

EMERGENCY (EXTRA) MEETINGS

An Emergency Meeting of a Lodge or Chapter is any meeting additional to the regular days of meeting specified in the Lodge or Chapter By-Laws. *The use of the word 'Emergency' does not imply necessarily that there is some urgent or unforeseen reason for the meeting.*

A Lodge must petition the Provincial Grand Master for a dispensation to hold any Emergency Meeting and the Provincial Grand Master has to be satisfied that there is 'good cause' for the meeting, before granting the dispensation. A Lodge must include in its petition all the business which it intends to transact at the meeting. That business must then appear on the summons convening the meeting, and no other business may be transacted at that meeting.

A Royal Arch Chapter does not need a dispensation for an Emergency Meeting, but the Content of the meeting is still governed by the regulations for emergency meetings, as below.

It is forbidden to transact at an Emergency Meeting any business which the Book of Constitutions/Regulations (and/or the Lodge or Chapter By-Laws) requires to be placed only before a Regular Meeting. For example, a candidate cannot be proposed nor (in the Craft) balloted for. Similarly Lodge accounts cannot be approved nor regular elections take place. (It is possible for a Royal Arch Chapter to install an elected Principal at an Emergency Meeting).

Furthermore, Emergency Meetings are not likely to be granted to Lodges and Chapters for the purpose simply of putting right some omission in their annual cycle of administration.

It follows, therefore, that no minutes are read at an Emergency meeting. Outstanding minutes must be read at the next Regular Meeting together with the minutes of the Emergency Meeting and confirmed together. Similarly there are no risings, as the meeting is not authorised to deal with general Lodge or Chapter business. Such business must all be referred to and reported at the next Regular Meeting.

If you wish to apply for a Dispensation, press here to go to that page [□](#)