

Balloting on Candidates

The Master Councilor reads the name of the applicant and the facts set out in his application. He may ask for "favorable or unfavorable" comments from any of the brothers present who may wish to share information about the candidate or his qualifications for membership.

The Balloting Procedure

M.C.: "Brother Senior Deacon, you will prepare the ballot."

The Senior Deacon places all white balls and black cubes in the proper compartment of the ballot box, making sure there are enough of each to meet demands. The Senior Deacon then presents the ballot box to the Junior Councilor (who goes by way of the North side of altar), the Senior Councilor and the Master Councilor in regular order, each of whom makes the proper inspection to satisfy himself the ballot is properly prepared.

After inspection, the Master Councilor announces:

M.C.: "Brethren, we are now about to ballot on the membership applications of _____ for the Degrees of DeMolay. The report is favorable. Remember that white balls elect and black cubes reject. Be careful of your ballot and vote for the good of the Order."

The Master Councilor casts his ballot. Then the Senior Deacon presents the ballot box to the Senior Councilor and then the Junior Councilor at their respective stations.

Then the Senior Deacon votes before placing the ballot box on a separate stand by the Northwest corner of the altar. The Senior Deacon then stands halfway between the altar and the station of the Senior Councilor and faces West. There he should inspect the obligation card of each member balloting.

As soon as the Senior Deacon is in position, the Chapter members, starting with the Scribe in the Southeast corner of the room, proceed

to vote by forming a line, regardless of rank, and approaching the altar from the West.

As soon as all the members on the South side of the room have voted, all members on the North side form a line, regardless of rank, starting with the East end of the room. The Master Councilor has the Junior Deacon relieve the Sentinel so that he can vote. After casting his ballot, the Sentinel returns to his post.

The Master Councilor then inquires:

M.C.: "Have all members voted who are entitled to vote?"

He pauses a moment for reply. If there is no response, the Master Councilor says:

M.C.: "All having voted. I declare the ballot closed"

M.C.: One rap * (sounds gavel). "Brother Senior Deacon you will take charge of the ballot."

The Senior Deacon presents the ballot box to the Junior Councilor and the Senior Councilor for inspection, proceeds to the station of the Master Councilor and places the ballot box on the Master Councilor's station. The Master Councilor then inspects the ballot, and if no more than one black cube appears, says:

M.C.: "I declare _____ duly elected to receive the Degrees of DeMolay in this Chapter."

If two or more black cubes appear, the Master Councilor says:

M.C.: "The application of _____ shall lie over until the next stated meeting."

When three or more black cubes appear on the vote concerning one applicant, the Master Councilor says:

M.C.: "I declare the application of _____ for the Degrees of DeMolay in this Chapter to be duly rejected."

M.C.: "We are now about to ballot on the petition of Brother _____ for membership in this Chapter by affiliation. The report is favorable. Remember that white balls elect and black cubes reject. Be careful of your ballot and vote for the good of the Order."

The Master Councilor casts his ballot. Then the Senior Deacon presents the ballot box to the Senior Councilor and then the Junior Councilor at their respective stations.

Then the Senior Deacon votes before placing the ballot box on a separate stand by the Northwest corner of the altar. The Senior Deacon then stands halfway between the altar and the station of the Senior Councilor and faces West. There he should inspect the obligation card of each member balloting.

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M.C.: "I declare Brother _____ duly elected to membership in this Chapter by affiliation".