MASONIC PROVINCE OF SOUTH WALES TALAITH SAERYDDOL DE CYMRU

D. GERALD ROWBOTTOM, PSGD, PAsstPGM Provincial Grand Secretary Prif Ysgrifennydd y Dalaith



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Distribution: Lodge Secretaries

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Dear Brother Secretary,

I greet you well and write to inform you of 3 x important permissible interpretations, in compliance with Rules 105(a), 112(a) &158 & Book of Constitutions; all 3 of which become effective in the Province of South Wales from 01st January 2015.

Election and Installation of Master 105. (a)

Every Lodge shall annually, on the day named in its by-laws for the purpose, proceed to elect a Master by ballot from among those of its members who have, or previously to the installation of such Master shall have, served for one year (that is to say from one regular installation meeting until the next regular installation at the corresponding period in the following year) the office of Master, or of Senior Warden or of Junior Warden, in a regular Lodge warranted under the Grand Lodge, or who shall have been rendered eligible by dispensation under Rule 109. The ballot shall be declared in favour of the member thus qualified who has received the largest number of votes of the members present and voting. *Please note the following:*

If there be only one nomination and if no other member duly qualified shall have indicated to the Secretary that he wishes to be considered and if no member present calls for a ballot then it shall be permissible for the Master to declare the election in favour of the nominated member; provided that the election shall not be so declared unless notice of the intention so to do and the identity of the sole Brother nominated shall have been given on the summons convening the meeting at which the election is to take place.

Election of Treasurer 112. (a)

The Treasurer shall be elected by the members on the regular day of election of the Master and in the same manner.

Rule 158 Book of Constitutions

If a candidate for initiation seeks admission to a Lodge in a locality in which he has neither a permanent residence nor a regular place of business or employment, he shall state in writing his reasons for so doing, and his reason for not seeking admission to a Lodge in the locality of his residence or principal place of business. In such a case the Lodge to which he seeks admission, upon the receipt of a proposal form for initiation, shall forthwith make enquiries as to the candidate's suitability from the Masonic Authority having jurisdiction over the locality of his residence or principal place of business. A candidate coming within the provisions of this Rule shall not be proposed in open Lodge until the Masonic Authority has replied to the enquiries.

To reflect the changing patterns of residence and employment, from 01st January 2015, you are to interpret Locality as within the *geographical boundaries of the Province of South Wales* and *not the Towns or Cities* that Candidates live or work. For enquiries regarding suitability of gentlemen living outside the geographical boundaries of the Province of South Wales, enquiries are to continue to be made to the Provincial Grand Secretary of South Wales.

Please enjoy Christmas and on behalf of all members of the Provincial Office Staff and Volunteers, I offer you our warmest fraternal regards for 2015.

W.Brd. D. Gerald Rowbottom, PSGD, PAsstPGM Provincial Grand Secretary