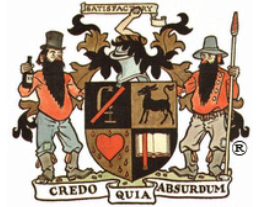




E Clampus Vitus®



The Grand Council and Board of Proctors FAQ's!

In our Ancient and Honorable Order there are many misconceptions and inaccurate perceptions about Grand Council, the Board of Proctors, and the Sublime Officers. Below are some frequently asked questions and answers to help navigate and understand these aspects of our organization.

1. Q: Are the Proctors the same as Grand Council?

A: Yes and No. All current Humbugs and XNGH's including the Proctors make up the Grand Council of E Clampus Vitus®. To speak poorly of Grand Council is to speak poorly of all current Humbug's and XNGH's. The Board of Proctors consists of 15 members of Grand Council.

2. Q: Do the Proctors get paid?

A: No. All proctors serve in a volunteer position to the organization.

3. Q: How are Proctors selected?

A: Each year the Sublime Noble Grand Humbug selects a Proctor Nomination Committee. No Proctors serving on the board at any given time can be from the same home chapter, and potential proctors must be XNGH's. The committee is selected to assist in the selection process. Any chapter can submit a potential candidate for a Proctor position, and the submission form can be found on the Proctors page of the Grand Council website. Many brothers from across Clamperdom are looked at as being a potential Proctor for their attitude, business savvy, and leadership qualities. Geographic location is also taken into consideration. The Sublime and his Nomination Committee discuss the candidates, and the SNGH makes the ultimate decision as to who is selected. So there is a review and selection process.

4. Q: Why aren't Proctors voted in?

A: As with any business or corporation, a board is established and leadership roles are defined. The leaders and board members are appointed, not voted on, just as you would not vote for the CEO of the corporation you work for. The purpose of the Board of Proctors is to preserve and protect our order. The men selected to serve should be business savvy and when faced with difficult decisions, they should be able to make those decisions based on what is best for the order, putting personal feelings or opinions aside. While some very popular brother's may get voted in if there was a voting process, it's been experienced time and time again by many chapters that the most popular brother or brother with the loudest voice doesn't always make the best decision maker or leader. And despite some perceptions many a good brother has turned down a Proctor nomination. (Please see the Potential Proctor Application at the bottom of the Proctors page for more information.)

5. Q: Why can't chapters run themselves?

A: All chapters of E Clampus Vitus® are individual corporations with their own unique culture, and choose to maintain association with E Clampus Vitus® through the paying of annual dues, providing proof of liability insurance, and submitting an annual statistical report to ECV® Inc., to maintain their charter. (Maintaining an active charter is also what grants the chapter the rights to use the registered and trademarked signs and symbols of the organization) Each chapter is encouraged to handle chapter business and discipline on the chapter level. It is a misconception that the Board of Proctors dictates how individual chapters are run. The Board of Proctors should only get involved in chapter business if requested by the board of the chapter, or if a Proctor observes something that may be detrimental to the chapter itself or the order. (See question 8 note below) Most often situations are brought to the attention of the Proctor for assistance or guidance. The Proctors are not out to dictate how individual chapters are run. In 2013, the Board of Proctors established a Liaison Policy by which each chapter is designated a liaison from the Board of Proctors to assist with questions or provide advice. The chapter can use the advice or not; it's up to them. Additionally, a chapter may choose to dissolve and forfeit their charter with ECV Inc., or a charter can be revoked for cause. (Please note, no one wants a charter of any chapter revoked for any reason. If a charter is forfeited or revoked, all members of that chapter are still recognized members of ECV®, and all Humbugs that served while the charter was active are recognized as XNGH's. Chapter charters and individual memberships are separate.)

6. Q: Who/how can my red shirt get pulled?

A: Any chapter's board may make the decision to revoke the membership of any member at any time based on the bylaws or decision of the board of that respective chapter. That only revokes their membership in that specific chapter. It is the responsibility of the chapter to send any recommendations for membership revocation beyond the chapter to all of E Clampus Vitus®, to the Board of Proctors to review. (This does not mean their membership in E Clampus Vitus® will be revoked) The Board of Proctors will always prefer member punishment be handled at the chapter level. In some instances, a member's membership in ECV® may be reviewed by the Board of Proctors without a request by the member's chapter. Those are unique situations that present themselves and force the board to take those actions. Membership status being revoked is not taken lightly.

7. Q: If chapters aren't being run by the Proctors, why do we have to have liability insurance?

A: All organizations have to preserve and protect themselves from liability. It is the reality of the world we live in today and the standard for any organization. All recognized chapters are recognized as being part of E Clampus Vitus® as an organization, so the liability insurance is required to protect you, your chapter, and the organization.

8. Q: Why can't we run our initiation the way we want to? Why do we need PBC Rules of Initiation? Why do Proctors stop initiations?

A: Again, this falls under preserving and protecting each other, our chapters, and our organization from legal liability, as well as being respectful of your future brothers. All chapters have their own unique pre initiation culture. **The only recognized Ritual of Initiation of E Clampus Vitus® is the Hall of Comparative Ovarions (H.O.C.O.).** Additionally, the pre initiation and initiation ritual do not make a man a Clamper. A Clamper is a man who you as a brother have decided to invite into our organization. This should be a man who loves history and will work to preserve it, a man who loves a bit of Western lore, and a man who is willing to protect the Widder's and Orphans of his community and is respectful to his brethren and our organization. Simply put, the initiation or pre initiation rituals do not make a man a Clamper. The PBC's rules have been put in place to give our organization guidance as to how prospective members should be treated when becoming a member. Humility does not mean disrespect or harm. **SAFTEY** should always be first and foremost at an initiation, and it is each and every member's duty to protect his soon to be brothers from possible harm to his health and our organization from liability that could harm us all. **The Proctors are not there to dictate or manage a chapter's pre initiation ritual.** It is the chapter, and each officer of that chapter's duty to ensure they are providing a safe environment for poor blind candidates.

Note: If a Proctor is present, and witnesses an event or situation that does not follow guidelines to ensure the safety of the participants and puts an individual or the organization at risk, **the Proctor does have the ability to request the chapter stop the activities, and/or suspend the chapter's charter on site due to liability risk and concern if they do not wish to comply.** The situation will then be reviewed by the Board of Proctors to assess how to best proceed working collaboratively with the chapter towards the best possible outcome.

9. Q: Why does each chapter pay dues to Grand Council and how much is it?

A: The annual dues for each chapter of Grand Council is \$150.00. Please note that chapter dues to Grand Council are part of maintaining a chapter charter of E Clampus Vitus®. While these funds are managed by the Board of Proctors, they do not go to the Proctors! Any funds raised for or by Grand Council other than the annual dues are by donation of the chapter or a member as an individual. No other fee or dues are required by chapters other than the \$150.00 annual dues. These dues are used to cover the cost of maintaining the organizational archives and databases, mailings to chapters and Grand Council members, and costs associated with hosting the annual Grand Council meetings in Sonora.

10. Q: What chapters are recognized by E Clampus Vitus®?

A: Please check the Chapters page on the E Clampus Vitus® Inc. website for a list of all current and recognized chapters and outposts of E Clampus Vitus®.