

# CMBC Cemetery Rules & Regulations

August 2020

## Purpose

The following rules and regulations have been adopted as a guide to the use and management of the Calvary Monument Bible Church Cemetery (“the Cemetery”). The rules and regulations will help protect all who have interest here. All owners of interment rights, visitors and contractors performing work within the Cemetery shall be subjected to said rules and regulations, amendments or alterations as shall be adopted by the Cemetery administrator from time to time.

## Definitions

**Lot** is a grave, crypt or niche.

**Memorial** is a monument, tombstone, grave marker or headstone identifying a grave or graves or a nameplate with inscription identifying a crypt or niche.

**Monument** is an upright memorial made principally of stone.

**Niche** is a space in a mausoleum or columbarium used or intended to be used for the inurnment of cremated human remains.

**Owner(s)** is the person or persons to whom the Cemetery has conveyed a burial right or rights or a person or persons who have acquired such rights by transfer in accordance with the rules of the Cemetery or a person or persons who hold such burial right or rights by inheritance.

**Urn** is a container used for cremated remains.

## General Rules and Regulations

1. Rules and Regulations of the Cemetery and prices for burial spaces and services are made by the Cemetery and become effective upon approval by the Cemetery.

The Cemetery may, and it hereby expressly reserves the right, at any time, with or without notice to lot owners, to adopt new rules and regulations or to amend, alter and/or repeal any rule, regulation and/or article, section or paragraph in these Rules and Regulations. Special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of the rule may impose unnecessary hardship. The Cemetery, therefore, reserves the right, without notice, to make exceptions, suspensions or modifications in any of the Rules and Regulations when, in its judgment, the same appear advisable, and such temporary exceptions, suspensions or modifications shall in no way be construed as affecting the general application of such.

2. The Cemetery retains to itself, for the benefit of all interment right owners, full and complete supervision, control and management of the land, buildings, improvements, roads, walks, utilities, development, books and records, and the full and complete authority, rights and privileges to make, change administer and enforce all rules and regulations and restrictions not inconsistent with the laws of this State wherein this Cemetery is located.

3. All lots in the Cemetery are sold in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Pennsylvania and shall not be used for any other purpose than as a burial place for dead human beings.

4. Lots must be paid in full before a burial is made. Full purchase price must be paid before a certificate of ownership is issued.

5. Visiting hours:

**Cemetery Hours**

Monday through Saturday, Daylight to Dusk.

Sunday, 1 pm to Dusk.

**Office Hours**

10:00am – 4pm Monday through Thursday. Phone (717) 442-8161

Any person found on the Cemetery grounds after closing will be considered a trespasser.

6. The Cemetery issues to each owner of the rights of burial for its lots, crypts or niches a Certificate of Ownership describing the location and naming the owner or owners of the said location. The naming of more than one owner is indicative of joint ownership in common with rights of survivorship.

The issuance of such certificate is the Cemetery's sole form of recognition of ownership. Possession of the Certificate by a person who is not listed on the Certificate is not in itself evidence of ownership. Purchasers of lots, crypts or niches simply acquire the right of burial. Put simply, this means that you do not own the land or have ownership rights of any type to any particular land. Instead, you have an easement or license to use the land for the purpose of keeping your loved one's remains there.

7. The owner of interment rights hereunder may dispose of same by will or, should the owner die in testate, such interment rights shall pass according to laws of this State governing intestacy provided, however, the Cemetery shall not be bound by such transfers unless and until an exemplification of record of same has been presented to it and such change has been recorded in the records of the Cemetery. Any plot, crypt or niche in which there are no burials, entombments or inurnments may be transferred to a new owner, providing the original Certificate of Ownership is submitted to the Cemetery together with proper transfer agreement, upon payment of transfer fee in accordance with the Cemetery's established schedule of charges.

8. In the event of loss or destruction of a Certificate of Ownership and upon the presentation of a written request, accompanied by a properly executed affidavit by the owner setting forth the circumstances of the loss or destruction and indemnification for the Cemetery, the Cemetery will

prepare a duplicate Certificate from its records in accordance with the Cemetery's established schedule of charges.

9. Lot owners are prohibited from allowing interments to be made on their lots for compensation.

10. If a lot owner sells or transfers title to his or her lot, as provided by these regulations, he or she must pay any and all indebtedness due the Cemetery before such transfer of title will be allowed.

11. All lot owners are required to notify the Cemetery of any change of address. All notices required to be sent shall be sent to the last recorded address and such notices shall be deemed adequate.

12. No person, other than employees of the Cemetery, shall be allowed to perform any work within the Cemetery without permission from the Cemetery.

13. The Cemetery shall direct all improvements within the grounds and upon all lots before and after interments have been made herein.

14. Charges for work and services performed by the Cemetery or for materials purchased from the Cemetery will be at rates as approved by the Cemetery.

15. The Cemetery will take all reasonable precautions to protect lot owners and their property within the Cemetery from loss, damage or injury but it shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury.

16. The cemetery will give such care as it can, the care consisting of cutting the grass and general preservation of the grounds.

16. The use of the Cemetery land as a thoroughfare will not be permitted.

17. Parking and/or driving on any gardens or grassy areas are prohibited for purposes other than those obtained from the Cemetery.

18. Bicycles, skates, snowmobiles, motorcycles, horses, etc., may not be used on Cemetery lands except with the approval of the Cemetery. Dogs are not permitted except when kept on a leash or in a vehicle.

19. Bringing alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs into the Cemetery is strictly prohibited.

20. The Cemetery shall have the right to enter upon or use any adjoining lot or lots to carry out its duties as to interments, erection of monuments or markers, etc., without prior notice to the lot owner.

21. No signs, notices or advertisements of any kind shall be allowed in the Cemetery unless placed by the Cemetery.

22. Peddling of any kind or soliciting the sale of any commodity, other than by the Cemetery, is prohibited within the confines of the Cemetery.

23. Religious (or nonreligious) ceremonies other than those of Calvary Monument Bible Church are not permitted in the cemetery unless the consent of the Calvary Monument Bible Church Elders has been obtained.

### **Interment & Funeral Regulations**

24. Interments into a lot are restricted to those entitled to burial therein according to these rules and regulations.

25. The Cemetery shall be in no way liable for any delay in the interment of a body where a protest to the interment has been made or where the rules and regulations have not been complied with; and, further, the Cemetery reserves the right, under such circumstances, to place the body in the receiving vault until the full rights have been determined.

26. The use of one grave space shall be limited to interments as follows unless otherwise permitted by the Cemetery:

- a) One adult burial, or two adult burials provided proper depth is maintained (stacked)
- b) One adult burial and one infant burial, or
- c) One adult burial and three urns of cremated remains, or
- d) Four urns of cremated remains

27. No burial of a casket over three feet in length will be made unless there has been provided an outer container or receptacle of concrete or such other material which the Cemetery will deem to have comparable strength or resistance to deterioration.

28. Funerals are to be at the Cemetery by 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and by 2:00 p.m. on Saturday or be subject to overtime fees.

29. No disinterment will be allowed without permission of next of kin, the lot owner, the Cemetery and the proper authorities.

30. The Cemetery shall in no way be liable for any container, receptacle or urn of cremated remains placed in any lot, crypt or niche. A permanent type of urn or vault is required for ground interment of cremated remains. The scattering of cremated remains over a family lot is prohibited.

### **Flower & Decoration Regulations**

31. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove all flowers, wreaths or other decorations from lots as soon as they become unsightly, or to allow for the tending and maintenance of the grounds. The grounds will be cleared of all decorations twice a year. Spring cleanup begins March 1, and

Fall cleanup begins October 1. In order for a family to save any decorations placed on a grave, the decoration should be removed prior to these dates. New decorations may be placed beginning April 1 and November 1 respectively.

32. Fresh flower arrangements are allowed on lots in a disposable vase. Artificial flowers and decorations, glass containers, potted plants, etc. are strictly prohibited.

33. Funeral flowers placed on graves following an interment will be left for a minimum of two days and then be discarded. If you would like to keep any of the funeral decorations, please take them with you as you leave.

34. Grave blankets and wreaths are allowed as winter decorations from November 15 until the spring cleanup beginning March 1.

35. Items not allowed to be placed on a lot within the Cemetery include, but are not limited to, the following: shepherd's hooks, standup decorations, coping, curbing, decorative rocks, fencing, balloons, solar lights, statues, pinwheels, hedging, grave mounds, borders or enclosures. Chimes or any other decoration making noise are not permitted. No decorations of any type are permitted in trees or Cemetery plantings. Any decorations not conforming to this policy will be promptly removed.

36. Flags may be placed on graves on Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Flag Day, and Veterans Day. Flags should be kept to 12" by 18" in size or smaller. Flags are subject to removal by Cemetery within ten (10) days of the Holiday.

37. Trees and shrubs are placed throughout the Cemetery by the Cemetery for overall beauty and serenity of the grounds. Individual graves are not permitted to have trees or shrubs. Any such tree or shrub not approved by the Cemetery may be removed without notice to the lot owner.

38. Certain lots embrace a tree that may interfere with space that otherwise might be used for burial. In such a case, the Cemetery recognizes that right to the retention of the trees as prior to the right of use of such space for burial. Should any such tree die naturally, the Cemetery will remove it at its own expense.

39. Devotional lights of any type are prohibited in the Cemetery.

40. The Cemetery shall have the right to remove all objects whose appearance and condition warrant removal and/or violate the Cemetery's rules and regulations. Cemetery management is not responsible for items left in the cemetery and is in no way obligated to replace or pay for decorations that are moved, removed, stolen, damaged, or destroyed.

## **Planting Policies**

### **Individual Burial Spaces**

41. Planting will not be permitted on single grave spaces.

42. Winter blankets and sprays made of artificial flowers and material will not be permitted. They must be natural (living wreaths, etc.).

### **Family Burial Lots**

43. The foregoing regulations relative to plants on single grave spaces will apply also to family burial lots except that family lot proprietors may obtain approval from the cemetery (to be given only in writing) of other forms of planting if considered consistent with the general landscaping of the particular part of the Cemetery and if adequate arrangements are made for the care of the planting and for any added cost of maintaining surrounding grass areas.

### **Markers and Monuments**

44. All memorials must be made of materials approved by the Cemetery.

45. The Cemetery shall have the authority to reject any memorial that, on account of its size, type, design, inscription, quality, color or method of construction is unsuitable for the particular lot or grave on which it is to be placed. The Cemetery reserves the right to prevent the placing or to remove any marker or other objects that do not comply with the standards of the Cemetery. Also, the Cemetery reserves the right to require the purchase of any and all markers from the Cemetery or approved producers or retail dealers.

46. No marker or monument will be accepted by the Cemetery for installation unless a sketch has been furnished defining the dimensions, material content and lettering and permission of the lot owner or proper agent of the person having burial rights in the grave to be marked. All markers and monument foundations shall be placed by employees or agents of the Cemetery only.

47. All fees or encumbrances due on a lot must be paid in full prior to any memorial being placed on the lot, including any installation fee.

48. Corner markers are not allowed on lots.

49. In the event a memorial is placed where it is necessary to remove it for an interment or disinterment, the Cemetery shall have the right to remove such memorial without notice to the lot owner.

50. The Cemetery may, at its own expense, without any liability, correct any error that may occur in the placing of a foundation or memorial.

51. Memorials shall be set in accordance with the general plan of the Cemetery. Not more than one monument shall be erected on any plot, unless otherwise approved by the Cemetery.

52. No photographs or porcelain material may be incorporated into any memorial. No protective glass or breakable material of any kind will be allowed on the memorial.

## **Columbarium**

55. All entombments or inurnments in the columbarium must be performed by regular employees of the Cemetery. Only urns will be allowed in the niches. Only human cremains may be placed in the niches.

56. Niche spaces may hold up to two urns. An urn of suitable material is required. All urns must be approved by CMBC.

57. The Cemetery will provide all inscriptions, lettering, etc. on the niche fronts to ensure uniformity.

58. The Cemetery reserves the right to limit floral tributes at the columbarium. Only one floral tribute per niche is allowed to be placed in an area approved by the Cemetery.

59. The Cemetery reserves the right to remove all flowers, wreaths or other decorations from the columbarium as soon as they become unsightly. The columbarium will be cleared of decorations on a regular basis.

60. No decorative objects or photos may be affixed to the columbarium by tape or other means. No toys, glass containers, ceramic containers or like objects shall be permitted on the columbarium. All such unauthorized items will be removed by the Cemetery without notice.