

RULES & CONSTITUTION OF THE MYSTIC RING (v.5)

1. NAME

- a. The club shall be known as The Mystic Ring

2. OBJECTIVES

- a. To improve the entertainment and performance of magic by our members.
- b. To encourage originality of magic and allied arts.
- c. To protect magical secrets by the discouragement of exposure.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- a. Membership of the club shall be open to all persons who demonstrate a genuine interest in magic and the allied arts.
- b. Application for membership shall be proposed by two senior members.
- c. Admission to the club is subject to a successful audition, normally during the third meeting attended. Alternatively verbal questions may be asked on the applicant's knowledge of magic.
- d. Immediately following this the applicant may be awarded either membership or associate membership according to the magical prowess demonstrated in the audition or interview. At the discretion of the committee associate membership may be awarded for a limited period of time, after which membership status shall be reviewed. Payment of the appropriate subscription fee will be required on the same evening as acceptance of admission to the club.
- e. The degree 'associate member' in no way affects the standing of the member e.g. voting rights etc.
- f. A 'Senior Member' is defined as a person that has 3 recorded sequential annual subscription payments covering a period of a minimum of 3 calendar years. It is not based on age / experience or qualifications.
- g. Persons 16 years or under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. The parent/guardian would be requested to observe the confidentiality of the Mystic Ring.

4. FINANCIAL YEAR & SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a. The financial year of the club shall commence on 15th February.
- b. Due to varying Christmas dates and New Year start, the SECOND Wednesday of January will be the start of the Mystic Ring regular meetings and the program for the ensuing calendar year. The club will meet fortnightly thereafter. In the event of any unusual public holidays in the calendar year, the committee will acknowledge this and advise the members of the change of dates if necessary.
- c. The annual subscription payable by all members will be due on 15th February and must be paid no later than 15th of March or the Annual General Meeting, whichever is sooner. Failure to pay within this period will result in suspension of membership.
- d. The annual subscription includes the membership fee for the Conservative Club premises. Should the Conservative Club raise their fees, they will inform the Mystic Ring and the Treasurer will inform the members of the increase, which will be implemented at the annual subscription renewal date. Should the Mystic Ring move premises, the fees and constitution will be amended accordingly.
- e. Country members (those living outside a 35 mile radius of Luton) and members accepted after 31st August, will be subject to half the annual subscription rate.
- f. The amount of the annual subscription may be reviewed and altered at the A.G.M. without notice.
- g. An admission fee will be charged to non-members. This fee will be increased for selected events such as lectures. The amounts will be determined by the committee.

5. MANAGEMENT

- a. The officers of the club shall be as follows:-
CHAIRMAN; SECRETARY; TREASURER
- b. Control and management shall be in the hands of a committee consisting of the above officers and two further members.

- c. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.
- d. All offices in the club must be occupied by senior members, as defined by point G: of the Membership section.
- e. Committee meetings shall be held at intervals determined by the committee. This will be referred to as a 'Committee Meeting' and documented as such.
- f. If a point of discussion is raised at the AGM or another time, and is of importance to the running of the club, an Emergency General Meeting will be called and all members will be informed prior to the proposed meeting date, and will be documented as such.
- g. All minutes of the AGM, EGM and Committee meetings will be available for members to scrutinise. For the interest of environmental ethics, a hard copy will be kept by the Secretary for record keeping and the member will be able to access copies of the documents 'on line'.
- h. In the event of vacation of office by any officer or committee member the committee shall have power to co-opt a successor for any necessary period. Should two offices become vacant, the committee can co-opt successors, however if three offices become vacant, then an EGM shall be called to nominate successors.
- i. If a committee member is absent from three consecutive committee meetings without valid reason they shall be regarded as having resigned from the committee.
- j. Officers and committee members shall be elected by members at the A.G.M. and shall retire at the end of one year's service. Unless mitigating circumstances prevail ie resignation or illness or death, the positions are for the full 'year'. However, any member may be re- elected and shall be individually elected and not en bloc. Should a member wish to be considered for a particular role, they should present their 'case' for being elected in that position. This can be either in person or in writing at the AGM so the members can make an informed decision when voting a particular post.
- k. Any matter not covered by the rules will be decided by the committee and will inform the members in the first instance and ratify or confirm as necessary at the next AGM
- l. The Committee will appoint a Librarian as and when necessary.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a. The A.G.M shall be held within six weeks from the end of February.
- b. The Secretary will give to every member notice of the A.G.M. at least fourteen days beforehand. Each office will submit a brief report at the AGM
- c. All members will be entitled to vote but only a senior member shall be entitled to nominate or be nominated for service on the committee.

7. CLUB MEETINGS

- a. Following current Health & Safety guidance smoking and vaping will not be allowed during any meeting for which this club has organising responsibility.

8. AMENDMENTS TO RULES

- a. The constitution of the club shall not be altered except by a resolution passed by senior members at a general meeting of the club. Minimum of 75% of senior members need to be present to vote on any actions.
- b. Notice in writing shall be received by the Secretary not later than 28 days before a Emergency General Meeting of any proposed amendments to the rules. Any amendments shall be included in the Agenda for the meeting.

9. DATA PROTECTION

GDPR stands for General Data Protection Legislation. It is a European Union (EU) law that came into effect on 25th May 2018. GDPR governs the way in which we can use, process, and store personal data (information about an identifiable, living person). The GDPR mandates several vital principles, including lawful and transparent data processing, purpose limitation, data minimization, accuracy, storage limitation, and accountability.

See the Secretary for a hard copy of the GDPR information and implementation .

10. Last item

Proposed and Voted on Date 29/05/24

Signed: Chairman

Date

12-06-2024