

ORDER OF St STANISLAS
Office of the Grand Master
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Constitution (1999)
Revised 2004 / 2006

BACKGROUND

- a) The original constitution (the Original Constitution) of the Sovereign Order of St Stanislas was decreed by the Grand Master on 15th September 1990 - following the separation of the Order from the Polish State Orders - as being an amendment of the statute of the Order dated 15th November 1984.
- b) this amended constitution ("this Constitution") of the Order was duly adopted by the Grand Magistry at the request of the Grand Master.
- c) Inter alias this Constitution
 - 1) changes the name of the Order to "The Order of St Stanislas"
 - 2) changes the voluntary donations to yearly dues
 - 3) restricts admissions into the Order to Class V with promotion on merit only unless by specific written order of the Grand Master
 - 4) reinstates the concept, as existing under the Grand Mastership of the Tsars of Russia that the grant of Class I of the Order is equal to the grant of hereditary nobility to the Companion

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSES AS FOLLOWS :-

The Sovereign Order of St Stanislas being a continuation and heir to the prestigious Order established in 1765 by the King of Poland, Stanislas II August Poniatowski and dedicated to honour St Stanislas, Bishop of Krakow, martyred in 1079 will forever continue the values and traditions enshrined by its founder and first Grand Master. The Order is now known as the "Order of St Stanislas".

1 Administration

The Order shall be administrated and managed by the Grand Master in consultation with the Grand Magistrty, the Grand Master's decree being final.

2 Objects

40% of the income of the Order (as decided at the Grand Magistrty Meeting 2004 with 30% remaining within the individual Priories and 30% for the administration of the Order through the Office of the Grand Master) shall be held in trust to be applied for the following objects (the Objects)

- a) To provide services to humanity, mostly to those underprivileged, to support hospitals, hospices, schools, orphanages, homes for those with learning disabilities and/or mental illness throughout the world but preferentially within Poland and the other former Eastern Bloc countries.
- b) To reward services rendered to humanity in all fields of human achievement.
- c) To encourage global awareness and understanding by the inclusion into the Order of representatives of all races, creeds and religions to further the cause of peace.
- d) To uphold the spirit of Chivalry, to foster the original aims of King Stanislas to uphold family values and traditions, and to encourage education and the individual initiative of all persons.

3 Powers

In furtherance of the Objects, but not otherwise, the Officers of the Order may exercise any of the following powers.

3.1 to unite in fellowship companions of the Order.

3.2 to unite in fellowship persons who appreciate the Objects of the Order.

3.3 to co-operate with the Grand Master, the Grand Magistracy and other senior representatives of the Order in each country in the recruitment of worthy persons who appear to share the aims of the Order.

3.4 to raise funds, invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatever provided that the Order shall not undertake any permanent trading activity.

3.5 to promote, initiate, develop and carry out education and training (of less experienced companions) and provide or assist in arranging exhibitions, seminars, displays or classes which would enhance the standing of the Order.

3.6 to do all other lawful things which are necessary to achieve the aims of the Objects.

4 Grand Master

The position of Grand Master of the Order is hereditary by right of descent of the present Grand Master from the family of the Patron, St Stanislas and by relationship to the founder of the Order, King Stanislas Poniatowski. He and his appointed successors shall be forever Grand Masters of the Order. Each Grand Master shall appoint, by special decree, his successor from worthy members of the House of Nowina-Sokolnicki. In the event of extinction of this House the succession shall pass to another branch of the Nowina family chosen by decree of the last Grand Master of the Present House.

All power of augmenting every part of this Constitution is vested in the Grand Master - Juliusz Nowina-Sokolnicki.

5 Grand Magistracy

All members of the Grand Magistracy are appointed by the Grand Master and serve at his pleasure.

All members of the Grand Magistracy are entitled to the Grand Collar of the Order and to use the postnominals GCCStS.

The Grand Magistracy shall consist of the following:-

5.1 The Grand Master

The Grand Master is the juridical head of the Order: he names, appoints and may dismiss any and all of the Companions of the Order. He releases Diplomas/ Brevets/ Patents of Appointment/ Patents of Promotion and presides during Investitures.

Investitures may only be held with his permission and agreement. The accolade is given by his hand and no other unless written permission is sought and a designated Officer appointed to deputise for him. The permission is always specific to one occasion. He is President of the Court of Honour. The Order is led and administered by him with the assistance of the Grand Magistracy over which he presides. He is responsible for the continuation and good standing of the Order during his lifetime with the responsibility to ensure a worthy successor within the house stands ready to take his place.

5.2 The Lt Grand Master

The appointed successor to the Grand Master. The Deputy of choice if the Grand Master is prevented from carrying out his duties. The Lt Grand Master carries out the duties assigned to him by the Grand Master, acquaints himself with all the responsibilities, powers and functions of the Grand Master and generally prepares himself (with the assistance of the Regency Council - see attached) to succeed upon the demise of the present Grand Master.

5.3 The Grand Chancellor

The Grand Chancellor is first in rank after the Grand Master and the Lt Grand Master. He advises the Grand Master on the appointments to the Grand Magistracy and Continental Chancellors are directly responsible to him. He stands at the right hand of the Grandmaster at all ceremonies of the Order.

The remainder of the Grand Magistry are listed in no specific order as no Grand Magistry Member (apart from those previously mentioned) has jurisdiction over any other Grand Magistry member.

5.4-9 Continental Chancellors

The Continental Chancellors are the link between Grand Priors/Priors and the Grand Magistry. **ALL** official correspondence should pass through them in both directions!!! This in no way interferes with the right of any Companion to approach the Grand Master directly. It remains, however, a matter of extreme discourtesy for the appropriate Continental Chancellor, and indeed the Grand Priors/Priors involved, not to be informed. Not to comply with this basic form of good manners will be considered a breach of the Chivalric Code and could lead to further action. Continental Chancellors have jurisdiction over all other Members in their specific geographical locations (excepting other Grand Magistry Members) and their permission **MUST** be sought for meetings held within their jurisdiction. All requests for the holding of Investiture Ceremonies must be passed through them to the Grand Master. It is a matter of extreme courtesy that other Grand Magisterial Members should keep the appropriate Chancellor informed of any of their activities in their areas.

5.10 The Grand Secretary

The Grand Secretary is responsible for the flow of information from the Grand Master to the Grand Magistry and the flow of information from the Grand Magistry to other Officers of the Order so that such information may be passed down the chain of command to all other Companions of the Order. The Grand Secretary is responsible for the secretarial work and correspondence in the Office of the Grand Master. Specifically he/she shall ensure that all Grand Magistry Meetings are recorded and circulated as appropriate and forwarded to the Grand Archivist and the office of the Grand Master.

5.11 The Grand Bailiff

The chief legal officer of the Order and MUST hold a recognised degree in Law. He advises the Grand Master and Grand Magistracy on the legality of the Rules of the Order and on the legality of any published documents. He is responsible for co-ordinating, overseeing and administrating all matters of litigation concerning the Order. He should, where possible, participate in any Court of Honour and is responsible for ensuring that all participants, including the accused, involved in such a Court are acquainted with the legal ramifications of the case. He is the Protector of the Order's Sovereign State in jurisprudence.

5.12 The Grand Marshal

The Chief Ceremonial Functionary of the Order. He is the immediate head of all other Marshals within the Order. All Marshals (or other Companions so delegated) must forward a written schedule of any intended Investitures to the Grand Marshal for advice on protocol and procedures before requesting the Grand Master's permission and attendance. The Grand Marshal advises on all areas of ceremonial procedure excepting those falling within the jurisdiction of the Church.

5.13 The Grand Archivist

Responsible for the good order of the records of the Order and keeper of the archives not held by the King of Arms. At present he also acts as Keeper of the Insignia for the American Continent.

5.14 The Grand Prelate

Head of the Corps of Chaplains. Responsible for the religious observances of the Feasts of the order and performance of public ceremonial rites. He shall be a Christian chastic of any denomination. In the event of the order having, in the Order, other than Christian Companions, the Grand Prelate may appoint chaplains from other religions and delegate them to the religious duties for believers in their particular religion.

5.15 The Grand Commissioner

The head of the Order's charitable services and seeks advice from the Grand Magistry and other Officers of the Order regarding suitable worthy causes. He submits written requests for the consideration of specific charitable causes and advises on local charitable issues.

5.16 The Grand Constable

Deals with all disciplinary issues which do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Grand Bailiff. Responsible for ensuring that issues are raised through the correct lines of command and for ensuring that these lines of command are respected.

5.17 The Grand Castellan

Responsible for ensuring that the stature of the Order remains high. He supports the Grand Master by ensuring that adverse publicity is contained and counteracted by favourable propaganda.

5.18 The King of Arms

Head of the College of Arms of the Order and reports solely to the Grand master. He identifies all arms borne by Members of the Order and registers the same for all time in a place where they may be accessed by any Member of the Order. He recommends to the Grand Master those Companions entitled to wear a Cross of Justice and is the Keeper of all archives pertaining to arms and insignia.

5.19 The Grand Chronicler

Responsible for press releases and media liaison. He edits the Newsletters of the Order and should appoint suitable liaison officers throughout the world. Keeps records of media mentions of the Order, its activities and its Officers.

5.20 The Grand Seneschal

Responsible for the organisation of social events. These events may be for Fundraising (for specific designated causes) or non-fundraising (banquets following Investitures etc). All such projects must be self funding and approved by the Grand Master.

5.21 The Grand Legate

Directly in charge of the Ambassadors of the Order and advises on Foreign Policy.

5.22 Director of Communications to the Office of the Grand master

Works directly under the Grand Master at his direction.

5.23 The Grand Treasurer

Responsible for keeping the accounts of the Order.

5.24 The Grand Almoner.

Distributor of Charitable Largesse.

5.25++ Grand Councillors

Appointed by the Grand Master for either specific tasks or to augment the knowledge of the existing Members of the Grand Magistracy.

The following Officers are not Members of the Grand Magistracy but comprise the essential backbone of the day to day running of the Order. All are appointed by the Grand Master and serve at his pleasure.

Ambassadors at Large

Function independently of Grand Priories/Priories and are representatives of the Order in areas where the Order is not yet established. Their brief is to actively publicise the Order and to recruit worthy persons of good standing.

The Grand Priors

Hold the senior position within the geographically determined Grand Priories. They are responsible for the Priors and/or Commanders within their jurisdiction and deputise for the Grand Master when necessary. Deputy Grand Priors may be appointed at the decree of the Grand Master.

The Chancellor to a Grand Priory

Collate all necessary information regarding their Grand Priory and are responsible for the distribution of such information. They are responsible for the safekeeping and recording of the Grand priory records.

Priors

Priors may appoint Commanders within their territories with the approval of their Grand Prior and/or Continental Chancellor. They may conduct liturgical, social or ceremonial events with the approval of their senior officer. They may recommend suitable Companions for the positions of Chancellor/Secretary to the Priory and Deputy Prior to the Grand Master through their senior officer. Priors may appoint Bailiffs, Auditors, Treasurers, Minute Secretaries, Standard/Banner Bearers, Sword Bearers or other active staff positions depending upon the intended activities of the Priory.

Commanders

Generally appointed by the prior and serve at his/her pleasure. They organise and direct the activities of the Commandery within a Grand Priory/Priory. They actively promote membership of the Order and participate fully in all activities of the Commandery, Priory and the Order. They are the chief administrative officer of the Commandery and delegates specific responsibilities to other members of the Commandery.

6.1 PASSAGE FEES

All Passage Fees shall be rendered to the Order, together with the Application Form, prior to the brevet being processed.

Passage Fees rendered by persons subsequently not admitted to the Order shall be refunded.

Each Grand Priory shall determine, with the input and agreement of the Grand Master and the Continental Chancellor, the level of the Passage Fee - to be determined to include the cost of Insignia and Mantel.

The Passage fees will be used for the upkeep of the Order and centrally planned charitable activities.

6.2 Yearly Oblations

These are specific to each individual country and, following the decision of the Grand Magistry in Poznan, Poland in 2004, shall be utilized in the following manner.

- 30% To remain in the respective Grand Priory/Priory
- 30% To the Grand Master for the upkeep of the Order
- 40% Charity through the Foundations of the Order.

These oblations are compulsory and will be invoiced each year. Members ignoring this obligation will initially be placed on the "Inactive" list and lose their right to attend meetings, social events or Investitures of the Order. After two years such persons will be considered to have resigned from the Order.

6.3 Moto proprio Admissions/ remission of Passage Fees.

Chaplains of the Order are exempt from Passage Fees and Yearly Oblations.

Moto proprio admissions shall only be made by the Grand Master of his own mere motion. Moto proprio admission does not necessarily allow remission or suspension of Yearly Oblations. The Grand Master may remit part or dispense entirely with the Passage Fees as he sees fit. No other Officer may exercise such a dispensing or suspending authority.

7 Admissions

Acceptance into the Order is by personal recommendation by a Companion (in good standing) and by formal application to the Grand Master. Acceptance is at the Grand Master's discretion.

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7.1 Persons under the age of 18yrs will not normally be admitted as a full Member of the Order. *20 - 4.2.2011 Protocol*

7.2 The Order may be granted posthumously at the Grand master's discretion. *20 - 4.2.2011*

7.3 Due to the proliferation of Titles, Styles of Honour, Military Rank and Honours from arguable sources and the destructive controversy arising therefrom and since neither the Order nor any representative thereof may assume the role of confirming or denying the legitimacy of such claims, such titles, postnominals etc shall only be included on Diplomas when proof of legitimacy has been forwarded at the time of application.

7.4 The Order of St Stanislas grants no titles apart from Knight/Chevalier or Dame of the Order of St Stanislas.

7.5 Companions granted the Grand Cross of the Order (Class I) are entitled to claim hereditary nobilitation for themselves and their issue and are entitled to bear a Coat of Arms which may include the Insignia of the Order.

7.6 The Order disregards any consideration of race, religion, or ethnic background and considers male and female as equals, with equal rights and equal responsibilities pertaining to the Order.

7.7 Admission will normally be into Class V of the Order unless written permission is sought and agreed, in writing, from the Grand Master. Such requests would normally only come from the Grand Magistray, Grand Priors and Ambassadors of the Order.

7.8 Postulants seeking admission as Chaplains of the Order must provide proof of ordination and of any further ecclesiastical promotions.

7.9 Postulants claiming military rank must provide proof of their Commission and of any further promotions.

The Order maintains the right to investigate any of these claims with the appropriate authorities.

8 Expulsion from the Order

Persons dismissed from the Order are immediately stripped of all rights and privileges granted by the Order. They are no longer entitled to wear the Insignia of the Order and may not use the postnominals or purport to represent the Order under any circumstance.

8.1 Reasons for expulsion from the Order include-
Attempted usurpation of the Grand Master and/or the Grand Magistracy.

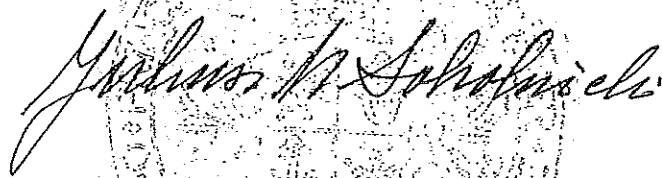
Deliberate malicious propaganda detrimental to the Order or bringing the Order, or its Officers, into disrepute.

Inappropriate behaviour whilst wearing the Insignia of the Order.

This list is not exclusive.

8.2 Companions accused of any such misconduct may be:-

- a) called before a Court of Honour
- b) asked for their immediate resignation
- c) summarily dismissed from the Order.



Juliusz Nowina-Sokolnicki

Signed as a deed by JULIUSZ NOWINA-SOKOLNICKI, Grand Master of the Order of St Stanislas 1st March 1999 amended on the 31st March 2004 and further amended on 22nd November 2006 at the above address.

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| Appendix 1 | Regency council |
| Appendix 2 | Grand Priory/Priory organization |
| | Activities of the Grand Priory/Priory |
| | At-large members |
| | Commandery Organization. |