

**CONSTITUTION OF
THE CONNECTICUT ELKS PAST EXALTED RULERS' ASSOCIATION
ESTABLISHED MAY 1997**



**Recommended by the Committee on By-Laws
Seth Miller, PDD
Denise Johnson
Lysa Molnar
Raymond E. Dunbar, PDD
Thomas R. Smith
Advisor, Michael A. Bonini, PSP, PDD**

Approved by those members present on the 2nd day of February 1997 in Wallingford, CT

**Alan Baranyai, PDD Brian M. Skonieczny, PER
President, Secretary,
CT Elks PER Association CT Elks PER Association
Amendment No. 1: September 12, 2004
Amendment No. 2: September 18, 2005
Amendment No. 3: October 1, 2022**

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1. The name of this organization shall be "THE CONNECTICUT ELKS PAST EXALTED RULERS' ASSOCIATION."

SECTION 2. This Association has been organized to unite all of the Past Exalted Rulers of Connecticut in close bonds of fraternal brotherhood, sworn to assist in recommending and maintaining, through collective counseling, the highest degree of leadership possible in their respective districts of Connecticut and in their subordinate Lodges; to promote by good example and by general good works for the interests of Elksdom in their respective communities; to exchange ideas on constructive leadership with their subordinate Lodges' Exalted Rulers; to take action upon any matter affecting the welfare of the Order in general; to give assistance in all the activities of the Connecticut Elks Association; to promote the programs of the Grand Lodge; and to further good fellowship and true friendship among all of the Past Exalted Rulers in the State of Connecticut.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. All Past Exalted Rulers of the subordinate Lodges of Connecticut, or PER's who have demitted to Connecticut Lodges, who are in good standing in their respective Lodges, shall be eligible for membership in this Association, without election or other action by the Association.

Any of said Past Exalted Rulers who have attended any meeting of the Association and who shall pay dues for one year shall, by that fact, be deemed to have affiliated as a member of the Association. Membership can begin at any time during the PER Association year.

SECTION 2. The membership dues shall be fifteen (\$15) per year. Such dues shall be for the year beginning on October 1 and ending on September 30 of the following year. Dues are payable at the September meeting.

SECTION 3. Any member who shall become indebted to the Association for one year's dues shall be suspended from membership at the next regular meeting without vote of the Association.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to report, at said meeting, the names of such delinquent members.

Any member who has been suspended from membership may be re-instated at any meeting of the Association by payment of current dues.

SECTION 4. The Association may, by a majority affirmative vote of the members present at any meeting, elect to Honorary Membership any Past Exalted Ruler of the Order, not a resident of the State of Connecticut, who shall have rendered distinguished service to his subordinate Lodges of Connecticut or to the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Annual meeting of the Association shall be held in September, on the 3rd Sunday of the month at a location to be determined by the incoming President. To encourage a greater cross section of attendance there will be 3 subsequent meetings, hosted by a Lodge in each District on a rotating basis. These meetings will be held December, February, and May on dates to be selected by the President of the Association.

SECTION 2. A special meeting shall be called by the President upon written request of members representing five different Lodges. No business shall be transacted at such meeting except that which shall be specified in the call for such special meeting.

SECTION 3. Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, at any meeting of the Association.

SECTION 4. Any Exalted Ruler of a subordinate Lodge in Connecticut shall be privileged to attend the meetings of the Association but shall have no voice or vote therein.

SECTION 5. The Secretary shall provide suitable cards or a suitable register at each meeting of the Association on which each member present shall record his name, address, telephone number and his Lodge number. If cards are used, they may be distributed and checked by members selected by the Secretary. If a register is used, the Secretary will make whatever arrangements might be most convenient.

SECTION 6. All members of the Association in good standing during the preceding year, shall be notified of the place and time of all meetings not less than 4 weeks prior to the date of the meeting by first class mail, or email if available.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, a Vice President for each Grand Lodge District within the State of Connecticut, a Secretary and a Treasurer. They shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall serve for one year starting on October 1 of the year of their election or until a successor has been duly elected.

Other officers, who shall be appointed by the President, shall be a Chaplain, an Inner Guard and a Sergeant-At-Arms.

The duties of each elective or appointive officer shall be such as usually pertain to such office.

SECTION 2 – Duties of the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide and furnish each member, upon payment of dues, a membership card. The Secretary of the Association shall receive a salary of \$200.00 (Amendment 1) per annum, payable semi-annually.

SECTION 3 - Duties of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive from the Secretary all funds of the Association furnishing the Secretary with a receipt there for. He shall deposit said receipts in a bank of his choice unless instructed by the Association or its officers, in writing, as to a specific bank to be used or an investment to be made. He shall pay all bills of the Association after they have been approved for payment by the President or the Secretary. He shall furnish the Association a bond in the amount of \$2,500.00, the fee for which shall be paid by the Association. For his services, the Treasurer shall receive \$100.00 (Amendment 1), payable semi-annually.

SECTION 4. In the event that a vacancy should occur in any office provided for in this Article, the remaining officers may fill such vacancy or vacancies by majority vote of such officer's present at a meeting called for such purpose.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. By virtue of their standing in the Association, all Past Presidents shall be members of a Board of Counselors. They shall function in an advisory capacity when called upon to do so by the elected officers of the Association.

SECTION 2. The President shall appoint as soon as possible after his election, a committee to be known as the Membership Committee whose duty shall be to promote membership in the Association by all PER's who, are members of Connecticut Lodges.

SECTION 3. The President shall have the authority to appoint any other committees which he believes are necessary for the proper functioning of the Association.

SECTION 4 - Awards for Meritorious Service. The President and the Vice-Presidents in their respective districts shall be chairman of the awards Committee, and each shall have the power to appoint two members to the Awards Committee to select one member of this Association who has performed meritorious service for its district, for the Connecticut Past Exalted Rulers Association, for the Connecticut Elks Association, or the Grand Lodge of our Order, to be their nominee for an award from this Association. In order to be eligible for such a nomination, the member so selected must currently be a member in good standing of a subordinate Lodge in the district from which his nomination is presented.

ARTICLE VI – DECEASED MEMBERS

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the President upon learning of the death of a member of this Association to immediately arrange to have a Connecticut Elks Past Exalted Rulers Resolution of Sympathy prepared by a Past Exalted Ruler of the deceased member's Lodge and presented to the deceased member's family. The Secretary shall deliver the Resolution of sympathy upon request.

ARTICLE VII – RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 1. Rules of the Order:

1. Opening
2. Calling roll of Officers
3. Calling roll of Lodges
4. Reading Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Sickness And Distress
6. Reports Of Committees
7. Reading Communications
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Good of the Association
11. Bills Against the Association
12. Receipts Of the Session
13. Treasurer's Report
14. Closing

SECTION 2. This Constitution may be amended, with 30 days notice, at any regular meeting of the Association, by the affirmative majority vote of the members present.

SECTION 3. This Constitution shall be effective as of October 1, 2022, and all previous Constitutions or amendments thereto are repealed as of that date.

SECTION 4. This Constitution will be reviewed every 5 years as with current Grand Lodge Statutes.