

Ring 19 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians
RING CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, NAME

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Carl W. Jones Ring 19 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Section 2. The records of this organization shall be retained by the presiding officers of the club, in the greater Twin Cities area of Minnesota.

ARTICLE II, STRUCTURE

Section 1. This organization shall be incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota, as a domestic nonprofit corporation.

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 Ring members.

Section 3. To promote fellowship and social interaction, exchange of ideas and cooperation among 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 three classes of Ring membership: Active Member, Junior Member, and Order of Merlin. All members must be reputable persons with a serious interest in magic, and must demonstrate a basic level of knowledge of the art.

Section 2. Active membership persons of at least 18 years of age. Active members are eligible to vote, serve on committees and serve as officers of the Ring.

Section 3. Junior membership is open to persons over the age of 12 and under the age of 18. Junior members automatically become active members upon reaching their 18th birthday. Junior members do not vote and are not eligible for committee service or elected roles.

Section 4. An Order of Merlin membership may be awarded to a Ring member who has maintained membership in the International Brotherhood of Magicians for 25 continuous years.

Section 5. All Ring members must join the International Brotherhood of Magicians and remain members in good standing.

Section 6. As a condition of membership all Ring members shall pledge to be bound by the International Brotherhood of Magicians' Code of Ethics.

Section 7. Visitors are allowed to attend three meetings as a guest of the Ring. On the fourth visit, the guest must either become a member of International I.B.M. or cease attending meetings.

ARTICLE V, OFFICERS

Section 1. The affairs of the Ring shall be conducted by a Board of Directors comprised of the following elected Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President. All officers must be active members in good standing with Ring 19 and with the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Section 2. Terms of office for the secretary and treasurer shall be for two calendar years (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31). Terms of office for the President, Vice President and Immediate Past President shall be one year (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31), with the office holder automatically progressing from one role to the next for a total board term of three years. Elections for the coming year shall be held each year at the December meeting of the membership.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall meet as needed, but no less than once per quarter (three months).

ARTICLE VI, QUORUM

Section 1. At least half of the members of the Board of Directors must be present at any Board Meeting to constitute a quorum.

Section 2. At least 20 percent of active members of the organization must be present at any regular Ring meeting to constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII, AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any regular business meeting of this organization by a two-thirds vote (assuming a quorum is present), provided that the proposed amendment or amendments have been presented at the previous regular Ring meeting, and provided that such proposed amendment or amendments have been distributed to the membership by email at least one month prior to the vote.

ARTICLE VIII, GOVERNING AUTHORITY

Section 1. Any provisions within the Ring Constitution and Bylaws that are in conflict with the laws of the State of Minnesota will be superseded by the rules and laws issued by the latter governing body.

RING BYLAWS

ARTICLE I, MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND PRIVILEGES

Section 1. Application for membership must be made on an approved membership form provided by Ring 19. The application must be accompanied by a current member number from the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Payment of annual dues is required upon approval of Ring 19 membership.

Section 2 Order of Merlin membership in Ring 19 may be granted to an active Ring 19 member who has been an active member for 25 consecutive years. Order of Merlin members shall possess the same privileges as an active member but pay no Ring dues.

ARTICLE II, MEMBER SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Section 1. Members may be suspended or expelled from membership or removed from the executive offices of the Ring for: any conduct, which is not in the best interest of the Ring; violation of the Code of Ethics; and violation of the Ring Constitution and Bylaws. The decision to expel, suspend or remove from office requires a recommendation by the Board of Directors to do so, followed by a three-fourths majority vote of the membership at a meeting in which the membership is notified of the issue at least one month prior to the voting. 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 III, DUES

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall establish annual dues for membership during the annual budgetary review. Any changes in rate will be published on the Ring website and announced at a regular Ring meeting at least one month before the new rate is to take effect. The payment of annual dues provides 12 months of membership, beginning on the first the month during which initial membership is awarded, or on the anniversary of the most recent dues payment.

Section 2. Any member who becomes in arrears may, after notification by the Board of Directors, forfeit their membership and be subject to reinstatement only upon making application as a new member.

ARTICLE IV, DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Ring and shall in general supervise its affairs to further the mission of the Ring. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 2. The President may, after due counsel with the Board of Directors, appoint members to serve in various non-voting capacities, including:

1. A Historian who shall maintain the historical archives and records of the Ring.
2. A Webmaster, who will be responsible for maintaining the Ring website.
3. A Minister of Propaganda, who will oversee social media efforts on behalf of the Ring.
4. A Sergeant at Arms, who shall maintain order at Ring events.

Some of these duties may be combined, and may be performed by members of the Board of Directors.

Section 3. 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 shall automatically succeed the President upon the completion of a one-year term as Vice President, and shall serve a one-year term as Immediate Past President upon completion of a one-year term as President. The Vice President shall, with the assistance of other members as appropriate, be responsible for logistical arrangements for special events of the Ring (including, but not limited to, an annual banquet and annual picnic).

Section 4. The Secretary shall: keep a true record of all meetings; maintain files of significant correspondence related to the Ring; submit Ring reports for publication in *The Linking Ring* magazine; 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 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 records of membership, dues status and attendance. 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.

Section 6. 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 closed meetings are members of the Ring in good standing or approved guests.

Section 7. The routine business of the Ring shall be administered by the Board of Directors. They shall consider and take action on any proposals submitted 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 regular meeting of the Ring.

Section 8. In the case of the death, resignation or the inability or failure of any officer to serve, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor. Such successor will serve until the next annual election.

Section 9. The Board of Directors shall investigate all grievances arising from conduct unbecoming a Ring officer or member. They may present proposals to the membership for action to expel, suspend or remove from office any members for such conduct.

ARTICLE V, 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.

ARTICLE VI, METHOD OF ELECTION

Section 1. The President, with the concurrence of the Board of Directors, shall annually appoint a nominating committee consisting of three to five members of the organization. The nominating committee shall recruit and recommend candidates for the elected offices of the Ring (Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) as needed. Candidates should be announced at the November membership meeting. Such recommendations shall not exceed three candidates for each office and shall be published on the Ring website at least 21 days prior to the election. In addition, any qualified member may be nominated for offices by any member in good standing during the December business meeting, prior to the election.

Section 2. During the December business meeting, an official ballot containing the names of all qualified nominees shall be distributed to each active member present. Ballots shall be marked, returned and tabulated by a member designated by the President to serve as teller. Election to all offices shall be by a simple majority of the ballots cast. Nominees named for elected offices who are uncontested shall be elected without balloting.

Section 3 Elected Officers assume their responsibilities Jan. 1.

ARTICLE VII, MEETINGS

Section 1. The Ring shall hold its regular meetings on the second Monday of the month. 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. 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 VIII, AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 1. Amendments to the bylaws may be made at any regular business meeting of this organization at which a quorum is present by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the membership has been notified of the proposed changes by mail or email at least one month prior to meeting and the proposed amendments have been posted on the website at least 21 days prior to the meeting in which when the vote is taken.

ARTICLE IX, GENERAL

Section 1. The Board will create and maintain a Policy and Program manual to provide working guidelines for the Ring officers and membership. The Policy and Program Manual will be updated annually and will be based on Board decisions that delegate responsibilities and create actions that maintain direction and focus to Ring activities and policies.

Section 2. The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Ring's Constitution and Bylaws, the laws of the State of Minnesota, or any special rules of order the organization may adopt.

ARTICLE X, 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.