



LODGES & CHAPTERS FAILING TO MEET AS A RESULT OF POOR WEATHER

1. A lodge or chapter unable to meet for a regular meeting at which there is no critical business simply declares the meeting '**ABANDONED**' but **MUST produce minutes** for that meeting, recording the abandonment thus '*The meeting of the lodge/chapter was abandoned as insufficient brethren/companions were present to open the lodge/chapter, as a result of poor weather conditions.*' This stratagem may be employed as such, without brethren struggling through snow to discover that they cannot meet. Alternatively a retrospective dispensation can be issued to re-arrange the meeting within 28 days of the original date.

2. The word 'CANCELLED' must not be employed (Rule 137) as this might endanger the continuity of the lodge/chapter.

3. If a lodge/chapter failing to meet has as a result been unable to conduct **ELECTIONS**, these elections are carried forward to the next regular meeting, but should be repeated on the summons for that meeting. The anticipated business consequential upon the elections can then take place immediately after the elections at that same meeting.

4. If an **INSTALLATION** could not take place because of abandonment, then (in the Craft) Rule 108 is invoked, to move the installation to the next regular meeting - **if within the period stated in Rule 108** and appears on the summons for that meeting. The qualification of Wardens for future Mastership is not endangered as long as they are invested at the same meeting at which the Master is installed (Rule 109). In the Royal Arch there is already provision for the installation of absent Principals.

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Provincial Secretary