

NEVADA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS
& STANDING ORDERS

Revised April 1, 2023

NEVADA SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

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CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS NEVADA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

I. NAME AND AUTHORIZATION.

By the authority of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution under the charter granted May 22, 1955, the name of this Society shall be the Nevada Society, Sons of the American Revolution (Nevada Society or NVSSAR).

II. OBJECT.

The Nevada Society, Sons of the American Revolution is instituted to perpetuate the memory of those events and of those ancestors who struggled together for life and liberty, home and happiness, and in military, naval and civil positions of high trust and responsibility by their acts, counsel, and sacrifices during the American Revolution to achieve the independence of the American people; and further, to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants, to inspire them and the community at large with a profound respect and reverence for the founders of our nation and for the principles of government established by them, to mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials, to hold suitable commemorations of the prominent events of the Revolutionary period, to foster true patriotism, and to maintain, defend and extend the institutions of American freedom.

III. MEMBERSHIP.

- A. Eligibility to membership shall require that an applicant meet all requirements as set forth by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.
- B. All applications for membership must be submitted on the forms designated by the National Society and sponsored by at least two members of the National Society. An application must state accurately the descent from his Revolutionary War ancestor, giving his services, and must cite authorities by title and page. An application must be accompanied by the applicable membership fees and dues. (See Section IV-A.)
- C. All applications for membership shall be submitted to the Nevada Society Registrar for his examination and verification of eligibility and, when found satisfactory, shall be referred with his recommendations to the National Society for consideration. Copies of applications approved for membership by the National Society shall be preserved for posterity by the Nevada Society Registrar.

- D. Nevada Society membership numbers will be assigned in consecutive order by the Nevada Society Secretary and confirmed by the Nevada Society Registrar.
- E. There shall be no “at large” memberships in the Nevada Society. All memberships shall be through a designated Nevada chapter.

IV. FEES AND DUES.

A. Application Fee.

1. The application fee to the National Society shall be as determined by the NSSAR, plus a fee equal to the annual dues for the Nevada Society, and Chapter; plus, a Registrar processing fees. All application fees are to be paid in advance.
2. Should an application be unconditionally rejected by the National Society, the state and chapter application fees; less the processing fee; and any monies returned by the National Society with the rejected application shall be returned to the applicant.
3. Sons, under the age of 25, of members in good standing in the Sons of the American Revolution or the Daughters of the American Revolution; applicants for junior memberships; or members transferring from the Children of the American Revolution shall, with the exception of the State Registrar’s fees, be exempt from application fees in the Nevada State Society and chapters, but shall be liable for any such fees required by the National Society.
4. The annual effective date for dues of new members shall be the date of registration by the Registrar General. However, new members whose applications are received by the NSSAR on or after November 1st of each year and subsequently approved shall be considered as paid up members for the following year.
5. The Nevada Society’s application fee is subject to revision by vote at the annual meeting of the Nevada Society.

B. Supplemental Application. Cost for supplemental lines is established by the National Society. A processing fee is applicable on all supplemental applications. All application fees are to be paid in advance.

C. Annual Dues.

1. The annual dues shall be payable on or before December 31st of each year. From this amount, the Nevada Society shall pay the members’ annual dues to the National Society, and the Chapters. The State and Chapter dues are subject to revision by vote at the annual meeting of the Nevada Society.
2. A member not having paid his annual dues on or before December 31st of each year shall cease to be a member in good standing. Members paying his annual dues after December 31st shall pay the member’s annual dues plus a late fee. The

Board of Managers will set and publish in the Standing Orders all fees. Members whose dues have not been received on or before January 20th will be dropped from the rolls.

3. The Nevada Society and chapters annual dues shall be waived for youth and junior members.
 4. When a member fails to pay his dues to this Society, and under the terms and provisions of its Constitution and Bylaws, he is dropped from membership. A member dropped for non-payment of dues may be reinstated. If a member is approved for reinstatement, he shall pay the current year's annual dues, plus a reinstatement fee, in addition to any other fees required by the National Society. The Board of Managers will annually set all fees.
 5. Any member who has paid his annual Nevada Society and chapter dues for fifty (50) years or more may elect to become a Service Award Member. Such membership shall afford all of the incidents of membership previously enjoyed but shall provide for exemption from payment of dues to the Nevada Society and to his chapter. However, until he is recognized as an Emeritus Member of the National Society, payment of dues to the National Society will still be required of a Service Award Member.
- D. Transfers. Members accepted by transfer from any other state societies shall be exempt from Nevada State Society and chapter dues for the year in which the transfer is recorded but shall be liable for any fees that may be required by the National Society.

V. PAUL JONES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

The Paul Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund was established through the generosity of Compatriot William G. Jones in memory of his Revolutionary War ancestor. This Trust shall be managed and governed by the Bylaws of the Fund subject to the approval of the Nevada Society as set forth in the Fund's Bylaws.

VI. OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS.

- A. The officers of the Nevada Society shall include a National Trustee, a President, two Vice Presidents (one from the Battle Born Patriots Chapter and one from the Signers Chapter), a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Chancellor, an Historian, and any other non-voting offices deemed necessary by the Board of Managers for efficient management of the Nevada Society.
 1. Whenever possible, the Presidency of the Nevada Society shall alternate annually between the Battle Born Patriots and the Signers Chapters.

2. Of the two Vice Presidents elected, the Vice President from the chapter other than that of the President of the Nevada Society shall be considered the First Vice President and the Vice President from the President's chapter shall be considered the Second Vice President.
 3. At the discretion of the Board of Managers, any member may hold two offices. The President, however, may not serve as either Secretary or Treasurer.
- B. At least sixty (60) days before the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee shall report in writing to the Board of Managers the names of candidates that the committee has selected for state office, for delegates and alternates to the National Congress and for National Trustee and Alternate Trustee. This is to be part of the call of the annual convention.
 - C. Any five (5) members of the Society may, by written notice signed by themselves and filed with the Secretary at least fifty (50) days before the annual meeting, nominate candidates for any of the positions so designated by the Nominating Committee or for any new positions that they feel necessary for sound management.
 - D. At least thirty (30) days before the annual meeting, the Secretary shall distribute to the members of the Nevada Society a list of all persons nominated by the Nominating Committee for the offices of the Nevada Society. Also included shall be any nominations made according to Section VI-C above together with the names of the Compatriots making the nominations. This is to be part of the call of the annual convention.
 - E. Opportunity shall be given at the annual meeting to make additional nominations from the floor. However, prior permission must be required from the person to be so nominated.
 - F. Society officers shall be elected by a majority vote of members present at the annual meeting and shall hold office until the following annual meeting.
 - G. Replacements of officer vacancies, other than that of the President, occurring between annual meetings shall be appointed by the Board of Managers of the Society.

VII. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

The duties of the officers shall be such as usually appertain to their offices and they shall have such other duties as are herein stated and such duties as shall be delegated to them by the Board of Managers (as defined in Article VIII). Retiring officers shall, within two (2) weeks of their retirement, deliver to their successors all papers, records, funds and other property belonging to the Society.

A. President.

The President shall:

1. Preside at all meetings of the Society and the Board of Managers.
2. Have the power to call meetings of the Board of Managers.
3. Call special meetings of the Society when so directed by the Board of Managers or when so requested in writing and signed by five (5) or more members of the Society in good standing.
4. Appoint and confirm with the Board of Managers the members of standing committees (see Article IX) and of ex officio committees as established by the Board of Managers.
5. Serve ex officio on all committees, except the Nominating Committee, and on the Board of Managers.
6. By virtue of his office, be a delegate to the National Congress.

B. Vice Presidents.

The Vice Presidents shall:

1. The First Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President.
2. The Second Vice President shall, in the absence of both the President and the First Vice President, perform the duties of the President.
3. In the event of the President's death, resignation or removal from office, the First Vice President shall become the President for the remainder of his term of office. In these instances, the Second Vice President shall become the First Vice President for the remainder of the term.
4. In the event of the death, resignation or removal from office of the First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall thereupon become the First Vice President for the remainder of the term.

C. Secretary.

The Secretary shall:

1. Carry out the duties of the Secretary as described in the NVSSAR Secretary/Treasurer Handbook.
2. In consultation with the Treasurer, keep the NVSSAR Secretary/Treasurer Handbook up to date.

D. Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall:

1. Carry out the duties of the Treasurer as described in the NVSSAR Secretary/Treasurer Handbook.
2. In consultation with the Secretary, keep the NVSSAR Secretary/Treasurer Handbook up to date.

E. Registrar.

All applications for regular memberships and supplemental memberships in the Sons of the American Revolution shall be referred to the Nevada State Registrar for his examination and verification of eligibility by comparing the proofs offered with the authorities cited. The Registrar shall sign the applications for the Nevada Society, maintain copies of all applications and submit the original copies of the applications and the supporting documentation to the national Society for consideration. The Registrar may designate Assistant Registrars as needed. A master file of the “record copies” of all approved applications for the member of the Nevada Society shall be maintained.

F. Chancellor.

The Chancellor shall:

1. Be an attorney-at-law and it shall be his duty to submit opinions on legal matters affecting the Society when such questions are referred to him by the proper officers.
2. Serve as parliamentarian at all meetings of the Nevada Society.

G. Historian.

The Historian shall maintain the historic records of the Nevada Society.

VIII. BOARD OF MANAGERS.

- A. There shall be a Board of Managers whose duty it shall be to conduct the affairs of this Society. They will have control and management of the affairs, funds, paying of necessary expenses, setting of annual fees, and other property of the Society.
- B. The Board of Managers shall consist of no more than seven (7) members.
 1. The following officers shall comprise the Nevada Society’s Board of Managers:- President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Chancellor and Registrar.

2. If more than one of the aforesaid offices is held by the same person, or if a person holds the right to vote by virtue of any other Article of these Bylaws, that person shall have only one (1) vote.
- C. The President may call a meeting of the Board of Managers at any time and shall call a meeting upon the written request of any four (4) members of the Board of Managers. A majority of the total number of members of the Board of Managers shall constitute a quorum for any meeting.
 - D. Business proposed for a Board of Managers meeting by anyone not a member of the Board of Managers must be done so in writing.
 - E. They shall annually, on or before December 1st, appoint a Nominating Committee of five (5) members, as outlined in Section IX-A of this Constitution and Bylaws.
 - F. They may authorize special committees as needed and shall prescribe their duties as outlined in Section IX-C of this Constitution and Bylaws. The members of all authorized committees will, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Board of Managers.
 - G. In addition, the Board of Managers shall have the power to:
 1. Accept resignations from office and membership.
 2. With the exception of the offices of President and First Vice President, fill vacancies in elected offices in the Nevada Society.
 3. Direct the President to call special meetings of the Society.
 4. Discipline members and remove any elected officer as set forth in Article XIII.
 - H. The Board of Managers shall take note that the local chapters function in accordance with their chapter Constitution and Bylaws and shall see to it that none of these are inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of either the Nevada Society or the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

IX. COMMITTEES.

- A. A Nominating Committee, consisting of two (2) members in good standing from the Northern Chapter and two (2) members in good standing from the Southern Chapter and chaired by the Society Secretary, shall be appointed by the Board of Managers no later than December 1st of each year. Neither the Nevada Society President nor Vice Presidents shall serve on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall submit its report of nominations for Nevada Society officers for the coming year to the Board of Managers no later than sixty (60) days before the annual meeting.

- B. Other committees, such as an Audit Committee, may be formed by the Board of Managers as are deemed necessary for prudent management of the Nevada Society's affairs. The members of all other committees formed by the Board of Managers shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Managers.

X. MEETINGS.

- A. A meeting of the Nevada Society shall be held annually each spring and shall alternate between sites in northern and southern Nevada.
- B. The annual meeting shall be held for the transaction of the business of the Society and the election of officers and of such a number of delegates and alternates to the National Congress as is allowed by the Constitution of the National Society.
- C. At each annual meeting, the Compatriots to be presented to the National Society as nominees for the Nevada Society's National Trustee and Alternate Trustee shall be selected by majority vote.
- D. Special meetings of the Society shall be called by the President when so directed by the Board of Managers or when requested in writing by five percent (5%) or more members in good standing. The membership of the Society must have at least ten (10) days notice of a special meeting and a statement of the exact business for which the meeting is called. No other business than that so stated may be transacted at a special meeting.
- E. A meeting for social purposes may be held at such time and place as the Board of Managers may decide.
- F. The Society's Chancellor shall serve as parliamentarian at all meetings of the Nevada Society. Should the Chancellor not be in attendance at any meeting, the President shall appoint a parliamentarian for that meeting.
- G. At any annual or special meeting, the members present and in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

XI. LOCAL CHAPTERS.

- A. A charter for a local chapter may be granted by the Board of Managers where ten (10) or more members in good standing in this Society petition for a chapter charter. These members must reside in a locality where its organization will not encroach upon the territory of any existing chapter and must not, in the judgment of the Board of Managers, be prejudicial in the allotment of territory to future chapters.
- B. The members signing a petition for such a charter must specifically state the proposed territory and the proposed name of the chapter.

- C. Such chapter may adopt a Constitution and Bylaws not inconsistent with those of the Nevada Society or the National Society.

XII. MEMBER CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE.

- A. A Compatriot may be called to answer disciplinary charges for:
 - 1. Violating Section 3 of the NSSAR Code of Business Ethics and Conduct.
 - 2. Violating NSSAR Conflict of Interest/Code of Organizational Conduct.
 - 3. Violating any provisions of these NVSSAR Bylaws.
 - 4. Rendering himself unworthy of membership by engaging in felonious conduct, misdemeanor conduct involving moral turpitude, or conduct disloyal to the ideals or prejudicial to the interests of the Sons of The American Revolution.
- B. Any member, found in violation of these provisions, may be suspended, expelled or otherwise sanctioned by the Society by a two-thirds vote of the Society members attending any meeting to approve such sanctions.
- C. Any member who is an NVSSAR officer, in addition to the sanctions listed in B above, may be suspended or removed from the office they hold by a two-thirds vote of the Society members attending any meeting to approved such sanctions.
- D. Prior to any vote to sanction a member, the voting members shall be provided reasonable information supporting the motion to impose sanctions. The Society shall use reasonable efforts to safeguard private information of the individual in presenting the facts supporting the imposition of sanctions, and the individual shall likewise use reasonable efforts to safeguard the private information of any member involved in the matter for which sanctions are sought.
- E. A member shall be given reasonable notice but not less than 15 days of any motion to sanction the member and shall be entitled to be heard not less than 5 days prior to the imposition of any sanction. The member shall not be entitled to a trial and shall not be entitled to demand the testimony of witnesses or the production of documents. The member may be represented by counsel only if such counsel is also a member of this Society and admitted to practice law in the State of Nevada. A motion to sanction a member shall not be governed by *Roberts Rules of Order* to the extent such *Rules* conflict with this section.

XIII. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.

- A. Amendments, alterations and/or repeals to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Nevada Society shall be considered provided that written resolutions to that effect are received by the Board of Managers at least thirty (30) days prior to an annual meeting or when accompanied by a request for a special meeting to hear the proposal (see Section X-D). These shall be referenced in the notice of call to the annual or special meeting.
- B. All proposals so presented must be considered at the annual meeting or at a special meeting (if so requested). To pass, the proposed alterations, alterations and/or repeals to the Constitution and Bylaws must receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at the meeting and in good standing or for which proxy votes are in hand.

XIV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules that the Society may adopt.

XV. COMMUNICATIONS AND MEMBER PRIVACY

- A. The President of the Nevada State Society is authorized to communicate with the National Society on any matter he or she deems material to the proper functioning of the Nevada State Society and shall consult with the Board of Managers as appropriate or necessary.
- B. The Nevada State Society may create a newsletter, webpage, social media presence, or other electronic means to communicate with members and the public, subject to the approval of the State President or the Board of Managers, and the provisions of Section 3 hereof.
- C. Members are prohibited from using or disclosing the personal or confidential information of the Society or its members without the express permission of the State President or the Board of Managers. Members of the Society also shall comply with any federal or state laws related to the disclosure or use of the personal information of its members, including personal email addresses, home addresses, other contact information, or photographic likenesses ("personal information"). If the personal information of a minor child is involved, a Member shall take all reasonable steps to obtain the prior written consent of the minor child's parents or legal guardians.

XVI. NON-PROFIT STATUS

In carrying out the objectives of the Nevada Society, the Nevada Society and its members shall conduct business in a manner that complies with the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or other provisions of federal or state law, and avoid any activity that may jeopardize the tax-exempt nonprofit status of the Society.

XVII. DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

Upon the dissolution of the Nevada State Society, assets shall be distributed to the National Society. If the National Society has been dissolved, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any assets not so disposed shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Nevada State Society is then located, exclusively for these purposes or to organization(s), as the Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

May 22, 1955 - Adoption of the original NVSSAR Constitution and Bylaws

March 15, 2003 - Extensive revision of NVSSAR Constitution and Bylaws

Sept. 15, 2003 – Revised

Sept. 1, 2008 – Revised

April 2, 2011 – Revised

April 6, 2013 – Revised

March 18, 2017 Revised

April 1, 2023 Revised

Standing Rules

1. A Past State President pin will be presented to each outgoing State President at the annual State Conference in which they preside.
2. Schedule of Fees and Dues:
 - A. Application Fees in addition to National Application Fees:
 - i. Registrar Processing Fee \$ 10.00
 - ii. Nevada State Dues \$ 3.00
 - iii. Chapter Application Fee \$ 12.00
 - B. Annual Dues in addition to National Dues:
 - i. Nevada State Dues ----- \$ 3.00
 - ii. Chapter Dues----- \$ 12.00
 - iii. Life Membership Dues----- \$ 15.00
 - iv. Junior Membership Dues ----- Waived
 - v. Dual Membership Dues----- \$ 15.00
 - vi. Late Fee (paid after 12/31 until 1/20) ---- \$ 10.00
 - vii. Reinstatement Fee (paid after 1/20) ----- \$ 15.00
3. The order of business at an annual meeting shall be:
 - A. Call to order by the President or presiding officer.
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance.
 - C. Reading and approval of the minutes of the previous annual meeting and any special meetings held during the year.
 - D. Reports of officers and committees; except for the Nominating Committee.
 - E. Old business.
 - F. New business.
 - G. Report of the Nominating Committee followed by elections.
 - H. Swearing in of the new officers.

- I. Remarks for the good of the order.
- J. Adjournment.

4. Recognition Awards.

- A. Each chapter shall be responsible for purchasing and presenting all recognition awards.
- B. The Nevada State Society may, at its discretion, purchase and present any award felt to be especially deserving.