



Zoroastrian Association of North Texas

OPERATING POLICIES FOR THE ZOROASTRIAN CENTER OF NORTH TEXAS

Objective: To set forth Operating Policies for the Zoroastrian Center of North Texas (ZCNT) so that the facility can be effectively used.

For the purpose of this document the Zoroastrian Center of North Texas will be called the ZANT Center or Facility.

A current copy of the Operating Policies outlined in this document will be posted in the ZANT Center.

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The ZANT Board will make rules on facility administration as per Article 7.3 of the *Operating Rules for the ZANT Building Fund and ZANT Center*. These rules will include, but are not limited to, day to day administration, facility access, rental rules and rental rates. These rules will be listed under the *Operating Guidelines for Usage of the Zoroastrian Center of North Texas*.
- 1.2 All ZANT sponsored activities, religious, cultural or social, will be conducted at the discretion of the ZANT Board. The ZANT Board will have the sole authority to invite and permit participants representing ZANT, in these events. This includes but is not limited to, speakers, participants in cultural or entertainment programs and those performing religious ceremonies or leading prayer sessions. This policy applies to all ZANT events, regardless of the location of the event.
- 1.3 Post-funeral Zarathushti ceremonies up to chahuruam (4-day ceremonies) or porseh may be held in the ZANT Center at no rental cost, as long as the designated areas have not been rented out or there is no scheduled ZANT activity during those hours. The Board will have the discretion to utilize the Prayer Room if the facility is being used.
- 1.4 There will be no smoking on the entire property, including exterior locations.
- 1.5 Firearms, weapons and ammunition may not be carried onto the ZANT Center property except by police and other law enforcement officials.

2. PRAYER ROOM & KUSTI AREA

- 2.1 The entire Zoroastrian Center of North Texas, including areas set aside for prayers and ritual procedures shall be open to all persons who show interest in, and respect for the Zoroastrian religion, without exception, and regardless of initiation, sex or ethnicity. This is per article 4 of the *Operating Rules for the ZANT Building Fund and ZANT Center*.
- 2.2 The main fire in the prayer room ("Afargaan") may be lit by an ervad, mobed, mobedyar, or a responsible Zoroastrian adult, who treats the fire with the appropriate reverence and

observes the principles of Zoroastrianism for kindling the fire, and also bears the responsibility for handling the fire in a safe and proper manner.

- 2.3 The prayer room and kusti areas will only be available for Zarathushti prayers and rituals.
- 2.4 Religious ceremonies will be conducted in the areas designated by the ZANT Board.
- 2.5 No food or drinks may be consumed in the prayer room.
- 2.6 Footwear should be removed and heads covered before entering the prayer room.
- 2.7 The prayer room wing is a sanctuary, to be treated with appropriate respect and decorum.

3. RENTAL

- 3.1 The prayer room, kusti area and library will not be available for rent.
- 3.2 Reservation of the ZANT Center will be on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference to ZANT members.
- 3.3 The ZANT Board has the sole discretion to approve or deny any reservations.
- 3.4 A renter may not sub-lease, assign or give permission to a third party to use the ZANT Center.
- 3.5 There will be a signed rental contract between ZANT and the renter for every rental.
- 3.6 Rental rates and security deposit will be established by the ZANT Board as necessary and are subject to change without notice. All changes will be communicated to ZANT members through the ZANT Newsletter, ZANT Website or E-News.

4. AMENDMENTS\CHANGES

- 4.1 Amendments (changes) to this document can be made by following the procedure in Articles 9.01, 9.02 and 9.03 of the *ZANT By-laws*.

5. ADDENDA\ADDITIONS

- 5.1 Addenda (additions) to this document can be approved at a General Body Meeting by a simple majority of votes received. Voting shall be by secret ballot. Absentee voting shall be permitted. However, voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
- 5.2 The Board of Directors shall inform all voting members of the proposed addenda (additions), at least 15 days before the General Body meeting.

CHANGE LOG

Document Version	Changes	Date Approved	Approved By and Place
September 24, 2011	Initial Document		