



Sons of the American Legion

510 W. Commerce • Milford, Michigan 48381 • (810) 684-9919

S.A.L SQUADRON 216
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
FOR THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

ATTACHED TO
ERNEST F. OLDENBURG POST 216
THE AMERICAN LEGION, INC.
THE DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN



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CONSTITUTION PREAMBLE

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we, male descendants of veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the period of the Vietnam Hostilities, associate ourselves together as Sons of the American Legion 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 true spirit of Americanism; To preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in 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 masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and goodwill on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; To consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; To adopt in letter and in spirit all of the great principles for which the American Legion stands and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1 Applications for membership shall be made in writing on blanks prescribed therefore by the National Organization.
- Sec. 2 All applications for new membership shall be presented at the next regular meeting. S.A.L. squadron at its regular meeting will vote to accept or reject the new applicant. If a majority of the squadron members cast their vote against acceptance of such applicant, then such applicant shall be recorded as rejected. A rejected applicant shall not again be considered until the expiration of six (6) months from the date of such rejection.
- Sec. 3 A member of the S.A.L. who is serving in the armed forces will have his dues paid by the membership as long as he is on active duty.

ARTICLE II NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Sec. 1. At the first regular meeting in APRIL, the Commander shall appoint a committee of three (3) members who will, acting together with and under the advice of the Supervisory Committee of the Post, present to the regular meeting in MAY a list of one or more candidates for each office required to be elected under the Constitution of the Squadron.



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- Sec. 2 At the conclusion of the report of the Nominating Committee, any Squadron member may present the name of any other Squadron member for nomination to any office for which such Squadron member is not already nominated. Upon such nomination being seconded, the same shall be considered as though contained in the report of the Nominating Committee after said report has been accepted and adopted by the Squadron.
- Sec. 3 Those officers shall be declared elected who have, by secret ballot, received a majority of the votes of the Squadron in good standing present at the annual meeting.
- Sec. 4 The newly-elected officers and members of the Executive Committee shall take office at the next regular meeting after the election.
- Sec. 5 All newly-elected officers will have their dues paid by installation of officers.
- Sec. 6 In case of resignation or death of an officer, the Executive Board and the Commander holds the right to appoint a new officer to hold the position for the remainder of the term.

ARTICLE III DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Sec. 1 COMMANDER: The Commander shall be the Executive head of the Squadron of the S.A.L. with full power to enforce the local Constitution and By-Laws, policies and mandates of the National and Department Committees of the S.A.L. and Executive Committee of the Squadron.
- Sec. 2 SENIOR VICE: The Senior Vice handles all memberships and is in charge when the Commander is absent.
- Sec. 3 JUNIOR VICE: The Junior Vice handles S.A.L.'s activities and is in charge when the Commander and Senior Vice are absent.
- Sec. 4 ADJUTANT: The Adjutant acts as secretary at the meetings.
- Sec. 5 FINANCE OFFICER: The Finance Officer acts as Squadron Treasurer in charge of all S.A.L. funds.
- Sec. 6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: The Sergeant-at-Arms keeps order at all meetings. He is also in charge of taking care of the U.S. Flag and the Squadron Flag.
- Sec. 7 CHAPLIN: The Chaplin opens and closed all meetings with blessings from God.



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- Sec. 8 **HISTORIAN:** The Historian collects any records and data of value and interest to the S.A.L. and the American Legion.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Sec. 1 The Executive Committee shall be composed of all the officers and three (3) elected members and the immediate Past Commander who shall have no vote. They shall be charged with the administration affairs of the S.A.L. except as otherwise provided for. They shall be at the call of the Commander or upon the joint request of three or more members of the Executive Committee to deal with emergency matters concerning the S.A.L. Five (5) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum and all their actions shall be subject to the approval of the members of the S.A.L.
- Sec. 2 All vacancies existing in the Executive Committee or in any office of the S.A.L. for any cause other than the expiration of the term, shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Committee and a person so appointed shall hold office for the unexpired term of the member of the Committee or Officer whom he succeeds. A vacancy shall exist when a member or officer is absent from his post for three (3) unexcused absences.
- Sec. 3 **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:** The Executive Committee shall appoint following Committee Chairman:
1. S.A.L. BINGO CONCESSION - Said Committee Chairman will submit a written report monthly to Executive Committee, consisting of all income and expense for the month and these Chairmen may be removed only by action of the Executive Committee. The books of said Committee will be audited semi-annually by the Finance and Audit Committee.

ARTICLE V POST SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

- Sec. 1 The jurisdiction of the S.A.L. Post 216, Department of Michigan, the American Legion, over this Squadron shall be exercised through a committee of one or more members of said Post appointed annually by the Post Executive Committee on nomination of the Post Commander.



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ARTICLE VI STANDING COMMITTEE

Sec. 1 The Squadron Commander shall annually appoint such Standing Committees as he deems advisable for the benefit of the membership of the Squadron as a whole.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

Sec. 1 The Election of Officers of the Squadron shall be held on the first regular meeting of May in each calendar year at 1:00 P.M.

Sec. 2 The regular stated meeting of this Squadron shall be held on the second Sunday of each and every month at 1:00 P.M.

Sec. 3 Special meetings shall be called upon by the Executive Committee, Commander or upon the written request of ten (10) Squadron members.

Sec. 4 Every member shall furnish to the Adjutant his address to which all notices and documents may be sent and the same shall be held to have been duly sent to or served upon a member if mailed to such address so furnished. In default of an address furnished by a Squadron member, any notice or documents will be held to have been duly served upon that member five (5) days after said documents or notices have been deposited with the local Post Office last known for that member.

Sec. 5 Notice of all special meetings of the Squadron shall be posted two (2) weeks prior to the holding of such meetings. The memberships shall be notified five (5) days prior to the holding of such meetings.

Sec. 6 Notice of special meetings shall state the object and purpose of the meeting. No business other than stated in the notice will be transacted at that meeting.

Sec. 7 The Executive Committee shall meet upon the Call of the Commander, for organization and such business as may come before it, within ten days after the annual election. Thereafter, the Executive Committee shall meet at the Call of the Commander, at least every three months and as often as the Commander may deem necessary. The Commander will call a meeting of the Executive Committee upon the written request of five (5) members of the Committee.

Sec. 8 A meeting time or date may be changed upon the vote of the membership.



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ARTICLE VIII QUORUM

- Sec. 1 Eight (8) members and one qualified presiding officer shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Squadron.
- Sec. 2 Five (5) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the legal transaction of business.

ARTICLE IX FINANCES

- Sec. 1 General funds of this Squadron shall be deposited in a bank by the Finance Officer of the S.A.L.
- Sec. 2 The S.A.L. checking account will be under the American Legion Post 216 and the S.A.L. The check must have two signatures on them. The checking account will be set up so that the Post Commander or the S.A.L. Chairman of the American Legion can sign as one signature and the Commander or the Finance Officer of the S.A.L. can sign as the second signature. **YOU MUST HAVE ONE SIGNATURE FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 216 AND ONE FROM THE S.A.L. ON THE CHECK.**

ARTICLE X RULE OF ORDER

- Sec. 1 All regular meetings will be run formally according to Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

- Sec.1 These By-Laws may be amended, suspended or new By-Laws adopted at any regular meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at such meeting.

The fore-going By-laws were approved by the membership at the regular S.A.L. meeting held MARCH 10, 1996.

S.A.L. COMMANDER

The fore-going By-Laws are hereby approved,

Dated : _____

S.A.L. DEPARTMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE