

tory or a committee, may be taken by deposition before a properly authorized person, who must be a Knight Templar appointed for the purpose, due notice of the time and place having first been given to all parties concerned.

18. It shall be the duty of the accused and accuser to secure the attendance of their respective witnesses who are not Knights Templar; and through the Presiding Preceptor and Registrar of the Preceptory, they may, when necessary, summon for such purpose any resident Knight Templar, whether he be a member of the Preceptory or not.

19. When testimony is taken in open chapter, the Preceptory shall be opened in due form; and the decision as to guilt or innocence, and the question of punishment, shall be severally determined in and by the Preceptory.

20. The Presiding Preceptor shall decide all questions arising as to the relevancy of the evidence, and the regularity of the proceedings; and the Registrar or other person appointed for that purpose by the Presiding Preceptor, shall take down in writing all the evidence submitted by both the prosecution and defence, and note all objections made by either party, and the rulings of the Presiding Preceptor, and the record thereof shall be filed among the archives of the Preceptory; and the main facts of the case shall be entered upon the Preceptory records.

21. At the conclusion of the evidence, the accused and the accuser in person, or their counsel and representative, may, if they desire, address such relevant remarks to the Preceptory upon the merits of the case as may be deemed proper; after which the accused and the accuser shall retire from the Preceptory. Any member entitled to vote may express his views of the case, and of the law and the facts involved; and no member shall be permitted to withdraw from the Preceptory until after final action, except for urgent cause, and by consent of two-thirds of the members present.

22. When a committee is appointed, as before mentioned, it shall consist of not less than three members of the Preceptory, any of whom if objected to by either of the parties for cause, to be fully explained by the objecting party, shall be removed by the Presiding Preceptor, and another appointed.

23. Every such committee shall convene and select from their number a Chairman and Secretary; and when so organized, shall have power, through the Presiding Preceptor and Registrar of the Preceptory, to summon before them the accused and accuser, with their respective witnesses.

24. The proceedings of such committee shall be governed by the