

# BYLAWS OF THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MAGICIANS

A 501-c-6 NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

(Revised on May 13, 2017)

## APPENDIX C

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## TROPHY AND AWARDS RULES

### A. GENERAL

These TAOM Trophy and Awards Rules facilitate the accountability of the contest process and judging to maintain the integrity of receiving the trophy. These Rules apply to any magic competition conducted during a TAOM Convention, or any other TAOM event.

1. Contestants may not receive compensation of any kind for their contest appearance at the Annual Convention. Immediately after the contest winners have been announced and the awards presented, including cash awards if offered, the contestants are relieved of this restriction.

2. Trophies may be awarded in the following categories:

#### SENIOR

- (A) Close-Up
- (B) Stage/Club
- (C) Comedy

#### JUNIOR

- (A) Close-up
- (B) Stage/Club

#### BEST OF CONVENTION

- (A) From any of the categories

### B. DEFINITIONS

**SENIOR:** A contestant eighteen years of age or older.

**JUNIOR:** A contestant less than eighteen years of age.

**CLOSE-UP:** Magic suitable for a small intimate audience.

**STAGE/CLUB:** Magic suitable for a theater stage or club setting, and can include but not limited to illusions and effects involving more than one person or animals.

**COMEDY:** Magic intentionally of a comic nature.

**BEST OF CONVENTION:** An additional trophy may be awarded to a contestant if, in the opinion of the judges, one act was of such outstanding, superior quality as to merit such distinction. This trophy shall be known as the "Herman Yerger Trophy". In addition to the words

“Best Act of the Convention”, the nameplate shall bear such designation together with the winner’s name, category, year and place of the Annual Convention. The base of this trophy may be larger than those awarded to the category winners.

**CONTEST CHAIRMAN:** The person principally responsible for the preparation and presentation of a magic contest at a TAOM Convention.

**RULES:** The rules and requirements set forth on this Appendix C.

## **C. AWARDS**

1. The names of winners will be kept confidential until the public announcement is made.
2. Regardless the number of contestants in a category, if, in the opinion of the judges, no act conforms to the high standards commensurate with the prestige of a TAOM trophy, none will be awarded.
3. In case of ties, duplicate trophies will be given.
4. An announcement will be made prior to the presentation of the trophies that partial funding for these trophies was made possible by a donation from the A. Renerick Clark Memorial Trust Fund.
5. The announcement of the winners and the presentation of awards will be made during the Annual Convention by the Chairman of the Trophy and Awards Committee or a deputy such as the TAOM Secretary. The names of all contestants in each category will be read before the winner is announced. No mention will be made of rankings. If awarded, the Best of Convention trophy will be the final award announced. Monetary or awards of value will be presented after this. The trophies and awards are permanent and become the property of the winners.
6. T.A.O.M. may make cash awards to the winners. Award amounts will be determined by funding sources yearly.

## **D. SUBMISSIONS**

1. In order to present high-caliber contestants, except as permitted herein, each TAOM Contest must require that all potential contestants be pre-qualified. The pre-qualifying process does not replace the actual judging and, therefore, has no bearing on the outcome of the contest.
2. Potential contestants may choose to submit a video of their acts or be recommended in writing to the Contest Chairman by at least two members of TAOM Member Clubs.
3. The Contest Chairman may accept an act without a video or recommendation if he/she has personal knowledge of the act.

## **E. GENERAL CONTEST RULES**

1. Any person registered for the Annual Convention will be eligible to compete upon their compliance with the requirements of Section D. Submissions.
2. Applications to compete must be received by the TAOM Contest Chairman at least 60 days prior to the start of the Annual Convention. If an act is withdrawn within 10 days prior to the Annual Convention, the Contest Chairman may grant eligibility to a replacement act at the discretion of the Contest Chairman. The Contest Chairman has the option to make exceptions to these Rules at his/her discretion.
3. The Contest Chairman will notify each applicant of acceptance or rejection of their application to compete at least 30 days before the start of the Annual Convention.
4. Remembering that contests are integral to the purpose of the TAOM, the Host Club has the discretion to limit the number of acts to fit their time schedule.
5. Each act will be no more than ten minutes. An act exceeding the time limit will be penalized one point for each ten seconds over time. An act exceeding 12 minutes will be disqualified.
6. The use of sexually suggestive, profane or "blue" material or fire, glitter or confetti will not be allowed. If such material is presented during any act, in the opinion of the judges, the contestant will be disqualified. This disqualification is not taken lightly, and to further safeguard this breach of the TAOM standards, other steps may be taken. The contest chair may make exceptions to fire, glitter or confetti.
7. Acts will be judged on the following point system:
  - STAGE SETTING – 0 to 10 points:  
General appearance, eye appeal, attractiveness and appropriateness of dress, props, tables, and equipment.
  - STAGE PRESENCE – 0 to 15 points:  
Poise and confidence, intelligible speech, direct and understandable theme.
  - ENTERTAINMENT VALUE – 0 to 30 points:  
Indicated by audience reaction, appreciation and overall enjoyment.
  - PRESENTATION AND OVERALL PERFORMANCE – 0 to 30 points:  
Personality, projection, routining and continuity, professional presentation, and technical ability.
  - ORIGINALITY – 0 to 15 points:  
Original material, inventive presentation or routining to include new presentations of standard effects – "something different".
8. Scoring: Discard high and low scores of each act. Average the remaining three scores to ascertain the contestant's score.

## **F. JUDGES**

Requirements for being a Judge:

1. Have a credible, working knowledge of the area they are judging.
2. Have a base of comparison gleaned from personal experience and attendance at previous magic conventions.
3. If possible, have experience as a judge in other magic competitions.
4. Be able to communicate well with others.
5. Be able to make objective decisions about subjective matters.
6. Willing to stand by their opinions and convictions.
7. Meet with contestants for purposes of critiquing their act and express opinions in an instructional, helpful and objective way.
8. May have other expertise besides magic (i.e. drama, dance, theater or other allied arts).
9. Meet with the Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman, the judges and Secretary to compute scores.
10. At least one judge will keep a record of the exact time of each contestant's act.
11. The judges may, at their sole discretion, change the category of an act claimed by a contestant if it is inappropriately classified, or if they deem it to be an advantage to the contestant.
12. The identity of the judges shall be kept confidential until after the contest(s) have been concluded.

## **G. REVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. TAOM Secretary**

- a. Meet with the Vice President, Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman and the judges to provide each judge a copy of this Appendix C, a list of contestants and the category they entered, and contest score sheets.
- b. Meet with the Vice President, Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman and judges with materials to compute scores.
- c. Provide TAOM trophies to the Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman at the Annual Convention.
- d. Mail to each contestant the statistical results of the contest entered, the judges' comments and a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the TAOM President.

- e. Design, purchase and mail the trophy front plates to contest winners and exhibition participants.
- f. Provide the Contest Judging Forms and adequate tools for the judges (i.e. clipboards or folders, pens or pencils, judging sheets, a list of the performers, and flashlights for the stage judges).

## **2. TAOM Vice President**

- a. Contact the Representative from each Member Club to supply, before August 1, the name, email address, address and phone number of three prospective judges.
- b. Appoint five judges plus one alternate for every contest. Judges should represent as many different clubs as possible.
- c. Provide the Secretary a list of judges' names, and contact information.
- c. Before the contest, meet with the Trophy and Awards Chairman, Contest Chairman and the contestants to answer questions and note any changes in the schedule.
- d. Meet with the Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman, the judges and the Secretary to compute scores.

## **2. TAOM Trophy and Awards Committee Chairman**

- a. Before the contest, meet with the Vice President, Contest Chairman and the contestants to answer questions, note any changes in the schedule and then inform the Secretary of such changes.
- b. After the contest, meet with the Vice President, judges and Secretary to compute scores.
- c. Announce the winners and present the awards at the Annual Convention.
- d. Make contest forms available to applicants. The application to compete may be part of the TAOM mailings, bulletins or the TAOM website, and describe the manner in which the applicant may apply to compete. Such descriptions shall be specific as to deadlines, visual recording requirements, (non-returnable) and any limitations (i.e. number of contestants per category) so imposed by agreement of the TAOM Trophy and Awards Chairman and Contest Chairman.

## **3. Host Club**

- a. Notify all applicants at least 30 days before the start of the Annual Convention whether or not their application(s) have been accepted and provide a copy of this Appendix C.
- b. Provide the Secretary a list of competitor's names, contact information and contest category or categories as soon as practical after the entry acceptance deadline.
- c. Before the contest, arrange a meeting of the contestants and the TAOM Trophy Awards Committee Chairman and Vice President.

## **H. CONTEST FORM CONTENT**

Contest application forms should include the following information:

The TAOM provides a competitive opportunity to recognize magical accomplishments. Any person registered for the Annual Convention is eligible to submit an application to compete to the Contest Chairman at least 45 days prior to the start of the Annual Convention.

Contest Chairman Name and Contact Information.

Contestant Name, Stage Name, Birth date if entering a Junior category, E-Mail, Mailing address, Contest category or categories.

Requirement for video or recommendations by two club members unless Contest Chairman has personal knowledge of the performer.