

NATIONAL MASTER'S RULING

August 20, 2020

Question: Can a Grange member terminate their fraternal Grange membership and become an e-member and continue to count years of service toward Grange membership awards such as Golden Sheaf?

Answer: The E-membership program is defined in the National Grange Digest of Laws, Chapter 4, Section 4.6.15. It states under 4.6.15 (A) "E-members shall not be entitled to vote on matters of Grange policy or compete in National Grange sponsored contests that are designed for the benefit of Subordinate Grange members only."

Since e-members cannot attend meetings (except as a guest) and cannot vote or participate in member-only contests etc., Grange membership would terminate at the local Grange when the member's dues run out and she becomes an e-member.

Members wishing to continue to earn membership awards can maintain their Community Grange membership even though they find it necessary to move to an area where there are no Granges or otherwise are unable to attend meetings. Attendance is not a requirement for Grange membership and lack of attendance at meetings does not affect membership longevity awards.