

**Account of Resolutions
2025 Grand Chapter Session**

By Committee on Jurisprudence of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina

In accordance with the Rules of Order set forth in Article X of the Grand Chapter Bylaws, Resolutions were read beginning at 2:00 P.M. on June 10, 2025. The following is an account of actions taken by the Grand Chapter on each Resolution:

RESOLUTION 1: Adopted. Resolution 1 addressed the election of Grand Sentinel to be effective with election of officers at the 2026 annual session of the Grand Chapter. The following language shall be added to Article II, Section 2, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina:

“Section 2. All of the above-named officers shall be Sisters except the Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Patron, and the Grand Sentinel, who shall be Brothers; the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Trustee, Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal, Grand Organist and Grand Warder may be either a Sister or a Brother.”

The following language shall be added to Article 111, Section 1, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina:

“Section 1. The Worthy Grand Matron, Worthy Grand Patron, Associate Grand Matron, Associate Grand Patron, and Grand Conductress shall be nominated and elected by the usual voting sign of the Order, and a majority vote shall be necessary for election at the annual session of this Grand Chapter. The Grand Secretary Grand Treasurer, Associate Grand Conductress, Grand Sentinel and Grand Trustees shall be nominated and elected by secret ballot; provided that when there is only one nominee, Grand Chapter may order otherwise. A majority vote shall be necessary for election at the annual session of this Grand Chapter.”

RESOLUTION 2: Adopted. Resolution 2 addressed the Bylaws of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, Article 11, Sections 7 and 8. The following changes will be made:

Section 7: Add the words “Grand Sentinel” between “Associate Grand Conductress” and “Grand Trustees” in the second column.

Section 8: Delete the words “Grand Sentinel” from the list of Appointive Officers.

RESOLUTION 3: Adopted. Resolution 3 addressed Article 111, Section 20, of the Bylaws of North Carolina stating “No present or Past Grand Matron or Grand Patron shall act in the capacity of Grand Representative of this Grand Jurisdiction.” The following change shall be made:

Section 20, Article 111, of the Bylaws of North Carolina be amended by deleting the last sentence of the paragraph.

RESOLUTION 4: Adopted. Resolution 4 addressed Grand Chapter Bylaws Article 111, Section 21 and Section 25, the paying of one dollar for a special dispensation. The following changes shall be made:

(1) Grand Chapter Bylaws Article 111, Section 21: Delete the second sentence. Section 21 will now read as follows: “Section 21. The Worthy Grand Matron may grant such Dispensations as are authorized by the laws of this Grand Chapter. When a Dispensation is issued to elect or install officers out-of-time or for the temporary removal of a charter, it shall be a definite time and the date of its expiration stated. (See Bylaws Section 25; Rules and Resolutions Sections 30, 88 and 92.)

(2) Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article 111, Section 25: Delete the words, “and payment of a fee of one dollar” in the last sentence. Section 25 will now read as follows: “Section 25. Whenever the office of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron or Associate Patron of a Subordinate Chapter shall become vacant from any cause, the Worthy Grand Matron shall, upon the request of the Chapter, grant a Dispensation to fill such vacancy.”

RESOLUTION 5. Adopted. Resolution 5 addressed Grand Chapter Bylaws Article V11, Sections 86-89, Registration Committee. The following changes be made to Sections 86-89 of the Article V11 of the Bylaws of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina. Sections 86-89 will be consolidated into one section and labeled Section 86 to read as follows:

Registration Committee

Section 86. (a) There shall be a Registration Committee appointed annually which shall be composed of not less than twenty-five members, one of whom shall be appointed by the Worthy Grand Matron to serve as Chairman of Registrations.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Registration Committee to register the North Carolina Subordinate Chapter Members and proxies, to examine and verify the credentials of each member, to collect a registration fee of ten dollars (\$10) per member and proxy, and to issue ballots to the voting delegates of the Grand Chapter.

(c) The Chairman of Registration will ensure that Distinguished and Out-of-State Guests are properly registered and the registration fee of ten dollars (\$10) is collected from each person. Elective General Grand Chapter Officers are exempt from the fee.

(d) The Chairman of Registration is charged with accurate record keeping and the safekeeping of all collected funds. Said chairman will give a Registration report to the Grand Chapter on Wednesday morning of the Session, to include the amount collected.

(e) The money raised through Registration shall be used to help pay the expenses of the Grand Chapter Session. Any monies left over shall be placed in a Registration Fund to be used by succeeding Grand Chapter Sessions, if necessary. The money collected by the Registration Committee shall be administered by the Grand Chapter Finance Committee and shall be handled by the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer in the same manner as other Grand Chapter funds.

(f) The Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron shall be ex-officio members of this Committee.

Sections 87, 88 and 89 will now be left blank, until such time as the entire Bylaws of the Grand Chapter are amended and a renumbering of sections can be accomplished.

RESOLUTION 6: Adopted. Resolution 6 addressed Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Section 57, the payment of \$2.00 for a Grand Chapter demit. Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Section 57 shall be amended as follows:

That the words, "plus two dollars to cover cost of the Grand Chapter demit," be deleted from Section 57 of the Rules and Regulations and that a period (.) Be placed after the words "indebtedness due said Chapter."

RESOLUTION 7: Adopted. Resolution 7 addressed Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Article 111, Section 84, "Presiding Officer in Absence of the Worthy Matron." Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Article 111, Section 84 shall read as follows:

"Section 84. In the absence of the Worthy Matron from any meeting of the Chapter, the Associate Matron shall preside, if present; in the absence of both the Worthy Matron and Associate Matron, the Worthy Patron shall preside and shall call on any sister **of the chapter** to act as Worthy Matron; in the absence of the Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron and Associate Matron, the Associate Patron shall preside and shall call on any sister **of the chapter** to act as Worthy Matron."

RESOLUTION 8: Adopted. Resolution 8 addressed Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Article 1V, Sections 101, 111 and 116, Membership Eligibility. Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Article 1V, Sections 101, 111 and 116 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Section 101. All petitions for the degrees or membership must be signed by the petitioner and two members of the Chapter who recommended the petitioner. A Petition for the Degrees cannot be legally received without one of the following: (1) previous establishment of the Masonic standing of a male petitioner; (2) previous establishment of the Masonic standing of the male relative of the female petitioner; (3) certificate of majority membership in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls or in Job’s Daughters International, as proof of membership; OR (4) a letter of recommendation signed by a Sister and a Brother who are members of the Order and are sponsoring a woman who does not have a Masonic relative. If a Petition for the Degrees is not accompanied by one of the four required certifications, the Petitioner shall be notified that such petition is defective and invalid, without any further action by the Chapter. The fee must be returned and the petition must not be balloted upon. If such petitioner later furnishes the required certification, such petition may then be received and acted upon.”

“Section 111. (a) Affiliated Master Masons in good standing, and any female relatives who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption to affiliated Master Masons in good standing or, if deceased, were in good standing at the time of their death; as well as members—either active or three (3) years or Majority in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls or in Job’s Daughters International; and women sponsored by a Sister and Brother who are members of the Order, each of whom shall have attained to at least the age of eighteen (18) years, are eligible to membership in the Order of the Eastern Star. Each female petitioner for the degrees must present with her petition either (1) a certificate of qualification by proper Masonic relationship in a regular lodge of Master Masons or a dues receipt; (2) certificate of majority membership in the International Order of the Rainbow Girls or in Job’s Daughters International as proof of membership. It shall be understood that the current year’s dues card of the Master Mason upon whose Masonic relationship such female petitioner claims eligibility, shall be considered as a certificate of qualification. If a woman is being sponsored by a Sister and Brother who are members of the Order, she must submit a letter of recommendation signed by the sponsors.

(b) The petition must be received at a stated meeting of the Chapter, unless the Grand Chapter shall otherwise provide; and when received, must be referred to a committee of three members, one of who shall be a Brother, appointed by the presiding officer. Only a Brother may inquire as to the standing of a Masonic Brother. No member who signed the petition recommending the person may serve as a member of the Investigating Committee.

(c) A male petitioner for the degrees or membership must present with his petition a certificate, or its equivalent, of affiliation and good standing in a regular Lodge of Master Masons. A regular Lodge of Master Masons is defined as Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge wherein the Chapter petitioned is located. A common source is the List of Masonic Lodges issued by the Grand Lodge. This list is supported by the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Only the Brother has the right to inquire as to the standing of a Masonic Brother. It shall be understood that the current year’s dues card of such Master Mason is considered as the equivalent of a certificate of affiliation and good standing.”

“Section 116. No petition for the degrees or for membership shall be received unless recommended by two members of the Chapter in good standing whose names shall appear on the record as certifying proper Masonic relation of the petitioner **or sponsoring of a female petitioner.**”

RESOLUTION 9: Adopted as amended. Resolution 9 addressed Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Article IV, Section 109. Resident for membership. Grand Chapter Rules and Regulations, Article IV, Section 109 shall read as follows:

“No petitions for degrees shall be entertained in any Chapter in this Grand Jurisdiction unless the petitioner shall have resided six months in the state of North Carolina or within 50 miles of the state line of an adjoining state (Grand Jurisdiction); that is, in cases when the North Carolina Chapter

would be the closest Chapter to the petitioner. Petitioners living inside another Grand Jurisdiction must obtain a waiver of jurisdiction from that Grand Jurisdiction before a petition could be entered in any Chapter in the Grand Jurisdiction of North Carolina.

RESOLUTION 10. Ruled Out of Order.

The Book of Instruction Report was not distributed; therefore, no action was taken.