

- Ballots will not allow for write in names in 2023 (i.e. no late nominations will be accepted).
- The election of the District Deputy Grand Master will be conducted independently from any District meetings held in the spring of 2023.

Nomination Process:

- Individual nomination forms must be submitted under the signature of the proposer and the nominee to the DDGM no later than May 30, 2023. The only nomination form accepted will be the fillable PDF form provided by Grand Lodge dated 2023.
- There will be no ability to add or remove candidate names after May 30, 2023.
- The DDGM is accountable for validating the eligibility of each nominee (according to the Constitution of Grand Lodge) and for ensuring the completeness of the nomination forms prior to submitting the District eligible candidate form to Grand Lodge.
- All District Deputy Grand Masters must complete the District eligible candidates form with the names of all eligible candidates nominated for the office of DDGM in their District.
- The **District eligible candidates form AND the individual nomination forms** must both be provided to Grand Lodge by June 01, 2023.

Election timelines:

- Voter registration will take place from Monday June 12, 2023 starting at 9:00AM EST until Friday June 16, 2023 at 4:00PM EST.
- Voting will take place on Monday June 19, 2023 starting at 9:00AM EST until Tuesday June 20, 2023 at 4:00 PM EST.
- If required, a second ballot run-off election will be held on Tuesday June 20, 2023. See further details below.
- Results will be distributed to all voters as soon as they are available.
- Once available, the DDGM may further announce and distribute the results to the lodges.

Ballot Preparation:

- There will be only one election for all DDGMs.
- Specific ballots will be created for each of the 41 Districts.
- A voter registered in a lodge in a District will see only the ballot applicable to his District.
- Ballots will not allow for write-in names in 2023 (no last-minute nominations).
- Grand Lodge will appoint an Election Administrator and a Scrutineer.

Voter Registration:

Registration is required to:

- Obtain the voter contact information (email address);
- Validate the voter eligibility;

- Assign every eligible voter to the lodge/District in which he is an active member in good standing;
- Allow an affiliated member to select which lodge/District he wishes to vote in;
- Assign unique voter ID; and
- Distribute any election communications required.

Registration will require the voter to supply:

- His last name;
- His given names (not validated);
- Grand Lodge certificate number; and
- Lodge number.

Do NOT unsubscribe to registration or voting emails:

- If you unsubscribe to all - **you will not receive your voting link.**
- If you unsubscribe to notices - you will not receive notice for next election (e.g. second ballot run-off or voting for Grand Lodge officers).

Voting:

- Once successfully registered, each voter will be sent a unique voter ID link just prior to the start of the voting period to the email address provided in the registration step.
- Voting will require the voter to click on the unique voter ID link in the ballot. Once the voter has clicked on the voter ID link he will be presented with his electronic ballot.
- Once the ballot has been completed the voter will submit the ballot.
- Once the voter has submitted his ballot he will not be able to vote again.

Questions/Issues during the Registration or Voting period:

- Send email to grandlodgeon@electionbuddy.com stating your full name, Grand Lodge certificate number, lodge number and your issue/question.
- Please DO NOT email or copy the Grand Lodge Office.

Run-off Election for DDGM:

In any District where there are more than two candidates duly nominated there is a possibility that on the first ballot, one candidate may not receive a majority of all votes cast.

If that is the case, a second ballot run-off election will be held as soon as possible.

The election administrator will confirm that a second ballot run-off election is required. The election administrator will see that all names are removed from the ballot for that District except for those two candidates having the most votes.

The election administrator will see that the names of all eligible voters registered for the first ballot are carried over to the second ballot run-off election (therefore no pre-registration for the second ballot run-off election is required). 'Eligible' voters will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election'.

- The nomination process for Grand Lodge officers remains the same as specified in the Book of Constitution with a deadline of April 01, 2023.
- Final lists of candidates will be prepared and distributed as specified in the Book of Constitution on or before April 30, 2023.

Election Process and timelines:

- Voter registration will take place from Monday July 10, 2023 starting at 9:00AM EST until Friday July 14, 2023 at 4:00PM EST.
- Voting will take place on Monday July 17, 2023 starting at 9:00AM EST until Tuesday July 18, 2023 at 4:00 PM EST.
- If required, a second ballot run-off election will be held on Tuesday July 18 and Wednesday July 19, 2023. See further details below.
- Results will be announced at the Grand Lodge banquet on Wednesday evening July 19, 2023 and subsequently distributed to all voters as soon as possible.

Ballot Preparation:

- The ballots will list the nominees for each elected office in alphabetical order.
- Grand Lodge will appoint an Election Administrator and a Scrutineer.

Voter Registration:

Registration is required to:

- Obtain the voter contact information (email address);
- Validate the voter eligibility;
- Assign every eligible voter to the lodge/District in which he is an active member in good standing;
- Allow an affiliated member to select which lodge/District he wishes to vote in;
- Assign unique voter ID; and
- Distribute any election communications required.

Registration will require the voter to supply:

- His last name;
- His given names (not validated);
- Grand Lodge certificate number; and
- Lodge number.

Voters who registered for the election of the DDGM will NOT be required to register a second time in order to vote for the Grand Lodge officers.

Their prior registration will be automatically carried forward to the second election.

Do NOT unsubscribe to registration or voting emails:

- If you unsubscribe to all - **you will not receive your voting link.**
- If you unsubscribe to notices - you will not receive notice for next election (e.g. second ballot run-off voting for Grand Lodge officers).

Voting:

- Once successfully registered, each voter will be sent a unique voter ID link just prior to the start of the voting period to the email address provided in the registration step.
- Voting will require the voter to click on the unique voter ID link in the ballot. Once the voter has clicked on the voter ID link he will be presented with his electronic ballot.
- Once the ballot has been completed the voter will submit the ballot.
- Once the voter has submitted his ballot he will not be able to vote again.

Questions/Issues during the Registration or Voting period:

- Send email to grandlodgeon@electionbuddy.com stating your full name, Grand Lodge certificate number, lodge number and your issue/question.
- Please DO NOT email or copy the Grand Lodge Office.

Run-off Election for Grand Lodge Officers:

A candidate for the office of Grand Secretary or Grand Treasurer must, in order to be elected, receive a majority of all votes cast. Therefore, if there are more than two candidates there is a possibility that on the first ballot, one candidate may not receive a majority of all votes cast.

If that is the case, a second ballot run-off election will be held as soon as possible.

The election administrator will confirm that a second ballot run-off election is required.

The election administrator will see that all names are removed from the ballot for that Office except for those two candidates having the most votes.

The election administrator will see that the names of all eligible voters registered for the first ballot are carried over to the second ballot run-off election (therefore no pre-registration for the second ballot run-off election is required). 'Eligible' voters will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election'

The second ballot run-off election will then proceed as follows:

- As soon as possible after the close of balloting on Tuesday July 18, 2023 at 4:00PM EST **each voter who cast a ballot in the first election** will receive an automated email advising him that there will be a second ballot run-off election. This same email will contain a link to use in casting a ballot in the run-off election.
- Voting in the second ballot run-off election will take place on Tuesday July 18, 2023 from the time an eligible voter receives his email notification of the second ballot run-off election until 12:00PM (Noon) EST Wednesday July 19, 2023.
- Voters will see only the ballot for the specific Office with the two names of the candidates that placed first or second on the original ballot.

