



The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Maryland

General Order Number: 2015-03
31 October 2015

Rules, Regulations, and Procedures Governing Ritual Proficiency Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Maryland

The Grand Encampment Constitution, Section 139, establishes the *right* for any Sir Knight to run for any office in his Commandery, and no Grand Commandery has the authority to restrict or abridge the rights granted by the Grand Encampment.

Further, it is a right and proper knightly duty to be proficient in our Ritual and Tactics, and that it is the duty of each Commander to ensure his Commandery can properly confer the Orders, and, the inspection program will evaluate the work of the Commandery, but not formally recognize the work of the Knights individually.

There is a need to encourage more Sir Knights to memorize ritualistic work for the exemplification of the Orders of Knighthood, and also to recognize the efforts of those Sir Knights in learning their parts.

It is my order as Grand Commander, under the Constitution, Bylaws, and Statutes of the Grand Encampment and of the Grand Commandery of Maryland, the following Ritualistic Reward Program shall be implemented:

The Ritualistic Awards are to be based on the three Orders conferred. The award is to be a bar which may be worn on the uniform to signify the level of proficiency, along with a certificate to be printed with the level of proficiency. **All work is to be done from memory and in full form (Short form for Order of Malta).** All work done is to be attested by the Recorder as to what part was done and by whom. When sufficient requirements are satisfied for a particular level of recognition the Constituent Recorder will submit the information on the proper form to the Grand Recorder for the correct manner of recognition.

Point System

The total points for each Order are based on the number of words for that part. Then that number is divided by 10 and then rounded up or down to the next 5.

Red Cross	525
Malta	235 (420 if in full form)
Order of the Temple	<u>775</u>
Total points available:	1535 (1720 if in full form)

There will be three levels of proficiency. Point totals are **cumulative**:

1. **Pilgrim** 384 (25% of Total with short form Malta)
2. **Warrior** 690 (45% of Total with short form Malta)
3. **Knight** 1305 (85% of Total with short form Malta)

The "Opening" and "Closing" Rituals are not to be considered in the point totals. There is no consideration for the short form of The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.

**MARYLAND GRAND COMMANDRY
RITUAL AWARD PROGRAM
FOR SIR KNIGHTS**

As a way of increasing the interest and participation in the ritual work at the local level, the Grand Commandery of the State of Maryland has instituted a **"Ritual Award Program."**

The program is based on the three Orders conferred in the Commandery. The award is to be a Bar to be worn on Uniform and a certificate to be printed with the level of proficiency. Each part must have been performed two (2) times for credit. All work is to be done from memory and in full form (Short form for Malta is acceptable). You are expected to do a creditable job in the part you are exemplifying. This implies not just rote memorization but also correct tactics, vocal emphasis, gestures, etc. appropriate to the part. Credit for previous exemplifications under the previous regulations regarding proficiency for election to Captain General, Generalissimo, and Commander will be accepted on your honor as a Knight Templar. All work done is to be attested to by the application of your signature and the signature of your local recorder to this form.

There are three levels of proficiency for the Program:

Level 1: **Pilgrim** -

384 points



Level 2: **Warrior** -

690 points



Level 3: **Knight** -

1,305 points



THE CHALLENGE

As a Knight Templar, you are challenged to select and perform from the various parts and lectures from the rituals of three Orders that make up the Commandery. This provides you with an opportunity to play an active role within your Commandery. By taking part in this program, you will be making **YOURSELF** a dedicated Ritualist and your Commandery stronger.

On the reverse side of this form are the point values for the different parts. Please initial by the point value for that part. Total up the points and submit this form along with a check made out to **Grand Commandery of Maryland** in the amount of \$10.00 to your local Recorder. He will sign off on the form and submit it to:

Thomas G. Heimiller, PGC, Grand Recorder

Awards will be sent to the local Recorder for proper presentation.

Incomplete or improper forms will be returned to the Recorder.

The applicant will complete an application indicating the parts he has performed. He will sign the application and present it to his local Recorder for his signature and seal. The Recorder will then forward the application to the Grand Recorder along with a fee of \$10.00, to cover the cost of the bar and certificate. The Grand Recorder will then send the award to the local Recorder for presentation.

Point credit will be given for work conducted starting October 25, 2015, with the following exception: In recognition of the effort necessary in meeting the proficiency requirements of the Grand Commandery prior to October 24, 2015, upon application and payment of the appropriate fee, a Sir Knight who has been certified to confer the Order of Malta is eligible to wear the **Pilgrim** proficiency bar, a Sir Knight who has been certified to confer the Order of Malta and *either* the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross or Order of the Temple is eligible for the **Warrior** proficiency bar.

Given under my hand and seal this 31st day of October 2015, A.O. 897.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Arthur F. Hebbeler III", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Arthur F. Hebbeler III, Grand Commander

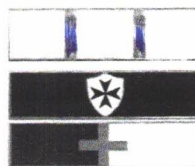
ATTESTED:

Thomas G. Heimiller, PGC, Grand Recorder

The Ritualistic Awards are to be based upon the memorized performance of the ritual of three full-form Orders conferred. The award is to be a bar of three different varieties (described below) approximately 3/8" X 1-3/8" which may be worn on the uniform to signify the level of proficiency. All work done is to be attested by the Recorder as to what part was done and by whom. When sufficient requirements are satisfied for a particular level of recognition the Constituent Recorder will submit the information on the proper form to the Grand Recorder for the correct manner of recognition.

- A. The bars shall be a die struck brass soft enamel pin with two (2) clutches.
- B. There shall be one (1) Bar for each level of proficiency. There shall be three (3) levels of proficiency:

1. **Pilgrim** 384 Points (25% of Total)
2. **Warrior** 690 Points (45% of Total)
3. **Knight** 1305 Points (85% of Total)



- C. The Ritual Bars are to be worn as follows (shown with Veterans Bar, which has precedence over all Ritual Bars:



1/2" to 3/4"
above the
pocket welt

RED CROSS

ORDER OF THE TEMPLE

Sovereign Master	100	Commander	190
Prince Chancellor	15	Generalissimo	10
Prince Master of the Palace	15	Captain General	10
Master of Cavalry	5	Senior Warden	40
Master of Infantry (Comp. Conductor)	90	Junior Warden	80
Excellent High Priest	80	Prelate	185
Master of Dispatches	5	Warder	30
Warder	30	Hermit	10
<u>Jewish Council (If optional Ritual is used)</u>		Guards	5
☐ Jeremiah	10	Ode to the Skull	15
☐ Isaiah	15	Baldric	10
☐ Haggai	10	Sword	20
☐ Hosea	15	Spur	5
☐ Obadiah	10	Remaining Attributes	35
☐ Amos	15	Banners	15
Jewish Guard (Speaking)	5	Flag	20

Persian Guard (Speaking)	10	Explanatory Lecture	80
Means of Recognition	20	Total Points:	775
Banner of the Order	10		
Vow	45	<u>FULL FORM MEDITERRANEAN PASS</u>	
Sash	10	<u>& KNIGHT of MALTA</u>	
Sword	10	Prior	210
Total Points:	525	Marshall	70
		Captain of the Outpost	25
		Table of Eight	25
<u>SHORT FORM MEDITERRANEAN PASS</u>		<u>Banners</u>	
<u>& KNIGHT of MALTA</u>		Birth	10
Prior	21	Life	10
	0	Death	25
Chaplain	25	Resurrection	10
Total Points:	235	Ascension	10
		St John	20
		Malta	5
		Total Points	420