

General Orient of North Carolina Restructure Information 2026

2026 Orient Teams

Chair appointed by SGIG/PR assigned to Team by SGIG/All Resources to each other

Membership Team	Thomas VanEtten, 32° KCCH (Rick Patton, 33°)
Disaster Relief Team (New)	TBA Incorporates Project 100 (Asa Buck, 33°)
Americanism Team	Tim Parker, 33° (Kirby Matthews 33°)
Masonic Youth Team (New)	John Walston, 32° KCCH (Russell Bridges, 33°) Includes Adult and Youth State Leaders
RiteCare Team	Alex Edmisten, 32° KCCH (Shaun Bradshaw, 33°)
Strategic Communications Team	Rita Daniels (Gilbert Bailey, 33°)
Development Team	Barry Deutsch, 32° KCCH (Earl Wells, 33°)
IGH/KCCH Teams (New)	Mike Daniels, 33°/Russell Rainier 33° (David Wicker, 33°)
Fundraising Review Team (New)	Michael Fischer, 33° (Jack Williams, 33°)
Orient Wide Newsletter Team	Craig Horton, 33° (Thomas Pope, 33°)
Historical Team	Ludwik Wodka, 33° (Gene Cobb, 33°)
Strategic Plan Team	Steve Pendergrass, 33° (Gene Cobb, 33°)
YouTube Channel Team (New)	Ashley Cooke, 32° KCCH (Gene Cobb, 33°)
NC Scottish Rite Masonic Foundation	Board of Directors (Gene Cobb, 33°)

Teams are in process of being selected. List due to SGIG by November 14, 2025 from Chair

Generalists: Direct Reporting to SGIG with or without Team/Committee

Legal Counsel	William Mills, 33°
Fundraising/Development Liaison	Jim Medlin, 33°, liaison
Compliance Generalist	Ranjan Varghese, 32° KCCH

What has not changed?

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1. The process of appointment of officers required by Statutes of the Supreme Council and/or Valley bylaws as approved by the SGIG.
2. The encouragement of creative ideas, member engagement, and ongoing successful programs
3. The emphasis in every Valley on all matters herein contained that are old and new.

What has changed?

1. The Orient will be organized into three Regions: East, Central, and West
2. The requirement of Three-Deep Leadership for all Orient Committees is no more. It only continues to apply to Personal Representatives, Secretaries, and Treasurers.
3. Chairs will convene Teams at least three times a year by Zoom to stay current, consistent, and correct.
4. The SGIG will be represented on each team by a Personal Representative who will
 - a. Make sure team meets regularly
 - b. Assist in coordination of Teams to resource each other
 - c. Advise the SGIG of needs from Valleys or the Team including adjustments to Strategic Plan
 - d. Ensure information is current, consistent, correct with Team and SGIG
 - e. NOT CHAIR or lead the meeting
5. Personal Representatives or Secretaries may request or be directed by the SGIG to include any one of the Orient Team members at an SGIG Advisory Conference or Stated Valley meeting that will result in more work for Personal Representatives and less for Secretaries.
6. Those initially assigned may also be considered for possible appointment as “Special Envoy” in **Project 100** and become the county representative in their home county.
7. All appointments are generally for two years and may be reappointed or changed at any time as mutually agreed upon or at the discretion of the SGIG.
8. ZOOM meetings with the SGIG will generally be on a Sunday nights in the format of Supreme Council meetings. Anyone with the link may sign on, listen, ask questions through the chat feature, or in advance of the meeting.
9. Orient Fund Raising for taxable and non-taxable events requires completing the form we supply with the signature of the Personal Representative, submitting it to the Orient Fund-Raising Committee for review and recommendation to the SGIG, who will, in turn, complete the form and return it to the Valley requesting the fundraising event.

10. The Orient Teams approach is to resource the Valleys as needed with the SGIG and Personal Representatives facilitating assistance as may be necessary.
11. Orient Leadership events will be open to all, unless otherwise directed by the SGIG.
12. Beginning in 2027, there will be an Orient Thirty-Third Degree Team and a Knight Commander Court of Honor Investiture Team.
13. Masonic Youth Committee includes state leaders from DeMolay and Rainbow.
14. The Orient Strategic Plan is a “working document.” The latest updated version is noted on page 1.

Why have these changes been initiated?

1. Our goal is to involve more people in what we do.
2. Our goal is to help those who want to help most be engaged and more familiar with best practices and current material of the Scottish Rite SJUSA.
3. Our goal is to build teams and connect better with people across the state.
4. Secretaries are overworked and underpaid.

What do we hope to achieve?

1. We hope our actions will reinstate, retain, and encourage growth in membership.
2. We hope our charitable endeavors “RiteCare, DeMolay, Rainbow, Disaster Relief, Subordinate Lodges, Valley, Orient, and Masonic Family ” will become familiar “household words” in North Carolina.
3. We hope to engage and be more accessible as Personal Representatives, as Team Chairs, and as SGIG with those who desire to serve and will dedicate themselves to it.
4. We hope to be more of a presence in every county in North Carolina and better prepared to aid and assist when needed or called upon.
5. We hope to lighten the load on our Secretaries and create a culture of working smarter, not harder.

How it all works

Phase 1

- An idea is presented in the Advisory Conference, to a Team or to the SGIG
- If the idea is local, once it clears the Advisory Conference or Orient Team, it passes to the SGIG
- The SGIG either approves it or sends it to the appropriate Team or Valley for review

- If revenue of any kind is involved, the Fundraising Review Team will weigh in and recommend “approve” or “not approve” to the SGIG, who will decide what’s next.
- A report back to the Advisory Conference or Orient Team will be made by PR, Generalist, or SGIG

Phase 2

- If the idea has approval of the Advisory Conference at this point, coordination of support is organized to move the idea forward with benchmarks for success.
- Strategic Communications and Plan Teams are advised of the idea of moving forward for publicity purposes using our platforms and changing our Plan if needed.
- If additional support is needed, the SGIG will work with the Secretary and PR to assign people of interest who can help the Valley accomplish its goals from those who completed the Interest
- Survey or are on the SGIG’s approved list.

Phase 3

- Idea becomes an activity to be carried out
- SGIG ensures Orient Team support where needed
- Activity is carried out with updates to the Personal Representative and/or SGIG
- Activity is evaluated, and results are, at a minimum, shared with the Valley and SGIG. If it is an Orient event, the results will be shared with the Orient.

Answers to these Questions are Mandatory

All should be done in Phase 1

1. If the project involves revenue, has the Fundraising Committee received the proper form from the Personal Representative, Orient Chair, or SGIG?
2. Has the project met and is it in compliance with all non-profit requirements? Grand Lodge? Supreme Council? State and Federal Law?
3. What is the timeline for the project?
4. If the project does not involve expenditure or raising additional revenue, is it covered in the budget? If budget funding is not an issue, what is the measure of success expected for the project?

RESTRUCTURE ROLES

Committee Chairs	To lead, address Strategic Plan issues, provide support to Valleys through team members, use Resources of Orient and Supreme Council, coordinate with other Orient Leaders for current, correct, and consistent work with Right/Rite heart.
Team Members:	To strengthen and support the Orient Leader in carrying out the Strategic Plan objectives and aid and assist the Valleys to do the same.
Personal Representative:	To be the eyes and ears of the SGIG and report necessary information that will support all Valleys and the Orient in accomplishing the objectives of the Strategic Plan OR other initiatives or directives approved by the Team AND the SGIG.

SGIG Vision for each Team in a Few Words

Membership Team	Engage, Retain, Find, Reinstate
Disaster Relief Team (New)	Connect in County. Assist when needed
Americanism Team	Honor this nation and those who serve it
Masonic Youth Team (New)	Support DeMolay and Rainbow
RiteCare Team	Adheres to the Mission Statement
Strategic Communications Teams	Current, Consistent, Correct Communication
Development Team	Philanthropy & Perpetuity for Charity and Valleys
IGH/KCCH Teams (New)	Excellence
Fundraising Review Team (New)	Review and Comply
Orient Wide Newsletter Team	Up to date news and opportunities
Historical Team	Composes the history of the NC Scottish Rite
Strategic Plan Tm	Review, Advise, Update, Communicate, Help
YouTube Channel Team	Increase of Video presence, stories, information

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Additional Team Members

Compliance Generalist	Reviews/Recommends Compliance matters with policies and procedures of the NCSRMF, Custodian of Forms, as directed by SGIG.
Fundraising/Development Liasion	Liaison between Fundraising Review Team and Development
Legal Counsel	Legal counsel as needed for NCSRMF/Orient
Secretary Treasurer NCSRMF	Serves NCSRMF Board of Directors and SGIG
Team Members, Valley or Orient	To aid and assist where appointed