

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF MASONIC HIGH TWELVE CLUBS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NOMINATION AND ELECTION

SECTION 1. The name of this organization shall be the Illinois Association of Masonic High Twelve Clubs (hereafter referred to as State Association.). Its Fiscal Year shall run from July 1st to June 30th.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES

SECTION 1. The objectives of this organization shall be:

- a) To unify the High Twelve movement in the State of Illinois.
- b) To bring into closer contact all High Twelve Clubs in this State.
- c) To ensure the State Association operates in accord with the Constitution and By-Laws of High Twelve International.
- d) To promote and support the Wolcott Foundation and Masonry in the State of Illinois.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of the State Association shall consist of all High Twelve Clubs in the State of Illinois, holding charters from the High Twelve International.

SECTION 2. The Association acknowledges the supreme authority of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Illinois in all matters of Masonic law, tradition and ethics. It pledges to never interfere with or meddle in the affairs of any Masonic Lodge, nor engage in, or sponsor any activity prohibited by said Grand Lodge, nor permit its members to engage in unseemly conduct which might reflect adversely upon the institution of Masonry.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this organization shall consist of the following:

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Third Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Parliamentarian (Sergeant-at-Arms)
Chaplain

SECTION 2. **Positions Elected and Appointed**

- a) All officers of this organization shall be elected at the Annual Convention except the Parliamentarian (Sergeant-at-Arms) and Chaplain.
- b) The Parliamentarian (Sergeant-at-Arms) and Chaplain shall be appointed by the President.

ARTICLE V – GOVERNING BOARD

SECTION 1. **Structure of the Governing Board**

- a) The administrative body of the State Association shall be the State Governing Board. This State Governing Board shall consist of:
 - 1) The elected officers of the State Association.
 - 2) The immediate Past State President.
 - 3) The State Directors and Club Presidents
- b) Each member club shall designate, by election or appointment, one of its members as a State Director. The Club President shall be considered a member of the Governing Board.

SECTION 2. **Chairman** – The President of the State Association shall act as the Chairman of the Governing Board. In his absence or inability to serve as Chairman, the Vice Presidents in order of their numerical rank shall serve as Chairman.

SECTION 3. **Secretary** – The Secretary of the State Association shall act as Secretary of the Governing Board.

SECTION 4. **Power** – The Governing Board shall be the general Governing Board of this organization between Annual Conventions. It shall have supervision over and be in charge of its financial and business affairs, subject to any limitations placed upon it at the Annual Convention. This Board shall authorize such appropriations of its funds as it, by majority vote, deems necessary and proper for the transaction of business with due consideration of its previously approved budget.

SECTION 5. **Report to Convention** – The Governing Board shall make a written report to the next State Convention of its acts and decisions. These reports shall be considered and acted upon by the State Convention.

SECTION 6. **Budget** – The Governing Board shall approve and adopt a proposed budget for the next year and submit same to the Annual State Convention for its consideration and action.

SECTION 7. **Quorum** – Four elected officers together with three state directors of club presidents shall constitute a quorum at any of the Governing Board meetings.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

SECTION 1. **Time** – The Annual State Convention of this Association shall be held during the months of August or September of each year. The exact date is to be determined by the Governing Board.

SECTION 2. **Place** – At the Annual State Convention, the Association shall select the place for holding the next Annual Convention, provided however, that if the place for holding the next Annual Convention is not selected by the Association at said Annual Convention, the Governing Board select the place for holding the next Annual State Convention.

SECTION 3. **Notice of Meeting** – The State Secretary shall notify each member Club not later than July 1st of the time and place where the next Annual State Convention is to be held.

ARTICLE VII – ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1. **Area** – For administration purposes, the State shall be divided into three areas, to be designated the Northern, Central, and Southern.

SECTION 2. **Regions** – Whenever the number of local clubs in any region shall total ten or more, such area shall be divided into two or more regions.

SECTION 3. **Area Administration**

- a) The Vice President of the Association elected from each area shall act as Area Representative.
- c) Whereas Areas are divided into regions, there shall be a Regional Representative to be selected as hereinafter provided.
- d) The President shall supervise the High Twelve Clubs in the state through his Area Representatives.
- e) The Area Representatives shall supervise the clubs in their area, acting through the Regional Representative where such regions have been established.

SECTION 4. **Dissolution of Clubs** – At that point when officers and members of a High Twelve Club believe they have made every effort to keep their club viable but find they can no longer sustain operations, they are to adhere to the following procedures: a) notify the restaurant management of the decision and date of final meeting; b) once all current expenses of the club have been paid, all remaining funds must be submitted to the State Association Secretary, and c) the Club's charter, banner, bell, and school house must be returned to the State Association Secretary's office, who will forward these items to the International Office.

ARTICLE VIII – REVENUE

SECTION 1. **Dues** – Every member Club shall pay annual dues to the State Association, as provided in the By-Laws, uniform Per Capita Dues based upon the number of its members as of June 30th of each year.

SECTION 2. Except as provided in Section 1 of this Article, the State Association shall not assess any member club or the members thereof in any manner or form, unless, and until, such assessment shall be approved by a majority vote at any Annual State Convention and shall have been ratified by two-thirds of the member clubs of the State Association.

ARTICLE IX – BY-LAWS

SECTION 1. By-Laws consistent with the Constitution providing additional provisions for the government of Illinois Association of Masonic High Twelve Clubs may be adopted or amended from time to time by a 2/3 vote of delegates present at an Annual State Convention of the Association.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. a) Any proposed amendments to this Constitution, if placed in the hands of the Secretary ninety days prior to the Annual State Convention of this organization, shall be sent by the Secretary at least sixty days prior to the day of the Annual Convention to the Secretary of each member Club and shall be considered and passed at the next Annual Convention. Said proposed Amendment shall be adopted if it receives a majority vote of all delegates present and voting thereon.

b) Any such proposed amendment may be adopted in modified form at the Annual Convention by a majority vote of all delegates present and voting thereon.

SECTION 2. Any proposed amendment to this Constitution which has not been placed in the hands of the Secretary and submitted to the member Clubs as provided in Section 1 of this Article, but which is presented at the Annual Convention, may be adopted by four/fifths vote of the delegates present and voting thereon.

SECTION 3. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by a member Club, an Area Conference, or the Governing Board.

SECTION 4. a) Any amendment adopted in accordance with the provisions of this Article shall be effective upon the approval of the Governing Board of High Twelve International.

b) The Secretary shall notify all member Clubs of the effective date of any Amendment.

ARTICLE XI – REPEAL

SECTION 1. All acts or parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws adopted simultaneously therewith upon the adoption thereof are hereby repealed as of the effective date of such adoption.