

Chapter 60 - Appeals

Sec. 60.1 - Manner of Appeal by Members - Any party to a matter shall have the right to appeal in the following manner:

- 1st. From the ~~Governor-President~~ of the lodge to the ~~General-Governor~~Chief Compliance Officer. (This does not refer to questions of parliamentary procedure; see Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition.)
- 2nd. From the lodge to the ~~General-Governor~~Chief Compliance Officer.
- 3rd. From any finding, order, decree or judgment of a Commissioner to the Judiciary Committee.
- 4th. From any ruling, decision, finding, order, decree or judgment of the ~~General-Governor~~Chief Compliance Officer or the Judiciary Committee to the Supreme Forum.

Sec. 60.2 - Appeal to Judiciary Committee - To appeal an order, judgment or decree of a Commissioner to the Judiciary Committee, written notice of appeal shall be given by the appellant to the Clerk of the Judiciary Committee within fifteen (15) days after the entry of the decision that is being appealed. Within forty-five (45) days after giving the notice of appeal, the appellant shall file with the Clerk of the Judiciary Committee ~~his or her~~their statement of grounds or reason for the appeal, all relevant exhibits and a brief.

Under the seal of the lodge ~~or chapter~~, the Administrator or ~~Chapter Secretary~~/Treasurer, as applicable, shall upon request forward to the Clerk of the Judiciary Committee, the original or true copies of all pertinent records and files. The Judiciary Committee may modify, reverse or affirm any finding in whole or in part, either on the record or by conducting a new hearing. The decision of the Judiciary Committee shall be conclusive and final unless the decision is appealed to the Supreme Forum within fifteen (15) days after the decision is rendered.

Sec. 60.3 - Record on Appeal to Judiciary Committee - Any officer or member possessing any minutes or other records necessary to afford a clear understanding of the merits of any matter on appeal to the Judiciary Committee shall immediately furnish the documents upon request. Upon demand, copies of all documents requested shall be certified as true and filed with the Judiciary Committee. Upon payment of all reasonable costs incurred, or as otherwise ordered by the Judiciary Committee, the documents shall be provided to the appellant(s).

Sec. 60.4 - Costs of Transcript and Appeal - Any member appealing the decision of a Commissioner shall, within fifteen (15) days of service of the written notice of appeal, pay the estimated costs of appeal as determined by the Clerk of the Judiciary Committee. The costs shall include all reasonable costs incurred to obtain and reproduce certified copies of lodge or chapter records, the cost of transcribing the proceedings, mailing costs, etc. Upon payment of all costs or other amounts as determined by the Clerk of the Judiciary Committee, a complete transcript of the proceedings shall be prepared. Upon completion, the transcript and all evidence taken at trial shall be delivered to the Clerk of the Judiciary Committee.

Sec. 60.5 - Limitation of Appeal to Supreme Forum - In all appeals to the Supreme Forum from the Judiciary Committee, concerning matters originally appealed to the Judiciary Committee only matters contained in the appeal to the Judiciary Committee shall be considered. Unless the Supreme Forum determines compelling reasons exist, no evidence shall be allowed or considered, unless it was presented to and considered by the Judiciary Committee.

Sec. 60.6 - Procedure on Appeal to the Supreme Forum - Anyone desiring to appeal to the Supreme Forum from the Judiciary Committee shall file a written notice of appeal to the Clerk of the Supreme Forum within fifteen (15) days of the decision rendered. Within forty (45) days of the filing of written notice of appeal, the appealing party or parties shall file with the Clerk of the Supreme Forum a statement of grounds for the appeal, any relevant exhibits and a brief. The Clerk of the Supreme Forum shall provide a copy of the appeal to the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Upon receipt of the appeal, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee shall immediately forward to the Clerk of the Supreme Forum, the entire record of the proceedings. The procedure on appeal to the Supreme Forum shall be in accordance with Section 24.11 of the General Laws and the prevailing rules on appeal, as adopted by the Supreme Forum.