New Jersey State Elks Association

State Ritual Committee

B.P.O.E. RITUAL

OFFICIAL RULES FOR THE FLAG CHARGE CONTEST

1: All 1st time duly elected Exalted Rulers are eligible to participate. Repeat Exalted Rulers cannot be the District's Representative (District Winner) at the state competition.

2: Contestant must provide a candidate and flag.

3: Contestant and Candidate must be in the same position as in the Ritual Contest.

4: The Flag Charge (Salute) must be given as printed on the Official Judges' Form.

5: Contestant will be introduced by the Chairman and given ample time to compose themself.

6: When the contestant is ready, the chairman will give **"three (3) raps of the gavel".** *The contest starts when the contestant looks down at the flag.* They will then go through the complete charge (following Ritual guidelines), leave their station, present the Flag to the Candidate and then continue their charge. The contestant shall then make an orderly return to their station. ***Upon completion of the return to their station, the contest is ended.***

7: Dress Code will be State Jacket & Tie.

8: Judging will be the same as the Ritual Contest, except that PRONUNCIATION (10%), WORD ACCURACY (30%), DEPORTMENT (10%), and IMPRESSIVENESS (50%).

9: Judges will mark in the same manner as in a Ritual Contest.

10: Only the Official Judges' Form is to be used.

11: All Judges shall be Grand Lodge Certified Judges.

12: Contestants may remain in the room after competition but must be seated in the audience.

13: Scores are to be computed immediately after the conclusion of each contestant.

14: Scores and final results should be announced on the same day the contest takes place.

15: Only one winner per district.

16: District Chairman shall provide State Chairman with winner's name no less than ten (10) days prior to Fall Conference.