

POLICY ON FUNERAL SERVICES AND BURIAL RIGHTS (Page 1 of 2)

Includes Funeral Service Policy, Burial Rights Policy, Interfaith and Non Jewish members' officiation statements by current Am Shalom Clergy

CREATED August 2005 by Am Shalom
Approved by Am Shalom Board _____

REVISION NO.: 4
REVISION DATE: May 10, 2017 to change membership requirement to 3 years

FUNERAL SERVICE POLICY

Jewish funeral services may be held in the synagogue sanctuary at no sanctuary rental charge under the following conditions. Clergy charge is independent of synagogue.

- The funeral director is from a recognized Jewish funeral home, knowledgeable in Jewish funeral customs
 - The casket remains closed while in the sanctuary
 - Funeral service will not be held on Shabbat or Jewish holidays
 - Officiating clergy is recognised by the CCRJ (Canadian Council for Reform Judaism)
- At least one of the mourners (i.e. spouse, sibling, parent or child) or the deceased is member in good standing of Am Shalom (dues up to date) for a minimum of **3 years otherwise 3 years' membership must be paid prior to service and interment.**
 - No conflict exists with previous bookings

Non members may rent the sanctuary for a Jewish funeral service at the current rate (\$700 as of May 2016 subject to change) providing all of the above conditions are met with exception of membership requirement. Kitchen user fee will apply if required.

Barrie Cemetery: Innisvale Cemetery and Crematorium – 705-722-3121 e-mail innisvalecemeteries@bellnet.ca

INTERFAITH SERVICES (ALL) CLERGY STATEMENT

(addition to Funeral Policy Rev 3, May 20, 2016)

May 20/2016 - Spiritual Leader Audrey Kaufman or Rabbi Martin Steinhouse will officiate at interfaith ceremonies, either within or without the synagogue walls.

[From the CCAR Code of Ethics for Rabbis: "Members of the congregation who have by their dues contributed to the rabbi's support, have a right to rabbinic services in time of need for lifecycle rites and pastoral functions, provided that performance of such services shall not be contrary to the convictions of that rabbi" (Section IV.A.1)]

FUNERAL SERVICE for NON JEWISH MEMBERS of Am Shalom

Spiritual leader Audrey Kaufman or Rabbi Martin Steinhouse will officiate at a funeral for a non-Jewish Member of Am Shalom under the following conditions:

- The funeral occurs at the synagogue's cemetery in Innisfil. (Innisvale Cemetery)
 - A non-Jewish clergy person may not co-officiate with the rabbi.
- No religious symbols from other religions/practices be present in the ceremony or on the tombstone
- Audrey Kaufman or Rabbi Steinhouse will not recite *El Maleh Rachamim*, the traditional Jewish prayer for the departed, but will recite traditional Psalms.
- If another Rabbi other than Am Shalom's Rabbi is requested by family to officiate the following guidelines will apply:

CCAR Code of Ethics for Rabbis, Section II.C.1:

Relationships Between Rabbis in Different Congregations or in Organizations

All CCAR rabbis, including e.g. Hillel rabbis and military and civilian chaplains, regardless of their specific placement, are bound by the following provisions. The principles herein contained are applicable also in our relationships with rabbis who are not members of the CCAR and with student rabbis.

A rabbi should occupy a colleague's pulpit, officiate in the synagogue, or speak at any function of the congregation or of any auxiliary only at the invitation of the incumbent rabbi.

A rabbi who is asked to officiate at a lifecycle event should inquire whether the individual involved is a member of another congregation. A rabbi should agree to officiate for a member of another congregation only with appropriate notice to the rabbi of that congregation at the time the request is made.

If the child of a member is an unaffiliated young adult (out of school and not a member of any congregation) and chooses a rabbi other than the family's rabbi, the family's rabbi should be informed by the officiating rabbi in advance of the event.

Where, in the event of a prospective marriage, the families of bride and groom belong to different congregations, it is incumbent upon the officiating rabbi to inform the other rabbi.

In other lifecycle situations, where various members of the family belong to other congregations, the officiating rabbi should urge the individuals involved to notify their own rabbis of the event

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BURIAL RIGHTS POLICY

Pertaining to Members in good standing, Ex-members and Non Members vis a vis burial plots and /or funeral service and the monetary requirements that must be met to secure either or both on passing.

Definition of Member in good standing – payments are up to date in current fiscal year at time of passing

Definition of Member or Ex-Member NOT in good standing - dues/payments in arrears at time of passing

Definition of a Non-Member – a person who has never been a member of Am Shalom

Definition of an Ex-Member – a person who was once a member of Am Shalom

MEMBERS WITH AND WITHOUT PLOTS

MEMBERS 3 YEARS OR MORE

-With a plot - If a member in good standing for **three years or more** passes away, there is no charge for the funeral service, but Rabbi must be paid an honorarium by family. If member was **not in good standing and dues are owed** and **there is no surviving spouse**, the family will be required to pay the outstanding dues before a funeral service can be held in the synagogue.

-Without a plot - If a member is in good standing for **three years or more** passes away their family has the right to purchase a burial plot at Innisvale Cemetery for the interment without any surcharge and there is no charge for the funeral service, Rabbi must be paid an honorarium by family

MEMBERS LESS THAN 3 YEARS

-With a plot (members has paid 3 years' membership upfront in order to purchase plot) and is in good standing on passing, there is no charge for funeral service. If the member **was not in good standing and dues are owed and there is no surviving member spouse**, the family will be required to pay the outstanding dues before a service can be held in the synagogue.

-Without a plot - If a member is in good standing on passing, the family must pay balance of membership equivalent to 3 years before they have the right to purchase a plot at Innisvale Cemetery. If the member **was not in good standing and dues are owed and there is no surviving member spouse**, the family will be required to pay the outstanding dues before a plot can be purchased and/or a funeral service can be held at the synagogue.

TERMINATING MEMBERSHIP (becoming an EX-MEMBER)

EX-MEMBER - WITH AND WITHOUT A PLOT

If a member, *who has been a member in good standing*, terminates their membership and passes away **BEFORE the membership fiscal year end (April) of the year in which they terminated their membership**, in order to have a funeral service in the synagogue **at no charge (ex-member with plot) and/or** to obtain the right for family to purchase a burial plot in the Am Shalom cemetery, *the balance of the membership owing for the remainder of that fiscal year in which the ex-member terminated membership must be paid in full*

Example: member quits November 2017, fiscal year end is April 2018, they pass away January 2018, family must pay from December 2017 to April 2018 in order to have a funeral service and/or to obtain the right to purchase a plot at Innisvale Cemetery

If the Ex-Member, passes away **ANYTIME AFTER the membership fiscal year end (April 30) of the year in which the person terminated membership**, 1 year of single membership (\$775 as of May 2017, subject to change) is payable to meet the minimum amount of the equivalent of 3-year single membership. If ex-member was **not in good standing and owing dues** at the time of termination of Membership, the balance of whatever was **owing at the time to the end of that fiscal year (April 30) in which the ex-member terminated membership** must be paid by the family **PLUS** a payment equivalent to 1 year's single membership in order to have a funeral service and/or obtain the right to purchase a plot at Innisvale Cemetery.

NON MEMBERS

(Non-Member definition - those who have never been members of Am Shalom)

Non member or member Family members ***wishing to purchase a plot at Innisvale Cemetery for a non member*** loved one who has passed away or is about to pass away, must pay an amount equivalent to three years' single membership **\$775 X 3 = \$2,325 (subject to change)**. A funeral service is included **no charge** as the person who has passed is technically now a member.