

NOTICES TO BE MOVED IN GRAND LODGE 2024

NOTICES OF MOTION

Following each individual Notice of Motion, comments have been included to convey the views on the various motions that have been proposed to assist Lodges in considering how their representative should vote.

ITEM 4. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMITS

The Chair of the Board of Directors, VW Bro Warwick Bell has moved the following Remits 1 to 6 and RW Bro Neville Patrick, Director and Chair of Grand Lodge Trustees has seconded.

REMIT 1	ANNUAL COMMUNICATION & SPECIAL COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES
	<p>That the procedures for Annual Communications and Special Communications be established by amending the Book of Constitution Rules 195, 196, 199 and 201 as follows:</p> <p>i. Add to Rule 195A Annual Communication new Clause c. to to read:-</p> <p>c. The requirements for a Communication set out in Rules 197 to 203 shall apply to an Annual Communication.</p> <p>ii. Add to Rule 196 Special Communication new Clause f. to to read:-</p> <p>f. The requirements for a Communication set out in Rules 198, 200 to 203 shall apply to a Special Communication.</p> <p>iii. Delete reference to Annual Communication in Rules 199 and 201.</p> <p>(Note the Rules referred to above are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 197 Notice to Board of Directors of Proposed Business- 198 Presiding Grand Officer- 199 Order of Business at Communication

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 200 Order of Debate - 201 Voting - 202 Ballots - 203 Appointment of Lodge Representative).
Rationale	<p>Communication is defined in the Book of Constitution as the triennial Communication when referenced in the Rules. Rule 195A Annual Communication was agreed at the Special Communication in 2023 but the Rules applying to procedures were not adjusted at that time. This Remit ensures that common procedures are established for the triennial Communications, Annual Communications and Special Communications.</p>

REMIT 2	ENTITLEMENT TO VOTE - BoC Rule 51.
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 51 be amended from:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">51. Only Master Masons to Vote</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Only Master Masons may vote in a Craft Lodge.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">51. Vote Entitlement</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A Brother of a Craft Lodge who has completed the first three degrees in Freemasonry is entitled to vote in that Lodge.</p>
Rationale:	<p>There has been an increase in Associate members of Lodges and the previous Grand Registrar recommended that Rule 51 be amended to be explicit on who can vote in a Lodge.</p>

REMIT 3	DISTRICT GRAND MASTER ELECTION -BoC Rule 159
	<p>i. That the Book of Constitution Rule 159 Method of Election Clause b. be amended to read:-</p> <p>b. Each Lodge in a District may nominate a candidate for the office of District Grand Master for that District. Such nomination must be lodged with the Divisional Grand Master not later than 1st April in the Communication Year. <u>In the event that not more than two candidates are nominated, the Divisional Grand Master can nominate up to two other candidates for consideration.</u></p> <p>ii. And that Rule 159 Clause g. as follows be repealed:</p> <p>g. The Rule shall come into effect on 2 May 2016 and shall govern the election process of District Grand Masters for the 2016 Communication year.</p>
Rationale:	<p>When originally established there was the opportunity for Lodges to select from several brethren making themselves available. More recently only one brother has been on the ballot in some Districts. It is important going forward for there to be options and this amendment will facilitate that. This remit maintains the principle of the election of District Grand Master by brethren through Lodges. If Remit 11 is passed the title of District Grand Master will change to Grand Superintendent.</p>

REMIT 4	TRIAL COMMISSION COMPOSITION - BoC Rule 242 a.
	<p>That Book of Constitution Rule 242 Clause a. be amended from:-</p> <p>a. The Grand Master shall appoint a Trial Commission comprising not more than three Brethren of the rank of Installed Master and shall nominate the Chairman</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>a. The Grand Master shall appoint a Trial Commission comprising not more than three Brethren who have completed the first three degrees in Freemasonry and shall nominate the Chairman.</p>
Rationale:	<p>The Board of Directors has recently established a Judicial Panel and appointed nine brethren with relevant judicial experience to the Panel. Two of the brethren are Master Masons and four are Installed Masters.</p>

REMIT 5	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS – BoC Rule 224 b. & c.
	<p>That the Book of Constitution Rule 224 Meetings of Board Clauses b. and c. be amended from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. At all meetings the Chair shall preside, or in his absence, the Grand Master or his nominee. c. Five members shall form a quorum of whom the Chair of the Board or the Grand Master must be one. <p>To read:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. At all meetings the Chair shall preside, or in his absence, his nominee. c. Five members shall form a quorum of whom the Chair of the Board or the Deputy Grand Master must be one.
Rationale:	Adjusting these particular Clauses is consequential of the changes agreed at the Special Communication in 2023 where the Grand Master is not a member of the Board of Directors.

REMIT 6	REPEALING BOOK OF CONSTITUTION RULES
	<p>That the following Book of Constitution Rules be repealed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Rule 144 Districts Clause b: b. In any District where the geographical location of a lodge or lodges causes isolation or causes an undue burden on the District Grand Master elected for that district the Grand Master may in consultation with the Divisional Grand Master appoint an Assistant District Grand Master who shall have all the powers of the District Grand Master within the area assigned to him. ii. Rule 179 Investiture of Officers of Grand Lodge Clause a. a. A Brother appointed to office in Grand Lodge by a District Grand Master elect (Rule 146) shall be invested by the District Grand Master following his investiture; all other Brethren appointed or

	<p style="text-align: center;">elected to office in Grand Lodge shall be invested at Communication.</p> <p>iii. And consequential renumbering occur.</p>
Rationale:	Regarding Rule 144, no Assistant District Grand Masters have been appointed and it is not envisaged that the role or similar will be required going forward. Regarding Rule 179, this does not happen as all new Grand Lodge officers are provided the opportunity to be invested at the Grand Installation.

The Grand Treasurer, VW Bro Graham Law has moved the following the following Remits 7 to 10 and the VW Bro Seath, Board Director has seconded.

REMIT 7	CAPITATION – BoC Rule 101 d.
	<p>That Book of Constitution Rule 101 Clause d. be amended from:-</p> <p>d. Each year the capitation fee will be increased by the annual Consumer Price Index as determined by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>d. Each year in determining the capitation fee increase the Board shall consider all appropriate factors, including (but not limited to)</p> <p>i. annual Consumer Price Index as determined by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand;</p> <p>ii. member numbers;</p> <p>iii. the range and level of services to be provided by the National Office.</p>
Rationale	<p>Membership decreases over the years have reduced (in real terms) the total capitation funding received by Grand Lodge. This has an impact on both the range and level of services that can be offered by National Office, and the sustainability of National Office in the medium term as there is currently a deficit for the General Fund operating activities.</p>

REMIT 8	LODGE BUILDING FUNDS - BoC Rule 119 d.
	<p>That Book of Constitution Rule 119 Clause d. to be amended from:-</p> <p>d. Any income from the investments of the Lodge Building Fund controlled by a Craft Lodge may be used by the Craft Lodge.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>d. Any nett income from the investments of the Lodge Building Fund controlled by a Craft Lodge, including when held via a Masonic Entity, where:</p> <p>i. income is received from such investments, bank accounts and term deposits, nett of any rental costs paid for Lodge meetings; and / or</p> <p>ii. rental income is received nett of building operating, capital maintenance and related financing costs;</p>

	must be accumulated with the Lodge Building Fund principal and may not be used by a Craft Lodge for other purposes.
Rationale	This ensures that the interest earned on lodge building funds is accumulated with the principal funds and only used for accommodation purposes, be that rental of lodge rooms or the purchase of a lodge building. This would ensure the lodge building funds (to the extent possible) retain their real current economic value.

REMIT 9	LODGE ACCOUNTS - BoC Rule 100
	<p>That Book of Constitution Rule 100 Clauses c. and d. be amended from:-</p> <p>c. “The Annual accounts shall be either reviewed or audited and presented to the Lodge for adoption. If audited the accounts will be presented to the Lodge for adoption with an audit certificate”.</p> <p>d. “A copy of the annual accounts of the Lodge, together with a copy of the Audit Certificate if the accounts have been audited, shall be sent to the Grand Secretary within one month of adoption by the Lodge.”</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>c. All statutory requirements shall be complied with to undertake a Review or an Audit of the annual accounts where applicable. Where there are no specific statutory requirements, Lodges shall have an independent audit undertaken where either:</p> <p>i. Revenue / income / receipts are greater than \$250,000 excluding GST; or</p> <p>ii. Assets gross current market value is greater than \$5,000,000 including bank deposits and property. If these thresholds are not met then an independent review should be undertaken.</p> <p>d. The Annual accounts shall be presented to the Lodge for adoption with either an Audit report or a Review report as applicable within five (5) months of the Lodge’s financial year end.</p> <p>e. A copy of the annual accounts of the Lodge, together with a copy of either the Audit report or Review report as</p>

	applicable shall be sent to the Grand Secretary within one month of adoption by the Lodge.
Rationale	<p>For companies the legal expectation is that annual accounts are filed within 5 months of the financial year end. It is therefore not considered unreasonable to expect Lodges to have filed their annual accounts within 6 months (5 months to prepare annual accounts and one month to file with the Grand Secretary).</p> <p>Adjusted Clause c. provides the policy for when a lodge should undertake a review, or an audit.</p>

REMIT 10	MASONIC ENTITY ACCOUNTS
	<p>That a new Rule 267 Masonic Entity Accounts be added to the Book of Constitution to read:-</p> <p>a. A Masonic Entity must comply with all statutory requirements to undertake a Review or an Audit of annual accounts where applicable. Where there are no specific statutory requirements, a Masonic Entity shall have an independent audit undertaken where either:</p> <p><i>i. Revenue / income / receipts are greater than \$250,000 excluding GST; or</i></p> <p><i>ii. Assets gross current market value is greater than \$5,000,000 including bank deposits and property.</i></p> <p>If these thresholds are not met then an independent review should be undertaken.</p> <p>b. The Annual accounts shall be presented to the Masonic Entity for adoption with either an Audit report or a Review report as applicable within five (5) months of the Masonic Entity's financial year end.</p> <p>c. A copy of the annual accounts of a Masonic Entity, together with a copy of either the Audit report or Review report as applicable shall be sent to the Grand Secretary within one month of adoption by the Masonic Entity.</p>
Rationale	This provides the policy for when a Masonic Entity should undertake a review, or an audit.

ITEM 5. OPERATIONAL REVIEW REMITS

The Chair of the Board of Directors, VW Bro Warwick Bell has moved the following Remits 11 to 17 and MW Bro Graham Wrigley PGM has seconded.

REMIT 11	DIVISIONAL STRUCTURE
	<p>That the recommendations of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group regarding establishing two Divisions and new geographic regions be approved and that work be undertaken to facilitate those recommendations, in accordance with the following amendments to the Book of Constitution to come into effect immediately prior to the Communication in October 2025:</p> <p>1. <u>Masonic Division</u></p> <p>Amend the current Book of Constitution Rule 7 Clause a. to read:-</p> <p>“Division” means one of those areas over which Grand Lodge exercises jurisdiction and which are named respectively Northern and Southern.</p> <p>2. <u>Masonic Division Boundaries</u></p> <p>Amend the current Book of Constitution Rule 7 Clause b. to read:-</p> <p>The boundaries of the Divisions are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Northern Division comprises the North Island of New Zealand and neighbouring smaller islands; and Samoa and any other Pacific Islands with lodges holding Grand Lodge of New Zealand charters. ii. The Southern Division comprises the whole of the South Island, neighbouring smaller islands including Stewart Island, the Chatham Islands and Ross Dependency. <p>3. <u>Lodges in Geographic Area</u></p> <p>Amend Book of Constitution Rule 8 Clause c. to read:-</p> <p>For the purpose of ensuring that a Lodge is associated with the appropriate geographic region to which, by community of interest, convenience of access or otherwise its members are most closely connected, the Board of Directors may with the written request of the Lodge, resolve that the Lodge be allocated to a geographic</p>

region in that Division other than within which it is geographically situated.

4. Geographic Regions

i. Amend Book of Constitution Rule 9 to read:-

Heading: Delete “Districts” .to be replaced by “Geographic Regions”

ii. And rule to read:-

The Board of Directors shall establish Geographic Regions comprising local groups of Lodges and may from time to time alter and replace Geographic Regions and establish new Geographic Regions after consultation with the Lodges involved.

iii. And amend Book of Constitution Rule 2 Clause g to read:-

g. “Geographic Region” means a group of Lodges established under Rule 9.

5. Grand Superintendent

That the rank of District Grand Master be repealed and replaced with that of Grand Superintendent, and

- i. The rank of **Grand Superintendent** be added to the order of precedence as detailed in Appendix D of the recommendations of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group
- ii. The rank shall be titled ‘**Grand Superintendent <region>**’
- iii. The Book of Constitution Rule 144 Clause a. be amended to read:

Each Geographical Region (subject to the general superintendence of Grand Lodge and the provisions of these Rules) shall, subject to the authority of the Divisional Grand Master, be under the control of a Grand Superintendent who shall be accountable to the Divisional Grand Master.

- iv. The rank of **Grand Superintendent** be added to Rule 124 Clause c.
- v. The role will be elected in accordance with Rule 159, including for the 2025 – 2028 term.

6. Head of Division

i. Amend the Book of Constitution Rule 138 Head of Division to read:-

	<p>a. Each Division (subject to the general superintendence and authority of Grand Lodge and the provisions of these Rules) shall be under the control of either The Senior Grand Warden or The Junior Grand Warden who shall be accountable to the Grand Master and the Board of Directors.</p> <p>b. Prior to the expiry of the term of office of The Senior Grand Warden or The Junior Grand Warden, one nomination shall be called for from each Geographic Region in the Division for the office of The Senior Grand Warden or The Junior Grand Warden and such nominations shall be forwarded to the Grand Master for his consideration in making the appointment.</p> <p>ii. And add new Clause c. to read:-</p> <p>c. Transitional arrangements –</p> <p>i. For the period from the Communication in 2025 to the Communication in 2028 the roles of The Senior Grand Warden and The Junior Grand Warden shall remain similar to that preceding this period and the two Divisions shall be under the control of a Divisional Grand Master, both of whom will be members of the Change Management Team.</p> <p>ii. As at the 2028 Communication reference to ‘Divisional Grand Master’ in these rules will be replaced by ‘Grand Warden’.</p> <p>iii. And add to Book of Constitution Rule 2 new subclause to read:-</p> <p>s. ‘Grand Warden’ means either The Senior Grand Warden or The Junior Grand Warden or both.</p>
<p>Rationale:</p>	<p>This change adopts the MSORWG recommendations. Explanation is covered in their report.</p>

REMIT 12	GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS
	<p>That subject to the preceding Remit 11 being adopted</p> <p>That the meeting requests the Board of Directors to consider amending the Governance & Management Collective Rulings Part VII 57 Districts to come into effect immediately prior to the Communication in October 2025 and to read:-</p> <p>In accordance with Rule 9 the Board has established nine geographic regions which are allocated as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Northern Division — five geographic regions.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Southern Division — four geographic regions.</p> <p>The Board considers that future amendments to geographic boundaries may be desirable and may create new geographic regions or consolidate geographic regions as deemed appropriate, in consultation with the relevant Lodges and brethren.</p>
Rationale:	<p>This Remit recommends the MSORWG recommendation on geographic regions boundaries to the Board of Directors for consideration. It recognises that the establishment of Districts and their replacements are covered in Collective Rulings of the Board and therefore it is the prerogative of the Board of Directors to decide on. In accordance with Book of Constitution Rule 9 the Board will consult with Lodges in regard to their inclusion in a geographic region prior to making a final decision.</p>

REMIT 13	CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS
	<p>That subject to the preceding Remit 11 being adopted</p> <p>That the following <u>consequential amendments</u> be approved to come into effect immediately prior to the Communication in October 2025:</p> <p>i. Amend the following Book of Constitution Rules referring to ‘District’</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Rule 3 Clause c. ; Rule 45 Clause c. ; Rule 67 Clause a. ; Rule 85 Clause c. ; Rule 140 ; Rule 146 Clause a. ; Rule 156 Clause a. ; Rule 158 ; Rule 159 Clause a., b. & d. ; Rule 160 Clause a. ; Rule 265 Clauses e., f., g. & h.</p>

	<p>ii. And amend the following Book of Constitution Rules referring to ‘District Grand Master’</p> <p>Rule 2 Clause f. ; Rule 3 Clause c. ; Rule 45 Clause c. ; Rule 67 Clause a. ; Rule 82 Clause b. ; Rule 117 Clause b. ; Rule 118 Clause b. ; Rule 126 Clause c. ; Rule 125 Clause d. ; Rule 145 ; Rule 146 Clause e. ; Rule 148; Rule 158 ; Rule 159 b. c. e. & f. ; Rule 212 Clauses a. & b. ; Rule 265 Clauses e, f, g & h.</p> <p>iii. And amend the following Book of Constitution Rules referring to ‘District Grand Masters’</p> <p>Rule 85 Clause c. ; Rule 109 Clause a. & b. ; Rule 122; Rule 123; Rule 126 Clause a. ; Rule 159 Clause a. ; Rule 192 Clause a. & b.</p> <p>iv. And such other consequential amendments to the Book of Constitution as are required.</p> <p>v. And amend Rule 186 Clause a. from:-</p> <p><i>District Grand Masters and Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters</i> The square and five-pointed star</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>“Grand Superintendents, Past District Grand Masters and Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters The square and five-pointed star”.</p>
Rationale:	These consequential changes arise from adopting the MSORWG recommendations as per Remit 11.

REMIT 14	GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF CEREMONIES AND EDUCATION
	<p>That the recommendation of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group regarding the establishment of the role and rank of The Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies and The Grand Superintendent of Education and disestablishment of the rank of Grand Lecturer, be approved, in accordance with the following amendments to the Book of Constitution to come into effect immediately prior to the Communication in October 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Rules 122 & 123 a. be amended to reflect the revised Order of Precedence as detailed in Appendix D of the recommendation of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group. ii. Rule 124 Clause c. be amended to add Grand Superintendent of Education. iii. Rule 186 Clause a. be amended to add:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies <i>Two batons in saltire superimposed by the shield of the Armorial Bearings of Grand Lodge</i> Grand Superintendent of Education <i>A closed book</i> iv. such other consequential amendments to the Book of Constitution as are required. <p>And noting that the Board will re-establish Collected Ruling 76 Duties of the Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies, which will include that, if Rule 11 is not passed, that the Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies will undertake the role of a Grand Director of Ceremonies in one of the three Divisions.</p>
Rationale:	<p>This change adopts the MSORWG recommendation to establish these roles. The collar jewels are as previous for the Grand Superintendent of Ceremonies and adopts that of the Grand Lecturer for the Grand Superintendent of Education</p>

REMIT 15	GRAND ALMONER AND GRAND SECRETARY – BoC Rule 124
	<p>That the recommendation of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group in regard to the rank of The Grand Almoner and The Grand Secretary being raised to Right Worshipful be approved, and that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the Book of Constitution Rule 124 b. be amended to add Grand Almoner and Grand Secretary to read:- <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Present and Past: Deputy Grand Masters, Divisional Grand Masters, Grand Wardens, Grand Almoners, Grand Secretaries and Past: Presidents of the Board of General Purposes, Provincial Grand Masters, Presidents of the Board of Benevolence and Grand Superintendents of the Freemasons Charity, are entitled to the style of "Right Worshipful", and are accorded on formal occasions the address of "Right Worshipful Brother".</p> ii. the Book of Constitution Rule 124 c. be amended to delete Grand Almoner, and Grand Secretary iii. to make such other consequential amendments to the Book of Constitution as are required.
Rationale:	This change adopts the MSORWG recommendation. It recognises the significant responsibilities brethren in these two roles have and the work they undertake.

REMIT 16	RW BRETHREN REGALIA – BoC Rule 194
	<p>That the recommendation of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group in regard to Right Worshipful brethren who have served active rank being entitled to dress regalia be approved, and that the Book of Constitution rule 194 be amended from:-</p> <p>194 Past Grand Officers’ Regalia</p> <p>A Past Grand Officer below the rank of Past Provincial Grand Master and Past Divisional Grand Master may wear the dress regalia of his office when required to discharge the duties of the present Grand Officer. On all other occasions he may wear either the undress regalia or Craft Lodge regalia.</p> <p>To read:-</p> <p>194 Past Grand Officers’ Regalia</p> <p>A Past Grand Officer below the rank of Past Provincial Grand Master and Past Divisional Grand Master who has served an active term of office in a role entitled to the style of address of 'Right Worshipful Brother' may wear the dress regalia of his Office or the un-dress regalia of his Office.</p>
Rationale:	This change adopts the MSORWG recommendation. It enhances and recognises those who have held active rank in the role.

REMIT 17	MEETING ON LICENSED PREMISES – BoC Rule 86
	<p>That the recommendation of the Masonic Structure and Operational Review Working Group in regard to meeting on licensed premises be approved, and that the Book of Constitution Rule 86 Meeting on Licensed Premises Forbidden be repealed.</p> <p>“86. Meeting on Licensed Premises Forbidden</p> <p>No meeting of any Lodge shall be held in premises licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors without the prior permission of the Board of Directors.</p>
Rationale:	Any change of meeting location is subject to Dispensation, as a meeting on a Licenced Premises would require such a Dispensation request. This would also mitigate the future potential for a Lodge to meet on a co-located Licenced Premises.

ITEM 6. LODGE REMITS

This proposed Amendment to Remit 18 from the 2023 Special Communication was tabled by the Grand Master with permission from the Mover and Seconder until the Annual Communication in November 2024. It is now being put.

Moved by Lodge Takahe No 397 Representative and Seconded by Lodge Doric Brighton No 236 Representative.

REMIT 18	BOARD OF DIRECTORS – BoC Rule 221
	<p>Rules in the current Book of Constitution November 2023 following on from the Special Communication 2023.</p> <p>THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS</p> <p>Rule 221. Constitution of Board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. There shall be a Board of Directors. b. The Board shall consist of the Trustees of Grand Lodge appointed pursuant to Rule 166a. c. The Grand Secretary attends the Board ex Officio. d. The Chair of the Board of Directors may invite the Divisional Grand Masters or such other brethren whose presence may assist the deliberations of the Board to be present at the meetings. <p>TRUSTEES OF GRAND LODGE</p> <p>166. Appointment of Trustees</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grand Lodge shall from time to time appoint up to seven persons (including the Deputy Grand Master ex officio) who shall be domiciled in New Zealand, to be Trustees in terms of The Grand Lodge of Freemasons of New Zealand Trustees Act 1903. b. The Board of Directors shall from time to time submit to Grand Lodge the names of those it recommends for appointment as Trustees. <p>Move that Rule 221.b. be amended as follows:</p> <p>Board of Directors</p> <p>221.b. The current Rule 221.b. (outlining the membership composition of the Board of Directors) to be deleted, to be replaced by :-</p> <p><i>“The Board shall consist of up to 4 of the Trustees of Grand Lodge appointed pursuant to Rule 166.a, and up to 3 persons who shall be appointed as Directors only, based on merit and ability.”</i></p>

<p>Rationale:</p>	<p>It is the opinion of the Proposing and Seconding Lodges that the current Rule 221.b. concentrates the power of Directors and Trustees in the same hands, whereas we consider that the roles of the Directors and Trustees are separate and distinct.</p> <p>We appreciate that there may be insufficient Brethren to have two completely separate bodies, hence the proposal that four of the Trustees of Grand Lodge also be Directors.</p> <p>But, by there only being four brethren common to both bodies, they cannot form a quorum; hence they need to work with the other members of their separate boards in order to function.</p>
<p>Board Response</p>	<p>A legal opinion to the Grand Lodge has advised that Trustees and Directors can be one and the same, with separate meetings held to consider matters as Trustees or Directors.</p> <p>Board decisions are usually unanimous but not less than a majority under governance rules.</p> <p>There are seven members of the Board, which prevents an impasse on voting.</p> <p>This formula has been tested and worked well with the transitional arrangements since November 2023. With separate distinct meetings of the Trustees and Directors when required.</p> <p>The current recommendation of the Board of Directors on the nomination of Grand Lodge Trustees/Directors after interviews is based on merit and ability.</p> <p>The Board of Directors does not support this Remit.</p>

Moved by the Browns Bay Lodge No 346 Representative and Seconded by Lodge North Harbour No 182 Representative

<p>REMIT 19 PART 1</p>	<p>VOTING BY LODGE – BoC Rule 201</p>
	<p>Changing Rule 201 and clauses from one Lodge one Vote to one Member one Vote.</p> <p>That the procedure for conducting ballots and for voting on remits at triennial Communications, Special Communications, Annual Communications and Divisional Conferences be amended to provide for voting on all matters by individual brethren rather than Lodge by Lodge.</p>
<p>Rationale:</p>	<p>For the Special Communication 2023: 112 Lodges provided a commission to have representation. 19 Lodges were ineligible to vote in that they were not compliant. A number of others did not get to the communication and thus were not represented due to sickness, travel, technology or indifference. 112 out of 178 is only 63%. That is, only 63% attempted to participate. The number of Lodges that actually managed to vote has not been provided. In the past, Lodges have been disenfranchised by late arrival at venues or by refusals to accept last-minute proxies on occasions of illness of the original delegate. Neither these figures nor the outcomes are unique to the 2023 Communication. At an average membership of 18 brethren per Lodge, 19 lodges represent a capitation paid to the Grand Lodge of about \$39,442. In comparison with the other sums managed by FMNZ, this is a minor amount but, to many of the brethren, the contribution is a significant portion of their annual income. We need to be concerned about those whose voices were not heard - the minority. Indeed, a minority, but by no means small nor insignificant. A minority which has a right to be heard.</p>
<p>Board Response</p>	<p>Since the formation of the Grand Lodge New Zealand in 1890, voting has been done by Lodges not individually. If that is to change, there needs to be solid grounds to do so. As Lodges are formed under a Charter from Grand Lodge, the business session at any Communication is the occasion when those Lodges can gather and address relevant issues. One Lodge, One Vote ensures all Lodges have a level opportunity to vote in Masonic equality- smaller lodges do not get out-voted by a large Lodge. Local Brethren cannot arrive in mass and outvote others who might not have the ability to attend.</p> <p>Lodges who voted were recorded in Circular 2023-040 - 112 of our 178 Lodges had Commissions (each Remit in this circular showed the numbers for and against on each vote), and most votes were passed by a substantial majority of those able to vote. The reasons some lodges did not submit a Commission are unknown, and only a very small number were unable to</p>

	<p>vote due to non-compliance. A similarly small number of those did not vote on the day for various reasons. Additionally, the Board allowed for Electronic Voting, which had not been previously available to enable virtual attendance; even with this, 66 Lodges failed to provide a Lodge Commission (not due to non-compliance but perhaps complacency).</p> <p>The Board of Directors does not support this Remit.</p>
--	--

REMIT 19 PART 2	NON_COMPLIANCE - BoC Rule 203 a. vi
	<p>That Book of Constitution Rule 203 Clause a. vi. as follows be deleted.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">vi. No appointment shall be valid or operative unless all Lodge Returns, Fees, and other monies owing by the Lodge to Grand Lodge as at the 30th day of June of the year are filed or paid at least one month before the commencement of Communication.</p>
Rationale:	<p>Non-Compliance or Compliance</p> <p>Non-compliance, which denies voting rights per circular letter dated 3 May 2024 and many times previously, is delineated in italics. This remit is not intended to resolve the issues thus identified but to remove their effects. They do not motivate Lodges to comply. In themselves, some of these disqualification issues are petty to the point of meanness and Dispensations are not covered by the references in any case. Lodges are reminded of the following, which must be sent to the National Office (and others as required):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodge Summons/Notice of Meeting (minutes of previous meeting desirable) • Lodge Dispensations • Lodge Annual Accounts Reviewed (or Audited) • Lodge Monthly Meeting Reports • Lodge Annual Return (Lodge Membership by 30th June) • Lodge outstanding Accounts with Grand Lodge • Lodge Trustees <p>Rules 48, 82, 98, 100, 101, 103, Collected Ruling 61 Lodges who fail to comply with these requirements may disenfranchise their Lodge from voting to a Special, Annual or Triennial Communication Rule 203a.vi. In modern times, with the technology available and with a more educated</p>

	<p>understanding of the rights of individuals, it is no longer satisfactory to continue with the traditional but seriously outdated method of managing the Craft. The brethren pay their dues individually; thus, it is submitted that the sole qualification for which voting should be eligible should be tied to whether dues have been paid on an individual basis. Evidence to support enfranchisement can thus be solely provided by the Annual Return, the others being no longer relevant to this issue. The proposed change provides for a more accurate understanding of the views of the brethren and a more participative approach, which could go some way toward eliminating the apathy or distrust apparent in some quarters. It should also reduce the costs to FMNZ, to Lodges and to individuals by obviating personal attendance.</p>
<p>Board Response</p>	<p>Lodge By-Laws agree to obey the Book of Constitution. The orderly governance of the Craft requires all Lodges to undertake certain administrative and reporting functions that allow for the prudent operation of the Lodges and the organisation as a whole (Membership/Finances/Compliance with NZ law, etc).</p> <p>Surely Lodges who are non-compliant with the provisions of the Book of Constitution should not enjoy the same rights as the vast majority of Lodges who do comply with the requirements? If a Lodge is non-compliant, they are informed of the issue and invited to address the omission or oversight. Regrettably, some Lodges are intentionally non-compliant in which neither they nor their members should exercise a vote.</p> <p>The Board of Directors does not support this Remit.</p>

Moved by The Lodge of Remembrance No 308 Representative Seconded by The Fortitude Lodge No 64 Representative

REMIT 20	FEES PAYABLE BY LODGES TO GRAND LODGE – BoC Rule 101 a.
	<p>That Rule 101 Fees payable by Lodges to Grand Lodge should be amended, adding to Rule 101 Clause a. :-</p> <p>Any brethren who are a full member of a Craft Lodge and who are in full-time care and unable to attend their regular lodge meetings should be <u>exempt</u> from Grand Lodge capitation fees.</p>
Rationale:	<p>These fees should not be a burden for the brethren who are unable to attend meetings nor the lodge to which these brethren belong. The Capitation fee structure should be altered to accommodate the remit for all New Zealand craft lodges.</p>
Board Response	<p>This Remit raises an issue that regularly comes before Communication. The Board considers the Lodge is in the best position to cover the Brethren in the situation identified, rather than all Freemasons in New Zealand. It ensures that each Lodge takes responsibility for the welfare of their own members.</p> <p>Grand Lodge already waives Capitation (and Divisional Levy) for Freemasons who have been Members for 70 years or more.</p> <p>By reducing the number of members who pay capitation, the onus will fall on the other Lodges, and an already strained Capitation model will be further stretched.</p> <p>The Board of Directors does not support this Remit.</p>

NOTE	<p>The Board of Directors notes that a further Lodge remit was received regarding the toast ‘The King and the Craft’. This matter is covered by a Collective Ruling and the Board has advised the sponsoring Lodge that the matter has been placed on the Board agenda for consideration at the Board’s November meeting.</p>
-------------	---