

# Lodge By-Laws

# I. Statement of purpose

# A. Our purposes are to:

- 1. Live according to our holistic spiritual beliefs, honoring the duality of creation in balance with natural world.
- 2. Grow and educate ourselves in our spiritual beliefs.
- 3. Encourage and support our brothers and sisters of the lodge in all possible aims, including the lending of our joined energy to members in times of need.
- 4. Gather for the 8 seasonal celebrations, 13 moons and lodge meetings, work medicine and recognize growth.
- 5. Encourage one another spiritually to live in accordance with our own personal ethics.
- 6. Share wisdom and knowledge openly with the lodge.

# B. Commitment

All members of this lodge must have fully committed themselves to the above purpose in their beliefs, their activities and their lives.

### II. Membership

#### A. Qualifications

Individuals who wish to seek membership must first submit an application. Once the application has been reviewed, an interview with the applicant will be scheduled.

### B. Degrees of Membership

- 1. Members Dedicants and initiates alike are considered to be members.
- 2. Lodge Council All initiated members of the lodge are given membership within the lodge council. Initiated members are those who are First Degree initiates, priestess/priest, or high-priestess/high-priest. Dedicants are not considered initiated members.

# C. Membership Status

Any person's membership may be curtailed, suspended, or terminated by decision of the Lodge Council either for lack of attendance or participation, or in violation of privacy agreements/secrecy vows.

# III. Administration and Operations

### A. Body of Members

This body handles the ordinary business of the lodge.

1. Membership – All those who have been initiated into the lodge are included in this body.

- 2. Scope The membership discusses all matters of planning, activities, initiations and potential memberships.
- 3. Facilitation The High-Priestess shall ordinarily chair meetings of the membership. Where she is absent, or chooses not to delegate this responsibility, a High-Priest shall chair the meeting.
- 4. Method of Operation All decisions in the lodge are made by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the members may refer the decision to the High-Priestess, who shall consider what has been discussed and make the decision.
- 5. Meetings Meetings for the lodge members occur when deemed necessary or desirable.

### B. Lodge council

This body handles specific occurrences and problems.

- 1. Membership The Lodge Council consists of all initiated members of the lodge. Dedicants are not official members of the Lodge Council.
- 2. Scope The council discusses situations such as violations of the privacy of members, or disagreements within the lodge that my need to be moderated.
- 3. Meetings Lodge Council meetings are called on an as needed basis.

### C. Guidelines for Conduct

All members shall keep in mind their devotion to their own ethical codes of conduct, as well as the lodge privacy and secrecy concerns.

### IV. Meeting Schedule

# A. Rituals

- 1. Meeting will normally be held on the evening of the full moon or New Moon when possible.
- 2. The 8 main seasonal celebrations shall normally be held on their actual date whenever possible or as determined by the members.
- 3. Rituals are held by default at the Lodge itself, except in the onset of inclement weather which prevents such, then another location will be sought.

#### B. Classes

The lodge may or may not hold formal teaching classes. While we are constantly learning and teaching one another, hands-on experience is our most powerful teacher, and each member is responsible for attaining the level of knowledge that they seek.

#### V. Attendance

- A. Meetings are open to all members, save for Lodge Council gatherings, where only initiated members are invited, by default.
- B. Initiations are open to initiated members only.
- C. the Lodge is NOT a Public Lodge; rituals and meetings are not open to the public/guests.
- D. Members are expected to participate in meetings, celebrations, rituals. If any member attends fewer than 75% of these events, their status may be subject to review by the Lodge Council.

# VI. Privacy of Members

- A. The names, addresses, telephone numbers and other information relating to individual members shall not be disclosed to non-members without the permission of the individual involved.
- B. Disclosure of confidential information may be considered a violation of secrecy and grounds for expulsion from the Lodge.