

VANCOUVER MAGIC CIRCLE SOCIETY CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

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(Note) as to ensure clarity in identifying information contained in this document, the document consists of two (2) parts: Constitution identified as (C) and Bylaws identified as (B) before each article number.

Article (c) 1.0 - Organization/Title

This organization shall be known as the **Vancouver Magic Circle – Charles Howard Ring, I.B.M. Ring 92.**

Article (c) 1.1 – Headquarters Area

The headquarters of this organization shall be located in the Greater Vancouver Regional District, British Columbia, Canada.

Article (c) 1.2 – Structure

This organization shall be governed by provisions within the Ring Constitution and Bylaws of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Any local constitutional articles or bylaws that are in conflict with this governing body will be superseded by the rules and laws of the National Constitution.

Article (c) 1.3 – Objectives

(c) 1.3.1 To organize, associate and encourage those interested in the art of magic and its advancement.

(c) 1.3.2 To foster and advance the magical talents, creativity and knowledge of ring fellowship.

(c) 1.3.3 To promote fellowship and social interaction, exchange of ideas and cooperation between those interested in the magical arts.

(c) 1.3.4 To cultivate and advance the art of magic in the fields of entertainment, education and other cultural areas.

(c) 1.3.5 To promote to the magical community an applicable code of ethics as established by the International Brotherhood of Magicians (I.B.M.).

Article 1

Bylaws

(b) 1.1 These Bylaws are the rules governing the organization known as the Vancouver Magic Circle and can only be amended as per the process outlined in this document.

(b) 1.2 These Bylaws may be altered or added to at any General meeting by an extraordinary resolution.

(b) 1.3 EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTION

Notice in writing shall be duly given of intention to propose any resolution as an extraordinary resolution. Such notice shall contain a copy of the proposed resolution and shall name the date of the meeting of the Circle at which the resolution will be proposed as an extraordinary resolution. Such notice shall be given by delivering a copy thereof to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting and by publication. A majority of not less than three-fourths of the members present and in good standing at such a meeting and who are entitled to vote shall be required to pass such a resolution.

Article 2
Membership

(b) 2.1 An Active Member shall be any person, nineteen years of age or over who has been duly accepted for membership to the Vancouver Magic Circle, has completed one year as an Associate Member, or Junior Member and is a member in good standing of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. This person will have attended a minimum of six (6) circle functions over the last twelve (12) months and will have performed at least once at these gatherings. As an Active Member they shall have the right to vote, hold office, compete for trophies and full use of the Library.

(b) 2.2 An Associate Member shall be any person, eighteen years of age or over who has been duly accepted for membership in the Vancouver Magic Circle but has yet to meet the requirements for Active membership. They shall not have the right to compete, vote or hold office. They shall however, be permitted limited use of the Library. The Associate Membership term will be gauged on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Directors and shall be a minimum of 4 months and not extending longer than 1 year until the Associate Member is either accepted to Active Member status or is cast from the application process for a term no less than 1 year until they may reapply as an Associate Member.

(b) 2.3 A Junior Member shall be any person, seventeen years of age or younger who is interested in the art of magic. Such a person may be admitted to this status when sponsored and governed by an Active Member. All Junior Members under fourteen years of age shall have an Active Member who will be responsible for the youth for the total time he/she is absent from their parent, guardian or agent. This includes the responsibility for transportation and safety before and after the meeting. Active membership will be governed by the regulations in Section One and Two (MEMBERSHIP) of these Bylaws. Juniors may attend all regular meetings, functions and workshops and have library privileges. Junior Members may only compete for certain designated trophies. Juniors may not vote or hold office with exception of Junior Director.

(b) 2.4 Out of Town Member shall be any person applying for membership who is not resident within the distance specified in Article (b) 4.1. Out of Town members will have the right to vote when present at Circle functions but will not be granted any proxy rights. Out of Town members are not eligible to hold office and may be granted use of the library at the discretion of the Librarian.

(b) 2.5 Life Member is an honour conferred on a magician who has been an Active Member of the Vancouver Magic Circle, subject to the conditions of Section Six.

(b) 2.6 Honorary Member is an honour conferred on a magician, not a member of the Vancouver Magic Circle, subject to the conditions of Section Six.

(b) 2.7 Senior Member shall be defined as any Member attaining age 65 and shall be subject to Annual Dues in accordance with Article (b) 4.2

(b) 2.8 Courtesy Member: In order to enhance relationships with sister organizations in I.B.M., a Courtesy Membership may be available to the President of that organization.

(b) 2.8.1 Courtesy Memberships (will be no charge)

(b) 2.8.2 Courtesy Memberships must be voted on with three-fourths majority vote of the executive.

(b) 2.8.3 Courtesy Memberships will be made available for existing members that are in good standing on issues of hardship or compassion.

(b) 2.9 Honorary or Life Membership may be conferred on those who, in the opinion of the General Membership, have materially advanced the art or operation of Magic. Nomination for such an award must first be submitted by letter to the Board of Directors before submission to the General

Membership. Election to Honorary or Life Membership may be carried out by secret ballot at any general meeting and a majority vote will be required for election.

(b) 2.10 Any member of the Vancouver Magic Circle who is in good standing may affiliate as a member with any National and/or International organization without affecting his Circle privileges.

(b) 2.11 All information obtained within the Circle is for the exclusive use of its members only.

Article 3

Membership Suspension

(b) 3.1 Members who are not in good standing shall have no voice in any meeting of the Circle.

(b) 3.2 Any member whose dues have not been paid by February First shall be dropped from the roll of the Circle until they are re-instated. Members dropped from the roll are eligible for re-instatement upon payment of all back dues. A vote at any regular constituted general meeting is necessary for re-instatement and shall comply with Section Five. Any member can be expelled for unbecoming conduct: A three-fourths vote shall be required for expulsion.

(b) 3.3 The Executive Directors shall have authority, in the case of any member who through force of circumstances is unable to maintain his dues, to suspend such dues at their discretion. A full report of the member's situation will be provided to the Executive Officers by the Membership Committee in such cases.

(b) 3.4 A member can be suspended or expelled from membership or activity of the Circle, for any conduct that is not in the best interest of the Circle.

(b) 3.5 A member can be suspended or expelled from membership for violation of the I.B.M. Code of Ethics and/or violation of the Circle Constitution and Bylaws.

(b) 3.6 The decision to expel or suspend a member(s) is subject to a recommendation by the Executive Committee, followed by a three-fourths majority vote of the voting membership at a meeting in which the membership is notified of the issue at least one month prior to the voting.

(b) 3.7 Members considered for the expulsion or suspension will be formally notified and be given the opportunity to meet with the Executive Committee and general membership prior to any vote on such action.

(b) 3.8 Following a complete review of the President's report to the Executive Committee, all founded allegations will be summarized in a report and presented to the general membership at the next general membership meeting following the completed report.

(b) 3.9 A vote will be conducted one month after notification to the general membership and three-fourths majority vote of the voting members will be required for the suspension to be actioned.

Article 4

Dues

(b) 4.1 Any person living on the mainland within a radius of seventy-five (75) miles or one hundred and twenty (120) kilometre radius of the City of Vancouver, B.C., applying for membership in the society shall pay an amount equal to the current annual dues unless the effective date of entrance is more than six (6) months after the first day of January, whereupon the assessment of dues will be determined on a pro-rated basis by the Board of Directors.

(b) 4.2 The Annual Dues for an Active Member, Junior Member and Senior Member for any coming year shall be determined by the Executive and shall be published in the Circle newsletter in October each year. If no dues are published at that time then the last published rates will apply. Members who

have paid their dues in advance of notification of a dues increase, to a maximum of three years, will have those dues honoured until they expire, regardless of any increases. When prepaid dues are used up, all Members will be assessed new dues for the following year(s) based on the last published rate.

(b) 4.3 Any person not on the mainland or living outside a radius of seventy-five (75) miles or one hundred and twenty (120) kilometre radius of the City of Vancouver, B.C., applying for membership in the society shall pay dues in the amount determined by the Executive for any coming year and published in the Circle newsletter in October each year. If no dues are published at that time then the last published rates will apply. Members who have paid their dues in advance of notification of a dues increase, to a maximum of three years, will have those dues honoured until they expire, regardless of any increases. When prepaid dues are used up, all Members will be assessed new dues for the following year(s) based on the last published rate. In the event an applicant is refused, any monies so submitted shall be refunded in full.

(b) 4.4 Any applicant becoming a member of the Circle under the outlined regulations in Article (b) 4.1 who takes up residence on the mainland within a Seventy-five mile radius or One Hundred and Twenty Kilometres radius of the City of Vancouver, B.C. within one year of becoming a member of the Circle shall forthwith pay the balance due under Article (b) 4.2.

(b) 4.5 Each member, unless hereinafter specified, shall pay to the Circle an annual membership fee as appropriate to the level of membership in accordance with Articles (b) 4.2 and (b) 4.3 or such further sum as may be from time to time determined by the First day of February in each year and no member shall be in good standing while in default of any such fee.

(b) 4.6 Annual dues for membership classifications shall be recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the Circle's members at the Circles Annual General Meeting held in January each year. Annual dues will be payable on or before January 31 of the current year.

(b) 4.7 There will be one month extension provide for members in extraordinary circumstances. Authorization for extension must be passed by the majority vote at the September Executive meeting and the President must provide a report to the membership at the next regular schedule general membership meeting.

Article 5

Officer's Duties, Accountabilities and Responsibilities

(b) 5.1 The Officers of the Circle shall consist of:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT | IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | 2 ND VICE-PRESIDENT |
| SECRETARY | TREASURER |
| SERGEANT AT ARMS | |

(b) 5.2 The PRESIDENT shall preside as Chairman at all meetings of the Circle and of the Board of Directors. It will be his/her responsibility to enforce due observation of the Constitution and Bylaws, to announce the results of all balloting or other voting, to call meetings of the Board of Directors or the Circle and to exercise a general care and supervision over the affairs of the Circle. He/she shall be ex officio member to all committees. The President will have no vote except in the case of a tie.

(b) 5.3 The VICE-PRESIDENT, in absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside as Chairman at all meetings of the Circle and Board of Directors. Responsibilities, duties and power vested

in them at these times will be the same as if they were President. In absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, the meeting shall appoint a Chairman to preside at such meeting. The Chairman shall have no vote during the proceedings.

(b) 5.3.1 The 2nd VICE-PRESIDENT: (definition to be determined by committee)

(b) 5.4 The SECRETARY shall keep the minutes of the Circle and of the Board of Directors. He/she shall keep a complete and up to date register of members of the Circle. He/she shall be responsible for the care of all letters, communications and for conducting all correspondence on behalf of the Circle. In all respects he/she shall conform to the directions of the Board of Directors. They shall deliver forthwith all minutes, records, registers and books of the Circle to such persons as the Board of Directors, by resolution, may authorize same for the Circle.

(b) 5.5 The TREASURER shall receive all monies, electronic funds and cheques for money belonging to the name of the Circle in a chartered bank to be approved by the Board of Directors. He/she will be responsible for payment of accounts; those in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be paid out only on the authority of the Board of Directors. He/she will be required to keep regular books, accounts, receipts and vouchers regarding all the transactions and furnish a statement thereof to the Circle or Board of Directors. They shall be an ex officio member of all committees. They shall deliver forthwith all books, accounts, receipts, bank books, statements and records to such person as the Board of Directors, by resolution, may authorize to receive same for Circle.

(b) 5.5.1 The Secretary shall have custody of the SEAL. The Seal may be affixed to any document of the Circle upon resolution of the Board of Directors and by such Executive Officer(s), Members or Members of the Board as are thereunto authorized by such resolutions.

(b) 5.6 The SERGEANT AT ARMS shall be present at all regular meetings and will admit to the meeting only current members and those guests approved by the President. He/she shall issue and collect name badges at regular meetings and keep these badges updated. He/she shall be responsible for issuing ballots to Active Members when votes are taken. He/she shall be responsible, through the Chair, for discipline and protocol during all meetings.

Article 6

Membership Privileges, Accountability and Responsibility

(b) 6.1 Membership Privileges:

(b) 6.1.1 Members in good standing will have access to all Circle functions and activities.

(b) 6.2 Membership Accountability:

(b) 6.2.1 Members must be compliant to all rules and regulations of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and Vancouver Magic Circle Constitution and Bylaws.

(b) 6.2.2 All non-compliance issues will be subject to review as outlined in the Bylaws.

(b) 6.3 Membership Responsibility:

(b) 6.3.1 All Circle members must participate as a volunteer for at least one VMC function through the year. This could include clean up after meetings and events, selling tickets at functions, security or assistance on or back stage, community service on behalf of the VMC, administrative, hospitality or performances.

(b) 6.3.2 To ensure that there is an even distribution of workload, the 2nd Vice-President will monitor and report to the General Membership quarterly on members' participation.

Article 7

Board of Directors

(b) 7.1 The Board of Directors shall consist of two parts, viz:

The Executive Officers

Members of the Board

It shall, in total, consist of not less than five (5) and not more than fifteen (15) members of the Circle.

(b) 7.2 The Executive shall be those members as designated elsewhere in these Bylaws as OFFICERS.

(b) 7.3 The Members of the Board shall be appointed from the General Membership by the President.

(b) 7.4 All members of the Board of Directors shall retire from office immediately following the Installation Ceremonies held at the meeting of the Circle held in the month of February. Each shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment.

(b) 7.5 Acts of Directors in case of Vacancy or Disqualification:

(b) 7.5.1 Notwithstanding any vacancy(ies) in the membership of the Board of Directors, the other Directors may act if, and so long as, their number is not less than the number required for a quorum of the Board Members.

(b) 7.5.2 All acts done by any meeting of the Board of Directors or by any person acting as a Director, shall be valid notwithstanding that it afterward be discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any such person. Or that they or any of them were disqualified to be a Director.

Article 8

Elections

(b) 8.1 Election of Officers shall occur at the regular meeting of the Circle in the month of January in each year. The duties of the elected officers shall commence immediately after the Installation Ceremony held at the February meeting.

(b) 8.2 Any Active Member in good standing of the Circle and who is in attendance at the Election may vote to elect officers.

(b) 8.3 Members running for executive office must be in good standing. Nominees for the position of PRESIDENT must have served as an elected officer for at least one (1) of the last (2) two executive terms. If no member meeting those conditions accepts the nomination, then the nominations will open to members of the Board of Directors. If no member meeting those conditions accepts the nomination then nominations will be open to the general membership.

(b) 8.4 Members running and holding an executive position must not be an executive member on any organization that may be in conflict of interest with the Vancouver Magic Circle.

(b) 8.5 The voting for the election of officers shall be by secret ballot.

Article 9

Meetings

(b) 9.1 The Circle shall hold monthly meetings, excluding July, August and December or in those instances where an important function of interest to the membership is held. On such occasions the suspension of meetings shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of January each year.

(b) 9.2 Special meetings of the Circle may be called by the President when such meetings are, in his/her opinion, deemed necessary. Special meetings shall be called by the President upon demand of the Board of Directors or upon receipt of a petition signed by not less than ten (10) of the Active Members in good standing.

(b) 9.3 Twelve members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at all general meetings and four members in good standing of the executive shall constitute a quorum at all executive meetings of the Circle. A majority of the votes of these members shall govern for ordinary motions.

Article 10

Finance

(b) 10.1 Auditor

The Executive shall designate two members, not on the Executive, to act as auditors. Said auditors shall audit all accounts and books of the Circle and will be required to submit a report of the audit at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

(b) 10.2 Accounts and Expenditures

All accounts against the Circle shall be examined and passed by the Executive Officers. All cheques or drafts authorized to be drawn or made shall be signed by such Executive Officers as shall be appointed by resolution of the Board of Directors. The Funds and Property of the Circle shall be dealt with as the Board of Directors shall decide, but for the legitimate objects of the Circle only.

(b) 10.3 Borrowing

The Circle may, by extraordinary resolution, authorize the borrowing of monies in the manner prescribed by the "Societies Act".

*** Approved January 2016. ***

This document supersedes all others.

Copy of the signed Document is kept by the Secretary and original is kept in the Archives.

Karen Eskilson
Secretary