

APPROVED AMENDMENTS OF THE 118th National Convention – New Orleans, Louisiana - JULY, 2017

APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL BY-LAWS

Approved: B-3, B-4, B-8, B-13 and B-14

Rejected: B-1, B-2, B-5, B-6, B-7, B-9, B-10, B-11 and B-12

B-3 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 201 - Formation, Institution and Chartering.

Amend Sec. 201 - **Formation**, Institution and Chartering., National By-Laws, under Formation., by replacing “~~twenty five (25)~~” with “**ten (10)**”.

B-4 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 212 – Defunct Posts.

Amend Sec. 212 - Defunct Posts., National By-Laws, by replacing the first sentence with the following:

“Any Post with less than ten (10) members, or, while under suspension the Post fails to establish a meeting quorum or elect the required officers, its charter shall be automatically revoked and declared defunct with the issuance of a special order by the Commander-in-Chief.”

B-8 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE V - DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 522 – Council of Administration – Composition, Powers and Duties.

Amend Sec. 522 – Council of Administration – Composition, Powers and Duties., National By-Laws, under (a) Composition., by replacing the third sentence with the following:

“The immediate Past Department Commander shall also be a member of the Department Council of Administration.”

Remove the fourth sentence.

In the fifth sentence, remove “District of Columbia

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B-13 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE VII – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 717 – Dues Reserve.

Amend Sec. 717 – Dues Reserve., National By-Laws, by removing “Posts and”.

B-14 (Late edition: added 7/6/2017) Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE VI – NATIONAL

Sec. 621 – Voting.

Amend Sec. 621 – Voting., National By-Laws, by replacing “Demeter’s Manual of

Parliamentary Law and Procedure” with “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 11th Edition.”

APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

Approved: M-3, M-4, M-5, M-7, M-8, M-9, M-10, M-12, M-15, M-16 and M-17

Rejected: M-1, M-2, M-6, M-11, M-13 and M-14

M-3 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 211 – Suspension and Revocation of Charter.

Amend Sec. 211 – Suspension and Revocation of Charter., Manual of Procedure, under

1. Actions by the Commander-in-Chief-Suspension., by replacing the sentence with the following:

“The Commander-in-Chief may issue a Special Order directing the Department Commander to suspend a Post Charter.”

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Under 2. Actions by the Commander-in-Chief-Revocation., b., replace “the Post Commander,” with “the Post, in the presence of the Department assigned administrative committee”.

Under paragraph f., add the following as a separate paragraph:

“Notwithstanding the provisions above, the Commander-in-Chief shall automatically revoke the Post Charter if, while under suspension, the Post fails to establish a meeting quorum or elect officers as required in Section 216.”

Under 3. Actions by the Department Commander-Suspension., a., replace with the following:

“a. The Department Commander shall issue a Special Order suspending a Post Charter which outlines the deficiencies and appoints an administrative committee consisting of three (3) to five (5) members. Pursuant to a written grant of powers and limitations, such committee shall supervise the business and affairs of the Post during the period of suspension. The acts and actions of the committee shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the Department Commander.”

Replace d. with the following:

“d. The Department Commander shall give notice, in writing, of the time and place of the next scheduled meeting, in such manner as to reasonably reach the Post members at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the time set for the meeting. Such notice shall include a copy of the special order.”

Replace e. with the following:

“Following an initial suspension period as provided in this subsection, the Department Commander may lift or extend the suspension for an additional period of time not to exceed ninety (90) days; and shall notify the Commander-in-Chief in writing within two (2) days.”

Under 4. Actions by the Department Commander-Revocation., replace with the following:

“4. Actions by the Administrative Committee

a. The administrative committee shall approve the expenditure or obligations of all funds and transfers of all property while the order of suspension is in effect. If provided in the Special Order, all funds, securities and other property of the Post

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may be placed under the custody and supervision of the Administrative Committee.

b. All acts and actions shall be documented and summarized in a report to the Department Commander with a final recommendation.”

Add the following as No. 5:

“5. Actions by the Department Commander—Revocation.

The Department Commander may at any time during the suspension period,

recommend revocation of the Post Charter to the Commander- in-Chief.”

M-4 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 216 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 216 - Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., Manual of Procedure, in the first paragraph, first sentence, by adding “Judge Advocate, Surgeon” before “Officer of the Day” and “Guard” after “Service Officer”.

In the second paragraph, fourth sentence, replace “~~sixty (60)~~” with “**thirty (30)**”.

M-5 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE II – POSTS

Sec. 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations.

Amend Sec. 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations., Manual of Procedure, under (a) Officers., (5) Quartermaster., by removing “f” and relettering. (POSTS NO LONGER NEED A DUES RESERVE)

M-7 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE IV – DISTRICTS

Sec. 416 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 416 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., Manual of Procedure, in the second paragraph, last sentence, by replacing “~~sixty (60)~~” with “**thirty (30)**”.

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M-8 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 516 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 516 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., Manual of Procedure, in the second paragraph, in the second paragraph, last sentence, by replacing “~~sixty (60)~~” with “**thirty (30)**”.

M-9 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 518 – Officers: Duties and Obligations.

Amend Sec. 518 – Officers: Duties and Obligations., Manual of Procedure, under (4)

Quartermaster., g., second sentence, by removing “~~and a hard copy~~”.

Under (5) Adjutant., c., second sentence, remove “~~and a hard copy~~”.

M-10 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE VI – NATIONAL

Sec. 616 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees.

Amend Sec. 616 – Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairmen and Committees., Manual of Procedure, in the fourth sentence, by replacing “~~sixty (60)~~” with “**thirty (30)**”.

M-15 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE X – RULES OF ORDER

Sec. 1001 – Rules of Order Governing All Meetings.

Amend Sec. 1001 – Rules of Order Governing All Meetings., Manual of Procedure, in the first paragraph, second sentence, by **replacing** “~~Demeter’s Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure~~” **with “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 11th Edition.”**

In the last sentence, replace “~~Demeter’s~~” with “Robert’s”.

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M-16 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE X – RULES OF ORDER

Sec. 1004 – Order of Business-Posts.

Amend Sec. 1004 - Order of Business-Posts., Manual of Procedure, at the beginning, by adding “(a) Order of Business Traditional”. Add “Opening in due form” as no. 1 and renumber.

Add the following:

“(b) Order of Business Contemporary:

- “1. Call to order
2. Check dues cards
3. Roll call of officers
4. Read, refer membership applications
5. Read minutes
6. Quartermaster’s report
7. Report of Service Officer
8. Report on Comrades or the families of Comrades in distress
9. Committee report(s)
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Good of the Order
13. Close meeting”

M-17 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

ARTICLE XI – AUXILIARY

Sec. 1101 – Organization, Disbandment, and Transition of Auxiliaries.

Amend Sec. 1101 – Organization, Disbandment, and Transition of Auxiliaries., Manual of Procedure, under (f) Reports., (2) Department., by replacing “~~an itemized report of the financial and membership status~~” with “**the last quarterly audit, membership status report, and such additional reports as may be required by the liaison committee**”.

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Under (3) Districts, County Councils, Posts., in the first sentence, by replacing “~~an~~ itemized report” and “~~of the financial and membership status of the auxiliary~~” with “**the last quarterly audit, membership status report and such additional reports as may be required by the liaison committee.**”

APPROVED AMENDMENTS TO THE RITUAL

Approved: R-2, R-3, R-4, and R-5

Rejected: R-1

R-2 (Pages 14 - 17) Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

RITUAL

OPENING POST CEREMONIES

Amend Chapter Title OPENING POST CEREMONIES, Ritual, under the first

“Commander:”, second sentence, by replacing “~~All persons not members of the VFW~~” with “**Unauthorized guests**”.

Remove the last sentence.

R-3 (Pages 18 - 19) Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

RITUAL

ORDER OF BUSINESS (Post)

Amend Chapter Title “ORDER OF BUSINESS (Post)”, Ritual, by replacing with “ORDER OF BUSINESS – TRADITIONAL (Post)”.

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R-4 Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

RITUAL

ORDER OF BUSINESS – CONTEMPORARY (Post)

Add a new Chapter Title and Section after Chapter Title “ORDER OF BUSINESS (Post)”,

Ritual, with the following:

“ORDER OF BUSINESS – CONTEMPORARY (Post)

1. Call to order
2. Check dues cards
3. Roll call of officers
4. Read, refer membership applications
5. Read minutes
6. Quartermaster’s report
7. Report of Service Officer
8. Report on Comrades or the families of Comrades in distress
9. Committee report(s)
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Good of the Order
13. Close meeting

R-5 (Pages 78 - 83) Recommended by National By-Laws Study Group

Proposed by the Commander-in-Chief

RITUAL

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Amend Chapter Title Memorial Day Service, Ritual, under “Attest: N.P. Chipman,

Adjutant General”, in the first paragraph, fourth sentence, by replacing “Men” with

“Members”.