

The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas
Office of the Grand Commander
Livingston, TX
April 10, 2022

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1, SERIES 2022-2023

Subject: District Appointments, District Conclaves, Schools of Instruction and Statewide Makeup School of Instruction, Annual Visitation, Blanket Dispensations, Grand Commandery Committee Meetings, Drill and Ritual Competition and the Annual Grand Conclave.

To: The Grand Officers, Past Grand Commanders, Officers and Members of the Constituent Commanderies of Texas.

Greetings:

In accordance with the provisions of the Statutes and Regulations of The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas, the following conditions will be observed during the 2022-2023 Templar year. **These conditions are subject to change contingent on the state of the COVID pandemic and its effects on public safety.**

TEMPLAR DISTRICTS:

To better facilitate annual visitations, in accordance with Article 108, of the Statues and Regulations of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas, the Templar Districts in Texas shall be reassigned as follows:

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4
Dallas No. 6	Palestine No. 3	San Felipe de Austin No. 1	San Antonio No. 7
Indivisible Friends No. 13	Bertrand de Guesclin No. 14	Ruthven No. 2	Brownwood No. 22
DeMolay No. 20	Ascension No. 25	Beaumont No. 38	San Marcos No. 56
McKinney No. 34	Taylor No. 85	Kenedy No. 61	Corpus Christi No. 57
Tancred No. 82	Piney Woods No. 88	Port Arthur No. 73	Hidalgo No. 94
A.C. Garrett No. 103	East Texas No. 104	Fort Bend No. 74	St. John No. 101
Terrell No. 115	South East Texas No. 112	Park Place No. 106	
		Melrose No. 109	
DISTRICT 5	DISTRICT 6	DISTRICT 7	DISTRICT 8
Ivanhoe No. 8	Cleburne No. 12	Colorado No. 4	Vernon No. 33
Waco No. 10	Worth No. 19	El Paso No. 18	Amarillo No. 48
Brenham No. 15	Denton No. 45	San Angelo No. 28	High Plains No. 53
Temple No. 41	Weatherford No. 51	Llano No. 54	Wichita Falls No. 59
Houston No. 95	Southside No. 83	Stamford No. 75	Lubbock No. 60
Lone Star No. 114	Stephenville No. 100	Midland No. 84	Borger No. 96
Mexia UD No. 116	Arlington No. 107	Burnet No. 113	
DISTRICT 9			
Texas Holding No. 200			

DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS:

I am proud to present the following Grand Officers, who will serve as the Personal Representative of the Grand Commander in the following Districts:

District No. 1: Sir Knight Justin Bauer, Eminent Grand Generalissimo
District No. 2: Sir Knight Ricky Cox, Eminent Grand Standard Bearer
District No. 3: Sir Knight Judge Risley, Eminent Grand Warder
District No. 4: Sir Knight Jason Lesikar, Eminent Grand Captain General
District No. 5: Sir Knight Gary Rock, Eminent Grand Senior Warden
District No. 6: Sir Knight Tommy Chapman, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer
District No. 7: Sir Knight Ralph Royall, Eminent Grand Junior Warden
District No. 8: Sir Knight Chris Little, Eminent Grand Sentinel
District No. 9: Sir Knight T. Chance Chapman, Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander

DISTRICT CONCLAVES AND SCHOOLS OF INSTRUCTION:

The District Schools of Instruction will be held during the months of June, July, and August 2022, on a date and time agreed upon by the Grand Officer assigned to the District and the host Commandery. The Grand Officers are to be respectful of Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Eastern Star installations when setting a date and time for the School. A formal or informal District Conclave should be held to discuss any upcoming events in the District.

The Grand Officer assigned to the District will notify the Commander and the Recorder of each Commandery in the District, Electronic Communications Committee and the Grand Officers of the time and place of the School. Each Commandery, in the announcement of the School, will be reminded of **Article 113 of the Statutes and Regulations** that reads: ***“At such Schools of Instruction it shall be the duty of all the officers of each Commandery situated in such District to attend at the time and place designated...and to participate in the work of such School.”***

ANNUAL INSPECTION AND OFFICIAL VISITATION:

The District Grand Officers will schedule the dates of the Official Visitations to be made in September, October, and November of 2022. Commanderies are reminded that our **Statutes and Regulations require them**, as a condition of being a Commandery, not only **to be able to Open and Close the Commandery in full ritualistic form or the alternate nine man opening ritual**, but also **to confer the Order of the Temple in accordance with the 1979 Ritual of The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, as amended by Knight Templar Drill Regulations and Manual of Asylum Ceremonies of The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas (1987)**. Although authorized by **Article 110 of the Statutes and Regulations**, while inspections may be held in the same location on the same day, joint conclaves for the purpose of inspection will not be permitted, as each commandery is required to perform its own inspection.

All Commanderies are subject to the following scoring regulations for the J.C. Kidd and Fred M. Gilbough plaques. It should be noted, scoring for the Kidd and Gilbough are a separate item from passing inspection. There is no minimum score for passing inspection. A minimum score of 750 is only required to earn a service award.

Opening and Closing:

- Only those Commanderies who perform the Traditional (18 man) Opening during Inspection can compete for the J.C. Kidd Plaque. However, if every Commandery in a District uses the Alternate 9 Man Opening for their Inspection, then every Commandery can compete for the J.C. Kidd Plaque.
- Ten **(10)** points will be deducted for each officer **not** filling his installed station at the Annual Inspection of the Commandery.
- Fifty **(50)** points will be awarded for each performing the Traditional (18 man) Opening.

Order of the Temple:

- Ten **(10)** points will be deducted for each officer **not** filling his installed station at the Annual Inspection of the Commandery.
- Commanderies will receive a Twenty **(20)** point bonus for having an actual candidate at the Annual Inspection of the Commandery.
- If the installed Commander or Generalissimo of the Commandery being inspected **does not** give the Remaining Attributes, a twenty **(20)** point penalty will be deducted.

At the next Stated Conclave following receipt of this General Order, each Commander shall read aloud or cause to be read aloud **Chapter 56, Article 344, 345, and 346 of the Statutes and Regulations**, regarding Merit Awards and Service Medals, and the Recorder shall note this event in the minutes.

Commanders are reminded that **Article 111 of the Statutes and Regulations** requires that the Commander of each Commandery “*...cause the members of his Commandery to be notified to attend the visitation of the Grand Officer.*” **All Sir Knights are strongly encouraged to visit other Commanderies, especially during the Official Visitation of the Grand Officer.**

BLANKET DISPENSATIONS:

Where not prohibited by law, regulation, or edict, and provided current social distancing and public safety guidelines are strictly adhered to, a Blanket Dispensation is granted for Sir Knights to appear in public in uniform at:

I. Community events such as parades, dedications, leveling cornerstones, and ceremonies in connection with Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Veterans Day, and any dignified public function where Templar Masonry will be promoted.

II. Church services as a Commandery.

III. Flag presentation ceremonies for any Masonic-related organization or for public events to promote Masonry, the Eye Foundation, the Holy Land Pilgrimage, or the Educational Foundation.

170TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE:

The 170th Annual Conclave of The Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas will be held in Grapevine, Texas, April 13 - 16, 2023 at the Embassy Suites Hotel located at 2401 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, TX 76051. Information regarding the 170th Annual Conclave, will be made available on our website and Facebook page. Registration will open at Noon on

Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Embassy Suites Hotel. The business session of the Grand Commandery of Texas will be held on Friday, April 14, 2023, beginning at 8:30 am.

Field Drill Competition will be held in the morning of Saturday, April 15, 2023, using a schedule for Class A, B, C, and D teams and which will be made available at a later date. Entries should be sent to the Chairman of the Field Drill Committee (see Bulletin No. 1) ahead of time if possible.

Competition will be held in the afternoon of Saturday, April 15, 2023, in the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross. The parts for the competition will be: Sovereign Master, Prince Chancellor, Prince Master of the Palace, Master of Dispatches, Companion Conductor, and Warder. The same Sir Knight may perform the Master of Dispatches and Prince Chancellor parts of the ritual. The exact portion of the Order for competition will be presented and demonstrated to the Sir Knights by the Templar Instruction Committee on Thursday evening, April 13, 2023, at a time to be determined. Entries should be sent to the Chairman of the Templar Instruction Committee (See Bulletin No. 1) ahead of time if possible.

The Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday Evening, April 15, 2023. The Annual Conclave will conclude on Sunday, April 16, 2023, with the Divine/Memorial Service at 9:00 am, followed by the Installation of the 2023-2024 Grand Commandery officers.

COMMITTEES:

The Chairman of each Committee shall notify the Grand Officers of all meetings of their Committee as soon as they are scheduled, at least two weeks in advance. If possible, it is requested that any such meetings be held on a Saturday or Sunday, to facilitate the attendance of the Grand Officers at the Committee's meeting. Committees will submit their preliminary reports in writing to the Grand Recorder by March 1, 2023.

The mailing address, telephone numbers and email address of the Grand Commander and the Grand Recorder can be found in Bulletin No. 1.

This General Order is to be read aloud at the next Stated Conclave following its receipt and the action noted by the Recorder in the minutes with a copy attached thereto.

In His and your service,



Richard R. Jernigan
Grand Commander

Attest:



Jerry N. Kirby
Grand Recorder

