

**RULES
AND
REGULATIONS**

**GOVERNING THE USE
OF THE
CEMETERIES
OF CONGREGATION
"MIKVE ISRAEL - EMANUEL"**

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RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF THE
CEMETERIES OF CONGREGATION "MIKVE ISRAEL-EMANUEL"

1. The cemeteries at Blenheim (the old Bet Haim) and at Berg Altena (the new Bet Haim) are the properties of the United Portuguese Israelite Congregation Mikvé Israel - Emaneul.
2. In the Berg Altena cemetery, a section on the north-east corner has been reserved for the use of the Ashkenazic Congregation, Shaarei Tzedek. However, the use of this section is subject to all the rules and regulations of the cemeteries as a whole.
3. The two cemeteries are administered by the Cemetery Trustee, who shall be a member of the Board of Cong. Mikvé Israel-Emanuel. There shall be no burial in either cemetery without his consent or, in his absence, the consent of the president or vice-president of the congregation.
4. Services may be conducted in the cemeteries only by the Rabbi or Hazzan of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel or the Rabbi or Hazzan of the Congregation Shaarei Tzedek. In exceptional, cases other rabbis or laymen may officiate, but only with the express consent of the Rabbi of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel, or, in his absence, of the President.

5. All burials in the cemeteries must be below the level of the ground, in accordance with Jewish tradition. Mausoleums shall not be erected. In cases of cremation, the ashes shall be buried in the ground and not stored in memorial niches.
6. Funerals may not be conducted in the cemeteries on Shabbat, the High Holidays, Pesah, Shabuot or Sukkot, according to the dates when these festivals are observed by Cong. Mikvé Israel-Emanuel. The cemeteries will be closed to visitors on these days also.
7. No non-Jewish service may be recited in the cemeteries, nor may a clergyman of any other faith recite any part of the burial service. No symbols of any other faith may be deposited in any grave or erected over any grave or be displayed in the funeral procession or in the death announcements in the newspapers. The services of fraternal orders may only be recited with the permission of the Rabbi.
8. A casket may not be opened on the grounds of the cemetery.
9. Non-Jewish husbands, wives and children of members may be buried in the cemeteries in accordance with regulation No.7. above. However, adult apostates from Judaism may not be buried in the cemeteries unless they expressed a dying wish to be given Jewish burial.

10. No distinction is made in the rules applying to burial of suicides and other deceased.
11. The designs for all gravestones and memorial markers must be submitted to the Cemetery Trustee of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel. No stones may be erected without his consent in writing. Any stones erected without such prior consent may be removed by decision of the Congregation Board. In general, stones must conform to the patterns of either the elevated horizontal platform monuments or the vertical markers in common use in the two cemeteries. But in no case shall statuary be permitted nor any monument of over one and one-half meter in height.
12. Gravestones which, in the opinion of the Congregation Board, constitute a hazard or have become unsightly shall be repaired by the family of the deceased or shall be removed. The care of monuments is the responsibility of the families of the deceased.
13. The opening of graves and the exhuming of bodies is expressly forbidden unless the family has the written consent of the Rabbi and the Board of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel.
14. Food and drink are absolutely forbidden on the grounds of the cemeteries for any purpose whatsoever.

15. To avoid the embarrassment of conflicting services, public monument unveilings may be scheduled only with the prior consent of the Cemetery Trustee or the Rabbi of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel.
16. Plots for future use may be reserved only by members in good standing of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel and, in its section, by members of Congregation Shaarei Tzedek. Nothing in these regulations shall be construed as preventing the burial of a member of Congregation Shaarei Tzedek in those sections of the cemeteries other than the north-east corner of the new Bet Haim. The designation of that section as the burial ground of Congregation Shaarei Tzedek, is strictly for the convenience of that congregation.
17. All fees are to be determined and revised from time to time by the Board of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel, with the understanding that non-members who are granted the use of the cemetery will pay a premium over the standard price per grave for members.
18. Exceptions to the above rules and regulations may be made only by the Board of Congregation Mikvé Israel-Emanuel after consultation with the Rabbi.

