



Grand York Rite Bodies of New Hampshire

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire
Grand Council Cryptic Masons of New Hampshire
Grand Commandery Knights Templar of New Hampshire

May 31, 2021

Degree Work and Guidance on Meetings

Companions and Sir Knights,

On May 26, 2021, the MWGM, David S. Collins, published updated guidance on Lodge Precautions for COVID. As a result of this new guidance, we feel it is appropriate at this time to address our recommendations for the Grand York Rite bodies. In accordance with the Grand Lodge guidance, we are providing the following:

- Degree Work: All Degree and Orders may resume effective today. Per the Grand Lodge guidance, the following practices will also be required. All members who will have contact with the candidates or one another during the work will wear cotton or approved gloves per the Grand Commandery Tactics manual for the Orders of Commandery. Also, per the GL guidance, masks will be required for the above-mentioned parties, and it is highly encouraged that the candidates do so as well.
- Meetings: Chapters, Councils, and Commanderies. will CONTINUE to be allowed to meet in person. We want to reinforce that the leaders of the local bodies need to use their own discretion on whether to meet or not.
- Member Attendance: Companions and Sir Knights should not feel forced to attend any meetings. The local body heads should reinforce that in your meeting notices to your members.
- Member Safety Hall Usage, & Illness: Will follow the guidance issued by the Grand Lodge.
- Meals: Any meal service that is held should be in full compliance with the direction given by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire Free & Accepted Masons, as they have provided detailed guidance for this.

We are asking you to continue to look at your meetings with an eye of caution and this decision will allow you to do that. As always do not hesitate to reach out to us with any further questions.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Thomas X. Tsirimokos
Most Excellent Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, RAM
Most Illustrious Grand Master, Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of NH
Patrick J. O'Sullivan
Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of New Hampshire.

Attest:

Dennis A. Sheridan

RE Grand Secretary-RI Grand Recorder-E Grand Recorder