

Introductions: Formal vs. Informal

Introductions (either formal or informal) should be done at all meetings. This allows the Worthy Advisor to become comfortable introducing guests, and it provides her with an opportunity to acknowledge guests and thank them for their support. This also allows girls and adults who may be new to Rainbow the opportunity to begin putting names with faces.

What are formal introductions?

Formal introductions include giving honors to guests. Formal introductions may (or may not) include escort.

According to Nevada tradition, formal introductions with escort must be done once each term, either during a Formal Escort meeting or an Official Visit. When planning this event, the Worthy Advisor and Mother Advisor should work with the Grand Deputy to use both the appropriate guidelines for planning the meeting and the most current versions of the script. (Scripts are updated approximately four times each year; therefore, they will not be posted on the web site. Grand Deputies will have access to the most current version of the Formal Escort and Official Visit scripts.)

What are informal introductions?

Informal introductions include titles but no honors. Informal introductions are often grouped together based on the type of honor that would be given. For example, introductions would be condensed into five groups: those entitled to Supreme Honors; those entitled to Grand Honors; those entitled to the Sign of Rainbow; Masonic and Eastern Star dignitaries; and those who ordinarily receive a warm welcome. During information introductions, the Worthy Advisor should introduce guests within each group, then ask that they (the group) be greeted with a warm welcome. During informal introductions, it is not necessary to wrap guests up to give applause.

One person – one introduction

During a Rainbow meeting, including Formal Escort and Official Visits, guests should only be introduced one time.

Guests are introduced based on their **current title**: Mother Advisors who are also Past Grand Officers are only introduced as Mother Advisor, during their term as Mother Advisor.

Majority members and adults who are not currently serving in a leadership role should be introduced by their highest past title. Adults who have both a girl title (such as Past Grand Officer) and an adult title (such as Past Grand Deputy) should be introduced one time, with both titles. Ideally, the girl title should be first, as this is a girls' organization.

Director titles and duties are not consistent across all Rainbow jurisdictions. In Nevada, we do not recognize (or introduce) Past Directors, because all of our former Directors have other titles that can be used for the purpose of introductions.

Mother Advisors are NOT introduced as Advisory Board members; a woman must be on the Board to be elected to serve as Mother Advisor.

Visiting Worthy Advisors should be introduced; however, the presiding Worthy Advisor should not be introduced. The only time a presiding Worthy Advisor should be introduced is during an Official Visit IF she is also serving as a Grand Officer. In this instance, the Grand Worthy Advisor will introduce the presiding officer as a Grand Officer (only one title).

The only Board member who should be introduced by his or her elected Board title is the Chairman, because he or she serves as the point of contact for adults who may have concerns that need to be addressed.

There are a few exceptions to the one guest – one introduction guideline, including:

- Past Grand Worthy Advisors are always introduced as Past Grand Worthy Advisors. If they are serving Rainbow in another capacity, they are entitled to another (and separate) introduction.
- Similarly, Past Grand Matrons and Patrons and Past Grand Masters who are also serving (or have served) Nevada Rainbow are entitled to both a Rainbow title introduction and a Masonic title introduction.
- Past State Rainbow Dads may be introduced as both Past State Rainbow Dads and their current or highest Rainbow adult title (such as Grand Deputy or Grand Deputy Emeritus).
- Adult members of the Grand Executive Board and Jr. Members of the Grand Executive Committee are only introduced as committee members during Official Visits (and at Grand Assembly); most of those serving on these groups have other titles.
- Directors who are also serving as Mother Advisors should be introduced one time, as a Director and Mother Advisor, except during Official Visits hosted by their own Assemblies. On this one occasion, these women should be introduced twice – once as a Director and once as the Mother Advisor. (As a reminder, the Mother Advisor should not be introduced as a Board member, even during the Assembly's Official Visit.)
- Rainbow Adults who are also serving in leadership roles in Eastern Star or the Masonic Lodge should be introduced twice in recognition of their dual roles. According to the Ritual, these introductions include Grand Officers, Worthy Matrons and Patrons, and Worshipful Masters.

Can introductions not be done during a meeting?

There are occasions when it may be appropriate to dispense with introductions. These occasions may include Open Meetings (when the focus should be on sharing Rainbow with perspective members and their families) and meetings with long agendas, such as Initiation and Elections. Ultimately, the Mother Advisor is responsible for determining if introductions should be removed from a specific meeting agenda; the Mother Advisor is encouraged to make this decision in collaboration with the Worthy Advisor and Grand Deputy.

If introductions are not made, the Worthy Advisor should include the following language in her agenda, "...this evening, we will dispense with introductions; however, the Recorder will include our guests who would have been introduced in our Minutes."

Introductions at Grand Assembly

In Nevada, we ask that adults be introduced by all of their current and past titles during Grand Assembly. This allows our girls to show recognition to their adult workers, many of whom have dedicated their lives to supporting Nevada Rainbow. It also allows our girls and adults to see how these very dedicated men and women have advanced through various leadership roles. It is not uncommon for girls to be surprised to learn that their adults served as Mother Advisors before serving as a Grand Deputies or Directors or that their Past State Rainbow Dads served as Grand Deputies or Past Grand Patrons or Past Grand Masters.