

# International Grand Lodge of Druidism

## CONSTITUTION

### 1. NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. International Grand Lodge of Druidism, hereafter called IGLD, is an association which consists of an unlimited number of National Druidic Orders and those Grand Lodges listed on Schedule 1 as Affiliated Orders
- 1.2. A National Druidic Order may apply for membership as an "Affiliated Order" by making written application.
- 1.3. All qualified members of an Affiliated Order can be introduced into the IGLD by an initiation ceremony. Each Affiliated Order is responsible for ensuring that the candidate is a qualified member. The level for qualification is determined by each Affiliated Order. The initiation ceremony is a prerequisite for the right to attend ritual meetings of the IGLD. The eligibility to vote, to address a business meeting, to be eligible to act as delegate and accept nomination as an Officer of IGLD is the same as in the Member's own Affiliated Order.
- 1.4. Initiation ceremonies may be held in conjunction with an International Congress Meeting, or a Regional IGLD Meeting or a National IGLD Meeting.
- 1.5. The Executive Council can recommend to the Congress Meeting a member, who has served the IGLD in an exemplary fashion for the award of Honorary Membership.
- 1.6. Affiliated Orders may submit the names of members who are considered to deserve the award of Honorary Membership to the Grand Secretary for consideration by the Executive Council. All submissions shall be in writing and shall detail the particular service to the Druidic Order or the International Grand Lodge of Druidism that warrants the awarding of Honorary Membership. The submission shall detail all positions held by the person nominated and the length of service. Any special activity undertaken shall be mentioned

### 2. AIMS AND OBJECTS

- 2.1. The general aim of the IGLD is to create and further promote contact, friendship and peace amongst peoples, members of Druidic Orders and nations worldwide and to extend Druidism to new countries. The members and Officers at all levels are committed to finding and following ways to achieve these goals.
- 2.2. IGLD is a forum for the exchange of news and views on mutual activities and objectives, but members and Affiliated Societies must retain their autonomy.
- 2.3. IGLD shall endeavor to co-ordinate the rituals of Affiliated Orders and aim to exchange news between them. IGLD shall also encourage cooperation between National Orders in a region.

### **3. ORGANISATION**

- 3.1. The IGLD is governed by a Congress Meeting which shall elect an Executive Council consisting of elected Officers and nominated Vice Presidents to be responsible for the administration of the IGLD between Congresses except as otherwise provided for in the Rules. The Immediate Past Grand President is a member of the Executive Council and acts as an advisor and consultant.
- 3.2. Congress Meetings are held every four years.

### **4. CONGRESS MEETING**

- 4.1. The agenda and any supporting papers for the Congress Meeting shall be posted to Affiliated Orders and to members of the Executive Council not less than 60 days before the meeting. The agenda includes, but is not limited, to the following:

- 4.1.1. Initiation Ceremony / Ritual Meeting
- 4.1.2. Minutes of last meeting
- 4.1.3. Receipt of correspondence
- 4.1.4. Report of the Grand President
- 4.1.5. Report of the Grand Secretary
- 4.1.6. Report of the Grand Treasurer including Balance Sheet and Auditor's report
- 4.1.7. Reports of the Grand Vice Presidents
- 4.1.8. Report of changes to Rules since last Congress Meeting
- 4.1.9. Consideration of motions and proposals from Affiliated Orders received by the Grand Secretary
- 4.1.10. Determination of budget and fees
- 4.1.11. Consideration of business arising from correspondence
- 4.1.12. Election and Installation of IGLD Officers
- 4.1.13. Determination of the venue for the next Congress Meeting of the IGLD

- 4.2. Rights of a Congress Meeting

- 4.2.1. To elect the Grand Lodge Officers.
- 4.2.2. To amend the Constitution by a resolution supported by greater than 2/3 of the Delegates and Officers entitled to vote and present at the meeting.
- 4.2.3. To admit a National Druidic Order as an Affiliated Order.
- 4.2.4. To consider resolutions submitted by the Executive Council or an Affiliated Order.
- 4.2.5. To approve the reimbursement of expenses incurred by elected or appointed Officers is performing their duties
- 4.2.6. To decide the annual fee to be paid by Affiliated Orders on receipt of a proposal submitted by the Executive Council.
- 4.2.7. To consider and approve a budget showing proposed income and expenditure for the period until the next Congress

### **5. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

- 5.1. The Executive Council consists of the following Officers: the Grand President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer who preferably shall be located in the same country and one Grand Vice President appointed by each National Order and the Immediate Past Grand President.

- 5.2.** Every Affiliated Order has one vote and additional one vote for every one hundred or part there of financial members of IGLD. Proxy voting is possible between nations.
- 5.3.** All communication, between Congress Meetings shall be held via electronic means for example, telephone, telefax, e-mail and VoIP (Voice over internet protocol used by such providers as Skype, MSN etc). International telephone meetings can be used at the request of the Grand President.
- 5.4. Duties**
- 5.4.1.** To manage the IGLD between each Congress Meeting and to decide in every matter except amendments to the Constitution. Decisions are made by a simple majority of votes.
- 5.4.2.** To meet before and after each Congress Meeting. Each meeting will consider the report of the Executive Committee of any decisions made by the Executive Committee since the last meeting of the Executive Council.
- 5.5. Rights**
- 5.5.1.** To amend the Rules
- 5.5.2.** Motions for amendment require the support of a 2/3 majority of votes of the Executive Council. Amendments to Rules take effect 60 days after the decision if not otherwise determined.
- 5.5.3.** To provide financial assistance to an Affiliated Order or a National Order wishing to assist in the establishment of a Druids Lodge in a country in which there is no Affiliated Order.
- 5.5.4.** An application for financial assistance to establish a branch of Druidism in another country should be made in writing to the Executive Council accompanied by a financial budget.
- 5.5.5.** To note the formation of another Druidic Order which is established in accordance with the Rules and Ritual of the Ancient Order of Druids, (AOD) or the United Ancient Order of Druids, (UAOD)?
- 5.5.6.** To consider all applications for status as an “Affiliated Order” and to make recommendations to a Congress meeting.
- 5.5.7.** To invite the Ceremonial Officers to meet with the Executive Council held in conjunction with a Congress meeting.

## **6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 6.1.** The Grand President, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer shall together form the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for the management of the association between meetings of the Executive Council. Preferably each of these Officers will be from the same geographic location.

## **6.2. Duties**

- 6.2.1.** To arrange a Congress Meeting including a ritual meeting no less than 40 months or more than 55 months after the last Congress Meeting in accordance with a resolution passed at that Congress Meeting.
- 6.2.2.** To issue annual reports, including an audited financial statement to all members of the Executive Council. The annual report is to be received by each member of the Executive Council by 31 March in each year for the year ending on the preceding 31 December.
- 6.2.3.** To ensure that effective and meaningful contact is maintained between all Affiliated Orders and the members of the Executive Council.
- 6.2.4.** To prepare a report for consideration at each meeting of the Executive Council.
- 6.2.5.** To prepare a report to be submitted to the Congress Meeting

## **6.3. Rights**

- 6.3.1.** To request a meeting of the members of the Executive Council as provided for in clause 5.3.

## **7. FINANCES**

- 7.1.** The Executive Council shall propose to each Congress Meeting the amounts to be collected from Affiliated Orders, so that the operations of the IGLD can be sustained. All financial records and the accounts shall be in the currency determined by the Executive Council. The financial year is 1 January to 31 December.
- 7.2.** Any proposal to change the annual fee shall be sent to the Grand Secretary before the Congress Meeting and be distributed together with other papers before the Congress.

## **8. DISSOLUTION OF THE IGLD**

The IGLD may be dissolved at a Congress Meeting with a 3/4 majority of present Affiliated Orders. Assets shall be shared between the Affiliated Orders in proportion to the number of financial members.

## **9. RITUAL**

Ritual meetings of IGLD shall use the Ritual as approved by a Congress Meeting.

## **10. Amendments**

Amendments to this Constitution can be made at a Congress Meeting by a 2/3 majority of the delegates and Officers entitled to vote. Changes to the Constitution take effect 60 days after the decision if not otherwise determined.

**This Constitution was approved at the XXVI Congress Meeting held in München in August 2008 and takes effect on 1 September 2008 and replaces all previous Constitutions.**

# International Grand Lodge of Druidism

## **RULES**

### **1. CONGRESS MEETING**

- 1.1.** The Congress Meeting of the IGLD is composed of the Grand Lodge Officers and delegates.
- 1.2.** Each Affiliated Order has one vote and one additional vote for every one hundred or part there-of financial members of IGLD. Affiliated Orders unable to attend a Congress Meeting may appoint any other Grand Lodge Officer to exercise their Proxy Vote. Any Affiliated Order exercising this right must report the matter to the Grand Secretary before the Meeting
- 1.3.** All Grand Lodge Officers who are members of the Executive Council are entitled to vote.
- 1.4.** Except as otherwise provided in the Constitution or Rules, all motions will be decided by a simple majority of votes of the members present and in the event of an equality of votes the Grand President exercises a second or casting vote to defeat the motion. Voting may be done by voting cards or by secret ballot.
- 1.5. Executive Officers**
  - 1.5.1.** All Offices are declared vacant at each Congress Meeting.
  - 1.5.2.** The following Officers are elected at each Congress Meeting: Grand President, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer. To the extent possible the Officers should be nominated by the Affiliated Order of the country in which the next Congress is to be held or from the same geographical area and shall preferably be Officers in their National Order.
  - 1.5.3.** Each Congress Meeting notes the nomination of a Grand Vice President made by each Affiliated Order.
  - 1.5.4.** Nominations for Grand Lodge Officers must be submitted to the Grand Secretary 3 months prior to the Congress Meeting.
  - 1.5.5.** Nominations must be signed by the nominee to indicate a willingness to serve in the position if elected. The President and the Secretary of the Affiliated Order of which the nominee is a member must also sign the form.
  - 1.5.6.** Any member of the IGLD is eligible for nomination.

## **1.6. Election of Ceremonial Officers**

- 1.6.1.** All Offices are declared vacant at each Congress Meeting.
  - 1.6.2.** The Grand President, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and the Immediate Past Grand President are Ceremonial Officers.
  - 1.6.3.** The following Ceremonial Officers are elected at each Congress Meeting; Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Herald, Grand Guardian and Grand Registrar. They have no voting rights unless they have been appointed as a delegate.
  - 1.6.4.** The Grand Vice Presidents nominated by each Affiliated Order are also Ceremonial Officers.
  - 1.6.5.** Grand Bards are Ceremonial Officers. Each country may appoint one Bard to act at each Congress meeting. The National Order hosting a Congress Meeting shall be required to provide sufficient Bards so that at least eight Bards are present for ceremonial purposes. They have no voting rights unless they have been appointed as a delegate-
  - 1.6.6.** Nominations for Ceremonial Officers must be submitted in writing to the Grand Secretary 3 months prior to the Congress Meeting.
  - 1.6.7.** Nominations must be signed by the nominee to indicate a willingness to serve in the position if elected. The President and the Secretary of the Affiliated Order of which the nominee is a member must also sign the submission.
  - 1.6.8.** Any member of the IGLD is eligible for nomination.
- 1.7.** Notice of a Meeting shall be distributed in writing at least eight months before the meeting to the Officers and Affiliated Orders.
  - 1.8.** Proposals and motions for the Congress may be submitted by Affiliated Orders and the Executive Council and must be received by the Grand Secretary at least four months before the meeting.
  - 1.9.** The Grand Secretary must receive reports from the Grand Vice Presidents to be presented at the Congress at the latest four months before the Congress Meeting.
  - 1.10.** Amendments to the Constitution may be submitted by any Affiliated Order or the Executive Council and shall be received by the Grand Secretary four months before the meeting.
  - 1.11.** The agenda and any supporting papers for the Congress Meeting shall be posted to Affiliated Orders and Officers not less than two months before the meeting.
  - 1.12.** The name, rank and Lodge of each member appointed as a delegate to a Congress Meeting must be supplied by the Secretary of the Affiliated Order to the Grand Secretary three months prior to the Congress Meeting.

- 1.13. Every effort shall be made by the Grand Secretary in conjunction with the Host National Order to send to the home address of each person registered to attend the Congress Meeting a list of all registrations specifying nationality, Order and Lodge, details of any special activity associated with the Congress and any features unique to the Congress Meeting. If these items cannot be sent to the home address of the member, they should be made available at the start of the Congress Meeting. All participants shall be informed of the dress code for the meetings: dark suit, white shirt and dark tie for the ritual meeting, jacket for business meetings. No degree regalia are used during business meetings except the IGLD badge.
- 1.14. All proceedings are held in English. The Grand President may appoint interpreters.
- 1.15. Minutes from the meeting shall be distributed to all Officers and Affiliated Orders within 60 days of the meeting.
- 1.16. If a Ceremonial Officer is absent from a Congress Meeting, the Grand President may appoint another member to replace him.
- 1.17. The Ritual is performed in the English language except the candidate's obligations, passwords and explanation of signs, which must also be given in the language of the respective candidates.
- 1.18. The Executive Council shall ensure that each Congress Meeting provides an appropriate number of sessions at which either presentations, displays or lectures are given to fulfill the objects of the IGLD. The Congress Meeting is not simply a presentation of business matters pertaining to the administration of the IGLD, but should provide every possible opportunity for the advancement of the IGLD.
- 1.19. **Regalia**
  - 1.19.1. The approved jewels of office are presented to the Officers during the Installation Ceremony and are retained by the officer for the period of office. Ceremonial collars of office are only worn during the Ritual and ceremonial activities. The Grand President has the prerogative to determine that ceremonial collars may be removed if oppressive climatic or environmental conditions indicate that the wearing of regalia is inappropriate.
  - 1.19.2. Ceremonial collars shall not be removed from the meeting room.
  - 1.19.3. **Past Grand President Jewel**

At the conclusion of the period in office each Grand President shall be presented with a personalized Past Grand President's Jewel consisting of a personalized silver and enameled jewel, depicting an oak tree in the centre of a seven pointed white star, mounted on a blue circle bearing the president's name and period of office, supported by a royal blue ribbon and white star.
  - 1.19.4. **Past Officer's Jewel**

All other Officers concluding their period of office are presented with a Past Officer's Jewel, which is a seven pointed gilt star, encircled by oak leaves and attached to a royal blue bow.

**1.19.5. Honorary Member's Jewel**

Honorary members are presented with a jewel, which is a seven pointed gilt star encircling a globe with U.P.C. and attached to a royal blue bow.

**2. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

- 2.1.** A member entitled to attend meetings of the Executive Council is empowered to appoint any other member of the Executive Council to exercise a vote on the member's behalf, if the member is unable to attend the meeting. Such appointment of an alternate must be made known in writing to the Grand Secretary before the beginning of the meeting.
- 2.2.** Should any elected position on the Executive Council become vacant, the Executive Council may appoint any other qualified member to hold that office until the next Congress Meeting. A resolution to appoint a member in accordance with this section may be conducted by a postal ballot.
- 2.3.** Should any member of the Executive Council pass away, become bankrupt, resign from the Order, be expelled from the Order or be convicted of any felony, the position of that member will become vacant.
- 2.4.** Provided a resolution is passed, by a majority greater than 2/3 of all the Executive Councillors, the Executive Council may declare any elected position on the Executive Council vacant and appoint another member of the IGLD to act in that capacity until the next election. A postal ballot shall be conducted if not all Executive Councillors are present at the meeting at which a resolution moved in accordance with this section is considered.
- 2.5.** All resolutions, except otherwise provided by these Rules, are determined by a simple majority of votes of the members present and in the event of an equality of votes, the Grand President makes a second and casting vote to defeat the motion.
- 2.6.** The Executive Council determines its own agenda for each meeting.
- 2.7.** The Grand Secretary shall send the agenda and supporting papers for consideration to each person entitled to attend the meeting to be received by members at least 30 days before the meeting. Minutes of all meetings of the Executive Council shall be forwarded to all Officers and Affiliated Orders within 60 days of the meeting. The Grand Secretary shall ensure that communication with each Officer or Affiliated Order is made in the manner requested. It shall be lawful for communication to include email, telefax or air mail post.
- 2.8.** Meetings of the Executive Council are empowered to:
  - 2.8.1.** Inspect all reports received by elected officers and call for such special reports to be presented as determined by the Executive Council.
  - 2.8.2.** Determine the manner and format of reports to be submitted by Affiliated Orders and the frequency of such reports.
  - 2.8.3.** Invite observers to attend the meeting.
  - 2.8.4.** Confirm the Minutes of proceedings prior to the adjournment or closing of such a meeting.



- 2.8.5. Determine that the Minutes be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the Executive Council.
- 2.8.6. Approve the reimbursement of travel costs incurred by any Grand Lodge Officer provided the travel costs have been incurred as a result of a decision by the Executive Council before the costs were incurred. All other costs, including travel costs, for appointed or other elected Officers shall be met by the National Order of the appointed or elected Officer.

### **3. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS**

#### **3.1. Grand President**

- 3.1.1. He is the holder of the highest office in IGLD.
- 3.1.2. He presides over the Congress Meeting, the Executive Council Meetings and the meetings of the Executive Committee.
- 3.1.3. He will work in close co-operation with the Executive Council in order to keep abreast of, and be informed of, all events taking place pertaining to International Druidism.

#### **3.2. Immediate Past Grand President - Presides over the Executive Council Meeting if the Grand President is absent.**

#### **3.3. Grand Vice-President**

- 3.3.1. For Ritual and Ceremonial purposes the Grand Vice-President of the host country is regarded as the Senior Grand Vice-President for the duration of the Congress.
- 3.3.2. The Grand Vice-President of the host country presides over the Executive Council Meeting, if the Grand President and the Immediate Past Grand President are absent.
- 3.3.3. The Grand Vice President of each country shall represent their Affiliated Orders in all matters.

#### **3.4. Grand Secretary is responsible for**

- 3.4.1. the administration and filing of documents of the IGLD
- 3.4.2. the minutes at Executive Council meetings, Executive Committee meetings and Congress Meetings.
- 3.4.3. the preparation of the agenda for the Executive Council Meetings and Congress Meetings, together with the Grand President.
- 3.4.4. purchasing regalia when needed and stars, badges and diplomas for the initiates as required.
- 3.4.5. distributing agendas and a list of participants to the Officers and delegates and to all duly registered visitors to a Congress Meeting.
- 3.4.6. performing on direction of the Grand President the correspondence of IGLD.

- 3.4.7. distribution of minutes within 60 days of all meetings to Officers and Affiliated Orders, and after Congress Meeting to all delegates.
- 3.4.8. assisting, in co-operation with the Grand President, the Organizing Committee of the host country before Congress Meetings.
- 3.4.9. He may delegate the performance of these tasks but not the responsibility for their performance.

**3.5. The Grand Treasurer is responsible for**

- 3.5.1. the detailed list of members
- 3.5.2. all money received as well as accounting of revenues and expenses in accordance with acknowledged accounting customs. All monies shall be deposited in approved bank accounts.
- 3.5.3. ensuring that an annual audit is carried out by a qualified auditor. The National Order of the Grand Treasurer shall nominate an auditor for his term of office. The report of the auditor shall be submitted direct to the Grand President.
- 3.5.4. preparing a financial budget, in conjunction with the Grand President, for approval of the Executive Council prior to submission to each Congress Meeting.
- 3.5.5. the distribution of the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Statement prepared as at the December 31st in each year within ninety days to the Officers and Affiliated Orders, in cooperation with the Grand Secretary

**3.6. Grand Director of Ceremonies is responsible for**

- 3.6.1. the proper locations of the Officers in the Lodge room and supervising the ceremonial proceedings assisted by the Grand Herald.
- 3.6.2. the storage and transport of regalia and all IGLD equipment to and from each Congress Meeting.

**3.7. The Grand Herald is responsible for**

- 3.7.1. preparing and instructing the initiates and control of their regalia.
- 3.7.2. the performance of the entrance and initiation ceremony, being conducted, with dignity.

**3.8. The Grand Guardian is responsible for**

- 3.8.1. maintaining control of who enters during meetings and ceremonies.
- 3.8.2. the ritual ceremony being conducted without interference and that all attending are IGLD members.

### **3.9. The Grand Registrar is responsible for**

- 3.9.1.** the listing of all Officers, delegates and observers at a Congress Meeting
- 3.9.2.** checking credentials and reporting to the Grand Secretary any authorized alternates
- 3.9.3.** the collection of any outstanding fees.

### **3.10. The Grand Bards**

Are appointed by each Country and the Host National Order and shall place themselves at the disposal and be under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies and the Grand Herald and shall familiarize themselves with the Ritual for the Initiation Ceremony.

## **4. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these Rules can be made at an Executive Council Meeting by a 2/3 majority of those entitled to vote. Changes of the Rules take effect 60 days after the decision if not otherwise determined.

## **5. Affiliated Orders:**

Australia  
New South Wales  
South Australia  
Victoria  
West Australia

Denmark  
Germany  
New Zealand  
North Island  
South Island

Norway  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
United Kingdom (AOD)  
United States of America

**These Rules were approved at the XXVI Congress Meeting in München in August 2008**