

The Atlanta Society of Magicians
Julian V. Boehm/Walter S. Bell Assembly No. 30
Society of American Magicians
Atlanta, Georgia



Constitution & By-Laws

As Revised June 2009
As Adopted June 2009

**Constitution of
The Atlanta Society of Magicians
Julian V. Boehm/Walter S. Bell Assembly No. 30
Society of American Magicians**

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Article 1. Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be The Atlanta Society of Magicians, Julian V. Boehm/Walter S. Bell Assembly Number 30, Society of American Magicians; hereafter referred to as “the Society”.

Article 2. Purpose of the Society

Section 1. The purpose of the Society shall be to foster and develop magic as an art, to promote good fellowship and to encourage social relations among its members; to stimulate originality and invention in magic and to provide entertainment for the members and their friends.

Article 3. Membership

Section 1. Membership in the Society of American Magicians (SAM) for individuals age 18 and older is a requirement to be eligible for membership in the Society. Further, membership in the Society of Young Magicians (SYM) for individuals age 14 through 17 is a requirement to be eligible for membership in the Society. Membership may be obtained via the internet or membership application from the Assembly Secretary.

Section 2. To be eligible for membership, a candidate must be at least 14 years of age and have a knowledge of the fundamentals of magic, or the associated arts, as a performer, collector, collaborator, or student of magic. A candidate may be nominated for

membership at any regular meeting, but the candidacy may not be voted upon until it has previously been announced in writing and/or email to the membership at large. This notice shall designate the time and place of the regular meeting at which the candidate is to be voted into membership. Once voted as a member of the Assembly, the Secretary will inform the appropriate SAM or SYM National Administrator to ensure that the new member is properly listed as an active member in the Society.

Article 4. Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Sergeant-at-arms, an Historian, and a Chaplain.

Section 2. The officers, with the exception of the Historian and the Chaplain, shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting of the Society for a term of one year. A majority vote of the members present shall be required for election. The newly elected officers shall take office immediately upon election. The Chaplain and the Historian shall be appointed by the newly elected President.

Article 5. Meetings

Section 1. Regular and special meetings shall be held at such times and places as the Society may direct.

Article 6. Maintenance

Section 1. The Society shall be maintained by such fees, dues and assessments, collected from its members as the Society may prescribe.

Article 7. By-Laws

Section 1. The Society shall adopt such By-Laws and rules for its government, not in conflict with these articles, as it may deem necessary, by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting.

Article 8. Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided written or electronic notice to each member has been delivered at least two weeks prior to the date of that regular meeting.

**By-Laws of
The Atlanta Society of Magicians
Julian V. Boehm /Walter S. Bell Assembly #30
Society of American Magicians**

As Revised June, 2009

As Adopted June, 2009

Article 1. Membership

Section 1. Any person qualified in accordance with the Constitution, who is of good moral character, shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. A candidate for membership shall first be nominated by a member at a regular meeting. The candidate shall then be invited by the Society to attend a subsequent regular meeting when said candidate shall be introduced to the members present and given the opportunity to show skill in magic or other qualifications. The person's name may then or later, be proposed as a candidate and a notice shall be sent to the entire active membership that the candidate is to be voted upon at the announced meeting. The candidate shall be voted upon by secret ballot. Upon receiving a simple majority of affirmative votes, the President shall declare the candidate elected to membership in the Society. If a simple majority of affirmative votes is not attained, the President shall declare the election void and another election shall be held at once. If the second ballot indicates that the vote is the same, the President shall declare the candidate not elected. In such cases, the candidate may not be nominated again for a period of six months. Any member in good standing who cannot attend a meeting at which a ballot on the candidacy of a new member is to be cast, may cast a vote by placing a written decision in the hands of the Secretary prior to the voting on the candidate. The Secretary shall cast the vote of the absentee member in addition to the Secretary's own.

When a candidate is elected to membership, that candidate shall be notified at once in writing by the Secretary. The candidate shall complete membership by payment of the Society's initiation fee in an amount established by the Treasurer and voted upon at the most recent annual meeting, plus pro-rata annual dues, within the time limit of the next two regular meetings. If a new member does not complete election to membership as prescribed above, the election shall be void, but that person may become a candidate again at any time under the provisions of Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution.

After a new member has completed the membership application for the SAM or SYM, the Secretary may send, on behalf of the candidate to the National Administrator of the Society of American Magicians, together with necessary fees, or the candidate may do so themselves.

Any member, or former member, of the Society may be made an Emeritus or Honorary member by favorable vote on the part of a majority of the members present and voting at the regular meeting following the meeting at which proposal to do so is announced.

A non-member of the Society who is either an amateur or professional magician of acknowledged eminence who has rendered some special service to the Society, may be elected an Honorary member by the same procedure.

Section 3. The membership of the Society shall be divided into four classes: Resident, Non-resident, Emeritus, and Honorary. All members of the Society elected in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of this Article, who live within fifty (50) miles of the center of Atlanta, shall be classified as resident members.

All members of the Society elected in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of this Article, who do not live within fifty (50) miles of the center of Atlanta may, if they so choose, be classified as non-resident members.

Any member, or former member, of the Society may be made an Emeritus or Honorary member by favorable vote on the part of a majority of the members present and voting at the regular meeting following the meeting at which proposal to do so is announced.

A non-member of the Society who is either an amateur or professional magician of acknowledged eminence who has rendered some special service to the Society, may be elected an Honorary member by the same procedure.

Section 4. All active members including Emeritus and Honorary members shall be entitled to participate in the activities of the Society.

The privileges of voting in the Society shall be restricted to resident and non-resident members in good standing. The privilege of holding office shall be restricted to resident members in good standing.

Section 5. A member who has been suspended shall not be permitted to take part in any of the proceedings of the Society, or be eligible to hold office until relieved of such suspension.

Section 6. A member in good standing against whom no charges are pending and who owes the Society no debt, may resign from the Society by presenting a written resignation to the Society through the Secretary.

Section 7. Each resident and non-resident member of the Society must be a member of the Society of American Magicians or the Society of Young Magicians. The expenses involved in maintaining such membership shall be the responsibility of the individual. Failure to do so will automatically cancel membership in the Society.

Section 8. Any former members who left the Society in good standing may be reinstated by being proposed by any member of the Society, and by voting in the manner provided for the election of new members. However, a former member will not have to be invited to attend a meeting or to perform in order to qualify for reinstatement of membership, nor will the former member be required to undergo initiation more than once

Article 2 Discipline

Section 1. If it appears that any member has violated any of the provisions of the constitution , or of these By-Laws, and has been so charged by another member, the Society shall investigate the conditions and bring charges against the member for such seeming derelictions. These charges shall be formulated an formally presented by the Secretary, and the Society shall act upon them and determine their justness at the regular meeting after the accused has been notified in writing of such charges. The accused shall have full opportunity to defend against any formal charges. If the charges are sustained by a majority vote of the members present, the Executive Committee shall determine what penalty applies and submit it for approval by vote of the Society at the next regular meeting.

Section 2. The penalties of the foregoing section shall be (a) Reprimand, (b) Suspension for a period of time to be determined, and (c) Expulsion. The penalty will be applied immediately upon an affirmative vote by a majority of the members present. In the event that the majority vote is negative the matter will be referred back to the Executive Committee.

Article 3. Meetings

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held each month in the year. The time, place and date of each meeting shall be set by the membership from time to time as conditions warrant. The first regular meeting after the 30th of April in each year shall be the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. At the Annual Meeting the election of officers for the ensuing year shall be held and the newly elected officers shall be installed. The retiring President shall make the presidential address and the various outgoing officers shall make their reports. Any other business may be transacted at the will of the Society.

Section 3. Special Meetings may be called at any time by the President or Executive Committee. The call for a Special Meet-

ing shall state the object of the meeting and no other business may then be transacted.

Article 4. Election of Officers

Section 1. At each annual meeting the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Sergeant-at-arms for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret ballot. A majority of those present shall elect. If a majority be not obtained on the first ballot for each office, a run-off will be held between the two highest.

Article 5. Duties of Officers

Section 1. President. The President shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee and Ex-Officio member of all committees. The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and perform other duties as custom and parliamentary procedures may require. The President shall be thoroughly acquainted with the Constitution and all By-Laws of the Society, and it shall be the duty of the President to see that the regulations are laid down therein are followed.

Section 2. Vice President. The Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of presidential duties and shall preside in the absence or at the request of the President. Upon the President's death, resignation, or removal from the vicinity, the Vice President shall succeed to the Presidency. The Vice President shall act as a member of the Executive Committee and shall act as the Program Chairman.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings. The Secretary shall receive and care for all records and papers belonging to the Society. The Secretary shall notify each member as to the time and place of each meeting, and all other business of importance. The Secretary shall make and keep current a roster of all members of the Society. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the Constitution and By-Laws and have them available for reference at each regular meeting of the Society. Each month, the Secretary shall submit an Assembly Report to be

published in the official publication of the Society of American Magicians. The Secretary shall be a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and have charge of all money and securities of the Society. The Treasurer shall collect from the members all dues and assessments. On April 1st of each year, the Treasurer shall send each member a bill for annual dues. At the Treasurer's discretion, the Treasurer shall bill any member in arrears. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Executive Committee. At each annual meeting, the Treasurer shall make a full report of receipts and expenditures of the preceeding year, and summarize the financial status of the Society. At the Annual Meeting, the Treasurer will present an Annual Budget agreed on by the Executive Committee for the ensuing year. The Treasurer shall also make a current status report at each regular meeting. The Treasurer shall expend money only upon the order of the Society, except when using personal judgement in matters of postage, printing and similar miscellany and expend what is necessary without formal order.

Section 5. Sergeant-at-Arms. It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to see that there is no person present at any closed meeting of the Society except members in good standing. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall, with the assistance of one member appointed by the President, distribute and count the ballots at all elections held by the Society. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall perform such other duties requested by the presiding officer at any meeting of the Society.

Section 6. Historian. The Historian shall compile and keep up to date a record of miscellaneous items that portray or relate to the activities of the Society. The Historian shall be custodian of the archives of the Society. The Historian shall also perform other duties as are ordinarily implied in the office of Historian.

Section 7. Chaplain. The duties of the Chaplain shall be similar

in nature to those Chaplains of the Congress of the United States, and of organizations of like character to that of the Society. The Chaplain shall perform all duties as are implied in this office.

Section 8. Succession. In the absense of the President and Vice President at any regular or special meeting of the Society, the most recent Past President shall preside.

Article 6. Executive Committee

Section 1. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall handle the business of the Society and shall promote the activities and welfare in general. It shall have the power to set for the Society on any matters that arise between the regular meetings that are of such a nature as to require immediate action. Any such action taken by the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Society at its next regular meeting.

Article 7. Standing Committees

Section 1. The following shall constitute the standing committees of the Society:

- (1) Initiation Committee
- (2) Annual Show Committee
- (3) Occult Investigation Committee

Section 2. The President shall appoint the chairman of each standing committee.

Section 3. Other standing committees may be constituted at the will of the Society at any time.

Article 8. Dues

Section 1. The Society dues shall be announced by the Treasurer and voted on at the Annual Meeting. Dues are payable on May 1st. Emeritus and Honorary members shall be exempt from all Society dues and assessments. The dues of a newly elected member shall be pro-rated on a six month basis. New members shall also pay the

initiation fee as prescribed in Article 1, Section 2 of the By-Laws.

Section 2. A member in good standing is one whose dues have been paid within sixty days after the due date. After such date, the aforesaid member shall be considered delinquent. After three months in arrears the delinquent member shall be suspended and lose all rights and privileges in the Society. After twelve months in arrears the delinquent member shall be dropped from the rolls of the Society. At any time during the twelve month period the delinquent member may be reinstated as a member in good standing, provided all dues in arrears are paid. After being delinquent for a period of twelve months a delinquent member may be reelected as a new member and pay all new member fees, under the provisions of Article 1, Section 2 of the By-Laws.

Article 9. Quorum

Section 1. Seven members including one officer shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article 10. Rules of Order

Section 1. The deliberations of this Society shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as contained in Roberts Rules of Order when not in conflict with the Constitution and these By-Laws.

Section 2. Order of Business:

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Reading of minutes of previous meeting
- (c) Treasurer's report
- (d) Reports of Committees
- (e) Reading of Communications
- (f) Unfinished business
- (g) New business
- (h) Nominations for membership
- (i) Elections
- (j) Adjournment

Article 12. Amendments

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular

meeting by a majority vote of the members present, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Secretary in writing and notice has been sent to the entire membership prior to said meeting.

Article 13 Adoption and Rescission

Section 1. The foregoing Constitution and By-Laws are hereby declared to be the only Constitution and By-Laws of the Society. The last election of officers shall be considered as having been made under the foregoing Constitution and By-Laws. All other acts and resolutions of the Society which are contrary to the foregoing Constitution and By-Laws are hereby rescinded.