

Articles of Constitution

Article 1: Name

The name of the group is "The Grand Priory of the Knights Templar of Scotland" and will be referred to as the 'Order' within this Constitution.

Article 2: Nature

The 'Order' is an international cultural Christian and Humanitarian Organisation registered in Scotland with links and affiliations to similar like-minded organisations throughout the world.

The 'Order' operates on the basis of the traditions of the medieval Knights Templar. It reclaims the spirit of, but does not assert any direct descent from the ancient Order founded by Hugues de Payens in 1118 and dissolved by Pope Clement V in 1312.

The 'Order' is affiliated through the Grand Priory of France to the "Ordo Supremus Militaris Templi Hierosolymitani" which is also known as "The Supreme Military 'Order' of the Temple of Jerusalem" or more commonly "The Order of the Temple".

The Order of the Temple is a Christian ecumenical organization founded in 1804 by the physician Fabr -Palaprat with the support of Napoleon, and officially recognized in 1853 by Napoleon III.

Today the 'Order' is a democratic secular-military Order of chivalry - a Knighthood which is intended for accomplished Christian military and civilian men (Knights) and women (Dames), who have demonstrated that they possess high ethical and moral principles and who wish to carry on the traditions of the Temple.

Article 3: Objectives of the 'Order'

The 'Order' is based on an ancient Christian brotherhood, and its objects and purposes shall be:

- A: To provide an opportunity for the practice of ecumenical Christianity.
- B: To encourage and promote Christian humanitarian work and charity generally, but especially in support of people in the Middle East.
- C: To encourage all that makes for the spiritual and moral strengthening of mankind in accordance with the first great principle of the 'Order' embodied in the motto:
"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory."
- D: To encourage and promote the work of the United Nations, ECOSOC and affiliated NGOs in providing relief, advocacy and support when required.
- E: To support the precepts of Christian Chivalry
- F: To encourage and promote the Silent Knight Programme
- G: To investigate and emulate the historical ideals of the ancient 'Order'.
- H: To admit, to form, and to administer establishments, councils, associations, centers or other subordinate bodies to facilitate the work of the 'Order'.
- I: To maintain contact and develop collaboration with kindred 'Order's' and bodies.
- J: To establish and maintain libraries and museums, and to collect works of art and objects of historical interest to the 'Order'.

Article 4: Membership

The 'Order' has two classes of Ancillary Grades:

A: Postulant (no designate letters)

A Postulant can be either male or female over the age of eighteen years old. The title of Postulant indicates someone who has indicated their interest in joining the 'Order'.

A Postulant will not pay an annual oblation but is expected to contribute to the mite of the 'Order'.

A Postulant is not yet a member of the 'Order' and is expected to serve the 'Order' no less than 3 months before being offered to the Grand Prior as a Companion of the 'Order'.

Postulants have no any voting rights and cannot accept Office.

B: Companion CTJ

A Companion Member can be either male or female over the age of eighteen years old. The title of Companion is the first stage of membership and is conferred at a ceremony for that purpose. On Completion of the ceremony the Grand Council will issue the applicant with a Brevet properly signed and sealed by the Grand Prior.

A Companion Member will have passed the examinations of the Grand Prior before entry. The requirements for membership are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Companion Member will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Companion Member does not have any voting rights and would require dispensation from the Grand Council before accepting any Office of the 'Order'.

A Companion Member in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

"first name, second name" CTJ

A Companion Member will be expected to serve the 'Order' no less than 12 months before being offered to the Grand Prior for advancement to the rank of Knight or Dame

The 'Order' has four Grades of Rank:

C: Knight KTJ for Men or Dame DTJ for Ladies

A Knight (reserved for Men) and Dame (reserved for Ladies) will be over the age of eighteen years old. The rank of Knight or Dame is the first Chivalric Rank and is conferred at an Investiture Ceremony for that Purpose. On Completion of the ceremony the Grand Council will issue the applicant with a Brevet properly signed and sealed by the Grand Prior.

A Knight or Dame will have passed the examinations of the Grand Council before being accepted for the accolade. The requirements for membership are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Knight or Dame will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Knight or Dame will have a singular vote to be used at the 'Order's' Annual General Chapter for the purposes of electing the Grand Council Officers

A Knight or Dame may accept Office in any of the 'Order's' Structured Units. IE Commanderies, Pories or Grand Council.

Existing Knights or Dames within similar recognised Knights Templar 'Order's' may retain their rank within this 'Order' on joining.

Invitations to suitable persons by the Grand Council may enter the 'Order' at this rank directly. Existing Knights or Dames, in similar Chivalric 'Order's', would not be expected to take the accolade again but may wish too do so on their choice.

A Knight in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

Chev "first name, second name" KTJ

A Dame in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

Chev "first name, second name" DTJ

A Knight or Dame would be expected to serve the 'Order' no less than 24 months before being offered to the Grand Prior for advancement to the rank of Knight or Dame Commander.

D: Knight Commander, KCTJ or Dame Commander DCTJ

A Knight Commander (reserved for Men) or Dame Commander (reserved for Ladies) will be over the age of eighteen years old. The rank of Knight or Dame Commander is conferred on the Knight or Dame at a ceremony called for that Purpose. On Completion of the ceremony the Grand Council will issue the applicant with a Brevet properly signed and sealed by the Grand Prior.

A Knight or Dame will have passed the examinations of the Grand Council before being accepted for advancement. The requirements for the rank of Commander are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Knight or Dame Commander will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Knight or Dame Commander will have a singular vote to be used at the 'Order's' Annual General Chapter for the purposes of electing the Grand Council Officers

A Knight or Dame Commander may accept Office in any of the 'Order's' Structured Units. IE Commanderies, Pories or Grand Council.

Existing Knight or Dame Commanders within similar recognised Knights Templar 'Order's' may retain their rank within this 'Order' on joining.

Invitations to suitable persons by the Grand Council may enter the 'Order' directly at this rank. Existing Knight or Dame Commanders, in similar Chivalric 'Order's', would not be expected to take the accolade again but may wish too do so on their choice.

A Knight Commander in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

Chev "first name, second name" KCTJ

A Dame Commander in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

Chev "first name, second name" DCTJ

A Knight or Dame Commander would be expected to serve the 'Order' no less than 36 months before being offered to the Grand Prior for advancement to the rank of Grand Officer.

E: Grand Officer, GOTJ

A Grand Officer will be over the age of eighteen years old. The rank of Grand Officer is conferred on the Knight or Dame Commander at a ceremony called for that Purpose. On Completion of the ceremony the Grand Council will issue the applicant with a Brevet properly signed and sealed by the Grand Prior.

A Grand Officer will have passed the examinations of the Grand Council before being accepted for advancement. The requirements for the rank of Grand Officer are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Grand Officer will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Grand Officer will have a singular vote to be used at the 'Order's' Annual General Chapter for the purposes of electing the Grand Council Officers

A Grand Officer may accept Office in any of the 'Order's' Structured Units. IE Commanderies,

Priories or Grand Council.

Existing Grand Officers within similar recognised Knights Templar 'Order's' may retain their rank within this 'Order' on joining.

Invitations to suitable persons by the Grand Council may enter the 'Order' directly at this rank. Existing Grand Officers, in similar Chivalric 'Order's', would not be expected to take the accolade again but may wish too do so on their choice.

A Grand Officer in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

Chev "first name, second name" GOTJ

A Grand Officer would normally be expected to serve the 'Order' no less than 60 months before being offered to the Grand Prior and Grand Master for advancement to the rank of Grand Cross.

F: Grand Cross, GCTJ

The rank of Grand Cross is the highest attainable rank of the 'Order'. Advancements to the rank of Grand Cross are conferred within strict guidelines. These are:

- The Applicant must have served within the rank of GOTJ before being presented for GCTJ
- The only exception to this is existing Grand Cross Knights or Dames from similar Chivalric 'Order's' or on the express invitation by the Grand Council to a Head of State or equivalent.
- The Conferment of a Grand Cross will require the written consent of the Grand Master of the OSMTH 'Order'.
- The Conferment of a Grand Cross will require three existing and recognised Grand Crosses to be present

On Completion of the ceremony the Grand Council will issue the applicant with a Brevet properly signed and sealed by the Grand Prior and Grand Master of the 'Order'

A Grand Cross will have passed the examinations of the Grand Council before being accepted for advancement. The requirements for the rank of Grand Officer are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Grand Cross will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Grand Cross will have a singular vote to be used at the 'Order's' Annual General Chapter for the purposes of electing the Grand Council Officers

A Grand Cross may accept Office in any of the 'Order's' Structured Units. IE Commanderies, Priories or Grand Council.

Existing Grand Crosses within similar recognised Knights Templar 'Order's' may retain their rank within this 'Order' on joining.

Invitations to suitable persons by the Grand Council may enter the 'Order' directly at this rank. Existing Grand Crosses, in similar Chivalric 'Order's', would not be expected to take the accolade again but may wish too do so on their choice.

A Grand Cross in good standing with the 'Order' may use his title and rank proscribed as:

S.E. Chev "first name, second name" GCTJ

The 'Order' has three Grades of Associate Membership

G: Honorary (Grade and Designate as agreed by Grand Council)

Honorary Memberships may be given by the privilege of the Grand Council.

The rank conferred will be at the privilege of the Grand Council but would normally be the rank of Knight or Dame. Conferment of the rank of Grand Cross on an Honorary Member would require consent

From the Grand Master and would follow the strict guidelines as detailed in section **F: Grand Cross**.

The Patron and Spiritual Protector would normally be take Honorary Membership at the Grand Cross Rank.

An Honorary Members does not pay any oblations but would be expected to contribute to the mite of the 'Order'.

An Honorary Member does not have any voting rights and would require dispensation from the Grand Council before accepting any Office of the 'Order'.

H: Affiliate Membership (No rank conferred)

Affiliate Memberships may be accepted, after passing the examinations of the Grand Council, by Knights or Dames from recognised OSMTH Orders. The requirements for membership are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

There is no rank conferred with Affiliate Membership. Members would normally use their existing rank. On admission to the 'Order' the Grand Council will issue the applicant with a brevet properly signed and sealed by the Grand Prior.

An Affiliate Member will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

An Affiliate Member does not have any voting rights and would require dispensation from the Grand Council before accepting any Office of the 'Order'.

I: Friend of the 'Order' (No rank conferred)

A Friend Membership may be accepted, after passing the examinations of the Grand Council. A person may wish to join the 'Order' as a Friend for religious or other reasons. The requirements for membership are detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

There is no rank conferred with Friend Membership. A Friend will be entitled to attend functions and meetings and be sent the documentation of the 'Order' (Minutes, Agenda, Newsletters etc).

A Friend will pay an annual oblation set yearly within the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

A Friend does not have any voting rights and would require dispensation from the Grand Council before accepting any Office of the 'Order'.

J: Availability of Membership

The 'Order' is open those people regardless of age, race, gender, nationality, background, disability, sexual orientation and financial ability. However, persons listed on the sexual offenders register cannot apply for membership.

The yearly Oblations for Membership shall be collected by the 31st of January each year.

Members who let their Membership lapse for more than 13 months will be required to complete a fresh Membership application.

Individual Membership can be revoked or suspended at the will of the Grand Council in line with Natural Justice and the Byelaws of the 'Order'.

K: Ordained Clergy

Ordained Members of Clergy from recognised Christian Faiths may become Full or Honorary Members of the 'Order'. Ordained Members, if they so wish, may be exempt from receiving the accolade.

Article 5: Grand Council

The 'Order's' Grand Council constitutes the governing Board of the 'Order' and will consist of:

- Elected Grand Officers
- Appointed Grand Officers
- Regional Representatives

A: Elected Grand Officers

- Grand Prior
- Grand Chancellor
- Secretary General
- Grand Treasurer
- Grand Marshall
- Chaplain General
- Grand Quartermaster
- Grand Sword bearer
- Grand Sentinel

B: Appointed Grand Officers

Appointed Officers of the 'Order' (without Vote) are:

- The Patron of the 'Order'
- Spiritual Protector of the 'Order'
- Members of the Council of Elders (Retired or Past Grand Officers)

The above Officers will be duly appointed/reconfirmed at the Annual General Chapter or co-opted as per current Bye Laws.

C: Regional Representatives

The 'Order's' Grand Council will also include a Regional Representative from each of the Commanderies and Priors. This Regional Representative will be the Commander/Prior or his/her delegate (by written proxy) and is allowed a vote at Grand Council level.

The above Officers will be duly elected at their own Commandery/Priory AGM. Written confirmation will be sent to the Secretary General of the Elected Officer's details and term of Office.

D: Duties of the Grand Council

The duties of the Grand Council include:

- Recommendation to the Annual General Assembly of individuals as candidates for Office on the Grand Priory and the appointment of individuals to fill any unexpected vacancies which occur in the Grand Priory subject to the Constitution and Byelaws of the 'Order'
- Appointment of Positions as per the Constitution and Byelaws of the 'Order'
- Acceptance of individuals as Postulants, Companions, Honorary Members, Friends and Affiliates in the 'Order';
- Promotion of Members to a higher rank, and the making of awards as agreed;
- In the event of a breach of the laws of the 'Order' by a member, disciplinary action as detailed in the Byelaws of the 'Order' will be initiated.
- Creation of Commanderies and Priors within the 'Order';
- Appointment and dissolution of sub-committees to carry out specific functions as per the Constitution and Byelaws of the 'Order'
- Operation of the Bank Accounts in the name of the 'Order'.
- Issuance of insignia and brevets of Membership and Office;
- Cooperation with charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities in furtherance of the aims of the 'Order'.

This list of duties is not exhaustive.

E: Grand Council Voting

The Grand Council will accept votes from:

- Elected Members of Grand Council (As per the AGC and Constitution)
- Commanders (or their delegates by proxy)
- Priors (or their delegates by proxy)

Officers who hold more than one post will only be entitled to one vote with the exception of the Grand Prior who can use a "casting vote" if the result of a vote is tied.

F: Quorum

A minimum of five Elected Grand Council Officers need to be present for any Grand (or Special) Council Meeting to be held.

A minimum of five members need to be present for any Sub Body Meeting (Commandery/Priory).

G: Other non-identified Office Bearers & Sub Committees

During the term of a Grand Council it may be required to Co-opt other non-identified Officers or create new Committees.

The Grand Council shall require this new requirement to be in the form of a written proposal with proposer and seconder and placed on the Agenda at the next Grand Council Meeting for discussion and action.

In the context of Article 12 of this constitution the members have the option to adjust the structure so it may become a permanent feature.

H: General Conduct, Reference Documentation and Roberts Rules

The Council and Officers will conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times.

References to the Operation of the 'Order' will be found in either:

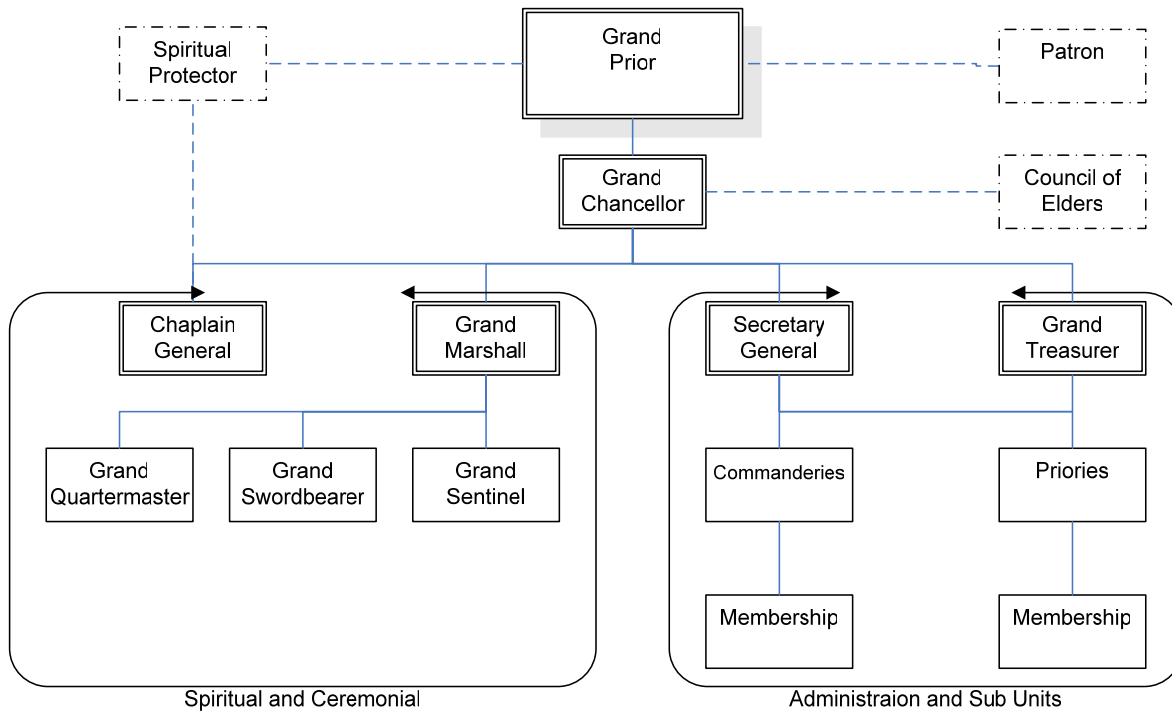
- The Constitution
- The Byelaws
- The Knights Manual

The above documents, in their current and agreed form, are deemed to form the terms of a contract between the subscribing members of the 'Order'.

If an issue arises that can not be referenced from the above documentation then the Grand Council will refer to Roberts Rules and will conduct its actions in line with Natural Justice.

I: Organisational Structure

The below diagram reflects the current 'Order' structure.



J: Roles and Responsibilities

- **Grand Prior**

- Is the Sole Director of the 'Order'.
- Acts as the 'Order's' Ambassador representing the 'Order' within Scotland and Internationally.
- Is ultimately responsible for the actions of the 'Order'.
- Drives the progressive strategy for the 'Order'.
- Chairs Grand and Special Council Meetings in absence of the Grand Chancellor.
- Is responsible for the Investing and Advancement of Chivalry.
- Required as one of the four signatories for the Cheque Account.
- In conjunction with the Grand Council, appoints Office Bearers and Sub Committees as required.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Grand Chancellor**

- Is the Chief Executive Officer of the 'Order'.
- Deputises for the Grand Prior, when absent or ill.
- Supports the Grand Prior and may be delegated some of the above duties.
- May take temporary leadership of the 'Order' by power of attorney in case of resignation, death or degenerative illness.
- Chairs Grand and Special Council Meetings.
- Chairs the Annual General Chapter.
- Agrees the Agenda items for Grand and Special Council Meetings with the Grand Prior.
- Ensures the 'Order's' Constitution and Byelaws are upheld.
- Required as one of the four signatories for the Cheque Account.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Secretary General**

- Is the Chief Administration Officer of the 'Order'.
- Is the point of contact for the 'Order'.
- Communicates internally and externally on behalf of the 'Order'.
- Provides written extracts from Meetings.
- Holds the up to date Membership Records of the 'Order'.
- Holds copies of all of the records of the 'Order'.
- Is responsible for the Archive of the 'Order'.
- Is the Data Controller for the 'Order' for Data Protection Purposes.
- Required as one of the four signatories for the Cheque Account.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Grand Treasurer**

- Is the Chief Financial Officer of the 'Order'.
- Is Accountable for the Finances of the 'Order'.
- Holds all Financial Records of the 'Order'.
- Required as one of the four signatories for the Cheque Account.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Grand Marshall**

- Is the Chief Ceremonial Officer of the 'Order'.
- Prepares the documentation for Ceremonies, Services and Parades.
- Ensures the observance of rules detailed within the Knights Manual.
- Is the Master of Ceremonies at functions.
- Announces guests and prepares the Toast List.
- Ensures that Visitors and Special Guests are properly refreshed.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Chaplain General**

- Is the Chief Spiritual Officer to the 'Order'.
- Responsible for the spiritual care of the 'Order's' Members.
- Leads the Members in Christian Worship.
- Works closely with the Spiritual Protector of the 'Order'.
- Meets regularly with the Chaplain Core within the 'Order'
- Blesses the work of the 'Order'.
- Defender of the Faith.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Grand Quartermaster**

- Sources, purchases and maintains a stock of Regalia Items.
- Ensures Regalia is supplied according to entitlement by Rank.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Sword-bearer**

- Presents the Sword at ceremonial events.
- Reports routinely to Grand Council.
- Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

- **Sentinel**

- Ensures all ceremonies are properly guarded and that friends are brought inside from the cold.

- Keeps a watchful eye on Members to ensure they continue to uphold the 'Order's' high standards.
 - Examines all applicants for entry to the 'Order' and allocates a Knight/Dame Instructor to them
 - Reports routinely to Grand Council.
 - Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.
- **Commander**
- Assumes full responsibility for the Leadership of a Commandery
 - Permitted to accept Postulants into the Commandery
 - Permitted to 'make' Companions (after agreed examination) during a ceremony for that purpose
 - Reports routinely to Grand Council.
 - Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.
- **Prior**
- Assumes full responsibility for the Leadership of a Priory.
 - Permitted to accept Postulants into the Commandery.
 - Permitted to 'make' Companions (after agreed examination) during a ceremony for that purpose.
 - Reports routinely to Grand Council.
 - Elected for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.
- **Patron of the 'Order'.**
- May be called upon to advise the 'Order' on how best to achieve its mission.
 - Would normally be invited to take Honorary Membership at the Grand Cross Rank.
 - May be called upon to arbitrate when conflict arises within the organisation.
 - May be called upon to act as an International Legate when required
 - Reports to Grand Council on request.
 - Appointed or re-affirmed for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.
- **Spiritual Protector of the 'Order'**
- An Ordained Cleric, with Canon Power, will be invited to accept the position of Spiritual Protector of the 'Order'.
 - Would normally be invited to take Honorary Membership at the Grand Cross Rank
 - May be called upon to advise the 'Order' on how best to achieve its Spiritual mission
 - Works closely with the Chaplain General
 - Reports to Grand Council on request.
 - Appointed or re-affirmed for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.
- **Members of the Council of Elders (Retired or Past Grand Officers)**
- May be called upon to advise their present incumbents for their term of Office.
 - May be called upon to assist the arbitration process when conflict arises within the organisation.
 - Reports to Grand Council on request.
 - Appointed or re-affirmed for a term of one year or until the next Annual General Chapter, whatever is sooner.

Article 6: Meetings

A: Grand Council

The current Byelaws confirms when the Grand Council will meet. There should be at least 3 Grand Council Meetings per year.

The Grand Council should focus on the Progress of the 'Order', Future Planning and have available an up to date Financial Statement.

Agenda Items can be submitted one week prior to the meeting by written communication given or sent to the 'Order' Secretary for inclusion.

Members from like minded organisations may attend meetings that they are invited too in an "Ex-Officio" capacity to offer support and advice.

Those attending in an "Ex-Officio" capacity will not have voting rights in any matters relating to 'Order' business.

Signed Minutes will be kept as per the requirements in the Byelaws.

B: Special Meetings

Special Meeting may need to be called to deal with urgent business that needs to be addressed prior to a normal Council meeting.

Any matters discussed and agreed should be submitted to the regular Grand Council Meeting to be sanctioned.

Seven days notice of a pending "Special Meeting" should be given to Grand Council Members. The rules regarding Quorum in Article 5 of this Constitution apply also to Special Meetings.

C: Annual General Chapter

The Annual General Chapter will be held once a year in March

Twenty-one days notice will be given to all members in good standing.

An Annual General Report will be presented. Contents will cover the 'Order's' activities during the last year.

An audited Financial Report will be presented for Approval.

Elections of new Council Members and Office Bearers will also take place at the Annual General Meeting.

In the event of more than one person being nominated and seconded for an Office Bearer position, a vote by the membership will be taken to duly elect an Office Bearer. The nomination, proposer, seconder and vote taken will be recorded in the minutes.

Membership Voting rights are described in Article 5.

D: Commandery

At least ten members in good standing and with voting rights may make a written proposal to the Grand Council for the creation of a Commandery.

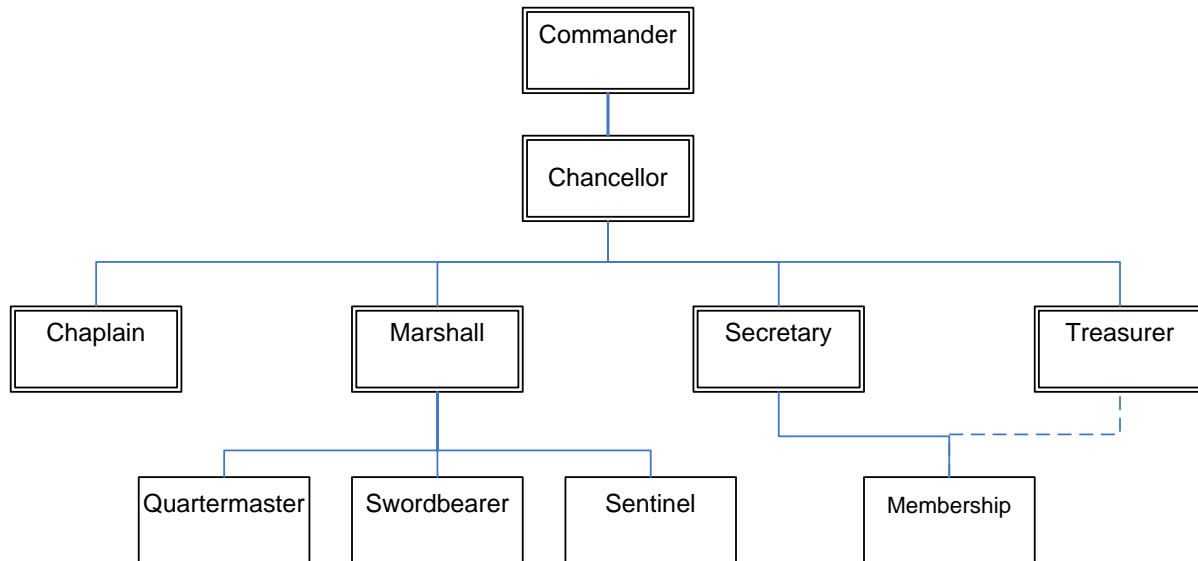
The proposal must have a Proposer and Seconder of Knight/Dame Commander Rank and have the following details:

- Name of Proposed Commandery.
- Geographic Area of Proposed Commandery.
- Names, Ranks and Signatures of all founding members
- Purposes and Objectives of the new Commandery.

The proposal will be submitted to the Secretary General in due form and will be placed on the Agenda according to the Grand Chancellor's wishes.

The Grand Council will vote on the proposal and on its acceptance the Commandery has permission to be inaugurated under Special Charter. The Charter will be the property of the Grand Council and shall be returned on request.

The Commandery will abide by the Byelaws of the 'Order' and will have the following structure:



The Secretary will report routinely on Membership, Records and Correspondence to the Secretary General

The Treasurer will report routinely on Accounts, Income and Expenditure to the Grand Treasurer.

All funds of the Commandery belong to the Grand Council and will be returned to the Grand Treasurer on request.

All items of regalia and ritual of the Commandery belong to the Grand Council and will be returned to the Grand Marshall on request.

The Grand Council can dissolve the Commandery after a majority vote of Grand Council. A Commandery that has been dissolved has forfeited its rights to obtain members, collect fees and have representation at Grand Council Level.

Two thirds of Commandery Members can request dormancy or dissolution by requesting a Special Grand Council meeting for that purpose.

Except where stated otherwise, decisions in meetings of Commanderies are taken by a simple majority vote, with the presiding officeholder having a casting vote.

Duties of a Commandery

- To fulfill the objectives of the 'Order'
- To hold regular meetings and functions for the benefit of the Membership
- To recommend candidates for Office within the Commandery and for the Grand Council as per the Constitution and Byelaws of the 'Order'
- To obey the lawful commands of the Grand Council
- To report to Grand Council as required
- To increase the Membership's knowledge of the 'Order'
- To seek out local charities, Silent Knight Opportunites etc
- To enhance the communities that the Commandery is resident in.
- To increase the quality membership of the 'Order'

This list is not exhaustive.

If a Commandery fails for three consecutive years to have regular meetings, or has less than 10 active members, it will be considered dormant and its Charter will be rescinded to Grand Council. Existing members will find residency in another Commandery or Priory.

E: Priory

At least 25 members in good standing and with voting rights may make a written proposal to the Grand Council for the creation of a Priory. Priory Status may also be given to existing Commanderies that fulfill the requirements for Priors detailed in the Byelaws.

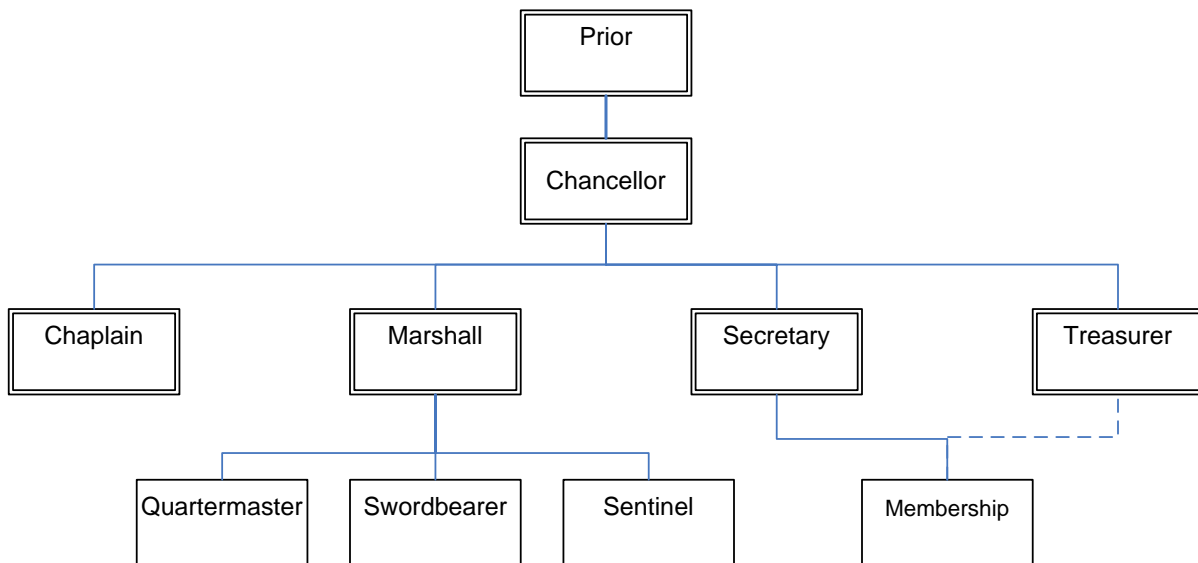
The proposal must have a Proposer and Secunder of Grand Officer Rank and have the following details:

- Name of Proposed Priory.
- Geographic Area of Proposed Priory.
- Names, Ranks and Signatures of all founding members
- Purposes and Objectives of the new Priory.

The proposal will be submitted to the Secretary General in due form and will be placed on the Agenda according to the Grand Chancellor's wishes.

The Grand Council will vote on the proposal and on its acceptance the Priory has permission to be inaugurated under Special Charter. The Charter will be the property of the Grand Council and shall be returned on request.

The Priory will abide by the Byelaws of the 'Order' and will have the following structure:



The Secretary will report routinely on Membership, Records and Correspondence to the Secretary General

The Treasurer will report routinely on Accounts, Income and Expenditure to the Grand Treasurer.

All funds of the Priory belong to the Grand Council and will be returned to the Grand Treasurer on request.

All items of regalia and ritual of the Priory belong to the Grand Council and will be returned to the Grand Marshall on request.

The Grand Council can dissolve the Priory after a majority vote of Grand Council. A Priory that has been dissolved has forfeited its rights to obtain members, collect fees and have representation at Grand Council Level.

Two thirds of Priory Members can request dormancy or dissolution by requesting a Special Grand Council meeting for that purpose.

Except where stated otherwise, decisions in meetings of Priors are taken by a simple majority vote, with the presiding officeholder having a casting vote.

- To fulfill the objectives of the 'Order'
- To hold regular meetings and functions for the benefit of the Membership
- To recommend candidates for Office within the Commandery and for the Grand Council as per the Constitution and Byelaws of the 'Order'
- To obey the lawful commands of the Grand Council
- To report to Grand Council as required
- To increase the Membership's knowledge of the 'Order'
- To seek out local charities, Silent Knight opportunities etc
- To enhance the communities that the Priory is resident in.
- To increase the quality membership of the 'Order'

This list is not exhaustive.

If a Commandery fails for three consecutive years to have regular meetings, or has less than 25 active members, it will be considered dormant and its Charter will be rescinded to Grand Council. Existing members will find residency in another Commandery or Priory.

Article 7 Vows

Members avow their loyalty to the 'Order' and its chivalric ideals.

Article 8 Motto

The motto of the Order is:

**"Non nobis Domine, non nobis sed Nomini Tuo da Gloriam."
"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory."**

Article 9 Insignia

The Insignia of the 'Order' comprises of:

- Neck Cross
 - Designed in the style of a Blood Red-Cross Patée Verty
 - Surmounted with the Shield of the 'Order' for KCTJ and above
 - Surmounted with the Crown of the Order' for GCTJ
 - When at a Templar function or meeting the Neck Cross should be the highest Order worn
- Breast Star
 - Silver 8 pointed sunburst with red Patriarchal Cross on a white centre for GOTJ and
 - Gold 8 pointed sunburst with red Patriarchal Cross on a white centre for the Commander or Prior
 - Gold 8 pointed sunburst with a Blood Red-Cross Patée Verty on a white centre for the Grand Prior
 - When at a Templar function or meeting the Breast Star should be the highest Star worn
 - Commanders, Priors and Grand Priors will wear the Gold Breast Star according to the guidelines in the Knights Manual
- Mantle
 - One length Plain Black from shoulder to mid calf in the same style as the Knights Mantle for Companions
 - One Mantle for Chivalry
 - One length white (or off white) from shoulder to mid calf
 - Shirt type collar as pictured in the Knights Manual
 - A Blood Red-Cross Patée Verty centered on the left breast (30cm in height)
 - Lined with a red lining
 - Having red two cords near the neck to fasten the mantle
 - Should be able completely enclose the Member when closed
 - May be fitted with metal cloak fasteners
 - Other decorations as agreed by the Grand Council.
- Miniatures
 - The Blood Red-Cross Patée Verty (16mm) supported by a miniature (16mm) ribbon of

- o the 'Order' (red/black/red)
- o Will be worn in the "court style" with highest award to the right
- Medals
 - o The Blood Red-Cross Patée Verty (25mm) supported by a (26mm) ribbon of the 'Order' (red/black/red)
 - o Other decorations as agreed by the Grand Council
 - o Will be worn in the "court style" with highest award to the right
- Cordon
 - o The Cordon shall be 10cm approx in width (7cm width for Dames)
 - o The Cordon shall have a black centre of 2 parts edged with 1 part red on either side
- Ribbon of the 'Order'
 - o The Neck and Bow Ribbon shall be 3cm approx in width
 - o The Ribbon shall have a black centre of 2 parts edged with 1 part red on either side
- Grand Prior's Collar (if used)
 - o The Collar will be guilt in a style agreed by Grand Council
 - o The Cross will be a Blood Red Triple Bar Cross suspended by the collar

All worn according to grade, ceremony and strict adherence to the guidelines in the Knights Manual.

Knights and Dames invested prior to 2006 may use their existing insignia and regalia at the Grand Council's discretion.

Civil Insignia and decorations can be worn in accordance with civil law.

Invested Chivalry are encouraged to demonstrate their loyalty to the 'Order' by wearing their Templar insignia on suitable occasions.

The Banner of the 'Order' shall be the Beauceant, which is divided into two horizontal bars, black above and white below.

Commanderies and Priories may display banners according to the Knights Manual.

Article 10 Finances

The 'Order's' Financial Records will be audited once a year in February by an independent Accountant.

Audited Accounts will be presented at the Annual General Chapter.

The 'Order' shall hold a 'Treasurer's Account' at the Branch of:

TBC

The 'Order's' cheques will require the signatures of three out of the four Office Bearers.

All monies received will be deposited with the Bank within three working days.

The Treasurer shall require both a written receipt and agreement from the Grand Council before any 'Order' monies are paid out.

Article 11 Dissolution

Two thirds of paid up members can vote to close the 'Order' at a meeting called for this reason.

The 'Order' having paid any outstanding accounts, returned any loan equipment and resources and having an Accountant audit the Finances, will dispose of the remaining assets (e.g. money, equipment etc) via donation to groups with similar aims and objects.

No individuals related to the 'Order' will profit or gain from the disposal of monies or assets.

Article 12 Alterations to the Constitution or Byelaws

Alterations to the Constitution or Byelaws can only be made at an Annual General Chapter or a Special Meeting called for that purpose.

Article 13 Adoption of Constitution

This Constitution was adopted on the XXXXX. Reference Minute Extract xxxxxx

Adopted

Seconded

Name (Print)----- Name (Print)-----

Signature----- Signature-----

Date----- Date-----

LIST OF CHANGES

Date	Ver	Description
29/12/05	Ver 1.00	Draft for review
05/01/06	Ver 1.01	Addition of Insignia, Vows, Motto and Organisation Chart. Draft for review
07/01/06	Ver 1.02	Draft for review
09/01/06	Ver 1.03	Draft for review