

# **RULES and REGULATIONS**

## **Laurel Hill Cemetery Association**

### **I. GENERAL RULES and REGULATIONS**

#### Section 1.

Grave spaces shall be used only for the purpose of placing human remains. The lot owners or their heirs shall have the responsibility of erecting headstones or flat markers. All care and upkeep of the headstones and markers are the responsibility of the record lot owners or their heirs.

#### Section 2.

No trees, shrubs, hedges or ivy shall be planted in any section of a lot.

#### Section 3.

All artificial floral pieces when faded, dead flowers and plants, or temporary containers must be removed by the lot owners no later than March 31 or will be removed by the Association.

#### Section 4.

The decorations at the graves must be placed or planted within twelve (12) inches of the front and eight (8) inches of the sides of the headstone or flat marker. Any decorations or plantings beyond 12 inches of the headstone will be removed and/or mowed. No decorations or plants may be placed or planted on the rear side of the headstone or marker.

#### Section 5.

The decorations at the graves cannot encroach on another lot and cannot be items that may blow away.

#### Section 6.

In making excavations, the Cemetery reserves the right to temporarily use the adjoining lot or lots to receive tools and necessary equipment.

#### Section 7.

The Association reserves the right to remove or reset fallen monuments, and to repair those in a dangerous and/or unsafe condition. All such improvements will be at the expense of the lot owners or heirs.

#### Section 8.

All-terrain vehicles, mini-bikes, and motor bikes are prohibited within the Cemetery grounds.

#### Section 9.

No alcohol or illegal drugs are permitted within the Cemetery grounds.

#### Section 10.

All legal street vehicles shall be restricted to the roads and/or parking areas. The speed limit for said vehicles will not be more than 10 miles per hour.

## II. LOT ASSIGNMENT AND LOT TRANSFER

### Section 1.

Only person(s) listed as owner or issued an Association Certificate of Ownership have the right to assign to an heir or assignee. A Cemetery lot owner(s) may assign a lot or portion of a lot to another person or persons by providing the original Certificate of Ownership to the Association and/or by requesting approval in writing from the Association. The letter must be signed by all persons listed as owners on the original Certificate of Ownership. If the lot or portion of lot was previously assigned by the owner, surviving assignees must also sign the letter.

If owners of the original Certificate of Ownership are deceased, heirs and/or assignees of the original owner may assign a lot or portion of a lot to another person or persons by providing the original Certificate of Ownership to the Association and requesting approval in writing from the Association. The letter must be signed by all heirs and/or assignees of the original owners of the Certificate of Ownership. In the absence of the original Certificate of Ownership, the letter must state that the Certificate of Ownership was lost.

Upon receipt of the original Certificate of Ownership and/or approval of the lot assignment change request letter, the Association Secretary will issue a letter of approval to the requester(s). The original owner of the Certificate of Ownership (or if they are deceased, their heirs and/or assignees) shall retain the right to assign and must approve all assignment changes. The owner of a Certificate of Ownership may request a transfer of a lot to a new owner.

### Section 2.

Cemetery lot owners may transfer a lot or portion of a lot to another person or persons by returning the original Certificate of Ownership to the Association and requesting approval in writing from the Association. The letter must be signed by all persons listed as owners on the original Certificate of Ownership and by any assignees of the lot or portion of the lot the owner wishes to transfer.

If owners of the original Certificate of Ownership are deceased, heirs and/or assignees of the owner listed on the Certificate of Ownership may request a transfer by returning the original Certificate of Ownership and requesting approval in writing from the Association. The letter must be signed by all heirs and/or assignees of the original owners of the Certificate of Ownership.

In the absence of the original Certificate of Ownership, the letter must state that the Certificate of Ownership was lost.

Upon receipt of the original Certificate of Ownership and approval of the lot transfer request letter, the Association will issue a new Certificate of Ownership to the new owner.

Once a transfer is approved by the Association and a new Certificate of Ownership is issued, only the new owner(s) or their heirs have the right of assignment and transfer.

Section 3.

The Association will not repurchase a lot or portion of a lot from a lot owner or heirs and/or assignees of the owner.

Section 4.

The Association will allow the resale of Cemetery lots or portion of lots by lot owners or their heirs and/or assignees, but must be approved by the Association. Lots shall not be sold for greater than the prevailing rate.

Section 5.

Abandonment of any Cemetery lot by the lot holder, as determined by the Trustees, shall constitute a reversion of the ownership thereof to the Association.

### III. BURIAL REGULATIONS

Section 1.

Burial in the Cemetery shall be limited to human remains or cremated remains.

Section 2.

The remains of no more than one person may be interred in any one grave space, except in the case of the burial of cremated remains.

In the case of burial of cremated remains, the following shall be allowed:

1. a maximum of one set of human remains and two sets of human cremated remains per grave;
- OR
2. up to three sets of human cremated remains per grave.

Section 3.

A burial vault for human remains or a crush-proof receptacle for cremated remains must be used in all burials.

Section 4.

Only one (1) upright headstone or above ground marker shall be placed over one grave space. All flat markers must be level with the ground, so as to not interfere with grass mowers.

All headstones and above ground markers must be in alignment with other headstones in the row.

Cement foundations for all headstones shall not be less than twenty-four (24) inches deep and be erected by a monument contractor.

Cement foundations for all attached bronze flat markers shall not be less than four (4) inches deep with an additional four (4) inches of stone beneath the foundation and be erected by a monument contractor.



Section 5.

Containers used for cremated remains must be approved for direct burial. The container must be buried at least eighteen (18) inches deep. Cremated remains must be buried by authorized representatives of the Association.

Section 6.

Grave owners shall pay the established charges for digging, opening and closing the graves directly to a Trustee of the Cemetery Association at the time or prior to the burial. The Association will then perform, or have performed, the aforementioned work. In a situation where the Trustees are given less than 24-hours' notice of a burial, the Association shall charge a higher rate for the burial according to the current fee schedule.

Section 7.

The Association is not responsible for any burial expenses including, but not limited to, the expense of snow removal from driveways and walkways.

Section 8.

Disinterment must be coordinated by a local funeral director and must be conducted according to State and Local regulations. A permit is required from a Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Vital Records Registrar.

#### **IV. AUTHORITY**

Section 1.

These rules shall be made available to all existing and prospective grave owners and to all owners of a Certificate of Ownership at the time the signed Certificate of Ownership is given to the grave owner. By accepting the Certificate of Ownership, the owner agrees to accept and be bound by these Rules and Regulations, and all future Rules and Regulations adopted by the Association.

#### **V. AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Section 1.

The Rules and Regulations of this Association may be amended or added to by the Cemetery Association by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board of Trustees at a special meeting called for that purpose, provided that at least two week's notice of the meeting shall have been given.

Section 2.

Any amendment or addition to these Rules and Regulations shall be proposed by resolution in writing.

Adopted October 18, 2023

Ronald Koch, President

Robert Edwards, Vice-President

Paul C. Nequise, Secretary

Elaine Edwards, Treasurer