

LIONS INDUCTION CEREMONY (Preamble for Inducting Officer)

(Produced from various sources by Lion C.W."Gus" Este, PDG)

The induction of a new member into a local Lions Club is the beginning of his/her membership development. In order to lend dignity and importance to the induction ceremony it should be performed by a well-respected Lion, either from within the club or from the Zone, Region and District. Be sure to gather all of the pertinent details, especially names, before starting. Some historical data is provided below, however, the official history, Code of Ethics and the Lions Purposes can be obtained from any Club Secretary or downloaded and printed from the Internet. It is wise to choose a long-serving member to give a brief rendition of the Club's history. The Induction is best performed as a Candle Ceremony with six candles, but this is optional. The plural pronoun has been used -each Inductor should adjust the script to use the he / she pronouns as is appropriate.

Lionism began in June, 1917, when a young Chicago insurance agent, Melvin Jones, presented to a group of separate business clubs the idea of consolidating the individual clubs into one strong influential club with the goal of helping the community and serving humanity without regard to politics, religion, race, or in any way the personal interests of the members.

The Lions are members of the largest service-oriented group of Clubs under an International organization, where each member enjoys fellowship, develops leadership capacity and dedicates part of their free time to help those in need in their own community first, but also in the rest of the world.

The members that we will be inducting tonight have been invited to join the over 1.3 million Lions in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the world who support the Lions Motto: "WE SERVE."

Good evening fellow Lions and guests!

We are about to begin the induction ceremony that will welcome our new members to the fellowship of the Lions Club of _____.

This is an important occasion, for the new members and the club. Will the sponsors of these new members please escort them forward.

(Read out Names)

Light first candle.

Lion _____ will now read the Lions Club Objects!

Light second candle

Lion _____ will give a brief history of Lions Clubs International. *(Separate sheet)*

Light third candle

Lion _____ will give a brief history of the _____
Lions club. (chosen *Lion*)

You were not asked to join the Lions Club simply by chance. In fact, another Lions member, prior to recommending you as a prospective member to the Board of Directors, identified your sense of community responsibility and your desire to work towards making your community a better place for our families to live. Your commitment of your time, energy and talent, together with other members of your community, will ensure that these goals are achieved.

Light fourth candle

Origins (*Use banner & attached info sheet*)

Light fifth candle

Lion _____ will read the 'Lions Club Ethics'

Lion _____ has the proper screening and indoctrination has been carried out for these prospective members.

(*Secretary or membership chairman*)

Will all Lions please rise.

Light sixth candle

Since you have expressed a desire to affiliate with this club and with Lions Clubs International, I now ask that you respond to my words with a simple "I do" or "I will".

Do you hereby accept membership in the Lions club of knowing that such membership obligates you to participate in all functions of the club?

--I do--

To the best of your ability, will you abide by the Lions Code of Ethics, attend meetings regularly, accept such assignments as are given you and contribute your share to the programs of your club, district and Lions Clubs International.

--I will--

You are now members of the _____ Lions club. Your sponsor will now place upon your left lapels the Lions emblem which signifies membership.

Sponsors pin buttons on left lapel

Now I would like to ask the sponsors to respond to my words with a simple 'I will'.

Will you fulfill the following obligations to your new member?

- Make them feel welcome by introducing them to all Club members;
- Provide them with information about the club, its officers and constitution;
- See to it that officers provide them with assignments, which will enable them to immediately become an active Lion;
- Arrange for Orientation Sessions on Lionism;
- Be ready to answer any questions they might have on the operation of the Club, as well as on any other subject of Lionism;
- Encourage them to let you know of any existing problems and offer possible solutions; and
- Assist them in developing into an outstanding Lion.

Fellow Lions wear that emblem constantly, with pride. Let me congratulate you and welcome you into the greatest of all service club organizations. The International Association of Lions Clubs. On behalf of the club, I now present you with this official certificate of membership. We are all proud and happy to have you as members of the Lions club of _____.

Lion President _____

Will you assign these new Lions their First duties.

(Blow out the candles)

Fellow Lions how do we welcome new Lions into our club?

END

ORIGINS

(Use Club's Banner -pointer)

The large 'L' on-a circular purple filled background stands for LAW LIBERTY -LABOUR -LOYALTY -LOVE -LIFE -LIONS. We have two Lions profiles -one looking back at the proud history of Lions as an international service organization and also looking back at the role this club has played in this community and the role it has played as part of the international family of Lions. The other Lion looks ahead to the challenges we face in both our own community and the international community. He looks ahead to the role the new members will play in this international service organization called Lions.

We have LIONS at the top and INTERNATIONAL at the bottom.

L- leadership, I- intelligence, O-our, N- nations, S- safety

Colours - Purple stands for Loyalty to our country. Loyalty to our friends, loyalty to oneself. It is the traditional color of strength.

- Gold symbolizes our sincerity of purpose, liberality of our good judgement, purity of life and generosity of mind - hearts -purse. Motto -"WE SERVE" and **as** witness here tonight we serve better Together.