

Social Hour Rules and Regulations

Alcoholic beverages may be provided and served by Constituent Lodges and the Masonic bodies specified in Article XX of the Grand Constitution at social hours held on Masonic Premises, in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII, Section 31 of the Grand Constitution as follows:

The use and distribution of spirituous and malt liquors on Masonic premises is permitted only in accordance with the following SOCIAL HOUR RULES AND REGULATIONS which shall be posted on the Masonic premises and fully observed at all times:

A. Said liquors may be used available during rentals of the banquet or dining hall to responsible persons or groups for non-Masonic purposes;

B. Said liquors may be used during exclusive social functions of a Lodge or a Masonically recognized Body provided such social function is held on a date and at a time when no other Masonic or Masonically related Body is meeting in or upon the same Masonic premises and the social function is confined to the dining or banquet hall;

C. When social functions precede any Masonic meeting, Stated or Special, liquors of any kind shall not be served until the work of the evening is concluded and the Lodge closed in due form, and then, only in the banquet or dining hall;

D. Notice of such social hour shall be sent to the Grand Master at least 10 days prior to such event specifying that the requirements of the Grand Constitution, these rules, and the laws and regulations of the State of New Hampshire, will be strictly adhered to and the name of the person who will be responsible for such adherence. The Grand Master may in his discretion, deny the use of alcoholic beverages at the specified event or impose such special restrictions as he shall deem necessary;

E. When such social hour is held in conjunction with a regular or special meeting of the sponsoring Body, no alcoholic beverage shall be served or consumed on the Masonic premises more than one hour after the closing of such meeting. All alcoholic beverages shall be removed from the premises before the building is closed following the social hour;

F. Only Masons and their bona fide guests may participate in such events and no charge shall be made for admittance or for any beverage served at such event. Voluntary contributions may be accepted;

G. No such event shall be held unless non-alcoholic beverages are available in sufficient quantity and variety to serve those who do not wish alcoholic beverages;

H. Notice of such events shall be distributed in the usual manner on the regular mailing list. Such notice shall not unduly emphasize the availability of alcoholic beverages.

I. No person shall be permitted to convert this means of refreshment into intemperance and excess, nor shall anyone who appears to be under the influence of alcoholic beverages be permitted to participate in such events. It shall be the duty of the Master and Wardens, individually or collectively, to initiate such disciplinary action against offenders as shall be necessary to protect the good name and reputation of the Fraternity;

J. The Grand Master may, in his discretion, deny the use of alcoholic beverages on particular Masonic premises for good cause shown.

K. When alcoholic beverages are to be served during rentals of the banquet or dining hall, notice of such event shall be sent to the Grand Master prior thereto., specifying that no Masonic or Masonically related Body is meeting on the premises at the same time and the person who will be responsible for compliance with the requirements of the Grand Constitution, these rules and the Laws and Regulations of the State of New Hampshire and;

L. The Grand Secretary shall send copies of these regulations to the Secretary of each Masonic Body within the jurisdiction, to the custodians of the Masonic Halls within the jurisdiction, and the officer in charge of all Masonic Building Associations. **These regulations shall be posted prominently in each Masonic Hall within the jurisdiction.**

John C. Marden, P.G.M.
Grand Secretary