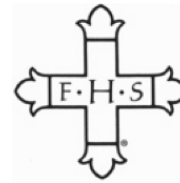




The Cross Policy of The Order of the Daughters of the King®



“Accept and wear faithfully the cross of The Order, remembering the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, “Take up your cross and follow me.”

(The Service of Admission)

When a new member has completed the three-month preparation period, and has prayerfully discerned a call to become a member of The Order, the cross she has chosen to wear as a mark of her membership is blessed by the clergy and handed to her with the powerful words quoted above. The cross she now wears is the sacred emblem of The Order of the Daughters of the King® handed down to her from our foremothers over 130 years ago.

The badge, or cross, of The Order was officially adopted in its first Constitution on November 5, 1891.

BADGES AND COLORS. The badge of The Order shall be a Greek cross, Fleury, of silver, one inch square, charged on the horizontal with the words “Magnanimiter Crucem Sustine,” and at the base of the perpendicular, with the initials of the motto of The Order – FHS – “For His Sake.”

Just as a nun’s habit identifies her as one who is called to religious life, members of The Order wear the cross to identify themselves as one who has been called to live according to its Rule of Life – a Rule of Prayer and Rule of Service. As Daughters of the King we pledge ourselves to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ’s Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of our parish.

As members of The Order we understand the responsibility that comes with wearing our sacred emblem. We understand that we must protect the cross we wear because in doing so we protect both the identity and integrity of the cross.

The purpose of this Cross Policy is to provide all members of The Order – Senior, Junior and International, with clear and consistent guidance on how to obtain, wear, and ultimately dispose of the cross through resignation or death.

I. Preface

Daughters of the King acknowledge that the cross we wear as a mark of our membership belongs to The Order. We are essentially guardians of the cross, charged with protecting its identity and integrity from the time we first obtain it at admission until the time we are no longer members due to resignation or death. We

further acknowledge that only members in good standing may wear the cross of The Order. 'In good standing' means a member is current in paying her annual dues.

Daughters of the King understand that the cross is to be worn as a pendant on a necklace, or as a pin on the left side of our chest so that it is near her heart. The cross may not be worn as ornamentation or jewelry. Further, the cross of The Order may not be altered in any way or permanently attached to anything that could be perceived as jewelry, such as charms, pins, or bracelets.

Lastly, since both the senior and Junior cross are registered trademarks of the United States, they can only be used exclusively by members of The Order. More information on the trademarked emblems of The Order can be found in "The Trademark Policies and Procedures of The Order of the Daughters of the King®" available on the National DOK website.

II. Definitions

A Replacement Cross

A replacement cross is a cross that is obtained from the National Office to replace a Daughter's original cross that has been either lost, stolen, or broken. A replacement cross can be a new or pre-loved cross.

A Pre-loved Cross

A pre-loved cross is a cross that has been returned to the National Office from a Daughter who has passed away or resigned from The Order. It is available for a processing fee as a replacement cross to current members in good standing, but may not be given to new members.

III. Guidance for Use of the Cross-Among Senior Members of The Order in the United States

New Members

Every woman who becomes a member of The Order and accepts its two Rules must obtain and wear a new cross of The Order. The new cross may not be a pre-loved cross due to the limited number and age of many pre-loved crosses. If obtaining the silver cross is cost prohibitive, a new member may obtain the less expensive rhodium-plated version of our cross. Any exceptions to Section III of the Trademark Policy must be approved by the Trademark Chair.

Current Members

A current member in good standing may obtain a replacement cross when her cross has been lost or stolen or has broken. Replacement crosses may be new or pre-loved.

Upon Resignation

If a member finds that she cannot fulfill the vows of The Order, she may resign after consulting with her clergy. Either she or a chapter officer must return the cross to the National Office accompanied by a "Transition Form" and a "How to Return a Cross Form" both of which are available on the National DOK website.

Upon a Member's Death

When a member is first admitted into The Order she designates her wishes on the "Disposition of Cross Card" as to what should be done with her cross upon her death. The cross may be buried with her or placed in her urn, returned to the National Office, or securely attached to a suitable marker. The card should be reviewed from time to time but especially when she changes chapters or changes her burial plans.

IV. Guidance for Use of the Cross-Among Junior Members of The Order

New Members

Every girl or young woman who becomes a Junior member of The Order and promises to follow its two Rules must obtain and wear a new cross of The Order.

Upon Resignation

Junior members who formally resign, simply stop coming to meetings for a long period of time, or stop actively participating in chapter life, are encouraged but not required to return their cross to the National Office. Directresses may ask for the cross back at their discretion. When a Junior Daughter reaches the age 22 and has not transitioned she has essentially resigned from The Order. She is encouraged but not required to return her cross with the understanding that the cross may never be sold or given away.

The purpose of allowing Junior Daughters to retain their cross is:

- The hope that it could serve as a reminder of her promises of prayer and service while encouraging her to stay active in her church.
- It could serve as a reminder of God's presence in her life.

Upon Transitioning

A Junior member of The Order who transitions to senior member of The Order may either keep her Junior cross or return it to the National Office. She should make arrangements for proper disposition of both her Junior and senior cross before her death.

Upon Death

While it is never a pleasant thought that a child could pass away, parents of a Junior Daughter may wonder what should become of her cross upon her death. As with senior Daughters, the Junior member's cross may be buried with her or placed in her urn, returned to the National Office, or securely attached to a suitable marker.

However, in memory of their daughter her parents may also retain the cross with the understanding that the cross may never be sold or given away.

V. Guidance for Use of the Cross-Among International Members of The Order

Countries Producing Their Own Crosses

International members in an assembled country may produce their own cross if they find a reputable jeweler or manufacturer that can reproduce the cross of The Order. The cross must be of good quality and be able to be made in large quantities. Before production begins, an actual prototype or pictures of the cross must first be submitted to the International Chair who will then refer it to the Trademark Chair and President of The Order in the United States. Permission to produce the cross is granted when the president of The Order in that country receives a formal letter of approval from the International Chair.

An inventory of the crosses should be kept by the Assembly President and included as part of their annual report to the International Chair.

If members in an assembled country are unable to find a reputable jeweler or manufacturer, they may continue to obtain crosses through the International Cross Chair.

New Members

Every girl or woman who becomes an International member of The Order and accepts its two Rules must obtain and wear a cross of The Order. The cross may be obtained from the International Cross Chair, her country liaison, or her chapter president.

Upon Resignation

If an International member of The Order resigns she must return her cross to her chapter president.

Upon Death

Upon admission into The Order, an International member should inform her chapter president and family as to what should be done with the cross upon her death. The cross may be buried with her or placed in her urn, or returned to her chapter president.

VI. Examples of Unacceptable Practices

Not obtaining a cross upon admission

Members of The Order wear its cross to identify themselves as one who has been called to live according to The Order's Rule of Life. Not obtaining or wearing a cross of The Order defeats this purpose. Candidates who choose not to obtain and wear the cross will not be admitted into The Order.

Supply of extra crosses

Chapter presidents in United States may not hold extra crosses. It is the responsibility of chapter presidents to ensure that crosses from her chapter members who resign or pass away are returned to the National Office in a timely manner.

Transfer of a cross to a new member

The cross of The Order may not be transferred or given from one member of The Order to an incoming new member. New members select and obtain their cross as part of a formal application process, which is ultimately received and processed by the staff at the National Office. If a new member does not follow this application process the National Office will have no record of her and she will not be a part of The Order's membership database.

All inquiries regarding this policy should be directed to the Trademark Chair of The Order.

This Policy is effective as of:

October 23, 2015

This Policy was approved by:

The National Council of The Order of the Daughters of the King®

This Policy was amended and approved on:

October 22, 2017
