

**WARREN HAMILTON RING 175 OF THE INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS
RING CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the **Tampa Magic Club, Warren Hamilton Ring 175** of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Section 2. The headquarters of this organization shall be Tampa, FL, U.S.A.

ARTICLE II. STRUCTURE

Section 1. This organization shall be governed under the laws of Florida as a not-for-profit organization.

ARTICLE III. OBJECTIVES

Section 1. To organize, associate, and encourage those interested in the art of magic and its advancement.

Section 2. To foster and advance the magical talents, creativity and knowledge of the Ring membership.

Section 3. To promote fellowship and social interaction, exchange of ideas and cooperation between those interested in the magical arts.

Section 4. To cultivate and advance the art of magic in the fields of entertainment, education and other cultural areas.

Section 5. To promote to the magical community an applicable code of ethics as established by the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There shall be five classes of Ring Membership: Active, Trial, Youth, Associate and Honorary.

Section 2. An Active member must be at least 18 years of age, shall have been interested in magic for at least one year and be an active member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Section 3. All Ring members, except Trial Members, must join the International Brotherhood of Magicians and remain members in good standing.

Section 4. A Trial member must be at least 18 years of age, meet all Club membership requirements and is not currently an active member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Section 5. A Youth member must be at least 7 years of age and less than 18 years of age, have been interested in magic at least one year and become a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Upon reaching the age of 18, Youth members immediately become Active members with all privileges. Any Youth member of I.B.M. Ring 175 or guest under the age of fifteen must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or designated responsible adult.

Section 6. An Associate member must be a spouse, or bona fide assistant to an Active or Youth member and be at least 18 years of age.

Section 7. An Honorary member (a.k.a. Life member) must be an Active Ring member who has significantly advanced the magical arts and therefore awarded this distinction by the Board of Directors. When a member becomes a Life Member, their spouse will automatically become an Associate Member with no dues. They can continue to attend meetings even if the Life Member passes away.

Section 8. As a condition of membership, all Ring members shall pledge to be bound by the International Brotherhood of Magicians' Code of Ethics.

ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND PRIVILEGES

Section 1. Application for Active membership must be made on an approved membership form and be properly signed by the applicant. Endorsement must be obtained by two Active, Associate or Honorary members of the Ring stating that the applicant is of good moral character and worthy of membership. The application will be accompanied by the current membership fees established by the Board of Directors. Perspective members must then be approved for membership by the Board Of Directors.

Section 2. Junior memberships are secured by the same procedures as is required for Active membership. Junior members shall enjoy the same privileges as Active members except they shall have no vote in the meetings nor may they hold office; however, they may serve on committees. Upon reaching the age of eighteen years they shall be recognized as Active members.

Section 3. Associate memberships are secured by the same procedures as is required for Active membership. Associate members shall enjoy the same privileges as Active members.

Section 4. Honorary membership in Ring 175 may be granted to Ring members who have attained distinction in the magical arts. Recommendations for Ring Honorary membership shall be initiated by a unanimous recommendation of the Board of Directors and shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting, providing a quorum exists.

Section 5. In addition to their distinction, Honorary Ring members shall possess the same privileges as an Active member but pay no Ring dues.

ARTICLE VI. DUES

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall establish annual dues for all membership classes, as well as charges for guests, lectures or other charges during the annual budgetary review. Any changes in amounts will be published in the Ring newsletter. Dues shall be payable prior to or in January.

Section 2. Guest privileges. A guest can attend up to two meetings in a two-year period without paying a guest fee (excluding lectures). After two meetings, the guest must either become a Ring member (and an International Brotherhood of Magicians' member), pay a Guest fee or become a Trial Member. Guest fees will be paid at each meeting or lecture. A single meeting guest fee can be waived at the President's discretion, or a Ring officer in the President's absence, under special circumstances, such as an out of town guest or visiting dignitary. This does not apply to lecture guest fees.

A guest or Trial member does not have voting privileges and cannot hold office, but can be a committee member (but not a committee chair person).

Section 3. The Ring shall conduct an annual enrollment period for members but persons may be admitted to membership at any time.

Section 4. Only members in good standing of Ring 175 shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings or to serve in any of its elective or appointive positions.

Section 5. Membership in Ring 175 shall be available without regard to race, color, creed, or national origin.

Section 6. Any member who becomes in arrears in their Ring dues or the International Brotherhood of Magicians' dues (who, after being notified, fails to correct such arrearage, within a reasonable time), shall forfeit their membership rights and privileges. If the member was an officer or board member, they forfeit their officer and director status and voting rights, in addition to their membership rights and privileges.

Section 7. A Youth or Associate member annual dues should be at 50% rate for an Active Member.

Section 8. A Trial member annual dues should be set at a higher rate than those for an Active Member and pay a reduced amount (compared to a Guest Fee) for each lecture. The annual fee amount will be set at a Board meeting.

ARTICLE VII. MEMBER SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Section 1. Members may be suspended or expelled from membership or removed from being a Ring officer for any conduct which is not in the best interest of the Ring, violation of the Code of Ethics or violation of the Ring Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2. The decision to expel, suspend or remove from office rests on first, a recommendation by the Board of Directors to do so, followed by a majority vote of the membership at a meeting, provided a quorum exists. Members considered for expulsion, suspension or removal from office will be formally notified and be given due opportunity to meet with the Board and membership prior to any vote on such action.

ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The affairs of the Ring shall be conducted by the Officers and the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Officers. The Officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms. The terms of office shall be for one year. The President shall not hold that office for more than two consecutive terms.

Section 3. Board Of Directors. The Board Of Directors shall consist of current Officers, the Dean of the Warren Hamilton Ring 175, Life members, Past Presidents (who have been continuous members with no lapses in Ring membership) and two additional Board members elected annually by the membership. The members of the Board of Directors shall serve until the election and qualification of their successors.

ARTICLE IX. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to be the Chief Executive Officer of the Ring and guide it after due counsel with the Board of Directors; and to preside at all meetings of the organization and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2. The Vice President shall assist the President in the duties of that office, and in the absence of the President serve as the Ring's presiding officer. The Vice President may serve as an ex-officio member of committees in substitution for the President and assume other duties delegated to him.

Section 3. The Secretary, with the assistance of the Recording Secretary, shall keep a true record of all meetings, maintain files of significant correspondence related to the Ring, execute in a timely manner the Ring correspondence including submission of required reports and requested

information to the executive office and officers of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and perform other duties as delegated by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Sergeant At Arms will assure the hospitality of the Ring is extended to members and guests. The Sergeant of Arms will assure that all persons attending Ring meetings are members of the Ring in good standing or approved guests and collect guest and lecture fees where appropriate.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall oversee all deposits and receipts of money of the Ring and shall assure prompt payment of all properly approved Ring obligations. The Treasurer shall maintain accurate accounting records of all receipts and disbursements and report the status of these against the Ring's budget to the Board of Directors on a schedule specified by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer will also chair the Budget Committee and review the Ring's financial accounts and recommend alternative banking facilities and investments.

Section 6. The routine business of the Ring shall be administered by the Board of Directors. They shall consider and take action on any proposals submitted to them by members of the Ring. They may act upon such proposals or prepare from them a suitable motion to be presented for consideration at any Ring meeting.

Section 7. In the case of the death, resignation or inability of any officer to serve, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor. Such successor will serve until the next annual election.

ARTICLE X. METHOD OF ELECTION

Section 1. Ring Officers shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Recording Secretary and a Treasurer.

Section 2. There shall be a Nominating Committee composed of three members. The Committee chairman shall be selected by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the election (October).

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall nominate one eligible person for each office to be filled and two elected board members. The Committee shall report its nominees at the Board Of Directors meeting one month (November) before the election, at which time nominations can be discussed and alternative nominations may be made. Any qualified member may be nominated for any Officer or Director position at the November meeting provided said nomination is seconded by the membership.

Section 4. Only those persons who have signified their consent to serve if elected shall be nominated for or elected to such office.

Section 5. The official ballot shall be presented to the membership at the December meeting for vote by all members then present. However, if there is but one nominee for any office, it shall be in order to move that the members cast the elective ballot of the Ring for the nominee.

Section 6. Elected Officers shall assume their official duties on January 1st and continue until the election and qualification of their successors.

Section 7. A person shall not be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office unless approved in advance by the Board of Directors.

Section 8. If a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice President shall assume the office of President. A vacancy occurring in any other office shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI. QUORUM

Section 1. A quorum necessary to conduct business at a Board of Directors meeting shall consist of at least four active Board of Director members, two of whom must be current Officers.

Section 2. A Board of Directors meeting can only be conducted by the current President or in his absence, another officer appointed by the current President.

Section 3. A quorum necessary to conduct business at a regular Ring meeting shall consist of at least ten Ring members.

Section 4. No member shall have more than one vote.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote at any meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ring, provided a quorum exists. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws, to be effective, must be ratified by a majority vote of the Ring members at the Ring meeting, provided a quorum exists.

ARTICLE XIII. MEETINGS

Section 1. The Ring shall hold its regular meetings at a time set by the Board of Directors. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, meeting dates that conflict with holidays or other events may be canceled or moved to a different date.

Section 2. The Board of Directors may shift the meeting night to accommodate special events and it may add additional meetings for lectures and other magic or social activities.

ARTICLE XIV. GOVERNING BODY AND INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

Section 1. Any provisions within the Ring Constitution and Bylaws that are in conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and/or laws covering the state of Florida will be superseded by the rules and laws issued by the latter governing bodies.

ARTICLE XV. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Section 1. No officer or other member of the Ring shall make any expenditure or enter into any contract that becomes a financial obligation of the organization, unless the expenditure or contract has been approved by the Board of Directors either as a special commitment or as part of its annual budget. Committee chairs of major functions (e.g. public shows and banquets) shall submit proposals to the Board for approval prior to the commitment of funds.

ARTICLE XVI. DISSOLUTION

Section 1. In the event of the dissolution of the Ring, the Board of Directors shall after the payment of organization's financial liabilities, dispose of all its assets to an organization or organizations organized explicitly for the advancement and support of the magical arts. Such organization(s) shall at the time be qualified and operating explicitly as an exempt organization, organized under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or future provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2. Robert's Revised Rules of Order shall govern Board of Directors meetings and Ring meetings when not in conflict with the Ring's Constitution and Bylaws or Florida laws covering this organization.