



CONGREGATION
RODEPH
SHOLOM

CEMETERY

RULES AND REGULATIONS CONTRACT

*(One contract issued per lot purchased.) Please know that the term Rodeph Sholom Cemetery includes both Old Rodeph, Beth Israel as well as Tampa Jewish Memorial Gardens (New Rodeph Cemetery)
(Revised as of October 1, 2020 and prospectively supersedes all prior rules and regulations.)*

WHO MAY BE BURIED: The Rodeph Sholom Cemetery, being sacred, is for burial of people of the Jewish faith only (both members and non-members of RS). However, a section has been sectioned off in Tampa Jewish Memorial Gardens from the rest of the cemetery and is available for those who are intermarried. Our rules permit only those who are Jewish (both members of RS and non-members) to be buried in the other sections. Customarily, a wife is buried on the left side of her husband, though this is not mandatory.

CASKETS: Plain wooden kosher caskets are traditional.

BURIALS: Rodeph Sholom shall be solely responsible for marking of graves. An insured and company authorized by Rodeph Sholom shall be responsible for opening and closing of graves. Prior to any burial in the RS Cemetery, funeral directors and vault companies must contact Rodeph Sholom to make arrangements for grave marking, opening and closing of graves (A \$50 stake fee will be charged for initial burial) Burials may only take place after a lot is paid for in full. Cemetery lot(s) must be paid for in full before interment.

FUNERAL SERVICES: No funeral may take place at the RS Cemetery without first advising the RS Rabbi at (813) 837-1911, Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. If a RS Rabbi is required to perform a funeral service, there is no charge to RS members; however, a gratuity is traditional. The fee for a RS Rabbi to perform non-member funerals is \$400.00. Only members of the Greater Tampa Board of Rabbis TJR have permission to perform a funeral service in the RS Cemetery. A Rabbi is required at every funeral service and interment on the Cemetery. The RS Rabbi must give his approval before any other Rabbi performs a funeral service. No religious service that is non-Jewish may take place on the RS Cemetery. For intermarried couples who are to be buried, all religious funeral services for the non-Jewish spouse are to take place at a funeral home off of the cemetery premises. Burial of the non-Jewish spouse the interfaith area will take place without any religious service at the cemetery and the burial must be supervised by a licensed funeral director.

MONUMENTS: All graves must be marked by Rodeph Sholom at a cost of \$25, prior to placement of monuments. Monument placement may only take place after a lot is paid for in full. When a double headstone is to be erected, both grave sites must be paid in full before the placement of the headstone. All monuments shall be placed so that they face the same direction as others in the area which is facing the front of the cemetery entrance. Monuments may be for one or two people buried side by side. The width of the headstone itself may vary up to 36 inches for a single and up to 60 inches for a double. A base upon which the monument sits may be up to 36" wide for a single and up to 60" wide for a double. The height of the headstone itself should not exceed 48 inches regardless of width. All headstones must be on a base. **All monuments must be approved by the RS Rabbi or by the RS Cemetery Committee, in writing, prior to installation on the cemetery.** Homemade monuments of any kind are not allowed. They must be granite and professionally made and installed. **Only Jewish religious symbols and non secular may appear on any of the monuments throughout the cemetery, including the section reserved for intermarried couples.** VA Footstones are allowed.

MONUMENTS CONTINUED: Ground slabs, curbs, foot markers and coping are no longer permitted due to maintenance problems with mowers. Maintenance of the monument is the responsibility of the family of the deceased. Should the monument sink sideways into the ground or lean forward or backward, the family should contact the company that sold them the monument, or as an alternative, contact the RS office. The cemetery committee can arrange to have the monument straightened. However, it is the financial responsibility of the family of the deceased for all costs associated with maintaining the monument. Monument cleaning is available for a \$118 donation to the cemetery fund.

UNVEILING: Traditionally, an unveiling is held between the 30th day and twelfth month after interment. Contact the company who sold you the marker to cover the monument. There is no charge to RS members requesting a Rabbi's services, however a gratuity is traditional.

LANDSCAPING: No planting of trees or shrubs is allowed on any cemetery plot. Any existing trees or plants on cemetery plots will not be maintained by Rodeph Sholom and will be removed if dead or not properly maintained. Private planting of any kind is prohibited without prior approval. Plants or flowers placed on the RS cemetery without permission of the cemetery committee will be removed. There are no exceptions to this policy.

CREMATION POLICY: Ashes may be interred in a Jewish cemetery; however, this should be done privately, without the presence of a Rabbi. Urns made of wood are preferred.

LOT PRICES: Please visit the Rodeph Sholom website for current pricing. Prices are subject to change.

CREMATIONS: Prices are the same as lot prices; however, two cremains may be buried in one lot. Cremations may only be placed in the interfaith area. One plot may contain up to 2 cremations but will be charged 2 fees.

- 1) This must be specified and written on the contract at the time of the initial purchase.
 - a. The first interment pays standard rate per Rodeph Sholom website per lot. May differ from member to non member.
 - b. The second interment pays half of the lot prices \$1,500 (member) and \$1,750 (non-member).

OTHER: RS members in good standing with all financial obligation to RS may purchase lots at member prices for their immediate family (parents, children and siblings) even if the family members are non-members. When lots are purchased for family members, the member is responsible for all payments.

Terms are available to reserve lots at no additional costs. A down payment of 25% is required at the time of purchase. The remaining balance will be due in installments over a period not to exceed three years. If, after three years a lot is not paid-in-full, RS will attempt to contact the purchaser to collect the remaining balance. After the last day of the three year period, RS will notify the purchaser three times in writing. If RS is unable to contact the purchaser within 30 days, the lot will be deemed abandoned and will be released for re-sale. There will be no refund if a lot has been released. ***Deed Certificates for a cemetery lot are issued only upon payment in-full.***

RS Cemetery does not offer refunds on lots. Lots may be donated back to the RS cemetery for a tax write-off at the current market value. The RS office can resell lots on a consignment basis for a fee of 50% of the sale amount. Lots may be resold or gifted by owners; however, original Deed Certificates on sold, gifted or transferred lots must be returned to the RS office to be voided before a new one will be issued. The fee for a Deed Certificate void/transfer is \$100.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE FEES: The maintenance fee for the property is included in the cost of the plot. **Maintenance of monuments, coping, benches or landscaping that is placed by owner is the responsibility of the family of the deceased and is not covered by this general administrative fee.**

GENERAL INFORMATION: Questions regarding the cemetery, funeral homes, monument sources, etc., may be directed to the RS Cemetery Committee by calling the RS office. Please provide your funeral home with a copy of this contract and your Deed when meeting with them. Visitors to the cemetery are always welcome.

Special Rules for the Estate Section (outerband of Tampa Jewish Memorial Gardens)

BURIALS: Only members of the Jewish faith, as determined by the Rabbi, may be buried in the Jewish Section.

MONUMENTS: Above ground Mausoleums, properly constructed with footers and a foundation strong enough to support the weight of the structure, are permitted only on the outside edge of the Tampa Jewish Memorial Gardens, costs to be discussed upon approval of design. **Final approval of any and all proposed structures, their sizes, and designs, must be approved, in writing, by the Rabbi and the Cemetery Committee prior to construction.** Headstones, footstones, full grave above ground covers, or other markers made of Granite are permitted.

OTHER STRUCTURES: Within the estate area, the family may, at their cost, **and subject to approval, in writing, of the Rabbi and Cemetery Committee**, erect additional enhancements such as landscaping, benches, platforms, edging around the perimeter, or other structures that are in keeping with Jewish tradition and the existing customs of the Cemetery.

UPKEEP: Any and all structures and improvements made within the Estate Section Plot must be maintained by the family at their cost. The Cemetery will cut the grass on a weekly basis, and trim the border shrubs, as needed. Any items or structures within the Plot must be cleaned and maintained by the family. However, arrangements for upkeep may be contracted to the Cemetery Committee, for a fee to be negotiated between the family and the Cemetery Committee, which shall be in writing.

I have read, understand, and have received a copy of the preceding RS Cemetery Rules & Regulation Contract and agree to abide by them. *(Revised March 3, 2017 and prospectively supersedes all prior rules and regulations.)*

Purchaser's Signature	Purchaser's Printed Name	Date
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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Home Phone	Cell Phone	Work Phone
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Social Security Number	Date of Birth	Email Address
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Plot: Section: _____ Row: _____ Lot(s): _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
Payment Amount Balance Due Final Due

Name of Person on Purchased/Reserved Plot: _____

Primary Contact / Relationship	Contact Phone Number	Email Address
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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Additional Contact / Relationship	Contact Phone Number	Email Address
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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Additional Contact / Relationship	Contact Phone Number	Email Address
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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RS Representative:

Signature	Printed Name	Date
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