

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS **2018 2019**

Please note: any re-numbering caused by the approval of these revisions will be done, even if not shown in red.

CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA

Preamble

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during the Great Wars, to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I - Name

The name of this organization shall be American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alaska, Inc.

ARTICLE II - Nature

Section 1. The American Legion Auxiliary is a civilian patriotic organization of women that supports the mission of The American Legion.

Section 2. The American Legion Auxiliary shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

ARTICLE III - Eligibility

Section 1. Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants (~~changed the indent to match the rest of this section~~) of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods. April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990; August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States, all dates inclusive, or who, being citizens of the United States, at the time of their entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of the said periods, and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Section 2. There shall be two classes of membership, Senior and Junior.

(a) Senior membership shall be ~~composed~~ **comprised** of members ~~over the age of eighteen~~ **age eighteen (18) and older**; provided, however, a member eligible under Section 1 of this Article and who is under the age of eighteen ~~years~~ (18) years ~~of age~~ and married, shall be classed as a Senior member.

(b) Junior membership shall ~~consist of that group under the age of eighteen (18) years~~ **be comprised of members under the age of eighteen (18) years**, whose activities shall be supervised by the Senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen years, Junior members shall automatically be admitted into Senior membership with full privileges.

(c) Dues of both classes shall be paid annually or for life.

ARTICLE IV - Department Officers

Section 1. The Department shall elect annually a President, First Vice President,

Second Vice President, ~~Secretary/Treasurer~~, Historian, Chaplain, Sergeant-at ~~At~~-Arms, and two Department Executive Committeewomen at the annual Department Convention. The Department President, First Vice President and the Second Vice President shall be delegates to the Department Convention and are members of the Department Executive Committee. The Department President and First Vice President shall serve as the Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively, of both bodies.

Section 2 The Department will appoint the Secretary and the Treasurer positions at the Post Convention DEC meeting.

Section 2. The office of National Executive Committeewoman and the Alternate National Executive Committeewoman shall be elected. The term of office is for a two year term and runs from the close of ~~post-convention~~ **at** National Convention to the close of the **pre-convention** National Convention every two (2) years on odd numbered years. Any person elected to these positions is highly recommended to have served as Department President, so that she knows the policies and procedures of the Department. The current Department President shall be the Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman. They shall also be members in good standing with the Department of Alaska and reside within the State of Alaska.

Section 3. Alternate Executive Committeewoman: It shall be the duty of the First and Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman, when called upon, to assist the National Executive Committeewoman, and in her absence perform her duties and shall, in the order named, succeed her in office in case of death, resignation or removal.

ARTICLE V - Department Executive Committee

Section 1. Between Department Conventions, the administrative power shall be vested in the Department Executive Committee which shall be composed of the Department President, Department First-~~(removed space)~~ Vice President, Department Second-Vice President, Department ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~, **Secretary, Department Treasurer**, Department Chaplain, Department Historian, Department Sergeant-at ~~At~~-Arms, two Department Executive Committeewomen, Department Standing Committee Chairmen and the President of each Unit in the

Department or an alternate from that Unit to be elected by the Unit, and such other members as provided in Section 2 hereof.

Section 2. All Past Department Presidents in good standing in their Units have a vote and shall be members for life on the Department Executive Committee.

Section 3. Term of Office: The term of the Department Executive Committee shall commence immediately following the adjournment of the Department Convention and shall end at adjournment of the next succeeding Department Convention.

Section 4. In the event of dissolution or the revocation of the charter granted to the Department of Alaska by the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary, provision is made in the National Constitution and Bylaws for the National Executive Committee to take control, possession and custody of the records, property and assets of the Department, and may provide for such continued recognition and activities of Units in said Department as it may deem proper.

ARTICLE VI - Department Convention

Section 1. The Legislative body of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alaska, shall be the Department Convention, to be held annually at the same time and place as the convention of The American Legion, Department of Alaska.

Section 2. Representation in the Department Convention shall be by Units. Each Unit shall be entitled to one delegate and one additional delegate for each ten members or major fraction thereof whose current dues have been received by the Department Headquarters thirty days prior to the meeting of the Convention for which they are elected, and to one alternate for each delegate. The delegates and alternates shall be elected at a Unit meeting not less than two weeks before the Department Convention. Alternates shall have priority in the order of their election.

Section 3. All Past Department Presidents in good standing in their Units shall be delegates-at-large to the Convention with a vote, to be exercised in their own right and must be present at the Department Convention to

cast their vote.

- Section 4. Members of the Department Executive Committee shall be delegates-at-large to the Convention with a vote to be exercised in their own right and must be present at the Department Convention to cast their vote. Members of the Department Executive ~~committee~~ **Committee** shall be limited to one vote at the Department Convention, regardless of whether they are ~~past~~ **Past** Department Presidents or hold more than one Department Chairmanship or office. (Only Standing Committee Chairmen, not Co-Chairmen, are included in the Department Executive Committee and shall be delegates-at-large with vote to be exercised in their own right.)
- Section 5. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from her Unit.
- Section 6. A quorum shall exist at a Department Convention when thirty percent of the Units are represented.

ARTICLE VII - Delegates to National Convention

- Section 1. The members of the National Executive Committee shall be delegates-at-large to the National Convention with votes to be exercised with their Departments.
- Section 2. The Department of Alaska shall be entitled to five delegates and one additional delegate for each 1500 members or major fraction thereof whose current dues are received by the National Treasurer thirty days prior to the meeting of said Convention, and to one alternate for each delegate.
- Section 3. The outgoing Department President and the Department ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ **Secretary and Department Treasurer** shall be delegates to the National Convention. The remaining delegates and all alternates shall ~~be elected at the~~ **selected from those indicating at the Department Convention their intent to attend the National Convention.**

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

- Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any Department Convention by a vote of two-thirds of the total authorized representation ~~thereat~~, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been submitted through the Department Secretary to the ~~several~~ Units and members of the Department Executive Committee by ~~mailing~~ **distributing the** same to them at least ~~sixty~~ **60** days prior to the convening of the next Department Convention; and provided further that all proposed amendments shall be read at a regular meeting of the **Department** Convention.
- Section 2. Necessary amendments proposed after distribution or revision as shown in Section 1 will be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the delegation, provided they have been read at one meeting of the session prior to taking the vote.
- Section 3. An amendment not having been previously read or distributed as required in Section 1, will be adopted by the unanimous vote of the convention body.
- Section 4. Amendments to the National Constitution adopted by National Convention shall automatically become effective in this Department.

Barbe Wolkoff (**Debbie Lowndes**)
Department President

April 27, 2019

Date

Linda Schmitt (**Barbara Nath**)
Department Secretary

April 27, 2019

Date