



# RULES

OF THE

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE

STEPNEY TENT, No. 83,

OF THE  
INDEPENDENT

Order of Rechabites,

SALFORD UNITY,

FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

EAST RIDING DISTRICT.

HULL:

PRINTED BY F. OLIVER, DOCK-ST & GEORGE-ST.

1873.



## OPENING HYMN.

Each effort to redeem our race,  
Who by intemperance are made slaves,  
To lead them back to paths of peace,  
The blessing of our God receives.

And if our labour He approve,  
Success upon it will attend,  
And we, in this employ of love,  
Our happiest hours on earth shall spend.

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## CLOSING HYMN.

Swiftly our moments pass away,  
And soon they all will disappear ;  
May we endeavour while 'tis day,  
To stop the drunkard's mad career.

Soon will the final hour arrive  
When all our care and toil will cease ;  
Oh ! may we each with ardour strive,  
To dry the springs which banish peace.

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# RULES.

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## *Name, Place of Business, Constitution, and Objects.*

1.—This Society shall be called “The Stepney Tent, No. 83,” and form an Auxiliary Branch of the 18th District of the Independent Order of Rechabites, Salford Unity Friendly Society, and shall hold its meetings at the Methodist New Connexion School-room, Stepney, in the Town and County of Kingston-upon-Hull, or at such other place as a majority of the members, with the consent of the District Officers, may determine. In case of a removal being deemed necessary, a motion for that purpose shall be made and seconded on a regular tent-night, and the Secretary shall summon every member residing within three miles of the house in which the Tent is held to attend a meeting of the same when such proposition shall be taken into consideration, and finally be decided by ballot; each member to be summoned at least seven days before the time of meeting: and when the place of meeting is changed, or if a dissolution of the Tent takes place, notice thereof shall be sent to the Registrar of Friendly Societies in England within fourteen days thereafter, signed by the Secretary and three other members of the Tent.

It shall consist of an unlimited number of members who have signed the abstinence pledge as follows:—  
“I hereby declare that I will abstain from all intoxicating liquors, except in religious ordinances, or when prescribed by a legal qualified medical practitioner during sickness which renders me incapable of following any employment. I will not engage in the traffic of them, but in all possible ways will discountenance the use, manufacture, and sale of them; and to the utmost of my power I will endeavour to spread the principles of abstinence from all intoxicating liquors.” The business shall be conducted by the members, officers,

and committees appointed for that purpose, five to form a quorum; and the ordinary meetings shall be held every alternate Tuesday, at eight o'Clock, in the evening, and continue open until half-past nine o'Clock, when the Tent shall be closed for the evening, except on quarterly nights, adjourned quarterly nights, special Tent meetings, or by resolution of a regular Tent meeting, passed before half-past nine; but no fresh business shall be begun on an ordinary Tent night after that time, nor shall such extensions in any case be later than eleven o'Clock; and any business done at any meeting after that time shall be null and void. Every member shall have an equal voice in all the property and concerns thereof, but when at any time, or in any case the votes may be equal, the presiding officer at the time shall give a casting vote.

It shall have for its objects, the raising of funds by entrance fees, clearance fees, subscriptions of members, levies, fines, donations, and interest on capital for the following purposes, namely:—Insuring a sum of money to be paid on the death of a member, or for defraying the expenses of burial of a member, and for insuring a sum of money to be paid on the death of a member's wife, as provided for in the Rules of the 18th District Branch of the aforesaid Order: rendering assistance to members when through sickness or accident are unable to follow any employment, and for granting relief to members in distressed circumstances. The whole of the objects and rules of this Tent shall be carried into effect in conformity with and subject to the rules of eighteenth district branch, and the general rules of the said order, and any alterations or amendments thereof hereafter made shall be applicable to the members of this Tent in the same manner as if the said rules were inserted in these rules.

#### *Application and Investment of Funds.*

2.—All monies received as specified in rule one shall be applied in carrying out the objects of this Tent, and in paying the expenses of management according

to the rules thereof, and in paying the levies made under the authority of the rules of the eighteenth district branch of the said order. So much of the funds of the said Society as may not be required for immediate use, or to meet the usual accruing liabilities, shall be invested in the names of the Trustees in such of the following ways as a summoned meeting may direct, namely:—In a Savings Bank, or in Public Funds, or with the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt, or upon Government or Real Securities in Great Britain or Ireland, or upon Debentures, Mortgages, or security of any Company Incorporated by Charter or Act of Parliament and paying a dividend, or upon the security of any County, Borough, or other Rates authorized to be levied and mortgaged by Act of Parliament.

#### *Appointment of Treasurer and Trustees.*

3.—The present three Trustees and Treasurer shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Tent, and be removeable at a special meeting thereof called for that purpose. In the event of the Treasurer or either of the Trustees dying, or being removed from office, another or others shall be elected by a majority of the members present at a meeting called for that purpose to supply the vacancy; a copy of every resolution appointing a Trustee or Trustees shall be sent to the Registrar of Friendly Societies in England, signed by all the Trustees, and countersigned by the Secretary, pursuant to sec. 17 of the 18th and 19th Victoria, cap 63. In case any Trustee being removed from his office shall refuse or neglect to assign or transfer any property of this Tent as the Committee of Management may direct, such Trustee shall be expelled, and cease to have any claim on the Society or Branch on account of any monies paid by him.

The Treasurer shall at the end of every term or sitting, and also when required by the Trustees, or by resolution of the Tent, render a true account of all monies received and paid by him: he shall take

charge of the funds not invested, and pay over to the Trustees for investment such an amount of the balance held by him as may from time be ordered by the Tent: his authority for payment shall be a resolution of the Tent, except in case of sickness, when the production by the money steward of a medical certificate shall be sufficient, which certificates, together with his books, vouchers, &c., he shall produce at each Audit meeting, he shall balance his accounts at each auditing of the Tent books, or when required by the Tent, and supply the Tent with a duplicate thereof; he shall give up all books, documents, monies, and property of the Tent in his possession when required to do so by resolution of the Tent, and before taking upon himself the duties of his office he shall give security to the Trustees by himself and one sufficient bondsman, pursuant to 18th and 19th victoria, cap. 63, sec. 21, in such amount as may be decided by a summoned meeting.

#### *Committee of Management.*

4.—This Tent shall consist of an unlimited number of members, and the business be conducted by a Committee of Management as follows, namely:—Chief Ruler, Deputy Ruler, Secretary, Past Chief Ruler, Treasurer, Two Stewards, Levite, and Guardian, that five members shall form a quorum, and the regular meetings of the Tent shall be held every alternate week, as defined in rule one. A committee of eight members shall also be appointed, to whom all disputes shall be referred, who may meet at such times as may be most convenient for the business to be done.

#### *Appointments and Duties of Officers.*

5.—That the election nights for this Tent shall be the last regular Tent nights in June and December respectively, when the following Officers shall be elected for six calendar months, that is to say until the last regular Tent nights in the following December

and June respectively, namely :—Chief Ruler, Deputy Ruler, and Secretary (who shall be nominated on either of the two regular Tent nights previous), Two Stewards, Levite, and Guardian. An Auditor shall be elected the same nights for two terms, or twelve months, who shall Audit the accounts Quarterly, and when required by the Tent. The Deputy to the District shall be elected for twelve months annually in December. Should any Officer forfeit or vacate his Office, the proposition for another or others in his or their stead shall be made on the Tent-night such Office is declared vacant ; the election to take place the following Tent night.

The duties of the Chief Ruler shall be to preside over all Tent and Committee meetings, enforce the fines according to the rules, and have power to convene a special Tent meeting on being requested in writing by any Two Officers, or Six Members of the Tent.

The Past Chief Ruler shall superintend the business of the Tent, and see justice done between the Officers and Members.

The Deputy Ruler shall assist in keeping order during Tent hours, see the Guardian performs his duties, and act as President in the temporary absence of the Chief Ruler.

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Tent, take minutes of the proceedings, and keep a correct account of the receipts and expenditure, and from time to time report to the Tent the balance held by the Treasurer, that an order may be made for the investment of such amount as may be deemed advisable, prepare all summonses in due time, attend the Audit Meetings, to point out and explain anything that may be required respecting the accounts, balance such accounts quarterly, and when required by resolution of the Tent, prepare a balance sheet which shall be written in a book provided for that purpose, and if found correct by the Auditors shall be signed by them as such, and be read the following Tent night ; he shall receive the certificates of the sick members and of deaths, and if the member be entitled, direct



the Stewards to visit and pay them, conduct the correspondence of the Tent, prepare all documents for the district and the Annual and other returns to the Registrar as required by 18 and 19 vic., cap. 63, sec. 45.

The Stewards shall receive the contributions of the members each Tent night, which they shall take to and deposit with the Treasurer within twenty-four hours thereafter, deliver all notices, visit and pay the sick and funeral donations, attend the funerals of deceased members, and see that no impositions of any kind are practised on the Tent.

The Levite shall previous to opening the Tent ascertain that every member present has the password, introduce all candidates for initiation, and attend to the orders of the Chief Ruler.

The Guardian shall keep the door, admit no person without the password or consent of the Chief Ruler, during the transaction of business ; nor anyone during the opening or closing of the Tent, or when any Member is addressing the Officers, or during Initiations.

Any member who can read and write, and has served two inferior offices, shall be qualified for Chief Ruler : and for Deputy Ruler, one inferior officer. Any member who can read and write a good hand, and keep correct accounts, may stand his ballot for the office of Secretary without having previously served any inferior office. No outgoing Officer except the Secretary shall stand his ballot against another candidate until he has been out of office twelve months.

#### *Appointment and Duties of Surgeon.*

6.—That a legally qualified medical man shall be appointed by a summoned meeting of this Tent, whose duty it shall be to examine all candidates for admission, and report to the Tent in the form provided for that purpose.

#### *Propositions and Initiations.*

7.—No person of improper character, nor any one

under sixteen nor above fifty years of age, shall be admitted a member of this Tent. Candidates must be proposed and seconded on a regular Tent night, and the name, age, occupation, and residence of each be inserted in the proposition book by the Secretary; and before admission shall pay an entrance fee of five shillings, sign the abstinence pledge as set forth in the first rule, produce a copy of his register of birth (or sign the Tent declaration book), and a certificate from the Surgeon, appointed by the Tent for that duty, declaring that he had examined such candidate and considers him to be a fit and proper person to be a member of this Tent. Proposition must be followed by initiation within two months, or it shall be null and void. Any member introducing a person contrary to this rule shall be fined ten shillings and sixpence, whether he be admitted or not.

Any respectable person above sixteen years of age may be admitted an honorary member of this Tent on paying the entrance fee and contribution, stated in General Rule 41.

*Contributions, Levies, and Fines.*

8.—Each of the founders of this Tent, who was under thirty years of age when initiated, shall pay contributions as per graduated scale; and those above thirty years of age, tenpence per fortnight; and all members admitted since, according to the following graduated scale, namely:—

AGE.	PER FORTNIGHT.	
	s.	d.
16 and under 21 .....	0	8½
21 „ 30 .....	0	9½
30 „ 35 .....	0	10¾
35 „ 40 .....	1	0
40 „ 43 .....	1	1½
43 „ 46 .....	1	3
46 „ 50 .....	1	4½

Which shall be divided in the following manner, according to age at initiation:—

AGE.			PER FORTNIGHT*	
			s.	d.
16 and under	30	.....	0	1½
30	„	35 .....	0	1¾
35	„	40 .....	0	2
40	„	43 .....	0	2½
43	„	46 .....	0	3
46	„	50 .....	0	3½

Shall be paid to the District Funeral Fund, and seven-eighths of the remainder shall be devoted to the Sick Fund of the Tent, and all interest arising from the accumulated stock of this Fund shall be added thereto from time to time, and the aforesaid Funds shall not be used for any other purpose than for paying the sick, and burying the dead.

The entrance fees, honorary members contributions, fines, and one-eighth of the contribution to the Sick Fund shall form a Fund, from which shall be paid the necessary expenses of management; a separate account shall be kept of such income and expenditure, and be audited in the same way as other accounts, and should the amount expended in management exceed the contributions to this Fund, a levy shall be laid of an equal amount per member, to make good the deficiency.

The Tent shall not be responsible for any monies paid, except in the Tent on a regular Tent night, and no fractional part of a fortnight's contributions shall be received; and any member owing more than seven fortnights contributions shall be suspended from all benefits of his membership for two weeks after the whole of the money then owing by him is paid; but if he owe fourteen fortnights contributions, he shall cease to be a member, and not be re-admitted unless he produce a medical certificate of health satisfactory to the Tent, and pay up all arrears owing by him, and shall be suspended from all benefits for twelve weeks from the date of such payments.

Any member being fined shall have notice thereof in writing, within four weeks, or it shall be null and void; and fines, levies, and goods supplied shall be

paid for, or subject the member to suspension and expulsion, as provided for contributions in this Rule.

A pence card shall be provided for every member, which shall be produced every time money is paid, or be fined a penny; all cards to be left at the Tent on the December election night, or be fined sixpence; and all arrears shall be paid up every year in December, or be fined sixpence.

## SICKNESS.

### *Declaration on the Fund.*

9.—Any member claiming the sick allowance must obtain a certificate from a legally-qualified medical man, stating the member's name, residence, ailment, day, and hour it was given, and that he is unable to follow any employment: if it be not obtained before twelve o'clock at noon the member shall not be entitled to sick pay for that day. The certificate must be forwarded to the Secretary within twelve hours of being obtained, or the member will not have any claim for the sick allowance until the same is received by the Secretary.

### *Benefits when Sick.*

10.—That each member six calendar months after his initiation (except that no sick allowance shall be paid until the Tent has been established twelve months) provided he is not under suspension for a violation of any rule of the Tent, District, or Order, when through sickness or accident is unable to follow any employment, trade, or calling, shall be entitled to a sick allowance of ten shillings a week for twenty-six weeks, seven shillings and sixpence a week for twenty-six weeks, and five shillings a week for twenty-six weeks; afterwards such a sum per week as the Tent at each Quarterly Meeting may decide, but in no case more than two shillings a week; that is to say, if the sickness is continuous, or less than twelve months intervene between declaring off the sick fund and on again, but if the member be off the sick fund

twelve calendar months he shall revert again to ten shillings a week as at first, excepting that any member being incapacitated for work after receiving the aforesaid eighteen months sick pay, and not claiming the sick allowance until the expiration of the aforesaid twelve months with the intention to receive full pay, shall be considered guilty of fraud and subject himself to expulsion: also excepting that no member shall receive the sick allowance during any disease or injury produced by his immoral or disorderly conduct, or by provoking or engaging in wanton quarrels or pursuits.

Should any member impose on the Tent by stating himself sick and incapable of following any employment, or is actually doing so, shall, on proof thereof, be fined for the first offence ten shillings and sixpence and be suspended from benefits for three months, and for the second offence be expelled.

The Stewards shall visit each sick member residing in the town at least once a week, and pay the sick gift not later than nine o'clock on Friday nights, but shall deduct therefrom the members contributions and fines, and be answerable to the Tent for the same. The Steward shall be allowed to hold sufficient money in hand between tent nights to meet anticipated demands. The sick allowance for members residing out of town shall be paid as per agreement in each case.

#### *Restrictions when Sick.*

11.—Any member in receipt of the sick allowance having occasion to go out for the benefit of his health shall not extend his journey more than two miles beyond the boundary of the borough, unless he obtain a medical certificate recommending change of air, which must be given to the Steward before leaving town, or be fined two shillings and sixpence for each offence, and within seven days of his going out of town he shall furnish the Steward with his address in writing, and forward a medical certificate of health every fourteen days, or be fined one shilling a day, but if he neglect to send his address or certificate more than seven days beyond the aforesaid seven or

fourteen days, the Steward shall not pay the brother any sick allowance between that time and its being received. In no case must the sick member be out before six in the morning nor after eight in the evening, between the first of April and the thirtieth day of September: or before eight in the morning nor later than six in the evening between the first of October and the thirty-first day of March, under a penalty of five shillings for the first offence, ten shillings for the second offence, and twenty shillings for the third and subsequent offences.

*Declaration off the Fund.*

12.—When a sick member is so far recovered as to be able to resume work he shall obtain a medical certificate stating the fact, and thereon enter in writing the amount he has received during that illness, which must be delivered to the Steward before he shall be allowed to resume work, or be fined one shilling a day during such neglect. No member shall receive pay for the day he declares off.

*Funerals.*

13.—Upon the death of a member or member's wife a medical certificate stating name, residence, age, date, and cause of death shall be sent to the Secretary, who shall, if the member be good on the books, give the Steward the needful instructions.

The Secretary shall keep a book in which the members may nominate in writing the person to whom the burial money shall be paid at their decease, such person being the wife, father, mother, child, brother, sister, nephew, or niece of such member, 18 and 19 Vic. cap 63, sec. 31. Any member may revoke such nomination by a written notice to that effect signed by himself, and it shall be the duty of the Chief Ruler to see the nomination erased. The member to pay three pence to the Management Fund for each nomination or revocation.

The Secretary neglecting to ask a new member to

nominate within three months of his admission shall be fined sixpence.

### *Residence Book.*

14.—A book shall be kept in which the name, occupation, and address of every member shall be entered by the Secretary, and if any member change his residence he shall within four weeks after send his new address to the Secretary in writing, or be fined sixpence. Summonses or any other notices shall be considered served if left at or posted to the members residence, as shown in the Tent Residence Book. Any member being absent from the December quarterly or any special meeting of the Tent at the time appointed for opening shall be fined sixpence, unless an apology be received satisfactory to the Tent. The summonses for a special Tent meeting shall be delivered at least one clear day before the time of meeting.

### *Anniversary.*

15.—The Anniversary of this Tent shall be held in the month of January in each year, and every member except the sick and those residing more than three miles from the Tent shall have a ticket sent him, price not exceeding one shilling and sixpence: should any member decline attending he must return his ticket to the Secretary at least six days before the celebration or pay the cost thereof. No part of the expense of the Anniversary shall come out of the Funds.

### *Order of Business.*

16.—Notice of every motion shall be given one or two Tent nights before being discussed (except any matter that requires immediate attention, which may be entertained without such notice) the name of the proposer shall be entered in the minute book. A copy of the notices in the order they were given to the Tent shall be handed to the Chief Ruler as soon as

the Tent is opened on the night the discussion is to take place, who shall call upon each member to bring his motion before the Tent, according to the priority in which the notice was given. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on any subject except the proposer, who may speak three times including his reply, When the Chief Ruler calls on the proposer to reply, the discussion shall cease, and as soon as the reply is concluded the vote shall be taken. When a vote has been taken on any subject it shall not be brought forward again for three months from that time.

#### *Separate Books of Accounts.*

17.—A book or books shall be kept in which shall be entered all monies received or paid on account of each and every particular fund or benefit distinct from all monies received and paid on account of every other benefit or fund.

The deeds, cheques, and other securities belonging to the Tent shall be placed in a box and deposited with our Banker, such box to have three locks, a key to be held by each trustee. All tent securities shall be examined at least once in every year by the Auditors, and a report made to the next Quarterly or Special Meeting of the Tent.

#### *Settlement of Disputes.*

18.—The Committee shall consist of eight members chosen by the Tent (the four senior members to retire every six months, and four others to be elected in their stead), the Chief Ruler, and Deputy Ruler. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Committee to take minutes of evidence, but shall not vote.

If any dispute arise between a member of this Tent, or any person claiming on behalf of a member with the Tent, or any member thereof, it shall be referred to the above Committee, any five of whom (exclusive of the Secretary) shall have power to act: but if from non-attendance or any other cause less than five be



present at the time appointed each of the absent ones shall be fined sixpence, and the meeting shall adjourn until such number attend, and the decision of the Committee shall be binding and conclusive, unless appealed against to a Quarterly Meeting of the Tent within twenty-one days, and the appeal shall be heard at the next Quarterly Meeting of the Tent, unless such notice of appeal was received within one month of such meeting, in which case it shall be discretionary with the Chief Ruler to call a Special Meeting to hear and decide on the case, which decision shall be conclusive, unless the party aggrieved thereat appeal to the next District Meeting; the decision of the District Meeting may be appealed against to the Moveable Conference, and the decision of this court shall be final and conclusive.

Before an appeal can be made to a higher court, all fines inflicted by the court below must be paid to the officers of the higher court.

#### *Alterations of Rules.*

19.—No new rule shall be made, nor any of the rules herein contained, or hereinafter to be made, shall be amended, altered, or rescinded, unless with the consent of a majority of the members present at a general meeting of the Society specially called for that purpose.

WM. H. RIMMER, C.R.

GEORGE POOL, D.R., *pro tem.*

HENRY DYSON, P.C.R.

ANDREW WINSOR, Secretary,

April 23rd, 1872.

25, Beeton-street, Hull.





