

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF Islamic Society of Greater Dayton Cemetery

In the Name of Allah, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate

PURPOSE

Cemetery rules and regulations are designed for the protection of owners of interment rights as a group. They are intended, not as restraining, but rather as preventing the inconsiderate from taking unfair advantage of others. Their enforcement will help protect the Cemetery and create and preserve its beauty. These rules and regulations are hereby adopted by the Islamic Society of Greater Dayton (ISGD) Board of Trustees (“The Board”) as the Rules and Regulations of the Islamic Society of Greater Dayton Cemetery. All owners of interment rights, visitors and contractors performing work within the Cemetery, shall be subject to said Rules and Regulations. Amendments or alterations of the Rules and Regulations as shall be adopted by The Board from time to time. The Board shall appoint a Cemetery Management Committee (“The CMC”). The CMC will be responsible for the daily management and maintenance of the cemetery.

Introduction

This cemetery is dedicated to serving the Muslim community in accordance with the principles of Islam. These rules are established to maintain the sanctity, dignity, and peaceful environment of the cemetery, ensuring all practices align with Islamic teachings and local laws. All visitors, family members, funeral directors, and staff are required to comply with these regulations. May Allah (SWT) have mercy on the deceased and grant peace to the living.

1. General Principles

- The cemetery is a sacred waqf (endowment) for Muslims only. It must be treated with the utmost respect at all times.
- The cemetery is intended for **quiet reflection**, prayer, and remembrance of the Hereafter.

- No commercial, political, or recreational activities are allowed on cemetery grounds.
- Visiting hours are from dawn to dusk and visits outside of these hours must be arranged with the cemetery personnel.
- All visitors must respect Islamic customs while on the premises.

2. Eligibility for Burial

- Only Muslims (those who died in the fold of Islam) may be buried here.
- Proof of Muslim identity may be requested through a local masjid reference, Islamic organization, or funeral director.
- Non-Muslim family members of the deceased may visit the graves but are expected to follow cemetery conduct rules.

3. Burial Procedures

- All burial arrangements must be made in advance with the cemetery office or its authorized funeral service providers.
- Islamic rites must be followed, including:
 - **Ghusl** (ritual washing)
 - **Kafan** (shrouding in white cloth)
 - **Salat al-Janazah** (funeral prayer)
 - Burial without a coffin (unless required by law)
- Multiple burials in one grave are not allowed unless in cases of emergency or mass fatalities and only with proper Islamic approval.
- Families may attend the burial, but Islamic etiquette and guidelines must be observed.

4. Grave Markers and Headstones

- Headstones must be **modest, simple**, and must not contradict Islamic values.
 - Recommended materials: stone or granite.
 - Inscriptions may include: name, date of birth/death

grave markers shall lay flat on the ground. No upright markers are allowed in the Cemetery.

- No photographs, statues, or decorative items are allowed on headstones or at grave sites.
- Any non-conforming headstones or decorations may be removed by the cemetery administration.

5. Grave Decorations and Landscaping

- Planting of flowers, small shrubs, or trees is allowed only with prior written permission

from the CMC.

- No artificial flowers, candles, balloons, lights, or plastic decorations are allowed.
- Family members may maintain the cleanliness of the grave, but alterations to the plot (such as fencing, concrete slabs, etc.) are prohibited.

6. Conduct Within the Cemetery

- All visitors must behave with respect and modesty:
 - Wear modest clothing in line with Islamic values.
 - Refrain from loud conversations, playing music, or using mobile devices disrespectfully.
 - No smoking, alcohol, or unlawful substances are allowed at any time.
- Children must be closely supervised to ensure the serenity of the cemetery is maintained.
- Pets are not allowed within the cemetery.
- No private vehicles are allowed, only vehicles and equipment used for the burial service or transferring of the deceased body.
- Food or drink offerings are not permitted.

7. Janazah Services

- Janazah prayer may be offered at the cemetery if permitted and facilities allow.
- All Islamic funeral rites must be performed according to the Qur'an and Sunnah.
- Family and friends attending burials must respect the space and time limits of cemetery use.
- Only the Imam or designated persons are permitted to perform the Janazah prayers.

8. Cemetery Maintenance and Responsibilities

- The CMC will maintain the general upkeep of pathways, landscaping, and public spaces. The cemetery reserves the right to:
 - Remove debris, damaged or unauthorized decorations.
 - Replant or reseed disturbed areas as needed.
- Vandalism, theft, or damage to any part of the cemetery will be reported to local authorities and fully prosecuted.

9. Fees and Plot Ownership

- All cemetery fees must be paid in full before burial.
- Fees include:
 - Plot purchase or reservation
 - Interment services
 - Maintenance (if applicable)
- Ownership of a plot grants the *right of burial* only. Land ownership remains with the

- Islamic Society of Greater Dayton, as agent for the North American Islamic Trust.
- Plots may not be resold, transferred, or exchanged without the cemetery's written approval.

10. Disputes and Conflict Resolution

- Any disputes regarding burial rights, plot assignments, or cemetery rules must be brought to the Cemetery Management Committee.
- Decisions will be guided by Shariah principles and applicable local regulations.
- Appeals may be reviewed by the Board if needed.

11. Changes and Amendments

- These rules are subject to change by the CMC and Board in consultation with local scholars and legal requirements.
- Any updates will be posted publicly and on the cemetery website or notice board.

OWNERSHIP

Interment rights shall be used for no purpose other than the disposition of the human dead and body parts.

The CMC may, in its sole discretion, refuse to permit anything to be done within the Cemetery in violation of the requirements of these Rules and Regulations.

SUPERVISION OF CEMETERY

The CMC reserves the right to require all persons coming into the Cemetery to obey all rules and regulations adopted herein. These Rules and Regulations may be changed, without notice to any owner, by the CMC and approved by the board.

The CMC shall take responsible precaution to protect owners and the property rights of owners within the Cemetery from loss or damage, but it distinctly disclaims all responsibility for loss or damage from causes beyond its reasonable control. The CMC and the Board is not and shall not be liable for damage caused by natural elements, acts of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, strikers, malicious mischief makers, explosions, unavoidable accidents, invasion, insurrections, riots, or orders of any Military or civil authority, whether the damage be direct or collateral.

The CMC reserves the right to correct any interment, disinterment, removal, inscription, transfer, or conveyance errors that may be made. The CMC shall, in its sole discretion, determine the best and most efficient means of correcting any such errors, which may include, but shall not be limited to, the refunding of money paid.

The rights to enlarge, reduce, replant or change the boundaries or grading of the Cemetery on a lot or grave, from time to time, including the right to modify or change the locations of or any part thereof or remove or re-grade walks or paths, is hereby expressly reserved by the CMC. The CMC shall also have the right to lay, maintain and operate, or alter or change pipelines or gutters for sprinkling systems, drainage, lakes, electricity, etc. The CMC reserves to itself and to those lawfully entitled thereto and those permitted by the CMC to do so, a perpetual right of ingress and egress over lots for the purpose of passage to and from other lots.

SALE AND PURCHASE OF INTERMENT RIGHTS

All interment rights are sold subject to payment of the amount posted in the Cemetery. All interment rights shall be fully paid for prior to use. NO specific lots will be designated; the cemetery management will determine the order of lots to be used. The interment rights will be honored, and lots will be designated at the time of use.

The sale or transfer of any interment right by any owner shall not be effective and binding unless the same shall first be duly approved in writing by the CMC.

Any and all transfers of any interment right, whether same is by conveyance or assignment, are subject to all rules and regulations of the Cemetery, which are now in full force and effect or which may be hereafter adopted.

The subdivision of interment rights is not permitted without the written consent of the CMC. No one shall be buried in any lot not having an interest therein, except by written consent of the CMC.

All work on lots or graves will be done by the Cemetery employees under the direction of the CMC, except when permission is otherwise granted. All grading, landscaping work, and improvements of any kind, and all care of lots and all plantings (including trees), trimmings, removals of trees, shrubs, and herbage of any kind and all openings of lots, all interments and removals shall be made under the direction and with the approval of the CMC.

No enclosure of any kind, such as a fence, coping, hedge or ditch, shall be permitted around any grave or lot. Grave mounds shall not be allowed and no lot shall be raised above the established grade.

No interment right can be sold, assigned, transferred or pledged without the written approval of the CMC.

The Owner of interment rights may dispose of same by will, subject to the foregoing conditions: If Owner dies intestate, the interment rights will descend to his or her heirs according to law. The

CMC cannot be responsible for carrying out of the intent of the grantor.

The general care of the entire Cemetery grounds and lots is assumed by the CMC.

The CMC shall direct all improvements within the grounds and upon all lots and graves before, as well as after, interments have been made therein. The CMC shall have charge of the planting, sodding, surveying and general improvements within the Cemetery.

If any tree, shrub or plant standing upon any lot, by means of its roots, branches, or otherwise, becomes detrimental to adjacent lots, avenues, or if for any other reason its removal is deemed necessary, the CMC shall have the right to remove such tree, shrub or plant, or any part thereof, or otherwise correct the condition.

No person shall pluck or remove any plant or flower, either wild or cultivated from any part of the Cemetery.

BURIAL REGULATIONS

No interment shall be made unless the opening and closing fee for such grave has been paid in advance.

No interment may take place at the Cemetery unless a burial permit for the deceased has first been presented to the CMC or Cemetery officers.

Funeral processions, upon entering the grounds of the Cemetery, shall be subject to the direction of the CMC, or authorized employees of the Cemetery.

The CMC reserves the right to schedule interment services according to the Cemetery's availability of service times and needs.

The CMC shall have the right to have the interment service at the grave according to the Cemetery's schedule and current weather conditions.

Grave markers shall lay flat on the ground. No upright markers are allowed in the Cemetery.

The remains of any person who died of a contagious disease shall not be permitted in or on the Cemetery grounds, except when placed in a hermetically sealed bag. In case of doubt on the part of the CMC as to the nature of the disease, satisfactory evidence from the attending physician or otherwise shall be required.

Natural burials are permitted within all sections of the cemetery. A natural burial is one where an embalming process is not utilized and interment is without a standard casket or burial vault. The cemetery management will determine the best method for placing the body.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

No children under the age of 16 are permitted within the Cemetery without adult supervision. All children must display appropriate behavior while on the grounds of the Cemetery. No pets are allowed,

No soliciting or advertising is permitted within the Cemetery.

Bringing or consuming alcohol, tobacco, intoxicants or illegal substances within the Cemetery is strictly forbidden.

The Board and/or CMC are not responsible for theft or damage to anything placed on graves or lots.

Only grave markers approved by the CMC shall be permitted to be used.

No permanent bench, chair, or trellis shall be permitted or be brought upon the Cemetery grounds.

The CMC shall have the right to remove any dead or damaged tree, shrub or vine.

No touching, scraping, rubbing or spraying of liquids on the head stones is permitted without prior permission of cemetery personnel.

Any person found on the Cemetery grounds, when the Cemetery is closed and without permission, shall be considered a trespasser.

Flowers or other decorations will be removed as soon as the flowers fade and wither, and the right is reserved by the CMC to make such removal. and artificial flowers will be removed at such time as is specified by the CMC and the Owner thereby forfeits all rights, title and interest to the same, and the CMC may dispose of them by sale, destruction or in any other way it deems best.

No person shall use profane or boisterous language or in any way disturb the quiet and good order of the Cemetery.

All persons are forbidden to hunt fowls or other animals about the Cemetery.

All persons are strictly forbidden to break or injure any tree or shrub,

Groundskeepers are employed by the CMC to maintain the entire Cemetery. No money shall be paid to these attendants. All orders, inquiries and complaints must be left at the Cemetery office.

No person or persons other than an employee of the Cemetery so authorized shall be permitted to bring or carry firearms within the Cemetery.

No flowers shall be planted at the grave site.

No artificial flowers or wreaths may be left at the grave site.

All persons are reminded that the grounds are sacredly devoted to the burial of the dead and that the provisions and penalties of the law, as provided by statute, will be strictly enforced in all cases of wanton injury, disturbance and disregard of the rules and the laws of Ohio.

MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

The CMC and the Board may, and it hereby expressly reserves the right at any and all times, with or without notice to Owners, to adopt new rules and regulations, or to amend, alter and/or repeal any rule, regulation and/or article, section, paragraph and/or sentence in these Rules and Regulations.

Special cases may arise in which the literal enforcement of a rule may impose unnecessary hardship. The CMC and Board, 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 these Rules and Regulations, or as creating any enforceable precedent.

Contact Information

For inquiries, burials, or assistance, please contact:

Cemetery Office

 Phone: 937-705-6364

 Email: Cemetery@isdg.org

 Website: www.isgd.org

 Address: 692 S. Alpha bellbrook Sugarcreek OH 45305