

Preparatory Course for Aspiring Worshipful Masters

Introduction:

Welcome to the Lodge Officers Course for those Masons who have aspirations for the Offices of Worshipful Master of a Lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction. The course is composed of three sections, which, after completion should provide a good grounding in the duties, responsibilities and perhaps problems you might encounter as the Worshipful Master of your Lodge. Since knowledge is basic to your success as a line officer in your lodge it is anticipated that the information contained in the course will support you in your journey to the Chair of King Solomon.

There are three sections within this course. They are:

1. **Duties and Leadership**
2. **Administration and Communications.**
3. **Ritual, Protocol and Etiquette.**

A list of Reference Material is included that will be of benefit for researching the responses to the questions. Many of the reference documents should be part of an aspiring Worshipful Master's personal library.

Prior to becoming a Worshipful Master, it is important to understand the requirements of the office. There are three important concerns related to your personal eligibility for the position. They should be carefully read and answered before proceeding with this course.

Personal Eligibility Requirements:

There are many matters that should be considered by a Lodge Officer aspiring to be elected and installed as the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. As the Worshipful Master you're the primary point of contact and the representative of the Lodge. There are meetings beyond the regular meetings of the Lodge that you are either required to attend or expected to attend. You will be spending a number of evenings at Masonic meetings.

There will also, of necessity, be telephone calls, letters to be written and correspondence that must be maintained within the Lodge. You must be sure that you have the time to devote to the proper discharge of your duties.

You must consider whether or not the duties of the Office will interfere with other important commitments such as those associated with Family, Business and self. The Family support is essential and this fact is emphasized throughout Masonry. In the world of today more business travel may be required and special deadlines may have to be met. Your business is vital to the well-being of your family and should not be neglected. Commitment and time which must be

taken into consideration. Lastly, and of utmost importance is your health. Is it such to sustain the demands of the Office?

While the above paints a realistic picture, it is not intended to deter you from being an officer of the Lodge and seeking election to Chair of King Solomon. Rather, it is important that you understand some of the problems that may be encountered when balancing the requirements of the Office with your personal life so that you may have an enjoyable and memorable year should you be elected and installed as Worshipful Master.