## **THE TOAST**



## **LOVING CUP COVID MODIFICATION**

The Covid modification is essentially the same as the normal ceremony except that the toast is given using the Toast Giver's personal wine glass filled by the Pages, as opposed to the communal wine chalice.

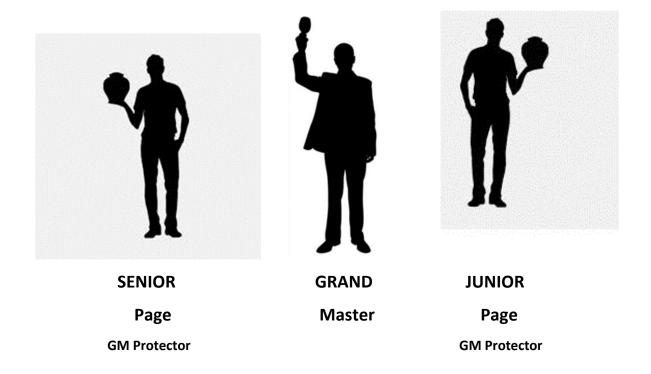
This is to protect any participants worried about cross infection.

## THE CEREMONY

The ceremony is as follows.

Grand Master stands holding the Grand Master's chalice containing champagne.

Senior and Junior Pages stand independently and slightly backward on the right and left sides of the Grand Master with their backs to the Grand Master, each holding a jug of champagne, acting as protectors.



Grand Master turns to the right to administer the Loving Cup toast, drinking from the Grand Master's chalice to the first person on their right. Page as Protector.

The Grand Master then turns to the left and administers the Loving Cup toast, again drinking from the Grand Master's chalice to the first person their left. Page as protector.

The Grand Master now returns to their seat taking with them the Grand Master's Chalice.

After both these first two toasts are administered by the Grand Master, the two Pages move synchronously right and left to fill the personal wine glasses of these first two Toast Receivers on the right and on the left of the Grand Master from their pre-filled champagne jugs or decanters.

These first two Toast Receivers now rotate in opposite directions as Toast Givers to give the toast to the person next to them.

The Pages take up a position independently at their backs to act as Protectors, for this toast only.

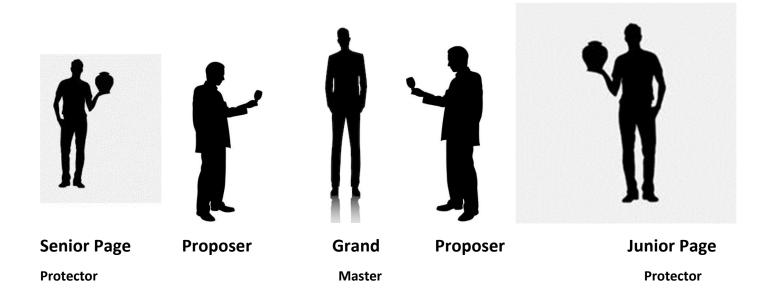
The toast procedure then proceeds in both directions to the next person in turn with the Pages following independently to fill the personal glasses with champagne of each participant as they become the next Toast Giver.

Each Toast Receiver after the toast in turn rotates to become the next Toast Giver and gives the toast to the person adjacent. At the same time the previous Toast Giver immediately rotates to turn their back to the new Toast Giver to act as Toast Protector.

The ceremony passes through the room with all acting both as Toast Receiver and Toast Giver.

The last Toast Receivers, with their personal glasses, and with the Pages with their champagne jugs, move to the Grand Master.

The Pages fill the personal glasses of the last Toast Receivers, who give the toast in unison to the Grand Master. Both Pages act as Protectors.



The Grand Master picks up the Grand Master's chalice that is filled from all the remaining champagne in the Pages' wine jugs.

The Grand Master toasts all Present. Pages as protectors.



"I drink to you all in the Bonds of true brotherhood in Delta Sigma Delta."

The Grand Master is now obliged to drink all that is present in the chalice and then invert the chalice over their head as a Sign of their good office.

European wine jugs



Peter Blenkinsopp 3.9.23





