

# JDI Forward

MN Grand Guardian Council Update

August 27, 2020

# JDI Forward Basics - Effective 9/1/20 - 11/30/20

- ▶ The Constitution and Bylaws of JDI Law remain suspended to provide flexibility but we encourage discretion
- ▶ All BOT Policies including the JDI Youth Protection Policy remain in full effect
- ▶ As per previous communication, age of Majority is extended to 21 from March 15, 2020 until December 31, 2021 if desired by the Daughter
  - ▶ Daughter must decide when she turns 20 if she wishes to be a Majority Member or remain a Daughter until the age of 21
  - ▶ Can not change the decision once made
  - ▶ Form should be filled out and signed by Daughter and returned to GS Deb

# JDI Forward Basics - Effective 9/1/20 - 11/30/20

- ▶ In-person events MAY (but are not required to) resume
  - ▶ Federal/State/Province/County/City and Meeting Venue Guidelines will prevail for in-person activities
    - ▶ Strictest guideline prevails
  - ▶ In-person overnight and sleepover activities specifically NOT recommended

# In-person Activity Recommendations

When planning in person activities carefully consider....

- ▶ Limited attendance
- ▶ Proper Physical distancing
- ▶ Can the venue size handle physical distancing
- ▶ Venue rules to be followed
- ▶ Outdoor activities remain preferable to indoor activities
- ▶ Proper ventilation of activity space is essential
- ▶ Attendees are encouraged to stay home if feeling ill or if they have had exposure to suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19
- ▶ Health assessment questions for attendees

# In-person Activity Recommendations

When planning in person activities carefully consider....

- ▶ Masks strongly encouraged for all in-person activities
- ▶ Extra sanitation processes for all surfaces before and after the activity
- ▶ Elimination of food/drink options or provide individual portions
- ▶ Eliminate sharing of materials such as pens, pencils and craft supplies
- ▶ Easy access to hand washing facilities
- ▶ Paper towels preferred for hand drying
- ▶ If activity includes money exchange
  - ▶ Electronic payments are preferred
  - ▶ Currency handling done by an adult with gloves

# In-person Activity Recommendations

When planning in person activities carefully consider....

- ▶ Providing virtual inclusion opportunities for those that cannot or don't feel comfortable attending
- ▶ Excused absence flexibility for anyone not comfortable attending
- ▶ Transportation logistics to events and meetings
  - ▶ Immediate household members preferred
  - ▶ Length of transportation
  - ▶ Ability to distance during transportation

# MN Grand Lodge Rules

- ▶ Sanitize the building before and after meetings. Clean all touched surfaces, including: door handles, countertops, barriers, railings, handles, tops of chairs, microphones, building phone, faucets, rods, gavels etc. Consider putting flexible poly over light switches to safely and easily clean a switch area.
- ▶ Two days of non-use of the building should be maintained between activities, unless the Lodge has implemented additional sanitization protocols and has the explicit, written permission of the Grand Master.
- ▶ Social distancing of six feet must be maintained during all in-person lodge activities. Handshakes, elbow bumps, or other forms of physical contact are prohibited.
- ▶ Until further notice, masks must be worn before entering a Lodge building and at all times while in the building.
- ▶ It is recommended the lodge station someone at the door to remind members of masking requirements, offer masks to any who don't already have, and to offer and encourage the use of hand sanitizer.
- ▶ Anyone feeling unwell, showing symptoms of illness, or who may have been exposed to someone with symptoms of illness must be sent home. A non-contact temperature check and screening is highly recommended on entering a facility.

# MN Grand Lodge Rules

- ▶ No food or beverages are to be served at meetings until further notice, and no shared drink stations are allowed. Have hand sanitizer at any water fountains and remember that masks are to be worn at all times.
- ▶ Only one person should be in a restroom at a time. The smaller the space, the higher the likelihood of passing on the virus.
- ▶ No singing or wind instruments are allowed.

# Bethel Meeting and Ritual Modifications

## Virtual Bethel Meetings are still encouraged

- ▶ Ritual work may be performed
  - ▶ This includes imitations as long as it's a secure meeting
- ▶ Chaperone rules apply for virtual event
  - ▶ YPP Update
- ▶ Virtual platform security settings being monitored
- ▶ Meeting attendance qualifications still apply
- ▶ Cameras **MUST** be on for all attendees
- ▶ No virtual backgrounds should be used. This can hide others that are in the room
- ▶ Screen names
  - ▶ Daughters – should only include first name and station of Daughter
  - ▶ Adults – should use your real name
- ▶ Minutes **MUST** still be taken at virtual meetings

# Bethel Meeting and Ritual Modifications

## In-Person Meeting Considerations

- ▶ Virtual attendance options for members
  - ▶ Only one computer / laptop in the room
  - ▶ Virtual attendee considerations to be followed
- ▶ Proper cleaning and disinfecting of meeting venue
- ▶ Changing room space limitations
  - ▶ Professional attire is acceptable rather than official regalia
  - ▶ Masks are acceptable as part of regalia
- ▶ Posting of flags prior to the meeting
- ▶ Refrain from singing
- ▶ Eliminate gavel exchange at beginning and end of meeting
- ▶ Eliminate or significantly modify Opening and Closing Marches
- ▶ Eliminate or significantly modify Closing Formation

# Bethel Meeting and Ritual Modifications

## In-Person Meeting Considerations

- ▶ Physical distancing considerations for officers and sideliners
  - ▶ Spacing in the East and West of Officers
  - ▶ BG & ABG should be distanced
  - ▶ Messenger semi-circle expanded
- ▶ Eliminate grip
- ▶ Eliminate Escort portion of Escort, Introduction and Honors
- ▶ Eliminate Coin March
- ▶ Eliminate any pre or post meeting activities that include touching
  - ▶ Cheers, high-fives, hugging, holding hands

# Bethel Meeting and Ritual Modifications

## In-Person Meeting Considerations

- ▶ Initiation alteration considerations
  - ▶ Touching of initiate should be eliminated
  - ▶ Consider spacing of Chaplain and Initiate
  - ▶ Guide and Marshal interaction with Initiate
    - ▶ Don't help Initiate kneel and rise
    - ▶ Grip exemplification eliminated
  - ▶ Limiting number of initiates
  - ▶ Could do a “make-up” Initiation after emergency ends

# Bethel Meeting and Ritual Modifications

## In-Person Meeting Considerations

- ▶ Installation alteration considerations
  - ▶ Installing Officer stations modified
  - ▶ Cape and crown modifications to maintain physical distancing
  - ▶ Gavel passing eliminated
  - ▶ Escorting of Officers around the altar should be eliminated

# Recommendations while JDI law is suspended

## Bethels and Bethel Guardian Councils

- ▶ Bethels may meet virtually
- ▶ Bethels may meet in-person as guidelines allow
- ▶ Dispensations are not currently required to move or eliminate meetings
- ▶ Missed meetings do not need to be made up
- ▶ Term and yearly requirements are not required until the law is reinstated
  - ▶ 3-way project
  - ▶ Holding an initiation each term
  - ▶ Go-to-Church
  - ▶ Performing a Majority/Obligation Ceremony
- ▶ Inability to hold to normal requirements does not give a Council reason to withhold PHQ status

# Recommendations while JDI law is suspended

## Bethels and Bethel Guardian Councils

- ▶ Election of Bethel Officers
  - ▶ Bethels may still continue to choose
    - ▶ Stay in place
    - ▶ Advance Line Officers and leave Marshal vacant
    - ▶ Have Executive BGC appoint line officers
- ▶ Installations may be held virtually
- ▶ Bethel Guardian Council meetings should still occur monthly
- ▶ If a Bethel is not meeting, then bills are to be handled by the Exec BGC
- ▶ If meeting virtually, minutes must still be taken
- ▶ Bethel Guardian Council Installation plans per GGC direction

# Other updates...

- ▶ CAV training has moved to virtual
  - ▶ Will be a registration fee
  - ▶ Will be able to register on Supreme Website
- ▶ 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – September is Heritage Month
  - ▶ Thank you video requests
  - ▶ Due September 9th
- ▶ Constitution and Bylaw reform