

General Order Number: 2017-02

October 29, 2017

Rules, Regulations, and Procedures Governing Ritual Proficiency Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Maryland

The Grand Encampment Constitution, Section 139, establishes the *right* for any Sir Knight to run for *any* office in his Commandery, and no Grand Commandery has the authority to restrict or abridge the rights granted by the Grand Encampment.

Further, it is a right and proper knightly duty to be proficient in our Ritual and Tactics, and that it is the duty of each Commander to ensure his Commandery can properly confer the Orders, and, the inspection program will evaluate the work of the Commandery, but not formally recognize the work of the Knights individually.

There is a need to encourage more Sir Knights to memorize ritualistic work for the exemplification of the Orders of Knighthood, and also to recognize the efforts of those Sir Knights in learning their parts.

It is my order as Grand Commander, under the Constitution, Bylaws, and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, the following Ritualistic Reward Program shall be implemented:

The Ritualistic Awards are to be based on the three Orders conferred. The award is to be a bar which may be worn on the uniform to signify the level of proficiency, along with a certificate to be printed with the level of proficiency. **All work is to be done from memory and in full form (Short form for Order of Malta)**. All work done is to be attested by the Recorder as to what part was done and by whom. When sufficient requirements are satisfied for a particular level of recognition the Constituent Recorder will submit the information on the proper form to the Grand Recorder for the correct manner of recognition.

Point System

The total points for each Order are based on the number of words for that part. Then that number is divided by 10 and then rounded up or down to the next 5.

Red Cross 525

Malta 235 (420 if in full form)

Order of the Temple 775

Total points available: 1535 (1720 if in full form)

There will be three levels of proficiency. Point totals are **cumulative**:

1. **Pilgrim** 384 (25% of Total with short form Malta)
2. **Warrior** 690 (45% of Total with short form Malta)
3. **Knight** 1305 (85% of Total with short form Malta)

The “Opening”, “Closing” Rituals and “Reception of the Grand Commander” are not to be considered in the point totals. There is no consideration for the short form of The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.

The applicant will complete an application indicating the parts he has performed. He will sign the application and present it to his local Recorder for his signature and seal. The Recorder will then forward the application to the Grand Recorder along with a fee of \$10.00, to cover the cost of the bar and certificate. The Grand Recorder will then send the award to the local Recorder for presentation.

Point credit will be given for work conducted starting November 1, 2017, with the following exception: In recognition of the effort necessary in meeting the proficiency requirements of the Grand Commandery prior to October 30, 2017, upon application and payment of the appropriate fee, a Sir Knight who has been certified to confer the Order of Malta is eligible to wear the **Pilgrim** proficiency bar, a Sir Knight who has been certified to confer the Order of Malta and *either* the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross or Order of the Temple is eligible for the **Warrior** proficiency bar.

Given under my hand and seal this 29th day of October 2017, A.O. 899.

ATTESTED:

Spyridon G. Treklas, Grand Commander

Thomas G. Heimiller, PGC, Grand Recorder