

## **BY-LAWS AND STANDING RULES**

*Revised 7 Aug 2013*

### **NATIONAL CAPITAL RING 50 INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS**

#### **ARTICLE I**

##### **NAME**

Sec. 1. This organization shall be known as the NATIONAL CAPITAL RING 50 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Hereafter referred to as Ring 50.

Sec. 2. The headquarters of this organization shall be within the metropolitan area of Washington, D.C.

#### **ARTICLE II**

##### **OBJECTS**

Sec. 1. To associate together individuals interested in the practice, promotion, of the Art of Magic and its advancement

Sec. 2. To facilitate social intercourse, exchange of ideas, and cooperation between those interested in or practicing the Art of Magic and with other magical societies.

Sec. 3. To encourage the advancement of literature and invention pertaining to the Art of Magic and to protect inventors and authors thereof so they may receive full reward for their creations.

Sec. 4. To discourage divulging the secrets and principles of magic to the public, false or misleading advertising of effects, tricks, literature, merchandise or actions appertaining to the magical arts, as well as any misrepresentations thereof

Sec. 5. To advance the ethics of the magical profession and to promote and conserve the interests of those professionally engage in the Art of Magic and discourage improper competition between the amateur, semi-pro and professional magician

Sec. 6. To present an annual convention known as Magi-Whirl for the membership of this organization when said membership so desires and availability of facilities and budget permit.

Sec. 7. To promote the humane treatment and care of live animals employed in magical performances.

#### **ARTICLE III**

##### **MEMBERSHIP**

Sec. 1. Any reputable and desirable person 18 years of age or over that is a member in good standing of the International Brotherhood of Magicians is eligible to "Active Membership". Active Members shall be those who have qualified, been accepted, and are in good standing. They shall have the right to vote, be eligible for election to office, serve on the committees of Ring 50 and receive the Magi-Gram.

Sec. 2. Any reputable and desirable person 14 years of age and under the age of eighteen that is a member in good standing of the International Brotherhood of Magicians is eligible to "Junior Membership". Junior Members shall be those who have qualified, been accepted, and are in good standing. Such members, upon attaining their eighteenth birthday, shall automatically become Active Members. Junior Members shall not have the right to vote or be eligible to hold any office in Ring 50 but may serve as a nonvoting member of committees and receive the Magi-Gram.

Sec. 3. An "Honorary Membership" may be conferred on those persons who have made outstanding contributions to Ring 50. An Honorary Member shall be entitled to all rights and benefits of an Active Member but shall be exempt from the payment of dues for membership in Ring 50. An Honorary Membership may be recommended by any Active Member of Ring 50 at a regular business meeting. A two-thirds vote of the voting members present at the business meeting is necessary for approval of an Honorary membership.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **OFFICERS**

Sec. 1. The affairs of Ring 50 shall be conducted and managed by an Executive Committee. The said Executive Committee shall be composed of the qualified members elected to and holding the following offices: President; Vice President; Corresponding Secretary; Magi-Gram Editor; Sergeant at Arms; Treasurer; Board of Directors

Sec. 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of three members, one of which shall be the immediate Past President. The remaining two members shall be elected from the membership.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Sec. 1. If nominations are recommended by a nominations committee, such recommended nominations will be presented to the membership of Ring 50 during the month of April by announcement at the regular meeting and publication in the Magi-Gram. At the April meeting, additional nominations may be made by the membership. All nominations shall be published in the next Magi-Gram.

Sec. 2. During the month of May all nominations recommended and made will again be presented to the membership at the regular meeting. Elections from the resulting slate of nominations shall be held at the May regular meeting. Should there be more than one member nominated for the same office, a secret ballot must be taken. The order of election must be for the highest office first and following in descending order.

Sec. 3. The newly elected Executive Committee shall be installed during the Month of June. Their term of office begins upon installation.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **QUORUM**

Sec. 1. In meetings of the Executive Committee, five or more members, one of whom shall be the President or, in his absence, the Vice President, shall constitute a quorum. Proxies thereat shall not be valid under any circumstances.

Sec. 2. In regular meetings of the membership of Ring 50, one third of the regular membership, three of whom shall be members of the Executive Committee, shall constitute a quorum. Proxies thereat shall not be valid under any circumstances.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **SPECIAL POWERS**

Sec. 1. In addition to other duties prescribed in the Standing Rules, the President shall have full and complete administrative powers in conducting the affairs of Ring 50; provided, however, the Executive Committee, by proper vote, shall have the right to direct the President to follow a designated

administrative plan if consistent with the mandate of the membership. However, unless thus directed, the President shall not be liable for errors in judgment or administration.

Sec. 2. The President, in any matter requiring official action but not requiring a meeting of the Executive Committee or of the membership, or when same for any reason cannot be conveniently held, may submit such matters by contacting the members of the Executive Committee or the membership as appropriate, and their action shall be determined by vote of a majority of those responding. All responses shall be filed with the Corresponding Secretary.

Sec. 3. In addition to other duties prescribed in the Standing Rules, the Executive Committee shall have full and complete power in all matters relating to policy of Ring 50 subject to mandate of the membership.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

Sec. 1. Amendments to this By-Law may be made at any regular meeting of Ring 50 by three-fourths vote of the voting members present. Amendments shall first be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee for consideration, and the action of said Committee duly communicated to the membership by publication in the Magi-Gram and at the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered. Such amendment, or substance thereof, shall be published in the Magi-Gram, at least the previous month prior to the date of holding of said regular meeting; provided however, in case of an emergency, an amendment proposed for immediate action shall be forthwith submitted to the full Executive Committee which shall immediately convene and promptly consider such amendment and report its action thereon to the regular membership meeting at which the same is to be considered, whereupon the said amendment shall be brought before the said membership meeting for discussion and vote.

## **STANDING RULES**

### **ARTICLE 1**

#### **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Sec. 1. All applications for membership shall be made on an application blank provided therefore by Ring 50. The applicant must answer all queries set forth in such blank and duly sign the same. Such application shall bear the endorsement of at least two Active Members of Ring 50, stating said applicant is a reputable, desirable person, of good moral character and worthy of membership. Proof of membership in the International Brotherhood of Magicians must be provided before said application for membership in Ring 50 will be valid. The application must be submitted along with prescribed fees to the Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary shall present said application to the Executive Committee or Admissions Committee as may be appointed by the President. Upon consideration and determination that said application is valid by the Executive Committee or Admissions Committee, the name of said applicant and those endorsing said applicant shall be published in the Magi-Gram.

Sec. 2. If within the month following the publication of said application there are three or more objections filed in writing to such application with the Corresponding Secretary, such objections and the application shall be reconsidered by the Executive Committee or the Admissions Committee as appropriate for investigation, approval or rejection. If the objections are sustained, the question of membership approval of said applicant shall be presented to the membership for vote following a presentation of the results of the investigation by the Executive Committee or Admissions Committee. A three-fourths vote of the voting members present shall be necessary to approve the membership. If the membership is not approved, all prescribed fees shall be returned to the applicant.

Sec. 3. If no objections are submitted during the month following the publication of the application in the Magi-Gram, the membership application shall be presented to the membership for vote at the next meeting. A two-thirds vote of the voting members present shall be necessary to approve the

membership. Upon approval by the membership, the Corresponding Secretary shall notify the Treasurer to issue the applicant a Ring 50 membership card and shall cause the name of the new member to be published in the Magi-Gram. The date of membership shall begin with the issuance of the membership card.

Sec. 4. The signature of the applicant to his application for membership shall be a pledge of applicant's agreement to support the By-Laws and Standing Rules, and Code of Ethics of Ring 50 and any and all amendments thereto, as well as all resolutions, now in force or hereafter adopted.

Sec. 5. No person is eligible to membership in Ring 50 for a period of one year following the withdrawal or rejection of his application for membership.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **FEES , DUES, and FUNDS**

Sec. 1. Initiation fees and membership fees shall be determined by recommendation of the Executive Committee to the membership and vote of said membership of Ring 50. Any proposal for change in dues must be published in the Magi-Gram at least the previous month prior to the date of the regular meeting at which the proposal may be voted on.

Sec. 2. All applicants for membership shall be required to pay an initiation fee and Ring 50 dues for one year.

Sec. 3. All members of Ring 50 shall be required to pay annual dues which are payable in full at the February meeting.

Sec. 4. Any member whose dues are three months in arrears shall be automatically suspended. Any suspended member whose dues remain unpaid for more than three months but less than six months may be reinstated upon payment of back dues for one half the amount of the annual dues plus the normal annual dues.

Sec. 5. Any member in arrears for more than six months and seeking reinstatement, may re-apply for membership in the same manner as a new applicant and is subject to payment of initiation fee and annual dues.

Sec. 6. All Ring 50 members must maintain membership in the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Loss of membership rights in the International Brotherhood of Magicians or suspension there from will also invalidate membership in Ring 50.

Sec. 7. All monies of Ring 50 shall be maintained in a federally insured financial institution of good standing in the name "National Capital Ring 50, International Brotherhood of Magicians". A separate accounting shall be maintained in the name "National Capital Ring 50 - Magi-Whirl" for the financial matters pertaining to the Annual Magi-Whirl. Said funds are to be subject to withdrawals upon the signature of any two of the following officers of Ring 50: Treasurer, President or Vice President.

Sec. 8. No funds may be expended from the account(s) of Ring 50 without the permission of the Executive Committee and/or vote of the membership. However, such permission may be granted by approval of the Annual Budget by the Executive Committee and vote of the membership on said budget.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMMITTEES AND APPOINTIVE OFFICERS**

#### **(A) PRESIDENT**

Sec. 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of Ring 50; select and appoint, subject to his dismissal, committees or persons from the membership of the organization whenever any normal or special business, investigations, trials, or other business necessitates, in his judgment, the appointment of such committees or persons; he shall be the ex-officio member of all committees; he shall have full and complete administrative powers in conducting the affairs of the organization subject, however, to the direction of the Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The President shall make the following appointments to serve during the period of his incumbency:

A. A Program Director who shall be responsible for organizing and presenting the entertainment portions of the regular monthly meetings of Ring 50.

B. A Historian who shall be responsible for keeping the archives of Ring 50.

C. A Magi-Whirl Committee who shall be responsible for organizing and presenting the Annual Convention of Ring 50 which is known as the Magi-Whirl when the membership so desires and available facilities and funds permit.

D. An Annual Budget Committee of not fewer than three members who shall be responsible for preparation of an annual budget to be presented to the Executive Committee no later than the month of June. This committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer and the Vice President shall be one of the other two members.

E. An Auditing Committee of not fewer than three members who shall audit the financial records of the organization in May and shall report in writing to the Executive Committee in June

F. A Sam Shapiro Sabar Award Committee who shall be responsible for recommending potential nominees for receipt of the Sabar Award, if in the judgment of the committee there is a deserving nominee. Said committee will include the past recipients of the Sabar Award (if possible) and is given to a current member who has given generously of his or her time and talents to the Ring over several years. This is only awarded in cases of exceptional performance or service over an extended period and is not intended to be awarded annually. (Revised February 4, 2009)

G. A Dan Lacey Award Committee consisting of at least four judges for the annual contest. When possible the contest to be held in May of each year. Potential candidates will perform a magic act lasting no longer than eight minutes. The winner will be awarded a traveling trophy and will perform at the Gala Show for Magi-Whirl. (Revised February 4, 2009)

Sec. 3. The President may at his discretion appoint the following committees to serve during the period of his incumbency:

A. A Nominations Committee of not less than three members and which shall be chaired by the immediate Past President who shall present recommendations for nominations to the Executive Committee prior to the April regular meeting of Ring 50.

B. An Admissions Committee who shall review and take action on applications for membership and shall conduct investigations in the event of objections to any application for membership.

C. An Annual Banquet Committee who shall organize and present an annual banquet for the membership.

D. A Sick and Convalescence Committee who shall take appropriate acts to express the good will of Ring 50 to members and families of members who are sick and/or have experienced accident, illness, or death.

E. A Ring Awards Committee who shall coordinate and manage the entry of Ring 50 in the Ring Awards Competition

Sec. 4. The President may appoint such other committees as he may deem necessary.

Sec. 5. In the case of death, resignation, disqualification or legal disability of any officer or member of the Executive Committee to act, the President shall appoint his successor to serve until the next election at which time such vacancy shall be filled by election of a successor. However, in the event of disqualification or legal disability of such officer or member of the Executive Committee, such appointment shall be only for the period of the existence of such disqualification or legal disability and shall not conflict with any other provision of this By-Laws and Standing Rules.

#### **(B) VICE PRESIDENT**

Sec. 1. The Vice President shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties, and in the absence of the President at meetings shall preside in his stead. In the event of the death, resignation, or during the period of disability, or when for any reason the said President is disqualified, the Vice President shall succeed to the duties of the President; however, in the event of such disability or disqualification, such succession shall only be for the period of such disability or disqualification, which disability shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 2. The Vice President shall perform other duties as assigned by the President or the Executive Committee.

#### **(C) CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Sec. 1. The Corresponding Secretary shall keep a true record of all the proceedings of the organization together with the minutes thereof, as well as a file of correspondence pertaining to the office. He shall maintain an up to date accurate membership list. He shall prepare and submit a monthly Ring Report in timely fashion to the Linking Ring for publication therein

Sec. 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Committee.

#### **(D) MAGI-GRAM EDITOR**

Sec. 1. The Magi-Gram editor shall record the events of regular meetings and report same in a timely fashion along with other announcements of interest in a monthly newsletter known as the Magi-Gram. He shall be responsible for mailing the Magi-Gram to all members in good standing of Ring 50 and to other individuals as may be directed by the Executive Committee. He is also responsible for coordination with the Program director to obtain the topic of upcoming meetings and reporting same in the Magi-Gram.

Sec. 2. The Magi-Gram Editor shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

## **(E) SERGEANT AT ARMS**

Sec. 1. The Sergeant at Arms shall be responsible for maintaining proper order during all meetings, welcoming guests, supervising balloting, and verification of membership at meetings of Ring 50. He shall also be responsible for collection of fees as may be required for admission to certain meetings and events of the Ring.

Sec. 2. The Sergeant at Arms shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

## **(F) TREASURER**

Sec. 1. The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to Ring 50; deposit same in a Federally insured financial institution of good standing; promptly pay all properly approved obligations and/or disbursements of the Ring; and maintain a current and accurate record of all such financial transactions. The Treasurer shall also render an annual financial report of the Ring's accounts and transactions of the past year. Said report shall be presented to the membership at the Annual Business Meeting. He shall assist the Corresponding Secretary in maintaining an up to date accurate list of the members of the Ring.

Sec. 2. The Treasurer shall chair the Annual Budget Committee.

Sec. 3. The Treasurer shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President or Executive Committee.

## **(G) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall act as advisors to help, aid, and assist the other officers in their duties and responsibilities and shall be responsible for insuring that the Ring functions on a sound policy and fiscal basis for the benefit of the membership. Each member of the Board of Directors is entitled to a full vote in any matters of the Executive Committee as may be voted upon.

## **(H) COMMITTEES AND APPOINTIVE OFFICERS**

Sec. 1. The PROGRAM DIRECTOR shall plan, organize, and present the entertainment portion of each regular meeting and shall provide sufficient advance notice of the theme of such programs to the Magi-Gram Editor to permit publication of same in advance of meetings. Such entertainments should be conducted in good taste and in such a manner as to offer a variety of magical interests over the period of a year with opportunity for participation by a large number of members. He is responsible for submitting an annual program plan for the Ring to the President in June.

Sec. 2. The HISTORIAN shall collect and maintain an archive of the records, papers, artifacts, and happenings of Ring 50.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **The *Magi-Gram***

Sec. 1. There shall be published monthly, under the supervision of the Magi-Gram Editor, an official newsletter known as the *Magi-Gram*. The purpose of said newsletter being to advise members of upcoming meetings, events of previous meetings, and other items of magical interest.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the Magi-Gram Editor to edit all material for publication in the Magi-Gram and to reject all libelous or doubtful material, as well as controversial matter or materials not in the best interest and well being of Ring 50. He shall also reject, if known to him, any questionable advertising. In the case of doubt, the Magi-Gram Editor should consult with the Executive Committee and be guided by their advice. He shall be responsible for the prompt monthly publication and distribution of the newsletter.

Sec. 3. The Magi-Gram shall be available only to Active, Junior, and Honorary members of Ring 50. However, copies may be supplied to selected individuals at the direction of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **THE ANNUAL MAGI-WHIRL**

Sec. 1. The President shall appoint a committee to be composed of at least three members which shall be known as the Magi-Whirl Committee. The purpose of the Magi-Whirl committee shall be to plan for, provide, and present an Annual Magi-Whirl for the members of Ring 50 when said membership so desires and available facilities and funds permit.

Sec. 2. The Magi-Whirl Committee shall organize immediately upon appointment and develop a budget and plan for presentation of the Magi-Whirl. Said budget and plan will be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.

Sec. 3. No persons, unless authorized by the Magi-Whirl Committee, will offer any item for sale at an Annual Magi-Whirl.

Sec. 4. Nonmembers of Ring 50 shall be charged an amount in excess of the advance purchase fee charged for attendance to the Magi-Whirl by members of Ring 50. Members of Ring 50 will be presented an opportunity to purchase admission to the Annual Magi-Whirl in advance of such admission being offered to nonmembers.

Sec. 5. Within 30 days of the annual Magi-Whirl Conference/Gala Event, Magi-Whirl committee members will meet to discuss results and present any recommendations for improvement to Ring 50 Executive Committee. *(added Aug 2013)*

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **MEETINGS**

Sec. 1. All business meetings of Ring 50 shall be closed to attendance by anyone who is not a member in good standing unless individual exceptions are granted by the Executive Committee for the admission of person(s) necessary to the conduct of said business meeting or portions thereof.

Sec. 2. The entertainment or non-business portions of all Ring 50 meetings shall be closed to attendance by anyone who is not a member in good standing with the following exceptions unless otherwise directed by the Executive Committee:

A. The entertainment or non-business portion of certain selected meetings as may be declared by the Executive Committee as Open Meetings with a specific definition of who is permitted to attend. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, an admission fee may be charged for attendance at such events

B. Members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians who are not members of Ring 50 and who are not residents of the Washington, D.C. area and who are visiting the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.

C. Recognized magicians who are not members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and who are non-residents of the Washington, D.C. area who are visiting the Washington, D.C. area may attend with the endorsement of a Ring 50 member who must accompany said guest to the meeting.



D. Nonmembers who are expressed prospective applicants for membership in Ring 50 may attend up to two meetings in any one year with the endorsement of a Ring 50 member who must accompany said prospective applicant to the meeting.

E. Nonmembers who have made application for membership in Ring 50 may attend meetings during the pendency of their membership approval but must be accompanied by a Ring 50 member.

Sec. 3. There shall be Annual Business Meeting, preferably in June, for the purpose of review the annual status of the finances and other affairs of Ring 50.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS, CODE OF ETHICS, RESIGNATIONS, SUSPENSIONS, OR EXPULSIONS, USE OF NAME AND EMBLEM, AND MYSTERIES OF THE ORDER.**

Sec. 1. Ring 50 adopts both in concept and substance the content of the articles of the By-Laws and Standing Rules of the International Brotherhood of Magicians that pertain to the Duties and Privileges of Members, Code of Ethics, Resignations, Suspensions, or Expulsions, use of Name and Emblem, and the Mysteries of the Order.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Sec. 1. The order of business of Ring 50 business meetings shall be as follows:

1. Reading and approving the previous unreported minutes of the previous meeting.
2. Reports of officers.
3. Reports of committees.
4. Correspondence.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.
7. Good and welfare.
8. Election of officers.

Sec. 2. The rules of order shall be governed by the general Standing Rules and by Robert's Revised Rules of Order when not in conflict therewith.

Adopted October 1983

*Revised 4 Feb 2009*

*Revised 7 Aug 2013*

## INDEX

- Active Members
  - Membership (2)
- Admissions Committee
  - duty (7)
- Age
  - Membership (2)
- Amendments
  - By-Laws (3)
- Bank Accounts
  - Magi-Whirl (5)
  - Regular (5)
- Board of Directors (2)
  - Duties (9)
- Committees (6)
  - Admissions (4)
  - Admissions Committee (7)
  - Auditing committee (6)
  - Banquet (7)
  - Bertol Award (6)
  - Budget Committee (6)
    - Duty (9)
  - Historian (6)
- Magi-Whirl (10)
  - Magi-Whirl (6)
- Nominations (6)
- Other (7)
- Program Director (6)
- Ring Awards (7)
- Sabar Award (6)
- Sick & Convalescence (7)
- Dues
  - Arrears (5)
  - Initiation fees (5)
  - Late payment (5)
  - Payment of back dues (5)
  - Setting of (5)
  - When due (5)
- Duties
  - President (6)
- Funds
  - Accounts (5)
  - Permission required to expend (5)
  - Who may withdraw (5)
- Headquarters (1)
- Historian
  - Duties (9)
- Initiation fees (5)
- Installation of Officers (3)
- Magi-Gram (9)
  - Magi-Gram Editor
    - Duty (9)
- Magi-Whirl (9)
  - Admission fee (10)

- Sales at (10)
- Magi-Whirl Committee
  - Composition & purpose (10)
- Magi-Whirl
  - Accounts (5)
- Meetings
  - Annual (11)
  - Closed (10)
  - Order of Business (11)
  - Who may attend (10)
- Members
  - Active (2)
  - Age (2)
- MEMBERSHIP (1)
  - Admissions Committee (4)
  - Applications (4)
  - Honorary (2)
  - I.B.M. membership required (5)
  - Junior (2)
  - Suspension or expulsion (11)
- NAME (1)
- Nominating Committee
  - Report (2)
  - Nominations
    - Nominating Committee (2)
- Object (1)
- OBJECTS (1)
- Officers (2)
  - Board of Directors (2), (9)
  - Corresponding Secretary (7)
- Duties (6)
  - Installation (3)
  - Magi-Gram Editor (8)
  - Sergeant at Arms (8)
  - Treasurer (8)
  - Vice President (7)
- Powers, Special
  - Executive Committee (3)
  - President (3)
- President
  - Duties (6)
  - Filling of office due to death etc. (7)
- Program Director
  - Duty (9)
- Proxies (3)
- Quorum
  - Executive Committee (3)
    - Proxies (3)
    - Regular meeting (3)
    - Right to vote
- Active members (2)
  - Suspensions or Expulsions (11)
  - Vote
    - Active member (2)