

2026 Grand Commandery Proposed Legislation

1. Article XXII E
2. Tactics and Manual of Asylum Ceremonies - Section XI

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2026 GRAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVE
PROPOSAL No. 1**

**PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

(Deletions appear in ~~strike-through~~, additions appear underlined)

**ARTICLE XXII
*Endowment Fund***

E. ~~Distribution. The net income, minus per capita, from such fund shall be distributed annually to the endowed Commanderies prior to January 1. This is provided that no income shall be distributed on any endowed membership until January 1, of the second (2nd) calendar year after such fee, paid in full, is deposited with the Grand Recorder. The Grand Commandery shall be entitled to no more of the net income from the endowed membership than the aforesaid per capita (less Grand Encampment per capita), or 50% of the net income (less Grand Encampment per capita), whichever is less.~~

J. ~~Continued Income. Following the death of an endowed member of a Missouri Commandery, 30% of the net income from that endowed membership shall be retained and added to the fund's principal to provide for growth of the fund. The remainder of the net income, minus per capita (less Grand Encampment per capita), shall be distributed to the endowed Commanderies. The Grand Commandery shall be entitled to no more of the remaining net income from the endowed membership than the aforesaid per capita (less Grand Encampment per capita), or 50% of the remaining net income (less Grand Encampment per capita), whichever is less.~~

K. The Grand Recorder shall annually remit to the recorders of participating constituent Commanderies, their prorated portion of the earnings of the Endowed Membership Fund minus per capita. This is provided that no earnings shall be distributed on any Endowed Membership until January 1 of the second (2nd) calendar year after such fee, paid in full, is deposited with the Grand Recorder

The Endowed Membership Fund shall establish as the Base Principal those funds received by the Grand Recorder from subordinate chapters for the purchase of an Endowed Membership. As new memberships are purchased the Base Principal will increase. At no time shall the fund draw down below this Base Principal.

Distribution of the Investment Growth in the fund shall follow these guidelines. The Investment Committee shall, as soon as practical after January 1 of each year, advise the Endowed Membership Committee the amount of gain or loss in the investments of Endowed Membership Fund. Any gains accrued will be distributed as follows. First, the current Per Capita will be paid for all living Endowed members to the General Fund of the Grand Chapter. Second, from the remaining funds, 20% will be retained in the Endowed Membership Fund to fortify the continued growth of the fund, this is in addition to the Base Principal, it is not to be included in that figure as it may be drawn out for future use. Third, 30% of those remaining funds to be transferred to the General Fund as investment return from deceased endowed members. Forth, the remaining 50% to be distributed to the subordinate chapters on a prorated bases for the total number of endowed members, living and deceased that are/were members of that commandery.

Statement of purpose

The purpose of this amendment is to clearly define, protect, and strengthen the long-term structure and distribution methodology of the Endowed Membership Fund of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri.

This proposal formally establishes the concept of a protected Base Principal, defined as all funds received from subordinate chapters for the purchase of Endowed Memberships. The amendment ensures that this Base Principal shall continually increase as new Endowed Memberships are purchased and shall never be reduced. This safeguard preserves the perpetual nature of the Endowed Membership Program and protects the integrity of the funds entrusted to the Grand Council.

Additionally, this amendment provides a clear and orderly framework for the annual distribution of investment growth. It:

- Establishes the priority payment of current Per Capita for all living Endowed Members to the General Fund.
- Retains twenty percent (20%) of remaining gains within the Endowed Membership Fund to strengthen and fortify its continued growth.
- Allocates thirty percent (30%) of remaining gains to the General Fund as investment return attributable to deceased Endowed Members.
- Distributes the remaining fifty percent (50%) to subordinate chapters on a prorated basis for all endowed members, living and deceased, affiliated with each chapter.

The amendment also clarifies that no earnings shall be distributed until after January 1 of the second calendar year following full payment of an Endowed Membership, and that upon the death of an Endowed Member, a twenty percent (20%) retention shall continue to be added to principal to promote long-term growth.

By clearly defining principal protection, distribution priorities, and proportional allocation methods, this amendment promotes financial transparency, stability, and responsible stewardship. It ensures the Endowed Membership Fund remains perpetual, equitable, and beneficial to both the Grand Commandery and its subordinate commanderies for generations to come.

Fraternally submitted,

Donald MacCormick, PC

Kansas City Commandery No. 10

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION AT THE 2026 GRAND COMMANDERY CONCLAVE
PROPOSAL No. 2**

**PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

(Deletions appear in ~~strike-through~~, additions appear underlined)

**Section XI. (ALTERNATE/SHORT FORM) TACTICS FOR OPENING WHICH MAY
BE USED BY CONSTITUENT COMMANDERIES OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY
OF MISSOURI**

In accordance with **the Laws and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri, Section 84: *Quorum***, the following Tactics may be used for Opening a Commandery when five to eight Sir Knights are present. These Tactics only provide for the (5) five key officers: Commander, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Warder, and Sentinel. If a sixth Sir Knight is present, he will assume the office of prelate, otherwise any additional Sir Knights will remain on the sideline for the purpose of these Tactics. All movements and speaking parts shall be done as if there are (9) nine Sir Knights or more present (Full Form). For the simplicity of the execution of these Tactics, they are to be performed without chapeaus or swords, and without kneeling. However, to build familiarity with the movements it is recommended to “go through the motions” in removal of chapeaus and sword manual in the parries.

A. Preliminary

The Altar is attended to by the Prelate. The altar is placed in the Northeast corner of the asylum, out of the line of travel and set up as follows: the Bible is opened, the left sword goes on first, the right sword goes on second (on top of the Bible). Left hand sword diagonal from the bottom left-hand corner of the left page to the top right corner of the right-hand page, the right-hand sword goes on top of the left, diagonally from the bottom corner of the right-hand page to the top left corner of the left page. Then the cross goes on the right-hand page first (think this, we were Christians before we were Templars) then the square and compasses go on the left page (set up as for the Master Masons lodge). The tools and swords come off the Bible in exactly reverse order.

“The chairs or stations of the S.W. and the J.W. are placed a little west of a point midway between the station in the east and the stations in the west, no more than thirty (30) inches from the side lines. In purging and returning to their stations, the S.W. and the J.W. will march between their chairs or stations and the Tri. or the center of the Asy., close to the middle of their chairs.” Adjust the chairs or stations or the Wardens, while maintaining an equilateral triangle, to the limits of the room.

When the hour has arrived for the opening of the commandery, the officers (Commander, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Prelate (if present), Warder and Sentinel), should be in the asylum, but not at their stations.

E.Com.: (at his station and at attention) **Rit. Page 98, C1.1 & 1.2.**

B. Purging

E.Com.: **Rit. Page 98, C1.** (after H.S., E.Com. is seated) (E.Com. will return appropriate hand salutes while seated).

(S.W. rises, takes one step forward and (H.S.) (S.W. (H.S.) (E.Com. (H.S.))

S.W (S.W. faces north) **S.Kgt.J.W.** (J.W. rises, takes one step forward, faces S.Kgt.S.W. or south and (H.S.)). **Asctn i a prst o t N a Ks. T.** (J.W., (H.S.), S.W. (H.S.)).

The wardens march to the East, about face, and proceed to the West, the S.W. examines those on the South, and the J.W. those on the North.

The wardens proceed to the West, and post beyond the station of the Std.Gd., face each other, and the J.W. reports:

J.W.: (H.S. and holds while reporting) **S.K.S.W., A l o t N a Ks. T.** S.W. (H.S.).

The wardens face the East, return to their stations and the S.W. salutes (H.S.) the E.Com., and reports (See instructions 26)

S.W.: (H.S.), **E.Com.;** **Rit Page 98, S.W. 1** E.Com. (H.S.)

Wardens are seated simultaneously.

C.: **S.K.W.;** (W. rises, takes one step forward (H.S.)), **Rit. Page 98, C2. W.** (H.S.), (E.Com. (H.S.)). (W. goes to the rear of the Std.Gd.).

W.: **S.Kgt.Sen.** (Sen. H.S.). **“The E.Com. is abt t op [Standard] Com. No. [101] you will take your post and guard accordingly” or “A Com. of Kgts. Tem. is about to be opened, you will take your post and guard accordingly.”** Sent (H.S.) W. (H.S.) (See note after C2, rit.).

W.: (H.S.) **E.Com.;** **Rit. Page 98, W1.** E.Com. (H.S.)

There is no Reception of the Commander for these Tactics.

E.Com. rises, and commands: **Prepare for Rehearsal; Officers, Forward, MARCH.** The E.Com. will march directly to his post at the head of the lines. The E.Com. post is three paces East of the center of the interval between the lines; (wardens move straight forward and halt about (70) seventy inches from each other). The J.W. will constitute the First Division and the S.W. will constitute the Second Division. The words are then communicated. **Rit. Page 102 “TO COMMUNICATE ACROSS THE LINES”**

Note: When executing the P.W.W., P.P.W. and I.W. all movements will be done per the 2019 Grand Encampment Ritual; P.W.W. page 124. The P.P.W and I.W. pages 147 and 148, but without swords or kneeling. Still do the commands, sword movements, foot and hand placements and words. I.W. “advance the right foot about twenty-eight inches”.

Rit. Page 98, C3. Officers, Form, TRIANGLE. Officers form Triangle together, as follows:

The W. moves forward one pace and halts, then left steps, one step (10 inches).

The Prel. Moves forward and halts between the Wardens and faces about.

S.W. faces half left; and the J.W. faces half right.

The E. Com. Moves forward one pace and halts.

When the Triangle is formed:

E.Com.: **Rit. Page 104, C6**

At the command “kneel” all at the Tri. Except the E.Com and the Warder, step back twenty-four inches with the left foot. The Prel. Steps back with the officers.

If the Ex.Prel. is present, **E.Com: Excellent Prelate, lead our devotions. E.Com then kneels.** If the Prel. is not present the E.Com leads the devotion (prayer as worded **Rit. Page 104, P1**)

E.Com.: **S.Kgts., RISE**

The E.Com then directs:

E.Com.: **Together with the signs;** P.S. (done) G.S. (done). (In the format as described in the **Rit. Page 147, Para 2 through Page 148**

All S.Kgts. in the Asy. give the signs and the W. faces half right, without command.

At the completion of the G.S. all face front without command.

E.Com: **1. About, 2. FACE; 3. Reduce Tri., 4. Forward, MARCH**

All officers except the E.Com and the Prel. Face about. At the third command “reduce tri.” The Prel., if present, takes a post to the left of the E.Com., heels in line, facing East. W. right steps, one step (10 inches).

At the command “Forward” the E.Com. faces about; at the Fifth command “MARCH” all officers move forward to their stations and halt, and at the command of the E.Com., face about.

E.Com.: 1. About, 2. FACE. BE SEATED

E.Com.: E.Com. remains standing while declaring the Commandery open **Rit. Page 98, C4 cont'd to Page 99.** The prelate attends the altar without command and returns to his station.

W.: **Rit. Page 99, W1.** (See note after W2, rit.)

W.: **Rit. Page 99, W2.**

E.Com.: **Rit. Page 99, C1** (E.Com. is seated).

Statement of purpose

Add Section XI to the Tactics and Manual of Asylum Ceremonies - The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Missouri (1966) is necessary for the full definition of the 5 to 8 man opening and defines the necessary tactics for the opening.

Fraternally submitted,

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Donald MacCormick, PC Kansas City Commandery No. 10

Ritual Committee

S.:K.: Corey B. Huntsucker: Chair

S.:K.: Terry D. Coppotelli

S.:K.: William R. Jennens

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