master and Treasurer shall be elected and invested strictly in accordance with the rituals of the Order. Every Master shall forthwith on his Installation appoint and invest the Prior and other Officers and invest the Treasurer.

21. Candidates:

Admission as a Knight of the Order is by invitation. A candidate for admission must be a subscribing Master Mason in a Craft Lodge in amity with the United Grand Lodge of England, a subscribing Royal Arch Mason in a Royal Arch Chapter, or its equivalent in other countries, in amity with Supreme Grand Chapter of England and a subscribing Knight Templar, or its equivalent in other countries, in amity with the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta.

Each candidate must complete and submit a petition for admission into the Order on the approved application form duly proposed and seconded by two members of the Chapel to which he applies.

If a candidate for Installation or joining seeks admission to a chapel in a locality in which he neither resides nor is his normal place of employment, he shall state in writing his reasons for doing so, and not seeking admission to a chapel in the locality of his residence or principal place of business. Permission must be obtained from the Provincial Secretary of the Province in which he resides or principle place of business is situated, or if neither be situated within a Province, from the Grand Secretary before his election, in accordance with the traditions of the Order, and his subsequent admission into the Chapel can take place.

For avoidance of doubt the election for Installation, joining, re-joining and honorary membership is not secret and does not employ ballot balls, knights who are in agreement remain silent.

In circumstances where there is an objection and the knight concerned does not wish to be identified it is permissible for him to make his objection known by informing BOTH the Master and Secretary in private before the election meeting (which he must attend if the objection is to be reported) and they indicate the number of objections that have been received, from the knights present, when the election takes place.

A Chapel may install up to 2 knights at a meeting. A dispensation to install 3 knights may be granted by the Grand Preceptor; more than 3 knights requires a dispensation from the Grand Secretary.

22. Honorary Members:

A brother Knight who has rendered distinguished service to the Order in general, or to a particular Chapel may be elected as an Honorary Member of a Private Chapel.

23. Membership:

To remain a member, a Knight of the Order must be a subscribing Master Mason in a Craft Lodge in amenity with the United Grand Lodge of England and a subscribing member of at least one Chapel of the Order; otherwise his membership of the Order ceases automatically. In circumstances where he holds honorary membership this ceases at the Grand Master's Council meeting, which he may attend but not address, in the year he became non-subscribing. The Grand Master has the power to override this provision.

The Grand Master can, or be petitioned to, make a Knight an Honorary Member of the Order, at his will and pleasure. This entitles the Knight to attend but not address the GMC and any chapel to which he has received a summons.

An ex-member may apply to re-join the Order, (using the appropriate joining / re-joining form) and having found a Proposer and Seconder, and thereafter, being subject to election, in the Chapel of his choice, before re-admission to the Order.

A knight, once admitted or a joining / re-joining member, must continue to be a subscribing member of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, or its equivalent in other countries.

24. Resignation:

In addition to the provisions for Resignation of a member in the Constitutions of Grand Lodge in which he holds membership, a resignation also becomes in force on acknowledgement by recorded/special delivery from the chapel secretary.

Fees

25. Schedule of Fees and Payments to be made to the funds of the Order:

The Fees hereunder set out are payable to the Grand Master's Council of the Order:

For a Warrant of Constitution	\$80.00
Registration of each Founder of a new Chapel	\$10.00
Registration of a Knight on Admission	\$10.00
Registration of each joining or re-joining member	\$ 7.00
Dispensation Fee payable on each application for:	
Dispensations (for unattached Chapels)	\$15.00
Dispensation nunc pro tunc (for unattached Chapels)	\$20.00
Replacement Certificates	\$20.00
Replacement Warrants	\$80.00

(Revised 2017)

Fee of Honour payable on the first appointment or election as a Grand Officer or Past Grand Officer as follows:-

Grand Master	\$200.00
Grand Prior	\$160.00
Knight Humilitas	\$160.00
Knight Caritas	\$160.00
Grand Preceptor	\$160.00
G.Mar., G.Treas.,G.Reg., G.Sec.	\$120.00
G.Hist., Dep.G.Mar., G.Alm., G.W.Reg., G.Swd.B., Dep.G.Sec.	\$100.00
G.B.B., Asst.G.Mar., Asst.G.Treas., Asst.G.Sec.	\$80.00
G.Her., G.Org., Dep.G.Org., G.Dkr.	\$60.00
G.Cel., G.Sent., Asst.G.Sent.	\$40.00

On promotion in Rank, the fee of Honour shall be the difference between the fee for the former rank and that due for the higher rank.

Annual fee payable by every Chapel to the **Grand Masters Council** \$14.00
as at 31st. August, in each year in respect of every Knight who has been a subscribing member during the whole or any part of the preceding 12 months (Checks made to The Order of St Thomas of Acon).

26. Schedule of Fees and Payments to be made to the funds of Provinces

The Fees hereunder set out are payable to the Grand Preceptor's Council:

Registration of each Founder of a new Chapel	\$ 5.00
Registration of a Knight on Admission	\$ 7.00
Registration of each joining or rejoining member	\$ 7.00
Dispensation Fee payable on each application for:	
Dispensation	\$15.00
Dispensation nunc pro tunc	\$20.00

Fee of Honour payable on the first appointment or elections a Provincial Grand Officer or Past Provincial Grand Officer as follows:-

Provincial Grand Prior	\$100.00
Prov.G.Mar., Prov.G.Treas., Prov.G.Reg., Prov.G.Sec.	\$60.00
Prov.Dep.G.Mar., Prov.G.Alm., Prov.G.W.Reg., Prov.G.Swd.B., Prov.Dep.G.Sec.	\$50.00
Prov.G.B.B, Prov.Asst.G.Mar., Prov.Asst.G.Treas., Prov.Asst.G.Sec.	\$40.00
Prov.G.Her., Prov.G.Org., Prov.G.Dkr.	\$30.00
Prov.G.Cel, Prov.G.Sent.	\$20.00

On promotion, the Fee of Honour shall be the difference between the fee for the former rank and that for the higher rank.

(Revised 2017)

Annual fee payable by every Chapel to the
Grand Preceptor's Council

\$10.00

as at 31st. August in each year in respect of every Knight who has been a subscribing member during the whole or any part of the preceding 12 months.
(Checks made to Province)

Regalia

27. Regalia:

The Clothing, Insignia and Jewels, and Arms which shall be borne by members of the Order of St. Thomas of Acon are:

i) **Knight:**

- a) **Tunic** of stone white material; long enough to cover the knees; to be fastened at the back; on the front a Latin Cross, four inches wide, the full length of the tunic, colour Medici Crimson, on which is superimposed a white Latin Cross one third of the width. The centre of the intersection of the Cross charged with a Bronze Escallope Shell. (**Note:** in this Order the Badge is worn [on every garment] "**a coquille**" with the hinge of the Escallope shell at the bottom and fan opening at the top).
- b) **Mantle** of similar stone white material to the Tunic, long enough completely to cover the Tunic a white silken cord around the neck with a silken tassel at each end which shall be tied in front of the collar with a bow; on the left breast a Greek Cross (straight limbs of ten inches length) divided vertically and horizontally red, white, red in even widths of 0.5 inches each, the white cross terminating 0.5 of an inch short of the ends of the cross; the mid-point of the Cross charged with a Bronze Escallope Shell, which shall be of a size to fit in a circle of no greater than 1.5 inches; the top of the cross six to eight inches below the left shoulder; the Mantle is to be shaped or pleated at the neck and shoulder so that the two edges hang vertically in front.
- c) **Cap** of crimson velvet, three inches deep; on the front of the cap a Bronze Escallope Shell upright.
- d) **Sword** (Templar pattern) and Scabbard - regardless of office, active or past; an Ordained Clergyman may carry a bible rather than a sword at his discretion.
- e) **Belt** of brown leather two inches wide, the buckle and tongue brass; a leather Sword Frog on the left side.

(**Note:** Priors and Almoners wear neither Belt nor Sword)

ii) **Master:**

As for a Knight (above) but in addition carries a Sceptre with a large bronze Escallope Shell on top, within his own Chapel only.

iii) **Past Master:**

As for a Knight (above) but in addition wears a silver chain round the neck from which is suspended a silver Canterbury Cross.

iv) **Provincial Grand Officers:**

As for a Past Master, but the Escallope Shell on the tunic, mantle and hat are of silver.

Note:

- a) Neither the Provincial Grand Prior nor the Provincial Grand Almoner wears either belt or a sword.
- b) A seated Provincial Grand Officer, where not otherwise a Grand Officer fulfilling a Provincial Office, will, with the exception of the Provincial Grand Prior, wear an additional brooch type smaller silver shell on his mantle, located one inch above the upper arm of the cross. He may wear this additional silver shell for so long as he holds a seated Provincial Grand Office.

(Revised 2017)

v) Grand Preceptor:

As for a Provincial Grand Officer, but in addition carries a Sceptre with a large silver Escallope Shell, affixed to the upper end of the baton.

He will be distinguished by a silver patriarchal crown sewn on his mantle one inch above the upper vertical arm of the cross. On the cessation of office, the Patriarchal Crown will continue to be worn unless the knight is promoted.

vi) Provincial Grand Prior:

As for a Provincial Grand Officer, but in addition:

- a) The Provincial Grand Prior, if in Holy Orders, is to wear the clerical vestments suitable to his Office and Church. If the Grand Prior is not in Holy Orders, he will continue to wear the habit of the Order, but will be distinguished by a small silver mitre sewn on his mantle one inch above the upper vertical arm of the cross, carries a Bible, and does not wear a belt or a sword.
- b) A Past Provincial Grand Prior will cease to wear clerical vestments, if in holy orders; the small silver mitre sewn on his mantle will continue to be worn unless the knight is promoted.

(Revised 2017)

vii) Grand Officers:

As for a Past master, but the Escallope Shell on the tunic, mantle and hat are of gold. Grand Officers (past and present) wear a silver neck chain from which is suspended a token of St. Thomas (which replaces the Canterbury Cross worn by Past Masters).

Note:

- a) Neither the Grand Prior nor the Grand Almoner wears either belt or a sword.
- b) A seated Grand Officer will wear an additional brooch type smaller gold shell on his mantle, located one inch above the upper arm of the cross, and will continue to wear the same for so long as he holds a seated Grand Office.
(Revised 2017)
- c) Grand Officers who are not seated in Grand Master's Council, but who undertake a seated Office as a Provincial Grand Officer will wear the Regalia of a Grand Officer, but are permitted to wear an extra silver shell of a seated Provincial Grand Officer.
(Revised 2017)
- d) Grand Officers who are seated in Grand Master's Council, but who undertake a seated Office as a Provincial Grand Officer below the rank of Provincial Grand Prior, will wear the regalia of a Grand Officer until no longer a seated Officer in Grand Master's Council, at which time the small gold shell of a seated Grand Officer is replaced with the small silver shell of a seated Provincial Grand Officer.
(Added 2017)

viii) Knight Caritas:

A Knight who has been awarded the title Knight Caritas shall be entitled to wear a crimson collaret with the letters "KC" in gold on either side from which they will suspend their Grand Officer's jewel.

ix) Knight Humilitas:

A Knight who has been awarded the title Knight Humilitas shall be entitled to wear a black collaret with the letters "KH" in gold on either side from which they will suspend their Grand Officer's jewel.

x) Grand Master:

As for a Grand Officer, but in addition:

- a) Wears a princely crown above the Cross on the Mantle;
- b) Bears on his right hand a gold ring with the Cross of the Order; the words "**IN HOC SIGNO VINCES**" inscribed thereon;
- c) Carries a Sceptre with a large gold Escallope Shell on the top.

xi) Grand Prior:

As for a Grand Officer, but in addition:

- a) The Grand Prior, if in Holy Orders, is to wear the clerical

vestments suitable to his Office and Church. If the Grand Prior is not in Holy Orders, he will continue to wear the habit of the Order, but will be distinguished by a small gold mitre sewn on his mantle one inch above the upper vertical arm of the cross, carries a Bible, and does not wear a belt or a sword.

- b) A Past Grand Prior will cease to wear clerical vestments, if in holy orders; the small gold mitre sewn on his mantle will continue to be worn unless the knight is promoted.

(Added 2017)

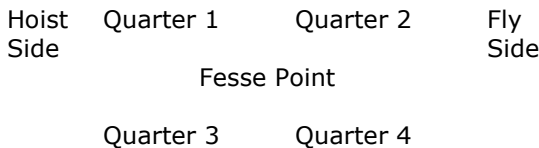
xii) Badges:

The badges worn on the mantle, tunic and hat band must either be metal plated in the appropriate colours, or genuine sea shell, painted in the appropriate colours. The badges may be pinned or sewn on the garments.

28. Banners:

- i) The Banner of the Order depicts the Arms of the Order and comprises: argent (34" square) a cross rouse (4.5" in width) reaching to the edges of the banner on which is superimposed a white cross (1.5" in width terminating 1.5" from the edges of the banner). The Banner should be charged with a gold scallop shell or (fimbriated rouse) edged in the first quarter. As this is a Military Order the Banner should be borne on a carrying pole, affixed to the pole at the hoist side and upper horizontal bar. (It should not be suspended from a cross bar).

- ii) Banner quarters are arranged as follows:-



- iii) Provinces use the Banner of the Order (as above) charged with an additional device representing the Jurisdiction Territory placed in the second quarter. Where appropriate this device must be fimbriated.
- iv) Private Chapels use the Provincial Banner of their Province (as above) charged with an additional device representing the Chapel, centrally on the intersection of the arms of the Cross.
- v) Any armigerous Knight may carry his personal Banner and place it behind his stall at all meetings of the Order.
- vi) All designs for banners must first be submitted for approval to the Grand Secretary, and also where appropriate to the Provincial Grand Secretary.

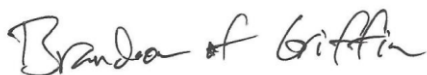
29. Altar Frontal:

Chapels may use either a plain white Altar cloth, or an Altar frontal bearing the Arms of the Order. In the latter case, the Red Greek Cross on the front of the white Altar Cloth should have arms of equal length, the lesser of 34" or one third the width of the Altar. The arms of the red cross should be 4.5" in width, the white cross superimposed thereon should be 1.5 inches in width ending 1.5" before the ends of the red cross. The cross should be charged with a gold scallop shell at "Fesse" point.

Constitutions promulgated and approved by the Grand Master in Council on the afternoon of Thursday the twenty ninth day of the month of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen.

As amended subsequently either by Grand Magisterial Decree or by the Most Worthy Grand Master in Council with Executive Committee and issued as an Administrative Instrument.

Signed on behalf of Sir Matthew of Philadelphia KH, Most Worthy Grand Master



Sir Brandon of Griffin, Grand Secretary

(1st. Edition Revision 1 - Dated February 21st , 2019)