



*A Guide for  
New Shrine Ladies*

Welcome to Rameses  
Shrine

2026

# For the Ladies of Rameses Shrine

## Introduction and Welcome

### **So, your husband has become a Shriner!**

He is already a Master Mason within the Masonic Fraternity - and now he has joined another organization you may know little or nothing about.

The Ladies of Rameses Shrine understand how you might be feeling and warmly welcome you. This booklet has been prepared to help you feel informed, comfortable, and confident as you become familiar with the Shrine and the important role it plays in your husband or partner's life. It is also intended to ensure you feel at ease attending any Shrine function that you choose to enjoy alongside your Shriner.

Many events - including social gatherings, parades, presentations, and fund-raising initiatives - are hosted by Rameses Shrine and other Shrine Centres, and Shriner Ladies are warmly encouraged to attend.

While you are never required to participate in any event, we know your partner would be very pleased if you did. As fellow Shriner Ladies, we encourage your involvement, as it provides a wonderful opportunity to understand why the Shrine fraternity holds such lasting importance for Master Masons. Participation also introduces you to a friendly community of like-minded women who value fellowship, service, and fun. As the partner of a Shriner, you will be known as Lady [Name] and recognized as a Shriner Lady.

We know your Shriner is a good man, and we are proud to have him as part of Rameses Shrine. Just as important, we recognize that you are his partner - and therefore an essential part of our Shrine family. You may be familiar with the saying, "Behind every good man is a good woman." We recognize and sincerely appreciate the commitment and sacrifices Shriners sometimes make in service to the fraternity and to the children it supports - commitments that would not be possible without the understanding and encouragement of their partners.

Our community includes Ladies who have been involved with Rameses Shriners for many years, as well as those who are newly joining us. All are happy to provide support, guidance, or assistance - now or in the future - should you have any questions. All you need to do is ask.

We invite you to read through this booklet and keep it handy for future reference. At Rameses Shrine, we are proud of our commitment to Shriner families, the values and initiatives of Shriners International, and above all, to the children and hospital system that unite Shriners across Canada and around the world. **Welcome!**

# Address and Contact Information

## Rameses Shriners

### Mailing Address:

124 Queens Plate Drive  
Toronto, ON Canada  
M9W 0B4

Website: <https://www.ramesesshriners.ca/>

**Facebook:** Rameses Shriners of Toronto (private group – request to join)

**Links** - International home site with links to hospitals

<http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/>

<http://www.shrinersinternational.org/>

For those considering becoming a Shriner

[www.beashrinernow.com](http://www.beashrinernow.com)

## What is a Shriner?

A Shriner is a man who professes a faith to a Supreme Being. As a man of faith, he uses the tools of moral and ethical truths to serve mankind.

A Shriner binds himself to like minded men in a Brotherhood that transcends all religious, ethical, social, cultural, and educational differences. In fellowship, with his brothers, a Shriner finds ways in which to serve his God, his family, his fellow man, and his country. A Shriner is dedicated. He recognizes his responsibility for justice, truth, charity, enlightenment, freedom and liberty, honesty, and integrity in all aspects of human endeavor.

## Mission of Shriners International

Be the premier fraternal organization for men of good character.

Provide attractive, quality programs and services for its members, their families and their friends in a spirit of fun, fellowship and social camaraderie. Foster self improvement through leadership, education, the perpetuation of moral values and community involvement.

Serve mankind through the resources of its Philanthropy, Shriners Hospitals for Children.

## For the Ladies - What do I wear? Where do I stand? What do I say?

### Formal Events (Balls, Ceremonials, Special Events)

These are often semi-formal or formal. Long dresses or elegant cocktail attire are common. Expect formal introductions of officers and their spouses. Applaud when officers and ladies are recognized. Stand for Anthem(s), stay seated for allegiance and toasts.

### Special Dinners, Installations, and Club Level Dinners

“Sunday best” or business casual is usually acceptable.

### Fundraising and Casual Events (hospitality suite, informal gatherings prior to special events)

Casual dress is acceptable. Ladies of the Divan or Appointed Divan will usually be dressed similar outfits to each other and have name tags. If you have questions about where you should be or what you should be doing, or just need someone to chat with, feel free to approach these ladies.

### Dress Code Guidelines

Remember Ladies, *this is only a guideline* as Dress Code means different things in different parts of Shriners International. Typically, the Dress Code will be included with the invitation to an event. **Avoid wearing anything that resembles Masonic or Shrine regalia.** Only members/ Nobels wear fezzes or emblems (Shrine related pins may be an exception).

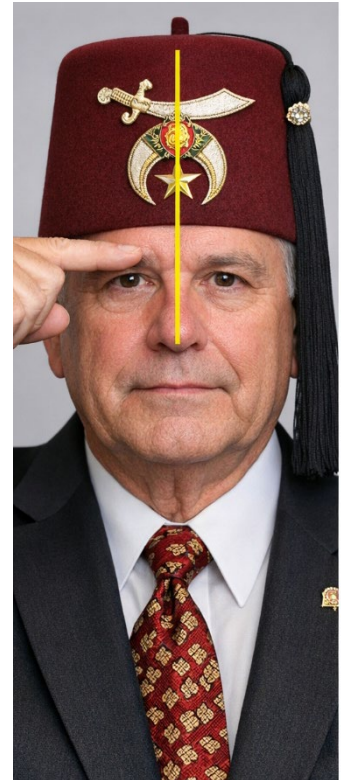
Event	Ladies	Nobles
<b>Formal (Balls, Ceremonials, Special Events)</b>	Long or formal dress	Black Tux or Club Suit if approved
<b>Cocktail</b>	Cocktail dress or evening pants with dressy top	Suit, Dress Shirt, Tie
<b>Dinner Attire, Special Dinners, and Club Level Dinners</b>	Nice dress or pant suit, business casual	Suit, Sport Coat, Tie
<b>Casual, Summer Dress</b>	Slacks, capris or shorts and casual shirt	Slack, shorts, casual shirt
<b>Parade Attire</b>	Shorts, capris, jeans with casual shirt	Club/unit decision
<b>Fundraising and Casual Events (hospitality suite, informal gatherings prior to special events)</b>	Casual dress is acceptable. Ladies of the Divan or Appointed Divan will usually wear similar outfits and have name tags.	

## Support "Fez Etiquette"

In Shriners International culture, a "fezzing" (often performed by a spouse) is a significant moment of pride. Ensuring he looks sharp is a team effort - here is your guide to getting it perfect as possible. You will likely be asked to fez your man during his initial joining events. It is also important to remember that, at times, you may be his mirror when going to other special events or ceremonies.

### The "Golden Rule" of Alignment

- **The Nose Check:** The emblem (scimitar and sphinx) must be perfectly centered. A common trick is to align the center star of the emblem directly with the bridge of his nose.
- **The Level Top:** The top of the fez must be level, not tilted. It should look "square" on his head rather than leaning back like a casual cap.
- **The "One-Finger" Gap:** For the most professional look, the bottom brim should sit exactly one finger-width above his eyebrows with no hair visible in the front.



### Managing the Tassel

- **Placement:** The tassel should hang down the side (typically their left) and move freely. Before he walks out, ensure the strands are straight and not caught in the emblem or his collar.
- **Pinning:** A maximum of two pins or clasps may be used to secure the tassel. These should be official tassel pins; the fez is not a "bulletin board," so avoid adding extra flair or non-sanctioned pins.

**Handling with Care:** Never crush or crease the felt. If you are helping him pack for an event, ensure it is stored upright in its case.

**Social Protocol:** Men are to remove the fez during a prayer and hold it over his heart with the temple name showing. During the national anthem, he keeps it on and salutes.

## Meetings and Events Etiquette

### Shrine Pledge of Allegiance

*"I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the country for which it stands; one nation under God; indivisible; with liberty and justice for all."*

When this pledge is used in Canada, Shriners salute and the ladies remain seated.

## National Anthems

Shriners and their Ladies should show respect for all the flags and anthems. Canadian women should stand and sing the Canadian National Anthem (O Canada.) For other countries' anthems, they should stand with hands respectfully at their sides (or sing).

### O Canada

O Canada! Our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all of us command.  
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,  
The True North strong and free!  
From far and wide, O Canada,  
We stand on guard for thee.  
God keep our land glorious and free!  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

### The Star-Spangled Banner

O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

**“God Save the King”** when used, should be sung by all when standing. If a toast is proposed to His Majesty the King, all should rise and respond with “the King”.

## **God Save the King** (standard version)

God save our gracious King!

Long live our noble King!

God save the King!

Send him victorious,

Happy and glorious,

Long to reign over us,

God save the King!

O Lord, our God, arise,

Scatter his enemies,

And make them fall:

Confound their politics,

Frustrate their knavish tricks,

On thee our hopes we fix:

God save us all!

Thy choicest gifts in store,

On him be pleased to pour,

Long may he reign:

May he defend our laws,

And ever give us cause,

To sing with heart and voice,

God save the King!

## Invocation and Prayers

At most banquets and meals, the Chaplain or a designee gives an invocation or blessing, and prayers are offered at meetings or memorial services. Shriners stand, remove their Fez, hold it over their hearts, bow their heads, and respond with “So mote it be.” Ladies also stand, bow their heads, and reply with “Amen.”

## Leadership Structure

Shrine leadership positions have, for the newcomer, odd sounding titles. In addition, some positions are elected and some are appointed. Appointments are made by the elected Potentate. The group term for these Nobles is “Divan”.

**Potentate** – This is, essentially, the President of the Shrine Temple. It is an elected position. The Nobles vote annually for the choice of Potentate.

**Chief Rabban** – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. As with the Potentate, this is also an elected position. It is expected that the Chief Rabban will be elected to the position of Potentate the following year.

**Assistant Rabban** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. This is also an elected position. It is expected that this Assistant Rabban will be elected to the position of Chief Rabban the following year.

**High Priest and Profit** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President. Another elected position. It is expected that the High Priest and Prophet will, the following year, be elected to the position of the Assistant Rabban.

**Oriental Guide** – 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President – Yet another elected position. It is expected that the Oriental Guide will, the following year, be elected to the position of the High Priest and Prophet.

Officers appointed annually by the Potentate include: First Ceremonial Master, Second Ceremonial Master, Marshal, Captain of the Guard, Outer Guard and Chaplain.

**Two other elected and critical positions are:**

**Treasurer** – The Noble who keeps the records of all the monies of Rameses Shriners

**Recorder** – The Secretary and Office Manager

**Temple** – Refers to the building where Rameses Shriners headquarters are located in Toronto. It is an old term and does not mean a place of worship or have reference to any religion.

The members of the Divan explained above are listed on the Rameses website along with their contact information.

Nobility is highly encouraged to join at least one Club and Unit. Units and Clubs are essential to Shriners, providing members with meetings, interactions with others and defined social activities. There is a large variety of Units and Clubs of Rameses, each dedicated to the Fraternity and under the jurisdiction of the Potentate. These organizations are composed of men who share a passion, enthusiasm and/or hobbies. Many have Ladies attending the regular meetings or offer activities for Ladies when they meet. With such a wide array of Units and Clubs offered at Rameses the list below.

Some Units have international affiliations and therefore, have their own conventions. Some occur during the Imperial Session.

Imperial bylaws restrict ladies from being in a Shrine parade. In Civic parades, Nobles, their Ladies and children may participate with the approval of the Potentate, so long as their Ladies and children participate only as passengers in non-performing, non-competing vehicles with no less than 4 wheels. HOWEVER, Ladies and families are encouraged to attend the parades, whenever possible. It's fun and show your support of the Nobles and the Shrine.

**Rameses Clubs and Units:**

- Algonquin Shrine Club
- Belleville & District Shrine Club
- Credit Valley Shrine Club
- El Shamaly Shrine Club
- Guelph District Shrine Club
- Kawartha Shrine Club
- Kingston District Shrine Club
- Lakeshore Shrine Club
- Manito Shrine Club
- Midland District Shrine Club
- Mississauga Shrine Club
- Muskoka Shrine Club
- Newbeaver Shrine Club
- Niagara Shrine Club

- Northland Shrine Club
- Oakville Shrine Club
- Orillia Shrine Club
- Oshawa and District Shrine Club
- Peel Shrine Club
- Rameses Divan
- Ramoca Shrine Club
- Rorab Shrine Club
- Port Colborne/Welland & District Shrine Club
- Sheba Shrine Club
- Shriners Club of Hamilton
- St. Catharines & District Shrine Club
- Sudbury Shrine Club
- Tecumseh Shrine Club
- Timmins & District Shrine Club
- Trent Valley Shrine Club
- Viking Shrine Club
- Waubuno Shrine Club

## Terms, Activities and Events Common to the Shrine

**Crescent & Scimitar** – the older Shrine emblem

**Fez** – the red head gear worn by the Shriners and new emblem

**Hospitals** – Shriners international has 22 hospitals to help children with orthopedic, spinal column, cleft lip and palate, and burn needs.

**Illustrious Sir** – the correct title of the present and past Potentates of a Temple

**Imperial Divan** – the governing body of Shriners International

**Imperial Sir** – title given to an officer of the Imperial Divan

**Lady** – spouse of female friend of a Shriner

**Masonic** – every Shriner must be a member of this Fraternity

**Noble** – the title each Shriner is addressed by

**Stated Meeting** – the regular business meeting of the temple

**Shriners Hospitals for Children** – the organization that runs the hospital system (You may sometimes hear it referred to as the *Colorado* Corporation, especially at Imperial Sessions)

**Shriners International** – the organization that runs the Fraternity (You may sometimes hear it referred to as the *Iowa* Corporation, especially at Imperial Sessions)

# Am I expected to join something?

## Women and Shriners

Alongside most Shriners is a strong woman. While it's true that women aren't eligible to join the Shriners fraternity, there are several organizations for women that support the fraternity and the philanthropy, Shriners Hospitals for Children. In most cases, these organizations are open to the wives, widows, daughters, granddaughters, sisters and nieces of Shriners. They include Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, Daughters of the Nile, and Order of the Eastern Star.

**Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America** (<https://ladiesshrine.org/>) was founded in 1903 for the purpose of extending good fellowship among families of Shriners. The ladies extend financial support and assistance to Shriners Hospitals with an emphasis on the hospital fund, hospital sewing and special projects. Bokhara Court No. 22 was officially instituted on November 30, 1925, a local chapter of the Ladies' Oriental Shrine of North America (LOSNA) located in Toronto, Ontario. It is one of many "Courts" across North America dedicated to fellowship, sociability, and supporting Shriners Children's hospitals. Membership is open to women aged 18 and older. While traditionally for relatives of Shriners or Masons, LOSNA has expanded to be more inclusive of those without a Masonic connection who share their philanthropic interests. Unlike some other organizations, LOSNA is a separate and distinct Order, not an auxiliary to Shriners International. The top local officer is the High Priestess.

**Daughters of the Nile Daughters of the Nile, Oronto Temple No. 69** (<https://orontotemple69.com/>) - a welcoming community of women committed to personal growth, meaningful friendship, and charitable service. Founded in 1913 and active internationally across Canada, the United States, and Brazil, Daughters of the Nile brings women together for fellowship, learning, and leadership while supporting an important cause. Since 1924, our members have proudly supported **Shriners Children's™** through dedicated fundraising and volunteer efforts via the Daughters of the Nile Foundation and the Canadian Foundation, contributing more than **\$70 million** to children's health care. Membership offers the opportunity to build lasting friendships, participate in enriching activities and traditions, and make a tangible difference—locally, nationally, and internationally—while being part of a values-based organization grounded in service, integrity, and sisterhood.

**The Order of the Eastern Star in Ontario** is a long-standing fraternal and charitable organization that brings together women - and men - who share a commitment to service, fellowship, and personal growth. Rooted in Masonic values, Eastern Star is open to women

with qualifying Masonic connections and requires a belief in a Supreme Being, while fully respecting individual faiths. Across Ontario, local Chapters provide opportunities for friendship, leadership, community involvement, and charitable fundraising that supports both local causes and broader philanthropic initiatives. To learn more about membership, Chapters near you, and upcoming events, visit the **Grand Chapter of Ontario, Order of the Eastern Star** website at <https://www.ontariooes.ca/> [[ontariooes.ca](https://www.ontariooes.ca/)]