

GRAND LODGE MASTER BUILDER AND REVISED LODGE OF THE YEAR AWARD PROGRAM

After several years of varying success with the Lodge of the Year and Mason of the Year programs, Most Worshipful Grand Master Rodman and the Elected line have developed two new programs to encourage better participation from the Lodges and individual Brothers.

Both programs require earning a minimum number of points in mandatory and optional categories, and are designed to allow every Lodge and every Master Mason to earn the award.

The awards are not intended to simply be a checklist of requirements to mark off; they require some effort, but every involved, active Brother, or every healthy, active and functioning Lodge should be able to complete the requirements.

Every Lodge and Master Mason completing the requirements will be recognized at Grand Lodge and there will be a Lodge of the Year and a Mason of the Year chosen from among those completing the awards.

Criteria for each can be found below.

There is no specific form for either award; please use the list of criteria as a guide and award form and each Lodge and Master Mason will utilize the Honor System in completing the award.

Please turn in to the Grand Lodge Office no later than May 15, 2016



Master Builder Award

2016-2017

1. Top line signer on Petition for Degrees. (25 points per Petition, maximum 75 points)
Name of Candidate Date of Initiation (must be between 5/1/16 and 4/30/17)
2. Serve as Mentor for coaching a new Brother through his Degree Proficiency (EA-25 points; FC-25 points; MM-50 points, maximum 100 points)
3. Participation in the Grand Lodge Ritualist Program (Ritualist-25 points; Senior Ritualist-50 points; Master Ritualist-75 points; count points ONLY for the highest level received)
4. Attended Grand Lodge in 2016 (75 points)
5. Attended Grand Lodge Leadership Conference (50 points)
6. Attended District meeting in 2016 (25 points)
7. Act as Chairman/Coordinator for Lodge participation in Grand Lodge program (MMSAP, ChIP) **OR** Chair/Coordinator for Lodge participation in major community event. (75 points)
8. Visit Stated/Special Communication or other event of another Lodge (25 points per visit, maximum 100 points)
Lodge visited Date type of event
9. Serve as committee member for planning a Lodge Special event (50 points)
Event and date.
10. Perform major part in Degree work for your Lodge or another Lodge (EA-50 points; FC-50 points; MM 50 points-maximum 150 points)

11. Participate in Lodge sponsored event other than Stated or Special
Communications or Degree work (50 points)

Brother must achieve points in at least 6 categories and must score at least 575 points to qualify. Every Brother achieving the minimum score or higher will receive a Certificate of achievement from the Grand Lodge (and will be recognized at Grand Lodge)

The Brother(s) with the highest total score will be awarded a plaque at Grand Lodge recognizing his achievement.



LODGE OF THE YEAR 2016-2017

Mandatory Criteria (must earn points in each category)

1. Lodge must have been represented at Grand Lodge in 2016, **OR** Lodge members must participate in other Grand Lodge sponsored event such as District Meeting, Grand Lodge Leadership Seminar. (100 points)
2. Lodge must have Raised at least one Master Mason between June, 1 2016 and April 30, 2017. (100 points)
3. Lodge (or Building Association) belongs to the local Chamber of Commerce or other local community organization (100 points)
4. Lodge must submit Annual Report to the Grand Lodge, with payment, by deadline (February 15) (100 points)
5. Lodge must hold minimum of 10 Stated Communications, with a quorum of 7 Brothers (100 points)
6. Lodge Master, Warden(s) and Secretary attend District meeting. Attendance at a District meeting in their Region is acceptable if attendance at their own Meeting is not possible. (50 points per officer, maximum 200 points)
7. Lodge utilizes and keeps current the MORI Database of members to include member email addresses, and maintains an up-to-date Our Lodge Page website. (100 points).

Optional Criteria:

Lodges must earn points in 9 of the 16 optional categories in order to qualify

1. Lodge suspends less than 5% of its total membership for Non-Payment of Dues (200 points)
2. Lodge shows net increase in membership of 3% or more. (200 points)
3. Lodge hosts an event to honor a group in the community, Non- Mason of the Year, or otherwise participates in a community event. (Grand Lodge events, such as CHIP events, MMSAP events, Cornerstone Ceremonies, etc., would not qualify). (25 points per event, Maximum 100 points)
4. Lodge hosts an event for Masons only. i.e. Tiled Table Lodge, Rusty Nail Degree, etc. (Regular meetings do not qualify) (25 points per event, 75 points Maximum)
5. Lodge participates in Grand Lodge Leadership Conference. (50 points per member, Maximum, 200 points)
6. Lodge confers Degrees on its own Candidates, with one of the three Principal Officers taking the Master's part. (EA Degree 50 points; FC Degree 50points; MM Degree 100 points; 200 points Maximum).
7. Lodge sponsors High School Scholarship or other event in conjunction with school (Bikes for books, etc.; ChIP event sponsorship does not qualify) (100 points)
8. Lodge visits another Lodge for Stated meeting, Degree conferral or Special event with at least 3 Brethren. Each visit counted must be to a different Lodge. (25 points per visit, Maximum 100 points)
9. Lodge sponsors and is financially responsible for a SDCHIP event (100 points) OR Lodge co-sponsors and is partially financially responsible for a local SDCHIP or Regional SDCHIP event (50 points) (Maximum 200 points).
10. Lodges regularly display positive images of Masonry to the public through local and social media. (100 points)
11. At least 1 elected officer recognized as a Ritualist by the Grand Lodge Board of Custodians Ritualist program. (100 points)
12. Lodge conducts a quality Educational Program at its Stated meetings. (10 points per program, Maximum 100 points)

13. Lodge has regular programs outside of Lodge meetings to enhance the overall Fraternal experience for the Members: Lodge educational study groups, family picnics, etc. (50 points)

14. Lodge has all officers installed as per Section 4.01 of the Masonic Code of SD (50 points)

15. Officers of the Lodge can open and close on the Master Mason Degree, from Memory, without assistance. (Must be verified by the District Master or District Custodian or Grand Lodge Officer) (100 points)

16. Lodge enhances community awareness through proper display of the American flag, placement of Masonic Lodge logo on town service club signs, having the Lodge building clearly marked with Square and Compasses, and other ways that show a Lodge presence in the community. (75 points)

Lodge must achieve points in each of the six Mandatory Criteria, in 9 of the 16 Optional Criteria, and must achieve a minimum of 1500 points to qualify.

All Lodges achieving the minimum score will receive a certificate and be recognized at Grand Lodge. The Lodge(s) with the highest total score will receive a plaque and be recognized at Grand Lodge.