Chapter 47 - Establishment of Social Quarters

**Sec. 47.1 - Adoption of Resolution by Lodge** - A lodge may establish and maintain a social quarters or engage in social activities in the lodge home, when the same is established and maintained in accordance with the General Laws and rules and regulations adopted by the Supreme Council Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors. The lodge shall agree, by duly adopted resolution, to be bound by all General Laws, rules and regulations and lawful orders issued by the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer in reference to the social quarters or home.

**Sec. 47.2 - Leasing of Lodge Home** - A lodge may not allow a non-member to rent or use the lodge hall or home for private or business purposes. The lodge may, with dispensation, lease the lodge hall or home to other not-for-profit organizations whose mission is consistent with that of Moose International. A lodge may, without the necessity of obtaining a dispensation from the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer, allow an active member to rent or use the lodge home for a legitimate family function of the member or the member's immediate family, and on other occasions authorized by the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer, including the rent or use of the lodge hall or home for business purposes, subject to the following restrictions:

1. The social quarters shall be closed to non-members.
2. There shall not be a cash bar.
3. The member must pay for all food, beverages and other financial obligations generated by the activity.
4. Non-members may not make any purchases or spend any money in the lodge.
5. The lodge shall furnish a bartender (if a bartender is used) who shall have complete control of the dispensing of beverages.
6. The lodge shall have an officer or employee present at all times who shall be responsible for maintaining decorum.
7. Renters shall have insurance coverage as required by the Supreme Council Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors.
8. Other than legitimate family functions, approved community service and charitable fundraising events under Section 44.3, a written dispensation is required from the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer before a member may use, rent or lease the lodge home. Non-members may not participate in any function occurring in the lodge home or social quarters unless there has been strict compliance with the laws of the Order The Moose, or the non-member is a qualified guest and the rules applicable to guests are obeyed. Other than as permitted by the laws of the Order The Moose, any leasing, renting or letting out of the lodge home or permitting participation by, non-members therein is strictly prohibited, unless a dispensation has been obtained from the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer.

**Sec. 47.3 - Use of the Word Club** - The term, "social quarters" as used in these General Laws, shall include the use of the word "club" where applicable under governmental rules or regulations or where interest in real property is involved.

**Sec. 47.4 - Permit to Operate** - Before any lodge shall open, operate, or maintain any social quarters or home, it shall submit financial and operating information as required by the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer and obtain from the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer a permit to operate the social quarters or home. The permit shall be issued subject to terms and conditions as the Supreme Council Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors and the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer may prescribe. The permit is a privilege extended only to lodges in compliance with the General Laws and may be suspended or revoked by the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer at anytime if the lodge is found in violation of the General Laws or policies of Moose International. Every social quarters or home shall at all times be maintained and profitably operated for members of the Order The Moose.

Chapter 48 - House Committee Governance

**Sec. 48.1 - Membership Oversight** - The government governance, regulation and control of all social quarters or homes operated or maintained by a lodge shall be vested in a House Committee consisting of the lodge's elected Board of Officers, and the Jr. Past Governor. The House Committee shall hold at least two (2) meetings each month. Five (5) officers of the House Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the House Committee.
Committee. By special invitation of the House Committee, others may attend for specific reasons. Any person invited to appear before the House Committee may address the committee if recognized by the presiding officer or permitted pursuant to a majority vote of the committee members present. Only members of the House Committee shall be present during a vote in any meeting. The Administrator shall take and keep accurate minutes of every meeting. Unless required or specifically directed by the House Committee, all matters discussed at House Committee meetings are confidential.

The Administrator and Treasurer of the lodge shall be, respectively, the Secretary and Treasurer of the House Committee. The Administrator, Treasurer and any other employee handling funds of the social quarters or home shall be bonded as determined by the lodge. All minutes must be signed by the Administrator and Governor of the lodge.

FOR LODGES WISHING TO IMPLEMENT JOINT HOUSE COMMITTEES: The government, regulation and control of all social quarters or homes operated or maintained by a lodge shall be vested in a House Committee consisting of the elected Board of Officers of the lodge and chapter. The officers shall be Governor, Jr. Governor, Prelate, Treasurer, three (3) Trustees, Administrator and Senior Regent, Jr. Regent, Chaplain, Recorder and Secretary/Treasurer. The House Committee shall hold at least two (2) meetings each month. Seven (7) officers of the House Committee shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the House Committee. By special invitation of the House Committee, others may attend for specific reasons. Any person invited to appear before the House Committee may address the committee if recognized by the presiding officer or permitted pursuant to a majority vote of the committee members present. Only members of the House Committee shall have a vote in any meeting. The Administrator shall take and keep accurate minutes of every meeting. Unless required or specifically directed by the House Committee, all matters discussed at House Committee meetings are confidential. Participation in this program requires a three (3) year commitment, a dispensation from the General Governor, and a favorable vote by the lodge and chapter at special meetings.

Sec. 48.2 - Provide and Enforce Rules - The House Committee Board of Officers shall prepare and formulate rules and regulations governing the operations of the social quarters or home including, but not limited to:

1. The conduct of members and their guests during all social activities
2. A dress code for members and guests during all social activities
3. The admission and conduct of minors

The use of any tobacco product or smoking device (including e-cigarettes) is strictly prohibited at any time in the social quarters or lodge home. The use of any tobacco product or smoking device (including e-cigarettes) is allowed on Lodge property in lawful outdoor areas or areas for which the General Governor’s Office Chief Compliance officer has provided a dispensation. The use of all cannabis products is absolutely prohibited at any time in the social quarters, lodge home, or on lodge property. Vulgar, profane and indecent conduct or language is absolutely prohibited at anytime in the social quarters, home, on lodge property, or during a Moose sponsored activity. In addition to the General Laws, the House Committee Board of Officers shall enforce additionally adopted and approved rules.

Before becoming effective, all rules shall be submitted to and adopted by the lodge at a regular general membership meeting. The membership may submit a written request to the House Committee Board of Officers that a rule or regulation be adopted or rescinded. If the House Committee Board of Officers declines to adopt or rescind the rule or regulation, the Governor-President shall call a special meeting of the lodge membership whenever he/she receives a request, in writing, by eight (8) members or two (2%) percent of the active members of the lodge, whichever is greater. At the special meeting, no business shall be transacted, except a discussion and vote on the adoption or rescission of the rule or regulation.

The Administrator shall prepare and mail (or personally deliver) all notices for special meetings to all active members of the lodge at least seven (7) days previous to the special meeting. In calculating the seven (7) days notice requirement, the lodge shall not count the day of mailing or the day of the special meeting. The notice shall state the special business to be considered, and no other business shall be considered or transacted at the meeting.

No rule or regulation shall ever be adopted or approved in connection with the operation or maintenance of a social quarters or home that conflicts with the laws of Moose International or with the laws of any municipality, state or nation where the lodge is located. Opening and closing hours are governed by Section 50.5 and are under the sole jurisdiction of the House Committee Board of Officers.

Sec. 48.3 - Printing and Publishing Adopted Rules - Immediately upon the adoption and approval of the rules and regulations required in the preceding section, the House Committee Board of Officers shall cause the same to be printed in a uniform manner in large, plain type upon heavy cardboard, displaying at the top thereof a black imprint of the official emblem of the Order The Moose. Copies of the adopted and approved rules and regulations shall be prominently posted in all areas of the social quarters or home where social activities occur.
Sec. 48.4 - Provide a Bulletin Board - In every social quarters or home maintained or operated by a lodge, there shall be a prominently placed bulletin board. Upon the bulletin board shall be posted a copy of the laws or rules governing the social quarters or home, any special announcements and the names and addresses of all sick and disabled active members.

Sec. 48.5 - Provide a Guest and Visitor Register - Every social quarters or home shall contain a register for the purpose of identifying guests. All adult guests shall enroll their names. The House Committee/Board of Officers may also require visiting members from other lodges or chapters to sign the guest register. Every member introducing guest(s) shall also enroll their name(s) and be responsible for the conduct of their guest(s) while in the social quarters, lodge home, on lodge property or while participating in any lodge activity. In addition to guest and visitor registers, a lodge may contain a separate register for sporting participants.

Sec. 48.6 - Employ Help - The House Committee/Board of Officers shall name or employ a Social Quarters Manager. Except the Administrator, no member of the House Committee/Board of Officers may volunteer or be employed as the Social Quarters Manager. No elected lodge or chapter officer, other than the Administrator if he is the Social Quarters Manager, shall receive any wage, tips, gratuities or other form of compensation for working or volunteering in the social quarters or home. If the Administrator is not employed as the Social Quarters Manager, the House Committee/Board of Officers may employ any other person (male, female, member or non-member) as the Social Quarters Manager. The Social Quarters Manager (employee) shall be under the jurisdiction of the House Committee/Board of Officers (employer). The House Committee/Board of Officers shall approve the salary or wages of the Social Quarters Manager. The Social Quarters Manager shall employ help as necessary to operate the social quarters or home according to policies established by the House Committee/Board of Officers. The profitable operation of the social quarters shall be the responsibility of the House Committee/Board of Officers. Wages and salaries paid to employees, including the Social Quarters Manager, shall not exceed funds allocated by the House Committee/Board of Officers. The funds for wages and salaries shall be allocated either quarterly or annually. Neither the House Committee/Board of Officers, nor the Social Quarters Manager, shall enter into any employment contract with an employee. Unless prohibited by law, all employees (including the Social Quarters Manager) shall be employed "at will."

Sec. 48.7 - Handle and Account for All Finances - The House Committee/Board of Officers shall require all employees or volunteers who handle any House Committee/Board of Officers money to turn over all money received to the Social Quarters Manager or Administrator and receive a receipt for the money. A Social Quarters Manager, who is not also the Administrator, shall turn over all money to the Administrator and receive a receipt, unless the General Governor/Chief Compliance Officer has approved an alternative arrangement. At least once each week, the Administrator shall deposit all funds in the bank designated by the lodge, to the credit of the House Committee/Board of Officers fund or account. He/They shall make deposit slips, in triplicate, leaving one with the bank, retaining one for himself/herself, and giving one to the Treasurer for every deposit made and receive a receipt from the Treasurer. Funds shall never be withdrawn from or paid out of the bank except upon approval of a majority of the House Committee/Board of Officers. As authorized and instructed by the General Governor/Chief Compliance Officer, a lodge may have only one (1) checking account for the transaction of all lodge funds.

Sec. 48.8 - Enforce Decorum – The House Committee/Board of Officers shall be responsible for maintaining decorum in an equitable manner for all members. During all social functions, it is the duty of the House Committee/Board of Officers to enforce and maintain proper decorum at all times. Participation in the social quarters of any lodge is a privilege and not a right of membership. This privilege is conditioned upon all persons conducting themselves, while in and about any social quarters, home or during activities sponsored by the lodge or House Committee/Board of Officers, in a gentlemanly/ladylike and orderly manner. Any person, who fails to comply with this law, shall be denied the privileges of the social quarters or home at the discretion of the House Committee/Board of Officers which includes all social activities sponsored by the lodge. The House Committee/Board of Officers, upon receiving a complaint or on its own accord, shall investigate and take appropriate action regarding any alleged breach of decorum. Any member or guest may file a complaint with the House Committee/Board of Officers concerning alleged misconduct occurring during a social function.

The authority of the House Committee/Board of Officers to suspend the social quarters privileges of any member, after conducting a hearing, shall in no way affect the member's lodge or chapter membership status, including the member's right to attend official meetings. The House Committee/Board of Officers may suspend a member's social privileges pending a hearing. The hearing may take place on the same day as the regular House Committee/Board of Officers meeting, but shall be separate from the regular meeting. Separate minutes shall be taken for House Committee/Board of Officers hearings.

Unless the accused member in writing waives the right to appear, he/she must attend a hearing before the House Committee/Board of Officers can make a final decision. After proper notice, if the accused member fails or refuses to appear before the House Committee/Board of Officers, the member shall remain suspended until he/she appears they appear at a hearing before the House Committee/Board of Officers.
The House CommitteeBoard of Officers may not fine a member, but may assess restitution for damages to lodge property against a lodge or chapter-member. Damages assessed against a lodge member are enforceable as set out in Section 46.19. Damages assessed against a chapter member shall be referred to the General Governor for further instructions. A lodge or chapter-member's social privileges may be suspended pending payment of restitution for damages, or a lawful debt owed the House CommitteeBoard of Officers (i.e., bad checks). Action taken by the House CommitteeBoard of Officers of one lodge to suspend the social privileges of a member in that lodge or chapter shall not affect the member's social privileges in other lodges.

A House CommitteeBoard of Officers hearing is an informal investigatory process. Any officer charged with a social quarters rule violation or who has a family member related by blood or marriage charged shall not participate in the determination of the charges. Any officer who has an interest in the outcome, which would prevent him/her from being fair and impartial, should not participate in the determination of the charges.

Pending a hearing, the House CommitteeBoard of Officers may suspend a member's social privileges. At least five (5) days prior to a hearing, (not counting the day of mailing or day of hearing) the member shall be given written notice of the following:

1. The date, time and location of the House CommitteeBoard of Officers hearing.
2. A detailed statement of the alleged wrongful conduct, including the date and approximate time of the alleged incident, location, circumstances and other information sufficient for the accused to be apprised of the charge(s).
3. The rule or regulation violated.
4. The right of the member to testify at the hearing.
5. The right of the member to bring witnesses to the hearing.
6. That the member is not entitled to be represented or to confront and cross-examine witnesses.

(Note: The authority of the House Committee is limited to this section. References to chapters or sections contained under “Disciplinary Proceedings” are incorrect. Disciplinary proceedings involving formal charges between members are not under the jurisdiction of the House CommitteeBoard of Officers. Any questions concerning the responsibilities and authority of the House CommitteeBoard of Officers should be directed to the office of the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer.)

DUTIES AND RESTRICTIONS

Chapter 49 - Restrictions on Lodge

Sec. 49.1 - Not to Establish Social Quarters Until Compliance A lodge shall not establish or maintain a social quarters or home (or permit any of the members to do so), or represent that a social quarters or home is connected with the lodge, unless the social quarters or home is established, maintained and operated in full compliance with the laws, rules and regulations adopted by Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors, the Supreme LodgeThe Moose, the Supreme Council and local jurisdictions. Before establishing or operating a social quarters or home, a permit must be issued by the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer.

Sec. 49.2 - Not to Use Moose Name or Emblems - No lodge or member shall use the name "Moose" or any emblems or insignia of the OrderThe Moose, intended to convey the impression that a lodge or any unit of a lodge, is in any way connected with a social quarters or home, unless the social quarters or home is established and governed in compliance with the laws, rules and regulations of Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors, and the Supreme LodgeThe Moose and the Supreme Council and only after a dispensation has been obtained from the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer.

Sec. 49.3 - Not to Appropriate Funds for Social Quarters - A lodge shall not appropriate or use any of its funds for the purpose of maintaining or operating a social quarters or home without first obtaining a special dispensation from the General GovernorChief Compliance Officer.

Sec. 49.4 - Not to Extend Credit - Credit shall not be extended in a social quarters or home maintained or operated by any lodge. This provision does not prohibit the use of checks, credit or debit cards as a form of payment or the running of a "tab" as long as the total amount of the tab is paid by the close of business on the day the "tab" is run.

Chapter 50 - Private Lodge and Social Quarters Operation

Sec. 50.1 - General Regulations - All government rules and regulations regarding the conduct and operation of all organizations and/or social quarters shall be strictly observed.
Sec. 50.2 - Admission Regulations -

1. All active members of the Order, The Moose shall be admitted to the social quarters of any lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose unless his or her privileges have been suspended in accordance with the laws of the Order, The Moose.

2. Only the following persons may be admitted as a "qualified guest" into the social quarters or home of any lodge of the Order:
   a. An active lodge or chapter member’s spouse. (Note – There are no limits on the number of times a spouse may be admitted as a guest.)
   b. An active lodge or chapter member’s immediate family. (Note – There are no limits on the number of times a spouse or qualified family member under the age of 21 may be admitted as a guest, however, all other immediate family members would be limited to two visits as they now qualify as a prospective member of the person signing them into the social quarters.)
   c. A prospective member is defined as anyone that is accompanied by a member who can sponsor them for membership in the Order, The Moose, with the exception listed in 2 (a) of this section. As permitted by the House Committee Board of Officers, a prospective member may be admitted subject to the following:
      (1) The prospective member is accompanied at all times by his or her sponsor.
      (2) The prospective member is properly signed in as a guest.
      (3) The prospective member shall not make purchases.
      (4) The prospective member shall leave when his or her sponsor leaves.
      (5) The prospective member shall be limited to two (2) visits.

3. All adult guests of members must be signed in as a guest and leave when the member leaves.

4. Only active members of the Order, The Moose, whose active status has been verified, are permitted to make purchases. Unless prohibited by local law, the sale of refreshments to qualified minor family guests is permitted. It is the responsibility of the House Committee Board of Officers to ensure that all persons entering the lodge home and social quarters are either active members or qualified guests. It is recommended that the House Committee Board of Officers adopt a method of distinguishing members and guests to prevent guests from inadvertently making purchases.

5. Members shall at all times be responsible for the conduct of their guests.

6. Gentlemanly/ladylike Appropriate (orderly) conduct is required of all persons in the social quarters or home at all times.

7. The Supreme Council, Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors may adopt additional rules and regulations for the operation of social quarters by Moose lodges and these rules and regulations shall be effective as provided in the written action of the Moose International, Inc. Board of Directors, Supreme Council.

8. Each member of the Order, The Moose shall submit proof of membership when requested by any member of the House Committee Board of Officers or its authorized person.

9. Using the social quarters for any lodge or chapter community service activity is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the General Governor, Chief Compliance Officer.

The term "guest" includes non-member spouses. A member in expired status shall not enter any lodge except to pay dues. An expired member does not qualify to be admitted as a guest.

Sec. 50.3 - Prevent Admission of Undesirables - The House Committee Board of Officers may suspend the social privileges of any member of the Order, The Moose determined to be disruptive to the peace and harmony of the lodge pending compliance with Section 48.8 and a final decision of the House Committee Board of Officers.

Sec. 50.4 - Prohibit Advertising and Soliciting - No advertising or solicitation shall be allowed within the lodge home or social quarters unless the advertising or solicitation is authorized by the House Committee or Board of Officers and is in accordance with Moose International policy and the laws of the Order, The Moose.

Sec. 50.5 - Close Social Quarters at Certain Hours and Times - The social quarters or home shall open and close at certain hours designated by the House Committee Board of Officers which are not in violation of local regulations. At the hours designated for closing, all persons shall vacate the social quarters or home and it shall remain closed until the regular hour for opening. A social quarters may be permitted to remain open during a lodge, chapter or other fraternal meeting, provided the meeting is in a separate room and activities in the social quarters are not disruptive to the meeting. If disruptive to a meeting, the House Committee Board of Officers shall immediately close the social quarters until the conclusion of the meeting. The social quarters may be closed for special ticketed events (i.e., New Year's Eve party, Halloween party, Preferred Members' party, etc.), if approved by the House Committee Board of Officers and advance notice is provided to the membership of the lodge and chapter.
Sec. 50.6 - Unlawful Activities - No violations of federal, state, provincial, municipal or any other local ordinance shall be allowed within the lodge home or social quarters at any time. Violation of this section may result in specific discipline being imposed by the General Governor or Chief Compliance Officer in accordance with the requirements of the General Laws.

Sec. 50.7 - Alcoholic Beverages - No person in a state of intoxication as determined by a server shall be allowed to enter or remain in any social quarters or home maintained or operated by any lodge. Lodges are required to comply with all federal, state, local statutes, rules, regulations, laws, and ordinances. Sales of alcoholic beverages to be consumed off premises (package sales) are prohibited.

All persons dispensing and/or serving alcohol (employed or volunteer), both on premises and off, currently or prospectively, shall attend an approved alcohol server training program and be certified as having satisfactorily completed all requirements of said program.

Sec. 50.8 - Nine O'clock Ceremony and Endowment Fund - The Nine O'clock Ceremony gives members the opportunity to reflect upon the value of Mooseheart and serves as a reminder of the principles of the Order of the Moose. The Nine O'clock Ceremony shall be performed, and an endowment fund collection conducted, whenever members of the Order of the Moose are assembled (including meetings, the social quarters and during other social functions). Each lodge should maintain one or more appropriately marked containers in the lodge home and social quarters to collect contributions for the endowment fund.

Sec. 50.9 - Unlawful to Possess Keys - It shall be unlawful for any person, other than the Social Quarters Manager and duly authorized employees of the House Committee or Board of Officers, to have or retain any key to the social quarters or lodge home unless permitted in writing by the General Governor or Chief Compliance Officer.