

BYLAWS OF THE LOVELINKS OF OHIO
The Organization of Former Deputy Grand Matrons

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Lovelinks of Ohio Eastern Star.

ARTICLE II. OBJECT OF THE ORGANIZATION

To promote acquaintance and friendship among the members.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All Ohio members of the O.E.S. who have received appointments as Deputy Grand Matron are eligible to become members after the first year of their commission has expired. (2023)

Section 2. An eligible Deputy Grand Matron may become a member by payment of the current annual dues to the Secretary of the organization. (2023)

Section 3. Membership in this organization may continue from year to year by the payment of dues. (Revised 2018)

Section 4. The newly eligible Deputy Grand Matrons will receive a written invitation by November 30th to join our organization. (2023)

Section 5. All Past Grand Matrons, except former Deputy Grand Matrons, and Past Grand Patrons of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, O.E.S. shall be honorary members.

ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS

Section 1. The Spring Meeting and luncheon shall be held at the time and place of the Worthy Grand Patron's Chapter Inspection.

Section 2. The Fall Breakfast shall be held at the time of the Annual Session of the Grand Chapter of Ohio O.E.S. It is to be noted in the scheduled roster of events in the Grand Chapter program each year.

ARTICLE V. FEES - DUES - GIFTS

Section 1a. The annual dues of the regular members shall be five dollars (\$5.00), payable in advance, and due at the time of the Spring Meeting. (2023)

Section 1b. LIFE MEMBERSHIP in this organization is available by payment of sixty dollars (\$60.00) which exempts a member from further payment of annual dues. (2023)

Section 1c. Life membership fees, plus any interest accrued, will be placed into a separate Savings Account in an Institution whose deposits are insured by an agency of the Federal Government.

Section 1d. Funds will be transferred from the savings account to the checking account if a majority of the officers determines the transfer is necessary to meet expenses. (2015)

Section 2. When the dues of a member have not been paid for two consecutive Spring Meetings, the name of that member shall be dropped from the roll. If a member has been dropped from the roll and requests reinstatement, she may be reinstated by paying one year back dues, plus the current year's dues.

Section 3. A donation of \$100.00 will be given to the Worthy Grand Matron's Special Project, from the Treasury, at the Spring Meeting.

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. The President and Vice President shall each serve one year; the Vice President advancing to the office of President. (Revised 2005)

Section 2a. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, due to death or resignation, the Vice President shall assume that office.

Section 2b. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Vice President due to death, resignation, or assuming the Presidency, the Nominating Committee shall appoint a member to fill that term. This newly appointed officer shall come from the same district as the previous officer, if possible.

Section 3. The Secretary and Treasurer shall each serve two years; the Secretary and Treasurer to be elected in alternate years.

Section 3a. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Secretary or Treasurer due to death or resignation, the Nominating Committee shall appoint a member to fill that term. This newly appointed officer shall come from the same district as the previous officer, if possible.

Section 4. The secretary shall provide to the webmaster and each Liaison an electronic version of the minutes and invitation for each meeting for distribution. (2023)

Section 5. The President shall appoint a Parliamentarian.

Section 6. The duties of each officer shall be those which usually pertain to such office. The books of the outgoing Secretary or Treasurer shall be turned over to their successors within sixty (60) days following the Spring Meeting.

ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS

Section 1. The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three who shall report at the time of the Spring Meeting. In case there is but one candidate for each office, by unanimous vote, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot.

Section 2. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be eligible for re-election but shall not serve more than two terms consecutively.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President shall have the privilege of appointing the Chairman for the Spring Luncheon Meeting held at the time and place of the Worthy Grand Patron's Inspection.

Section 1a. The Chairman is to be any Lovelink from the Worthy Grand Patron's District.

Section 2. The President shall have the privilege of appointing the Chairman for the Fall Breakfast, held at the time of the Ohio Grand Chapter Session.

Section 3. The President will appoint an Audit Committee at the Fall Meeting, consisting of Lovelinks from the current treasurer's region, if possible. This committee will audit the books and records of the Secretary and Treasurer prior to the Spring Meeting. (2023)

Section 4. The President shall have the power to appoint any other committees as are necessary.

Section 4a. The President shall appoint an Advisory Committee composed of three (3) Past Presidents to assist the officers in any need that may arise. Each new President shall appoint one (1) new member to serve a three-year term. (Revised 1992)

Section 4b. The members of this Committee shall serve as follows:

1. The first named shall serve as Chairman for a term of one (1) year.
2. The second named shall serve a term of two (2) years.
3. The third named shall serve a term of three (3) years.

Section 4c. Each member of this Committee shall serve one (1) year as Chairman, in an upward rotation.

ARTICLE IX. GUESTS

Section 1. The Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron shall receive written invitations from the President to be guests at all of our activities. Their spouses shall also be included as our guests.

Section 2. All Past Grand Matrons, Past Grand Patrons, and Grand Officers shall receive written invitations from the secretary to attend. They may bring a traveling companion. All reservations are to be paid in advance. (2023)

Section 3. All reservations for Lovelinks and their guests must be paid in advance.

Section 4. The Most Worthy Grand Matron and the Most Worthy Grand Patron shall be included as guests if they are available to attend the Spring and Fall Meetings. Their spouse and/or one traveling companion shall also be considered guests. (amended 2014)

Section 5. An elected General Grand Chapter Officer from Ohio and his/her spouse or one traveling companion shall be included as guests at the Spring and Fall Meetings. (amended 2016)

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws may be amended only at the Spring Meeting. Adoption of an amendment shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the members present.

1982; Revised 1985, 1989, 1992, 1999, 2005, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2023

THE LOVELINKS OF OHIO - STANDING RULES

1. The duties of the Liaison Representative of each District are:
 - a. To secure an Installation schedule of her district, and distribute a copy to each of the Lovelinks in her district.
 - b. To secure an Inspection schedule of her district and distribute a copy to each of the Lovelinks in her district.
 - c. To secure a copy of the schedule of the Worthy Grand Matron and distribute a copy to each of the Lovelinks in her district who requests one.
 - d. To distribute to the members of her district any information that the President of the organization asks her to distribute. (e.g. Membership Rosters, Invitations and minutes for Spring luncheon and Fall breakfast meetings, etc.) (2023)
 - e. To let the Vice President know if she does NOT wish to serve as Liaison Representative during the coming year.
 - f. To distribute Grand Chapter Officers' Tri-folds. Each liaison will receive a copy from the secretary via e-mail for distribution. (2023)
 - g. Upon notice of the death of a Lovelinks member, the Liaison Representative in the District of the deceased member shall send that information to the Secretary of the Lovelinks.
2. The working expenses of the elected officers shall be presented at the Spring Meeting for payment not to exceed a total of \$500. (2023)
3. The Lovelinks Roster, Bylaws and Standing Rules are to be printed in their entirety every five years, beginning 1990. They will be available for the general membership present at both the Spring Meeting and the **Fall** Meeting at a cost of \$5.00. In the intervening years only the additions, deletions and changes will be available for \$2.00 per year. A copy of the Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be given to each new member. A complete Roster with the additional annual updates will be available to new members for \$5.00. (2023)