



Sons of The American Legion - Detachment of Louisiana
Constitution of Name of Squadron as it appears on your Charter, Squadron #,
attached to Name of Post as it appears on their Charter American Legion Post #,
Department of Louisiana

Preamble

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars, 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 all 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 consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

Article I - Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Sons of The American Legion, Name of Squadron as it appears on your Charter, Squadron #, attached to Name of Post as it appears on their Charter American Legion Post #, Department of Louisiana.

Article II - Nature

Section 1. The Sons of The American Legion, Name of Squadron as it appears on your Charter, Squadron #, attached to Name of Post as it appears on their Charter American Legion Post #, Department of Louisiana, is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service.

Section 2. This Squadron shall be absolutely nonpolitical 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.

Section 3. This Squadron shall be absolutely non-sectarian.

Section 4. Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding, in accord with the law.

Article III – Organization

Section 1. This Squadron is organized as a subordinate body of the Sons of The American Legion, Name of Squadron as it appears on your Charter, Squadron #, Detachment of Louisiana and under the sponsorship and jurisdiction of Name of Post as it appears on their Charter American Legion Post #, Department of Louisiana.

Section 2. This Squadron shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Detachment Headquarters, approved by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, and by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by its sponsoring Post of The American Legion, not inconsistent with those prescribed by the National Organization.

Article IV - Eligibility

Section 1. All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War 1, World War 11, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, and the Persian Gulf War, as defined in the Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

Section 2. All members wishing to join this organization must provide a copy of the discharge papers of the Veteran who they qualify under. With the discharge papers, should be a completed application signed by the Post Adjutant.

Section 3. The Post/Squadron Adjutant should keep application and Veteran's paper on file.

Section 3. There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership and dues shall be paid annually or for life.

Section 4. No person may be a member at any one time of more than one Squadron.

Section 5. No person, who has been expelled by a Squadron, shall be admitted to membership in another Squadron, without the consent of the expelling Squadron, except that where such consent has been asked for and denied by such Squadron, the person expelled may appeal to the Detachment Executive Committee for permission to be admitted to membership in another Squadron, and shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted.

Article V – Squadron Officers

FOR PAPER SQUADRONS ONLY: if your Squadron meets, this needs to be removed.

Section 1. At this time, there are no officers elected to serve this Squadron. This Squadron is a paper Squadron and only collects dues through the American Legion.

Section 2. When the time occurs that there is an interest in electing officers, this Constitution will be changed to fit the needs of this Squadron.

FOR THOSE THAT HOLD ELECTIONS:

Section 1. The officers of this Squadron shall be a Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms, Historian and two Color Bearers, all of whom shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Squadron.

Section 2. Nomination of officers should take place at the April meeting and a vote from the membership body should come in May. If approved, those officers will be elected and installed at the same time as the Legion and Auxiliary when possible.

Article VI – Squadron Executive Committee

Section 1. Between Squadron meetings, the administrative power of the Squadron shall be vested in the Squadron Executive Committee, which shall consist of all elective officers for the current year, and in addition the three (3) immediate Past Commanders.

Section 2. All other Past Squadron Commanders (where appropriate) shall be members of the Squadron Executive Committee without vote.

Article VII – Dues

Section 1. The annual membership dues of this Squadron shall be \$ ____ .00 payable on July 1st of each year, for the upcoming year.

Section 2. A member whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January first shall be classed as delinquent. If his dues are paid on or before February first, he shall be automatically reinstated. If he is still delinquent after February first, he shall be suspended from all privileges. If he is still under such suspension on June thirtieth of such year, his membership in the Sons of The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by vote of the Squadron and payment of current dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs. Provided, however, that the Squadrons, Detachments, and the National Organization may waive the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from the payment of dues by reason of active military service.

Article VIII: Finances

Section 1: The revenue of the Name of Squadron as it appears on your Charter, Squadron # shall be derived from annual membership dues only.

Section 2: The amount of such annual dues shall be \$8.00, which shall include the annual dues of the Detachment and National dues of the Sons of The American Legion. This increase was effective on January 1, 2016.

Article IX – Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution and the Detachment Constitution of which this Squadron is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment Constitutions, which is in conflict with any provision hereof, shall be regarded

as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution, to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2. This Constitution may be amended at any regular Squadron meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members attending such regular meeting, provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, and read at the immediate preceding Squadron meeting, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members **at least seven (7) days in advance** of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members at such meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted upon.

NOTE: Only members in good standing will be privileged to participate in the business of a meeting, vote or hold office.

This Constitution was approved at the regular meeting of **Name of Squadron as it appears on your Charter, Squadron #** by a two-thirds majority **vote on** _____ **date.**

Byron J Robichaux – Detachment Judge Advocate

Name - Post # Commander

Name - Squadron # Commander

Name - Squadron # Adjutant

- Original copy for **Squadron #** records
- Original copy for **Post #** records
- Original copy for Department records
- Original copy for Detachment records
- Original copy for National S.A.L. records