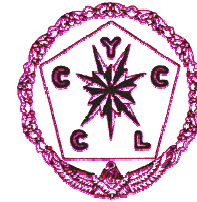


Trinity York Rite College No
154

Fort Worth, TX



By-Laws

Revised June 10, 2003

**YORK RITE SOVEREIGN COLLEGE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

500 Temple Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48201-2693
TEL: 313.833.1385 FAX: 313.833.7735

**UNIFORM CODE OF BY-LAWS
FOR USE BY ALL REGULAR COLLEGES**

This Uniform Code of By-Laws contains those basic elements of the Constitution and By-Laws of the York Rite Sovereign College that every York Rite College must have in its By-Laws. Options consistent with Sovereign College Regulations may be added as Amendments at the discretion of the Membership and with approval of the Governor General.

**This York Rite College hereby declares its fealty to the Most
Worshipful Grand Lodge of Texas, and the York Rite Sovereign
College of North America.**

ARTICLE I

NAME, NUMBER AND LOCATION

- A. This College shall be known as **Trinity York Rite College No. 154**.
- B. The City of Fort Worth & environs (Tarrant County), State of Texas shall be the home, or the usual Assembly place of this College.
- C. Options: (Jurisdiction – Concurrent in Texas)

ARTICLE II

COLLEGE OR FISCAL YEAR

- A. The fiscal year of this College shall begin on **June 1st** and end on **May 31st** of the following year.

ARTICLE III

PURPOSES

- A. The purposes of this York Rite College shall be:
 - 1. To foster a spirit of cooperation and coordination among each of the Bodies of York Rite Masonry.
 - 2. To assist in worthy efforts to improve the ritualistic and dramatic presentation of York Rite Work.
 - 3. To conduct an educational program in order to inculcate a greater appreciation of the principles, ideals and programs of York Rite Masonry.
 - 4. To strengthen York Rite Masonry in every proper manner.
 - 5. To build a love of country and to aid and support genuine Patriotism.
 - 6. To reward outstanding service to York Rite Masonry by awards, honors and other methods of proper recognition.
 - 7. To support Charitable and Benevolent endeavors of Freemasonry.

- a. Each of the Chartered Colleges of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America is authorized to establish a Life (or Prepaid) Membership Plan in order to establish a Prepaid Dues Plan.

ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP

- A. Membership shall be limited to Regular Members who are in good standing in a Symbolic Lodge of Master Masons, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, a Council of Cryptic Masons [or Royal and Select Masters (Masons)] and a Commandery, or Preceptory, of Knights Templar, and who are actively engaged in working for the York Rite.
- B. The Council, acting as a Screening Committee, shall consider all Proposals for Membership and cause them to be presented to the Assembly or be filed by the Secretary, but a majority vote of the members in attendance at an Assembly can bring a Proposal up for ballot if he qualifies by "A" above.
- C. Membership in this College shall be by invitation only.
- D. Any Member in good standing may recommend an eligible York Rite Mason for membership on the Proposal form provided for that purpose.
- E. Membership in this College shall be as follows:
 - 1. Primal; Regular Member
 - 2. Dual; (Optional) Membership in this College plus Primal Membership in a different Grand Jurisdiction.
 - 3. Plural; (Optional) Membership in more than one College within this State or Province.
- F. Life (or Prepaid Membership)
 - 1. General

APPROVED :

James D. Manley	4-29-03
Governor	Date
Fred E. Allen	5-18-03
Grand Governor	Date
David L. Hargett, Jr	6-10-03
Governor General	Date

Secretary General

Date

ARTICLE X
VACANT OFFICES

- A. An Office may be vacated in the following way:
 - 1. Death
 - 2. Inability or refusal to serve
 - 3. Temporary or permanent suspension
 - 4. Expulsion from the Order
 - 5. Loss of Pre-requisite membership
- B. Appointed Officers serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- C. The Grand Governor may suspend an Elected Officer failing to properly fulfill the duties of his office (e.g. 2. above)

ARTICLE XI
CONFLICT DISCLAIMER

- A. Anything contained herein that is in conflict with the spirit and intent of the Sovereign College Constitution and By-Laws, together with the guidelines of the Governor General and the Board of Directors, is hereby declared to be null and void.

ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS

- A. These By-Laws may be amended as follows:
 - 1. The written proposal shall identify the Article, Section, Page and Line(s) to be deleted, amended or replaced.
 - 2. It shall identify the New Amendment by Article, Section and Page.
 - 3. It shall quote the new language exactly
 - 4. It must be received by a majority vote at a Regular Assembly or a Special Assembly called for that purpose.
 - 5. It must then lay over, due notice be given the membership (Article VI-F), and adopted by a 2/3 majority vote at a subsequent Assembly.
 - 6. It must bear the signature of the Grand Governor.

- 7. It must be properly signed and submitted in triplicate to the Secretary General for the Governor General's Signature.

- b. Each Prepaid Dues Fund shall be the property of the College adopting the Life Membership Plan.
 - c. A member's dues must be current at the time of becoming a prepaid Member.
 - d. No College shall co-mingle any of its assets with the Prepaid Dues Fund.
 - e. College shall in no case borrow from the Prepaid Dues Fund to any individual or private Corporation.
- 2. Establishment and Cost
 - a. After proper notice according to the By-Laws of a College, the members may adopt a Life (Prepaid) Membership Plan by majority vote of its members present, at the stated Assembly designated in the notice.
 - b. Colleges establishing a Prepaid Dues Fund may set the amount as 12.5 times the amount of annual dues, which in no case shall be less than \$200.00.
 - c. Investment of the funds must be consistent with investment policies of the Grand Lodge of the State or Province in which the college is situated and must be approved in advance by the Grand Governor and be reported to the Sovereign College Office.
 - d. The College may use all or any part of the income earned by said Prepaid Dues Fund treating it the same as the annual dues paid by the member. The College may not use the Principle.
- G. A unanimous vote of those members present at a Regular Assembly, or a Special Assembly called for that purpose, shall be necessary for election to membership.

ARTICLE V
COLLEGE OFFICERS

- A. The Officers of this York Rite College by Title and Rank are:
 - 1. Preeminent Governor
 - 2. Eminent Deputy Governor
 - 3. Eminent Chancellor

4. Eminent Treasurer
 5. Eminent Secretary
 6. Noble Primate
 7. Noble Preceptor
 8. Noble Seneschal
 9. Noble Marshal
 10. Noble Sentinel
 11. Noble Organist (Optional)
 12. Noble Herald (s) (Optional)
- B. The first five shall be elected at or before the Annual Assembly.
 - C. The Governor shall make all appointments.
 - D. The term of Office shall be one year, or until a successor is duly installed.
 - E. The five Elected Officers shall constitute the Council of the College
 - F. It shall be the duty and privilege of the Governor to preside at all Assemblies of the College. In his absence, the Deputy Governor, Chancellor or the Junior Past Governor present, in that order, will open the College and preside.
 - G. Should the Office of Governor become vacant, the Deputy Governor or Chancellor, in that order, shall succeed to the Office of Governor until the next Annual Assembly. Should a special election become necessary, the Governor General may grant his dispensation upon application.
 - H. The election and installation of Officers must comply fully with applicable Sovereign College Regulations.
 - I. Option: (annual date and place).

ARTICLE VI ASSEMBLIES

- A. The dates of Assembly shall be fixed by the By-Laws of the College (Section 104 of Constitution). There shall be a minimum of two Assemblies per College year, including the Annual Assembly.
- B. The Annual Assembly of this York Rite College shall be held on the **3rd Saturday in May**.
- C. A Regular Assembly shall be held on the **4th Tuesday in January**.
- D. Other Regular Assemblies shall be held on the **5th Tuesdays** in those months having 5 Tuesdays, except for December and January, or if conflicting with a legal Holiday.
- E. The Governor may call Special Assemblies at his discretion.
- F. Nine (9) Companion Knights shall constitute a quorum.

- H. Due notice shall be given to the membership for **all** Assemblies.

ARTICLE VII FEES AND DUES

- A. The fee for membership in this College shall be **\$60.00** plus any Per Capita or special assessment levied by the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.
- B. The annual dues for membership in this College shall be **\$10.00** plus any Per Capita or special assessment levied by the York Rite Sovereign College of North America.
 1. The College may remit the annual dues (or any part thereof) of any member for cause (agedness, illness, financial difficulties, confinement in a nursing home, resident of the Texas Masonic Retirement Center, 50-year Mason, etc.)
 2. The annual dues may be remitted for a new candidate, who purchases an endowed membership per Article IV.F.2.b, at the time of his application.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

- A. The Council shall serve as a Standing Committee on Charity and may authorize an amount not to exceed **\$50.00** to relieve a worthy distressed Companion Knight.
- B. Immediately after his election, the Governor shall appoint Committees on:
 1. York Rite Cooperation
 2. Membership
 3. Budget and Finance
 4. Degree Teams
 5. Entertainment
 6. (Options) Other Committees

ARTICLE IX DEFUNCT COLLEGES

- A. If this College shall cease to exist, except for the purpose of consolidation, the Governor and Secretary shall within thirty (30) days thereafter; transmit to the Secretary General of the York Rite Sovereign College of North America all books, papers, rituals, jewels, seals, robes, all paraphernalia and all other property or Funds, or evidence thereof,

together with the Charter unless the same has been arrested or removed by order of the Governor General.