

Midwest Shrine Association Constitution

Article I - Name

The name of the organization shall be the "Midwest Shrine Association"

Article II – Objective

This Association organized for the purpose of promoting the general welfare and prosperity of Shrinedom in the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and the Provinces of Manitoba & Northwest Ontario and Saskatchewan. In particular, to engender greater fellowship among the several Temples and their members; and to secure greater recognition of the institution of the Shrine throughout the territory of this association (amended 2-6-16)

Article III – Allegiance

This association pledges full allegiance to and accepts for its government the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Code, Regulations and Edicts of Shriners International. (amended 2-6-16)

Article IV – Membership

Section 1. Members of this Association shall be the Temples as may be elected by a majority vote of the Association.

Section 2. Each Temple shall be represented by seven (amended 2-10-07) Temple Representatives who shall be either elective officers or Past Potentates of the Temple; provided that any Association Officer shall be eligible for the election to any office of the Association even though no longer a Temple Representative.

Section 3. Honorary Representatives shall be the Nobles who may be so designated by this Association, but without the privilege of holding office.

Section 4. Nobles originally designated as "Founding Fathers" and those Nobles who have served as Elected Officers of this Association shall be known as Life Representatives entitled to hold office. (amended 2-6-16)

Article V – Voting

Voting shall be on a representative basis. Only the votes for those representatives' present will be counted. No absentee or non-authorized Representatives will be allowed to vote (amended 2-7-87) (amended 2-6-16)

Article VI – Officers

Section 1. The Officers of this Association shall be the President, four Vice Presidents, a Secretary-Treasurer and other such appointed officers as deemed necessary.

Section 2. The said officers will be elected annually by majority ballot (secret ballot, voice, or show of hands) and serve for one year or until their successor shall be elected and installed in their stead. (amended 2-6-16)

Section 3. All appointed Officers and Committees, unless otherwise ordered by this Association, shall be selected by the president.

Section 4. The duties of the several Officers and committees shall be those pertaining to such Officers and committees.

Section 5. *Nobles must have served in the Office of Potentate and therefore be a Past Potentate prior to being elected as an Officer of the MSA. (amended 2-16-19)*

Article VII – Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting of this Association shall be held at such time and place designated by the Association at its last previous annual meeting, or by the President in absence of such action by this Association.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President by giving thirty days' notice to the recorder of each member Temple naming the time, place and purpose of such special meeting.

Article VIII – Executive Committee

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Elected Officers of this Association and Potentates of the constituent Temples.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be empowered to transact business between Annual Meetings of this Association and to perform such other duties as may be referred to it by this Association.

Section 3. The President of this Association shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee, other officers to be named by the Committee.

Article IX – Quorum

A quorum for any meeting of this Association shall consist of the Temple Representatives representing the majority of the Constituent Temples.

Article X – Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of this Association by a two-thirds vote of the Temples represented, providing written notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to the members of this Association thirty days in advance.

Midwest Shrine Association Bylaws

Article I – Annual Dues

The annual dues shall be **eighty five cents per capita** for each Noble as indicated by the Temple's annual membership reports. (amended 2-2-73 to 12 cents per capita) (amended 2-10-79 to 15 cents per capita) (amended 2-27-89 to 20 cents per capita) (amended 2-16-90 to 25 cents per capita) (amended 4-95 to 30 cents per capita) (amended 2-10-03 to 40 cents per capita) (amended 2-7-09 to 50 cents per capita) (amended 2-9-13 to 60 cents per capita) (amended 2-6-15) (*amended 2-11-17*)

Article II – Expenses

The necessary expenses of this Association shall be paid by the Association except the expenses of the Temple Representatives attending the meeting of this Association and its committees. The Secretary Treasurer shall pay all expenses of this association after receiving approval from 2 elected officers (normally President & First Vice President) (amended 2-6-16)

Article III – Surety Bond

Corporate Surety Bonds shall be furnished by such Officers and for such amounts this Association may direct. The cost of such bonds to be paid by the Association.

Article IV – Amendments

These by-laws may be amended at any meeting of this Association, no previous notice of proposed amendments be required. (This article was included or added to the bylaws at the Winter Business Session on 2-7-1959)

Article V – Association of Units

- (a) No Association of Units now existing in the Midwest Shrine Association shall continue its existence after January 1, 1973 unless it conforms to the Imperial Rules and bylaws i.e. Article 9, Section 203.3 of the imperial By-laws
- (b) All Association of Units in the Midwest Shrine Association are subject to the Officers and members of the Midwest Shrine Association
- (c) Each Midwest Association of Units shall submit the by-laws of the said Association to the Officers of the Midwest Shrine Association for their approval.
- (d) No later than January 15 of each year each Association of Units appendant to the Midwest Shrine Association Shall submit an annual report to the Midwest President and one to the Midwest Shrine Association Secretary listing the activities of the past year, current financial statement and the names and addresses of the existing officers of the said organization of units.

Article VI – Registration

- (a) Registration for the Midwest Winter Session shall be completed as directed by the Secretary Treasurer of the Midwest Shrine Association. (amended 2-6-16)
- (b) The usual per capita and expense bills will be forwarded to each Temple and paid to the Secretary Treasurer upon receipt. (amended 2-5-92) (amended 2-7-03) (amended 2-6-16)

(c) For the Summer Sessions, each member Temple or its members shall submit its registration and fee for the session directly with the Host Temple sixty (60) days in advance. Failure to comply may result in loss of participation in the summer session. "Requests for refunds of the registration fees received by the Host Temple 30 or more days prior to the start date shall be refunded in full. Requests received 15 to 29 days prior, shall receive refund of 50 percent of fees paid. No registration fees shall be refunded on cancellations received within 14 days of the sessions beginning date. The Host Temple may at its discretion honour a request for refund received less than 15 days prior, based on the circumstances ". (amended 2-6-16)

(d) Nobles participating in Parades and Competitions must be a current member of his Temple as well as a paid and registered Noble with the Host Temple for the Midwest Summer Session. (amended 2-6-16)

Article VII ~ Summer Sessions

(a) Financial Reporting for the Midwest Summer Session using the Imperial Uniform Chart of Accounts must be filed with the Secretary Treasurer at the following MSA Winter Session. (amended 2-6-16)

(b) The host Temple shall ensure that a minimum of 1 parade is held during the summer session. (amended 2-6-16)

Form #12A

CERTIFICATE TO ACCOMPANY NEW OR AMENDED
BYLAWS OF ASSOCIATIONS OF TEMPLES

1. *Alan C. Rapp* president of *Midwest Shrine*
Association, hereby certify that,

1. *MSA* an association of temples,

2. the attached amendments were duly presented for consideration in accordance with
the bylaws of this Association; and § 201 (e) of the bylaws of Shriners International,
and

3. they are approved for presentation to the Imperial Potentate.

Alan C. Rapp
President

Attest:

Alan C. Rapp
Secretary

APPROVAL

The foregoing amendments are approved

Dated this *1st* day of *September*, *2020*

John R. Smith
Chairman - Jurisprudence & Laws
Committee

John R. Smith
Imperial Potentate