

# GRAND COUNCIL GUIDELINES FOR INITIATIONS

Guidelines effective August , 2000.

**The Grand Council of E Clampus Vitus proclaims these guidelines for the following purposes; To promote unity among the Brethren and chapters of ECV, To encourage safety and fellowship, To preserve our lore and traditions. To decrease legal liability, and To insure the longevity of our Ancient and Honorable Order.**

## I. PRIVACY

- A. The initiation **shall** be out of the public view. Non-Clampers are not allowed to participate in any portion of the process. A short parade through town is acceptable, if the PBCs are presentable.
- B. The Hall of Comparative Ovations is **absolutely** private. Only Clampers and PBCs are allowed to view it, hear it or participate in it. It **shall not** be video or audio recorded and no pictures are to be taken.

## II. HISTORY

- A. PBCs **should** be given an oral history lesson, and written materials, if available.
- B. The lesson **should** encompass the history of ECV and the chapter.
- C. It **should** also contain an explanation of Clamper lore and some of our traditions; Red shirts, vests and pins, plaques, no women or guns, chapter names and numbers, etc. and the reasons for them.
- D. The various positions of leadership **may** be explained and the officers introduced, if possible. This includes information on Grand Council, the Board of Proctors and Sublime officers.

## III. HALL OF COMPARATIVE OVATIONS

- A. The H.O.C.O. **should** be performed with as much ambient quiet and solemnity as possible.
- B. PBCs **should** be sober, so they understand and appreciate the ceremony.
- C. The Clamperfunctionaries **should** be sober enough and sufficiently practiced in their respective parts to present an understandable and memorable ceremony.
- D. The text of the ceremony **should** be adhered to as much as possible, so as to have a consistent initiation throughout Clamperdom.

## IV. PBC QUALIFICATIONS

- A. PBCs **must** be at least 21 years of age.

- B. PBCs **should** have an interest in history, a good sense of humor and the willingness to be a participating member of the chapter.

#### V. TREATMENT OF PBCS

- A. The Hangman or Sheriff **shall** have the custody and control of the PBCs.
- B. His designated assistants (vigilantes, 601 's, etc.) are responsible to him.
- C. All **must** be aware of, and care fo,r any physical ailment or handicap of a PBC. Physical activities **must** be tailored to the individual's age, condition and the ambient situation (heat, cold, rain, etc.).
- D. PBCs **must** be protected from the weather and not allowed to become dehydrated, overheated or chilled.
- E. The PBCs **should** be treated with equal indignity and respect.
- F. They **should** be referred to as PBC or Poor Blind Candidate, not pukes, assholes, scrotas, scum or other epithets.
- G. **No** slurs of a racial, ethnic or religious nature shall be used to a PBC. In addition, **no** PBC to be singled out for "special treatment" due to his race, creed, color or national origin. Everyone gets treated the same.
- H. Caustic or noxious substance, living or dead animals or mechanical or electrical devices inflicting pain **shall not** be applied to a PBC in any way.
- I. **No** acts shall be performed on or by a PBC of a homosexual nature or connotation, whether factual or simulated.
- J. PBCs **shall not** be forced to wear women's clothing or expose their private body parts to view.
- K. There **shall be no** penetration, however slight, of any bodily orifice of any PBC by any foreign object.
- L. In the interest of sanitation and the prevention of disease, PBCs **shall not** be asked to eat or drink anything from a common cup, container or bowl. (No bobbing for bananas, or passing a beer from one to another.)
- M. There **shall be no** physical contact between members and PBCs. PBCs should generally be kept separated from the membership.
- N. Songs sung by PBCs **should not** be vulgar or in poor taste. They **shall not** be sung in public.
- O. All items and/or substances used to decorate the PBCs **shall** be kept away from their eyes, and **must** be biodegradable and easily washed off.

## VI. INTERPRETATION

- A. The words "**shall**", "**will**", "**absolutely**", "**no**", and "**must**" are compulsory.
- B. The words "**should**" and "**may**" are suggestive and permissive.

## VI. ENFORCEMENT

- A. These rules are enforceable by all Proctors, Ex-Proctors and Grand Council Officers. They are empowered to stop any activity in violation thereof and/or cite the offending chapter and officers. Violations of these guidelines will be dealt with according to the severity of the violation.
- Minor violation may result in a verbal reprimand from a Proctor, Ex-Proctor or Grand Council Officer.
  - Continued minor violations will result in a written reprimand from the Sublime Noble Grand Humbug.
  - More severe violations will result in a written severe reprimand from the Sublime Noble Grand Humbug.
  - Very severe violations may result in chapter probation. A chapter on probation will be monitored by the Board of Proctors.
  - Repeated severe violations may result in the pulling of the charter and the dissolution of the chapter.
- A. Individual Clampers are subject to the same guidelines and enforcement as above. Chapters may choose to enforce the guidelines themselves upon members of their chapter. If the violation is by an individual Clamper, and the chapter sees no way to enforce the guidelines, the Board of Proctors will deal with that individual.