

# Bylaws of the Dark Ones

Updated: 07/20/15 Oligarchy Approved: 04/18/16 (Doc C)

## I) Bylaw Advisory

- 1) Interpretation of these bylaws, and the amending, adopting or repealing thereof, shall follow certain criteria. (January 18, 2003)
  - a) It is not the intent of these bylaws to discriminate, nor to encourage discrimination, for or against any individual, entity or member on the basis of race, creed, culture, gender, sexual preference, religion, physical handicap, skin color, or place of birth. (August 20, 1994)
  - b) The bylaws shall not provide differently for individuals of different race, creed, culture, gender, skin color, religion, sexual preference, or place of birth. (August 20, 1994)
  - c) The bylaws will often detail specific actions on the part of members. If a physical handicap makes such actions impossible, alternate actions may be specified by the Oligarchy in keeping with the spirit of the bylaws. (August 20, 1994)
  - d) Care is advised in the amending, adopting or repealing of bylaws. (August 20, 1994)
  - e) Neither this bylaw, nor any bylaw specifying required quorums or required blacklines of the Oligarchy, the members, or committees shall be adopted, amended or repealed without a unanimous vote of the entire Oligarchy. (January 18, 2003)
  - f) As may occur from time to time that the strict adherence to the letter of a bylaw should actually be contrary to the intent of said bylaw, the intent should, at times, be allowed to hold precedence. (June 6, 1998)

## II) Voting

- 1) A member's status shall be used to determine if that member has a vote on issues at Dark Ones' symposiums. (December 16, 2008)
  - a) A member holding Active status shall have a vote on issues at Dark Ones' symposiums. (December 16, 2008)
  - b) A member entitled to a vote may give their proxy to another member entitled to vote on that issue. (December 16, 2008)
    - (i) There are two methods to give someone a proxy. (June 19, 2012)
      - (1) Provided in writing to the event scribe prior to the vote. (June 19, 2012)
      - (2) Provided verbally with a witness also qualified to vote on that issue. (June 19, 2012)
  - c) A member who has lost Active status is not entitled to a vote on any issue at a Dark Ones' symposium. (December 16, 2008)

- 2) There are several methods of voting. Votes must be cast "in stone," but in certain circumstances alternate methods of voting may be used. These circumstances are specifically noted in these bylaws and are detailed in [Appendix I - Voting Procedures](#). (May 18, 2015)
- 3) The entire number of Active members present shall be used to determine the blackline of a vote of the members. (June 19, 2012)
- 4) In all cases, the number of white, black, and gray votes shall be recorded. (August 20, 1994)
- 5) A quorum of the Oligarchy shall consist of one-half of the Oligarchy members, except on those issues where a different number is specified by these bylaws. (August 3, 1994)

### **III) Membership**

- 1) There shall be two classes of membership: That of Dark Ones Associate (DOA), those members without tenure, and that of Dark One, being those members who have claimed tenure. (6/19/12)
- 2) Members shall fall in to one of three types of status: Active, Inactive, and Retired. (Dec 30, 2008)
- 3) All members regardless of class shall have their status determined at the end of each Symposium. (June 19, 2012)
  - a) A member is of Active status if they have attended any one of the previous three symposiums. (July 24, 2010)
  - b) Any member may petition the Oligarchy to review, and if warranted, change their Inactive status. (October 13, 2009)
- 4) An individual who is not a member of the Dark Ones may become a Dark Ones Associate. (January 18, 2003) [Sponsorship](#)
  - a) To become a Dark Ones Associate, a Prospective member must first obtain a Sponsor. The rules and procedures for this process are found in [Appendix II - Membership Procedures](#). (05/18/15)
  - b) The fee for becoming a Dark Ones Associate shall be five dollars and one silver coin as approved by the Oligarchy. (June 6, 1998)
- 5) A DOA may claim tenure (become a Dark One) after 5 years of membership. The rules and procedures for this process are found in [Appendix II - Membership Procedures](#). (May 18, 2015)
  - a) The fee for becoming a Dark One shall be twenty dollars and one silver coin, as approved by the Oligarchy. (June 6, 1998)
- 6) A member may be removed by being unsponsored. The rules and procedures for this process are found in [Appendix II - Membership Procedures](#). (May 18, 2015)
- 7) If any member of the Dark Ones wishes to retire, said member must notify the Oligarchy in writing of their intent; this document must carry a live a signature. The Oligarchy will then accept the retirement, relegating them to Retired status. However, said retired member shall be welcome to return at any time. (June 19, 2012)
  - a) The Oligarchy reserves the right to move an Inactive member to Retired status for long-term disassociation with the group or lack of valid contact information or the like. (June 19, 2012)

## IV) Officers/Directors

### 1) The Oligarchy

- a) Oligarchy members must maintain Active status, and regularly attend Oligarchy meetings. Attendance is checked at the end of each Oligarchy meeting and each symposium. (May 18, 2015)
- b) The situations where an Oligarchy member must step down due to lack of attendance: (May 11, 2010)
  - (i) If an Oligarchy member misses more than four (4) Oligarchy meetings in a six (6) month period, or any four (4) consecutive Oligarchy meetings, that member will be placed in a forced leave of absence. (May 11, 2010)
  - (ii) An Oligarchy member who loses Active status is considered to have provided proper notice, and must take an involuntary leave of absence effective at the symposium at which Active status is lost. (May 18, 2015)
- c) An Oligarchy member may take a voluntary leave of absence by providing notice in writing no less than one fortnight in advance; this document must carry a live signature. The rules and procedures for this process are found in [Appendix II - Membership Procedures](#). (May 18, 2015)
- d) A member filling a vacated Oligarchy seat shall be known as a Regent. The rules and procedures for electing a Regent are found in [Appendix III - Election Procedures](#). (06/01/15)

(1) The Regent takes office at the end of the General Symposium at which they are elected. (June 01, 2015)

(ii) The minimum term of office shall be thirteen fortnights and a day. (October 16, 2012) The term of office of a Regent shall follow a prescribed schedule inherent to that seat. The order that the seats transition are: Kretin, The Ripper, Night Flier, Shadowstalker, Jaguar & then one Symposium is skipped. This schedule repeats every three years (beginning with Kretin's seat in January 1993). The specific dates for these elections may be found in the DOD - Oligarchy Guidelines.

- e) At the end of a member's three-year term as Regent, the member cannot run for another Regent position at the same meeting. Running for the Seneschal Elect position is allowed. (June 01, 2015)
- f) Oligarchy Voting (May 11, 2010)
  - (i) Oligarchy members shall have the right to postpone, for a period of one fortnight, the Oligarchical vote on an issue or the discussion of any issue at an Oligarchy meeting. However, issues previously subjected to such postponement are not eligible for further postponement in this manner. (June 4, 1993)
  - (ii) In the event of a tie on an Oligarchic vote, if a membership vote has been taken, the membership vote shall count as a ½ vote. Otherwise, the Seneschal Elect shall receive a ½ vote. (May 11, 2010)

### 2) The Seneschal and Seneschal Elect

- a) The details of electing a Seneschal Elect are found in [Appendix III - Election Procedures](#). (June 01, 2015)

- b) The Seneschal Elect will take up the office of Seneschal at the end of their term. If the Seneschal Elect becomes Inactive during their term, a replacement Seneschal will be voted on at the same Symposium and take office at the end of that meeting. (December 30, 2008)
  - c) It shall be the responsibility of the Seneschal Elect to attend all the meetings of the Oligarchy, and the Executive Director. Such attendance must not be construed as conferring membership on these committees. (December 30, 2008)
  - d) If an Oligarchy member (this includes the Seneschal) is unable to attend an Oligarchy meeting, and does not provide a proxy, the Seneschal Elect shall be an acting Oligarchy member for the duration of that meeting. (April 18, 2016)
  - e) The Seneschal is an ex-officio member of the Oligarchy and Executive Director committees. The Seneschal must maintain Active status. (January 18, 2003)
  - f) The term of office for the Seneschal shall run from the end of a General Symposium to the end of the following General symposium. (December 30, 2008)
  - g) A member becomes Seneschal at the end of their term as Seneschal Elect. (Dec 30, 2008)
  - h) Should the Seneschal be unwilling or unable to continue their term, the Seneschal Elect shall become the acting Seneschal for the remainder of the term. (December 30, 2008)
- 3) The Event Director
- a) The Event Director shall be an Oligarchal committee comprised of one or more Oligarchy members with the power to stand in the stead of the Oligarchy on matters concerning the planning and organization of Dark Ones' events, except where the Oligarchy specifically intervenes; and in such instances, the Oligarchy's decision shall take precedence. (Aug 3, 1994)
  - b) The rules and procedures for this committee are found in the DOD - Procedures document. (June 15, 2015)
- 4) The Executive Director
- a) The Executive Director shall be an Oligarchal committee comprised of one or more Oligarchy members with the power to stand in the stead of the Oligarchy on those matters involving the Historian and Exchequer except where the Oligarchy specifically intervenes; and in such instances the Oligarchy's decision shall take precedence. (December 30, 2008)
  - b) The rules and procedures for this committee are found in the DOD - Procedures document. (June 15, 2015)
- 5) The Office of the Exchequer
- a) The Corporate Exchequer is a position appointed by the Oligarchal Executive Director Committee. [Exchequer](#)
  - b) The Office of the Exchequer shall have an internal set of guidelines governing their operation. These guidelines shall not be inconsistent with the bylaws nor any instrument restricting the bylaws. The power to amend, adopt, or repeal guidelines of the Office of Exchequer shall be vested with the Corporate Exchequer. (June 19, 2012)
  - c) The Corporate Exchequer is enjoined from committing to any expenditure or potential expenditure in excess of \$250.00 without the express consent of the Oligarchy. (June 19, 2012)
  - d) Only a member holding Active status may be the Corporate Exchequer. (June 19, 2012)

- e) The term of office of the Corporate Exchequer shall be no less than thirteen fortnights and a day. (June 19, 2012)
- f) If an Officer position is created or abolished within the Office of the Exchequer, or if an officer is added or removed, the Corporate Exchequer must notify the Executive Committee of the Oligarchy within one fortnight. (February 02, 2015) [Exchequer](#)

## 6) The Historian

- a) The Historian shall have an internal set of guidelines governing their operation. These guidelines shall not be inconsistent with the bylaws nor any instrument restricting the bylaws. The power to amend, adopt, or repeal guidelines for the Historian Committee shall be vested in the Historian Committee, provided there exists at least three members on the Historian Committee entitled to vote on matters. (October 16, 2007) [Historian](#)
- b) Guidelines notwithstanding, the Historian shall be restricted as follows. (August 9, 1994)
  - (i) One member of the historian shall be the Chief Historian (October 16, 2007)
  - (ii) A member must pass the approval of the Oligarchy's Executive Director to become Chief Historian. (June 19, 2012)
  - (iii) The term of office of Chief Historian shall be no less than thirteen fortnights and a day. (August 9, 1994) [Historian](#)
  - (iv) If an Officer position is created or abolished within the Historian Committee, or if an officer is added or removed, the Chief Historian must notify the Executive Committee of the Oligarchy within one fortnight. (February 02, 2015) [Historian](#)
  - (v) Only a member holding Active status may be the Chief Historian. (Oct 16, 2007) [Historian](#)
- c) Unless the Historian guidelines provide otherwise, the following bylaws shall govern the Historian. (August 9, 1994)
  - (i) The head of the Historian shall hereafter be known as the Chief Historian. (Oct 16, 2007)
  - (ii) Each member of the Historian shall receive one vote on votes cast by the Historian. An extra half vote shall be given to the Chief Historian. (October 16, 2007)
  - (iii) Proposed members of the Historian must obtain a majority vote of the Historian to become a member of the Historian. (August 9, 1994)
- d) The Historian shall be required to create guidelines specifying quorums. (August 20, 1994)

## 7) The Activities Coordinator

- a) Activities Coordinators are members placed in charge of specific types of events by the Oligarchy's Event Director. (December 30, 2008)
  - (i) Examples are Convention Parties, Dinner Club, House Parties, and Kids Keep. (12/30/08)
- b) The duties of each Activities Coordinator are determined by the Oligarchy's Event Director. (December 30, 2008)

## 8) The Event Coordinator

For each event there shall be a committee known as the Event Coordinator, charged with the executive responsibilities of said event. The committee shall be comprised of one, two, or three individuals all of whom must be members and all of whom shall be appointed by the appropriate Activities Coordinator. (December 30, 2008)

- a) When an Event Coordinator is comprised of one individual that individual shall be an ex-officio member of the Historian, and shall be answerable to the Activities Coordinator concerning the event and the Corporate Exchequer concerning event finances. (August 9, 1994)
  - b) When an Event Coordinator is comprised of two individuals, one shall be an ex-officio member of the Historian and shall be charged with the secretarial responsibilities of the event. The other individual shall be the Exchequer and shall be charged with the financial responsibilities of the event. One of the two shall be deemed the Head of the committee and shall be answerable to the Activities Coordinator concerning the event and the Corporate Exchequer concerning event finances. (August 9, 1994)
  - c) When the Event Coordinator is comprised of three individuals, one shall be an ex-officio member of the Historian and shall be charged with the secretarial responsibilities of the event. Another shall be the Event Exchequer and shall be charged with the financial duties of the event. The third shall be deemed the Head of the committee and shall be answerable to the Activities Coordinator concerning the event and the Corporate Exchequer concerning event finances. (August 9, 1994)
- 9) Changes to the guidelines of the various committees must be brought before the Oligarchy within two fortnights of the next General Symposium. (January 18, 2003)

## **V) Meetings**

- 1) There will be two General Symposiums and two Event Symposiums in a calendar year. (12/30/08)
  - a) The Winter General Symposium (December 30, 2008)
    - (i) If no date is specified the meeting shall be held on the last Saturday of January. (06/06/98)
  - b) The Spring Event Symposium shall be to discuss DarkCon (December 30, 2008)
    - (i) If no date is specified the meeting shall be held on the last Saturday in March. (12/30/08)
  - c) The Summer General Symposium (December 30, 2008)
    - (i) If no date is specified the meeting shall be held on the last Saturday in July. (12/30/08)
  - d) The Fall Event Symposium shall be to plan the house parties for the following year. (12/30/08)
    - (i) If no date is specified the meeting shall be held on the first Saturday of November. (December 30, 2008)
  - e) The Oligarchy may schedule additional meetings as needed. (June 6, 1998)

## **VI) Notifications**

- 1) Notification must be made to the Historian of the appointment of any officer. Failure to do so on the part for the appointing entity may result in the nullification of the appointment until notification is made. (December 30, 2008)
- 2) If a committee calls a meeting, and a member of the Historian Committee is not present to take minutes, a member of said committee must be designated to take minutes. That committee member must then deliver a copy of the minutes to the Historian Committee within one fortnight of the meeting. (December 30, 2008)
  - a) The only exception to this rule is the Oligarchy Black Archive. The rules and procedures for this archive are found in the DOD - Oligarchy Guidelines. (July 06, 2015)
- 3) All meetings of the Oligarchy shall be preceded by at least two days' notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting. (October 13, 2009)
- 4) Members will be notified of changes to the bylaws at the next General Symposium. (June 19, 2012)

## **VII) Legislature**

- 1) The power to alter, amend or repeal the bylaws or adopt new bylaws shall be vested solely in the Oligarchy, with the exception of the power to repeal bylaws or repeal alterations of bylaws, which shall be held by a quorum of the voting members. (June 6, 1998)
  - a) The meeting of such a quorum is to equal or exceed two-thirds of the Active members. 6/6/98
  - b) Such a meeting must be a notified meeting. To satisfy the requirements for a notified meeting: (June 6, 1998)
    - (i) A reasonable attempt must be made to notify the voting membership. (June 6, 1998)
    - (ii) The Oligarchy must also be notified in writing, not less than one fortnight in advance. (June 6, 1998)
    - (iii) As with all other Dark Ones meetings, the Event Director must be notified not less than one fortnight in advance so that the Event Director may assign an Event Coordinator in a timely fashion. (June 6, 1998)
  - c) The Blackline to repeal bylaws or to repeal alterations of the bylaws must be a unanimous vote of the attending quorum of such a meeting. (June 6, 1998)
  - d) Only bylaws altered or adopted within the twenty-six fortnights preceding the meeting date shall be subject to repeal under this section. (June 6, 1998)

## **Appendix I - Voting Procedures**

- 1) There shall be a prescribed method for casting votes. (June 4, 1993)
  - a) Each person entitled to vote is given a black and a white stone to cast (more in the case of held proxies). Two bags are used to collect the votes. A black stone cast in the vote bag is a 'yes' vote and a white stone is a 'no'. The remaining stone is dropped into the discard bag, and in the case of an abstention (A.K.A a gray vote) both stones are discarded. The vote bag is then emptied in full view of the assembly to show the outcome. Then the discard bag is emptied to

verify the result. [Archaically: the last person passed the voting bags is said to be "left holding the bag".] (June 4, 1993)

- b) A vote that goes black is a vote that yields enough black stones to pass the issue. (01/18/03)
  - c) A vote that goes white is a vote that yields enough white stones to reject the issue. (01/18/03)
  - d) A vote that goes gray is a vote that neither rejects nor passes an issue due to an equal number of black and white stones. (January 18, 2003)
- 2) There shall be an alternate method of casting votes. (August 9, 1994)
- a) This method shall entail collecting votes by a show of hands. (August 9, 1994)
  - b) This alternate method is not available for those votes specified in the bylaws as needing to be cast in stone. (August 9, 1994)
  - c) To use the alternate method to vote on an issue, an individual entitled to vote on that issue must request the alternate method of voting. Then a show of hands is requested of those individual also entitled to vote on said issue to ascertain who also wishes to use the alternate method. If a majority wishes to do so, the issue shall be voted on using the alternate method. (August 8, 1994).
- 3) If in the vote, there are: (January 18, 2008)
- a) More black votes than white votes, the gray votes shall be looked at as black votes. (08/20/94)
  - b) More white votes than black votes, the gray votes shall be looked at as white votes. (08/20/94)
  - c) An equal number of white votes and black votes, the gray votes shall not change this equality. (August 20, 1994)

### **Appendix II - Attaining Membership and Tenure**

- a) To become a Dark Ones Associate, a Prospective member must first obtain a Sponsor.06/06/98
  - (i) The Sponsor must be a member holding Active status and be willing to Sponsor the Prospective member. (January 18, 2003)
  - (ii) Upon the agreement of the requested individual to be the Sponsor, the Prospective member is considered sponsored by that individual. At this time, the Sponsor is to notify the Oligarchy of the sponsorship in writing; this document must carry a live signature. 12/30/08
- b) The Sponsor, if Active, may request in writing that an opinion poll be taken about the Prospective member. The wording of the poll can be found in the [DOD - Sponsorship](#) The Sponsor may request any reasonable number of opinion polls. For this purpose 'reasonable' is loosely defined as 'such quantity as is needed to responsibly monitor the progress of the sponsorship'. (June 19, 2012)
  - (i) The Oligarchy, or its duly appointed representative, shall then make a reasonable effort over the ensuing fortnight to acquire the opinion of each Active member. (Oct 11, 2011)
  - (ii) At the end of this time, the Oligarchy shall review the opinion poll.
    - (1) If positive, the Oligarchy shall vote on the Prospective member; the vote shall be cast in stone. Upon an unanimous black vote of the entire Oligarchy, the Sponsor shall be notified in writing that the Prospective member is eligible for a membership vote. The Prospective member must have physically attended one of the previous three General or Event Symposiums to be eligible for a membership vote (excludes Special Symposiums). (April 12, 2011)
    - (2) If negative, the Oligarchy shall give the Sponsor a written recommendation as to the probable length of sponsorship and the earliest date a vote could be taken on the Prospective member. (June 6, 1998)
- c) Upon Oligarchy recommendation, the Sponsor may then request that the Oligarchy call a Membership vote on the Prospective member. (June 6, 1998)



- (i) The member vote will be held at the General Symposium of the Sponsor's choice and in accordance with the Oligarchic recommendation. The request must be made in writing (email is OK) no less than two fortnights prior to the event at which the vote shall be cast.
  - (ii) At the vote of the members, the Sponsor will be allowed a brief discourse on behalf of the Prospective member. The Prospective member shall be allowed same. Each Oligarchy member will then have the opportunity to ask the Prospective a question. The Membership vote shall then be cast in stone. Members who are absent and without proxy shall have their last opinion gathered cast as their vote. If the majority of this vote is black, the Prospective shall then become a Dark Ones Associate. (May 10, 2011)
- 2) A DOA may claim tenure (become a Dark One) after 5 years of membership. (May 18, 2015)
    - a) The DOA must submit in writing, to the Oligarchy, notification of their intent to change class to Dark One. This document must carry a live signature. (January 18, 2003)
    - b) It is suggested the notification be submitted not less than two fortnights prior to the scheduled General Symposium where the proposed tenure will be claimed. (June 19, 2012)
    - c) At the General Symposium chosen, the DOA must be physically present, and the DOA will be allowed a brief discourse. The Oligarchy shall then address the DOA; following this the DOA shall become a Dark One. (June 19, 2012)
  - 3) A member may be removed by being unsponsored.
    - a) To do this a member holding Active status must declare in writing the intent to unsponsor a member; this document must carry a live signature. On an unanimous vote of the entire Oligarchy, the unsponsored member shall be removed from the organization, and all membership of said member shall be revoked. (December 30, 2008)
    - b) The vote shall be cast in stone. (August 20, 1994)
  - 1) The Oligarchy - Leave of Absence
    - a) An Oligarchy member may take a leave of absence by providing notice in writing; this document must carry a live signature. (October 16, 2012)
      - (i) The leave of absence may be no less than thirteen fortnights and a day in duration and shall end upon written notice to return from the leave of absence. This document must carry a live signature. Such notice must be provided no less than one fortnight prior to the intended time of reinstatement. Said member must be Active at the time of reinstatement. The returning Oligarchy member may not return during the first six months of a Regent's term. (October 16, 2012)
      - (ii) During the leave of absence the seat shall be filled by a member holding Active status, having been selected in the same manner as that prescribed in selecting the Seneschal Elect. (December 30, 2008)

### **Appendix III - ELECTIONS**

- 1) Oligarchy positions
  - a) Elections for the Seneschal Elect and any Oligarchy Regent seats shall be held at the General Symposiums to accommodate the term of office. The new Oligarchy member takes office at the end of the General Symposium at which they are elected. (December 30, 2008)
    - (i) At the General Symposiums members may nominate any Active member. (Dec 30, 2008)
    - (ii) Active members then cast their ballots for their first and second choice of those nominated. (December 30, 2008)
    - (iii) The Oligarchy then tallies the votes to determine first and second place. The Oligarchy then votes on who will join the Oligarchy from these two nominees. This vote must be cast in stone. (December 30, 2008)

## Appendix IV - Definitions

The following shall serve to define terms used throughout these bylaws. (August 9, 1994)

- a) **Active Status** – “A status conferred upon a member showing a sufficient level of activity within the group has been met and maintained to allow said member to hold voting privileges. Active status may also be used as a prerequisite for holding certain offices within the group.” 1/18/03
- b) **Activities Coordinator** – “A member of the Dark Ones responsible for overseeing a specific category of events hosted by the Dark Ones.” (December 16, 2008)
- c) **Blackline** – “The number or percentage of black votes needed to cause a vote to pass.” (August 20, 1994) [Historian](#)
- d) **Corporate Exchequer** - “The head of the Office of the Exchequer and Corporate Treasurer.” (February 2, 2015)
- e) **Event Director** – “An Oligarchical committee that is responsible for overseeing all events hosted by the Dark Ones.” (December 16, 2008)
- f) **Ex Officio** – “Being a member of an organization or in office by right of a position or office held.” (August 9, 1994)
- g) **Executive Director** – “An Oligarchical committee that is responsible for overseeing the activities of the Exchequer and Historian committees.” (December 16, 2008)
- h) **Fortnight** – “A period of time encompassing fourteen consecutive days.” (August 9, 1994)
- i) **General Symposium** – “The semi-annual business meetings of the Dark Ones.” (06/19/12)
- j) **Guideline** – “A governing instrument serving to regulate a portion of the organization within the parameters set by the bylaws.” (August 9, 1994) [Exchequer](#) [Historian](#)
- k) **Inactive Status** – “A status conferred upon a member showing a sufficient level of activity within the group has not been maintained to allow said member to hold voting privileges. A member holding Inactive status is said to have lost their Active status.” (January 18, 2003)
- l) **Member** – “A member of The Dark Ones, Inc., except where ‘member’ is followed by ‘of the’ in which case it specifically refers to the position or committee listed thereafter.” (June 19, 2012)
- m) **Office of the Exchequer** - “The group of officers that manage the finances and assets of the Dark Ones.”(February 2, 2015)
- n) **Oligarchal Committee**–“A committee comprised of one or more Oligarchy members.” 6/19/12
- o) **Proxy** – “The transference of voting power from one member to another. A proxy does not satisfy the requirements of attendance.” (December 30, 2008)
- p) **Quorum** – “In any vote, a quorum is the minimum number of votes that must be present before an issue may be voted upon.” (December 16, 2008)
- q) **Regent** – “A member filling another’s Oligarchy seat.” (December 30, 2008)
- r) **Retired Status** –
  - (i) Involuntary - “A status conferred upon a member when the group has no contact information on file and or has not heard from said member in over 5 years.” (Jan 18, 2003)
  - (ii) Voluntary - “A status conferred upon a member when the member has indicated intent to disassociate with the group.”
    - (1) These retired members are not to be contacted by the group. (January 18, 2003)
    - (iii) Any retired member may return of their own volition at any time.” (July 06, 2015)
- s) **Seneschal** – “The Seneschal is an ex officio member of the Oligarchy.” (December 30, 2008)
- t) **Seneschal Elect** – “The office held just prior to becoming the Seneschal, during which the member is brought up to speed regarding the current issues on the Oligarchy agenda.” 06/1/15
- u) **Sennight** – “A period of time encompassing seven consecutive days.” (August 20, 1994)
- v) **Symposium** – “A meeting of the Dark Ones membership: Event, General, and Special meetings, but not including committee meetings.” (December 30, 2008)