

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE MIDWEST CLOWN ASSOCIATION

## **Article 1: Name**

The name of the organization shall be the Midwest Clown Association

## **Article 2: Purpose**

It shall be the purpose of this organization to assist the Alleys and Clown Clubs in the Midwest region to promote clowning. It shall also be the duty of this group to promote the Midwest Clown Association Fall Clown Round-Up.

## **Article 3: Membership**

Voting membership shall consist of one representative from each clown Alley or Club (hereinafter called Alleys) in good standing with the Midwest Clown Association. An Alley must have paid dues for the current year. The Midwest Clown Association consists of the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. No one person can represent more than one Alley.

## **Article 4: Dues**

The Executive Committee members and Representatives are hereby given expressly the power to fix and regulate Midwest Clown Association dues of the member Alleys. Dues are due January 2<sup>nd</sup> of each calendar year. (Per 4.1 of MCA Minutes October 2, 1999)

## **Article 5: Board**

The Midwest Clown Association Board will consist of Executive Committee members and Alley Representatives.

## **Article 6: Elections**

Election of Executive Committee members will occur in even numbered years at the Fall Meeting. The elected Executive Committee members shall consist of Assistant Chief Joey, Treasurer, Secretary, and Sergeant at Arms.

## **Article 7: Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall consist of Chief Joey, Assistant Chief Joey, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant at Arms.

The term of office shall be two years. The term is to begin at the conclusion of the Fall Round-Up at which the election occurred.

The Assistant Chief Joey will become the Chief Joey at the end of the Chief Joey's term. The Chief Joey and Assistant Chief Joey are limited to one (1) two-year term. A minimum of one full four year cycle shall occur before an individual is eligible to run for Assistant Chief Joey again.

All other Executive Committee members are limited to two (2) consecutive terms in office.

At no time shall any Executive Committee member act as an Alley Representative.

Any vacancies of Executive Committee members occurring between elections shall be filled by appointment of the Chief Joey, with the consent of the remaining Executive Committee members.

The vacancy of the office of the Chief Joey shall cause the Assistant Chief Joey to step up to the position of the Chief Joey and then appoint a temporary Assistant Chief Joey with the consent of the remaining Executive Committee members. This temporary Assistant Chief Joey will not automatically step up to the Chief Joey position at the end of his/her term.

#### **Article 8: Removal from Office**

Any Executive Committee member may be terminated at any time through recommendation by the Executive Committee. When actions of any Executive Committee member should appear detrimental to the organization, each is to have an opportunity to defend his/her actions before the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee member will be informed of such action by a registered letter. Upon hearing the findings and recommendations of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee member may appeal to the General Membership. Final decision will be reached by majority vote of member Alleys by postal or electronic vote. The Executive Committee will notify the Executive Committee member of their dismissal or retention.

#### **Article 9: Duties**

Chief Joey – Presides over all meetings of the Midwest Clown Association. Presents to general membership all matters for consideration at semi-annual meetings. Reviews and coordinates all actions of the Executive Committee members and Committees.

Assistant Chief Joey – Assumes all duties of the Chief Joey in his/her absence. Reviews actions of Committee heads and coordinates with Chief Joey.

Secretary – Records all minutes of the semi-annual meetings of the Midwest Clown Association. Provides copies of all minutes to the Chief Joey and for distribution to all Alleys in good standing, and maintains a permanent copy to be passed on to the next Secretary.

Treasurer – Responsible for the full and accurate financial records of the Association. Responsible for the custody of the assets of the Association. Provides a financial report at each of the semi-annual meetings. Responsible for the preparation and submission of all tax forms. Must make financial records and books available for an audit at the request of the Chief Joey.

Sergeant at Arms – Takes roll call at the semi-annual meetings. Responsible for maintaining order at the semi-annual meetings.

No member or Executive Committee member shall be entitled to compensation for services rendered to the Midwest Clown Association.

#### **Article 10: Representatives**

Each Alley will select one representative to represent their Alley on the Midwest Board. Each Alley in good standing will have one vote on the Board.

#### **Article 11: Standing Committees**

The Chief Joey, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint and/or maintain such Standing or Special Committees as may be required by the By-Laws or as may be found necessary, including but not limited to:

A. Executive Committee (Chief Joey, Assistant Chief Joey, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms)

B. Nominating Committee (Chair – Assistant Chief Joey)

C. Round-Up Committee (Chair – Host Alley Representative)

D. Competition Committee (Appointed Competition Director(s)) The Competition Director or Co-Directors shall be appointed by the Chief Joey, and the duties and responsibilities of the Competition Directors shall be listed in the Competition Handbook.

E. Media Committee

1. Webmaster

2. 3 Ring News Editor

F. By-Laws and Handbook Committee (Chair – Chief Joey) The Chief Joey shall request a volunteer and appoint that individual as Chair of this Committee. The Chair of this Committee shall select committee members from volunteers who may be interested in serving. A minimum of 3 individuals, including the Chair shall make up the Committee, which will make recommendations to the Executive Board for review and then discussion and voting by Alley representatives.

G. Junior Joey Committee (Appointed Junior Joey Coordinator(s)) The Junior Joey Coordinator(s) shall be appointed by the Chief Joey, and the duties and responsibilities of the Junior Joey Coordinators shall be listed in the Junior Joey Handbook.

H. Lifetime Achievement Committee (Appointed Chair by Chief Joey) The Chair of this Committee shall select the members to serve on the Committee.

I. Hall of Fame Committee (Appointed Chair by Chief Joey) The Chair of this Committee shall select the members to serve on the Committee.

J. Sunshine Committee (Appointed Chair by Chief Joey) The Chair of this Committee shall select the members to serve on the Committee.

## **Article 12: Meetings**

There will be two regular meetings each year, one at the Midwest Clown Association Fall Round-Up and the second in the Spring. The date for the Spring Meeting will be set by the Chief Joey at the previous Fall Meeting.

Additionally, emergency meetings may be called by an Executive Committee member, with notification by postal or electronic media, thirty (30) days before such meeting to the other Executive Committee members and to the Alley Representatives in good standing.

The only Executive Committee member with a right to vote is the Chief Joey in the event of a tie.

## **Article 13: Administration**

All routine and administrative business is entrusted to the Executive Committee members and Board of the Midwest Clown Association as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws.

#### **Article 14: Quorum**

A quorum at any Midwest Clown Association meeting shall be a simple majority (1/2 plus 1) of the members in good standing.

#### **Article 15: Amendments**

Additions and alterations to this Constitution and By-Laws shall be proposed in writing at a regular meeting of the Midwest Clown Association. Said addition or alteration must be sent by the Executive Committee to the Alleys 90 days prior to the next regular meeting of the Midwest Clown Association. In order to be adopted, said additions or alterations must be passed with a two thirds (2/3) vote of all members in good standing.

#### **Article 16: Use of Funds**

The Midwest Clown Association funds and property shall be used exclusively for the Association purposes described in these Constitution and By-Laws. No part of the income or assets of the Association shall inure to the private benefit of any individual or member.

#### **Article 17: Dissolution and Liquidation**

If the Association purpose fails and any such defect is not cured by an appropriate amendment or in the event of voluntary dissolution, then all of the Association assets and accumulated income shall be distributed to one or more exempt organizations within the meaning of section 501C3 of the Internal Revenue Code. The Association shall be dissolved after all its property has been so distributed.

*Constitution and By-Laws Updated: September 16, 2008 by: Dan Langwell, Chairman (Chief Joey); Georgia Morris (Assistant Chief Joey); Bill Young (Secretary); Pat Roeser (Treasurer); Alane Walk (Sergeant at Arms); Janet Tucker (Alley Representative). Voted into use by the board and membership at the Spring Meeting, Lansing, Michigan, May 2, 2009.*

*Constitution and By-Laws Updated: Changes recommended by By-Law Revision Committee: John Hanewall (chair), Pat Roeser, and Mark Ovanin and reviewed by 2016-2018 Board Members Jim Caffrey (Chief Joey), Mark Ovanin (Asst. Chief Joey), Angela Gonzalez (Secretary), Wayne Rongholt (Treasurer), Patti Ummel (Sergeant at Arms) and Lucy Mahoney (Past Chief Joey). Approved by vote of member alleys present at the Spring Meeting, May 19, 2018, with changes taking immediate effect.*

***CLERK'S NOTE: Each Executive Committee Member also receives a handbook with duties and responsibilities for board positions as well as information about committees, rules and regulations, current membership data, historical information, and instructions on how to run a Round-Up. These handbooks also include sub-handbooks that are given to the chair/director/coordinator of the various committees of the Midwest Clown Association, i.e. Junior Joey Program Handbook, Competition Handbook, etc. Any alley representative who would like to review the information in these handbooks should contact one of the current Executive Committee members.***