

As many of you may not be aware, I received guidance from the Grand Lodge yesterday in regards to how they “recommend” how the local Lodges should be operating. I disagree with their recommendations as it does not seem to be in a vein of practicing safety at this time. I sent the following letter back to Grand Lodge and I ask that you do what is necessary to keep all of your members safe.

To Grand Lodge,

I am sorry to say but I find this somewhat misguided information. We are asking our local Lodges to do what the CDC is asking people not to do at this time. We are sending the message that it is ok to have your “club” open to members only, so in medium size and up Lodges we are ok to congregate with a crowd. But then we state to maybe follow the 10 person rule.

We say to have meetings, 9 officers in a room, everyone else sitting outside in groups of no more than 10, allow them to come in and speak individually and vote the same way. This could end up being a lengthy meeting. We are also needing people to be 6’ apart which was nowhere in these recommendations. Very dangerous asking Lodges to try and manage 25 people and up for meetings not to mention they cannot hear outside many lodge rooms to begin with.

The DD clinics will well exceed the 10 person rule as the 4 required from each Lodge, the speakers and guest all in the same room. Very dangerous suggestion to say the least.

I am sorry I sound negative but we have a lot of older people in our organization and I truly believe we are sending the wrong message here and we are breaking many CDC recommendations to control the spread. I as a State President in good conscience cannot ask our Lodges and members put themselves at unwarranted risk.

Thank You,
Bruce Hayden
President - Georgia Elks Association
Cell [229-560-5859](tel:229-560-5859)